

Reports for the Annual Parish Meeting

January 17, 2010



Christ Episcopal Church

One Main Street

Towanda, PA 18848

(570) 265-5035

The Rev. Maureen AtLee Hipple, Rector

The Rev. J. Lawrence Holman, Deacon

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“Loving God and Others Through Christ”

Christ Church Evangelism Statement

Mission Statement

Christ Church- Towanda, PA

Christ Church, a Christian community empowered by the Holy Spirit and in unity with Jesus Christ, is a place:

1. ...to be grounded in the Holy Scriptures and God's love in order to develop faith in and love for God, and to develop gifts to do the work of ministry.
2. ...to worship and glorify our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus through Eucharist and other forms of praise and thanksgiving.
3. ...to pray for forgiveness, reconciliation, and healing.
4. ...to be united in fellowship within our church family, joyous in giving, sharing, encouraging, and being compassionate.

With love and faith in God our Father, Christ our Lord and Savior, and energized by the Holy Spirit, we are a church that endeavors to share God's gift of love by:

1. ...evangelizing the good news of Jesus Christ in our community.
2. ...bringing wholeness to the human soul through forgiveness, reconciliation, healing, compassion, and encouragement through the assurance of Jesus Christ's resurrection.
3. ...showing the knowledge of God's compassion through serving the community where social needs are found.
4. ...inviting others to join our Christian community through our involvement in the secular community.

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Minutes of Christ Church Annual Meeting
January 25, 2009
167th Annual Meeting
23 Members Present

Marsh Dawsey, Senior Warden, called the meeting to order. Mother Mo offered a prayer. Polly Dawsey was appointed Secretary Protemp.

A motion to accept the January 20, 2008 minutes was made by Doris Lewis, seconded by Ginny Schoonover. Motion passed.

The rector, lovingly called the “Pesky Priest”, was called on to comment on her report. She was pleased especially this year by the outreach of the church to shut-ins and building family caring of our members individually and collectively. Dinners playing an important part in this ministry.

The outgoing vestry members Connie Burruss, Marie Hvezda, and Jim Haight were thanked for their service.

Reports presented in the Annual Report Booklet were accepted by a motion made by Sharon Brutzman, seconded by Lee Baker to be accepted by title. Noted were 2 missing reports from The Wonder Group and Altar Guild.

The vestry church project continues to be enhancing the nave lighting. Electrifying the column candle fixtures is in review to add more light to the building.

The Treasurer’s Report by Gene Weisbrod was accepted in amazement of a balanced budget and a surplus budge for next year, which will be carefully budgeted to cushion the next budget. Gene and his wife Debi were praised for their many hours given as Treasurer and Sunday School Superintendent. (A power couple!)

Connie Burruss, chairwoman of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of new vestry members: Marion Bowker, Dave VanDerlyke, Mary Jane Roof and Lee Baker to finish out Bill Kovalcin’s 2 years. A motion to close the nominations was made by Ginny Schoonover, seconded by Jim Haight. The secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot to accept the slate.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sharon Brutzman, seconded by Jo Burke at 12:10 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Secretary Protemp,

Polly Dawsey

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Rector's Annual Parish Report – 2009

In 2009 we celebrated 52 Sunday Holy Eucharist Services, 27 Anointing/Laying on of Hands, 85 Weekday Holy Eucharist Services, 49 Home/Hospital Holy Communion visitations, 4 TMH – Skilled Nursing Facility Holy Eucharist Services, 2 Baptisms – Jillian Leigh Martin and Dominik Leslie Isbell, 4 Confirmations – Julia Burger, Logan Andrew Daly, Blythe Hart and Mason Hugo, 1 Reception - Brigitte Louise Callear, and 1 Re-Affirmation officiated by Bishop Paul on May 17, 2009 during his visitation to our parish. Also, during 2009 we had 6 Marriages – Ted James Falsey to Shenia Faith Norris Hackett, Charles Edward Kellogg to Danielle Leigh Bozman, Christopher Jordan Gardner to Samantha Rae Dougal, Donald Shane Carr to Mande Mae Mize, Joseph T McKernan to Rebecca Lynn Bailey, and Shawn Michael Leiser to Tonya Marie Lane, & 4 Funerals - Ellen Delores Birdsall, Charles Barker, Joseph Chilson and Paul Gilbert Heath.

Here are some ministries in which we have given of our time, talent and treasure: Children and Youth Services, United Thank Offering, The Presiding Bishop's Fund (Episcopal Relief & Development) TACO (Towanda Area Community Outreach) The Grace Connection, and a Christ Church Christmas-Adopt a Family Project, The New Hope Campaign for a New Sudan and the Needy in Pennsylvania, (Advent Christmas Tree Ornament Project) our own food pantry, and church discretionary account, (which helps many needy people with medical, food, gasoline, clothes, rent, and heat needs).

We also have an outreach of prayer, altar flowers and cards. Our prayer chain is very faithful and appreciated. If you would like to be a part of this ministry please contact me at 570-265-5035. Our gifts of altar flowers and the sending of assorted cards to others is another way we have outreach in Jesus' name. Doris Lewis, Marg Shaner, Jay Spencer, Ginnie Schoonover, Barbara Sowinski and I have sent out many cards which we also try to have as many parishioners sign as possible. If you know of **any person** in need please let us know. Thank you! We have a Secret Pals Ministry for our Shut-ins too. In February we will tell our Secret Pal who we are and then we'll change the partners around. So.....if YOU are interested please speak with Mother Mo! It's fun! ☺ (And very comforting to those who receive the cards etc.)

We could use a little extra help with Altar Flower ministry. If you would like to help....please let me know. It is an easy (sometimes not) but vital ministry.....the more the merrier! These ministries are needed and are truly valued by those who receive them and those who do them! If you would be willing to deliver a bouquet once a month.....it would be very appreciated!!! Being valued, feeling connected and remembered is essential and is our Christian promise to our Lord. Lay Eucharist Visitor is another rewarding ministry! If you are interested please speak with Mother Mo. Lay Eucharist Visitors supplement the pastoral care within our parish family. Everyone who is ill, hospitalized, home bound or shut-in welcomes the prayers, time and Christian fellowship given. Easter Basket Gifts for the shut-ins is our Lenten project. It's coming soon! Let's start collecting all of the needed, creative, and fun type items for these baskets! If someone would like to take charge of this ministry..... please let me know! ☺ (any new ideas or thoughts are very welcomed!)

If you have a new outreach idea which you feel we should/could do.....please share your thoughts with Mother Mo or the Wardens or Vestry members! The more ideas to serve Jesus the better! ☺

The Altar Guild is a truly devoted group of parishioners who give of their love, time and talent to prepare our altars for all of the different services celebrated during the year. And there were 217

services! WOW "Go Altar Guild"!!! Polly is the President of the Guild. Cindy Williams is the Treasurer. Frankie Neiley has laundered the Fair Linens for many years. Doris Lewis takes care of alllllll the preparations needed for the services held in the Nativity chapel and Skilled Nursing Facility!!!! Polly & Melba, Ginnie & Sue, Dr. Kippy & Cindy, Sharon & Hilary, Jon, Johnny & Dorena, Doris Lewis (solo) and last but not least Karen & Marg are the teams for this ministry. Thank You all!!! If you are interested in this ministry please contact me, Polly and/or any other Altar Guild member. They would be more than happy to share this ministry with you! ☺

Yipppeeeee! Lauren is back! Thank you Lauren!☺ We also have Shirley Moyer as our organist. Lauren will be playing (approx) from October through April and Shirley Moyer will play from May through September. Everyone appreciates the organ music. It adds a great deal of spirituality to our services. A BIG Thank You goes to Brian Daly, Melina Hoffman, Larry & Maurine Gehring who have helped us out during the guitarist's and choir's needed vacation. Another BIG BIG Thank You goes to Marie Hvezda! Marie is always willing to help throughout the year, in a moment's notice, with her melodious guitar music. Marie pitches in especially when the organists are unable to attend our service due to illness or absence. Thank YOU Marie! You are amazing!!! Also, Marie works very hard on choosing music for the different seasons of our church year! She does a faithful and awesome job!!! Thank you!! (oh annnd....wait till you hear Marie's new series of music for Lent!!) ☺ Our capable musicians and able choir are an essential part of our worship. Their God given gifts make it possible for us to have special and stirring worship services. Music always brings a sense of God's Holy Presence in our midst. Thank you all! Melina Hoffman also played for us and she did a brilliant job!!! Thank you Melina! The Christmas Eve music out-shined even last year's and 2008 was superb!!! Lauren, Brian, Maurine, Larry, Ron, Paulette, Connie and Marie.....were alllll in EXCELLENT voice and form! Thank you for your willingness and devotion in Praising God with your talents. The congregation is blessed by your ministry! If you would like to join them please contact Marie at 570-265-3186 or ask the other choir members!

Pleeeeeeeeeez don't forget the choir's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 16th. The proceeds from this supper help our choir to purchase their music. Let's be sure to support them and invite everyone to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!!!! And a BIG Thank You to Larry G. who has put this info on the WNEP Public Service Bulletin Board! So.....please volunteer to help out! The choir does an admirable job with the supper but they can't do it alone! (annnd....the more the merrier!!! ☺)

Marie and Connie also share their talents with the dinners hosted every other month or so. We usually bring a dish to pass. Our next dinner will be our Italian Dinner held on Saturday Feb 06th. Mark your calendars and come to enjoy the food and fellowship! Maybe we will try again and set up board games on the tables....so please come and test your ability. We can play them either before or after the dinner! Tell Connie, Marie or me what you think! Would anyone be interested in a family night of games, movies & snacks?

The Wonder Group is beyond doubt a dedicated and energetic group of ladies remarkably talented and conscientious!!!! Our Chinese Auction went well last May and our bazaar this past December was AMAZING! WOW....all of the baked-goods, fudge, candies, soups, corn chowder, sloppy joes, hot dogs....everything was delicious! (yummmmm - now I'm hungry) ☺ A special thanks goes to Debi, Ginnie, Doris, Jo, Barbara, Wayne, Sharon, Marion, Brian, Marie, Connie, Tonya, and Vida (Debi's mom who is 96 and has made and kindly donated scrumptious rolls for our bazaars for many years ☺) annnd to all those whom I may have forgotten that faithfully brought in homemade baked good, foods and items to sell and helped out alllllll day long thank YOU!!! Every one put in great effort! (annnd

although it was a tiring day.....it was profitable in two ways.....financially and fellowship-wise it was truly fun to be together to serve God and His people!)

The wardens and vestry give of their time and talents also. Being a member of the vestry absolutely involves devotion, giving, caring, patience, and prayer plus a willingness to share of their time, constructive opinions and ideas.....even when one is not in the majority. Speaking up when no one else may understand a situation in the same way in which we as individuals understand it can be scary but is very needed and valued! It's a good and honest life lesson to be able to explain to others what you really think! (being positive, calm, vulnerable and honest in front of any group.....is a challenge at times) Everyone is entitled to have an opinion, share it and not be made to feel that they are not valued and/or listened to.....and then..... on the other hand.... it's equally needed to allow others to have and share their own personal opinions and/or ideas. All of this is solely accomplished by and with the **Holy Spirit's** direction! We know the presence of God's Holy Spirit within us is working when we can joyfully live together... even when we are not always in total agreement but are willing to remain courageous, dedicated to God's Will and the common good all the while feeling needed, wanted, respected and valued in the face of differing opinions. When the Holy Spirit teaches and guides our parish family and we remain faithful and continue listening and following our Lord, **this type of devotion** is what makes a parish/vestry not only work for the common good but attain an authentic Christian fellowship and mission! All of our time, talents and treasures are to be shared stemming from our love and devotion to our Lord and for the common good. Everyone is needed!!!

I would like to thank the Senior Class Vestry members: Larry Gehring, Ginnie Schoonover and Gene Weisbrod for their **faithful** work during their time on vestry! I would additionally like to thank Ginnie Schoonover who is and has been and will be (lol ☺) our most faithful and dedicated Clerk of the Vestry..... (I hope again and again and again☺) Gene Weisbrod, our illustrious, outstanding, tremendous and stupendous Treasurer is amazing and thorough with the church's books and bills... and much much more! (plus he has to put up with me ☺) All of these accolades are true!!! Thank you Gene! Additionally, I would like to thank Marshall, our Senior Warden and Lee our Junior Warden for all they accomplish during the year for our parish! You may read their reports to learn more of what they do! Marshall also assists our diocese in many areas. He is a member of The Ecclesiastical Court, The Saint Matthew's Society Steering Committee, and The Diocesan Canons and Constitution Committee. Thank you for your continued effort in our parish and Diocese!

Next, we have our counters, who are all extremely dedicated, accurate, dependable and honest. ☺ Here is the list of our faithful counters: Connie Burruss, Polly and Marshall Dawsey, Marie Hvezda, Doris Lewis, Wayne Thomas and Jim Vanderpool. Thank you very much for your dedication and patience especially during the weeks we have initiated our "Penny Pot" collection and/or during our Christmas or Easter collection seasons!!! (It's a good problem to have.....when we receive a large offering on any Sunday!)

This past fall we held a "New Consecration Sunday" program created by Herb Miller. Herb's approach is to offer help to parishes and guide parishioners in the -how to's- of being good stewards in God's Holy Church. This stewardship method is highly recommended by our diocese. Connie Burruss chaired the project! Thank you Connie! The Rev. Cal Adams came and spoke to our team twice and our parish on Nov 8, 2009. Nancy's Purple Iris catered the luncheon for that day. Nancy and her crew did a goood job!!! The "New Consecration Sunday" method was successful! Hooray and Praise God!!! The giving in our parish increased by approximately 20%. Thank you Connie,

Team and Fr. Cal Adams. The Team members are as follows: Larry Gehring, Ginnie Schoonover, Marg Shaner, Paulette Patton, Marie Hvezda, and Sharon Brutzman.

Ushering is an excellent way to greet and welcome all people in Jesus' name when they attend our church service. It's an effective approach for having evangelism right at our front door! ☺ Wayne Thomas is our Usher Captain. If you are interested pleeeeeeeeeez give him a call at 570-265-2262. It is a much needed ministry. Having a smiling, helpful, interested greeter at our door is vital in sharing Jesus' love and invitation of "Come and See." **Thank You Wayne and alllllll of our friendly ushers!!!** ☺ Here's one more idea – maybe we could not only be a welcoming church but an **inviting church** too! We could all invite a friend(s) to church because we are excited enough to share the blessings and gifts God has given to us..... with others! Have **you** invited someone to church recently? God has richly blessed us all with His gifts.....let's share them!

Coffee hour is another way to share God's love and calories! ☺ You may make it simple (which I usually do) or you may put on a veritable feast!!! It's **your** choice! The thought behind coffee hour is for us to have a small snack and some quality Christian fellowship time with one another. **It's a special time for us to intentionally search out those whom we don't know and get to know them and everyone, by the sharing and receiving of ideas, blessings, thanksgivings, burdens, stresses and joys.** Learning and caring more about others is one of the ways in which we may share and receive Jesus' perfect way of life. Our fellowship at coffee hour does help us all to facilitate and encourage Christ like community.

Acolytes, Torch Bearers, Crucifers, Chalice Bearers and Servers are another valued ministry. This ministry is served by adults and children alike. If you are or have a child who is interested and is eight years of age or older please speak with Mother Mo or Deacon Larry. (although you may have to wait to speak with Deacon Larry as he is in Puerto Rico with Sharon for a couple of months) Last week someone cleaned most of the vestments. Thank you! So please continue to keep them clean. It is needed and would be tremendous if someone would volunteer for the ministry of being an Acolyte Mother or Acolyte Father. If you are interested please speak with Mother Mo. ☺ We need YOU! Our lectors have been doing an awesome job too while reading our Sunday lessons! Thank you!! We have many lectors but if anyone is interested in reading the lessons during our church services please let me know! We have a book "Harpers Bible Pronunciation Guide" which helps us to know how we should pronounce the variety of names in the Bible. ☺

Debi Weisbrod is our brilliant, remarkable and tremendous Sunday School Superintendent! Kippy Vail, Cindy Williams and Debi are our brilliant teachers! These ladies are not only committed to God but also to the children in our parish. They do an extraordinary job. Each Sunday they devote a lot of effort, time, love and joy to their children with their lessons!!! The teachers impart their knowledge and love of our Lord to the kids. Would you be interested in helping out just a little bit??? Variety is the spice of life and that includes our life in Christ. The more the merrier! Jesus was always trying to teach His disciples about the importance of bringing the children to Him. All of us are children of God and **each one of us** is important to Him. Once again, these teachers truly exemplify and teach the Christian faith to the children. Thank You!!! Let's remember to support the teachers, children, and parents! Please help out by thinking of a way YOU can support them!!! Also, Thank You Kippy and children for the marvelous Christmas Presentation!!! ☺ It was a blessing! If transportation is a problem....let us know!!!

Our Verger, Webmaster, and Communications Minister is Larry Gehring. Larry does many other ministries too.....including: singing, helping with music when our organists are not available. Also, I guess you could say he is, in addition to his other ministries, our “assistant” Jr. Warden. Larry repairs, installs, paints, trims... wow I guess he does multi-task!!! ☺ Thank you Larry for allllll of your help! Oops I almost forgot.... Larry was able to light our Mercur Window at night during the Christmas Season! It was beautiful! If you would like to check out his work on our church web page please go to www.christchurchtowanda.org on your computer. Larry sincerely does an unbelievable job! Oh.....just to let you know what verger’s **true responsibilities** were when that ministry was first instituted..... and vergers were always men at that time too.... the verger would have a mace (a club/rod etc) and would fiercely beat off all the vagabonds and wild animals from the priest!!! Hmmmmm....that doesn’t happen too often in a year! Maybe we’ll get a mace for our true to life verger! What a gift that would be!!! ☺ (just in case a vagabond or wild animal should happen by)

And speaking of gifts.....our parish has received many gifts! Well....here goes.... Last year our entire chapel was refurbished and we had a special dedication service during one of our Tuesday Morning Holy Communion services. This gift was generously given by Doris Lewis in loving memory of her beloved husband, Raymond L. Lewis. The chapel is absolutely Gorgeous!!! Thank you Doris!!! ☺ The next gift was kindly given by Lula Morash. Lu bequeathed to Christ Episcopal Church the approximate amount of \$250,000 in her will. Thank you Lu! May God hold you in His Arms forever! Her gift is held in Trust and we receive quarterly disbursements. Our current lighting project has been graciously funded by Barbara Sowinski. We are eagerly waiting and hoping the new lighting system will be completed by The Great Easter Vigil service! (Saturday, April 3rd at 7pm) Thank you Barbara!!! Also, Barbara has generously and thoughtfully given a large monetary gift to be used for future capital projects here at Christ Church. We will share more marvelously good news with the parish as we work with her in the upcoming year. Thank you again Barbara!!! ☺

Our sexton does a terrific job! It’s not easy to keep this building clean! Keeping that in mind Brian always asks me if there is any spot or area which needs attention. He is sincere when he says.....please let me know and I’ll take care of it! He doesn’t mind the help. Brian does more than his sexton duties. He is a member of our choir, co-coordinated the special music before our Midnight Christmas Eve service, assists many many times with coffee hour, and is our United Thank Offering representative. Please be sure to read his report and find out when our next UTO Sunday will occur. Brian helps out in a variety of ways and is truly dedicated and devoted to The Lord and our parish. Thank you Brian for all you do!!!!

Amy McDonald, our secretary, has been with us for a little over a year. Amy does an extraordinary job!!! It is truly an arduous task to learn all of the ins and outs of the parish, diocese, church lingo and service changes....not to mention the nooks and crannies of our Parish Hall. Literally, there are hundreds of things to remember and accomplish. Amy is genuinely remarkable! It is such a pleasure to work with her. Amy is dedicated, proficient, friendly, sincere, well-organized, knowledgeable, trustworthy and dependable. She does many extra things (which are above and beyond the call of duty) for me and our parish!!! Amy’s the BEST! ☺ Hooooray for Amy!

So, that’s it for now! This parish is great!!! None of us is perfect but we’re all willing to admit that we do have our occasional weaknesses, ☺ (which is a strength) and then we try all the more to work together for **God’s** purpose not our own. I guess that’s what makes us first-rate! ☺ I truly feel this parish is very loving, welcoming, and dedicated to our Lord and each other. **You are all a blessing to me!!!** May God bless all of us as we continue to do Jesus’ ministry in our homes, schools, parish, community, diocese, and world. **He loves us and values us as no other.** Our desired goal, our

command from God is that we become skilled at knowing how to value each other as we look for the Christ in ourselves and alllllll those around us. Praise God for His mercy, forgiveness, strength, comfort, power, joy and love. May He be present with you each and every moment of your lives now and forever. To finish my report here is one of my favorites from the Bible:

“The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26

Submitted with much appreciation and love,
Mother Mo ☺

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2009 Senior Warden's Annual Parish Report

Many thanks to Maureen and the Vestry for all their hard work during 2009, and a special thank you to Larry Gehring, Ginnie Schoonover and Gene Weisbrod for serving on the Vestry for the past three years.

This past year the Vestry used the New Consecration Sunday Appeal Program to raise funds for 2010. New Consecration Sunday teaches stewardship on the basis of “the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual benefit” rather than on the basis of “the need of the church to receive to balance its budget.” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2 says we are to “give as we prosper”, not as the church needs money.)

New Consecration Sunday focuses on the question, “What is God calling me to do?” rather than on the question “What does the church need in order to pay its bills?” Thus, the annual stewardship emphasis becomes a spiritual-growth experience, not a fund-raising effort.

New Consecration Sunday focuses on tithing and percentage-of-income giving, not as a legalism but as an appropriate faith commitment. This is a very effective way to make the giving of money a spiritual issue that fits the differing income levels of each parishioner.

As a parish we need to recognize that stewardship is a biblical concept that describes the receiving, managing and giving of God-given financial, material, spiritual and human resources for God-given purposes. If we accept this, the New Consecration Sunday annual appeal program will be effective and we as members of Christ Church will truly prosper in every way.

Respectfully submitted,

Senior Warden

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ANNUAL MEETING REPORT FOR 2009 ACTIVITIES @ CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DEACON LARRY HOLMAN

I enjoyed participating in the activities of Christ Church and being with its people. My absences were from a 10 week trip, a 3 week trip, and 2-1 week trips.

A summary of my activities follows:

“UPSTAIRS” SERVICES = 41

DEACON’S MASSES = 6

Sunday = 3

Tuesday = 3

OTHER SUNDAY PREACHING = 3

FUNERALS = 1

BAPTISMS = ASSISTED AT SEVERAL

VESTRY MEETINGS = 7

WEDDING = 1 (+ REHEARSAL)

AREA CLERGY BIBLE STUDY: w/BISHOP = 5

ATTENDED CONSECRATION PLANNING DINNER

Hosted Rev. Adams on 10/27 & 11/7

DIOCESE

Convention (WILKES BARRE, PA)

Clergy Day meeting = 2

Chrism Mass @ Cathedral

Meeting w/Archdeacon @ Christ Church

Member of Project Hope Diocesan Parishes New Mission Award Committee

TORCH BEARERS, CRUCIFERS, SERVERS & CHALICE BEARERS

Issued 4 quarterly schedules with follow up.

Only 6 Torch Bearers: 4 youth & 2 adults in 2009 (very loyal)

Only scheduled 1 Torch Bearer in July & August: worked well

Wrote article for newsletter on duties of all.

Will have a new Book Bearer for 2011.

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Usher Captain Report for 2009

The Usher Schedule is on the Bulletin Board for anyone who will sign up to usher. I will really be appreciated. I try to keep one month in advance. Thank you.

We thank the following people who worked at the Greeting and Meeting Ministry (also known as an usher) this past year: Doris Lewis; Bruce, Fran, Melina Ann, Jonathan and Kelly Hoffman; Donna Darrow; John, Sue, Johnny & Justin Schoonover; Chip, Mary Beth, Joshua, Jonathan, Jared & Jayden Harris; Jon, Beth, Lindsay & Elesha Shulze; Paulette & Lowell Patton; Marion & Bill Bowker; Mike and Sharon Brutzman; Robin, Dia & Devon Turner; Jon, Dorena & Jon Rineer; Jim & Hilary Haight; Greg, Cindy & Taylor Williams; Mark, Kippy, Sean & Emma Vail; Art and Fred Johnson, Ron & Marie Hvezda; Marg Shaner; Lou Phillipi; Barbara Sowinski; Gary & Julie Paddock; Marshall & Polly Dawsey. If I have missed anyone, I'm sorry.

Thanks again- Wayne

This is a very important ministry – it is a part of every service.

Thank you for your cooperation.

With Love and Appreciation:
Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne Thomas

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2009 Junior Warden' s Report

CHURCH PROPER

- * Furnace replaced by Schoonover' s
 - * Fan replaced above choir section - Hipple Construction
 - * Roof leak not repaired - several attempts made to fix but very hard to find - holding off repairs until weather warms up and a more thorough inspection can be made - Hipple Construction
 - * Gutters and downspouts that were in poor condition replaced - Gutter Pros
 - * Pigeon screening in bell tower repaired - Gutter Pros
 - * Lighting project in Nave approved - Artech Church Interiors (lighting)
Gene Helmuth (electrical)
- Fixtures around columns have been removed and will be sent to Artech for refurbishing and wiring
Gene Helmuth will do interior church wiring.
- * Upgrades and repairs of various other electrical problems - Gene Helmuth
 - * Computer upgraded to DSL
 - * Telephone system tweaked to work better - Larry Gehring
 - * Directional signs inside and outside church installed - Larry Gehring
 - * New copier purchased
 - * Plumbing in men' s room repaired - Tim Conrad
 - * Plexiglas for arched portion of downstairs window made - on hold until warmer weather - Fairchild' s
 - * Basement steps repaired and reinforced - Larry Gehring
 - * Several radiators repaired - Larry Gehring
 - * Radiator covers in chapel cut to fit better - Larry Gehring

RECTORY

- * Porch floor and railing stained - Larry Gehring
- * Gutters repaired on back side of building - Gutter Pros
- * Former tenants moved out in June - left place in better condition than when they moved in.
- * Inspected by borough before new tenants could move in - needed smoke alarms and several minor repairs
Smoke alarms provided and installed by Larry Gehring
- * Rented in July - new tenants OK.
- * Changed broken front door lock

GROUNDS

- * Outside light in parking lot replaced - Gene Helmuth
- * 21st Century Sign provided new lettering for changes made in church service schedule. Larry Gehring replaced them.
- * Norma Thomas memorial sign cleaned - Brian Daly

- * Cleanup done along fence line with pole yard - Sylvia God
- * Railing along sidewalk and south side steps need to be cleaned and painted - not an easy task - ideas and volunteers needed.
- * Sidewalk replacement on Mix Avenue side and in front of Rectory on hold until borough has grant money available
- * Electrical service into church still needs to be repaired - leftover from flooding that washed out yard between church and rectory (borough responsible?)
- * Grass mowing and snow removal - LeRoy Hawley - great job.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Baker, Junior Warden

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Church School Annual Report 2009

Church School dismissed for the summer on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2009.

As we started our Sunday School Program for the year 2009-2010 on September 12th, we changed the time so that it begins the same time as the church service and the children return during the exchange of peace for Holy Communion. We have a steady attendance of 4-5 children, but on any given Sunday can end up with 8-12! (*We love those Sundays!*) We have one class for all students from Pre-school thru 6th grade. Christina (Kippy) Vail and Debi Weisbrod are teaching. Melina Hoffman is our teacher's aide. Thank you Kippy for your continued ministry to our youth, and Melina for your willingness to help out!

In September the children (and the congregation) were thrilled with a program presented by Anne Klein, the ventriloquist. Her "special friends" gave us all a special message.

October found our class doing a "spiritual" pumpkin carving and they presented "The Pumpkin Prayer" to our congregation. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

Our "Mile of Pennies" Program ended in December with a yummy bake sale. A check for \$272.04 was presented to Partners in Family and Community Development in support of needy children in Bradford County. A big thanks to everyone for diligently saving and bringing your pennies in to help the kids.

The annual children's service on Christmas Eve was held at 4:00 PM. The children presented their rendition of "Jingle Bells." Thank you Kippy for working with the kids on this program.

The Church School also continues to support the children of Kajo Keji with their can collection and have raised over \$900 since the project started.

We may be small in number, but we are truly blessed to have these great kids. We applaud their parent(s) for their commitment in bringing the children to Sunday School, and also the children who are here to learn God's word. Many thanks to Mother Maureen who has a special way of making everyone feel welcome. God Bless!

Respectfully submitted,
Debi Weisbrod, Sunday School Superintendent

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Communications Ministry Report - 2009

We continue to try to spread the word of our Mission and works through new and traditional media. Our weekly schedule should now be appearing in all the local newspapers from Wyalusing to the Valley and last Easter we placed an ad in the Daily Review with the Holy Week worship schedule. We have also have been placing information on WNEP's PSBB announcing items like the upcoming Pancake Supper (2/16). The "Glad Tidings" did get published three times last year. I had hoped to get out four editions.

In addition to those traditional media, we update the church's website at least once a week (<http://www.christchurchtowanda.org>). On our website you can find all the various service schedules (Altar Guild, Crucifer, Lector, etc.) and information on upcoming events. You can also find recordings of Mother Mo's weekly Sermons.

We are continuing to use "ChurchPost", which is an electronic newsletter that you can sign up for via our web page. Unfortunately this is an underused tool that we would love to have more people use. At the moment there are actually four groups that you can sign up for:

- Newsletter – A general information newsletter with timely information that we also use to send out "Glad Tidings", thereby saving us some postage costs.
- Sunday School
- Youth Group
- Choir

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Gehring

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Treasurer's Report – The State of our Finances 2009

For the second year in a row, and as planned, we balanced our budget. Also as planned, our income was more than projected due to the strength of your giving as pledges came in \$2500 higher than forecast. No treasurer can ask for more, and it made both my job and the financial decisions of the vestry very easy.

Some very good news is that we are able to project a balanced budget for 2010. This is in spite of the fact that the Diocese was forced to reduce the payout on our endowment from 5.5% to 5.0%, and unfortunately on a smaller balance. Overall, this reduction in income amounted to \$6500 and would have been nearly impossible to eliminate without drastic cuts. The main reason that we are able to maintain and even increase our budget is due to the exceptional pledging that resulted from our “New Consecration Sunday” event. Total pledges increased \$10,000!

As expected, our endowment suffered significantly from the financial meltdown of late 2008. Fortunately, we have been blessed with gifts in recent years that have helped maintain our total endowment income, even though some of the gifts are not invested in the Diocese endowment fund. We sincerely thank those who have left gifts that help us to continue to do our mission. The income from these new gifts has offset the reduction in our endowment payout (\$6500).

As I mention every year, one of our major expenses is the salary and benefits package for our wonderful priest. We are able to provide an increase of \$2000 this year, as well as provide small increases to the secretary, organists, and sexton. We have also increased our outreach budget, planned for the required church audit, and added high speed internet service. I hope you agree that we are putting your pledges to good use.

We have also worked very hard to utilize our investments wisely to maintain our beautiful church building. This year we invested over \$7000, including a new copier, and we expect to invest nearly \$25,000 for a new furnace in 2010. On the savings side, we've negotiated a new insurance contract that saves about \$1000, and it appears that our new furnace is more fuel efficient and could reduce gas costs by another \$1000.

As your treasurer, I thank you for your support. Our monthly financial records are posted on the bulletin board following each vestry meeting, and I welcome your input on financial matters.

Respectfully submitted,
Eugene W. Weisbrod, Jr., Treasurer

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Acct #	Disbursement	2008 Annual Budget	Actual December YTD	Proposed 2010 annual Budget
Ministry: education				
5220	Youth	\$150.00		\$150.00
5225	Choir	\$100.00	\$28.00	\$100.00
5230	Altar	\$400.00	\$233.98	\$400.00
5232	Worship & Liturgy	\$1,000.00	\$926.75	\$1,000.00
6100	Church School	\$250.00	\$133.75	\$250.00

Ministry: Outreach				
5205	Assessment	\$12,564.48	\$12,564.48	\$13,505.40
5210	Acceptance	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
5215	Foreign: Kajo Kaji			\$500.00
5216	Church Discretionary Fund	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$1,000.00

Clergy				
5000	Salary	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$22,000.00
5005	Housing	\$13,000.00	\$12,999.96	\$14,000.00
5010	Priest milage/fuel charges	\$3,000.00	\$2,058.48	\$3,000.00
5011	Auto expenses/Insurance	\$1,200.00	\$1,087.78	\$1,200.00
5015	Social Security	\$2,601.00	\$2,594.74	\$2,754.00
5130	Pension	\$6,588.18	\$6,574.32	\$6,975.72
5140	Health Insurance	\$6,500.00	\$7,017.67	\$7,368.55
5150	All other insurances			
5160	Rector Wellness	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
		\$56,889.18	\$56,332.95	\$60,298.27

Staff				
5540	Cleaning Expenses	\$4,160.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,160.00
5560	Music Services	\$1,250.00	\$1,399.95	\$2,850.00
5570	Child Sitting			
5680	Employer SS Tax	\$461.03	\$461.04	\$496.00
5690	Employer Medicare Tax	\$107.82	\$107.76	\$116.00
5700	Workman's Comp	\$500.00	\$363.00	\$400.00
6000	Secretary Salaries	\$7,436.00	\$7,435.92	\$8,000.00
6140	Professional Education	\$450.00	\$833.37	\$600.00

Vestry				
5300	Miscellaneous/unbudgeted	\$400.00	\$603.63	\$3,000.00 *
6142	Convention	\$700.00	\$563.02	\$700.00

**includes audit*

Church: Utilities				
5550	Telephone	\$900.00	\$868.77	\$900.00
7010	Gas	\$8,000.00	\$9,230.04	\$9,000.00
7020	Water	\$200.00	\$180.00	\$200.00
7030	Electricity	\$2,200.00	\$1,979.03	\$2,200.00
7040	Trash	\$300.00	\$295.00	\$300.00

Church: Properties				
7050	Maintenance	\$2,000.00	\$3,567.65	\$2,000.00
7052	Supplies (cleaning, etc)	\$550.00	\$537.42	\$550.00
7060	Grounds Maintenance		\$655.00	\$700.00
7070	Insurance (all)	\$6,500.00	\$7,057.00	\$6,000.00
8020	Capital Improvements	\$5,534.37	\$3,552.20	
	interest			

Acct #	Disbursement	2008 Annual Budget	Actual December YTD	Proposed 2010 annual Budget
	Rectory			
7100	Property Tax	\$1,000.00	\$938.99	\$985.94 *
7110	Gas			
7120	Electricity			
7130	Water		\$22.14	
7150	Maintenance	\$500.00	\$923.10	\$1,000.00 * 5% Increase
	Administration			
5234	Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$769.84	\$950.00
5236	Stewardship	\$250.00	\$1,474.47	\$1,500.00
5310	Vestry Gifts, etc	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
5500	Office Supplies	\$800.00	\$475.12	\$750.00
5510	Contracts	\$500.00		\$300.00
5520	Petty Cash/Postage	\$1,100.00	\$1,316.85	\$1,300.00
5530	Computer	\$250.00	\$580.33	\$1,000.00 *
	Total Disbursed	\$116,068.51	\$120,126.67	\$129,761.61 * High Speed Internet
	Income			
4100	Non-pledge	\$7,400.00	\$8,041.00	\$4,000.00
4200	This Yr/Next Yr	\$100.00	\$360.00	
4300	Plate	\$1,700.00	\$1,946.05	\$1,700.00
4320	Pledge Payments	\$52,712.00	\$55,222.00	\$65,000.00
4330	Church School	\$50.00		
4340	Special Offerings	\$2,300.00	\$4,367.93	\$3,400.00
4350	Interest (S,C)	\$100.00	\$47.33	\$50.00
4360	DIT Total	\$35,540.88	\$35,540.88	\$29,061.61
4370	Rent	\$7,700.00	\$9,200.00	\$8,800.00
	Assmt/Accept charges on income		\$1,566.44	
4380	Trust Income	\$14,000.00	\$12,212.25	\$17,750.00
	Total Income	\$121,602.88	\$128,503.88	\$129,761.61
	Investments % of Total Income	47%	44%	43%

REPORT OF WONDER GROUP FOR 2009

Bank balance as of 12-8-08		\$2,396.71
Deposits from January to December, 2009		
2008 Bazaar	\$75.00	
Votive Candles	278.59	
May Bazaar	843.00	
December Bazaar	1,462.00	
	TOTAL	2,658.59
Expenses for 2009		
New checks	(12.66)	
Votive Candles	(61.87)	
Robe	(100.00)	
Rector's Discretionary Fund	(500.00)	
Votive Candles	(30.03)	
Kajo Keji	(214.00)	
Flowers	(47.70)	
	TOTAL	(966.26)
Bank Balance as of 12-31-09		----- 4,089.04 =====

The Wonder Group would like to thank everyone who helped or contributed.

Respectfully Submitted by
Doris Lewis,
Treasurer

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The United Thank Offering (UTO)

The **MISSION** of the United Thank Offering is to expand the circle of thankful people by encouraging daily prayers of thanksgiving – combined with offerings – to show awareness of the abundance of God’s blessings.

The **CONCEPT** that UTO is not a fund drive, but rather a discipline in our daily life in Christ wherein we offer prayers of thanksgiving for our countless blessings, helps make giving a joyful experience.

The United Thank Offering’s unique process helps support our mission around the world, not just here at home. It is the best opportunity that many of us will ever have to participate in the hands-on work that is so necessary and possible with these gifts.

This past year we collected – in only ONE day (October 4) and with very little preparation – \$144.00, which was sent to the Diocesan UTO Coordinator, Cathy Bailey. I have tentatively asked for **MAY 16, 2010**, to be reserved for our Spring Ingathering. On this date, we hope Cathy will give a presentation about UTO. At that time, we will distribute all the information necessary for our parish to participate during the year.

I look forward to having a year-long UTO participation for our parish and continuing the great legacy that the United Thank Offering represents.

In faith,
Brian R. Daly

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SEXTON REPORT FOR 2009

The classic definition of sexton is: Someone who maintains a record of burials within the churchyard, and addressing enquiries about such records. They may also be required to bury individuals from the parish. We don't have a graveyard nor have I buried anyone lately. Here at Christ Church, the sexton is a paid position, but that is only specified for physically cleaning the premises. The position is just as much ministry here.

Mostly, the sexton will oversee other building and grounds tasks not handled by a contract service and/or church volunteers, such as the replacement of ceiling light bulbs, returning premises to a neat and orderly state following services and events, disposal of rubbish, and running any local errands or trips that are needed by the church.

The sexton also helps with the logistics for events on church calendar (chairs/tables, lighting, acoustics, audio/video, etc), including weddings, funerals, bible studies and community organizations. This also includes opening and closing the church during most Eucharistic celebrations.

The sexton is a first responder of sorts, when it comes to discovering issues of the premises. This last year, two different major leaks and the unfortunate burglary of the church were discovered by the sexton. There is also emergency response during bad weather, etc.

In concert with the Junior Warden, the sexton observes the mechanical systems, such as refrigerators, boilers, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units, hot water systems, kitchen equipment, and piping systems (i.e. gas, water, fire protection, and sewer systems).

In the past, the sexton has been the liaison with routine contract maintenance & supply companies. This included creating an electrical schematic for use by Gene Helmuth, our current electrician. In addition, the position generally keeps an eye on supplies and equipment, and reordering and receiving such supplies. Aesthetic appearance, security, and fire protection are also involved.

So, the sexton, although paid simply to clean, is a ministry also, one which I have been blessed to carry out here at Christ Church.

In faith,
Brian R. Daly

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