

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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Kinston, North Carolina

The 2010 Annual Parish Meeting December 5, 2010

*“St. Mary's Episcopal Church invites you to serve
and worship God in our loving Christian family.”*

Mission
Statement

Annual Parish Meeting
December 5, 2010
12:45 p.m.

Opening Prayer - Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Minutes of the December 6, 2009 Annual Parish Meeting

Reports:

Rector – The Rev'd A. Michael Singer
Vocational Deacon – The Rev'd Deacon Barbara Houston
Senior Warden – Mr. Stuart Stroud
Treasurer – Mr. Stuart Lindley
Music Ministry – Dr. Antoinette T. Anglin
Youth Ministry – Mrs. Catherine Phelps
Christian Formation for Children - Mrs. Catherine Phelps
Worship Commission – Mrs. Susan Fox and Mrs. Terah Archie
Outreach Commission – Mr. Jon Sargeant
In-Reach Commission – Mrs. Susan Fox and Mrs. Sarah Mullikin
Adult Christian Formation – Mrs. Vicki Kennedy

Old Business:

New Business:

Election of four individuals to the Vestry for a three-year term: **Joel V. Gilmore, Glenn W. Potter, Juliet S. Barrus, Clifton W. Carey, PC Barwick, Jr., and Laury A. Sargeant**

Election of three individuals as delegates to Diocesan Convention – New Bern February 4 & 5, 2011

Dismissal

Rector Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: *Thanks be to God.*

**2009 Annual Parish Meeting
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Kinston, NC
December 6, 2009**

At 12:45 p.m., after a delicious barbecue chicken luncheon, Fr. Michael called the annual parish meeting to order. Minutes from the 2008 annual meeting and reports were passed out to parishioners in attendance. Mary French Hodges moved that the 2008 minutes be accepted as submitted. Bill Sumner seconded the motion, and all present voted ay.

The Rector submitted his report by title and made a few comments. He began by thanking Arey Grady and Stuart Stroud for their expert preparation of the chicken for the luncheon. Ballots for the election of 4 new Vestry members were distributed, filled out, and then collected. Fr. Michael thanked members who were in attendance and thanked the church staff for another successful year. He reviewed highlights of this year, including Fr. Nathan Finnin's ordination and a growing emphasis on outreach as a vital part of St. Mary's ministry. He especially thanked Emily Exum for her work with Altar Guild, Sarah Mullikin for her leadership of ECW, and outgoing Vestry members Clifton Carey, Stephen Hill, Steve Mazingo, and Bill Connolly. He also thanked his family for their support. Reflecting on recent research showing that Americans are becoming more secular, he said that our parish is challenged to grow numerically, spiritually, and financially, commenting that the outcome of the Faithful Planning process should help St. Mary's do that.

Fr. Nathan submitted his report by title and thanked Fr. Michael for giving him the resources and freedom to grow in practicing the priesthood. He expressed appreciation for Laury Sargeant and Teresa Singer's help with Christian Formation programs. Deacon Barbara submitted her report by title and commented on changes in her ministry during the year. Sr. Warden Clifton Carey submitted his report by title and gave thanks and reflection on his 2 years as Sr. Warden.

For Steve Mazingo, Fr. Michael recapped the Jr. Warden's report, highlighting renovations and improvements to the buildings. He said that pledges to the capital campaign have been generous. Treasurer Stuart Lindley submitted his report by title, noting that next year's budget will represent a 1% increase. He also reported on 76 pledges received so far, totaling \$253,000. Submitting the Stewardship Committee report by title, Vicki Kennedy encouraged all to continue sending in pledge cards. Dr. Antoinette Anglin submitted the report on Music at St. Mary's as written, thanking the congregation for renewed participation in music, particularly among younger members. Plans for Boars Head and the Sitterson Music Series are well underway for 2010. For the Worship Committee, Stephen Hill submitted his report by title, noting a need for new acolytes. Jon Sargeant submitted the Outreach Commission report by title, noting an expanded focus on global issues for 2009. Clifton Carey for Adult Education and Susan Fox for Inreach both submitted reports by title and encouraged increased participation by parishioners.

Under New Business, four parishioners volunteered to serve as delegates for the Diocesan Convention: Terah Archie, Adrian King, Ron Layton, and Bob Nielsen. Sam Gilmore moved their acceptance, Teresa Singer seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor. Announcing results of the vestry election, Fr. Michael noted a tie between Stuart Lindley and Lee Albritton. Stuart withdrew his name from consideration, and the four new Vestry members are Lee Albritton, Mark Herring, Dee Warner, and Kevin Zoltek. To conclude the new business, Fr. Michael had each table of parishioners discuss and prioritize a list of ministry opportunities for St. Mary's. These lists will be used by the Faithful Planning Commission. At 1:50 p.m., Sarah Weeks moved for adjournment. Lee Albritton seconded, and all voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicki Kennedy
Clerk of the Vestry

REPORT OF THE RECTOR

One of the reasons the church has been so important in my life is because it calls me to care about the things that really matter. Church is that community where people see the need and do what has to be done: reaching out beyond ourselves... stretching ourselves beyond our comfort zone... doing impossible things made possible by the grace of God working in us and through us.

We in the Church have been placed in this time and in this place for a purpose – to live out the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, which is to love God, to love people and to reach out to others. Mary, the mother of Jesus, raised a child in poverty and knew what it meant to be in exile. We thank her for her inspiration and love. We need to model her actions in all that we do. That's why St. Mary's remains a church in this city, for this city. That's why this church expends its resources so generously on behalf of human need. That's why this church is committed to ministering to people, all people, everyone and everywhere, without condition and without exception. This is a church of open doors because the people here have open hearts. No one is outside the pale of God's love, absolutely no one. It's called grace, amazing grace!

God needs you and me to enter into the world today. I know... faced with all the problems in the world, many may be tempted to despair. The story is told of a youth who, seeing all the suffering in the world, complained bitterly to God, "Even I could make a better world than this one!" To which God replied, "That's what you're supposed to do."

Yes, we may become frustrated at times, fail at times, and fall short in our mission. But we never give up on the Church because it is the only institution in the world called to care for the world as God cares for us. God uses the Church to change the world. If we feel inadequate at times about this task, it is not because we lack the means to make a difference, only the vision. Again this year people of St. Mary's were very generous with all the various outreach/mission projects we are involved with.

You remember George Bernard Shaw's famous line: "Some people look at the way things are and ask why; others look at the way things could be and ask why not?" That's the difference between being content with the status quo and being willing to do something about it.

It happens, doesn't? Where people see the need and do what has to be done, miracles happen. Wherever there is mercy and compassion and generosity and goodness, God's reign becomes a little more manifest in this world.

In fact, I would dare to say that there is nothing the Church cannot do if God calls us to do it. The Baptist missionary William Carey once was asked the secret to his success. He replied, "Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God." That's a good standard for St. Mary's as we move into 2011 – to settle for nothing less than doing great things for God and expecting great things from God. So as your Vestry and I gather in early January we will look at what I believe is needed now:

- ◆ A new enthusiasm for what it means to be a 21st century church in the city of Kinston.
- ◆ A new vision – not of things as they are but of things as they can be.
- ◆ A new willingness to risk and try some new things; to explore ways to be an ever more committed congregation – caring about what really matters – seeing the need and doing what has to be done.

This year we've seen the continuation of a successful capital campaign which has raised in pledges nearly \$187,000 for new carpet, to paint the exterior of the church facility and replace our aging air conditioning system. Most of the money is on hand and we hope to complete the work in a couple of months. Thank you members of St. Mary's for coming together and raising enough money to cover these expenditures.

Kinston, and St. Mary's Church, has not been immune to the poor economic conditions our nation and world are currently experiencing. The work of the Church is becoming increasingly difficult. As we become a more mobile society and people find increasing distractions from worshipping God on Sundays, we, like many churches in Kinston, are experiencing a smaller Sunday attendance year after year with fewer people in church for worship and even fewer in Sunday school. As more people are away from Kinston on weekends, hopefully they are attending worship services and attending educational events. As the population of Kinston continues to decrease, I, along with many in the city remain optimistic about our future. New companies currently building in the city are hopeful signs. No matter what happens, our job though remains the same, not to lose heart.

This report does not reflect all that goes on at St. Mary's Church. It does tell where the heart of St. Mary's lies . . . reaching out to others. Ministry occurs because of leadership, leadership with our youth, the Altar Guild, our choirs, with the Episcopal Church Women, with all those who minister at worship on Sunday and throughout the week. Thank you to everyone who gives of their time, ministering in whatever capacity.

I especially want to thank our elected leaders, your Vestry. Each member brings their unique gifts to offer. I thank Stuart Stroud, Senior Warden. I thank him for his ministry to me and to this parish. I also thank Mark Herring, Junior Warden for his ministry in being a good steward and caring for our property. Stuart Lindley as Treasurer continues to do a great job. I thank all retiring Vestry members for their three years of service: Terah Archie, Vicki Kennedy, Stuart Stroud, and Jon Sargeant.

I could not close my report without thanking our parish staff for their ministry, which I truly appreciate. The Rev'd Nathan Finnin left us at the end of July after a little more than two years of ministry. I thank Dr. Antoinette Anglin, Marilyn Wiggins, Shelly Sparrow, Don DeVeau, Heather Wentz and Krista Tomlinson who each bring special gifts for use here at St. Mary's. Our Vocational Deacon, the Rev'd Deacon Barbara Houston is very generous of her time in providing ministry here. . . at Mary's Kitchen. . . and beyond. We were fortunate, in October, to welcome Catherine Phelps to St. Mary's as our new Youth Minister and Director of Children's Education/Formation. We are happy to have her and her family at St. Mary's. We look forward to her many years at St. Mary's.

Like a parent, I am always so pleased in the ways I see you allowing God to work through you. And yet, on the other hand, seeing the potential each of you have, there is always a little more that I'd like to see each of you do in our mutual ministry at St. Mary's, in Kinston, and around the world. May you develop a passion for the Gospel and for ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev'd A. Michael Singer
Rector

VOCATIONAL DEACON'S REPORT

major area of ministry now has been to Mary's Kitchen. When Lawrence Calendar retired, I moved from team leader on Friday to become team leader on Wednesday. This has become quite challenging as I never know if I will have 1 or 5 or 6 volunteers on a given Wednesday and often thus requires a lot of hours including the preparation for the meal, serving and cleaning up afterwards.

We were finally able to get approval for a Latino man to receive his permanent residency card this year. He has only lived in the United States since childhood, married a U.S. citizen and has three children who are U.S. citizens, the oldest being 16 years of age.

As you know my ministry is now opened to any person in need although it still includes mostly Latinos and is concentrated in Lenoir, Southern Pitt, and some of Greene County; that is, to people in our surrounding area. Clothing and household items you have donated have been used to help better the lives of people in our community. And thanks to St. Mary's there are children having a merry Christmas, who would not have

one. Also, Judy King and Kay Cox with Kinston Community Health Center sometimes contact me when they have patients at the Clinic who are in need of assistance.

Thank you one and all for your generous support and assistance to people who find themselves without work or home or utilities or food or medicines or the ability to pay for needed medical care.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Houston

REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN

At the conclusion of my term as Senior Warden, I am pleased to report that St. Mary's is in excellent condition. I would like to take this opportunity to thank and praise Father Michael for his outstanding leadership of the Vestry and the Parrish. Father Michael works continually to focus us on outreach in the present and a vision for the future.

I would like to thank Dr. Anglin for her skills and dedication as our organist and choirmaster. Her talent adds an inspirational tone to our services. She also, along with Betty DeVeau, Teresa and Rachel Singer help train the children of the Parrish to perform and appreciate music.

You will receive a report from our Treasurer Stuart Lindley. Stuart and our Parish Administrator, Marilyn Wiggins are dedicated in their record keeping and budgeting. I am pleased to report that we are in good financial condition. However, we do have challenges. If you haven't paid your pledge for this year, please do so as soon as possible. Please submit your pledge cards for 2011, if you haven't already done so. We need that information and commitment from you to plan for next year. We have goals and obligations for next year in outreach, inreach, education, diocesan support, utilities, salaries, employees and other items that must be accounted for in our budget. We cannot do that without communication from you.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Vestry members for their dedicated participation in the activities of the Vestry, leadership of the Commissions and participation in the life of the Parish. I also want to thank the candidates who have agreed to have their names placed on the ballot, and serve a three year term, if elected, in the service of the church.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the Senior Warden at St Mary's and I appreciate the opportunity.

Faithfully submitted,
Stuart L. Stroud
Senior Warden

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN

I am pleased to report that we have had an extremely productive year and have achieved several goals of our capital campaign. The following is a brief synopsis of the projects that have been completed or are in the works:

WORK COMPLETED

1) Replacement of HVAC System in Sanctuary

This was an enormous project and I believe we all noticed an improvement during the hot summer months. Lee Mechanical here in Kinston replaced the old system, duct work and installed a new digital thermostat. The new system should be more efficient and reliable. There were a few glitches at the beginning but Lee Mechanical worked hard to get everything straightened out and everything is now working properly.

2) Carpet and Stair Treads

New carpet was installed throughout the downstairs along with new rubber base molding. The old carpet was simply worn out and was looking pretty bad. The new carpet is a substantial improvement and should last for years to come. The system used was different from the conventional carpeting of simply rolling the carpet out in one large piece. The new carpet is actually installed in separate tiles that can easily be replaced if stained or worn. Replacing an individual tile would be much easier and cheaper than replacing an entire large section of carpet. Also, rubber treads were installed on all the stairs. This surface is easy to keep clean, it is durable, and most of all it is safe.

3) Drainage on Rhem Street Side of Church

We learned that an underground drainage pipe was broken and needed to be replaced. This spring we had the pipe replaced and this should prevent so much pooling of water in the grass area next to Rhem Street.

4) Bathrooms

The bathrooms outside the Sanctuary have been overhauled with new countertops, mirrors and stalls. The bathrooms now look much more modern and cleaner. Thanks a bunch to ECW for all of their hard work on this project.

5) Story Garden

The story garden has received much needed repairs. The stone tiles around the top of the structure were cracking and chipping and were not very inviting. West Masonry did an outstanding job replacing the tiles and matched them perfectly with the existing stone work.

6) New Audio/Visual System in Moseley Hall

We have been relying on a pretty outdated system over the last several years for showing movies and programs for our educational programs. The new system has been installed by Highland Appliance. It includes a large projection screen and will permit power point presentations. I anticipate this new system will be enjoyed by everyone.

WORK IN PROGRESS

1) HVAC System for Remainder of Downstairs

In addition to the work already mentioned above, the Vestry has retained Lee Mechanical to replace the units and update the remainder of the system downstairs. The new system will include heat pumps that will take a lot of strain off of the boiler which should be much more efficient and economical than relying totally on the boiler for heat. The bid for this project has been accepted and preliminary measures are currently being taken so the work on this project can begin in the near future.

2) Trees in St. Francis Garden

There are a few trees in St. Francis Garden that need attention. There is a dogwood that is dead and needs to be removed and another tree needs to be trimmed to keep the branches from damaging the roof tiles. This should be completed in the very near future, if not already done by the time of the annual meeting.

CONCLUSION

As you can see, it has been very busy around St. Mary's this year. We have completed several capital projects this year. This would not have been possible without the generous pledges made by our congregation.

If anyone has any question, concerns, or ideas regarding property issues here at St. Mary's please feel free to give me a call. Thanks again.

Respectively submitted,
Mark Herring
Junior Warden

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

I am able to report to you St. Mary's financial status as of October 31, 2010, our last statement.

Budget: After a successful 2010 Stewardship Campaign, St. Mary's was able to establish a budget \$458K which is sufficient to meet obligations of the church and represents a slight increase over the prior year. \$415K is funded by pledges and non-pledge donations. The remainder is funded by some nursery school rent and St Mary's Endowment Fund which many of you know as the William Hunter Trust Fund.

Income: YTD we have received \$328K which is 77.91% of our projected income of \$421,000. On a % basis, this is slightly below 2008 at 79% for the same period. We anticipate collecting the remaining pledges necessary to meet budget by year end.

Expenses: YTD we have spent \$363K which represents 79.33% of our budget. As

in past years, almost all expense items are within budget. In early October our cash balances reduced to low enough levels where we had to make a \$10,000 transfer from capital reserve to fund operations. However, cash flow is comparable to October balances in past years when you consider our carry over cash from 2008 funded a higher amount of the 2009 budget than the 2009 carryover did for 2010. It is expected that the remaining pledge income will be sufficient to cash flow our projected expenses through year end.

Other Actions: In September 2009, St. Mary's began the first capital campaign in recent history with a goal to raise \$250K. As of October 31, 2010 we have \$187K in pledges from 80 parish families and \$159K collected. Proceeds of the capital campaign have been used to replace HVAC units in the church. The Capital Campaign Fund balance is \$114K.

Budget: We are in the beginning stages of the 2011 budget year that will be very similar to this year's budget. At this time, we anticipate pledges to be similar to the past few years although few are expected to increase their pledge due to present economic conditions and other obligations associated with the capital campaign. Of long term concern is that our investments do supplement operations and outreach. If we continue spending principal to meet budget which is case when our investment earnings are below 6%, we will face the need for another endowment campaign to replenish liquidity which is challenging in these tough economic times.

Respectfully submitted,
Stuart Lindley
Treasurer

MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S

Music holds a special place in the ministry and presence of St. Mary's, as education, prayer, outreach, healing, inspiration, celebration, community, work and play. At the heart of our liturgy, music is there to invite and honor the presence of the divine, to prepare our hearts and minds to receive the Word, to move beyond what words can express, to praise God and proclaim the Good News. As we share our celebrations and work through times of joy as well as challenge and opportunity, the solid foundation of music and worship at St. Mary's is here to support and sustain us, to remind us how to live as people of faith, offering our thanks and praise, praying and working together.

Collaboration with other local choirs continues to strengthen our ties to the larger community. This afternoon, our choir will join that of First Presbyterian Church as they welcome a new minister to their congregation. We have had the pleasure, once again, of hosting Arendell Parrott Academy's Spring and Fall Choral Concerts, which featured some of our own young performers and welcomed families from surrounding towns to our beautiful worship space. We presented the celebrated ensemble Chatham Baroque in concert through the generosity of the Frances C. and Simon C. Sitterson, Jr. Music

Endowment.

In our worship we have drawn from the best of the old and new in our weekly eucharists as well as Evensongs, Lessons and Carols and feast days. Some of our young people have prepared music for worship, which they have offered prayerfully on piano, violin and guitar. Bagpipes led us in procession on Palm Sunday, and the Craven Brass Quintet enlivened our recent All Saints' eucharist with a combination of classical music and New Orleans Dixieland jazz. This year, as our 22nd annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival continues to spread the Light of Christ, we encourage all members of St. Mary's to volunteer in a favored role or a new capacity. Feel free to attend our open dress rehearsal on Saturday morning, January 8 at 9:00 a.m., making additional seats available on January 9 for our out-of-town guests. For a refresher course on spiritual lessons of the Boar's Head Festival, you may wish to attend our Adult Forum on December 12 and 19.

At St. Mary's, we are blessed by the rich heritage which has been passed down to us, the fortunate stewards of a treasure which it is a privilege to share and to safeguard for the future. Perhaps this is the year for you to prayerfully consider joining the choir, making a hymn request, preparing a solo, hosting a concert reception, or planning a bequest that will help to ensure future concerts and musical enrichment for our worship and our community. Miraculous things are made possible by the generous offering of time and talent, soul and spirit, heart and voice in this place. *Soli Deo Gloria.*

Respectfully submitted,
Antoinette Tracy Anglin, DMA
Organist and Choirmaster

YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

EYC has gotten off to a great start this fall with lots of energy and enthusiasm. I am grateful for the work done by Fr. Michael and Teresa Singer to set the foundation for EYC this year. I am also grateful for Terah Archie's support and willingness to share her insight, wisdom, and time. EYC has been meeting twice a month thus far, doing everything from bible studies to corn mazes to cooking dinner for the homeless shelter. The middle school and high school have been split to allow a distinct focus for each age group. While this split has presented some challenges due to a need for more adult involvement, I hope we can recruit enough adults to continue allowing the groups to engage in age-appropriate activities. If there are enough adults, we may also explore having the groups meet at the same time but engaged in different activities.

I look forward to getting to know the youth better in the coming months – to building relationships of trust and mutual understanding. My vision is that St. Mary's EYC would be a community of young people actively seeking God in order to be God's light for the world. We as the body of Christ are called to be a community of people formed by worship, spiritual practices, prayer and relationships so that we might be the

salt of the earth and the light of the world. The purpose of EYC is to help form young people in the Christian faith – to give them space while they are young to ask questions, to challenge the received wisdom, to explore the Christian tradition, to have fun and enjoy one another as unique young people made in the image of God. I hope St. Mary's EYC will be a place where the youth are challenged to engage more deeply with their own spiritual journey; where the youth are challenged to value and have fun with people who may be different from their chosen friends at school; and where they learn more about God's beloved and broken world and how they might be a part of God's healing of the world. In order to make this vision a reality, I need more involvement from adults who want to help journey with the youth, guiding them and shaping them even as they grow more deeply in their own faith. I will also explore new structures for EYC to help meet the spiritual needs of the youth, such as possibly offering a small spiritual formation group option on Wednesday nights coupled with more active offerings on Sundays or perhaps more closely integrating what happens in Sunday School with what happens in EYC, using the Rite 13 and J2A curriculum as a foundation. I am grateful for the chance to get to know all of the wonderful and unique young people at St. Mary's.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Phelps

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Starting as the Christian Formation Director for Children in October, I was grateful to Laury Sargeant, Teresa Singer, and Jessica Shimmer as well as Fr. Michael for the work they did in getting Sunday School at St. Mary's off to a great start. St. Mary's is very fortunate to have 20 dedicated Sunday School teachers who are committed to helping form our next generation. In October, the preschool through elementary school age children met together for two sessions of God's Heroes. Both Sundays were very well attended and the children had fun and learned a lot about what it means to be God's hero. We also had an intergenerational event on November 28th, 2010 making Advent Wreaths to use as a focal point for family devotions throughout Advent. On Christmas Eve, we will again have the children bring the story of Jesus to life during the Gospel reading at the 5 pm service.

In 2011, we will continue to use the All Things New curriculum for today's Episcopal children as well as have several events to supplement this curriculum. In Epiphany, the preschool through elementary school children will join together on January 16th, 2011 to explore what it means to be God's light for the world. In preparation for Lent, we will all gather again together on Sunday March 6th to explore how to make this sometimes difficult season meaningful for the children. Also in Lent, we will have a Wednesday evening program for children preschool through 6th grade. The last Sunday School will be May 8th, with our final celebratory Sunday School picnic on May 15th. We will also again have Vacation Bible School for the children, though the details of this are still being worked out.

Children need to learn the stories of our faith, gleaning meaning in age-appropriate ways. They also need to feel loved and welcome at church, knowing that a community of people beyond their own families care about them and are invested in their well-being. They also need to learn to pray and worship – and be given the freedom and space to share their own intuitive gifts and natural creativity for these human responses to God. I hope to continue to strengthen and deepen these pillars of Christian Formation at St. Mary's in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Phelps

WORSHIP COMMISSION REPORT

The Worship Commission met on May 2, 2010 and October 4, 2010. We wish to extend our appreciation to Organist and Choirmaster, Dr. Antoinette Anglin, and our Clergy Staff, The Reverend A. Michael Singer and The Reverend Deacon Barbara Houston, for their efforts to enhance our worship with creative, beautiful, and spiritual experiences during the church year. With their planning, we are presented with many traditional as well as innovative opportunities to glorify God.

Special music and liturgical celebrations during the 2009 – 2010 year included:

November 25, 2009 – Annual Thanksgiving Service held at 7 PM

January 10, 2010 – Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival. This was the 21st year of St. Mary's

production of the celebration of the meaning of Christmas.

January 25, 2010 – Sitterson Concert. The highly acclaimed ensemble, Chatham

Baroque,

presented an interesting and varied program using unusual and historic instruments. This

concert was the second in a series sponsored by the Frances C. and Simon C.

Sitterson, Jr. Music

Endowment.

Lenten Evensong Series (Wednesdays in March 2010, 5:30 – 6:00 PM) – Choral Evensong is a

short vespers service in the Anglican tradition featuring prayer, scripture, and song – no sermon,

no communion, just a quiet and calming way of touching base with God after a busy day.

October 10, 2010 – Children's Sabbath.

November 7, 2010 – All Saints' Sunday (10 AM) – featured a mixed program of traditional

classical brass ensemble music and Dixieland jazz by the Craven Brass Quintet and a

festive procession of children dressed as their favorite Saint.

On April 17, 2010, seven acolytes attended the first annual Acolyte Festival at St. Andrew's By-The-Sea Episcopal Church in Nags Head. Two acolyte training sessions were held in September this year. Thank you to Stephen Hill who continues as the

Acolyte Director. He is in the process of purchasing new crosses for acolytes to wear and will continue with periodic training of acolytes.

We thank the Altar Guild for their wonderful ongoing ministry. With the addition of several new members last year, they are fully trained and a valuable asset to this ministry team.

The service of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Lectors and Ushers seems to be going well. Glenn Potter completed training for Lectors in October.

Musical Opportunities at St. Mary's continue to include:

Piano and guitar

Handbell Choir

Adult Choir

St. Cecilia's Choir (ages 3 – 1st grade)

Episcopal Singers (grades 2 – 5)

We are especially grateful to all members who serve in the ministries of St. Mary's for worship each and every service.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fox and Terah Archie

REPORT OF THE OUTREACH COMMISSION

Since our last Parish Meeting, the Outreach Commission has expanded our activities to encourage our members to be more actively involved in Outreach. In December of 2009, we had great success with our Nets for Life Campaign. Every day nearly 3,000 children die from Malaria, and most of them are children under five (5) years of age. We raised enough money to purchase over 333 nets, and since each net protects at least 3 children, St. Mary's Church was able to protect over a thousand children last year. We would like to give special thanks to our Sunday School teachers and students who raised over \$800.00 in one day from their cookie sale.

In January of 2010, we began an ambitious campaign to organize as many people as possible both at St. Mary's and from other churches to participate in a Team World Vision service project at the Run for the River Race in Kinston. Our team consisted of over sixty people from multiple churches who wore bright orange shirts and combined their efforts to raise awareness and \$7,113.00 for clean water projects in Africa.

In June, St. Mary's sent our largest group ever of youth to the Erasing the Lines Christian Work Camp in Kinston for a week of serving God by serving the less fortunate members of our community. This year Erasing the Lines consisted of 15 churches, with

164 youth, 250 volunteers and over 30 work sites.

New this year to St. Mary's Outreach Commission has been our involvement with the Backpack Buddies program which provides food to elementary school children over the weekends. The recognition that we have hungry children right here in our community has been difficult for many of us, but with our help this valuable program is now expanding to provide food to students at several of Lenoir County's elementary schools.

In addition to these projects and many others, we continue to support Mary's Kitchen, Trinity Center, Soles for Souls, Stop Hunger Now, Scholarships for Students in the Dominican Republic and the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry. Based on the Outreach Commission's recommendations at our last meeting, the Vestry of St Mary's has approved the distribution of our annual funds in the following manner:

Son Set Ministries (The Refuge)	\$ 750.00
Farmworker Festival	\$ 250.00
Stop Hunger Now	\$ 1,000.00
Mary's Kitchen	\$ 3,000.00
Trinity Center	\$ 1,200.00
Trinity Center (Scholarship fund)	\$ 1,200.00
Farm Workers Ministry	\$ 1,200.00
Boys and Girls Club	\$ 1,000.00
The Gate	\$ 1,000.00
Dominican Republic Scholarships	\$ 1,500.00
Meals on Wheels	\$ 400.00
Nets for Life	\$ 1,500.00
Backpack Buddies	\$ 750.00
Clean Water - Epis Relief and Dev	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>
Total	\$16,250.00

Since the year is not over, we want to remind you that we are promoting *Nets for Life* again this Christmas season. *Nets for Life* is an organization who works in partnership with Episcopal Relief and Development to prevent and treat Malaria in Africa. During the month of December, St Mary's will be raising awareness and money for Nets for Life. This program provides insecticide-treated nets for the children to sleep under and trains communities in malaria prevention. One life-saving, insecticide treated net can save three (3) children, and it only costs \$12.00.

Thank you for your continued support of the Outreach Commission. Keep in mind that outreach is a major form of evangelism. As St. Teresa of Avila said, "Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now."

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Sargeant
Outreach Commission

PARISH IN-REACH COMMISSION

The Inreach Commission has both an outward and inward mission. We are responsible for greeting and welcoming newcomers into the St. Mary's family, we encourage fellowship among St. Mary's parishioners, and we respond to those in our midst requiring pastoral assistance, either on a short or long term basis. There are nine areas in this commission as listed below. If you would like to serve on one of these committees, please let us know -- we would love to have you join us in this important ministry of St. Mary's.

Greeters
ECW Cherished Member Luncheon
Cherished Members
Fellowship
Parish Services

Newcomers
Wednesday Night Suppers
Baptismal Ministry
ECW Hospitality

Our primary focus over the past year has been the reorganization of Parish Services. The main responsibility of Parish Services is to provide a meal or reception for St. Mary's family members after a death. This has been, and continues to be, an important ministry for members of St. Mary's and their families.

Over the past several years, the number of volunteers on Parish Services' teams decreased, putting a large responsibility on just a few dedicated individuals. A new Parish Services format was put in place in the fall of 2010 that involves all women of the parish.

There are now eight Parish Services teams with two co-leaders and 15 – 16 members on each team. A Parish Services team provides a reception or meal after a funeral or memorial service. Each Parish Services team handles one event, rather than being on call for an entire month. Team Leaders co-ordinate the event and contact team members to provide a side dish, dessert or assistance, if needed.

The other new project underway in Inreach is the establishment of Foyer Groups. Foyer Groups are small groups of-10 people sharing simple meals and fellowship. The intention is to have fun and provide an opportunity for us to meet each other and/or to become better acquainted. Each group meets once a month for a simple meal and relaxed conversation in the homes of members. Foyer Groups are not intended to do anything, but simply to be what Christians are: groups of people who gather together and "love one another." Foyer Groups provide time to be with one another so that friendship may grow.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fox and Sarah Mullikin, Co-Chairs

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Education was chaired for 2010 by Vicki Kennedy. As a sub-commission of Christian Formation, it held a meeting on March 7th and December 1, 2010.

Regular meetings of the Adult Forum Sunday School class have been well-attended this year and have offered a variety of topics. The spring ended with a discussion of "Religion in the Public Square." During the final May Sunday School meeting, participants discussed preferences for upcoming programming in the fall.

With the departure of Fr. Nathan, the fall Adult Formation has been led by Fr. Michael with occasional assistance from adult volunteers. An opening series focused on the seven deadly sins. In the spring of the year we offered a series exploring life's real questions entitled, "Living the Questions". This fall participants watched a video and discussion series by Philip Yancey called "The Jesus I Never Knew."

Other adult education programming has included a Lenten series "**10:24**" taken from Hebrews 10:24, "Let us consider how we might spur one another on to love and good deeds." For five consecutive Wednesday evenings we heard from various speakers about ministries taking place in our community and around the world.

There was a book study of "The Hole in Our Gospel".

Commission discussions and feedback from Adult Forum participants have indicated that most people would like to see a variety of topics covered during the year, including church history and doctrine, contemporary church issues, evangelism, personal spiritual growth, and topical issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Kennedy
Chair of the Adult Formation Commission

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
General Fund Summary for Annual Meeting
General Fund and Fixed Assets
January to October 2010

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used (This Year)	YTD Actual (Last Year)
Revenues					
Non-Pledge Donations	\$8,080.23	\$28,322.65	\$39,000.00	72.62 %	\$33,257.06
Pledge Payments	\$24,572.00	\$295,125.00	\$376,500.00	78.39 %	\$291,525.68
Miscellaneous Income	\$666.99	\$4,538.62	\$5,500.00	82.52 %	\$4,420.42
Total Revenues	\$33,319.22	\$327,986.27	\$421,000.00	77.91 %	\$329,203.16
Expenses					
Personnel					
Clergy					
Rector	\$5,780.02	\$59,742.18	\$73,468.00	81.32 %	\$60,987.36
Assistant Rector	\$0.00	\$27,703.08	\$48,739.00	56.84 %	\$38,745.79
Other Clergy Expense	\$0.00	\$560.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Clergy	\$5,780.02	\$88,005.26	\$122,207.00	72.01 %	\$99,733.15
Music Staff	\$3,284.44	\$32,832.08	\$39,882.00	82.32 %	\$32,753.60
Office Staff	\$3,932.38	\$39,785.64	\$48,270.00	82.42 %	\$39,528.55
Youth and Education	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Matching FICA	\$671.11	\$5,634.69	\$6,648.00	84.76 %	\$5,487.57
Total Personnel	\$15,267.95	\$167,857.67	\$217,007.00	77.35 %	\$177,502.87
Other Purposes Outside Parish					
Diocesan Pledge	\$3,583.33	\$36,083.30	\$44,500.00	81.09 %	\$37,333.30
Outreach	\$200.00	\$3,105.67	\$5,650.00	54.97 %	\$3,730.00
Total Other Purposes Outside Parish	\$3,783.33	\$39,188.97	\$50,150.00	78.14 %	\$41,063.30
Clergy Pension Premiums	\$4,012.59	\$20,789.85	\$23,959.00	86.77 %	\$20,415.45
Other Ins. Premiums/Benefits	\$881.59	\$13,895.48	\$28,372.00	48.98 %	\$16,990.20
Office Expense	\$851.86	\$7,098.05	\$9,050.00	78.43 %	\$8,864.72
Music , Choir Supplies	\$271.34	\$4,116.80	\$6,900.00	59.66 %	\$4,269.64
Church Operations					
Utilities	\$2,916.96	\$29,247.68	\$32,500.00	89.99 %	\$26,843.64
Maint. of Property and Equip.					
Regular Maintenance	\$5,720.33	\$40,212.47	\$54,750.00	73.45 %	\$45,298.82
Capital Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
Total Maint. of Property and Equip.	\$5,720.33	\$40,212.47	\$54,750.00	73.45 %	\$45,298.82
Ministries	\$1,041.88	\$15,219.29	\$21,200.00	71.79 %	\$8,172.44
Total Church Operations	\$9,679.17	\$84,679.44	\$108,450.00	78.08 %	\$80,314.90
Other Expenses	\$5,027.91	\$26,168.50	\$14,700.00	178.02 %	\$9,308.45
Total Expenses	\$39,775.74	\$363,794.76	\$458,588.00	79.33 %	\$358,729.53
Net Total	(\$6,456.52)	(\$35,808.49)	(\$37,588.00)	0.00 %	(\$29,526.37)
Transfers					
Total Transfers	\$10,000.00	\$23,018.32	\$37,588.00	61.24 %	\$27,569.49
Net Operating Total	\$3,543.48	(\$12,790.17)	\$0.00	0.00 %	(\$1,956.88)