

## Evangelical UCC 2009 Program Reports

### **Worship Team**

*Worship/Arts/Music 2009 – choirs instruments solos ensembles children musical faure spectrum emmaus banners quilts darcy jill jim erik deborah donita kathy stories congregation altar designs youth band spirit christmas god's friday easter pentecost confirmation baptism memorial celebration community together family giving receiving thanks praising praying listening singing welcoming ... life ...*

The Worship Team is investigating new church software that will work with the church's existing databases. We have acquired 2 network routers that will be installed in the near future. We are also working toward a means that will provide guests to access the internet via our network. We held a Thanksgiving Event that was both spiritual and educational in our fellowship hall. Using various activities, we attempted to create an understanding of the Pilgrim's way of life and spiritual beliefs. With the Servant Team we have developed articles titled "Who Are We in the UCC?" that appear as emails and in the weekly bulletin, to illustrate our role in the church and in the community.

### **Servant Team**

Building on the education campaign from 2008, in which we had periodic essays on our outreach partners, in 2009 we began a campaign to educate the congregation on our part in the wider United Church of Christ ("Who Are We in the UCC?") and how our community benefits from and sustains this relationship. Stillpoint Multi-Faith Campus Ministry at Webster University, which we support in our outreach budget, sponsored two regular programs throughout the Spring 2009 and Fall 2009 terms: the Listening Post (a place where students can drop by to talk about whatever is on their minds) on Mondays and "Pause for (No) Thought: Meditation for Everyone" on Wednesdays. With the congregation's help the Servant Team continued to support local social service agencies in their important work. Thank you for your support for Servant Team initiatives and for your donations through our budget, mission moments, and the Advent collections!

### **Learning Team**

The Learning Team transitioned from leadership of the Staff Christian Education person (Sue Schindel) and the People Team into our own new entity. We have been led by Katy Hawker and Ruth Panhorst and are blessed with our teaching team on Sunday mornings and rotating Adult Education Leaders. This fall we presented a weekly adult Bible study component in addition to other offerings. Our team planned and prepared for Homecoming (Rally) Day, The intergenerational Thanksgiving Event, rotating with the Advent Event and the Christmas Eve early service Pageant. In addition to the Sunday morning education hour, we will be planning the Easter Day event, Confirmation Celebration and Church School Picnic. We look forward to your suggestions and support.

### **Community Team**

The Community Team, which previously included circles for both Fellowship and Church School, was restructured as of the July 2009 Congregational Meeting. The Community team focus is now on fellowship and support within our congregation, while the focus of the newly formed Learning Team is upon Church School and Youth Group programs. A number of circles continued to provide invaluable support and fellowship to our congregation, to include: the New Member Circle; the Circle of Care, providing meals to families; the Prayer Quilt Circle; Circle of Healing for Mind, Body, and Spirit; the Shannondale Family Camp; and the Women's Retreat. A number of new activities developed in 2009. A new Welcome Circle was formed early in the year for our prospective members. One of many accomplishments of the circle included a Welcome Table in the Narthex for our visitors on Sunday mornings. The Supper Clubs from years' past were back in place with great success this year and a Grandparents/Elder Tea provided the opportunity for multi-generational gathering. A first-time Chili Dinner and Bingo in the fall also provided great fellowship leading into the holidays. Janet Rundquist and Patty Pelikan thank the Community Team Planning Team, Circle Leaders, and members for their invaluable contributions in 2009.

### **Finance Team**

In January a Challenge Budget was presented for consideration by the Congregation. At the February annual meeting the Congregation approved a Basic Budget for Jan-June 2009 and a challenge budget for the last six months. A second round of pledges were requested which resulted in an additional \$17,000 for 2009. In early May the Finance Team confirmed that \$17,000 was not sufficient to result in a balanced budget for 2009. In July the Governing Body presented a revised 2009 budget that was reduced by \$21,000. The congregation adopted this budget in July. The General Fund as of December 31, 2009 resulted in a surplus of \$5,409. The Finance Team began its support of the Capital Campaign in June. This support included 1) collection and tracking of intentions for the Capital Campaign, 2) establishment of a separate checking account for the Building Fund, 3) monthly reporting to the Building Committee and Follow up Committee, and 4) management of the financial activity for the Building Fund. In November an appeal for additional intentions for the Capital Campaign Phase 1 was initiated by the Governing Body upon the recommendation of the Building Committee. In January the Finance Team reported that 73 Letters of Intention have been received and represents an additional \$87,000. When combined with the spring 2009 Campaign the total amount pledged for the Capital Campaign Phase 1 is \$687,500. The Governing Body is preparing a balanced budget for 2010 that will be distributed during the fourth week in January.

### **People Team**

The People Team experienced a transitional year in 2009: Many, many thanks to Vickie Miller, Paul Huppert, Julianne Smutz, and Jill Stratton, who have moved to other activities in the past two years. They all worked very closely to establish the beginnings of our new structure since 2005. Kathy Cormack and Mickey Clarke have joined the team. The struggle in 2009 was to assist in balancing the budget and to that end, we made the painful decisions about staffing last July. Though there is a positive outcome (a balanced budget for 2009 and going forward), this does not balance the human and emotional toll and its repercussions for each of us in the congregation. We can celebrate the volunteers who have stepped up to handle some staff tasks: Jeanne Smith is leading our youth ministry and Paul Kachulis is helping to manage the day-to-day financial records. We also have created a larger focus on the reception of new members with Kathy Cormack leading, as well as the revamped hospitality ministry with Carolyn Held coordinating the Sunday morning activities (shepherds, coffee hour, and more). As we move to 2010, we are already working on plans for the July leadership shift on the Governing Body and especially on ensuring leadership continuity for the long term.

## **Facilities Team**

Following are the more important highlights of the Facilities Team activities for 2009. This overview is a sampling of a number of activities that reflects the work of several circles: Job Jar, Garden, Greening, and Kitchen. Each circle was important in the maintenance and improvement of the church properties. For the most part, the Facilities Team thoughtfully responded to the ongoing planning and deliberation of the Capital Campaign and Building Committees. Many of the maintenance projects were done with a careful eye towards any final decisions regarding Phase 1 of the master plan: we elected in some cases not to do work that would ultimately be done during future construction. To that end, the team appreciated the ongoing communication of the respective planning committees. Major repairs were few in number this past year, and we're grateful for small favors. Of important note is the installation in the lower level of the church of new water shutoff valves, which will facilitate plumbing repairs or renovation in the future. It is also important to report that general interior refurbishing of the 212 building began during the latter part of the year. As the new year approaches, the team is committed to implementing two fresh directions: (1) implementing systematic, preventative maintenance so that future "surprises" are limited in terms of expense and emergency, and (2) establishing a reserve fund that allows us to be more prudent in paying for future projects. The Facilities Team and its related circles want to thank the congregation for its ongoing support and contributions.

### **The work of our Shared Ministry is supported by an ever changing but consistently amazing Staff Team.**

Sue Schindel concluded her tenure (of ten years!) as our Director of Educational Programs and began her ministry as our Pastoral Assistant in August 2009. Although we grieved the loss of Leslie Evans on our team, the transition has been remarkable smooth with Sue in the office. Sue works closely also with Carolyn Held, whose responsibilities expanded as our Minister of Hospitality (Sunday mornings) and with Carole Janssen who continues to direct our Nursery.

Katherine Hawker continues to serve as our pastor, and in this 13<sup>th</sup> year of ministry with EUCC is excited to be working more directly with the educational program. Katy's ministry is dramatically enhanced by the volunteer team of Pastoral Associates, Marilyn Stavenger and Al Schon who preach, teach, visit and lead. Laurel Hayes continues her volunteer service as our minister at Webster University.

Donita Bauer leads our incredible team of musicians with Jill Thompson and Darcy Swanson. Together they lead the Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, and Youth Band as well as providing coordination and support for the Folk Ensemble and a host of talented instrumentalists.

Lisa VonStamwitz completed her ministry as our Parish Nurse in October, a ministry funded by a two year grant from the Missouri Health Foundation. We have missed this ministry and Lisa's leadership tremendously. The work of the Wellness Initiative Circle in pursuing a future to this ministry is an incredible gift.

Deborah Mc Bride currently serves as our Field Education student from Eden Seminary, following the ministries of Nancy Mack (Student Pastor) and Phiwa Langeni (Youth). Deborah comes to us from Florida and brings incredible talent. Phiwa and Nancy continue to be active as members of our community and we are grateful for the presence.

## 2009 STATISTICS

Membership at January 1, 2009	358
<b>Additions</b>	
Confirmands	1
Transfer, Affirmation of Faith	21
<b>Losses</b>	
By Death	(8)
By Transfer	(8)
Membership at December 31, 2009	364

### **Births**

Abbott James Archer  
Eliza Joy Dreher  
Asher Thomas Woodward

### **Deaths**

Chelsea Detrick  
Edith Fauth  
Alice Hardt  
Barry Kurre  
Virginia Lehman  
Wallace Rohlffing  
Dick Spiering  
Susan Stalling

### **New Members Received**

Linda Baker  
Jenny Beckman  
Sarah Beckman  
Alicia Boelhauf  
Ronice Branding  
Kevin Dixon  
Stacie Dixon  
Melissa Griggs  
Bob Karr  
Jean Karr  
Fran LaMont  
Jerry LaMont  
Chris Ostendorf  
Gene Ostendorf  
Amy Sanchez  
Mauricio Sanchez  
Barbara Schroeder  
Erin Schroeder  
Tara Warne  
Gloria Wells  
Treasure Williams

### **Transfers**

Anisa Evans  
Leigh Mansfield  
Angela Gilbert  
Char Richter  
Ken Carmin  
Kate Carmin  
Laura Lock  
Scott Garnholz

### **Baptisms**

William Robert Minkler  
Graham Boelhauf DeVinitz  
Esme Boelhauf DeVinitz  
Micah Yabsia Dixon  
August Thomas Soell  
Peter Gustav Anderson  
Abbott James Archer  
Alex White

### **Confirmand**

Issac Dodson