

The First Church in Windsor United Church of Christ 2006 Annual Report



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AGENDA
For
THE 377 ANNUAL MEETING
Of
THE FIRST CHURCH IN WINDSOR, U.C.C.
FEBRUARY 11, 2007

11:15 a.m. CALL TO ORDER -Bob Stisser—Chair of Cabinet

READING OF THE CALL TO THE MEETING

PRAYER AND MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS

GENERAL REPORTS (With opportunities for comments & questions.)

Senior Minister
Associate Minister
Director of Children's Ministries
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 2007
Report of the Nominating Committee
Other Business

ADJOURN MEETING

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MINUTES OF 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

The Chair of the Cabinet, Bob Stisser, called the 376th Annual Meeting of the First Church in Windsor to order on Sunday, February 26, 2006 at 11:15 AM. Acting Secretary, Jean Kelly read the Call to the Meeting. Senior Minister, Richard Hanna Huleatt, opened the meeting with a prayer and remembrances of departed members.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to have Warren Johnson officiate as the Moderator. There were no minutes to the 2005 Annual Meeting. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the special church meetings in May and October 2005.

General Reports: Reports from Ministers, Officials and Committees were received as published. A special note of appreciation was made to Becky Hendricks for her dedication and hard work as Treasurer. Fidie Lane noted that Ted Anderson's sister Martha requested that all money given in memory of Ted be allocated to the History Committee.

New Business:

- 2006 Budget: Due to a budget shortfall Al Boehm made the following motion to approve the budget as presented by the Cabinet and approved by the Council at their January 18th meeting. The adoption of said budget expressly includes the authorization of the Congregation to use unrestricted Trust Funds to make up any shortfall in income as may be needed to execute approved expenditures. An amendment was proposed and passed to limit the amount of unrestricted funds to balance the budget to \$15500. The original motion was then passed also.
- Al Boehm proposed another motion that the Prudential Board be allowed to increase the Building Reserve Fund by an additional \$25,000 should they choose to allocate Molyneaux Trust Funds for anticipated building maintenance projects consisting of:
 - a. Replacing the steeple roof
 - b. Replacing windows in the Pierson House
 - c. Painting the exterior of the Pierson House
 - d. Shoring up the foundation of the Pierson House Porch.

This motion was also passed.

- The Nominating Report was approved with two corrections. Dodie Benko will serve on the Outreach Board not Erica Fangiullo and Beth Horlitz will serve on the Memorial Gifts Committee.

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Other Business: None offered by the congregation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean M. Kelly
Acting Secretary

2006 Office Annual Report

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP January 1, 2006	857
Members Admitted	19
Members Admitted by Confirmation	9
Members Reinstated (Own Request)	0
 TOTAL NEW MEMBERS ADMITTED 2005	 28
Members Removed by Death	12
Members Removed by Transfer to Other Churches	5
Members Transfer to Inactive	0
Members Removed (Own Request)	5
 TOTAL MEMBERS REMOVED	 22
 TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP January 1, 2007	 863
Baptism – Juvenile	9
Baptism – Adults	4
Marriages –	5
Funerals –	10
 AVERAGE CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
8:00 a.m. average attendance:	20
10:00 a.m. average attendance (Spring, Winter, Fall including Christmas Eve)	258
Total average attendance:	278
 AVERAGE CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
8:00 a.m. average attendance:	19
10:00 a.m. average attendance (Summer – 12 weeks)	107
Total average attendance:	126

Robin Walker
Office Manager

Clerk Report for 2006

Baptisms		*adult baptism		New Members	
*Michael Ward		*Conor Belanger		Sarah Ansley Bernstein	Affirmation of Faith
*Coleen Danielle Belanger		*Kathy Louise Laidley Howard		Maria Planadeball	Affirmation of Faith
Eli Edward Fangiullo		Jacob Andrew Kalnenieks		Hilary Carpenter	Affirmation of Faith
Austin Michael Smith		Eva Pascua Blume		Kimberly Elmer	Affirmation of Faith
Amanda Elizabeth Hallgren		Gianna Mary Grillo		Marcia Hickey	Letter of Transfer
David Hogan Doyle		David Alan McManus		Phyllis Ann Spragg	Letter of Transfer
Melea Elizabeth Wolters				Elaine B. Richards	Letter of Transfer
Weddings				Richard A. Dusseault	Letter of Transfer
Jennifer Lynn Aniskoff & Eric Dean Floyd		Natalie Hughes & Chris Luiso		Kristen Eckhardt	Letter of Transfer
Heather Morgan Mills & Scott Michael Mitchell		Amanda Lynn Latournes & Jonathan James Beane		Joyce Ward	Letter of Transfer
Maria Planadeball & Richard Dusseault				Jack Zappulla	Letter of Transfer
Funerals				Peg Zappulla	Letter of Transfer
*Non-Members				Mark Watkins	Letter of Transfer
*Barbara Welch Boyce		*Gregory Donald Nelson		Christa Elkovich	Reaffirmation
*Dorothy B. Simon		Elizabeth M. Farley		Carolyn Payne	Reaffirmation
Marilyn Barhydt Loucks		Hendrik Eleveld		Bob Howe	Reaffirmation
Louise Linden West		Lois Taylor		Amanda Howe	Reaffirmation
Eloise White		Donald Smith		Gerald Ward	Reaffirmation
Libby Taylor		Linnea Nielson Dooley		Victor Evans	Reaffirmation
Velma Parsons		William H. Best		Ian Sheldon	Confirmation
Raymond A. Kusner				Ryan Sherman	Confirmation
Members Removed by Transfer				Conor Belanger	Confirmation
Linda Bonadies		Earl Robinson		Michael Dembkoski	Confirmation
MaryLou Robinson		Joyce Pemberton		Chris Walker	Confirmation
Ernest Pemberton				Elizabeth Winland	Confirmation
Members Removed (Own Request)				Jillian Burghoff	Confirmation
Eric Heinrich	Anne Heinrich	Richard Horvath	Becky Hendricks	Michael Ward	Confirmation
				Aaron Muhlmeyer	Confirmation
					David Keirstead

Senior Minister 2006 Annual Report

2006 was a productive year in the life of our church. It was also a year marked by change and transition. One major change was the addition of an elevator and new entry way in the north end of the Parish House. This ambitious project, which raised over \$500,000 (including an anonymous gift of \$250,000), is an investment in the future of our campus as well as in the Silver Lake Conference Center (for whom 10 percent of the total campaign is earmarked). The new addition, which was dedicated on September 10 in memory of Irving and Esther Jacobs, has been a wonderful addition to our parish house.

The past year not only saw changes to our buildings but also to our church staff as well. In May, Gerry Ward was hired as our new part-time sexton and Chris Howell-Levine was hired as our new part-time custodian. In addition, Mark Watkins began his tenure as our new organist/music director in September. Mark and his partner, Victor Evans, have brought a flourish to an already excellent music program and it is clear that our music ministry is in good hands for many years to come. Last by no means least, Leanne Connolly, a student at Andover Newton Theological School joined us in September as our seminar-in-training.

In terms of our congregation's wider mission, The First Church Early Learning Center celebrated fifty years of ministry on September 17, 2006. The observance featured a special coffee hour as well as crafts, words of appreciation and plenty of goodies! The Refugee Resettlement Ministry also saw its dreams come to fruition when our Russian family moved into their own apartment in October. In addition, The Reverend Shelly Copeland, Executive Director of the Capital Region Conference of Churches served as our Martin Luther King Day speaker in January and Betty Frank, a visiting UCC missionary from Turkey, spoke to us in October.

On a personal note, Susan and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary with a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico in October. The southwest was beautiful at that time of year and it was wonderful to be able to get away and reflect upon all the good things that have happened to us over the course of the past three decades. In addition to the charms of Santa Fe itself, we enjoyed climbing around the pueblo ruins as well as taking a tram up Sandia Mountain (El. 10,500) from which we could see 15,000 square miles (roughly 10 percent of the entire state!).

As the years go by I am increasingly aware of how indebted I am to all the hard working members of the staff, as well as all our loyal and dependable lay leaders. I would especially like to single out Al Boehm, out-going chair of the Prudential Board for the outstanding job he did overseeing the construction of the building project. I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the steering committee of "Laying the Foundation"--Hugh McLean, Randy Clark, Doug Kelly, Bob Stisser and Sue and Bang Williams--without whose leadership and dedication the campaign never could have been completed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Hanna Huleatt

Associate Minister 2006 Annual Report

The author of Psalm 39 has the wonderful line asking God to teach me the “measure of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is.” That is how I feel about the past year and how quickly it became a memory!

In May, I completed the Foundations for Supervision class at Andover Newton Theological School. Soon afterwards, Jeffrey Lukens - our field education student - completed his work at First Church. Although it was sad to say goodbye to Jeff, the overall experience of supervision was positive. I certainly appreciated the energy and caring of Jeff's ministry with our youth. We all learned a lot! Leanne Connolly, another student from Andover Newton, joined us in September, and she has been a fine addition to our staff. The continuing education now required for me (and First Church in Windsor) to be in the program is an on-line discussion group. Another first for me!

Some of the teaching and spiritual growth opportunities I valued during 2006 included an adult group studying *The Bible from Scratch - the New Testament for Beginners*, and in the fall, an adult Bible study using *The Seasons of the Spirit* lectionary material. I presently team teach the Confirmation Class with Rick and Leanne too. This brought me to a couple of retreats at Silver Lake, which are always special. On April 1 (I'm not fooling) I was blessed with a well attended women's retreat in the Mercy Center at Madison, CT. It was a “Soul Lift” as we engaged in prayer, discussion, fellowship and song as sisters in Christ! In addition, I worked with Rick to co-ordinate and host Second Hour programs. I started to oversee the Labyrinth on a regular basis this year. I make sure it is available to the public for quiet meditation on the fourth Mondays from 3 - 6 PM, as well as on holy days like Good Friday or Ash Wednesday.

Some significant changes occurred with Youth Gone Wild...for God. Since we no longer have a Minister of Youth Activities position, we have activated a high voltage Youth Ministry Team to plan and lead events. Special thanks go to Nicole Napiorkowski, Conor Belanger, Mike Ward, Brianna Landry, Jessica Drost, Marissa Lewis, Jordan Lewis, Gary Sava and Leanne Connolly for their leadership. We are looking forward to activities as varied as Laser Quest fun all the way to staging “Godspell”. We have had a blast with the CROP Walk, a Halloween Party, Fright night at Six Flags, a lock-in with movies, Christmas Caroling, cooking and serving a meal at Immaculate Conception Homeless Shelter, ice-skating, and a pool party. We welcome all the youth at church to join us!

Our 5th year with ASP led 20 youth and adults to Tennessee and Kentucky (driving through the Cumberland Gap each morning) July 21- 30. The Appalachia Service Project, with its emphasis on loving outreach to those in severe need and learning from those who have a different cultural background than our own, requires not only a week each summer to travel to repair homes; it also demands training and year round fund raising to help us go. I am tremendously grateful to First Church for all its faithful support and encouragement of our youth mission trip. I can't say enough beatific words of praise for the fabulous youth and adults who give of themselves sacrificially! Thank you so much!

My sincere thanks are extended to Jack and Carol Hubert for leading the Sacred Journey Youth trip to South Korea in July. Windsor was well represented by our own Brittany Milliken and Hannah Elflein. It means so much to strengthen our ties with our partners in Ha San Woon as we grow in faith and love together.

It is with thanks to God that I remember worship and pastoral moments in which we have shared both joys and most tender sorrows. I am deeply grateful to the congregation and all my colleagues for their love and hard work in this ministry we share for Jesus' sake.

Mary Angela F. Davis

Director of Christian Education 2006 Annual Report

“We strive to nurture the spiritual growth of our children by inspiring in them a love of God and a commitment to the teachings of Jesus.” We are blessed with a solid core of teachers who are dedicated to passing on the Good News of the gospel. Many of our newly confirmed members serve as teaching assistants. We are using a curriculum published by Augsburg Press in the lower grades. Jennifer Osowiecki teaches the Cherub Choir (Pre-school through Kindergarten) and the Pilgrim Choir (First and Second Grade) during class time. Grades Three through Six use “Rotation” curriculum with various learning activities including art, cooking, computers, skits, and Bible lessons which center around a specific theme every month. The children are enjoying the improvements our custodian, Jerry Ward made to the Media Room! Matt Morris transformed the attic clutter by installing sturdy shelving units he made as part of an Eagle Scout project. What an improvement!

The Church School contributes creative artwork to Parish Care, donates to the shelter and Children’s Pace. Our families support a Tibetan child living in India and bake for Habitat for Humanity. The Heifer Project Plant Sale raises a substantial amount of money. This year hanging baskets and Mums were sold to support the efforts of the youth who are part of our Appalachian Service Project. The Seventh and Eighth Graders and their teachers are a tremendous help with The UNICEF and One Great Hour of Sharing Breakfasts. They have served breakfast at the Easter Egg Hunt to raise money for youth mission trips. These are our mission activities.

The Youth Task Force has addressed many of the requests of the young people and thoughtfully planned for youth activities. The “First Friday” group meets regularly. There have been many combined events with the older youth. FCW Youth events have included bowling and a Lock In, cooking and serving a shelter meal, Wally Ball, Six Flags, Laser Tag, swimming and skating at the Loomis Rink. The Bike Trip to Martha’s Vineyard in July provided a memorable experience for the 25 children and chaperones. The youngsters planned a Halloween Party for very young children and stayed late to enjoy their own fun and games.

15 of our Children attended Silver Lake Conference Center . This opportunity for our children to grow in faith and to widen their circle of friends is an invaluable part of their journey. It is a great experience!

Inter-generational celebrations and activities give us a taste of Christian Community through the year – There is always enough food, fun and fellowship to share at Shrove Tuesday, the Hosanna Fair, the Northwest Park Picnic and the Advent Workshop.

Vacation Bible School was a great success! Kim Tynan, our director, was supported by Stefany Smith who created the set and taught music, Sue Porcaro who helped the children create awesome crafts and Jen Osowiecki who always has a great game up her sleeve. Barbara Cervantes taught us some South American customs and words in keeping with the Fiesta theme. Rev. Mary Angela led the opening and closing worship which helped wrap up each happy day. Our young people provided invaluable support as teaching assistants. Maureen Sullivan and Kathryn Zeugner crafted gift T shirts for us all. VBS provides outreach to non-members.

Darleen and Jamie Klase hosted a delightful and delectable and Teacher Appreciation Dinner at their home as a tribute to all our dedicated teachers. The Board of Christian Education is always tremendously supportive.

To see our congregation gathered to celebrate Christmas as part of the Pageant worship service on Christmas Eve puts things in their right place. Each child—with animal mask, angel’s wings, shepherd’s crook or crown—and parent has a part to play. For a moment we are all aware of God with us—Immanuel.

Respectfully Submitted, Priscilla Ford, Director of Christian Education

Organist/Choirmaster's 2006 Annual Report

I began serving the First Church in Windsor as Organist/Choirmaster on September 1, 2006.

Choir membership currently stands at about thirty singers. Negotiations within the Choir are underway to change its name from "Senior Choir" to "The First Church Choir" (as there is no "Junior" choir *per se*). The Choir has sung an anthem every Sunday since the season started, plus occasional choral pieces at other points in the service.

The Handbell Choir currently has ten members, including one child, which indicates three generations of involvement in one family. The Bells have played twice, once with the Crosswinds Trio and once on their own for the fourth Sunday in Advent.

Plans for the implementation of a Children's Choir (working name: The Genesis Generation) are in the works, having been postponed in favor of the Christmas Pageant. The rehearsal time of choice will be "Second Hour", 11:15- 11:45.

Youth group members will be invited to participate in "Worship On the Wild Side" (WOWS) on an occasional basis: a "sprint" program rather than a "marathon" program. Feedback from the youth group will inform the decisions and the planning.

Programming beyond the scope of Sunday worship has been added, in the form of recitals or concerts. The Noontime Nourishment series, held on the first Wednesday of each month at noon, features a half-hour program followed by refreshments in the Parker Room. The public is invited to bring a lunch; beverages and sweets are provided. There is no charge, and an offering is received.

The "Sunday Four O' Clocks" series consists of a longer program (45-60 minutes) followed by a Tea Reception in the Parker Room. The first such program is slated for January 7th, and will be called "Epiphany Echoes", featuring Handel's *Messiah* plus Handbell selections.

Thus far, the efforts made on behalf of Music Ministry at First Church have been rewarded with great enthusiasm and wonderfully energetic participation. Onward!

Sincerely,

Mark D. Watkins
Organist/Choirmaster

Church Cabinet 2006 Annual Report

The Cabinet consists of the Chairperson, Senior Pastor, Treasurer and the Chairpersons from Prudential, Christian Education, Stewardship, Outreach and Deacons.

The 376th year at First Church saw many changes as well as continuations. New staff members were hired and the elevator/entrance project was completed. Financial strains continued and a capital campaign was completed.

In the spring our long-time sexton, John Wakefield, retired to Florida to work on his golf game. He was replaced by two part time employees, Jerry Ward as Sexton and Chris Howell-Levine as Custodian. This fall we said goodbye to our interim organist/choir director Dave Senek and welcomed his permanent replacement, Mark Watkins. The First Church campus and music programs are in good hands.

Financially 2006 was no less a challenge than the previous years. The approved budget included a \$15,000 contribution from unrestricted endowment funds. During the year we have realized higher income than anticipated as well as lower expenditures. Thankfully we enter this year with a 2006 budget surplus of about \$15,000 without drawing on the trustee endowment funds.

This year we continued a relationship with Andover Newton Seminary by embracing Leanne Connelly as our field education student. She replaced Jeff Lukens who left at the end of June. Hopefully this will turn out to be a long term arrangement.

In the fall we dedicated the new elevator/entrance to the Parish House. I thank the original anonymous donors and the "Laying the Foundation" committee members (Hugh McLean, Randy Clark, Doug Kelly, Bang and Sue Williams) for all the hard work. They have received pledges of over \$250,000.

Finally, I would like to recognize the contributions of Al Boehm. He has been a significant member of our congregation for many years. This past year, as chair of the Prudential Board, he has been a surrogate sexton (cleaning the meetinghouse etc.), fix-it-man (anything to do with Pierson House), and grand overseer of most other things at First Church. I thank him.

Bob Stisser (chair)

Board of Christian Education Annual Report 2006

The Board of Christian Education continues to support and facilitate a link between spirituality and learning. All programming for the congregation has as a foundation a love of God and a commitment to celebrating that love.

The Board of Christian Education sponsored the following events to build fellowship and create a learning community.

Easter Egg Hunt and brunch April 1st 2006. Approximately 50 children and adults attended.

In May 2006 the annual Heifer Project Plant Sale was held.

June 2006 Christian Education Sunday and the church picnic were hosted

The summer brought explorer's groups to Sunday's for the children.

The young adults enjoyed biking in Martha's Vineyard and a trip to Washington D.C.

UNICEF and OGHS breakfasts were sponsored.

The Advent Fair was a huge success.

Shrove Tuesday activities were held.

Vacation Bible School was a fiesta!!

The young adults have been active in their "First Friday" groups.

Rally Day with breakfast was well attended and a great hit.

The Board of Christian Education is a dedicated group of people who are committed to the Mission of First Church.

Respectfully Submitted By

Darleen Klase

Members:

Mary Angela Davis

Don Daros

Terry Eberle

Priscilla Ford

Dianne Hammerman

Cindy Johnson

Darleen Klase

Sue Milliken

Lauren Morris

Cori Pierson

Gary Sava

**Scholarship Committee
Annual Report 2006**

The First Church Scholarship Committee met on Monday May 15, 2006 to complete review of applications for scholarship funds.

The Board of Trustees having allocated a total of thirteen thousand dollars to be disbursed from the Tiffany, Loucks and general scholarship funds, the following awards have been made:

Rachel Brown	\$2,000
Jeff Kirk	3,000
Alison Novak	2,000
Alexis Relyea	1,000
Ali Waltein	2,000
Emily Zepp	3,000

The committee members present and voting: Rev. Mary Angela Davis, Terry Eberle (Chair), Robert Lougee, George Petro, Allison Beason, Jennifer Osowiecki and Priscilla Ford.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Eberle

Teaching Parish Committee 2006 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.

2006

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

Jeff Lukens, our first seminary student, successfully completed his year of field training with First Church, in May.

In the spring, the committee along with Rick Huleatt, interviewed and accepted a new student for the 2006-2007 school year. Our new student, Leanne Connolly is a resident of Vernon and a student at Andover Newton. She started her field training with First Church in September. We met with Leanne on a monthly basis, overseeing her learning goals as she participated in our church's daily life.

Mary Angela Davis, associate pastor, completed her supervisory training at Andover Newton and is the on-site supervisor of our current and all future ANTS students.

In June, Laurel Pepin and Evelyn Smith attended a Teaching Parish Committee training session at the Andover Newton campus in Massachusetts.

In September Alexis Relyea resigned from the committee in order to focus on her college studies and commitments.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Pepin
Chair
1/5/2007

Board of Christian Outreach 2006 Annual Report

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Christian Outreach on 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, interracial 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, the Hartford Association and Campus Ministry support to Andover Newton Theological School and Yale Divinity School are also included in our church's denominational support.

Our Outreach budget support for interfaith and secular giving and for First Church concerns included the Capital Region Conference of Churches, Christian Activities Council, First Church Early Learning Center scholarships, Immaculate Conception Shelter and Housing Corporation, Covenant to Care, Windsor High School Project Graduation, and the Windsor Community Service Council. We also provided some funding for First Church participation in mission trips including the Appalachia Service Project and the Korea trip.

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

- Serving 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
- Collecting food donations and assembling Thanksgiving baskets for 17 families, and Christmas hams and grocery gift certificates for 15 families
- Renewing our Covenant to Care with our adopted social worker on May 7, and providing book bags/ school supplies, household furniture/ other needed goods and Christmas gifts for numerous clients of the CT Department of Children & Families.
- Supporting this year's Crop Walk (hosted by the Bloomfield UCC church) which raised almost \$4000
- Participating in a "Kids Shop" thrift sale that raised approximately \$400 to benefit Central Congregational Church in New Orleans following hurricane Katrina
- Providing a Cajun basket for the First Church auction that raised \$110
- Providing numerous gifts in conjunction with the First Church Women's Club to Kimberly Hall nursing home residents
- Supporting an end of year celebration for participants in the 5th Year Program
- Hosting Betty Franks, a UCC Global Ministries missionary who has been serving in Turkey
- Exploring new opportunities to serve our local community including the Christian Activities Council's efforts to build and renovate affordable housing in Hartford

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

Members of the Board of Christian Outreach: Jean Kelly (Chair), Lynda Fredette (Co-Chair), Dodie Benko, Deb Berry, Charlie Copeland, Glen Drake, Marsha Hickey, Mark O'Donnell, Sue Ross, Bert Thurber, Doug Tynan, Jim Whitten

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynda Fredette Co-Chair

Open and Affirming Action Committee Annual Report 2006

I. **Education** (of committee members, congregation, and wider community):

- Evie Smith shared a DVD prepared by the WHRC Community Forum on Diversity. We discussed issues of accessibility and ways that we can be more helpful to those who lose their support network once they are older than school age.
- Submitted Edge articles almost monthly on subjects including guidelines on how to relate to those with disabilities, support of same sex marriage, and general open and affirming information from the national and conference level.
- Discussed the committee's role in making First Church as welcoming as possible. Our conclusion is that we will work together with the other appropriate committees (Deacons, Parish Caring and Hospitality) to create an "extravagantly welcoming" congregation
- Concluded that the committee can be effective in functioning in a new way going forward, where each member attends another one of the Church's standing committee's meeting one month to bring awareness of open and affirming issues, and then reports back to the full O & A committee the following meeting. This proposal will be presented at the next Council meeting and implemented in 2007.
- Viewed the DVD put out by the UCC that reported on the national synod and the vote in favor of exploration of support of same sex marriage.

II. **Advocacy:**

- Supported an ad in the April UCC news in favor of the God is Still Speaking campaign and same sex marriage.
- Supported GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) in the case of Kerrigan and Mock vs. the Connecticut Dept of Public Health, a case brought by seven gay and lesbian Connecticut couples who were denied marriage licenses, by being willing to be a signer to the *amicus* brief. (Unfortunately, while waiting for a final vote from the committee after receiving a copy of the brief, we missed the deadline for being an official signatory).

III. **Action:**

- In conjunction with the Connecticut Conference and members of ONA Ministry Team, communicated with other Open and Affirming congregations in the conference and asked for Open and Affirming stories, which were put together in booklet form for a spring meeting of the conference on May 13, 2006. With Rev. John Gage of the Church on the Green in New Haven, helped coordinate a conference session on being open and affirming at the spring conference.
- Shared a booth with the Woodmont Church from Milford and the Church on the Green in New Haven for the Hartford Gay Pride rally in September.

Submitted by: Catherine Wejchert (Chair), Ericka Fanguillo, Jamie Klase, Laurel Pepin, Chris Phelan, Steve Porcaro, Elaine Richards and Bang Williams

Korean Partnership Annual Report 2006

The Korean Partnership has been in existence over ten years. It involves a relationship between the Connecticut UCC and the Korean Presbyterian church in the Kyungki province. The two groups and participating churches are partnered on an equal basis. The Connecticut side is steered by a committee which includes Jim Morgan of the Conference office, and representatives from participating churches. First Church is represented by Jack and Carol Hubert.

There are several regular activities being undertaken. In each case individuals or their churches take responsibility for getting themselves to the host country, and the host is then responsible for subsequent activities and expenses. First, the Koreans send delegates to our annual conference meeting, and we send one or more delegates to their conference in the spring. Second, every four years the Koreans send several lay women to attend the Women's Celebration in Burlington Vermont, along with many delegates from Connecticut.

Third, we have been sharing outreach activities. We had a Family Mission trip here in 2003. 23 Koreans worked in Connecticut mission programs. This is an area which we are trying to expand.

Finally, we have Sacred Journey, a program for the teens operating on a four-year cycle. The Koreans last came here in 2004, and last summer 11 teens and three adults went to Korea. The First Church delegation included Brittany Milliken and Hannah Elflein, who joined teens from Glastonbury, Newington, and Mystic. Carol and Jack Hubert and Irene Choi (Glastonbury) were chaperones.

The program took place in three venues. First, the teens went to their home churches, where they got to stay in private homes. Windsor was with our partner church, The HaSanWoon Community Church. Second, they joined about 50 Korean teens at a very large church for joint activities. The Koreans made a sushi meal for us, and we made spaghetti for them. They also formed teams and put on performances.

We went to the Jesus Christ Christian Academy (a summer program) on the east side of Korea. This was an outdoor camp experience. We believe all the teens got on well, and had a fine experience. We happily returned to the HaSanWoon church for our remaining days.

We were so happy to report that First Church sent the absolutely RIGHT teens to Korea. Our First Church girls were wonderful to be with.

Finally, Rev. Nick Davis has become co-chair of the Committee.

Refugee Resettlement Committee 2006 Annual Report

The Refugee Resettlement Committee continued to guide our Turkish friends as they continued their adjustment to American culture. In June baby Aliza was born to Rustam and Gulsara. Khanym turned a summertime job layoff into a chance to study English at Goodwin College. She continued her studies into the fall and winter while working part time in the Loomis Dining Hall. Three year old Gulizar started at the First Church Early Learning Center. On September 1 Gulizar, Khanym and Aydin moved into their own apartment on Filley St. Aydin is still working in the Loomis Dining Hall and also for Loomis School doing maintenance work. On December 16 Rustam, Gulsara and Aliza moved into their own apartment on East Wolcott Ave. in Wilson. Rustam works for an auto body repair shop in West Hartford. Gulsara works part time for Jordan Florist and part time cleaning houses.

Although our official refugee resettlement mission has come to an end, the friendships we have with all our Turkish friends remain strong. What a wonderful experience this has been for our church!

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kelly

For the Refugee Committee: Jan Stevens, Rick and Susan Huleatt, Kathy Pierson, Judith Merrick, Diane Dwelley, Gwen and Glen Drake, George Slate, Marilyn and Al Boehm, Doug Kelly, Edie O'Donnell, Rene Fitzsimonds, Dodie Benko, Bert and Janie Thurber, Hal Milliken and all the generous people from First Church and the Windsor community who contributed clothes, furnishings, rides, help renovating the apartment, and most of all their friendship.

Prudential Board Annual Report 2006

The Prudential Board focused on the needs of the campus and its four buildings in 2006. This past year went beyond simple maintenance as we completed a major construction project with an elevator addition to the Parish House. In addition, John Wakefield, our Sexton for the past 12 years, retired to Florida in April. With the help of the Personnel Committee, the Sexton's position was divided into two part-time positions. We hired Jerry Ward to serve as the sexton with his principle responsibility being maintenance of all buildings and operating systems. We also hired Chris Howell-Levine as our Custodian with his primary responsibility being the cleanliness of our buildings. Major activity is presented below for our campus and buildings.

Campus: The parking lot behind the Parish House was repaved and reopened after a 14-month closure. A new driveway was added connecting the Church parking lot with the Parish House lot. A new one-way traffic pattern was established to reduce congestion and facilitate cars backing out of parking spots. A landscaping contractor was hired to maintain the lawn and shrubs.

Meeting House: The Bell Tower had major refurbishment this year. The internal stairs were replaced with aluminum ladders, the landings had to be rebuilt or shored up, new louvers were installed, and new roofing was installed on the three levels of the tower. And just when we felt comfortable that all steeple issues were resolved, the bell-rope broke two weeks before Christmas. Jerry repaired it with a week to spare.

Parish House: The Elevator Addition project kept the Prudential Board busy for most of 2006. Millennium Builders did an excellent job. They completed enough work to obtain a use permit from the town to support our Grand Opening on September 10, 2006. Minor details and updating the fire security system took until December to finish. The project was 100% complete as the year ended.

Pierson House: This building also kept us busy as usual. The building supported almost 100% occupancy in 2006 with two refugee families on the second floor, and the high school's 5th Year Program and Sunday School using the first floor. Asbestos was discovered and removed from the basement. The back porch stairs and stair foundation were replaced. All remaining lead issues were abated with the completion of porch siding and replacement of 6 old windows on the back of the house.

Russell House: This house also served the Congregation well in 2006. It was continuously occupied, first by Jeff Lukens and then by Mark Watkins. We had the house inspected by a certified inspector after a crumbling foundation crushed the sewer pipe in September. We have learned there is a slippage of house on a back corner wall of the deteriorating 250-year old foundation. The three bathrooms have some type of leakage into the basement, and the temporary jack-stands that were installed a few years back to shore-up the rotten floor joists are themselves starting to fail. It is estimated that it will cost well in excess of \$100,000 to put this building back in a safe living condition. The Prudential Board has voted to mothball the Russell House as soon as Mark moves to his new house in January of 2007. Future use of this building will depend on finding a use to justify the expenditure needed to refurbish and rebuild much of the foundation and first floor.

Submitted by: Al Boehm (Chair), Linda Carillo, Lisa Dube, Gail Lee, Scott Mitchell, Martha O'Donnell, and Noel Osowiecki.

Stewardship Committee “Receive God’s Gifts”

The Stewardship Committee decided in the spring of 2006 to have as its theme, “Receive God’s Gifts.” We felt that to focus on the many ways our congregation both receives and gives gifts would encourage “an attitude of gratitude.” We started to bring our stewardship message to the congregation long before Consecration Sunday which occurred on October 22. Various committee members submitted monthly Edge articles which highlighted the important ministries of First Church which are financed by the annual pledge gifts of our members. Stewardship messages were given during the worship service by committee members and by several members of the congregation.

Committee members were concerned about the trend during the past several years of failing to raise enough money to support the annual church budget. To this end we called members of the congregation who had not pledged their financial support in recent years to dialogue with them about the church’s financial needs. Our expenditures rise every year, but our financial giving have not kept pace. Major cuts were made in personnel during 2006. We were hopeful that if we asked our members to increase their annual pledge by a percentage of their income, that we would be able meet the annual budget need.

The day of our Consecration Sunday brunch was sunny and beautiful. Our tradition of celebrating our giving with a delicious meal, wonderful fellowship, and cool jazz music by Hot Cat Jazz, continued. The Stewardship Committee is grateful to all of our fellow church members who helped to make this possible.

At the time that this report is submitted, we are still short of our \$400,000 goal. We hope that our fellow church family members will continue to share not only their monetary support, but also their time and energies to keep First Church’s mission vital and earth changing. The recent pledge history is summarized below and shows the current shortfall of our goal for 2007.

Stewardship data	2004	2005	2006	2007 (as of 1/3/07)
Total pledging units	268	266	267	270
Total pledge amounts:	\$362,304	\$370,438	\$383,303	\$392,187
\$ Increase from prior year		\$8,134	\$12,865	\$8,884
% Increase from prior year	-2%	2.2%	3.5%	2.3%
Average pledge:	\$1,352	\$1,393	\$1,436	\$1,453
\$ Increase from prior year		\$41	\$43	\$17
% Increase from prior year		3.0%	3.1%	1.2%
Pledge distribution:				
> \$8,000	3	3	3	4
\$6,000 - \$7,999	3	3	5	6
\$4,000 - \$5,999	12	13	12	9
\$2,000 - \$3,999	37	36	34	35
\$1,000 - \$1,999	58	64	70	73
\$520 - \$999	62	56	59	50
< \$520	93	91	84	93

We thank Rick Huleatt, Mary Angela Davis, Robin Walker and Becky Hendricks for their help with the annual stewardship campaign. We also are grateful to all the members of the church who give generously of their time and talents in so many ways.

The Stewardship Committee:

Doug Kelly, Judith Merrick, Fidle Lane, Ed Kirk, Carrie Burghoff, and Kevin Doyle.

Board of Deacons 2006 Annual Report

2006 was a year of change and transition for the Board of Deacons. Along with the departures of Dave Senak our interim music director and Jeff Lukens, our seminarian and director of youth ministries, the board needed to fill the vacancy of Dodie Many, who left the board in preparation for her move out of state. We are grateful to Sue Gilmartin for stepping in to fill Dody's position, and warmly welcome Mark Watkins and Leanne Connolly.

Along with many members of the congregation, the Board began thoughtful reflection on the book "Transforming Congregational Culture". We have jointly read sections of the book and facilitated discussion on the message in respect to our congregation. We have placed copies of the book in the meetinghouse, and encourage all to become familiar with the author's concepts. Needless to say, this effort is only beginning, but the excitement around it is opening real opportunities for spiritual growth and meaningful changes at First Church.

The Board launched an initiative to more directly nurture and support the Youth Deacons who serve us so well. Maria Eberle and Dave Dwelly lead this project, which provided better training and communication to our youth members. This is an effort well worth continuing in the future.

The Board also launched an ad-hoc committee to study technology. This group included members of the Board as well as interested members of the congregation. All forms of technology that are used by churches as an adjunct to worship services were explored and a formal report was prepared for the church. This report, which was approved by Deacons, has been routed to Prudential and Music, and will be presented to the Church Cabinet in January for consideration.

Responding to input from the pastors and the members, the Board made trial changes to the services concluding at Advent. With this experience behind us, and with comments offered on these changes, we have phased in more permanent changes to the Sunday services.

Finally, as of this writing, the Board is undertaking one of its most challenging obligations, that of revising the membership roles of the church. Along with determining the membership status of members we have not seen or heard from in some time, we will also introduce a new status of 'Friend of First Church' for those who have moved away from us, but would like to keep in touch with the busy life of this vital congregation.

The Board would like to formally recognize and thank the serving youth deacons and ushers for this year:

Youth Deaconate:

Hanna Elflein, Victoria Goldberg, Andrew Horan, Brittany Milliken, Ian Sheldon, Ryan Sherman, Chris Walker, Elizabeth Winland, Amanda Zepp.

Ushers:

Steve Blood, Buddy Donovan, Kevin Doyle, Glen Drake, Gwen Drake, Cindy Johnson, Ginny Lougee, Paul Monaco, Mike Novak, Libby Parker, Alexis Relyea, Robbin Willard

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Relyea, Chair

Parish Caring Ministries Annual Report, 2006

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

Parish Caring Ministries is an organization that consists of nine ministries: Parish Visitors, Care Note Writing, Meals and Transportation, The Knitting Ministry, The Prayer Team, The Flower Committee, Helping Hearts (children’s card ministry), The Friendship Team (calls to Sunday visitors) and The 80+ Birthday Club (cards to our elders). Devoted volunteers who fill 166 slots in the various ministries are the backbone of our organization. We could not exist without their compassion and generous service and we are enormously grateful to them all.

- This year Parish Caring Ministries sent out **59 Birthday cards, 90 Holiday cards** (Christmas, Easter Valentines and Thanksgiving), **10 Get Well cards.** These were all made by children of the church through the Helping Hearts program and the 80+ Birthday Club. Helping Hearts program and the 80+ Birthday Club Thank you to children and the adults who assisted.
- In 2006, PCM delivered **16 meals** to parishioners and we know many more meals were given by friends. Thank you to all our cooks. There is a new, small group of dedicated drivers who are giving rides to our WILA friend, Valerie. They are Cindy Johnson, Bob Lane, Betsy Kenneson, Edie O’Donnell and Kevin Doyle. Thank you to them and others who stand ready for other kinds of driving.
- The Care Note writers sent out **89 notes** of comfort and concern to parishioners who were ill, hospitalized or had a loss. Thank you for your gift of words.
- The Flower Committee delivered **54 Easter plants, 49 poinsettias** and about **96 small bouquets** from the Sunday service arrangements. These flowers have brightened so many lives. Thank you to all the flower women.
- The Knitting Ministry has sent out **510 shawls in all...64 of them in 2006!** Thank you for your faithful and generous service to First Church.
- The members of the Prayer Team have prayed for countless people over the year and the Parish Visitors visit shut-ins every month. Members of the Friendship Team have called many Sunday visitors. Thank you, Thank you!
- The Caring Network, an organization of directors of parish ministry, presented two programs, **“Aging: Feeling the Loss, Finding the Joy”** and **“Coping with Trauma in our Lives: My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?”** The latter was presented at First Church in Windsor on November 8 and was very well attended by folks from the Hartford area.
- **Parish Caring Ministries Sunday** celebrated all our volunteers on Oct. 15, 2006.
- The **“Tree of Life”** celebration was held on All Saint’s Sunday, Nov.5, 2006. We honored those members who had died during the year.

Members of the Caring Council are Ruth Budlong, Linda Carillo, Dorothy Merz, Dorothy McAllister, Sue Williams.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Williams, Coordinator

**Memorial Gifts Committee
2006 Annual Report**

The First Church in Windsor received \$4000 in gifts in loving memory of the following people: Elizabeth Farley; Marilyn Loucks; Theodore Anderson; Louise West; Hendrik Eleveld; Elizabeth Wenker; Chris Relyea; Linnea Dooley; Robert Parker; Velma Parsons; and Dorothy Simons.

The committee will be meeting with Rick in January to consider proposals for the use of these gifts.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Horlitz, Ellie Walker, Ellie Word

Music Committee 2006 Annual Report

The Music Ministry has grown in many ways over the past year.

- Dave Senak continued his interim work with us through the summer, enriching our musical selections with the choir, handbell choir, and on the organ.
- We welcomed our new Music Director, Mark Watkins, who has continued to add variety to the musical life of our church services, as well as providing many additional musical opportunities for both enjoyment and participation.

There have been many musical experiences over the past year.

- Hot Cat Jazz joined us in Church the Sunday February 26 prior to Shrove Tuesday for a jazz service, thanks to a bequest from Jim Grant.
- CitySingers of Hartford did a wonderful Celtic Lenten concert on March 24.
- Mark and his partner, Victor Evans, did a "Getting to Know You" concert on October 29, that featured organ, voice, and piano.
- Mark and Victor have been doing First Wednesdays Noontime concerts with a "Bring your own lunch" reception afterwards.
- Crosswinds Trio augmented the musical portion of our church service November 19, playing jointly with both the choir's and handbell choir's anthems, and performed a concert, "Winds across Time" in the afternoon.
- Mark has initiated a series of concerts called Sunday "Four O' Clocks" featuring our choir and handbell choir. The first concert scheduled for Epiphany.

Future events include:

- Hot Cat Jazz is scheduled to return for a pre-Lenten Jazz Service on February 18, at 10 A.M.
- Paul Bisaccia will performing, "I Love a Piano", a program includes everything from Chopin to Joplin, as well as Broadway gems, on Sunday, March 25, at 3 P.M.
- CitySingers of Hartford accompanied by Wild Notes will perform, "Song of the Tree of Life," a new program of traditional music from the heart of the Celtic people on Sunday, May 20, at 4 P.M.
- This concert will be one hour long and will be followed by a reception on the lawn with music by Wild Notes!

Music has brought great joy to us over the past year, and has enhanced our spirit of worship. We are particularly grateful to be working with Mark Watkins, whose energy, ideas, and commitment to the spiritual dimensions of music are boundless.

Submitted By:

Kathy Pierson, Judy Pfunder, Mei Chen, Vanda Doyle, Mike Novak, Melissa Mascola

History Committee
2006 Annual Report

This past year has been a work in progress. With outgoing chair Fidle Lane completing her term of office, Tony Davenport was named to succeed her. Fidle's leadership and great sense of mission have been invaluable in developing the work of the committee. She is missed.

Because attendance at scheduled meeting times proved to be an ongoing problem, the group approved the idea of reorganizing into project sub-groups, communicating primarily by e-mail and getting together only as advice and/or consent required. It seems to be working nicely. It currently has the help of three Woman's Club volunteers to assist in its various projects: Doris Butler, Sue Keirstead and Ellie Word. The committee is most appreciative.

Judy Albano continues to spearhead our major project: she has now completed some 80 percent of the biographical sketches of First Church ministers. She also is making a major effort to locate images of these men and women so her work can be appropriately illustrated.

When the Russell House once again became a private residence, the committee left the north parlor and moved into an already-overcrowded parish house media center. At year-end, approval was given for it to share corner space in the new conference room next to the minister's office. This move meets three of the group's needs: reasonably fireproof space, locked security and a computer desk. The Relyea family has generously offered the committee a computer for its future needs. The committee plans to purchase a much-needed file cabinet as a first move towards computerization of resources.

Bruce Goodale continues to administer our oral history project. He interviewed Otilie (Ott) Magill in May, bringing our interview total to 26. Bruce has agreed to remain as an adjunct member of the committee for purposes of continuing this program. Thank you, Bruce.

Also: The committee, last spring, participated in the church's silent-auction fundraiser with a special basket filled with scrapbook materials--thank you, Lauren....Church annual reports, 1990-1999, have been bound as a hardcover volume, making it the fifth decade of reports so treated. If anyone has annual reports from the 1940's or earlier, we would love to have them for our permanent files.

Committee members in 2006 were Judy Albano, Jay and Tony Davenport, Al and Lauren Relyea, Connie Thomas (Historical Society liaison) and Bruce Goodale (adjunct member for oral history project development).

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Davenport, chair

First Church Women's Club 2006 Annual Report

The Women's Club consists of 77 members. Luncheon meetings are held at 12:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from September through May. Lunch is a BYOS (bring your own sandwich) with a donation of \$1.00 to off set 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 lunches are held at a restaurant.

Financial contributions: Church Women United, Ct Women of UCC conference; Mary's Place, First Church Capital Fund Drive, the First Church Memorial Garden and Windsor Fuel Bank.

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 which prepared 25 "Gift of The Heart School Kits" that is distributed by Church World Service.
- Made ornaments wish tags for the Outreach Committee Christmas tree.
- Cut out decorations for Halloween to decorate the hall for Sunday school.
- Responsible for care of the Kitchen dish towels.
- Responsible for delivering Sunday Service worship recording tapes to Windsor Rehabilitation nursing home.
- We are represented at the Church Council.
- We participate in civic and charitable volunteer work.
- We contributed three hand made baby blankets to Christian Outreach to be donated to Covenant to Care.
- We made 50 knitted items, 35 miscellaneous items and donated them to Mental Health Family Service, Windsor Rehabilitation, Kimberly North and Kimberly South and Hartford Hospital.

At the close of this busy year 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:

Elizabeth Parker (President), Ada Martin, Polly Ellis, Janice Stevens, Elaine Brophy, Elaine Mesick, Laverne Gustafson, Jan Dagenhart, Eddie O'Donnell, Marilyn Davis, Frances DaRos, Beth Hortlitz, Jay Davenport, Pam Sweeny, Fidle Lane, Buddy Donovan, and Dorothy McAllister



First Church Early Learning Center
A Place Where Children And Childhood Are Celebrated



Throughout 2006, 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 skill, and positive self-esteem.

- Programs offered by FCELC in 2006:
 1. 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.
 2. A Summer Program offers theme-based learning and social activities for 3 to 6 year olds.
 3. Lunch Pail Pals was expanded so that children may stay for lunch two days a week.
- Our current enrollment is 81 children in 6 classes.
- \$576.00 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 \$1530.00 to the scholarship fund.
- We continue to participate with the Town of Windsor in the School Readiness Grant Program and this year we received additional funding which helped to subsidize some expenses for educational equipment.
- As part of our community outreach, we donated \$585.00 this year to support the Windsor Police Department, the East Granby Police Union, WHS Project Graduation, Liberty Bank in memory of a lost loved one, Mary's Place, the Shailey Brianna Gagnon Fund, the Windsor Historical Society, the Windsor Community Service Council, and the Windsor Chamber of Commerce (The Passport to Summer Fun).
- We celebrated our 50th anniversary in November and received a proclamation from Governor Rell acknowledging our milestone.
- The children, parents, and staff were pleased at the completion of the construction project and continue to enjoy the newly surfaced parking lot, the new entryway, and the larger office space.
- A teak bench donated in memory of Laura Schwartz, infant daughter of Wendy and Mark Schwartz, graces the new entryway.
- After staff training, we incorporated The Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework, a listing of benchmarks for development and curriculum planning, into our NAEYC developmental curriculum.
- Several ambitious purchases or improvements this year include:
 1. Installed sinks in the Threes and Fours classrooms. All classrooms are now equipped with hand-washing sinks.
 2. Added an electrical outlet in the Threes classroom to support an air-conditioning unit.
 3. Added electrical outlets in the office to support the larger space.
 4. Added mulch to the playground. Special thanks to Steve Porcaro and his Boy Scout troop for raking it.
 5. Purchased rugs for the entryway.
 6. Installed a piece of carpet in the office.
 7. Purchased additional musical instruments.
 8. Added a community news board in the entryway.

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(Co-Chair), Maria Reap(Co-Chair), Wendy Schwartz (Past Chair), Stacey Hallgren (Secretary), Andrew Lattimer (Treasurer), Desley Monaco, Krista Jeleniowski, Rev. Mary Angela Davis Linda Sammartano, Diana Allen, Leslie Massaro (Ways & Means), Randy Carpenter, Deb Martino (Parent Representative), and Ellen Monchun (Director).

First Church Troop & Pack 203 Annual Report

This has been an exceptional scouting year at First Church. Troop & Pack 203 are chartered by The First Church in Windsor, and is an active and growing part of our church youth program. We are currently the largest scouting organization in Windsor. Our scouting programs are thriving, with twenty-one boys and twelve adults registered with the troop, and 62 boys and twenty –two adults registered in the pack.

Over twenty families from the congregation take advantage of the scouting programs offered through First Church, along with many others in our community. This is a direct reflection of the generosity, commitment, and enthusiasm of our congregation and their support of this vital program to the youth and families in our community.

Throughout the school year, we meet on a regular basis in Nelson Hall. A typical scout meeting may consist of older scouts teaching younger scouts outdoor and life skills, planning a camping trip, preparing for a Pinewood derby, and many other fun activities and events. During the year, we have numerous local events, hikes, and activities as well. In the summer our scouts attended summer camp at Camp Mattatuck in Plymouth, and Camp Tadmah in Bozrah. Other trips and sleepovers in 2006 included a bicycling trip on the Cape Cod Rail Trail, a hike in the Northwest hills, a sleepover on the U.S.S Massachusetts, and a night in the New England Air Museum.

Our scouts have also provided community service in and around First Church and Windsor. Troop 203 served dinner to the residents of the Immaculate Conception Shelter in Hartford on New Years Eve for the fifth consecutive year. Pack 203 spread mulch on the Early Learning Center's playground in the fall. Over the past year, many of our scouts have participated in, or volunteered during Vacation Bible School, Appalachian Service Project, and many others.

Three Boy Scouts completed service projects required to attain Eagle rank. Jeff Kirk received his Eagle rank this past summer. Jamie Copeland and Ryan Kirk have completed their projects and will soon be eligible for Eagle rank. Our Troop and Pack also cooperates with other Windsor Scouting units, including Girls Scouts, to promote scouting at the Shad Derby, Memorial Day activities, and other events in Windsor.

To help assist First Church in supporting scouting, we have two major fund raising events each year. Along with contributions from the individual scouts, their families, and the community, this provides for our scouting program and community service projects.

The leadership for our Scouting programs this year are Ed Kirk, Scoutmaster, Steve Porcaro, Cubmaster, Charlie Copeland, Committee Chairman, and Mark O'Donnell, Committee Member.

Once again, thank you to all in the congregation that have supported and helped us in the past year. Without you, our scouting programs would not be the success they are today.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Tait Porcaro – Pack 203 Charter Organization Representative
Terry Eberle – Troop 203 Charter Organization Representative