

ESCALON PRESBYTERIAN

2008
ANNUAL REPORT



ESCALON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1612 FIRST STREET
ESCALON, CA 95320

EPC ANNUAL REPORT

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1.1 Our Mission

ESCALON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EXISTS TO:

- SEEK *To bring others to faith in Jesus Christ*
- SERVE *In mission locally and around the world*
- SUPPORT *Personal growth through learning, teaching and sharing God's word*
- SUSTAIN *A Christ-centered fellowship among our members, friends and community*

OUR VALUES

- Christian Ed:* Bring people to accept Christ and deepen their commitment to God through a biblically based Christian education program.
- Church Life:* Develop Christian relationships through fellowship and communication with all age groups.
- Deacons:* Demonstrate Christian living as a congregation by caring for each other in times of joy and sorrow.
- Stewardship:* Develop and use resources of time, talent, treasures and prayer to carry on and expand our mission.
- Mission:* Reach out to meet the needs of people in the community and the world as a reflection of our Christian love and concern.
- Outreach:* Invite and encourage all people to join us in a life in Christ by sharing the Good News and living according to Christ's example.
- Trustees:* Maintain, improve and use church facilities in the best interest of the Lord's Kingdom.
- Worship:* Glorify God through creative, Christ-centered worship.
- Ministry:* Develop a Team Ministry involving all members – maintaining opening communication so the congregation as a whole can work toward common goals.

2.1 Pastor's Report

Our Ministry - This has been an exciting year for our church's ministries – as our ministry teams have all begun new projects, focused on making existing projects even better, and have encouraged a real growth in using the gifts of those in our church. Presbyterian have a dubious history of forming a plethora of committees with very little ministry initiative to show for it. From my angle, our church now has the ministry teams it needs to handle the varying projects that need to be tackled and attended to, and the focus to do it with greater attention to a bias-for-action policy.

We have a team that tends to the needs of people within our church and community (Deacons). We have a team that takes great care of our facilities and continues to tackle projects that are needed to address our growth (Trustees). We have a team that has facilitated our first church mission trip and raises awareness of mission needs through the world (Mission Outreach). We have a team that organizes and facilitates our “all church events” and continues to raise the bar with these (Church Life). We now have larger team of people specifically devoted to our financial future, equipping us to think more biblically about our stewardship (Finance). We have a team that specifically addresses the spiritual growth of our children and youth in the midst of our numerical growth (Youth Ministries). We now have a team addressing the last area of deep need – spiritual and biblical growth opportunities for adults (Adult Ministries). We have a team that is specifically directed towards music programs of our church (Music Team).

All of these teams essentially cover the needed ministries of our church, and as these teams continue to flourish, I have been able to focus more directly on the ministries that I have been called to attend to and where my own gifts lay – worship, preaching, leadership and pastoral care.

Pastoral - The overall health of our ministry team structure has allowed me to pay more attention to deeper reading of biblical, theological, pastoral and leadership books. My goals for the new year are going to increase this attention. As the great preacher Charles Spurgeon wrote: *The apostle says to Timothy, and so he says to every preacher, “Give attendance to reading.” The one who never reads will never be read. He who will not use the thoughts of other men's brains proves that he has no brains of his own. . . Pastors - you need to read!* Also, this past year my attention to pastoral concerns and crises in our church has been greater than at any time since I've been here. This is important work for me, sometimes even exhausting, but the Lord's guidance has amazed me in the midst of it. I could not attend to this without the faithful work of our volunteers.

During this past year, major sermon series included – “The Living Church” from the book of Acts, “The Last Words of Jesus” from the Gospel of John, “57 Words that Change the World” on the Lord's Prayer, and “The School of God's Wisdom” on the book of Proverbs. Each year I try to embark on three major sermon series that include an Old Testament series, a New Testament series and a Gospel series.

Leadership - My leadership responsibilities over the past year, apart from Moderating our Session, included serving a Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery, serving as chair of our Presbytery's New Church Development team, serving as Vice-chair of the Interim General Presbyter search committee for the Sierra Mission Partnership, and on the steering committee of the West Coast Presbyterian Pastor's Conference. These posts have been important for my own leadership development as a pastor, as I work with other leaders to tackle difficult projects which also allows me to not develop tunnel vision in my own leadership responsibilities here. As I transition to the role of Moderator of the Presbytery, I anticipate a year of challenges in leadership. Please pray for me.

Study Leave - Leslie and I participated in the West Coast Presbyterian Pastor's conference again this year. Our speakers this year were James Edwards, from Whitworth College, who spoke on important Greek words in the New Testament for ministry, as well as Mark Roberts, from Laity Lodge, who spoke on refreshment in times of ministry. I have saved a week of study leave for the year of 2009, as I have been accepted to participate in a Study Leave trip to Israel facilitated by Princeton Theological Seminary.

2.1 Pastor's Report - continued

Pray that the violence there will abate, not only for my sake but for theirs!

Mission Trip - I was privileged to accompany our church's mission trip team to Guatemala this year, where we helped put a roof on a new church facility as well as helped facilitate a medical and dental clinic on behalf of the village of La Gomera, near the Western Pacific shore of Guatemala. We embarked on this Mission Trip through the help of LifeWind International and look forward to new mission projects in the future.

Personal - It has been a wonderful year learning how to be a father and devote myself fully to my own pastoral and leadership responsibilities. And, now, we are anticipating and praying for the healthy birth of another son in April! Pray for us. Yet, Leslie and I continue to feel supported and challenged here – two important and essential ingredients to healthy ministry. Without support, pastors and congregations fight and accomplish very little. Without challenges, pastors and congregations get lazy and comfortable and inevitably atrophy. We continue to put our lives in the hands of the Lord, for his will and for his timing. This is not “our” church in any possessive sense, nor is it yours – it is his. We feel blessed to be here.

Staff and Volunteers – Our staff and volunteers continue to help our church forge ahead with new ministry opportunities. These people who serve the Lord with their time and their talents are invaluable to us. I want to thank you all for your serving hearts. I will add, that there have been a number of volunteers who have, in essence, “burned out” over the years. I have not paid close enough attention to this and would like to help prevent this from happening on a regular basis – please talk with me if you're feeling tired in the midst of ministry. Ministry pace is important. Shorter spurts of energized service do far more for us personally and for the church than longer ones of tired obligations.

Read On – In the pages ahead you will read about all of the ministries of our church – I encourage you to pray for them, for their wisdom and growth, and to make yourself more familiar with our ministry structure so that you can participate or contribute to our ministry. Glory be to God as we, at Escalon Presbyterian, pursue its mission to Seek, Serve, Support and Sustain according to the Word of God and in His strength.

Pastor Troy

2.2 Presbytery Report

The Presbytery of Stockton gathered four times this year – Trinity Presbyterian in Stockton, the Church of the 49ers in Columbia, Central Presbyterian in Merced, and Grace Presbyterian in Lodi. We welcomed Rev. Everett Bosch to pastor the church in Tracy.

The Presbytery is in a time of transition. Our General Presbyter (an administrative executive position for the Presbytery) resigned after being placed on administrative leave. The Presbytery is in the process of discerning its mission and future. Do we desire to continue under the umbrella of the Sierra Mission Partnership or do we desire to secure our own staff for ministry? There will be a number of decisions transitions in store for us this year.

This summer included the Bi-Annual General Assembly of our denomination in San Jose, where we were represented by Paul Fandl from Lodi, and an elder from his church as well. The decisions of the General Assembly were troubling for the members of our Presbytery, and we have subsequently voted against a number of recommendations from the GA.

Next year, Presbytery officers include: Council Chair (Merilyn Vaughn – Stockton), Moderator (Troy Onsager – Escalon) and Vice-Moderator (Ken Robbins – Merced).

2.3 Director of Music Report

**“Our purpose is to glorify God, uplift and encourage others,
and enrich ourselves through excellence in music.”**

CHANCEL CHOIR

2008 was a year of choral quality and spiritually rich moments. Reviewing the year takes us through a variety of musical styles and spiritual messages. The choir is comprised of individuals, yet we are one. This is the beauty of choral ministry, it is similar to the Body of Christ. Everyone has a part and is needed to make the unit function appropriately. We need our tenors, altos, basses, and sopranos. The combined voices create a wonderfully rich and complex sound, not able to be reproduced by anything but the authentic voices God has gifted us with!

Introits and Anthems – Our weekly music has been selected from the churches substantial choral music library and newly purchased pieces. The music has been joyful, majestic, upbeat, contemplative, and soft in style. The choir led us in reflective moments with songs like “Be Still and Know that I am God” and awakened us to joy with songs like “Festive Praise”. Its themes have communicated a wide range of Biblically based messages. They are selected to coincide with the pastoral theme and/or the liturgical church year.

Good Friday – “Behold the Darkness” was the title of our Good Friday Cantata. This reflective and mournful service is deeply moving and appropriate for remembering what our Lord endured for us. The choir was accompanied by piano, violin 1, violin 2, oboe, and flute.

Christmas Cantata – “And Glory Shone Around” was the title of our Christmas Cantata. The choir was accompanied by piano, violin, oboe, and flute. The choir was full and joyous with 19 singers, the largest in my years as director.

REUTER PIPE ORGAN and OUR NEW ORGANIST

Dr. David Jolliff - In September we were blessed to fill our organist position. David joined the music ministry at EPC with many years of experience and a vast knowledge of pipe organs and music in general. He is a great addition and has shown the congregation the vast variety of sounds that our instrument can provide.

Reuter Pipe Organ – Because of generous donations to the organ fund in 2008, we were able to add a Zimbelstern to the organ. The Zimbelstern is a musical instrument which rings small bells at random. We were also able to make new adjustments to the chimes, which now can be played at a lower volume level.

PRAISE TEAM, SPECIAL MUSIC, and CONGREGATION SINGING

Our church is blessed with so much wonderful musical talent. Each week we are encouraged by various people that contribute to our worship services. Our congregational singing this year was led by a mixture of instruments, including; organ, piano, congas, bongos, guitar, cello, and violin. Vocally, we were led by choir and praise team. We were fortunate to enjoy special music by individual instrumentalists and vocalists, as well. The time and energy spent in preparation for our services is commendable and appreciated by all who participate. **Thank you to all of our Music Ministry Volunteers!**

Our year was filled with great moments which will stay with all of us forever. Our music is presented with heart and skill. Our goal continues to be the inclusion of quality music that is new and old, classical and contemporary, and varied in musical style. We will continue to work hard and present music that is excellent in quality. We will also never forget to sing with heart, believing the words we sing!

Honored to Serve God and You,
Joel Adams, Music Director

2.3 Director of Youth Report

This past year has been full of learning experiences and fun. The youth group had a fun weekend retreat in Santa Cruz, summer camp at Calvin Crest, and a variety of fun events such as Jen night (pumpkin maze and midnight bowling), Christian night at Fun Works, and Kid's in a box at the high school. As usual Sunday school is a learning experience for the kids as well as Sandy Thompson and me. Sunday school typically averages between 2 and 4 kids per Sunday. I would like to see more participation in Sunday school, but we will continue to pour ourselves into those that do come on Sunday mornings. Sunday morning are geared toward regular Bible study led by Sandy Thompson.

Wednesday night youth group has been an ongoing event. Years past the youth group would meet on Sunday nights, but in order to bring a spiritual charge to the kids in the middle of the week, we decided to move youth group from Sunday nights to Wednesday night, and I must say, it has been well worth it. Now the kids have a source of spiritual renewal during the midst of their school week. The average attendance is between 5 and 13 kids per week. The Wednesday night youth group also meets during the summer. In years past the weekly Sunday night meetings were discontinued during the summer, but it is my belief that God doesn't take summer off and neither should the youth group. Wednesday nights are led by myself and Andy Schmidt. I provide guidance and the weekly Biblical message and Andy leads the fun and games. On occasions, Andy has stepped up to the plate and has prepared and led the weekly message, and has done a very good job.

Andy and Michael Beaman are college students that serve as leaders in the youth group and do a very good job. They are a blessing to the youth ministry. Andy also serves at the summer camp as a counselor, and does an outstanding job. My desire is to bring them along side me in the youth ministry and allow them to experience working with a youth group as leaders and authority figures. This will allow them to gain experience and help with deciding if they are interested in serving in youth ministries as a profession or just as a layperson.

My vision this upcoming year is to encourage spiritual growth in the kids. This past year has been a challenging one for myself, my family and the youth group due to the many Hurricanes that called me out of town. I hope this year will be less active season so I am not pulled out of town for work related issues. My wife and I will be joining the kids a summer camp this year, hopefully we will be able to have all our summer campers attend the same week as the high school kids. I will be allowing Andy to have a more active role in leading and preparing and delivering the Wednesday Night messages, I believe this will stretch him as well as develop him into the spiritual leader he desires to be. I would ask that all who reads this would pray for our ministry and if you feel led to help out in any way, please contact myself, Andy or Pastor Troy. We would love to see more participation from our adults at Escalon Presbyterian Church.

Thank you and God Bless.
Mike Fahey

3.1 Adult Ministries

What an exciting year it has been for me. I started out on the Worship and Music Ministry Team and ended up heading the new Adult Ministry Team. It was my pleasure to have worked with Joel Adams and Pastor Troy on the Music and Worship team. I see them continuing to provide a wonderful worship service, rich in music and full of God's word, providing an uplifting and joyful place to worship and praise the Lord.

Adult ministries was a part of the Christian Education Ministry team and as our church has grown, the need to form two ministry teams was the result. Several wonderful, talented and spirit filled people have consented to be a part of this exciting new team at E.P.C. and we have met on a number of occasions to help facilitate/direct/provide for the needs of our adult education leaders, and the members of this church as well as our community. Under the Adult Ministries umbrella are the 2 adult Sunday morning classes; The Young and the Rest of Us and A contemporary Study group; Men with a Mission meets on Saturday mornings; SIS meets on Monday evenings; Presbyterian Women, meet on the 2nd Monday of the month; a young adult group which meets on Sunday evenings, and home based small group Bible studies. We are looking forward to a variety of Adult studies for the 2009 year and they include but are not limited to; a 6-8 week Christian based finance class and a 6-8 week study on marriage.

You will also find in the new classroom in Faith Center many new study guides, reference books, Bible dictionaries, commentaries and Bible studies. We are also working towards building a selection of Christian fiction and nonfiction books and movies which will be available for group or individual use.

It is our desire to be lead by the Holy Spirit concerning the topics of adult study and the forming of new study groups. All studies will be approved by our Pastor as we want to make sure they are based on the real word of God. This ministry team is new to our church and our goal is to serve each of you in developing a closer walk with God by providing the opportunities for you to learn and grow in a safe, nurturing, yet challenging environment.

I look forward to a year full of possibilities and growth in The Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Margy Sawyer
EPC Adult Ministry Team Leader

3.2 Youth Ministries

It's incredible to realize yet another year has past. 2008 was another fun-filled and spirit-filled year for Youth Ministries. You will notice a name change to our ministry team, which reflects the ever growing family of Escalon Presbyterian Church. Our team encompassed youth and adult Sunday School ministries. But, due to many factors, including growth, support, and need, our full focus is now on our youth. This age group ranging from babies through high school, has continued to grow in numbers and in faith.

As you may have noticed, our nursery program and check-in routines have been updated and made more secure. With new check-in procedures and a paging system, we are striving to make the nursery environment friendly, fun, and safe. We will continue to update this important area of Youth Ministries. Thanks to all who help with our nursery program.

Our Sunday School program, which runs September through May, is such a rewarding experience. Our wonderful teachers utilize curriculum that makes learning about the Bible fun, entertaining, and challenging. Nursery age through sixth grade meet each Sunday morning in the choir room - for singing and praise. Sandy Thompson, my partner on Youth Ministries, runs this program beautifully. She teaches the children biblical stories, through music, dance, and hand motions. These groups of children, then, go off to their age appropriate classes. We appreciate our wonderful group of teachers, who donate their time and energy to this Sunday School program. Sandy also directs our Christmas Musical and other special music throughout the year. It was her goal to build this program, and she has done an excellent job. Mike Fahey, our Youth Director, team-teaches the Jr.-Sr. High Sunday School class and also runs our Jr.-Sr. High youth group. Along with his helpers, Andy Schmidt and Michael Beeman, this team challenges, supports, and nurtures the youth group.

Vacation Bible School this year was held at Saron Lutheran Church. Their youth director, Sheilah, helped make this another successful event. This year the three churches decided to repeat one of the favorite VBS themes. 'SonHarvest County Fair' focused on the "Fruit of the Spirit". With a county fair theme, it was easy to create a wonderful atmosphere with cow milking contests, vegetable growing demonstrations, and even a petting zoo. As usual, our EPC family fully supported this event. Thanks to all who donated time, money, and resources.

Thank you again for helping fulfill our vision to Seek, Serve, Support, and Sustain, the youth of Escalon Presbyterian Church. This vision would not be a reality without the entire congregation.

Calvin Crest Report

Summer Camp at Calvin Crest is a yearly highlight for our campers. It is amazing that Calvin Crest continuously updates, changes, and improves their camp program. This past July, eleven of our youth attended the week long event. With three carloads of kids and a truckload of suitcases, sleeping bags, backpacks, skateboards, snacks, etc. we made our way to the beautiful mountains above Oakhurst. This year our Jr. High attendees chose to go to Outpost. This camping experience is quite different from normal camp life. Instead of staying in cabins and eating in the dining room, the outpost campers live out of a backpack, hike into the forest, cook meals over a campfire, and even sleep under the stars. This experience seemed to bring them even closer to God. The group came home with lifelong memories of nature, great friendships, and biblical inspirations.

Our High School group was happy to experience the normal camp life of cabins and dining room meals. Andy Schmidt went as the boys' counselor, which is one of his passions in ministry. Every year this high school group of campers experience incredible devotional time, crazy fun games, entertaining worship time, and lifelong friendships. This year instead of bringing in guest speakers, the camp director was the week long speaker. This change became an incredible experience and helped create an actual relationship

3.2 Youth Ministries - continued

for the campers and the director. At the end of the week, this camp director personally greeted the pick-up parents and pastors, and knew every camper by name. This personal touch had a very positive effect on our campers.

Thanks to a wonderfully supported pancake breakfast and generous EPC donations, all our youth who wanted to attend camp, were financially able to do so. Thanks also to our drivers Jeff and Michele Hood and Mike Fahey who safely transported our campers to and from camp. We hope 2009 Calvin Crest will be just as great if not better than 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Alcantor, Youth Ministries Chair

3.3 Church Life

Looking back over this year of 2008, I am thankful for the opportunity that we as a Church Life Team have had in functioning as part of the Body of Christ. I believe we have been able to assist in the mission of the church to Seek, Serve, Support and Sustain.

Church Life has a core team consisting of the following: Lorie Macsenti, Pat Brown, Patti Farhat, Angie Guevara, and Myself. Our goal is to function as facilitators, by designing and assisting with occasions for fellowship, and opportunities to celebrate through a variety of activities.

The following are some of the activities, and events that were orchestrated and supported this year: Weekly Fellowship, Ice Cream Social, Young Families Activities, Women's event on Healing Oils of the Bible, Fall Kick-Off, Harvest Chili Cook-Off, Christmas Dinner, Senior Fling, Women's Tea, and Annual Golf Tournament.

The above events were truly a group effort, beyond the Church Ministry Team. We were in most cases the support for others from the inception of the idea, details and completion.

Two new events this year were the Fall Kick-Off and the Christmas Dinner. Both of these activities will be continued next year.

1. The Fall Kick-Off launched the new school calendar by introducing Sunday School Classes and fall opportunities with a meal and events for every age.
2. The Christmas Dinner held at the newly renovated Community Center stretched us and provided a place for the church to invite family and friends to experience the warmth of fellowship through a holiday atmosphere, good food, music and a presentation of the ministry of our church.
3. The Golf Tournament in April raised \$2500 toward the Guatemala Trip in July.
4. Ice Cream Social, Young Family Activities, Healing Oils of the Bible, The Harvest Dinner, Senior Fling and Women's Tea provided a place of fellowship for many.

Our goal is to continue to work within the team and with others to create and support opportunities so that we as a church family can grow together in Christ. We are not about generating activities for activity sake, but rather becoming an avenue for God's power and life to be expressed through fellowship. We want to listen to God's direction and honor Him in every event and activity, so that we become represen-

3.3 Church Life - continued

tatives of His Living, Functioning Body in our corner of the world.

Please know that this team would like to be your point of contact we want to share your ideas and help make your dreams a reality. Also, we welcome additions to the Church Life team.

In Christ,
Carol Adams
Church Life Chair

3.4 Mission Outreach

Guatemala: Last year we wrote about a proposed trip to Guatemala. This year we conclude that a group of seven actually left Escalon and went to a small village on the Pacific Coast near Champerico. It was a very fast trip, the result of a lot of planning and support from our congregation who supported this financially and with seven suitcases of generic drugs and vitamins. Prior to our trip we met with Bob Paul of Life-Wind International in Modesto. Several times we met with Dr. Hugo Gomez who lives in Guatemala and was our contact and leader. There was a certain consolation in having a trained medical person near by.

Shortly before leaving we were briefed by a man named Don Orvis who headed a Mission called Face to Face. His group coordinated all our travel plans, and were thorough - which is unusual for any mission group. He had an unusual background having been the Chaplain to both the Colorado Rockies and the Denver Broncos. Most recently he was asked to be the interim head of Denver Seminary.

Our group was a diverse group. Our team helped build trusses for a roof. We didn't really have any construction skills other than knowing how to read a tape measure. Physically construction work in Guatemala is difficult for people more used to sedentary jobs. Nevertheless the roof was completed the day after we left.

Our more youthful members worked in a makeshift dispensary all day and interacted with adults and children seeking medical and dental care and attention.

Benefit: The long term impact remains to be seen. We were exposed to a rather vibrant community, very poor in many regards, having little prospect for advancing other than coming here. We had the privilege of working with very patient people with a genuine compassion for the people of La Gomera. Also it was helpful for us to realize that these once proud Mam people, descendants of Mayan Indians, were a part of the body of Christ.

The personal benefit: You benefit by going, being frustrated when you cannot communicate, working at something you don't do very well, and listening to other people talk about being single, with no job, and you have the joy of an occasional glimmer when you can just sit down and talk with a group of guys. You get to experience a bit of the frustration that people who spend their whole lives there in the battle.

Missions Conference: A group from EPC attended the Fall Conference at First Presbyterian Church, Berkeley. The topic was Global Slavery. The conference highlighted the impact of trafficking in numerous countries which resulted in the exploitation of women and children in the sex trade, and men as slaves in factories. International Justice Mission had several speakers who detailed their work in India and South America.

3.4 Mission Outreach - continued

One of the factors which contributes to this global problem is economic vulnerability. People who have no jobs are vulnerable to all sorts of things. One response by several groups is to attack the problem economically. Hagar focuses on provided a haven for women coming out of the sex trade in Cambodia by providing a safe place for them live and then training them to work. They make designer quality purses, jewelry which are sold internationally by a group called Trade As One which sources goods from 60 suppliers who are certified as Fair Trade, i.e. they provide adequate working conditions and they pay rather than exploit their workers. There is a two fold benefit, one to the worker who is able to make a decent living, support children and herself, and to the consumer in providing a useful good. Trade as One is a very practical response to a very difficult problem.

Josh & Virginia Giddens: This young family left our church in July for a two year stint teaching in Zimbabwe at an International School. Their blog is an invaluable insight into life in a remote part of the world, which they face with adventuresome spirit in spite of water problems, electricity which is sporadic. The International focus of our committee has been broadened. We struggle with how to more adequately promote and publicize various interest and opportunities.

Local Impact of Missions Outreach: C.A.R.E. continues. However with the leadership of Dave Hall on the Deacons, this will probably become more dynamic as will opportunities within the community via liaison with the Escalon Police. We have several new people who have a passion for outreach. Three dinners are planned in the spring as the Salvation Army in Modesto.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Adams

3.5 Finance

The session of our church has agreed to a budget of over \$200,000.00 for 2009. This is made possible by our congregations' commitment during our Consecration Sunday event this year. This budget represents our hopes and prayers to support our growing congregation.

This year the Finance Team will begin the process of more long term planning and matching our financial gifts with our spiritual goals. I would like to thank all of the Finance team members on our committee this year which included Jerry Hougland, Diane Hougland, Jeff Jarchow, and Robert Whitt for their help and flexibility during this year. We welcome anyone to the Finance Team who would like to help us reach these goals.

In God's Service
Michele Hood
Finance/ Stewardship Chair

3.6 Trustees

In 2008 there were three Trustees on the Church Session. These were Wayne Engel, Richard Hogue and me. Richard Hogue and I are coming off session after 6yrs. Wayne will remain and Bob McCune will be the new comer.

We also have the Trustee committee. In addition to the three of us, we had Bob McCune, Dave Hall and Rodney Alcantor.

When we have work days the work team includes everyone that is willing to lend a hand. NO ONE IS TURNED AWAY!

The end of January we finished our fencing and gates around the Church property. We replaced the 3' chain link fencing around the nursery play yard and included double gates. We also added double gates to the entrance of the breezeway off of 1st St. and single gates to the parking lots on both sides of the church.

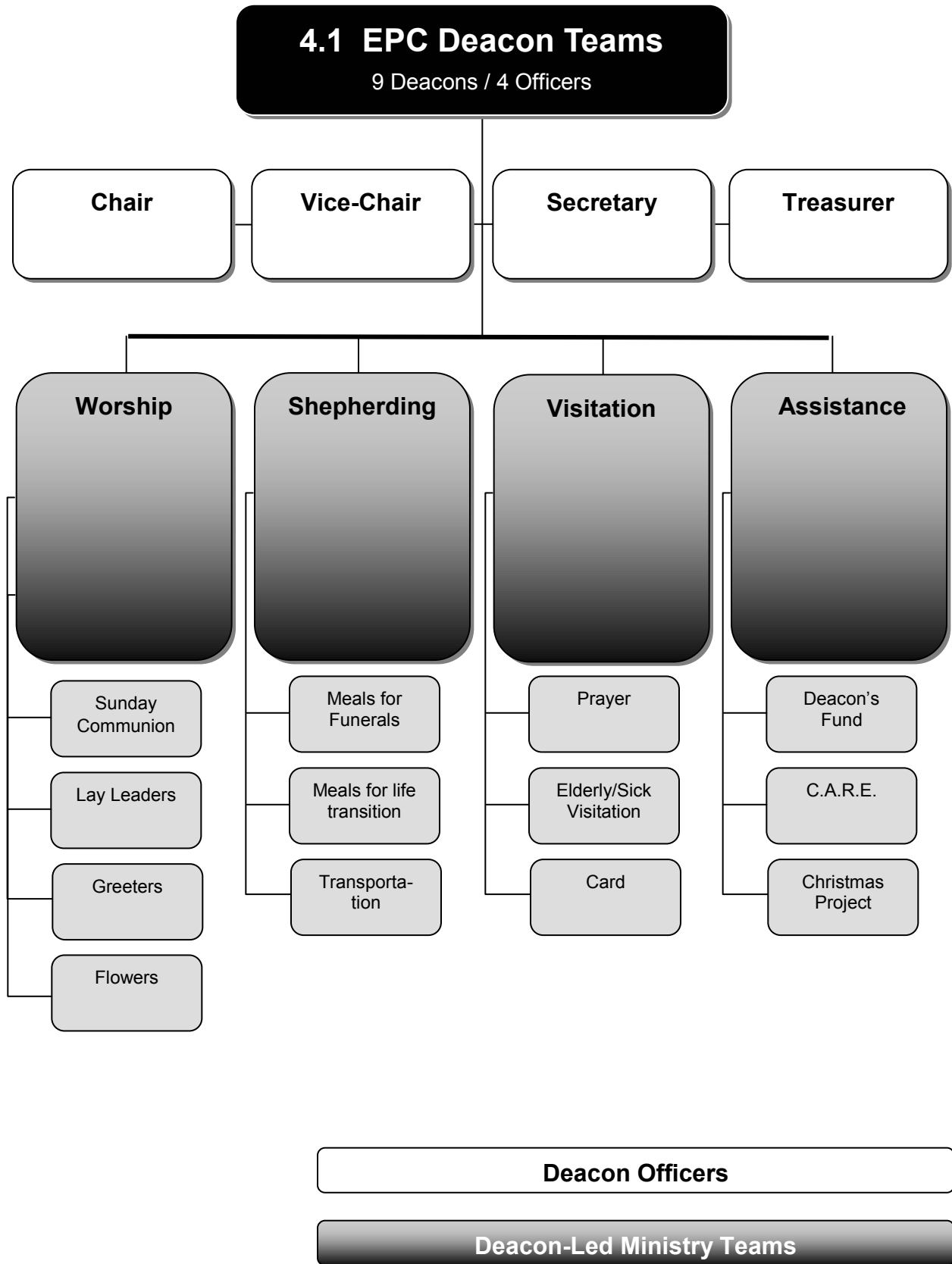
We had two work days, one in the spring and one in the fall.

Shari Roark headed up the landscape and sprinkler design to the flower beds at the north end of Faith Center and along the East side of the Sanctuary.

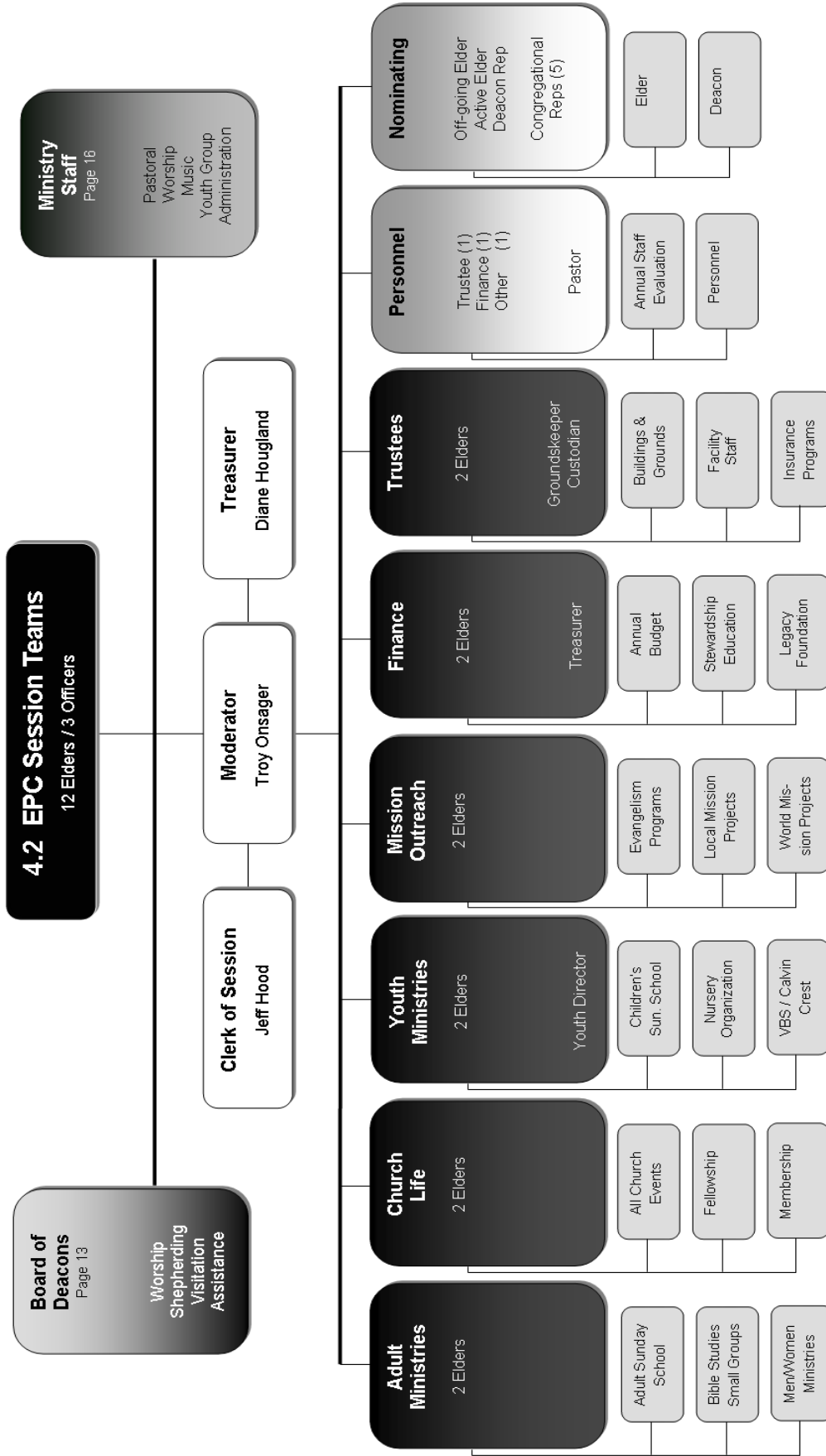
We have begun the transformation of the Fireside room into a conference and Sunday school room. This will give some privacy to the Sunday school class and for any meetings.

Anyone that wishes to be part of the Trustee committee is welcome to join us and anyone with any suggestions as to projects that need to be repaired, replaced or considered is welcome to submit them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Dodge-



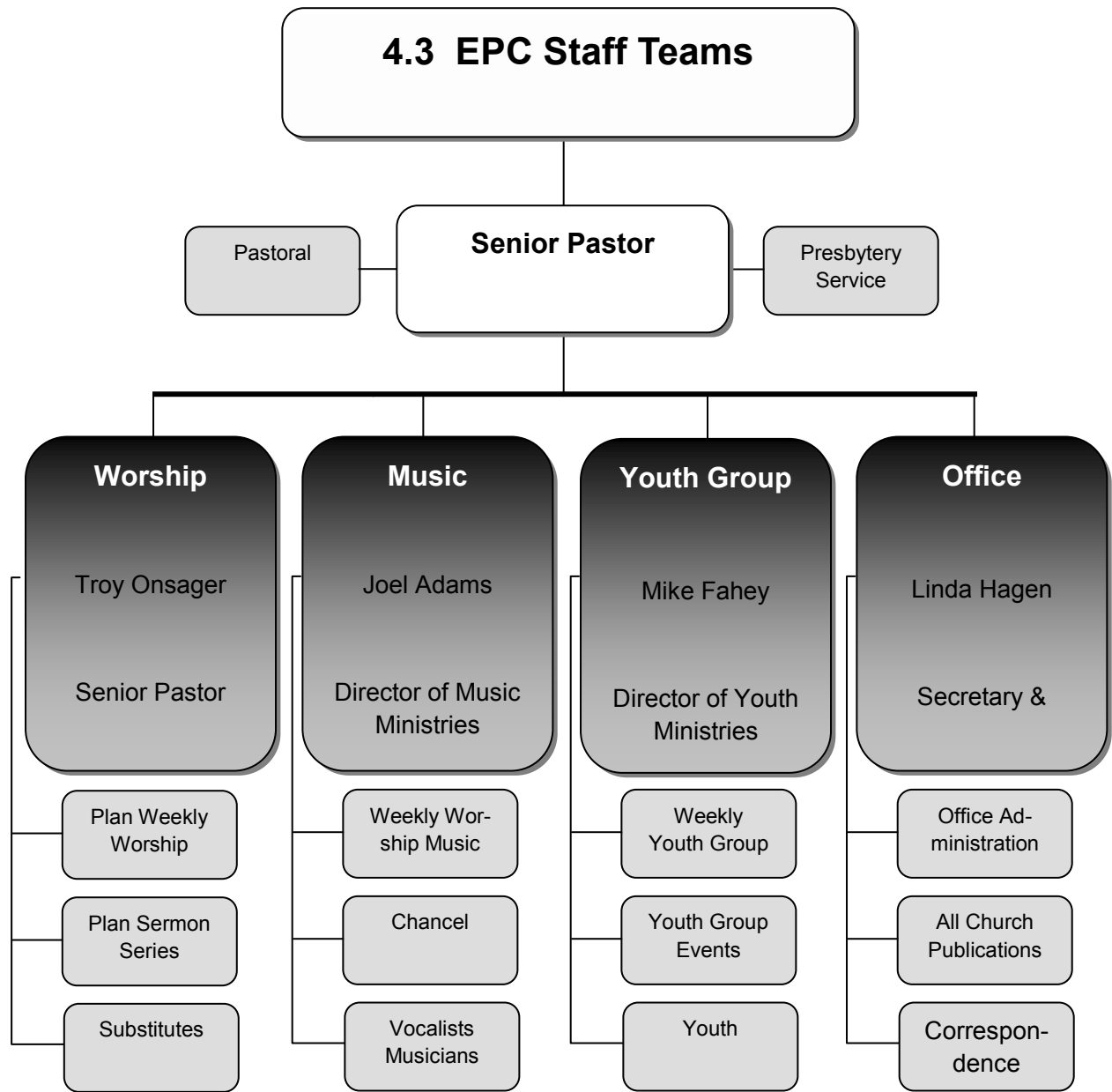
Session Flow-Chart



Session Officers

Elder—Led Ministry Departments

Elder—Led Administrative Departments



Senior Pastor Responsibilities

Staff-Led Ministry Teams

5.1 Board of Deacons

In 2008 the Deacons kept their focus on serving those in need within our community and our own congregation.

Even with two less members (due to maternity bed rest, and a move to Africa) we still maintained our regular commitments. We continue to send cards of support, serve meals after surgeries and visit shut-ins. Our weekly service consists of preparing communion, arranging for greeters and lay readers, providing flowers for worship, and keeping up the Prayer Chain.

Our yearly yard sale was moved to October to coincide with the citywide sale. We kept our prices affordable and worked together as a team to make the sale a success.

This year we became more active with C.A.R.E. We collect food donations each month and also gave a donation to help purchase a new freezer for the facility.

Throughout the year we had many opportunities to provide emergency financial aid to people in need, with the help of Pastor Troy.

We donated to the Haven of Peace Woman and Children's Shelter, LifeWind, and to the Escalon High School Sober Grad Committee to support our local graduates.

During the holidays we adopted a family in need. With your overwhelming support we were able to provide both parents and children with not only gifts, but also food and certificates to help repair their home.

As we look back on 2008, we feel very fortunate to have helped so many. In looking forward to 2009 we are already lined up to provide three meals at the Salvation Army Shelter. We pray that God will continue to give us opportunities to serve in any way we can.

Thank you all who have so generously supported the Deacons in Prayer, time and donations.

In Christ's Service

Nancy Schmidt

5.2 Deacon Treasurer's Report

Balance January 1, 2008		1225.51
Miscellaneous Contributions	40.00	
Deacons Sunday	3058.00	
Yard Sale	1663.46	
Returned Donation	300.00	
Total Income		5061.46
Total		6286.97
Expenditures		
Stamps	183.23	
Cards and Envelopes	186.15	
Yard Sale	365.00	
Mother & Father Day Gifts	25.50	
Helping Hands	990.00	
Escalon Ministerial	500.00	
Calvin Crest	250.00	
Haven of Peace	250.00	
Life Wind	250.00	
Grad-Night	100.00	
Shut-ins	52.69	
Total	3152.57	
Checking Balance December 31, 2008		3134.40
Savings Account:		
Balance January, 2008		1683.47
Interest for 2008	4.25	
Savings Balance December 31, 2008		1687.72

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Holt, Deacon Treasurer

6.1 Clerk of Session Report

Following Pastor Troy’s April 2007 visit to Guatemala with LifeWind International, and planning since late 2007, Escalon Presbyterian Church successfully supported a team, which included Pastor Troy and 6 other EPC Members, who went to Guatemala this year.

This past year, Session has overseen and/or supported the following Ministry Team efforts and undertakings; VBS, Hiring of Organist, Consecration Sunday, Establishing of Church Website, Church Dinner, Guatemala Gold Tournament, Ice Cream and Cookie Social, Harvest Celebration, Began modifications to the Fireside Room, to list just a few.

The Escalon Community Center remodel completed and they no longer require use of Faith Center to support events being held here. As always, EPC will avail itself to the needs of our members and friends, the communities we support, and the World, as best we possibly can.

In addition to meeting many of our needs here at EPC, Pastor Troy has lead, supported, and/or participated in many events, groups, and associations, as well; LifeWind Int’l., Sierra Mission Partnership Budget Consultant, Escalon Ministerial Association, West Coast Presbyterian Pastor’s Conference, Stockton Presbytery Council, Knox Fellowship, CARE, Calvin Crest Fundraising, and Global Church Conference.

This year, we warmly welcomed nine new members and sadly lost two; Eva Miller and Sherrill Bullard.

Session Elders and Deacons serving this year are;

Session Elders

<u><i>Class of 2009</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2010</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2011</i></u>
<i>Lorie Macsenti</i>	<i>Dan Adams</i>	<i>Bob McCune</i>
<i>Wayne Engle</i>	<i>Carol Adams</i>	<i>Sandy Thompson</i>
<i>Michele Hood</i>	<i>Jerry Houglan</i>	<i>Currently Vacant</i>
<i>Dick Nelson</i>	<i>Margy Sawyer</i>	<i>Currently Vacant</i>

Deacons

<u><i>Class of 2009</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2010</i></u>	<u><i>Class of 2011</i></u>
<i>Nancy Schmidt</i>	<i>Cheryl Hall</i>	<i>Patti Farhat</i>
<i>Charlie Dodge</i>	<i>Dave Hall</i>	<i>Marsha Love</i>
<i>Ellen Nelson</i>	<i>Grant Thompson</i>	<i>Tom Love</i>

Thanks to Gertrude and Session Members for all their support – I couldn’t have done this without you all!

Respectfully Submitted,
 Jeff Hood
 Clerk of Session

6.2 Statistical Report

2008 Statistical Report

Active membership January 1, 2008 **139**

Gains

By Affirmation of Faith	9
By Re-affirmation of Faith	0
By Restoration to Active Roll	0
By Certificate of Transfer	0
By Baptism and Confession of Faith	0

Total Gains **9**

Losses

By Death	2
By Transfer to Inactive Roll	0
By Letter of Transfer	0
By Deletion from Roll	0

Total Losses **2**

Active membership December 31, 2008 **146**

Plus Affiliate Member **1**

Necrology

<i>Eva Miller</i>	<i>November 16, 2008</i>
<i>Sherrill Bullard</i>	<i>December 13, 2008</i>

Infant Baptisms	0
Adult Baptisms	0
Weddings	1
Funerals	1
Session Meetings	
Regular	12
Special Called	0
Congregational Meetings	2

New Members in 2008

*Bill Anderson, Marilyn Anderson,
Janice Anderson, Bob Goodrich,
Diane Goodrich, Amy Jarchow,
Jeff Jarchow, David Jolliff, Steve Reader*

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Hood
Clerk of Session

6.3 Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has met numerous times since the beginning of October. The nominating team, representing a cross-section of our congregation, consisted of Shirley Engel, Dee Mostowski, Tom Love, Dick Nelson, Laura Alcantor and Rick Guevara.

We presented the following people as candidates for Deacon:

- Tom Love, Marsha Love and Patti Farhat were nominated for three year terms.
- Charlie Dodge and Nancy Schmidt were nominated to fill one year terms that were open

We presented the following people as candidates for Session:

- Bob McCune was nominated to the Board of Trustees
- Sandy Thompson was nominated to serve an additional three year term in Youth Ministries.

The committee has asked for additional suggestions for nominees and has met with little enthusiasm or success for a variety of reasons. We suggested to the congregation that the two vacancies remain open until suitable candidates emerge. I believe this can be done at the discretion of the Session. Since the vacancies occur at the annual congregational meeting, they could conceivably remain vacant until the following year.

The congregation met on January 4, 2008 and the above nominations from our committee were approved by a voice vote (MSC).

Thanks
Richard Nelson
Laura Alcantor

Treasurer's Report—2008 Balance Sheet

ASSETS

CASH

Bank of the West Checking Account	\$ 25,623.00
New Covenant-B	\$ 5,273.80
New Covenant-H	\$ 2,729.60
New Covenant-R & P	\$ 10,799.51
Synod-767A	\$ 20,671.30
Synod-767C	\$ 49,912.14
Synod-767E	\$ 11,395.47
Synod-MDC767-0032	\$ 32,324.03
Synod-Downer Trust Fund	\$ 45,232.88
Synod-Downer Trust-MDC767	\$ 86,923.53
Synod-Downer Trust-MDC767A-00329	\$119,726.45
New Covenant-Downer	<u>\$ 32,467.38</u>
Subtotal Cash	\$443,079.09

OTHER ASSETS

Note Receivable (Pastor's House)	<u>\$102,000.00</u>
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TOTAL ASSETS

\$545,079.09

LIABILITIES

Taxes Payable-Payroll	\$ 2,079.70
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TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 2,079.70

TOTAL FUND BALANCE

\$542,999.39

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

\$545,079.09

Treasurer's Report—2008 Receipt & Disbursements

RECEIPTS

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND	\$ 178,384.88	
MISSIONS	\$ 18,222.17	
MEMORIALS	\$ -	
ORGAN FUND	\$ 3,300.00	
MUSIC FUND	\$ 30.00	
MISCELLANEOUS FUND	\$ 1,295.34	
BUILDING & GROUNDS FUND	\$ 2,000.00	
ENGEL MEMORIAL FUND	\$ 516.75	
CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS	\$ 2,962.00	
PASTOR STUDY LEAVE FUND	\$ 471.14	
DOWNER FUND	\$ 230.00	
YOUTH FUND	\$ 560.00	
RESERVE FUND	\$ 50.00	
SUBTOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 208,022.28	\$ 208,022.28

OTHER INCOME

MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 657.98	
SUBTOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$ 657.98	\$ 657.98

INVESTMENT INCOME

INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	\$ 18,224.86	
CHANGE IN VALUE-EQUITY ACCTS	\$ (21,702.21)	
SUBTOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ (3,477.35)	\$ (3,477.35)

TOTAL INCOME AND TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

\$ 205,202.91

DISBURSEMENTS

OPERATING EXPENSES

PERSONNEL	\$ 128,044.27	
TRUSTEES	\$ 29,065.73	
CHURCH LIFE	\$ 2,872.94	
ADULT MINISTRIES	\$ 1,616.91	
MISSION OUTREACH	\$ 2,226.79	
MISSION SUPPORT	\$ 10,000.00	
WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$ 8,130.84	
YOUTH MINISTRIES	\$ 5,023.33	
FINANCE	\$ 28.83	

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$ 187,009.64 \$ 187,009.64

DESIGNATED FUNDS & MISSIONS \$ 30,766.82

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 217,776.46

Treasurer's Report—2008 Fund Balances

<u>FUND DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BALANCE @ JAN. 1, 2008</u>	<u>YTD INCOME</u>	<u>YTD EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE @ DEC. 31, 2008</u>
General Fund	\$ 35,521.06	\$ 179,068.43	\$ 173,673.05	\$ 40,916.44
Missions Fund	\$ 705.59	\$ 19,081.27	\$ 18,917.54	\$ 869.32
Memorial Fund	\$ 8,509.27	\$ -	\$ 1,156.03	\$ 7,353.24
Organ Fund	\$ 2,978.48	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 721.42	\$ 5,557.06
Music Fund	\$ 416.05	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 446.05
Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ 45,434.41	\$ 189.69	\$ 45,244.72
Miscellaneous Fund	\$ 859.10	\$ 1,295.34	\$ 2,154.44	\$ -
Pastor Housing Fund	\$ 102,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102,000.00
Baymiller Fund	\$ 5,634.51	\$ -	\$ 5,634.51	\$ -
Mary Harris Estate Fund	\$ 12,546.84	\$ -	\$ 12,546.84	\$ -
Gus Harris Memorial Fund	\$ 1,935.11	\$ (847.51)	\$ -	\$ 1,087.60
Lloyd Engel Memorial Fund	\$ 90,418.82	\$ 5,268.69	\$ 4,300.46	\$ 91,387.05
Camp Scholarship Fund	\$ 356.13	\$ 2,962.00	\$ 3,218.13	\$ 100.00
Popp/Rollins Fund	\$ 12,730.32	\$ -	\$ 12,730.32	\$ -
Buildings & Grounds Fund	\$ 2,601.49	\$ 2,777.00	\$ -	\$ 5,378.49
CD Growth Fund	\$ 17,910.83	\$ -	\$ 17,910.83	\$ -
Pastor Study Leave Fund	\$ 285.94	\$ 471.14	\$ 285.94	\$ 471.14
Downer Fund	\$ 248,480.37	\$ (4,911.73)	\$ 13,336.59	\$ 230,232.05
Youth Fund	\$ 683.03	\$ 560.00	\$ 682.27	\$ 560.76
Real Estate Acquisition Fund	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 395.47	\$ -	\$ 11,395.47
Totals	\$ 555,572.94	\$ 254,884.51	\$ 267,458.06	\$ 542,999.39
Transfer of Funds		\$ 49,681.60	\$ 49,681.60	
Grand Totals	\$ 555,572.94	\$ 205,202.91	\$ 217,776.46	\$ 542,999.39

2009 Budget

GENERAL FUND

	2008 Actual	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	Budget Difference
<u>INCOME</u>				
CONTRIBUTIONS -Genl Fund -Pledged	88,506	0	167,729	167,729
CONTRIBUTIONS -Genl Fund-Non Pledged	83,945	0	26,717	26,717
CONTRIBUTIONS-Loose Offering	5,933	0	5,442	5,442
OTHER INCOME-Genl Fund	658	0	500	500
INTEREST INCOME-General Fund	26	0	26	26
INTEREST INCOME-Reserve Fund	1552	0	1,400	1,400
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	180,620	0	201,814	201,814

EXPENSES

PERSONNEL

MINISTERIAL PERSONNEL

SALARY EXP - Pastor	35,026	35,026	41,026	6,000
HOUSING EXPENSE - Pastor	19,500	19,500	19,500	0
PENSION/MEDICAL - Pastor	17,176	17,176	19,066	1,890
MILEAGE REIMBURSE -Pastor	2,018	2,200	2,200	0
STUDY LEAVE - Pastor	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY	350	300	300	0
CELL PHONE-pastor	0	0	660	660
SALARY EXPENSE- Secretary	16,532	16,532	17,028	496
PAYROLL TAX- Secretary	1,265	1,265	1,303	38
WORKERS COMP (all employees)	1,457	1,199	1,529	330
Total	94,324	94,198	103,612	9,414

MUSIC PERSONNEL

SALARY - Organist	3,750	10,000	12,320	2,320
PAYROLL TAX-Organist	256	765	942	177
SALARY - Accompanist	3,300	4,000	4,000	0
PAYROLL TAX -Accompanist	283	306	306	0
SALARY- Music Director	7,000	7,000	11,500	4,500
PAYROLL TAX-Music Director	536	536	880	344
CONTINUING ED-Music Director	0	0	500	500
Total	15,125	22,607	30,448	7,841

OTHER PERSONNEL

SALARY-Janitorial	9,552	9,552	11,244	1,692
PAYROLL TAX-Janitorial	731	731	860	129
CONTINUING ED-Youth Director	0	0	500	500
Total	10,283	10,283	12,604	2,321

YOUTH MINISTRY PERSONNEL

SALARY - Nursery	1,364	1,364	0	-1,364
PAYROLL TAX - Nursery	104	125	0	-125
SALARY - Youth Worker	6,300	7,200	7,200	0
PAYROLL TAX-Youth Worker	482	551	551	0
WORKERS COMP (All C/E employees)	63	62	50	-12
Total	8,313	9,302	7801	-1,501

TOTAL PERSONNEL

TOTAL PERSONNEL	128,045	136,390	154,466	18,076
TOTAL PERSONNEL LESS YOUTH MINISTRY	119,732	127,088	146,664	19,576

2009 Budget

	2008 Actual	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	Budget Difference
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>				
TRUSTEES				
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,576	1,000	1,200	200
CUSTODIAL/GARDEN SUPPLIES	570	1,000	550	-450
POSTAGE	453	450	500	50
NEWSLETTER	211	300	300	0
TECHNOLOGY EXPENSE	702	500	500	0
UTILITIES	4,473	6,000	5,000	-1,000
TELEPHONE/DSL INTERNET	1,317	1,200	1,400	200
WATER, GARBAGE, & SEWER	1,359	1,600	1,300	-300
GARDENING SERVICES	3,220	3,600	3,600	0
CELL PHONE	660	660	0	-660
LIABILITY/PROPERTY INSURANCE	4,018	4,870	4,083	-787
MAINTENANCE-CHURCH-Minor	828	800	800	0
MAINTENANCE-COPY MACHINE	441	700	700	0
MAINTENANCE-CHURCH-Major	5,921	5,000	5,000	0
CARPET CLEANING	0	1,000	1,000	0
PER CAPITA TAX	2,168	2,184	2,267	83
PROPERTY TAXES		0	500	500
MISCELLANEOUS	1,149	300	300	0
Total	29,066	31,164	29,000	-2,164
CHURCH LIFE				
ACTIVITIES & SUPPLIES (KITCHEN)	2,873	2,000	2,000	0
Total	2,873	2,000	2,000	0
ADULT MINISTRIES				
CURRICULUM (formerly called Discipleship)	1,617	2,000	1,600	-400
TRAINING WORKSHOPS	0	0	300	300
LENDING LIBRARY MATERIALS	0	0	300	300
SUPPLIES	0	0	100	100
CHILD CARE	0	0	100	100
MAILINGS	0	0	100	100
Total	1,617	2,000	2,500	500
MISSION OUTREACH				
VISITORS PACKETS	240	150	150	0
OUTREACH PROGRAMS	1,138	1,500	1,500	0
ADVERTISING	849	900	900	0
Total	2,227	2,550	2,550	0
GENERAL MISSION				
GEN MISSION SUPPORT	8,000	8,000	8,000	0
MISSION INTERPRETATION	0	100	100	0
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FUND	500	500	500	0
ETHNIC MINISTRIES PRESBYTERY	400	400	400	0
MINISTERIAL ASSN DUES	100	100	100	0
CALVIN CREST DONATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
Total	10,000	10,100	10,100	0

2009 Budget

	<u>2008 Actual</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>Budget Difference</u>
WORSHIP & MUSIC				
SANCTUARY SUPPLIES	757	500	700	200
AUDIO MINISTRY	0	500	500	0
PULPIT SUPPLY	400	600	600	0
PULPIT SUPPLY MILEAGE	109	100	150	50
SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST	2,326	400	400	0
GUEST MUSICIANS	1,650	1,000	1,200	200
MUSIC MATERIAL	1,720	1,000	1,300	300
COPYRIGHT AUTHORIZATION	269	280	350	70
MAINTENANCE-Instruments	900	1,400	1,400	0
CONCERTS	0	0	500	500
Total	8,131	5,780	7,100	1,320
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP				
STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES & SUPPLIES	29	50	1,400	1,350
FINANCIAL SEMINARS	0	0	200	200
BACK UP ACCOUNTING SERVICE	0	0	300	300
Total	29	50	1,900	1,850
<u>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	53,943	53,644	55,150	1,506
<u>GRAND TOTAL (LESS YOUTH MINISTRY)</u>	173,675	180,732	201,814	21,082
	<u>2008 Actual</u>	<u>2008 Budget</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>Budget Difference</u>
<u>YOUTH MINISTRIES (DOWNER FUND)</u>				
EXPENSE DOWNER FUND (unbudgeted)	1,520	-	-	-
MISC & YOUTH WORKER EXP	550	1,000	-	(1,000)
CALVIN CREST CAMP FEE	690	3,000	2,000	(1,000)
S.S. SUPPLIES & GIFTS	439	860	750	(110)
S.S. CURRICULUM	430	1,100	1,100	-
CHILD CARE/BABYSITTING	-	-	500	500
YOUTH FELLOW-Program Expense	1,141	1,000	2,000	1,000
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	254	500	500	-
BIBLES	-	300	300	-
Total	5,024	7,760	7,150	(610)
Youth Personnel (from above)	8,313	9,302	7,801	(1,501)
<u>GRAND TOTAL YOUTH MINISTRY</u>	13,337	17,062	14,951	(2,111)