

# **The First Church in Windsor United Church of Christ 2008 Annual Report**



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**AGENDA**  
**For**  
**THE 379 ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Of**  
**THE FIRST CHURCH IN WINDSOR, U.C.C.**  
**February 8, 2009**

11:15 a.m.      CALL TO ORDER      -Al Relyea—Chair of Cabinet

READING OF THE CALL TO THE MEETING

PRAYER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2008 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

GENERAL REPORTS (With opportunities for comments & questions.)

Senior Minister  
Associate Minister  
Minister of Youth and Outreach  
Organist/Choirmaster  
Cabinet  
Board of Christian Education  
Board of Christian Outreach  
Prudential Board  
Stewardship Committee  
Board of Deacons  
Treasurer  
Trustee's Report  
Any Other Reports

NEW BUSINESS

Budget for 2009  
Board and Committee Nominations  
Other Business

ADJOURN MEETING

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**378<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the First Church in Windsor  
March 9, 2008**

Called to order by Alan Relyea Chair of Cabinet at 11:32 AM.

Welcome to those whose are attending their first meeting and to this year's confirmation class. A motion was made to accept the minutes of last year's annual meeting by Fidle Lane and seconded by Hal Milliken.

Rick offered a prayer for all those members that have gone before us in the past year. Nancy Clark raised a question about the annual report; it seems there is a discrepancy with the total number of members listed. Mary Phelan, Interim Office Manager will check and have it updated correctly for next year's annual report. Mike Fraley explained the Deacon's attempt to ascertain whether members that have not been heard from in awhile want to be moved to the inactive list. Alan Relyea read the definition of an inactive member from the by-laws. Marva Copeland stated that Jamie Copeland is not on the list of Confirmands for 2007. Michaela Roy is also not on the list. Fidle Lane would like to thank all the board chairs for such encouraging reports that were published in the annual report. A motion was made by Bob Lane to accept the General Annual Report and seconded by Mike Fraley

**Budget:**

Alan Relyea thanked Aubrey Loomis the treasurer for all his hard work this past year 2007 had a budget surplus, mainly because of an increase in payment in pledges and an increase in loose offering. Expenses were very close to budget for 2007. The 2008 budget is a balanced budget. Expenses – There is a 3% increase to salaries  
The Personnel committee is studying for employees going forward.  
The salaries of the church have been removed from the Prudential budget and added to "Other Salaries"

There was a transfer to the Elevator Fund, there is \$50,000 in pledges outstanding, Fidelity has been paid off. Motion to pass the budget was made by Tony Davenport and seconded by Randy Clark. Discussion – Bob Lane commented about the understandability of the budget format. Questions about the way the budget read under Outreach. Giving will be determined by the Outreach committee. There has been an increase over 2007 Outreach budget. Fidle Lane commented on the headings being at the bottom of a page instead of the top. George Merrick wanted to know why we didn't spend the entire Outreach budget since we had a budget surplus in 2007. George Petro wanted to know why there was a decrease in the insurance line, this was due to timing of payment for Worker's Compensation insurance being paid in November. The Motion was called. Vote taken and passed.

**Election of Officers**

There are vacancies to the slate. Fidle Lane wanted to know why we didn't have a Nominating Committee this year, the Cabinet is now filling that role. Randy Clark commented that most of the boards are filled and we have a very strong, and alive staff.. The cabinet will continue to fill openings. Vote was called by Bang Williams and seconded by Bob Lane. The Secretary cast one ballot for the slate.

Bob Lane made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Fidle Lane. The 378<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the First Church in Windsor closed at 12:35 PM

## 2008 Office Annual Report

<b>Total Membership as of 1/1/08</b>			<b>863</b>
		Members Admitted	11
		Members Admitted by Confirmation	8
		<b>Total Members Admitted</b>	<b>+19</b>
		Members Removed by Death	10
		Other Members Removed	0
		<b>Total Members Removed</b>	<b>-10</b>
		Number of members moved to inactive per Deacons	<b>-72</b>
<b>Total Membership (active and inactive) as of 12/31/2008</b>			<b>800</b>
<b>Total Active Membership as of 12/31/08</b>			<b>523</b>

Events	
Baptism—Juvenile	6
Baptisms—Adult	1
Marriages	2
Civil Union	1
Member Funerals	10

Attendance	
<b>Average Church Attendance (excluding Summers)</b>	
8:00 a.m.:	22
10:00 a.m	187
<b>Total Average Attendance (ex Summer)</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>Average Church Attendance (Summers)</b>	
8:00 a.m.:	16
9:30 a.m.:	95
<b>Total Average Church Attendance (Summers)</b>	<b>111</b>

# Clerk Report for 2008

## **BAPTISMS Adult**

Elizabeth Clair Collins

## **BAPTISMS—Juvenile**

Savannah Mary Smith  
Nicholas Harlan Ruddy  
Ciara Elisabeth Doyle  
Carys Elizabeth Stone  
Devon Jane Root—Blanchfield  
Andrew Pascue Blume

## **WEDDINGS & CIVIL UNIONS**

Henry Garcia and John Pollard (civil union)  
Lisa Gail Elflein and Paul Moss Ibsen  
Tom Ignatius Stribula and Dorothy Ann Benko

## **FUNERALS Non-Member**

Richard Daniel Hottenstine  
Barbara J. Krivizky  
Valerie Jean Scagliarini  
Richard Steven Pane  
Christoffel H. Meijer  
Mildred M. Brooks  
Helen Stevenson  
Rita McQuade  
Phyllis M. Grover

## **FUNERALS Members**

Barbara Hinton  
Philip Brooks Maher, Jr.  
John Alexander Riggles  
Marion L. Chamblee  
Shirley Voorhies  
Helen Bystry  
Albert C. Shesler  
Elinor L. Walker  
Marian Gilman Thrall  
Marjorie H. Overbaugh

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Vickie Brown	Reaffirmation of Faith
Christine Ann Durrer	Reaffirmation of Faith
Claudia Diana Jones	Reaffirmation of Faith
Wolfram Alexander Neff	Reaffirmation of Faith
Rai-An Marie Perrish	Reaffirmation of Faith
William A. Simmons	Reaffirmation of Faith
Susan Warner-Prouty	Reaffirmation of Faith
Carolyn Susanne Whyte	Reaffirmation of Faith

## **NEW MEMBERS (continued)**

Mary Wright-Wilson	Reaffirmation of Faith
James S. Corbett	Letter of Transfer
Janet Mary Focarelli	Letter of Transfer
Benjamin Elflein	Confirmation
Dylan Hammerman	Confirmation
Ryan Kirk	Confirmation
Kev-Vaughn Mathews	Confirmation
Nigel Pepin	Confirmation
Ian Porcaro	Confirmation
Zachary Sherman	Confirmation
Kathryn Zeugner	Confirmation

## **MEMBERS MOVED TO INACTIVE\*\***

Roger & Roberta Ball	Thomas & Cindy Deshais
Anissa Cort George	Gary & Vicky Mead
Darcy Sierejko	Stephanie Smith
Paul & Andrienne Suto	
Trish Tappenden	Katie Van Allen
Mark & Raquel Welch	Scott Willett
Stephen & Pamela Byrne	Charles Colton
Amy & Keith Coniff	Kathleen Crotty
Cary & Carla Cummings	
Richard & Maria Dusseault	
Nathan Follansbee	Lisa Ibsen
Marion Lombardi	Daniel Mack
Jeffrey & Joanna Parker	Donald & Nancy Peck
Lon & Jane Pelton	Sandra Rich
Walter & Barbara Rose	Barbara Shivick
Marge Sitler	Stefany Smith
Gregory Stiles	Ernestine Symonds
Philip & Jaye Tambling	Marian Tarbell
Eric & Pamela Verona	Tom & Robin Walker
Richard &	Alfred Wilcox
Elizabeth Waterhouse	Darrell & Catherine Wilcox
Callie D'Addio	Elizabeth Jourdan (child)
Joseph & Laurie Thrall	Jennifer Barnes
Ellen Keyes	Pamela Rothenberger
Domenico Albano	Bonnie Fraley
Donald & Susan Joffray	Bert & Jane Thurber
Pamela Westgate	Jacquelyn B. White
Donald & Eileen Willett	

**\*\*per vote of the Deacons**

## SENIOR MINISTER 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Last year got off to a flying start in January with a retreat led by Tony Robinson (author of *Transforming Congregational Culture*) and an inspirational sermon by guest preacher Dr. Pauline Chen (author of the book, *Final Exam*, and a former First Church member). Over the summer months, a group of us gathered weekly to explore the importance of testimony in our lives by reading Lillian Daniel's book, *Tell It Like It Is*. In the fall, Noel Osowiecki organized a series of meetings entitled, "Come Dream with Us" which challenged the congregation to share their hopes and ideas about the future use of our property and programs.

The past year continued to be one of transition, especially in the areas of staffing and personnel. Sadly, we had to say good-bye to two loyal staff members. In June, Robin Walker, our office administrator moved to North Carolina. Then in August, Priscilla Ford, our Director of Christian Education announced her retirement. We were fortunate to be able to replace Robin with Mary Phelan, a longtime First Church member with strong administrative experience and Priscilla's position has been temporarily filled by Acting Associate Pastor Sara Jane Munshower and our part-time Minister of Youth and Outreach, Char Corbett.

In addition to my regular duties as chief pastor, primary preacher, and head of staff, I also enjoyed working with last year's confirmation class, teaching a six-week Lenten Bible Study, and working with the various boards and committees of the church. Beyond the local church I also found time to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of Jaffna College (a UCC mission in Sri Lanka) and Assistant Moderator of the Hartford Association, United Church of Christ.

Despite the gloomy economic downturn I was most gratified that our congregation's annual stewardship campaign managed to exceed last year's total, which is a credit not only to the work of the stewardship committee (chaired by Mary Jane Dembkoski), but also to the dedication of the entire First Church community. I am also grateful for the commitment and collegiality of our talented church staff, as well as to Cabinet Chair, Al Relyea, for his capable leadership and support over the course of the past two years.

We are not a congregation without our challenges, but we have indeed been blessed with a group of incredibly dedicated, generous, and energetic members, who are willing to do whatever it takes to insure that this church remains a beacon of hope and tower of faith for many years to come. It remains an honor and a privilege to be able to serve among you as pastor and teacher of this great church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard Hanna Huleatt

## INTERIM ASSOCIATE MINISTER 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

*Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5*

As I write this, we are in the throes of grief over the deaths of several beloved church people. Most recently, we have remembered and celebrated the life of Mary Giffin; thus, the chosen scripture to begin this recollection of the year.

First, of all, I want to make note of the fact that much of ministry is conversation among staff, among boards and committees, between a pastor and a member/friend of the congregation, with teachers and youth, between pastors, with ELC staff, among other town clergy and town leadership, with conference staff, etc. There is just no way to put time parameters on such communication or to define it in a job description. Of course, there is also the conversation with God, time spent in prayer. And, unfortunately, there is the time spent talking with technological devices that fall into dysfunction—something most of us are all too familiar with! I say this because I believe it is important for a church to understand how a pastor's time can be consumed.

Because I bring experience and am familiar with the geography, I have been able to do most of what is necessary in twenty-five to thirty hours each week. Often a new pastor spends a good part of the first year just learning her/his way around, visiting folks in their homes, memorizing names, and family relationships, and reading years of annual reports, board minutes, local newspapers, and town maps. I say these things with the hope that when you do have a new pastor you will remember to wear nametags and invite him/her to your home, out to lunch or for a drive around town.

The past sixteen months have been total transition, first with Mary Angela's departure and second with Priscilla's. As a result, Rick and I spent considerable time in conversation to restructure the staff, rewrite my job description and create two new positions, Minister of Youth and Outreach and Church School Assistant. To address the many changes in church and society, we have been discussing and researching trends and practices among mainline Protestant churches.

In addition to preaching monthly, I was glad to be able to cover for Rick during two emergencies, Palm Sunday and Thanksgiving Sunday this past year. In addition to regular hours, meetings (staff, Christian Education, Deacons, and Open and Affirming), and EDGE articles, I also officiated at two memorial services and am covering two weddings this month, January 2009. My hospital visitation is limited to Rick's days off, vacation, and sabbatical times. With Priscilla's retirement, I have acquired responsibility for oversight of Church School and supervision of the new Church School Assistant position that is filled by Gary Sava. This includes the following:

- purchasing curriculum for three year-olds through second grade
- assisting the CE Board with teacher recruitment
- working collegially with Gary Sava, Char Corbett, and the ANTS student
- scheduling pastoral presence for the Parish House on Sunday mornings
- writing rotation curriculum each month (for grades three through six)
- scheduling rotation teachers.

All of this is ministry that I enjoy and I am glad to be serving among you during this time of continued transition. I thank you for the support for the spiritual direction training I am involved in, and I very much look forward to the remaining months with you between now and September.

Faithfully, Rev. Sara Jane Munshower, Interim Associate

## MINISTER OF YOUTH AND OUTREACH 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Many people have tried to encapsulate the past year in just one word: *change*. Certainly we are current witnesses to and participants in a lot of change – historically, nationally, locally, in our homes and right here in our ministries at First Church. But to capture the tenor of a whole year in just one word is a futile exercise – especially when there is so much more to our life experience in Christ! And so I offer some additional words to ponder as we review our ministries with youth and outreach this past year:

**Compassion:** Twenty-two youth and adults traveled to Clincho, WV to repair homes for a week with Appalachia Service Project. Our commitment to helping others beyond the Windsor town line was evident as we painted, hammered and fellowshiped with homeowners and other church volunteers. Most memorable was our youth's deep compassion for a family needing a new roof that ASP did not have the funds for: within 30 minutes they raised \$350 among themselves, including the forgoing of a group meal.

**Faith:** Four youth and two adults represented First Church in July at the UCC's Quadrennial National Youth Event, "Living the Life," hosted at the University of Tennessee. The week was focused on nurturing youth faith through workshops, speakers, worship and social activities. Upon their return, our youth shared their experiences and songs during VBS and at our first "Celebrating Youth" worship service in August.

**Spirit:** Fifteen youth and five adults biked across Cape Cod for four days in July for the summer youth outing while in August another fourteen youth and three adults stayed three days at Heifer International's Overlook Farm in Rutland, MA caring for animals and taking a "plunge" into the hardships of third world living. Both trips were reality checks in honesty, service to others (even among friends!) and earth stewardship.

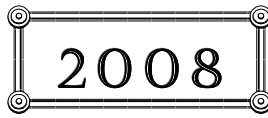
**Truth:** Vacation Bible School was hosted in August and over 40 children and 20 youth participated, as well as many adult volunteers. The "Power Lab" experience gave youth time to ponder the miracle stories of our faith and to discover the truth of Christian living through storytelling, crafts, music and worship, not to mention daily "experiments!" Nobody will forget blasting fountains of coke and mentos to bell ringing and the 1812 Overture in the church parking lot!

**Peace:** Pinwheels for Peace and the Children's Sabbath were opportunities allowing us to reflect in colorful and prayerful ways the need for peace in our world and better healthcare for our children.

**Hospitality:** Through Sacred Journeys, a UCC Korean exchange program, and our partnership with Ha San Woon, we hosted a young girl Soo Won Lee, for two weeks; An intergenerational carol-sing at Windsor Rehab Center and the homes of several homebound members was shared in December; and ongoing youth events occur monthly.

**Blessed:** Ministry for youth *is* a ministry of outreach. We are deeply thankful for all the volunteers who help to make this ministry meaningful. We are also blessed to have youth among us who inspire us with their passion and enthusiasm – even if a little mischief is mixed in! Their youthfulness reminds us that we too have much to offer – together, to other youth in the wider community and out into to the world in which we all live. May these words which they have brought to life in us resound in all we do in 2009 and beyond!

Char Corbett



## ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

Music Ministry is alive and well at First Church! Thanks to the countless hours of devoted participants, our singing and ringing groups have enjoyed a very successful year.

We were privileged once again to sing at the annual Martin Luther King event at the Town Hall in January, and were quite well received. This year, the Taizé Vesper Services were reduced in frequency to once a month, held on the first Wednesday, in tandem with the Noontime Concert Series. Attendance remains small, and the future of the service is being considered.

The Organ Capital Improvements Fund continues to grow slowly but steadily, as we face the challenges of an aging and unreliable organ console, in need of replacement. In support of this fund, Jennifer Hsiao graciously consented to perform a concert, donating the entire proceeds to it.

High points for the year include the Concert for Peace in April and a church-wide Musical Potluck program in May. But perhaps the most overwhelming success was “Opera in the Meetinghouse”, a program of scenes, solos and ensemble from opera and musical theatre. This was a significant event for several reasons: the first staged operatic program in First Church history, an operatic debut for several talented (and courageous) choir members, and most amazingly, a full house at an event in August! God has indeed blessed us. In October, Mark and Victor put on a Second Hour program, “JustSongs” featuring many original compositions.

Music for Vacation Bible School was great fun this year, and the entire congregation was treated to a service in which most of the leadership was provided, quite ably, by the youth and children. This is an unmistakable sign of hope for the future of our church. September saw the creation of the First Church Drumming Circle, led by Maria Eberle. There has been much interest, including an article in *The Reminder*. Interest--and attendance--are steadily growing.

Our “special occasion” worship services were graced with top-shelf musical guests and stirring music. The Good Friday Meditation was quite well attended. Danielle Munsell-Howard was a guest soloist at our Easter services, singing the beautiful “Alleluja” of Mozart. Jennifer Hsiao played beautifully for our tribute to Priscilla Ford service in August, and returned to bless us with more lovely music on Christmas Eve. Our second “Bell Sunday” featured more bells than ever, and everyone really enjoyed it.

We move forward into 2009 with deep faith, great hope and much love, expecting to enjoy “another year of grace”.

Mark D. Watkins

## CHURCH CABINET 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Church Cabinet consists of the Chairperson, Senior Pastor, Treasurer and the Chairpersons from Prudential, Christian Education, Stewardship, Outreach and Deacons. The Church Cabinet coordinates its work with the Church Council, a larger group that includes representation from all church committees and functions.

Harry S. Truman, the 33<sup>rd</sup> President of The United States, once said: "[Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better.](#)" The 378<sup>th</sup> year in the life of the First Church in Windsor, 2008, by this definition was one of progress.

Guided by our values and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the cabinet of First Church evolved beyond a committee that creates policy and deals with the business of the church. The spirit of change was more than embraced; it has become the norm, wholly in concert with so many aspects of change in our congregational life.

With much gratitude, we said 'good-bye' to Robin Walker, Jack Zappulla, and Priscilla Ford who left our staff. Each served our church with distinction, and dedication. The changes in our midst continued as we welcomed Mary Phelan, Gary Sava, Jennifer Bilodeau, and Char Corbett to staff positions at First Church. New positions and the redefinition of old ones underscore the changing needs of the congregation.

The work of each board and committee in 2008 was impressive and is detailed in the pages that follow. Of note, is the ongoing work of the 'Facilities Committee' which was commissioned as an ad-hoc committee of the cabinet. This group led the process called "Come Dream With Us". The outcome of the process will assist us chart a course for the future with respect to our facilities and how they support the mission and ministry of First Church.

Not enough can be said for the work of each board and committee of First Church in 2008, and of the dedicated leadership of each. We are each indebted to these servant leaders. In a similar way, our pastoral leadership under Rick, Sara Jane, and Char is challenging us to become the church we need to be. We are fortunate indeed that these talented and visionary counselors are with us at this crucial time.

Thank you for the rare privilege of serving this congregation as chair for the past two years.

Respectfully,

Alan T. Relyea, Chair

## THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

2008 was a year of transition. The first half of the year was spent preparing for the departure of Priscilla Ford and the second half was coping and dealing with the void that she left. We have yet to fully realize all that she did and all that she meant to us. We reluctantly said goodbye and thank you (Sunday, September 28) to our friend, a mentor to some, an inspiration to others, a resource to all, and a beacon of love and faith. The children of First Church were blessed to have such a staunch advocate and ally for all those years.

Char Corbett assumed the role of Minister of Youth & Outreach, effective June, and Sara Jane Munshower has oversight of Sunday school, pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Gary Sava began our year as Chairperson of the Board and transitioned to a staff member when he accepted the position as Christian Education Assistant. He is available on Sunday mornings to make sure that our program runs smoothly. All three have done a great job sharing the responsibilities of recruiting teachers, providing support and supplies for our Sunday school curriculum, and providing programs that entice involvement and participation of our church youth.

We have to acknowledge and praise the contribution of Diane Dwelley. Diane has been the moving force behind the success of both our Hosanna Fair and Advent Workshop. In advance, she prepared and provided most, if not all, of the supplies for the crafts that were offered at both events. Board members just had the responsibility of helping on the day of the event. She is one of our Christian Education “angels.”

The Board of Christian Education (CE) has been actively involved this year in many areas of Christian education. It continues to meet the church and board mission through its activities for all ages and members. CE highlights for the year include:

- Sunday school, 87 children are enrolled, attendance in Sunday school has been low (about 50%)
- First Fridays
- Sponsorship of Yeshe Gyatso, a Tibetan child we sponsor
- Habitat for Humanity Bake Sale, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup>
- Heifer project plant sale, May 11<sup>th</sup>
- Unicef collection
- Hosanna Fair, March 16<sup>th</sup>
- Easter Egg Hunt, March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- CE Sunday, church picnic, June 8<sup>th</sup>
- Teacher appreciation dinner, June 13<sup>th</sup>, generously hosted by Mary and Chris Phelan
- Summer Youth bike trip to the Cape, July 9<sup>th</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup>, 23 attended
- UCC National Youth Event, July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 28<sup>th</sup>, 4 youth and 2 adults attended
- Vacation Bible School, Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>, 60 children/youth attended or helped
- Heifer Project trip to Overlook farm, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>, 14 youth and 2 adults attended
- Support for Silver Lake attendees
- Rally Sunday, registration before worship service and picnic after service, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
- “Bible Breakfast” for second grade students and their families, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>
- Advent Workshop, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Christmas Pageant

CE has an active board that relies on support from members of the congregation as well.

CE Board Members: Laurel Slate, Don Daros, Kristen Eckhardt, Helga Finlay, Deborah Goldberg, Dianne Hammerman, Stacey Marcella, Judith Merrick, Cori Pierson, Gary Sava

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The First Church Scholarship Committee met in May 2008 to complete review of applications for scholarship funds.

The Board of Trustees having allocated a total of thirteen thousand eight hundred (\$13,800) dollars to be disbursed from the Tiffany, Loucks and general scholarship funds, the following awards have been made:

Brittany Milliken—\$5,500  
Andrew Horan—\$4,000  
Allen Goldberg—\$2,500

The committee members present and voting: Rev. Sara Jane Munshower, Gary Sava, Dianne Hammerman, Judith Merrick and Priscilla Ford.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Sava

## **TEACHING PARISH COMMITTEE 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

Our mission at First Church as a Field Training sight for Andover Newton Theological School (ANTS) is to help nurture and train future religious leaders for the greater church community.

Our committee's duties run on the school year. This report covers the end of the 07-08 school year and beginning of the 08-09 school year.

Members of the committee: Doug Kelly, Edie O'Donnell, Evelyn Smith, Hal Milliken, Sue Milliken, Chair, Laurel Pepin

Char Corbett, our third seminary student, successfully completed her year of field training with First Church, in May 2008.

In the spring, the committee along with Rick Huleatt, interviewed and accepted a new student for the 2008-2009 school year. Our new student, Mary Ann Purtill is a resident of Glastonbury, CT and a student at Andover Newton. She started her field training with First Church in September 2008. We met with Mary Ann on a monthly basis, overseeing her learning goals as she participated in the daily life of our church.

Mary Ann is supervised by an off site supervisor assigned to her by Andover Newton. We have no regular interaction with the supervisor. As part of our agreement with Andover Newton, we pay a stipend to the off site supervisor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Pepin  
Chair  
1/16/2009

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

*"It shall be the duty of the Board of Christian Outreach in conjunction with the Pastor(s) to engage the church in the study and promotion of our wider mission by exploring our Christian responsibility to society in such areas as social reform, public education, social welfare work, inter-racial and international understanding and world peace."* Bylaws, First Church, Windsor

In keeping faith with our mission as set forth in the bylaws, the Board of Christian Outreach used its budget allocation and its collective energy to respond to the needs of the local and the global communities. Over half of the Outreach budget supports national and global concerns through our giving to Our Church's Wider Mission, a tithe of the amount of our church's annual budget. Our dues to the CT Conference and the Hartford Association are also included in our church's denominational support.

Our Outreach budget support for interfaith and secular giving this year included the Capital Region Conference of Churches, the Christian Activities Council, First Church Early Learning Center scholarships, Immaculate Conception Shelter and Housing Corporation, Covenant to Care, Seminary Education, and the Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice. We also provided funding for First Church mission trip participation in the Appalachia Service Project. In addition, our Concerns budget provided funding for numerous additional worthy causes including: hosting of student visitors from our partner church in Korea, Foodshare, Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity, Family Life Education, Interval House, True Colors, Inc., Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, Project Graduation, Sage Park Middle School Program and the Windsor Fuel Bank.

Some of the many important outreach related initiatives supported by Board members and First Church included:

- Sponsored an immersion trip to Hartford neighborhoods to learn of the varied community needs within the city.
- Served as book buddies for kindergarteners at Simpson-Waverly School in Hartford, including providing a book to each child 3 times per year and reading with the students.
- Increased the food collections from monthly to weekly in order to meet increasing demands.
- Assembled Thanksgiving baskets for local families.
- Served a meal for 80 people at Immaculate Conception Shelter and provided 80 bag lunches.
- Continued our Covenant to Care with our adopted social worker by providing book bags/ school supplies, household furniture/ other needed goods, Thanksgiving meals, and Christmas gifts for numerous clients of the CT Department of Children & Families.
- Participated in this year's Crop Walk.

Supporting an end of year celebration for participants in the WHS 5<sup>th</sup> Year Program.

*I will show you my faith by what I do. James 2:18*

Members of the Board of Christian Outreach During 2008-9: Marcia Hickey (Co-Chair), Susan Ross (Co-Chair) Deb Berry, Joyce Ward, Tom Finlay, Marilyn Boehm, Martha O'Donnell, Mark Fredette, and Jan Stevens.

## **OPEN AND AFFIRMING COMMITTEE 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

This was an exceptionally productive year for our committee. Our new committee members rolled up their sleeves and jumped right into our group with fresh ideas and insights. As the church continued its transformational conversation with Tony Robinson in January, the Open and Affirming Committee stood ready to assist our members during this process.

Our goal was to provide the means for the congregation to become as welcoming and open to all as we begin our journey of congregation transformation. During the year, our workshops and regular articles in the Edge offered reminders and guiding principles to members on how to relate with others, on various topics, such as people with disabilities, questions on and in support of same sex marriage, and general open and affirming information share from the national and conference level.

On April 6th, we kicked-off our second hour series with a discussion on “What do you say when you don’t know what to say?” This interactive workshop held in the Parker Room was a huge success. The room was packed to capacity, and the feedback was extremely positive. The participants shared many great tips and ideas among the group.

During the spring and the summer, our committee supported the efforts of the cabinet and congregation for the upcoming “Come dream with us meetings” as the members prepared to provide feedback for our future success.

One of the most satisfying roles we have as a committee is working with other boards and committees to make The First Church in Windsor as welcoming as possible. Our continued joint efforts have set new levels of cooperation among the church’s leadership.

We ended in the year with another excellent second hour workshop in November on, “Building a Stronger Christian Community” in the Parker Room. We shared and learned from each other how to better communicate a sense of church community among our members and the community.

Our committee continues to support the congregation’s Open & Affirming Statement in a positive and inspiration manner that promises to open many new doors of welcoming and acceptance in our community.

Going forward, we are confident that the future will bring exciting new opportunities to make known in our church and community that we are an open and affirming congregation and are called to live in ways that promote understanding and justice for all people, at all times.

Submitted by: Steve Porcaro (Chair), Elaine Richards, Andrea Schnure, Victor Evans, Phyllis Spragg, and Terry Eberle.

## **PRUDENTIAL BOARD 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

As in years past, the Prudential Board focused on the needs of the church campus and our four buildings in 2008. The highlights of the year included the welcoming of Mary Phelan in the newly created position of Church Administrator, significant capital improvements to the Parish House, the hosting of "Come Dream With Us" meetings and the formation and work of the Facilities Committee. More details on each below:

**Church Administrator:** Mary Phelan started in this new position in March assuming the office manager's responsibilities plus many more. From a Prudential Board perspective this position is now the on site property representative with direct supervision of the Sexton and the Custodian.

**Parish House Capital Improvements:** In 2008 the Prudential Board invested nearly \$50,000 to replace much of the roof and the boiler. The flat roof (approx 50% of the roof) began to fail due to age and had to be replaced to prevent further water damage (some water had already leaked in and caused water damage to the Church Office and the Associate Minister's office. The boiler failed due to faulty craftsmanship by Burnham Boilers. Unfortunately, after eleven years of service the boiler was no longer under warranty and had to be replaced. The new boiler is a super high efficiency model that will hopefully pay for itself over the next 10 years. As an added plus, we are doing our part to be "green" as the new boiler will use much less gas and will produce less emissions.

**Facilities Committee:** This committee hit the ground running after the summer break. The committee's goal is to assess the facilities needs of the church and then provide recommendations / options for the church to pursue. In order to gather feedback from the congregation the committee hosted four "Come Dream With Us" meetings in early fall. Thank you to all who attended as we gathered a wealth of information! The team has now been meeting weekly over the past few months and hopes to deliver recommendations sometime this spring.

**Future Items:** Over the next year the Prudential Board will once again need to prioritize and determine which projects to take action on in 2009. Some of the items the board will need to consider are fire control upgrades in the Parish House (we have to do this per the fire marshal), foundation repairs in the Pierson House, new windows in the Pierson House, new exterior paint on the Meeting House, etc...

**Special Thank you:** The Prudential Board would also like to acknowledge Hal Milliken, Doug Kelly and Randy & Nancy Clark who have all devoted countless hours to Prudential Board items over the past year. We would also like to thank all of those that were instrumental to the Come Dream With Us meetings including Al Relyea, Steve Pocar, Ruth Budlong and Nancy Clark. It is nice to know we have such good people in our congregation!

Submitted by: Noel Osowiecki (Chair), Scott Mitchell, Lynne Gillette, Doug Kelly, Nancy Clark, Dave Dwelley and Betty Jourdan.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE—"GIVE FROM A GRATEFUL HEART"  
2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

This year's Stewardship Committee asked the congregation to "Give from a Grateful Heart". Our committee wanted to reach out to get the congregation involved in our campaign this year. We started out our stewardship message by asking the congregation for their ideas for our stewardship theme for 2008. We also appealed to the congregation to see if anyone wanted to give a personal testimonial, we found two willing participants that gave very personal statements from their hearts.

The campaign continued with the tradition of monthly witnessing steward messages from members of the committee. The campaign also strived to get at least two if not three articles in the monthly Edge to reach out to the entire church community whether they were in attendance at church or not. We also got our message out in the weekly Sunday bulletins that were handed in out in church as well. We wanted to keep our message alive throughout the stewardship drive.

To keep our message out there the stewardship committee set a goal for 100% participation in our pledge drive. We reached out to the church members to give a pledge, regardless of the pledge amount. We were far short of our total of 100%, but we did get 58% of the member households to submit a pledge or donation for 2009.

We tried some new things this year, as we knew the economic conditions were not in our favor. We designed a donation card to appeal to those that may not have pledged in the past. We also had two different invitation letters to our consecration Sunday brunch – one to those that pledged last year, and one to those members that did not. The members that did not pledge last year also received a donation card with their pledge appeal.

The committee again reached out to the congregation and asked them to answer some survey questions regarding their preferences at First Church. Those survey answers were then utilized in the skit of "First Church Family Feud" that was performed in October. The committee appreciated all of the participants that volunteered willingly to perform this skit. It was a great and fun way to share the survey results with everyone and get our stewardship message out.

The annual Consecration Brunch was held on Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00 am service. The stewardship committee was extremely thankful to all that baked and cooked for this event. We also appreciated the assistance of the confirmation class that helped out in many ways. The food was delicious and The Hot Cat Jazz Band once again entertained us and was wonderful.

At the time this report is submitted we have surpassed the pledge total from last year. We are very grateful that in this time of uncertainty in our economy, the congregation was generous with their pledges with a large percentage increasing their pledge over last year.

Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total pledging units	266	267	270	222	222
Total pledge amounts	\$ 370,438.00	\$ 383,303.00	\$ 392,187.00	\$ 368,590.56	\$ 370,828.92
Average pledge	\$ 1,393.00	\$ 1,435.59	\$ 1,452.54	\$ 1,660.32	\$ 1,670.40
% increase	3%	3%	2%	-6%	1%
Pledge distribution:					
>\$8,000	3	3	4	4	4
\$6,000-\$7,999	3	5	6	5	3
\$4,000-\$5,999	13	12	9	9	13
\$2,000-\$3,999	36	34	35	40	42
\$1,000-\$1,999	64	70	73	57	58
\$520-\$999	56	59	50	52	55
<520	91	84	93	55	47

Faithfully Submitted: Mary Jane Demboski, Carol Hubert, Jack Hubert, Dave Drapeau and Judith Merrick

## **BOARD OF DEACONS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Board of Deacons is charged with supporting the spiritual life of the church. We are blessed to have the very fine leadership and guidance of our Senior Pastor, Rick Huleatt. First Church has continued to experience many changes with our staff. Sara Jane Munshower, Interim Associate Pastor has been most gracious in her willingness to continue her journey with us until August 2009, though that time will come quickly now. Since Mary Angela Davis' departure, the hours of the Associate have been decreased which has certainly had an impact on what is able to be accomplished. Pricilla Ford who gave countless hours as Director of Children's Ministry retired in August. Much of that loss continues to be felt now in many different areas. Char Corbett is our Youth and Outreach Minister and she has been invaluable. If a new Associate Pastor is not hired by the time Sara Jane leaves, difficulties and stresses will be felt throughout all of First Church. Deacons have worked as a team to support the leadership of the ordained clergy and staff with worship every Sunday.

We continue to offer two Sunday services. The 8 am service is a small intimate worship where communion is celebrated every week. Although there has been concern about the sometimes sparse attendance, we often have 20 parishioners. There was discussion and actual voting on whether to keep the 10 am service at the same time in the summer, or to move it to 9:30 am which has been the custom for years. We weighed the responses and decided to continue with the 9:30 am time. Another Worship opportunity led by Mark Watkins is the Wednesday evening Taize service (first of each month). This is a very peaceful and contemplative spiritual treasure.

In April, after many years of our Church service being broadcast on WJMJ, a decision was made by the Archdiocese to end their ecumenical affiliation. There have been attempts at "podcasting" the service, and for those who click onto the church website, some of our worship services can be heard. Our sound system does not lend itself to an easy way to do this.

Several youth participated in confirmation classes led by Char and Rick. We have strongly encouraged youth participation from this group as Youth Deacons after they are confirmed. This is a wonderful group of young people who serve along with the ushers and deacons.

The Board unanimously approved Rick's sabbatical. Because of all the staff changes, it did not seem in the church's best interest, or in his if he took 3 consecutive months off. Rick proposed that the time be divided up to take 2 months (not consecutive) in 2009; the first month in January and the second month in late spring. The third month will be taken in 2010. After this, he will take one month every other year. This seems to be most practical for the church, especially in terms of pastoral coverage.

We would like to thank the Youth Deacons: Brianna Landry, Nicole Napiorkowski, Ian Sheldon, Ryan Sherman, Marissa Lewis, Chris Walker, Elizabeth Winland, Jillian Burghoff, Dylan Hammerman, and Ryan Kirk. And thanks also to our ushers: Donn Jourdan, Andrea Schnure, Cindy Johnson, Robbin Willard, Ginny Lougee, Paul Monaco, Elaine Richards, Libby Parker, Kevin Doyle, and Mark Mascola. We are also grateful to Ginny Lougee and Buddy Donovan who made this year's John Warham Sunday a festive and fun celebration to those who have been members for 40 plus years!

We have had an active Board of Deacons who work as a team to support the worship and spiritual life of our church. We are grateful for the care, commitment, and dedication that everyone who has served on the Diaconate this year has shown.

On behalf of the Board,  
Penny Richard and George Petro (co-chairs)  
John Zepp, Gale Jameson, Jean Kelly, Betsy Kenneson, Michael Novak, Dave Wilson, Lynda Fredette,  
Steve Hammerman, Patti Huntington, and Mark O'Donnell.

## PARISH CARING MINISTRIES 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

“Bear one another’s burdens and in this way you  
will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

Parish Caring Ministries consists of nine ministries: Parish Visitors, Care Note Writing, Meals and Transportation, The Knitting Ministry, The Flower Committee, The Prayer Team, Helping Hearts (children’s card ministry) The Friendship Team (makes calls to Sunday Visitors) and The 80+ Birthday Club (cards to our elders). All these ministries are served by compassionate, devoted volunteers and First Church is very grateful for all they do to bring the sense of Christ’s ministry of love and healing to our community and beyond. Some of the highlights of the year were:

\***The 14 Parish Visitors** visit their assigned church member(s) at least once a month and often more. The elders are glad for this connection to First Church since they often can not get to church. **Dorothy Merz** oversees this ministry.

\*In 2008, **The Knitting Ministry sent out 49 shawls** as offerings of comfort, strength and hope to folks that were suffering. This makes a total of **617 shawls** that have been lovingly made and delivered since we began our ministry in March 2001. **Susan Huleatt** and **Sue Williams** run this ministry.

\***The Helping Hearts Program is run by Ruth Budlong.** The children of the Sunday School made **184 cards** for us throughout the year. These cards were sent to our elders and shut-ins. We sent 71 birthday cards, 20 valentines, 30 Easter cards, 24 Thanksgiving cards and 39 Christmas cards. Thank you to Ruth, Priscilla Ford, Sara Jane Munshower and the children and their teachers for these wonderful cards.

\***Meals and Transportation, run by Linda Carillo, delivered 24 meals and 29 rides** this year. This ministry has 12 coordinators, 35 meal-makers and 22 drivers.

\***The 14 Care-Note Writers sent out 89 notes** to parishioners who had been hospitalized or were in need of a lift. **Dottie McAllister** oversees volunteers who write these notes of comfort and care.

**12 Friendship Team** volunteers welcomed countless Sunday visitors to First Church.

\***Dottie McAllister** also chairs the **Flower Committee of 13 members.** Easter plants and poinsettias are sent to all our shut-ins and recently hospitalized parishioners. Each week the Sunday flowers are divided into small bouquets and taken to folks in need.

\*All the prayers of the **22-member Prayer Team, run by Sue Williams** are kept confidential but it can be said that we were asked to pray for many, many folks in 2008.

\***Parish Caring Ministries Sunday** was held on September 29, honoring all the above volunteers.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Williams, Coordinator

**MEMORIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE  
2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The members of the committee did not meet this year as there were no projects that needed funding from the Memorial Gift Committee.

In 2008 donations were made in the loving memory of Elinor Walker, Philip Maher, Richard Donovan, Shirley Voorhies and Helen Bystry totaling \$935.00

Respectively submitted,  
Ellie Word, Doris Butler, and Sue Keirstead

## **MEMORIAL GARDEN 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The First Church Memorial Garden, now in its third year, has become the final resting place for ashes of three FCW members: **Robert Ross Parker** (7/2/06), **Andrew Theodore (“Ted”) Anderson** (11/24/06) and **John Josiah Carey** (10/10/07).

A Memorial Garden book has been created and is in the church office; it has information about those whose ashes are in the garden, contains a list of initial donors and members of the Memorial Garden Committee, and spells out policies and procedures for the use of the garden.

Members of the committee are **Charlie and Pennie Campbell, Nancy Clark, Tony and Jay Davenport, Priscilla Ford, Tom and Sue Gilmartin, Sue Keirstead, Jamie Klase, Judith Merrick, Mary Phelan, Penny Richard, Ellie Word** and, ex-officio, the Revs. **Richard Hanna Huleatt and Sara Jane Munshower.**

Respectfully submitted, Tony Davenport, chairperson (pro tem)

**PASTORAL CARE CENTER OF GREATER HARTFORD  
2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Pastoral Counseling Center staff provide traditional psychotherapy which honors and acknowledges the need for a spiritual foundation in healing. The Center was founded thirty years ago and is presently supported by twenty churches in nine towns, including our church. Besides financial support, we provide a counseling site. Anyone wishing to learn more about the Center or considering utilizing their services, may call Rev. Dr. Henderson, the director, at 659-0183. Board members serve as a link to sponsoring churches, handle public relations and outreach, monitor the program, create the vision for the organization, and manage expenses. This has been a challenging year, as we again face a deficit. We are also concerned that a plan be in place to maintain a strong Center for the future. We have been working with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and a representative has recently completed an organizational assessment. The Board will be meeting to decide how best to respond to recommendations made.

Our Board meetings begin and end with prayer. My own prayer is that we will be given the wisdom to continue to make this much needed service available to all who are searching for a place of healing.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Richards,  
Board Member

## **MUSIC COMMITTEE 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Music Committee continues its quest to bring the joy of performed music to the congregation and others.

Mark Watkins, Music Director, and Victor Evans, Associate Music Director, continue to bring new experiences, musical selections and performers and their own personal compositions to the church services. The Music Committee has a permanent account for Organ Capital Improvements. Contributions to this fund are invited and Mark and Victor perform Noontime Nourishment and 4 O'Clock concerts and the proceeds of free-will offerings are directed to this fund.

A number of special events were held in 2008 including the following:

- \* February 3 - Jennifer Hsiao, violinist, presented a concert at 4 PM and dedicated the proceeds to the Organ Capital Improvements Fund.
- \* March 8 Auction - The Music Committee donated a Sweets Basket made up by members of the committee.
- \* April 6 - A 4 O'Clock Concert was held with Vocal Choirs, Bell Choir and the children singing.
- \* May 17 - A Musical Potluck Concert was held at 4 O'Clock on Saturday. Ten people sang and performed with instruments for their families and friends and it was a successful evening. A potluck supper was held in Nelson Hall following the concert.
- \* August 2 at 8:00 PM - "Opera in the Meetinghouse" was held with performers coming from Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania singing with choir members and it was a wonderful evening of music. There was a large attendance and will be presented again next summer.
- \* October 15 at 7:00 PM - Thula Sizwe, the Zulu song/dance group from Africa, performed at the Meetinghouse with a large attendance of people who enjoyed their music. A supper was put on for the performers before the concert.
- \* The Lucille Hempel Parker Scholarship awarded three scholarships to Anna Wiedeler, Amanda Howe and Cady Berry in June to pursue their musical interests.

It has been a musical year here at First Church and we thank Mark, Victor and all of the choirs and performers for their participation.

Submitted by,

Sue Keirstead (Chair), Michael Novak (Co-Chair), Mei Chen, Vanda Doyle, John Pierson, and Carolyn Whyte

## **THE HISTORY COMMITTEE 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

During the report period, the biographical history of the First Church Ministers, Servants of Others, was published. This labor of love was lovingly and carefully researched by Judy Albano and edited by our immediate past Chair, Tony Davenport.

The work summarizes, in its first section, the ministerial activities of every First Church Senior Minister from John Maverick and John Warham up through our current Senior Minister, Rick Huleatt. The history of our more recent Associate Ministers is also included.

A second section contains many interesting biographical notes for each of the ministers: date of birth, death, education, name of spouse (s) and children and personal histories.

The book makes for very interesting reading and was offered for sale by the History Committee at the after-Church coffee hours in November and December. Copies are currently available from the Church office for a nominal fee of ten dollars (\$10).

The current History Committee expresses its appreciation to prior members who worked so hard getting this document ready for publication.

Respectfully submitted,

The History Committee,

Tom Gilmartin  
Sue Gilmartin  
Fidie Lane  
Carolyn Whyte

## **FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S CLUB 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Women's Club consists of 66 members. Luncheon meetings are held at 12:00 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from September through May. Lunch is a BYOS (bring your own sandwich) with a donation of \$2.00 to offset cost of providing the beverages and desserts prepared by volunteer hostesses and cleaning up. We have an interesting program each month. December and April are potluck luncheons and May's lunch is held at a restaurant.

Financial contributions were: \$50 to Memorial Gift Fund and \$127 to the March Auction

The Program Committee provides a variety of interesting and educational speakers and fun presentations which are followed by a short business meeting.

Members participated in and volunteered for the following activities:

- \* Help prepare "The Edge" newsletter for mailing and assisting the office on an as needed basis.
- \* Funeral Receptions
- \* Parish Caring Ministries
- \* Workshop Group prepared 25 "Gift of The Heart School Kits" that are distributed by Church World Service.
- \* Responsible for care of the kitchen dish towels.
- \* Responsible for delivering Sunday Service worship recorded tapes to Windsor Rehabilitation nursing home.
- \* We are represented at the Church Council.
- \* We participate in civic and charitable volunteer work.
- \* We contributed handmade baby blankets to Christian Outreach to be donated to Covenant to Care.
- \* We made 75 knitted items, 50 miscellaneous items and donated them to Mental Health, Head Start, Windsor Rehabilitation, Kimberly North and Kimberly South and Hartford Hospital.

At the close of this busy and successful year, I wish to thank all of our members and executive board for their hard work and generous support for our many activities.

Respectively submitted,

Sue Keirstead (President), Fran DaRos, Ada Martin, Elaine Mesick, Elaine Brophy, Laverne Gustafson, Jan Dagenhart, Edie O'Donnell, Dorothy McAllister, Heather Renaud, Ellie Word, Jan Stevens, Beth Horlitz, Jay Davenport, Pam Sweeny, Fidle Lane, Doris Butler and Helen Hall

**FIRST CHURCH EARLY LEARNING CENTER**  
*A Place Where Children And Childhood Are Celebrated*



Throughout 2008, First Church Early Learning Center (FCELC) continued to offer a nurturing and rewarding learning experience for preschool children of the church and surrounding communities. The administrative staff and dedicated teachers provide a secure and caring environment where children are valued and given encouragement to develop creativity, social skills, and positive self-esteem.

Our current enrollment is 72 children in 6 classes. Programs offered by FCELC in 2008 include: The Full-Day Threes and Fours, and Half-Day Threes and Fours Programs offer a very low teacher/student ratio and an excellent curriculum in well-equipped classrooms.

A Summer Program offers theme-based learning and social activities for 3 to 6 year olds.

Lunch Pail Pals is an enrichment program so that children may stay for lunch one day a week. \$1540.00 in scholarships was awarded to qualifying families to help subsidize their tuition costs.

These funds would not be available were it not for the generous support of the Board of Christian Outreach and the donations of parents through the Holiday Scholarship Fund which added \$2245.00 to the scholarship fund.

Peter Eggen left our employment when he relocated to Arizona. We are currently seeking a full-time, year round preschool teacher to work in our Full Day three-year old program.

Our annual pledge to the church was increased to \$5000.00.

We continue to participate with the Town of Windsor in the School Readiness Grant Program. Ellen serves on the Windsor School Readiness Council, the Windsor Early Childhood Council, and as a member of the Community Planning Grant administered by Windsor Public Schools.

We administer funds for the Graustein Memorial Fund and the Parent Leadership Training Institute grant.

As part of our community outreach, we donated \$600.00 this year to support WHS Project Graduation, the Windsor Historical Society (Windsor 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary), First Town Downtown (co-sponsored a summer concert), Brown's Harvest to benefit Mary's Place, the Windsor Community Service Council, Windsor PAL, and Interval House.

In early spring, we completed the intensive effort, creating weighty and detailed classroom and center portfolios in compliance with the requirements of a NAEYC accreditation visit (at a cost of \$2500.00). Our center received notice that we were granted re-accreditation valid until 2013.

Several ambitious purchases or improvements this year include:

Multiple repairs on toilets. \$1104.00

Paid for airborne asbestos air sampling and additional laboratory tests.  
\$739.00

Paid for website modification to our link on the church website. \$250.00

Contributed to the cost for the high speed church internet access, DSL line. \$120.00

Purchased new refrigerator. \$499.99

Repair panic device on door. \$90.00

On behalf of the Policy Board, we would like to thank all of the staff of FCELC for their talents and dedication to the children and to the school. It has been the sincere cooperation of the staff, policy board, parents and church community that makes our school very successful.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Howe (Past Chair); Wendy Schwartz (Co-Chair); Rosa Collyer (Co-Chair); Caroline Hoffman (Secretary); Andrew Lattimer (Treasurer); Desley Monaco (Scholarship); Helga Finlay (Ways & Means); Mary Hastings, LeighAnn Tyson (Parent Representatives); Amy Peters, Suzanne Drangenis (Staff Representatives), and Ellen Monchun (Director).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Trustees met quarterly in 2008 to oversee and manage the Church's Endowment Funds. The funds are currently invested in the Missionary Society's Consolidated Trust Fund and Fidelity's Four- In-One Index Fund. For the year ended 9/30/08, these funds have average returns of approximately -15.32%, compared to the S&P 500 of -21.96% and Lehman Aggregate Bond Index return of 3.66%. The markets have continued to deteriorate since October and we are hopeful for improved results in 2009.

The board will be welcoming Donn Jourdan as its new member beginning in 2009, as John will be leaving the board after 5-years of service.

Respectfully submitted,

John Stevens, Chairman

Marilyn Loomis

Jamie Vernon

Chris Weijert

Kathy Hardman

**The First Church in Windsor  
United Church of Christ**

**2008  
Financial Statements**

**2009  
Budget Summary**

**And**

**Consolidated Fund Activity  
Report as of 12/31/08**