

# Annual Report 2009

Sunday, February 28, 2010



***Trinity-St. Paul's United Church and  
Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts***

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**Trinity-St. Paul's United Church and Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts  
Report to the Annual General Meeting: Sunday, February 28, 2020**

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**Agenda**  
**Trinity St. Paul's Annual Meeting**  
**February 28, 2010**

- 10:30-11:45    Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00-12:45    Lunch in Gym  
                    Conversation and Community Building
- 12:45-2:00     Meeting is called to order
- Agenda review
- Minutes of the Annual Meeting March 8, 2009
- Business Arising from the Minutes
- Presentation of the 5-Year Plan
- Nomination Report
- Trustees Report
- Finance Report and 2010 Budget
- Motion to receive other Reports - questions and discussion
- Other Business
- Expressions of Gratitude
- Adjournment
- Singing and Sending Forth

**TRINITY - ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting: March 8, 2009**

**10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary**

During the service, Anne Nikkel led the children's time where she described the work of the staff members of the church. She expressed the congregation's gratitude to the staff and asked the children to assist in delivering flowers to those staff at the service.

**12:00 Lunch in the gym**

After the lunch Lynne Stott thanked Sandy for her work as the retiring chairperson of the board and presented Sandy with a gift and invited Sandy to cut a Thank You cake.

**12:30 Call to Order in the sanctuary**

Sandy welcomed everyone to the meeting and proposed a motion of inclusion.

Moved by Del /B.J. Klassen that all adherents at the meeting are eligible to vote on motions proposed during this meeting.

**Agenda**

Moved by Bob Fugere/Walter Whiteley that the agenda be accepted.

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting March 2, 2008**

Sandy explained that the minutes of the March 2, 2008 were not circulated in advance of this meeting.

Moved by Duncan Holmes/Anne Sheppard that copies of the minutes be circulated during this AGM and that the members consider a motion to adopt the minutes at the end of the meeting.

**Update from the Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts (CFJA) Implementation Group**

Barbara Lloyd gave the update that elaborated on the ideas expressed in the Annual Report 2008 (Pages 36 and 37). She expressed her delight that we were now giving birth to the vision of a CFJA. The service on March 2, 2009 was an important event that celebrated the new concept. Barbara informed us that the planning for the next CFJA focused event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 is progressing well with the inclusion of David Hallman as guest speaker. David is a former UCC national and World Council of Churches' staff for ecology and the environment. The theme of this event is greening the earth and greening our neighbourhoods.

Other CFJA initiatives include the display case now in the north-east entrance way to the sanctuary and the new logo, which are visible public expressions of the new CFJA concept.

After reading three principles of the CFJA - hospitality; collaboration and partnership; and the intersection of faith, justice and the arts, Barbara asked others to share how we, as individuals and groups within and beyond TSP, are engaged in ministry that lives out the CFJA vision for the transformation of the world. It was evident from the responses that we are building community, involving youth and children, supporting international NGOs,

offering hospitality to refugees, improving accessibility to the building, and providing support to ex-prisoners.

Barbara concluded by saying that we need to claim our ministries and broaden our understanding of how faith, justice and the arts can inform and strengthen the living out of God's mission, as represented by the braiding of the three strands of coloured cloth now at the front of the sanctuary.

We all stood and sang "Bread and Roses", a song born out of the struggle to claim for all the need for both the necessities and beauty of life.

### **Update on current Strategic Planning Process**

Duncan Holmes began by thanking the other committee members, Ella Taylor-Walsh and Christine Wong. Duncan mentioned that the 5-year strategic plan is developing well with input from the different groups of the church. The committee is now confirming, clarifying and working with Circles to develop priorities for this 5-year plan. He mentioned that we plan to build on what we have accomplished in the last 5 years, incorporate recent suggestions from congregational feedback and work within the framework to be a Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts (CFJA). In the next 5 years, we plan to create synergies among the faith, justice and arts themes that engage our neighbours and partners. We are hopeful that the results of our work will have a positive influence on our city, country and world.

Our **social justice** theme builds on the work of the Public Witness Circle through its focus on housing/homelessness, aboriginal justice and peace (see Page 25 of the Annual Report 2008.). There is a desire to support social justice initiatives undertaken by congregational members by creating networks and synergies to the work at hand. We need to strengthen the systems and supports we have in place to respond effectively and quickly to requests for assistance.

Some questions to consider that relate to our work in social justice:  
How do we identify important issues to support and then support these issues in a consistent manner over time, so that they do not slide away?  
What impact do we want to have in the community?

The **arts** theme is strong within our TSP music program and our resident arts groups (Tafelmusik and Toronto Consort). The vision of the CFJA includes stronger ties to the arts in particular reaching out to the neighborhood arts community.

Some questions to consider that relate to our work in the arts:  
How do we attract neighbours to existing events (e.g. March 3, 2009 service) that they would likely enjoy and may wish to support?  
Under which circle does the arts fall or is it a shared responsibility among a number of circles(e.g. Worship and Faith Formation or Public Witness)?

Congregational and committee feedback indicates that we want our **faith** formation to be informed by social justice and deepened by the arts. We want faith formation for all ages, and in particular are concerned about effective programming for our young adults. We desire support for ourselves, as we go about our lives. The work of the Pastoral Care Committee has been extremely valuable in the past and its activities are a continued priority in the future.

Some questions to consider that relate to our faith theme:

Do we know when people don't show?

What can we learn from those who slip away?

What changes need to be made to be more welcoming and more supporting?

Duncan summarized his review of the different themes by saying that we want to build on our vision of faith, justice and the arts that is both sustainable and flexible.

Duncan also mentioned some questions that relate to groups in the building.

What types of groups do we want in the building?

Should we search out those groups we wish to support?

What partnerships do we want to form?

He also proposed two questions that relate to the neighbourhood.

What impact do we want in the neighborhood?

What stories do we want to share?

Duncan indicated that he was overwhelmed by the depth of care and understanding of TSP that the staff provide. He listed questions that relate to staffing and building upgrades.

What do we need in our staffing complement?

What do we set as intermediate goals for the building?

He then indicated the next steps of the committee members. They plan to document what has been done and verify these activities with the circles. They want to clarify what TSP wants to accomplish. They plan to report back by the end of June.

Sandy thanked Duncan and the other committee members for their work.

### **Board of Trustees Report**

Del Doucette explained that the Board of Trustees has always had a budget but it has not been presented at the AGM. To give the congregation a holistic financial overview the capital and the operational budgets have been included in the Annual Report 2008.

Walter Whiteley added that the present and future expenses are listed, e.g. need to upgrade the organ and to replace the boiler (see the Annual Report 2008 Pages 11 and 12). It was also mentioned that additional funds need to be raised if renovations to the building are to be undertaken.

There was a question posed regarding the priorities for capital expenses. Walter indicated that in most cases it was based on those items that are most urgent.

Sandy thanked Del for his report and also thanked Bill Fallis for agreeing to be the secretary at this meeting.

### **Motion to receive other reports**

Moved by B.J. Klassen/Jeanne Moffat that the meeting receive all of the reports contained in the Annual Report 2008 document as well as those reports appended to the agenda.

Carried.

Sandy asked for any questions related to the reports.

Peter Wyatt wanted to know how an estimate of \$33,750 could be indicated on the “bequest” line in the 2009 budget (See Annual Report 2008 Page 13). Walter Whiteley explained that there was an error in the printing of one of the column headings. This column header “2009” should be change to “2007”.

There was some discussion about the Bathurst Street United Church (BSUC) resolution, regarding a position on the Israeli -Palestine conflict that is being presented to presbytery. If it is passed at presbytery, it is to be presented at the next general council meeting. It was mentioned that there are many voices and opinions related to this matter and that the main desire of any resolution or statement should be to bear fruitful witness to this issue, as well as present helpful positions. Along with the BSUC resolution, there is a United for Peace petition that could be considered as another means to express one’s opinion. It was suggested that the United for Peace petition uses language that encourages working in solidarity and not to limit discussion.

It was mentioned that the focus on anti-racism policy within the next 5-year plan is an important one and a challenge that we need to undertake, and it should not get forgotten.

#### **Finance Report and the 2009 Budget**

Bob Fugere introduced the Financial Report and highlighted the items mentioned in the first paragraph of the Review of 2008 (Page 4 of the Annual Report 2009). He indicated that 2 tables were not included in the Annual Report 2008 document; the TSP Summary Page and the Trinity St Paul’s 2008 Actuals and 2009 Draft Budget Income Page. These two tables were appended to the Agenda 2009 document and distributed to those attending the meeting.

Moved by Bob Fugere/Duncan Holmes that the Engagement Report be accepted. Carried.

Moved by Bob Fugere/Del Doucette that Denis Paganelli, C.A. be retained as review accountant for the operating funds for 2009. Carried.

Moved by Bob Fugere/Paul Stott that Denis Paganelli, C.A. be retained as review accountant for the trustees fund for 2009. Carried

Bob indicated that we can celebrate the successful completion of the financial expectations of the last 5-year plan. Thanks go to Michael Cooke for his leadership and to all donors who met the 8% challenge during those years. Bob stated the ideas expressed in the fourth paragraph of Page 4 of the Annual Report 2008. He reminded us that the annual increase of 5% and not 8% was part of the 2008 fall appeal to reflect the present requirements of the 2009 budget.

In the budget for 2009, we are anticipating income from the congregation of \$272,400 and income from the building of \$415,000. He mentioned that we hope to increase the annual income from the building by \$100,000 by the end of the next 5 years. This increase is required if we want self-sustainability. He anticipates that the expenses for 2009 will be similar to 2008, with TSP members continuing to support the M & S Fund at a high rate (\$108,000 for 2009).

There was some discussion about the line item on Continuing Education and the concern that it reflects the accurate amounts for Continuing Education resources required by our pastoral staff.

Moved by Ella Taylor-Walsh/Gywn Griffith that the Board and the Trustees adjust the budget for 2009 to make the commitment for Continuing Education accurate. Carried.

Paula Nieuwstraten wondered why the budget figure for maintenance was kept low this year, as this figure was \$63,528 in 2007, and 74,732 in 2008. Bob explained that the base amount of \$50,000 has been set in past budgets, but expenses are made as required.

Motion Bob Fugere/Gywn Griffith that the 2009 Budget be accepted with 2 modifications;  
i) that there be a \$3,000 allocation for Continuing Education in that line item  
ii) that the treasurer meet with the Property and Management Committee to determine more fully the required budget for building maintenance. Carried.

Bob commented on the new reporting format, indicating that it is more transparent about building/expenses and provides a more complete picture of the finances of the church. He thanked Bob Savaria for his help in developing the consolidation report.

There were further comments on the suggestion to raise rents by \$100,000 per year and the concern that the building would need further renovations to permit such a rise in rents. Del Doucette mentioned that some renovations had been placed on hold until the Trading Places initiative was resolved. If the Trading places initiative is not going forward, then renovations could be undertaken that would justify the increase in the rental rates.

Bob Fugere thanked Paul Stott for serving as the assistant treasurer these past 5 years along with Walter Whitely. He also thanked John Bell and Jackie van't Voort for their support, particularly during Paul Stott's trips away, and Marilyn Whiteley and Avil Beckford for their work in organizing the Sunday collection.

### **Nominations Report**

Betsy Anderson, Chair of the Committee, outlined the changes or renewals in membership to the Church Board, the Board of Trustees and the Circles.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Jeanne Moffat that Terry Williams be appointed to the Church Board as a Member at Large. Carried.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Jeanne Moffat that Tom Hutchinson and Ray Whitehead be appointed to the Board of Trustees. Carried.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Del Doucette that Chieko Fukushima's resignation from the Board of Trustees be accepted. Carried.

Moved by Bob Fugere/Paul Stott that Betsy Anderson be appointed as Convenor of the Stewardship of Resources Circle. Carried.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Avil Beckford that Alex Horsky be appointed to the Worship and Faith Formation Circle. Carried.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Anne Sheppard that Sara Phipps be appointed to the Worship and Faith Formation Circle. Carried.

Moved by Christine Wong/Ella Taylor-Walsh that Anne Nikkel be appointed to the Ministry and Personnel Committee. Carried.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Gillian Graham that Carolyn Barber be appointed as Roll Secretary.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Barbara Lloyd that Shirley Farlinger be appointed to the Public Witness Circle.

There were a number of typing errors of names found within the report that were acknowledged.

### **3-Year Term for the Board of Trustees**

Del Doucette reminded us that members of the Board of Trustees have a 3-year term that is renewable. As there are trustees who are currently completing their 3-year terms, it is necessary to renew their appointment to this board at this meeting.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Jeanne Moffat that Walter Whiteley, Paul Bagnell, Merlyn Beeckmans and Jim Lewis be reappointed to the Trustees for a 3 year term.

Betsy proposed a motion that a term of three years renewable twice (9 years) be established for the Board of Trustees with the understanding that there is flexibility to extend the term if needed by the Board of Trustees and if the Trustee is willing.

There was some discussion both against and in favour of this motion. After some discussion the following motions were moved.

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Bob Fugere that Trustees' terms be for three years. Carried

Moved by Betsy Anderson/Dennis Grey that a term of three years renewable twice (9 years) be established for the Board of Trustees.

All in favor 20  
All opposed 16  
Carried.

Marion Kirkwood acknowledged the contributions of Esteban Lasso to the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

Bill Fallis acknowledged the work of Marg Porteous for the many years of faithful service that she provided to the important tasks related to membership accounts and Sunday collection.

Sandy then passed the meeting over to Duncan Holmes as the new Chair of the Church Board. He thanked Sandy for her supportive leadership. He also thanked Elaine for her support of Sandy.

Moved by Duncan Holmes/Anne Sheppard that the minutes of the March 2, 2008 be accepted.  
Carried.

Moved by Bob Fugere/Del Doucette that the meeting be adjourned.

## TSP Annual Meeting report of the Chair

I knew that becoming Board Chair would involve a learning curve. It has and still is a learning process. The support and flexibility of the Board members and the Congregation members has made the learning an enjoyable process. We do truly have a supportive forgiving community. I am particularly thankful for the Circle chairs who do a lot of work and coordination to keep the Circles working smoothly. I am also appreciative of the guidance and support from Hans and Vicki.

TSP functions as smoothly as it does in large part due to the people who work individually and as groups in the background on many different aspects of our life and provide the backbone for many of the ongoing functions. For example, Marilyn Whitely did a lot of work this year in the office and in initiating the work on our archives.

The Building Management subcommittee has worked in the background for years. In the last several years they have taken on added responsibility. They have shifted from meeting once a quarter to meeting almost once a month as the number of issues increases and get more complex.

The Pastoral Care team is known well by those who have had visits and cards from them. They work quietly and effectively in providing spiritual care to those in need in the Congregation.

The Sunday greeters, the Welcome table and the refreshments teams are always there - their quiet welcoming presence makes us feel cared for. We really notice them when they are absent and we realize how effortlessly they take on these tasks on our behalf.

A major focus for the Board has been working on the next 5-year plan that we will be presenting to you at this meeting. The previous 5-year plan put in place many key elements for the strengthening of the Congregation. In the next 5 years, we are proposing a 4-fold focus -

1. CFJA operationalized as a vibrant synergistic program and vision
2. Growing Vibrant Diverse Congregation having a commitment and a significant impact on local, national Social Justice issues
3. Growth, Diversification and Engagement of the Congregation on the journey of faith
4. Effectively operated facility in accordance with best practices that will provide a home for CFJA

The fourth focus is the one which will stretch us the most. It is foundational to allowing us to use this building as a base and a vehicle for our mission over the next decades. Each of the others come more naturally to us as they are areas we have already been working on. They each will stretch us as we define new ways in which we can strengthen our vision and mission as the Center for Faith Justice and the Arts. I look forward to working with you on this plan.

I want to end this report by again acknowledging the energy of the members of the Congregation who show up whenever a need is expressed. Like the group that emerged during the 5-year planning to create a support for those who are actively doing our mission in their daily work. Or the communications team and the groups who formed around Guantanamo Bay and War Resisters. The group who worked on behalf of the Board doing a review of staffing and administration of the building; and those who helped us prepare for H1N1. The list goes on. I thank each of you who have been engaged in one way or another. You each help make our job as a board rewarding and easier to do.

I encourage those who have not been engaged to help out in a way that you are most comfortable with. The efforts of each person help strengthen this community we are all part of.

A final thank you to each of the Board members for all their work this year. You have been a joy to work with. Special thanks to Sara Stratton, who resigned from the Board during the year, for her service. She has brought passion and insight to the Board as well as to her other engagements with TSP.

Duncan Holmes, Board Chair.

January 31, 2010

### **Nominating Report to the Annual Meeting of Trinity-St. Paul's Church**

The Nominating Committee is a Task Group of the Board whose mandate is to work with the Board Chair and Ministers to ensure that a culture of discernment is nurtured at Trinity-St. Paul's and that the nominating needs of the congregation are met. This year the committee was chaired by Susan Craig, assisted by Cathy Watson, Diana Cafazzo and Sandy Fishleigh, the Board's past chair.

Members of Trinity-St. Paul's are engaged in many ways in their life together and working within the governance structure is but one expression of our ministry as the whole people of God. We are very thankful for the contribution of those whose terms are ending at this meeting or who have needed to resign.

Board Representative for the Trustees: Paul Bagnell

Board Representative for the Public Witness Circle: Sheila Browne

Members at Large to the Board: Ella Taylor-Walsh, Robin Craig, Marilyn Legge, Sara Stratton

Presbytery Representative Gordon McNeill

Members of the Nurturing Circle Carolyn Barber, Lynne Stott, Mary Simpson

Worship and Faith Formation Circle: Anne Sheppard - Circle Chair, Gwyn Griffith, Ella Taylor Walsh

Public Witness Circle Lynn Jondreville, Marion Pope, Sheila Browne, Ted Reeve

Trustees Paul Bagnell

The list below represents the governance structure of the congregation for the next year. It is through this structure that much of the work of the church is accomplished. We are very pleased that many new people have been willing to come forward to offer their time and talent in this way. It has also been helpful that many have been willing and able to renew their terms, adding continuity to our work.

We are still in the process of recruiting as this Report goes to press. Verbal additions will be presented to the congregation when necessary.

The Board of the congregation is made up of two representatives from each of the four circles, a representative of the Ministry and Personnel Committee and Board of Trustees, the congregation's representative to the Toronto South Presbytery, the chair, Past chair or Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as 6-8 Members-at-Large.

**Proposed Membership of the church Board, February 28, 2010**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Duncan Holmes</b>
Vice Chair	Vacant
Past Chair	Sandy Fishleigh
Secretary	Christine Wong
Trustees Representative	vacant
Treasurer	Bob Fugere
Stewardship of Resources	Betsy Anderson
Stewardship of Resources	Chris Gort
Nurturing Community & Discipleship	Alex Horsky
Nurturing Community & Discipleship	vacant
Public Witness	Rhea Whitehead
Public Witness	vacant
Worship and Faith Formation	vacant
Worship and Faith Formation	vacant
Ministry and Personnel	Derek McKee/Marion Kirkwood
Member-at-large	Terry Williams
Member-at-large	Christe Okonkwo McKenzie
Member-at-large	Lynn Gaetz
Member-at-large	Lynne Brennan
Member-at-large	Omega Bula
Member-at-large	vacant
Member-at-large	vacant
Member-at-large	vacant
Presbytery Rep	Paul Stott
Pastoral Staff	Vicki Obedkoff      Hans Van Nie

**Proposed Membership of the Board of Trustees February 28, 2010**

**Delmar Doucette (Chair)**

Walter Whiteley  
 Brad Limpert  
 Ray Whitehead  
 Merlyn Beeckmans  
 Bob Fugere  
 Lorna Niebergal  
 Jim Lewis  
 Chris Gort  
 Tom Hutchinson  
 Hans van Nie - Pastoral Staff

Proposed Membership of the Ministry and Personnel Committee February 28, 2010

**Lois Kunkel (Chair)**

Gail Allan  
Ann Nikkel  
Sumiko Jin  
Marion Kirkwood  
Derek McKee  
Kathleen Bailey  
Ella Taylor-Walsh

**Task Groups of the Board**

**Centre for Faith Justice and the Arts Implementation Team**

**Lyn Gaetz (Chair)**

Jenni Hayman  
Terry Williams  
David Fallis  
Brad Ratzlaff (ex-officio)  
Vicki Obedkoff (ex-officio)

**Communications Team**

Tim McLay  
Denis Grey  
Sarah Landry

**Proposed Membership of the Circles, February 28, 2010**

**Public Witness Circle**

Rhea Whitehead (Chair)  
Jeff Leuschner  
Colin Phillips  
Elda Thomas  
Sheryl Johnson  
Paul York  
Armine Yelnizyan  
Shirley Farlinger  
James Holzbauer

**Nurturing Community & Discipleship Circle**

**Alex Horsky (Chair)**

Derek Strachan  
Betty Stone  
Allison Savaria  
Pat Ashwin  
Linda Dawn Pettigrew

**Worship and Faith Formation Circle**

**Bill Fallis (Convenor)**

Carol Allain  
Sarah Phipps  
Christie Neufeldt  
Cathy Watson  
Vivi Santosa  
Patty Zuver (Children's Church)  
Shannon Neufeldt (Youth Coordinator)  
Paul Stott (Adults)

**Stewardship of Resources**

**Betsy Anderson (Chair)**

Bob Fugere

Moira Hutchinson

Jane Wood

Carol Ann Marshall

Chris Gort

Keeping track of everyone for the Nominating Report can be a challenge. Please inform me of any errors or omissions so that they can be corrected.

Thank you to all who serve the church in our circles, committees and Boards.

Thank you to all who help keep this building a welcoming place and in good working order.

Thank you to all who carry out the ministry and mission of this congregation in many ways throughout the week, both in this building and beyond.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Craig

**Nominating Motions for the Annual General Meeting February 28, 2010**

That Omega Bula and Mary Simpson be appointed to the Board as Members at large.

That Bill Fallis be appointed as convenor of the Worship and Faith Formation Circle.

That Linda Dawn Pettigrew be appointed to the Nurturing Community & Discipleship Circle.

That Christie Neufeldt, Cathy Watson and Vivi Santosa be appointed to the Worship and Faith Formation Circle.

That Sheryl Johnson and Paul York be appointed to the Public Witness Circle.

That Kathleen Bailey and Ella Taylor-Walsh be appointed to the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **Responsibilities**

The Board of Trustees holds the property of the congregation in trust for its use and benefit. During 2009, the following persons carried out the responsibilities that are entailed with that trust: Paul Bagnell, Merlyn Beeckmans (secretary), Delmar Doucette (chair), Bob Fugere, Tom Hutchinson, Jim Lewis, Brad Limpert, Lorna Niebergall, Hans van Nie (ex officio), Ray Whitehead and Walter Whiteley (treasurer).

### **Meetings**

The trustees at TSP have traditionally met three times per year. We have now increased this to four regular meetings per year, with additional ad hoc meetings if and when they are required. We also keep in regular contact through e-mail communications.

### **Appreciation for Service as a Trustee**

Paul Bagnell has decided not to renew his membership as a trustee. His fellow trustees appreciate their thanks to him for his work with our group. We also thank him for agreeing to continue his important work on the Investment Sub-Committee.

### **Current Circumstances**

Last year, the following statement was made in the Trustee's Report on major changes during 2008: "the investments held by TSP diminished due to the downturn in the financial markets." Due to a rebound in the financial markets, much of the what was lost in 2008 was regained in 2009. This was set off, however, by necessary expenditures on the building. In the result, the value of our investments at the end of 2009 was only slightly higher now than it was at the end of 2008. Details on the value of the investments are set out in the Report of the Investment Sub-Committee.

### **Completion of an Investment Commitment**

Five years ago at the annual congregational meeting, we pledged to invest \$20,000, at the rate of \$4,000 per year, with Oikocredit, a micro-lending organization. The investment was part of our commitment to participate in mission based investment - our belief that some of our investments should be directly connected to the mission of TSP. In 2009, we made the last of the annual investments, fulfilling our commitment. More information on this investment can be found in the Report of the Investment Sub-Committee.

### **Major Expenditures During 2009**

The following amounts were spent on the major expenditures incurred in 2009:

- investment fees (paid to the United Church of Canada Foundation to manage our investments) - \$7,715
- cupola glass (to complete the congregation's ten-year commitment to clean and repair this decorative feature of the church) - \$13,506
- cupola engineering (to ensure the ongoing safety of the cupola) - \$14,186
- new access ramp (to keep the church wheelchair accessible) - \$88,921
- washroom improvements (to upgrade the ground floor washrooms) - \$57,933
- roofing (to repair a section of the roof that was leaking) - \$10,500

There were also transfers to the general operating account of the congregation, to assist with non-building expenses, in a total amount of \$38,000.

**Notable Events**

Ruth Kells, a long-time member of our congregation, passed away in 2006. She directed that TSP receive \$66,000 from her estate after her sister, Lois Cavers of Leamington, had enjoyed a life interest in it. Through that interest, Mrs. Cavers was to receive income from the \$66,000 for the rest of her life. In the fall of 2009, Mrs. Cavers decided that she would like to relinquish her life interest. As a result, the \$66,000 was received by TSP much earlier than expected. The trustees wrote to Mrs. Cavers to express the congregation's thanks for this very generous gift.

TSP also received two government grants in 2009. The City of Toronto Heritage fund provided \$32,500 for the consulting and remedial work on the cupola. The Ontario Trillium Fund provided a grant of \$98,200 to offset the costs of roofing, washroom improvements, floor refinishing and the new ramp. Without these generous grants, TSP would have been hard pressed to undertake all of this important work. We are most appreciative for this substantial support. We are also very thankful to Bob Fugere, who spearheaded our funding applications.

**Looking Forward**

The trustees are actively engaged with the Board and others at TSP to find the best ways to improve and use the congregational assets so that we can be as self-sufficient as possible. We will continue to be engaged in this process as the new five-year plan is developed.

Del Doucette

Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, Toronto  
Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

**Statement of Financial Position**

(Unaudited Draft) Prepared by our Account Denis Paganelli, who is also doing the engagement Review

Submitted by Walter Whiteley, Treasurer Board of Trustees Account.

**December 31, 2009**

	2009	2008
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 63,155	\$ 30,770
Amounts receivable	4,596	-
	<u>67,751</u>	<u>30,770</u>
Investments (note 4)	870,243	849,733
	<u>\$ 937,994</u>	<u>\$ 880,503</u>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accrued liabilities	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100
Holdbacks payable	14,675	-
	<u>18,775</u>	<u>4,100</u>
Fund Balances		
Unrestricted Endowment Fund	454,219	411,403
Restricted TSP/Tafelmusik Reserve Fund	15,000	15,000
Restricted Heritage Fund	450,000	450,000
	<u>919,219</u>	<u>876,403</u>
	<u>\$ 937,994</u>	<u>\$ 880,503</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# TRINITY-ST.PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO

Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances (Unaudited)

Year ended December 31, 2009

	2009		2008	
	Endowment Fund	TSP/Tafelmusik and Heritage Funds	Total	Total
<b>Revenue</b>				
Donations and bequests	\$ 65,849	\$ –	\$ 65,849	\$ 10,000
Investment income (note 5)	21,347	–	21,347	36,934
Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant	98,200	–	98,200	–
Toronto Heritage Grant	32,500	–	32,500	–
GST rebate	14,493	–	14,493	–
	232,389	–	232,389	46,934
<b>Expense</b>				
Building repairs and maintenance	224,739	–	224,739	42,763
Accounting fees	1,793	–	1,793	2,205
Bank charges	55	–	55	143
Consulting fees - TSP/Tafelmusik project	–	–	–	242
Investment fees	7,578	–	7,578	9,084
	234,165	–	234,165	54,437
<b>Net expense for the year</b>	<b>(1,776)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(1,776)</b>	<b>(7,503)</b>
<b>Other items:</b>				
Transfers from (to) Trinity-St. Paul's United Church				
General Operating Fund	(38,000)	–	(38,000)	–
	(38,000)	–	(38,000)	–
<b>Net increase (decrease) for the year</b>	<b>(39,776)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(39,776)</b>	<b>(7,503)</b>
Fund balances, beginning of year	411,403	465,000	876,403	1,039,883
Unrealized gain (loss) on value of held-for-trading investments	82,592	–	82,592	(155,977)
<b>Fund balances, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 454,219</b>	<b>\$ 465,000</b>	<b>\$ 919,219</b>	<b>\$ 876,403</b>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# TRINITY-ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO

Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

## Statement of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

Year ended December 31, 2009

	2009	2008
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities		
Net revenue (expense) for the year	\$ (1,776)	\$ (7,503)
Adjustments:		
Gain (loss) on disposal of investments	(3,172)	1,676
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	10,079	(29,703)
	5,131	(35,530)
Investing activities		
Proceeds from redemption of investments	90,000	90,000
Financing activities		
Transfer to Trinity-St. Paul's United Church General Operating Fund	(38,000)	–
Purchase of First OikoCredit Canada Bonds	(8,000)	–
Purchase of Fiera YMG Balanced Pooled Fund	(16,746)	(36,962)
	(62,746)	(36,962)
Increase in cash during the year	32,385	17,508
Cash, beginning of year	30,770	13,262
Cash, end of year	\$ 63,155	\$ 30,770

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# TRINITY-ST.PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO

Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

## Notes to Financial Statements - page 1 (Unaudited)

December 31, 2009

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### 1. Purpose of the Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

The funds administered by the Board of Trustees ("the Board") are used to maintain the Trinity-St. Paul's United Church building and for other purposes as determined by the Official Board. The Church is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

### 2. Significant accounting policies

#### (a) Contributions

The Board follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions which include donations, bequests and grants.

Contributions externally restricted for specific purposes are recognized as revenue of the particular fund to which they relate in the period in which they are received.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the Endowment Fund in the year they are received.

#### (b) Investments

Investments include held-for-trading and held-to-maturity investments. The held-for-trading investments include pooled funds and other investments with no quoted market price. The held-to-maturity investments include fixed income and related securities that the Board has the positive intent and ability to hold the securities until maturity.

Unrealized holding gains and losses of held-for-trading investments are recognized as an increase or reduction of fund balances.

The following methods were used to estimate the fair value of the financial instruments at the statement of position date:

Held-for-trading investments in pooled funds - quoted market price.  
Held-for-trading investments in other investments - recorded at cost.

#### (c) Investment income

Investment income is reported on an accrual basis and is allocated to the unrestricted Endowment Fund.

# TRINITY-ST.PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO

Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

## Notes to Financial Statements - page 2 (Unaudited)

December 31, 2009

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### 2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (d) Capital assets

Capital assets are expensed in the year of purchase.

The major capital asset held by the Board is the Church's real property. The property is not recorded in the accounts because the fair value is not reasonably determinable.

The church is a designated historical site protected by a municipal bylaw since 1980 under the Ontario Heritage Act for "its historic, architectural value and interest". Under this bylaw the owners may not without written approval of the municipality undertake or permit demolition, construction, alteration, remodelling, or another thing or act which would materially affect the features of the appearance or construction of the building as set out in the reasons for identification. This bylaw is further reinforced by an easement (1997) identifying a variety of features including the stained glass skylight, sanctuary, trusses, gallery, light fixtures, towers, large entry doors, stonework, windows, fences, signage etc.. This easement is registered against title and conveyed with the property upon sale. Applications to city council can be made to repeal this bylaw in consultation with community councils (if any), and if rejected appealed to a review board. The owner, heirs, and successors retain the right to continue the use of the property for all purposes not inconsistent with easement restrictions.

### 3. Funds administered by the Board

#### (a) Endowment Fund

This Fund records unrestricted contributions and investment income earned thereon and is used for general church purposes. It also records restricted contributions that have not been set up in a separate fund.

#### (b) Heritage Fund

This Fund was established from mortgages resulting from the sale of the Avenue Road Church property. Use of the capital of the fund is restricted under a mutual agreement between the Official Board and the Toronto South Presbytery of The United Church of Canada. Use of the Investment income earned is designated from time to time by the Official Board.

#### (c) TSP/Tafelmusik Reserve Fund

This Fund was established from a donation to be used for construction under the joint project.

# TRINITY-ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, TORONTO

Funds administered by the Board of Trustees

Notes to Financial Statements - page 3

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2009

## 4. Investments

Quantity	Investment	Fair Value 2009	Fair Value 2008
82,490.38	Fiera YMG Balanced Pooled Fund	\$ 798,243	\$ 785,733
\$4,000	First Oikocredit Canada bond due January, 1, 2011	4,000	4,000
\$4,000	First Oikocredit Canada bond due January, 1, 2012	4,000	4,000
\$4,000	First Oikocredit Canada bond due January, 1, 2013	4,000	4,000
\$4,000	First Oikocredit Canada bond due July, 1, 2014	4,000	nil
\$4,000	First Oikocredit Canada bond due January, 1, 2015	4,000	nil
5,000	Social Mortgage Fund of CAIC	50,000	50,000
8	Ecumenical Development Society of Canada	2,000	2,000
10,000	Macquarie Power & Infrastructure Income Fund		
	Contingency Value Receipts	nil	nil
		\$ 870,243	\$ 849,733

During the year 10,033 (2008 - 8,767) units of the Fiera YMG Balanced Pool Fund were cashed in for proceeds of 90,000 (2008 - \$90,000) resulting in a gain on disposal of investments of \$3,172 (2008 - loss of \$1,676).

## 5. Investment Income

Investment income consists of:

	2009	2008
Investment income		
Interest - First Oikocredit bonds	\$ 210	\$ -
Fiera YMG Balanced Pooled Fund	16,746	36,962
Income from Social Mortgage Fund of CAIC	1,219	1,648
Gain (loss) on disposal of investments (note 4)	3,172	(1,676)
	\$ 21,347	\$ 36,934

## 6. First Oikocredit Canada Bond Maturity Dates

The Board holds five \$4,000 First Oikocredit Canada Bonds maturing on January 1, 2011, 2012 and 2013, 2015, and July 1, 2014 and the maturity of the bonds will be automatically extended for a successive additional period of 5 years unless the written notice is given by the Board not less than 60 days nor more than 6 months prior to the maturity dates.

## Annual Report of the Sub-Committee on Investment, Board of Trustees, 2009

**Meetings:** During the calendar year 2009, the Sub-Committee on Investment met three times and also carried out business by email.

**Mission-Based Investment:** The fund manager that manages the investment fund where most of TSP's funds are held - Fiera Capital - is instructed by the United Church of Canada Foundation to measure its investment activities against the socially responsible investing policy of the United Church of Canada. The fund is currently 99.5% compliant with that policy.

The sub-committee closely monitors the holdings of the fund and there are some instances of equity investments that seem at odds with the positions adopted by the socially responsible investing community in Canada. We have relayed our views, and will continue to do so, to the United Church of Canada Foundation.

**Portfolio:** The vast majority of Trinity - St. Paul's invested funds is held in the Fiera Capital Balanced Pooled Fund, which is managed by Fiera Capital. Our investment in the fund is administered through the United Church of Canada Foundation.

As of December 31, 2009, the market value of our investments was \$798,243. Specifically, we held 82,490 units in the Fiera Capital Balanced Pooled Fund. Each unit was worth \$9.68 at the close of business on December 31, 2009.

The Balanced Pooled Fund generated income of \$16,747 for TSP during 2009. This income came from capital gains achieved through the fund manager's sale of stocks and bonds, and from dividends and interest paid on stocks and bonds held in the fund. We received this income on the final day of 2009 in the form of 1,730 new fund units, valued at \$9.68 each. Our year-end balance of \$798,243 included this income.

At the end of the prior year, on December 31, 2008, the market value of our holdings in the fund stood at \$785,733. Specifically, we held 90,793 units in the fund on that date, and each unit was worth \$8.65.

During 2009, then, the value of our invested funds rose by \$12,510, or 1.6%. Two factors lie behind this change in value.

First, 2009 was a year in which stock markets rebounded strongly (but not completely) from the very deep losses of 2008. During the year, the Balanced Pooled Fund held at least 45% of its assets in equities and, as such, posted strong gains in value during each of the four quarters of 2009. The fund gained 14.3% during the year. This amounted to an increase of about \$111,800 in the value of TSP's holdings.

Second, however, this gain was largely offset by withdrawals made by the TSP Board of Trustees to cover expenses for which the Trustees are responsible. A total of \$90,000 was withdrawn during 2009, bringing the net gain in the value of our invested funds down to \$12,510, or 1.6%.

**Fund Manager's Performance:** The 14.3% total 2009 portfolio return of the Balanced Pooled Fund underperformed the benchmark used by the fund manager to gauge its own performance. The benchmark (a composite of five specific stock or bond indexes) gained

15.9% during 2009, meaning the fund manager (Fiera Capital) under-performed the benchmark by 1.6%.

The fund manager has underperformed the benchmark for most of the period that TSP has been invested in the fund (we became an investor in late 2006), and this fact is a regular topic of discussion among members of the sub-committee.

We would like to see the return of the Balanced Pooled Fund exceed the benchmark by 1.0% or more, since we pay a fee of 1.0% of our invested assets to the United Church of Canada Foundation.

These fees, paid quarterly, totalled \$7,715 in 2009. Of every dollar paid in these fees, 80 cents goes to the United Church of Canada's Seeds of Hope grant program.

More information on the United Church of Canada Foundation is available at: [www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca](http://www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca)

At the end of 2009, the Balanced Pooled Fund divided its assets in the following proportions:

- Cash & Money Market Securities: 19.9%
- Canadian Bonds: 32.5%
- Canadian Equities: 21.7%
- Foreign Equities: 25.9%

**Other investments:** TSP also held investments totalling \$72,000 in securities offered by two organizations devoted to social justice.

One is the Canadian Alternative Investment Co-operative (CAIC). More information on CAIC is available at: [www.caic.ca](http://www.caic.ca)

We have \$50,000 invested in CAIC's social mortgage fund. This sum did not change during 2009. The investment paid us \$1,219 in interest during 2009, or a yield of 2.4%.

The other is First Oikocredit Canada, a micro-lending organization. More information on First Oikocredit Canada is available at: [www.oikocredit.org](http://www.oikocredit.org)

During 2009, we bought two Oikocredit Series C bonds for \$4,000 each. (The first of these purchases was supposed to have been made late in 2008 but, because of an oversight on our part, was not made until January of 2009.) Each of these two bonds pays 1.75% interest for a 5-year term.

These purchases fulfilled a pledge made by the TSP congregation five years ago to invest \$4,000 a year in Oikocredit bonds for five consecutive years.

We now hold a total of \$20,000 in five \$4,000 Oikocredit C Series bonds, dated 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 (July) and 2009 (December).

We received \$210 in interest from Oikocredit during 2009.

We also hold 8 shares in Oikocredit worth \$2,000. These shares do not pay interest, but allow us to cast votes.

**Membership of Sub-Committee:** The Sub-Committee's membership in 2009 included Fred Wieler, Jim Lewis, Walter Whiteley, Paul Bagnell and Stephanie Gates. Stephanie left the sub-committee in the summer of 2009, as she and her family moved to Boston.

**For more information:** The sub-committee welcomes questions from the congregation. Please contact Paul Bagnell if you wish more information on TSP's investments.

Paul Bagnell  
Chair, Sub-Committee on Investment, TSP Board of Trustees  
paul.bagnell@sympatico.ca  
January 31, 2010

## Treasurer's Report

Bob Fugere, TSP Treasurer

2009 will be known as the year of the Big Reno! While the congregation managed to meet its budgeted contributions in this transitional year between Five-Year Plans, our home church building came in for some major renovations. From the re-shingling of a section of the roof to the replacement of the main floor washrooms and the re-flooring and re-painting of the Studio to the re-building of the whole entryway and ramp, this was a year of renovations. I hope you agree with me that the results have really perked up the rather dowdy main floor.

Most of these capital costs were carried by our Trustee fund, assisted greatly by two major grants from Toronto Heritage Fund (\$32,500) and the Ontario Trillium Foundation (\$98,200), but the planning, supervising and cleanup were done by our church building staff, especially Jackie van't Voort, our Building Supervisor, and some helping hands from the Building Management Sub-Committee and other congregational volunteers.

In my 2008 report, I had noted that it was these rising building expenses that were leading our overall finances into growing deficits. That path was of course made slipperier by the 2007-08 drooping stock market. Over the past year, a joint Task Force struck by the Stewardship Circle and the Trustees has tried to analyze our situation and propose creative ways to raise the capital we might need over the next Five-Year Plan. Our consultants tell us we need annually \$60 - 80,000 for building maintenance and \$100,000 for capital expenses. That group has reviewed rental rates and raised them for 2010; with the arrival of the Annex Montessori School in March we have increased daytime use of the downstairs area; we are exploring government and foundation funding for appropriate projects. Our recommendations are part of the TSP Five-Year Plan to be approved by the congregation.

Last year we presented the full financial picture of TSP in a consolidated format. This new presentation highlights the finances of the Building by bringing together from the Church budget and the Trustees' budget all items referring to Building Income and Expenses. Therefore in addition to the more detailed breakdown of income and expenditures of last year's Operational Income and Expenses (with the specific 2009 Budget for congregational approval), we again include a Consolidated TSP Report for 2000 as well as a Consolidated Budget for 2010, showing both the Operational side and the Trustees' capital situation together.

### Review of 2009 [ refer to following pages]

Income: Both regular congregational givings and the Fall Appeal came in just on budget. The congregation responded generously to the request for a 5 % increase with \$272,843. Our contributions to Mission & Service reached \$13,000 more than our planned \$108,000 target and Outreach was \$1,348 more than targeted. Even with slightly fewer givers, we held our own as a congregation. Congratulations!

Our major problem came with building income, with Casual Rentals coming in \$54,000 under its \$315,000 budget, offset somewhat by a \$21,000 surplus in Permanent Rental income (\$121,032). **This \$33,000 net deficit represents the bulk of our overall deficit and requires immediate attention for 2010.**

Expenses: On the congregation side, the \$14,000 over-run on pastoral staff (mainly from \$8,000 unforeseen pension and benefits) was off-set by a \$12,000 decline in Circle and Committee expenses.

On the Building side, most sectors came in on budget. The over-runs in Maintenance staffing (by \$17,000) and an unforeseen Computer overhaul (\$8,000) were somewhat off-set by a \$11,000 savings in the Maintenance budget. Overall both the congregation and the staff have been quite responsible about spending.

\* \* \*

## **2010 Budget**

This budget is still transitional, since the mission and financial implications of the next Five Year Plan have not yet entirely been defined. We construct the budget, then, primarily from the actual income and expenses of 2009, using the established policies for personnel, space use, etc. This year we will also present a Consolidated Budget for 2010 to demonstrate both the Operational and the Trustees' contributions more completely. On the Operational side, we are continuing to maintain the goal of sustainability and we will be trying to work toward building sustainability over the coming years.

### Income:

The pledges we received during the Season for Commitment form the basis for the Congregation target of \$277,500. The Building income target aims at \$25,000 more than last year's income, a conservative figure since the Annex Montessori School will start paying up to \$40,000 of rent in March 2010. The M & S target (\$110,000) responds to the increased pledges you made in November, keeping us as one of the highest contributors on a per capita basis in the United Church.

### Expenses:

Most of the 2009 expenses are close to 2008 expenses. Pension costs should level out or drop. Gas and Hydro should remain firm and Circle budgets have been reduced. Maintenance may go over budget. We may need to refurbish other spaces to make them more rentable. We must try hard to keep Capital expenses within the \$90,000 budget. We are projecting a \$38,090 deficit on the Operational side, which stretches our definition of sustainable.

## **Recognitions**

2009 has been a very active year for finances at TSP. Avil Beckford and Marilyn Whiteley's group of Sunday collection counters keep track of your generous givings.

Jackie van't Voort and John Bell have been most supportive, especially during those challenging summer construction months. Bob Simpson has taken over Assistant Treasurer (responsible for expenses) from Paul Stott in May (Paul continued handling payroll).

Welcome aboard, Bob the Lesser (self-proclaimed)! Elaine Whittaker, our accountant, has always responded graciously to requests for extra reports.

The broader support base of the Stewardship Circle, the Trustees, and the Building Maintenance SubCommittee regularly deal with the structural issues most congregational members do not see. To all of these individuals -and to the congregation that always digs deeper to provide support- I offer my heartfelt gratitude and ask for your continued assistance during the challenging year ahead.

Trinity-St. Pauls  
**SUMMARY PAGE**

Summary.p.1

	2007 Actuals	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	2010 Draft Budget
<b>Summary Information</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Congregation (1)	278,367	294,847	273,121	272,400	277,500
Trustee Transfer			38,000	136,000	90,000
Building	370,054	385,317	382,514	415,000	410,000
<b>Total Income</b>	648,421	680,164	693,635	823,400	777,500
<b>Expenses</b>					
Cong.Salaries/Benefits	200,003	204,212	240,090	227,895	254,560
Circles / Committees	39,189	38,597	27,233	44,000	25,600
TSP Contributions	12,026	9,713	8,996	15,650	12,900
General Administration	27,886	27,670	39,875	30,200	26,100
Building Salaries & Benefits	238,914	250,713	276,437	262,900	271,930
Building Maintenance	136,218	151,160	131,912	142,800	134,500
Capital Investments			214,480	136,000	90,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	654,237	682,265	939,023	859,445	815,590
<b>Net Income (Deficit)</b>	-5,816	-2,101	<b>-\$245,388</b>	<b>-36,045</b>	-38,090
<b>Trustees Income (2)</b>	71,043	50,449	322,397	34,000	15,000
<b>Trust Expenses/Transfer (3)</b>	184,334	85,974	75,525	12,000	12,000
<b>Transfer to Building(net)</b>	-25,000	0	214,480	136,000	90,000
<b>Overall Deficit</b>	-159,383	-35,525	32,392	-114,000	-63,000
Special Appeals Paid	138,823	141,128	155,818	140,000	140,000
Designated Income	134,430	137,354	151,690	140,000	140,000
<b>Change Reserved Funds (4)</b>	-4,393	-3,774	-4,128	0	0
<b>Net congregation</b>	27,149	42,325	-3,198	<b>-11,645</b>	-12,760
<b>Net Building</b>	-5,078	-44,426	-280,189	<b>-168,900</b>	-22,530
<b>Net Trustees Account</b>	-159,383	-35,525	32,392	<b>22,000</b>	-63,000

**Comparisons over time, and other Changes in Planning:**

A basic experience in these budgets: The actuals give lower deficits than the budget. This year, the projected expenses, overall, come closer to the budget.

- (1) Local donations have levelled off. Changes in membership mainly cause this.
- (2) Includes \$130,700 from Heritage & Trillium,\$65,850 from bequest, \$90,000 from FIERA.
- (3) Includes \$38,000 to Operating,\$24,918 investment purchases,\$9,607operating expenses
- (4) These funds flow through to designated programs, or to reserved funds, not in our local budget. They continue to increase

**ISSUES:**

**Major drop in Casual Rents**

Major building expenses are looming for next five years, potentially reducing the trust.

**Trinity Saint Pauls 2009 Actuals and 2010 Budget**  
**INCOME PAGE**

Income.p.1

	2,007	2,008	2009	2009	2010
<b>Income</b>	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
<b>Congregation</b>					
Offering-Local (1)	231,776	239,831	230,175	230,000	<b>235,000</b>
Fall Appeal	43,500	54,539	41,625	42,000	<b>42,000</b>
Miscellaneous	3,091	477	1,043	400	<b>500</b>
<b>Total Congregation -</b>	<b>278,367</b>	<b>294,847</b>	<b>272,843</b>	<b>272,400</b>	<b>277,500</b>
Trustee Transfer			38,000	136,000	<b>90,000</b>
<b>Building Space Use (%)</b>	<b>370,054</b>	<b>385,317</b>	<b>382,514</b>	<b>415,000</b>	<b>410,000</b>
<b>Total Undesignated</b>	<b>648,421</b>	<b>680,164</b>	<b>693,357</b>	<b>823,400</b>	<b>777,500</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Offerings-M&S (3)	109,904	111,528	121,068	108,000	<b>110,000</b>
Special Donations (4)	10,045	8,228	14,819	10,000	<b>10,000</b>
Outreach+Emerg. (5)	8,981	10,768	9,348	8,000	<b>8,000</b>
Alison Beckett Fund (6)	5,500	5,500	5,535	5,000	<b>5,000</b>
Refugee Funds	-	1,330	1,200	4,000	<b>4,000</b>
<b>Restricted Income</b>	<b>134,430</b>	<b>137,354</b>	<b>151,970</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>137,000</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>782,851</b>	<b>817,518</b>	<b>845,327</b>	<b>958,400</b>	<b>937,500</b>

(1) The projection for local offerings is based on 2 year drop in pledges.

(3) UCC National requested a 1.2% increase.

Whenever donations exceed the pledge, all donated funds are sent on

(4) Designated donations are passed on to the designated funds.

(5) \$8000 is pledged by the congregation. Monthly collections go to this.

(6) We have a five year pledge for an Alison Beckett Memorial Fund .

TSP 2009 Actuals and 2010 Budget

Expenses.1

Expenses	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Draft Budget
<b>Congregation</b>					
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>					
Ministers	87,953	75,815	95,516	\$ 95,520	98,000
Ministers Allowance	29,254	47,688	53,869	\$ 51,050	50,000
Organist and Choir Director	38,007	37,520	39,648	\$ 39,650	40,560
Continuing Education(1)	327	0	1,797	\$ 1,000	3,500
Soloists - four	14,299	13,955	15,056	\$ 14,000	14,000
Contracts (2)					14,000
Pension & Benefits	30,162	29,234	34,204	\$ 26,675	34,500
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	200,003	204,212	240,090	\$ 227,895	254,560
<b>Committees-Circles</b>					
Circle Public Witness (MAS)	2,330	1,450	1,592	\$ 2,000	1,800
Circle Nurturing Community (Diversity & Pastoral)	2,859	2,129	1,980	\$ 4,000	3,000
Circle Worship and Faith Formation (CD and Music) [3]	24,240	23,362	21,044	\$ 25,000	13,000
Circle Stewardship (Stewardship and Giving)	579	962	266	\$ 1,000	800
Committee-Ministry & Personnel	113	4,060	1,041	\$ 1,500	1,000
Committee-Official Board	8,544	4,297	1,084	\$ 3,500	2,000
Committee CFJA	391	0	227	\$ 3,000	2,000
Special Initiatives (4)	64	2,337		\$ 4,000	2,000
<b>Total Committee Expenses</b>	39,189	38,597	27,233	\$ 44,000	25,600
Observer Subscriptions	1,986	2,118	2,254	\$ 2,450	2,400
Presbytery and Conference	7,540	7,595	6,742	\$ 8,200	8,500
<b>Congregational Expenses</b>	12,026	9,713	8,996	\$ 15,650	10,900
<b>Total Congregational Operatic</b>	251,218	252,522	276,319	\$ 287,545	291,060
<b>General Administration</b>					
Annual Review	1,699	1,717	3,875	\$ 1,900	2,000
Bank Charges	876	692	1,153	\$ 1,000	1,000
Computer	7,690	8,180	16,833	\$ 8,000	8,000
Bookkeeping & PayRoll	4,198	4,542	3,917	\$ 6,000	4,000
Office Expenses	5,939	5,774	4,256	\$ 4,600	4,000
Printing and Photocopying	376	320	742	\$ 1,000	500
Postage	1,376	1,002	1,103	\$ 1,200	1,100
Telephones	5,732	5,420	6,411	\$ 6,000	5,000
General Expenses	0	23	1,585	\$ 500	500
<b>Total General &amp; Administration</b>	27,886	27,670	39,875	\$ 30,200	26,100

(1) This includes 2 Pastoral staff & Choir director

(2) Includes \$10,000 for Church School/Nursery & \$4000 for Youth on Bloor

(3) WAFF Budget drops Church School/Nursery & Youth on Bloor

(4) This is the budget for short term, new initiatives

**2009 Budget**

	07 Actuals	08 Actuals	09 Actuals	09 Budget	10 Budget
<b>Building Operation</b>					
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>					
Office Co-ordinator	36,903	34,248	37,383	\$ 37,400	<b>39,400</b>
Building Co-ordinator	49,264	48,197	51,062	\$ 51,100	<b>52,300</b>
Maintenance/ Security Staff	120,498	127,740	145,575	\$ 127,800	<b>135,000</b>
Staff Pensions & Benefits(6)	32,248	40,528	42,417	\$ 46,600	<b>45,230</b>
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>238,914</b>	<b>250,713</b>	<b>276,437</b>	<b>\$ 262,900</b>	<b>271,930</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>					
Insurance	11,780	10,310	9,801	\$ 13,000	<b>10,000</b>
Repairs & Maintenance (7)	63,528	74,731	60,119	\$ 50,000	<b>50,000</b>
Landscaping	1,319	750	1,132	\$ 1,500	<b>1,500</b>
Supplies & Equipment (8)	13,426	15,590	10,621	\$ 18,100	<b>15,000</b>
Utilities - Gas (8)	22,999	28,029	32,812	\$ 30,000	<b>32,000</b>
Utilities - Hydro (8)	28,844	27,470	21,516	\$ 30,000	<b>25,000</b>
Utilities - Hydro Rec (9)	-9,622	-8,936	-7,652	-\$ 10,800	<b>-9,000</b>
Utilities - water & Sewage (8)	3,945	3,216	3,563	\$ 4,000	<b>4,000</b>
Contingency	0	0	0	\$ 7,000	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Total Maintenance</b>	<b>136,218</b>	<b>151,160</b>	<b>131,912</b>	<b>\$ 142,800</b>	<b>134,500</b>
<b>Capital Investments (11)</b>			214,480	\$ 136,000	<b>90,000</b>
<b>Total Building Operation</b>	<b>403,018</b>	<b>429,743</b>	<b>662,704</b>	<b>\$ 571,900</b>	<b>522,530</b>
<b>Total Congregation &amp; Building</b>	<b>654,237</b>	<b>682,265</b>	<b>939,023</b>	<b>\$ 859,445</b>	<b>813,590</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>648,421</b>	<b>680,164</b>	<b>845,327</b>	<b>823,400</b>	<b>777,500</b>
<b>Net Operating Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>-5,816</b>	<b>-2,101</b>	<b>-\$93,696</b>	<b>-\$ 36,045</b>	<b>-\$ 36,090</b>
<b>Special Appeals</b>					
Special Programs (10)	11,819	9,635	12,443	\$ 15,000	<b>15,000</b>
Mission and Service Fund	109,904	111,528	121,068	\$ 108,000	<b>110,000</b>
Outreach & Benevolent Fund	11,300	12,715	11,732	\$ 8,000	<b>8,000</b>
Refugee Fund (12)		2,250	5,075	\$ 4,000	<b>2,000</b>
Alison Becket Fund	5,500	5,000	5,500	\$ 5,000	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Total Designated Expenses</b>	<b>138,823</b>	<b>141,128</b>	<b>155,818</b>	<b>\$ 140,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>
<b>Total Designated Income</b>	<b>134,430</b>	<b>137,354</b>	<b>151,690</b>	<b>\$ 140,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>
<b>*Net Change Reserved Funds</b>	<b>-4,393</b>	<b>-3,774</b>	<b>-\$4,128</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0</b>

(6) Includes \$1,000 for Con Ed

(7) Major capital repairs (roof, steps ) are paid by trustee's account. Some contingency is here.

(8) Guesstimate of gas rate increase.

(9) Fixed percentage of Hydro is recovered from Tafelmusic

(10) Special Appeals income is transferred out. There is no operating budget impact

11) Includes \$130,700 from govt. grants

(12) Refugee 1 & 2 Funds

Exp. P. 2

## Congregational Statistics

**Total membership as of Dec 31, 2008      292**

Resident Members	249
Non-Resident Members	43

Received into membership	13
Adherents	59
Children	48
Members removed from Roll	16

**Total membership as of Dec 31, 2009      257**

Resident Members	229
Non-Resident Members	28

New members received	5
By profession of faith - 4	
By transfer - 1	
Adherents	83
Children	40
Members removed from Roll	58 **

\*\* Membership Roll was reviewed in detail during the past year, deleting many members who no longer attend.

### Received into membership

By profession of faith	Leggett, Elisabeth Anne Lam, Bella McKibbon, Michael Matzner, Valeria
By transfer	Elizabeth Stone

### Baptisms - 3

1. Janae Alison Elizabeth, daughter of Megan Wiigs and Donovan Boswell
2. Kai Joseph Gabriel, son of Megan Wiigs and Donovan Boswell
3. Jessica Angela, daughter of Sarah Landry

### Marriages - 3

Alan Gearing & Lyne Lemieux  
Adam Shehata & Christina Marie Chneim  
Pierre Christopher Story & Jennifer Rose Silva

### Deaths - 1

Nancy Stiles - Funeral Service February 25, 2009

Statistics submitted by Carolyn Barber, Membership Roll Secretary

## **Stewardship Circle 2009 Report**

Betsy Anderson

I joined the Stewardship of Resources Circle following the congregational meeting of March 8, 2009. Other members of the Circle are: Bob Fugere (Treasurer), Jane Woods, Moira Hutchinson, Carol Ann Marshall, Chris Gort and our staff liaison, Hans Van Nie.

### ***Stewardship of Resources Circle Mandate***

Along with all the other circles, we have the following accountability and functions:

#### **Accountability of the Programme Circles**

Each circle is accountable to the Trinity-St. Paul's Church Board. Each will have general oversight of all activities within its areas of responsibility: engaging in visioning, planning and making decisions about the appropriateness and effectiveness of particular programs and events in light of the congregation's goals. Each will have the power to act within the constraints of the congregation's self-understanding and its stated goals and of the budget determined by the Board.

#### **Common Functions of Each Circle**

- Nurturing members through reflection and prayer
- Establishing and supporting task groups and other bodies to carry out mission assignments (normally within a specified timeframe)
- Liaising with coordinators of programs that fall within circle mandate (i.e. youth coordinator, adult education coordinator, children's church coordinator)
- Preparing policy recommendations for the Board
- Evaluating ongoing programs and recommendations for new work, in the context of the congregation's mission and vision goals
- Developing, overseeing and exercising accountability for the budget for the particular circle
- Reporting regularly to the Board

#### **Our particular Responsibilities are:**

- congregational finances
- helping the congregation develop its stewardship
- use of building and equipment - presently looked after through the Building Sub-committee
- maintenance and repairs - see above
- ongoing consultation with The Board of Trustees as required

#### **Members of the Circle**

We have very hard-working circle members. As well as Treasurer, Bob Fugere is a member of the Building Management Sub-Committee and the Board of Trustees. Bob has also spearheaded a number of volunteer-labour contributions to the renewal of our spaces, through painting of walls etc. Thank you to all who have joined in with him in these endeavours.

Chris Gort is also a member of the Board of Trustees and has given a lot of time and effort in the past to the joint projects with Tafelmusik.

Carol Ann Marshall co-chaired the Community Fellowship Dinners this year along with James Holzbauer. She was also a member of the hard-working Building and Administrative Staff Review Task Group.

Moira Hutchinson prepares the information for the Sunday Bulletin on the many ways our support of the Mission and Service Fund makes a difference in Canada and the world. This is a very important aspect of our stewardship education efforts at TSP.

Jane Woods has taken on many smaller jobs and has agreed to co-Chair the Community Fellowship Dinners planning for the coming year.

### **Community Fellowship Dinners**

This initiative to build community each year through dinners hosted by congregation members over the fall is part of our Season for Commitment at Trinity-St. Paul's. It was a success once again this fall, although somewhat impacted by illness and related issues of the unusual Flu Season. There were 25 hosts with 70 Adults and 4 Children participating. (Last year the numbers were 118 & 17)

Many thanks to all who hosted and special thanks to Carol Ann and James for their leadership, members of the congregation for their "witness" in the worship services, Hans and Vicki for their support and Bob Fugere for his back-up and hard work of organizing the results into a financial plan for the coming year. Thanks also to Carolyn Barber for inputting the pledges of time and talent in our data base and passing on offers of participation to the appropriate persons. Thanks also to Carol Ann for preparing a job description and tasks list for those picking up this work for next fall.

A Chart of the results for our pledges and fall appeal is found below.

### **Building Repairs and Upgrades**

The staff, Building Management Sub-committee and Trustees put a major effort into the re-building of the front entrance and new washrooms this summer. This was a lot of work and a significant disruption but it has resulted in a great improvement. Thanks to Jackie and all the staff as well as the BMSC, Trustees and Bob Fugere. This summer also saw the renewal of the Studio, with a new floor and painting by congregational volunteers. We have new lights all over the building, including the Sanctuary thanks to Tom Hutchinson and others.

### **Budget and Financial Management (see Treasurer's Report)**

The Circle and the Treasurer have kept a careful watch over expenditures and projected revenue and expenses over this year and into the future with regular reports to the Church Board. Many thanks to Avil Beckford and Clayton Wilson who continue to coordinate the counting of collection and envelope and PAR administration, as well as to the office staff who assist with so many of these details.

The Alternative Giving Fair was a great success again this year including sales of the Alternative Gift Certificates on the Fair Day and subsequent Sundays. Thanks to Alison Savaria for coordinating the Alternative Gifts giving and to Anne Russell for coordinating the Alternative Giving Fair. The results of the Alternative Gift Certificate Sales are below.

**Total 2009:** \$3,510  
(Total 2008: \$4,175)

**Donations were spread as follows:**

1. Women for Change (Zambia)	\$785
2. Cordillerra People's Alliance (Philippines)	\$260
3. Cafeteria Program (Colombia)	\$560
4. FCJ Refugee Centre (Toronto)	\$405
5. Sisters in Spirit (Canada)	\$660
6. TSP Refugee Support	\$840

### **Administrative Review**

The Stewardship Circle proposed an evaluation and review of the office and building staffing for TSP to the Board in the spring. The Board passed this motion on April 28, 2009.

*Whereas the last Administrative Review was done in 2003; and  
whereas we are engaged in the creation of a second five-year plan for the congregation;  
that the Board approve the following Terms of Reference for a Building and  
Administrative Staff Review at Trinity-St. Paul's.*

*That a committee of four, with representation from the Ministry and Personnel Committee, Building Management Sub-committee and Stewardship of Resources Circle as well as someone else from the congregation with experience in these areas be asked to:*

- a. review the present staffing design to discover whether it meets current needs, using the 2003 Administrative review and Jeanne Moffat's report and follow-up work of the M&P Committee as a starting place;*
- b. with the staff team, identify gaps and ways to strengthen existing operations including supervision;*
- c. building from the Congregation's Five Year Plan, do a needs assessment of staffing levels and skills for going forward.*

The Committee was established and began its work over the summer. An interim report came to the Circle and Board in the fall. The Church Board received an excellent final report from the committee at its December 15, 2009 meeting, with analysis and recommendations. Since many aspects of the Five Year Plan and the Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts were still in flux, the Task Group could not go further with its report and recommendations. Their work resulted in the referral of a number of issues to the Ministry and Personnel Committee and is a good base for the next step, once our Five Year Plan is adopted. The Stewardship of Resources Circle will follow-up on the issues raised in cooperation with other committees. Many thanks to the Task Group, Lynne Brennan, Sumiko Jin, Marion Kirkwood, Lorna Niebergall, Carol Ann Marshall, and to Jackie Van Voort and all the staff for their input and continuing hard work.

### **Capital Campaign**

Along with other circles and the Board, we have been working at finalizing the congregation's Five Year Plan going forward. The Board has approved the Stewardship of Resources Circle's recommendation that a Capital Campaign be included as one of our financial strategies in the Five Year Plan.

Our work over the last year has demonstrated that there are three presenting issues with regard to the TSP building”

1. need of major capital investment in the fabric of the building
2. managing the building as a community resource
3. the role of the building in the mission and ministry of the congregation

The proposal to include a capital campaign emerged in response to the first point. But it is linked to the other two. Our new five year plan is predicated on the building as an asset in our mission. The new five year plan includes 2 points that affirm this to be the case:

- A. CFJA operationalized as a vibrant synergistic program and vision
- D. Professionally operated financially viable facility that provides the physical container for the Congregation’s mission and vision (CFJA)

The new Five Year Plan outlines a number of the issues and actions required over the coming years related to the building including:

- fleshing out the vision of CFJA
- recruiting tenants who reflect the CFJA vision
- improvements to signage
- smooth ongoing operation of the building
- financially viable operations
- building systems and infrastructure in good repair
- clear policies and procedures for effective administration of the building
- building renovations completed that reflect long-term needs of the congregation and tenants and respond to our environmentally sustainable commitments

Within this context, the Board agreed at their December 15, 2009 meeting to **recommend a capital campaign as one of the financial strategies for the congregation in the coming period.**

The decision to include a capital campaign as one of our financial strategies in the coming year is a first step. Next steps include:

1. Assessing volunteer strength within the congregation. This will begin with the process of identifying a campaign chair or co-chairs;
2. Clarifying the scope and content of the financial goal. This will be determined through working closely with the building sub-committee and the Trustees to identify capital investments needed over the next 5 years and options to finance these investments;
3. Clarity about the greening goals for the building and ways this would relate to a capital campaign. We are in the process of establishing a committee to continue the process of identifying ways to enhance the environmental sustainability of the building. Results would be considered by the Building Management Sub-committee as part of their recommendations to the Trustees and Church Board;
4. Building clarity and confidence in the vision of the Centre for Faith Justice and the Arts. This is outlined in the five-year plan;
5. Seeking professional assistance with the feasibility and effective implementation of a capital campaign.

We are in the process of establishing a Capital Campaign coordinating team with representation from the Congregational Board, the Stewardship of Resources Circle, Building Management Sub-committee and the Trustees to develop a fuller plan with timelines for presentation to the Congregational Meeting on February 28, 2010.

## **Public Witness Circle 2009 Report**

In 2009 the Public Witness Circle tried to ground its work in the vision of the TSP Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts (CFJA), cooperating with the pastoral team, CJFA Implementation Committee, other TSP Circles and committees in ways that mutually support, stimulate and reinforce the justice mission of TSP.

Work has included political lobbying and advocacy, educational efforts within the congregation, encouraging participation of TSP members in justice-related programs beyond the congregation, direct service and action activities, encouraging attention to justice issues in worship, and providing funding support to various groups from the congregational Outreach Funds and the Alison Becket Memorial Fund.

We maintain a listening, coordination and overview role with many specific tasks implemented by groups related to, but outside the Circle (such as the Middle East, Aboriginal, and Refugee Working Groups, Greening Sacred Spaces and TSP participation in the new United Church Green Awakening Network).

During 2009 we continued to reflect on our 2003-08 priorities and worked, as part of the congregational 2009-14 Five-Year Planning process, to articulate appropriate congregational justice priorities for these next years. That process is not yet complete, but we are already living into the new realities.

### **Housing/Homelessness**

The congregation ended its participation in the Bloor West Out of the Cold program in spring 2008, three years after the 2004-5 process of evaluation and subsequent congregational decision to shift energies to a housing project that would reflect “TSP’s sense of mission including, but not limited to, the redevelopment of the west end of the church property.”

Exploring this objective became the work of the HoT (Housing Task Group), a special task group set up by and officially reporting to the Board, although the PW Circle received periodic updates of HoT work. In early 2009 HoT submitted a visionary proposal to further explore the building of housing with a Development Consultant. After careful consideration and consultation with the congregation, HoT withdrew the proposal due to limitations of financial and personnel resources. The Public Witness Circle thanks Jeanne Rowles, James Holzbauer and other HoT members for their incredible dedication and commitment to the search for a TSP mission in housing.

Recognizing the desire of TSP folk to volunteer in outreach programs among homeless and disadvantaged persons, PW developed and will keep updated a Volunteer Opportunity Listing that identifies out-of-the cold and drop-in type programs through which TSP members and adherents can volunteer. We continue to allocate small Outreach grants to partner groups with a housing/homelessness emphasis, such as the Regent Park Christian Resource Centre.

### **Aboriginal Justice**

The Circle looks to the Aboriginal Rights Working Group (ARWG) for leadership in our relationships with about First Nations Peoples and related educational events. See the appended ARWG report. The PW Circle has worked with the Toronto United Native Ministries to try to find space in TSP for their Sunday afternoon worship gatherings.

The **Outreach Fund Task Group** met in September to vet project applications for support from the congregational Outreach Fund. Recommendations for the annual grants to local and global partners were made to the October Church Board meeting. Detailed information will appear in the TSP Times and the TSP website. Brief reports on programs supported are given on most Communion Sundays.

2009 **Advent** monetary gifts were sent to the Tshofelong School for Street Children in Gaborone, Botswana and clothing gifts to the Christian Resource Centre (Regent Park) and the Toronto Urban Native Ministries. The Circle also made recommendations for **Alternative Gift** certificates and arranged distribution of grants from the Alison Becket Fund.

### **Restorative Justice.**

TSP again provided in-kind space for the November 2009 Restorative Justice Conference attended by some 150 persons. The energies of Circle member Elda Thomas, along with BJ Klassen and other members of TSP were critical in the hosting of this important event. Thanks to all who volunteered. The Restorative Justice Conference Committee meets at TSP on a regular basis.

**Climate Justice** and **greening concerns** claimed attention at various points during the year: participation in Tar Sands educational work led by KAIROS, advocacy leading up to Copenhagen including support for Bill Phipps' fast, United Church Moderator Mardi Tindal's call to consider climate change a matter of critical conscience, and "holy racket making" on Bloor Street as part of global church actions to support climate change. We supported the very successful Eco-festival, part of the spring launch of the TSP Centre for Faith, Justice, and the Arts and were encouraged by energy and water saving changes to our building during the summer renovations. TSP benefitted from membership in the United Church Toronto-wide Green Awakening Network. The Circle developed a new outdoor banner on Climate Justice in time for use during the Copenhagen Climate Summit. Work led by the Middle East Working Group, the Refugee Working Support Committee, and the Guantanamo Refugee Sponsorship Committee falls under our **Peace** priority. See these groups appended reports.

In other efforts, we urged strong protest of CIDA's precipitous withdrawal of support to the Canadian churches ecumenical justice organization KAIROS, and reviewed our initiatives and decisions in light of TSP's anti-racism policy and the United Church Empire Lens.

Public Witness sponsored **Global Gossip sessions** included a presentation by Armine Yalnizyan on the economy and upcoming government budgets, by Christie Neufelt on destructive Canadian mining company practices in the Philippines.

**Use of term "Global Gossip"**. Some have questioned whether calling our after-church educational sessions "**Global Gossips**" trivializes the important issues and contexts we consider. Should we use different language?

The term originates with Katharine Hockin, a long time TSP member and eminent Canadian missiologist. Marion Pope, in a check of dictionaries, found a fair consensus about the more contemporary and the earlier senses of the word. A 1951 edition (1951) of the OED, "n., & v.i. 1. (Arch.) familiar acquaintance, friend, (esp. of women); idle talker, newsmonger, tattler, (esp. of women); idle talk, groundless rumours, tittle-tattle; easy unconstrained talk or writing esp. about persons or social incidents; ... n. [earlier

senses, sponsor, fellow-sponsor, one's child's sponsor, at baptism; OE godsibb person related to one in God (sibb, sib, akin)]"

Kay and Bill Fallis remember Katharine Hockin's idea was a easy-going talk with people with experience in the mission of one of the UCC's Global Partners or a church or church agency around the world, to share the life and work of the people of God with us so that we could know and understand their struggles and joys a little more clearly. Marion remembers her saying that 'gossip' had a good meaning and the dictionary suggests that in the senses of 'friend', 'acquaintance,' 'easy unconstrained talk or writing esp. about persons or social incidents;' and in the sense of the sponsor at baptism and therefore, the person related to one in God. It may seem strange to call some of the discussions after the Sunday Service 'gossip' when we think only of the 'idle talk' meaning, but in the sense of easy unconstrained talk about persons or social contexts and in the wonderful sense of persons related to one in God, perhaps we might like to reaffirm its use.

**Members of the Public Witness Circle** are: Sheila Browne, Shirley Farlinger, James Holzbauer, Lynn Jondreville, Jeff Leuschner, Colin Phillips, Marion Pope, Ted Reeve, Elda Thomas, Rhea Whitehead, and Armine Yalnizyan. Vicki Obedkoff supported us as pastoral staff.

Rhea Whitehead, Convenor

## **Reports from PW-related Working Groups**

### **The Middle East Working Group**

A revitalized Middle East Working Group developed over the summer of 2008. The group, which is related to the work of the Bathurst Parish Council and the TSP Public Witness Circle, aims to engage the TSP and Bathurst congregations in education and advocacy concerning the conflict in Israel-Palestine and to work for solidarity regarding a just and lasting peace in the region. The group also communicates and coordinates with the wider Toronto community by responding to requests for solidarity from local and national organizations who are working towards a just peace in the Middle East. Over the course of the year, the group has participated in several events including monthly meetings and hosting guest speakers. One event included sponsoring the guest speaker Jeff Halper on Friday, January 23. We supported the Youth for Peace delegation to Israel and Palestine by hosting the Youth for Peace commissioning service on May 17. We continued to offer support to this group when they returned to TSP for worship to report back on their experience on September 22. Following this service we hosted a Global Gossip session. As we look toward the future of the Middle East Working Group we have many events in the agenda. In particular, we are co-sponsoring, along with the Public Witness Circle, guest speaker Judy Rebick as she joins us for Sunday worship and Global Gossip on January 31, 2010. We hope to continue developing partnership in the local community, specifically with Zatoun, and globally, with Sabeel and other UCC partners. We also intend to continue to offer opportunities for education, advocacy, and discussion for members of the TSP and Bathurst congregations on a regular basis.

*Emily Duggan, Co-Chair*

### **Guantanamo Refugee Sponsorship Committee**

Early in 2009 the congregation at Trinity-St. Paul's responded to a request by the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) in Montreal and the Toronto-based Anglican United Refugee Alliance (AURA) to submit an application for refugee sponsorship of a detainee from the US detention centre at Guantanamo Bay. Our sponsorship application is facilitated through the United Church of Canada. We are one of five congregations in Canada (United, Anglican and Catholic) who have submitted similar applications.

The detainee we are sponsoring is Massoum Abdah Mouhammad who goes by the name of Bilal. Bilal is a Syrian Kurd who has been imprisoned at Guantanamo without charge since 2002. He cannot return to Syria for fear of persecution after being held at Guantanamo and because he is Kurdish. Bilal is a single man without children. Should our application be successful, TSP would be responsible for supporting Bilal for one year.

Our committee's purpose is two-fold: (1) to educate ourselves as a congregation about the effect on an individual of an 8-year incarceration without charges, and (2) to prepare ourselves for the physical arrival of Bilal in our midst (accommodation, food/clothing, medical care, language/job training, financial support, etc.). Perhaps the most important aspect of our reception is the offering of appropriate emotional support.

Our group (of mostly TSP'ers) met on an "as-needed" basis throughout 2009. We have received updates on Bilal's situation and his application from CCR, AURA, the United Church of Canada, and from the US-based lawyer who represents Bilal and who visits Guantanamo several times each year to meet with Bilal in person. We know that Bilal's application is going through normal processing procedures at Citizenship and Immigration Canada but we do not know the timeline for such processing, nor the likelihood of his application being approved. Our committee is leaning heavily on, and has great trust in, the immigration and advocacy experience of our partners who are guiding us through this process. Through his US lawyer, our committee has communicated indirectly with Bilal, offering words of support that have been received positively.

Our committee hosted a Global Gossip in October 2009 and we are planning an information session early in 2010. We are also seeking sources of information and help in our quest to assist Bilal to settle efficiently and productively into Toronto society. We welcome inquiries and offers of assistance from any who feel called to this aspect of TSP's work as a congregation.

*Ann McKenzie & Sonya Wu-Winter, Co-Chairs*

### **Aboriginal Rights Working Group**

We continued to use films as a way to bring Aboriginal stories and issues before the congregation. Early in the year our focus was the Algonquin people (NFB: Invisible Nation), and in particular the land rights struggle of the community at Barriere Lake, Quebec. In response to a request from the Barriere Lake Solidarity (Toronto) group, Public Witness authorized a donation of \$250 towards legal expenses of jailed community leaders. Late in the year we agreed to continue the film nights in coordination with Bloor Street's "Reel Activism" series.

In the fall, our major initiative was to invite the congregation to participate in Indigenous Sovereignty Week (ISW), a national effort by Aboriginal activists united under the umbrella group Defenders of the Land. This educational series was a phenomenal success, and we look forward to supporting the local organizers in future endeavours. TSP made a special grant of \$300 to the Week.

*Lynn Jondreville*

### **Joint Refugee Support Committee**

The Joint Refugee Support Committee from Bloor Street United, Trinity St. Paul's United, and the family of Owens and Diana Wiwa continued the support for Bariadoora Wiwa until the middle of August 2009. That marked the completion of the year of financial and accompaniment support that we had been providing to Bariadoora from the time of his arrival in August 2008 from the refugee camp in the Benin Republic.

During the year, many people in both congregations and the Wiwa family provided accommodation and employment and health support, in addition to friendship and introduction to life in Canada. The Committee appreciated the contributions from all of these individuals. In addition, TSP and BSUC provided monthly financial supplements for his budget.

Bariadoora moved in mid-August into shared accommodation in a house in Scarborough and has been self-sufficient since that time. He continues with his work in security and looks forward to training in another field in the coming months. He sent a letter of appreciation to the congregations that was printed in the TSP Times.

*Jeanne Moffat*

## **Report of the Nurturing Community and Discipleship Circle for 2009**

Members: Carolyn Barber, Alexandra Horsky (Convenor), Allison Savaria, Mary Simpson, Betty Stone, Lynne Stott, Derek Strachan, Vicki Obedkoff (pastoral staff.)

**Mandate:** The responsibilities of this circle are:

- welcome and hospitality
- newcomers' dinners and supporting new members
- pastoral care
- building inclusive community honouring our commitments as an affirming congregation
- advancing the implementation of the anti-racism policy
- and monitoring accessibility issues at TSP

**Welcome and Hospitality** together make up a significant portion of the work of the Circle, and inform all of our activities.

### **Welcome Table and Greeters**

The Welcome Table is often the first point of contact for newcomers to TSP. Jeanne Moffat has organized and trained a team of volunteers who ensure that newcomers are greeted, and that their contact information is forwarded to pastoral staff for follow up. The table now also serves as an information hub: members routinely refer others to the table when making community announcements, where they can pick up information on events at TSP. Hearing devices are available there, as are colourful activity bags for children. The team is pro-active in reaching out to newcomers who haven't stopped at

the table - listening for introductions during the service, approaching others following the service during coffee hour. Pastoral staff also refer people they meet after service to the welcome table. In the year ahead, we plan to make known the dates of the Newcomers Dinners well in advance, so we can invite newcomers as we meet them. Pat Ashwin has mobilized weekly volunteers who arrive early to greet congregants and distribute bulletins and hymn books. These volunteers also participate in the collection of the weekly offering. We appreciate the dedication of Pat in recruiting volunteers throughout the year. Thanks also to Jeanne Moffat and the Welcome Table volunteers, for their significant and ongoing contribution to building community at TSP.

### **Additional Hospitality Events and Activities**

The Circle organizes a number of well-attended events throughout the year with a focus on community building and discipleship. These include the welcome back lunch in September, Season for Commitment dinners (ably coordinated by Carol-Ann Marshall of the Stewardship Circle, in conjunction with James Holtzbauer), and Newcomers Dinners for those who have recently joined or attended Trinity St. Paul's. The Circle coordinates funeral receptions and food for special occasions such as Carols by Candlelight. The Circle would like to thank the Fallis/Cooper/Mackay families for organizing a special reception after that service this year. Members of the congregation organize other community - building events, such as the Valentines Day dance with Sara Stratton and Kelly Buehler for the second year running - an LGBTQ-friendly event, and the Contra dance in January organized by Carolyn Barber and Susan Craig with Vicki's band.

The TSP community gathers weekly for (fair-trade) coffee hour in the Narthex after the service - an informal but important time for making connections coordinated by Lynne Stott and a large and ever-changing fleet of volunteers. New this year, is a focus on developing more family-centred events, such as the lunch we hosted before the annual Santa Claus Parade. Susan Craig and Clayton Wilson had been sending out cards from TSP to mark birthdays and other occasions, and that task is now being undertaken by Lyn Gaetz. Finally, we would like to recognize the special contribution of members Clayton Wilson and Don Middleton for the hospitality they extend to the congregation through the Sunday afternoon lunches, held in their home, and the much-appreciated snacks they contribute to coffee hour.

### **Annual Community Events**

#### **Alternative Gift Fair**

The second annual Alternative Gift Fair was a success, in large part due to Ann Russell and Allison Savaria's organizing efforts, along with members of the Nurturing Community and Discipleship Circle. The event featured 18 vendors, offering a variety of arts and justice oriented merchandise. Derek Strachan and many able assistants hosted a lunch which was well attended by both TSPers and the wider community.

#### **Lenten Series 2009**

The NCDC Circle sponsored a Lenten series designed to help participants "listen for God." Various spiritual or meditative practices were explored each week to deepen the connection to self, community and God and to cultivate that "still, quiet space within." Evenings included: a look at the spirituality of struggle through a Central American lens; mindfulness meditation; an expressive arts night; a healing service, and an evening on

labyrinths. Co-organizers Alex Horsky and Lois Kunkel brought together leaders from the congregation and the community for this series, including Derek Strachan and Alison Morrow. Thank you to all for the gifts offered and received.

### **Epiphany Event**

A candlelight event to honour the volunteer contributions of many in the TSP community was planned in 2009, and held near Epiphany. People appreciated the opportunity to gather, reflect and enjoy and experience that was rich in symbolism and which appealed to the senses. It was an opportunity to thank and nurture the nurturers for their contributions throughout the year.

### **Seasonal and Commemorative Flowers / Decorations**

Coordinating flowers at Christmas and Easter are part of the ministry of this Circle, as well. The memory of loved ones is honoured, and the church beautified as part of the welcoming mandate of the Circle. Those who are ill or unable to attend regularly receive flowers from the congregation. Thanks to Mary Simpson for her leadership, and to Derek Strachan, Jane Wood and friends, whose fabulous redesign of the Advent and Christmas decorations was much appreciated this year! The congregation also benefits from the hard work and creative vision of Carolyn Barber and Susan Craig, who, with the assistance of enthusiastic gardeners in the congregation, have tended the oasis of calm and beauty nestled behind the church.

### **Pastoral Care Team**

The Pastoral Care Team continues to flourish under the leadership of Yvonne Stewart, who reports as follows:

The eighteen-member Pastoral Care Team (including our ministers) meets monthly for learning and support. In between meetings, members connect with one or more companions through phone calls, visits and practical assistance with appointments, etc. We also accompany folks during shorter critical times of illness, loss or birth. Through regular worship and expressions of care for each other, we are reminded of whose work we do and of our own needs for relationship. By engaging with wellness related subjects, we try to expand our knowledge and expertise. In 2009, we covered the following topics:

- Accompanying folks who are mentally ill - with Catherine Bancroft
- The role of audio-visuals in deepening relationships with folks who may not communicate easily - with Georgia Helleiner
- The role of art in healing - with Mary Sanderson
- Accompanying the dying and bereaved - with Lynne Stott and Georgia Helleiner after attending a workshop at Emmanuel College
- Elder advocacy - with Janice Tierney Dunk
- Pandemic planning in our congregation
- Parish nursing - with Nancy Gordon
- Complementary healing, specifically Reiki, offered at St. James UC Wellness Centre - with Coral Prebble

From time to time, the Pastoral Care team offers a wellness related subject for discussion in the whole congregation. On May 31, Gael Hannan contributed in worship connecting the theme of hearing the good news of Pentecost with hearing impairment. The well-attended conversation generated a number of practical actions that could be taken at TSP to make

the spoken word more accessible for the hearing impaired. Immediately after this session, an anonymous donor increased the number of hearing improvement devices available during worship. The Nurturing Community & Discipleship Circle is now following up on other suggestions that came from this gathering.

The Pastoral Care Team includes: Pat Ashwin, Sheila Browne, Susan Craig, Kay Fallis, Gillian Graham, Georgia Helleiner, Shirley Marescaux, Ann McKenzie, Jeanne Moffat, Vicki Obedkoff, Marion Pope, Ann Russell, Allison Savaria, Mary Simpson, Yvonne Stewart, Lynne Stott, Hans van Nie, and Marilyn Vivian.

### **Diversity and Inclusion**

Diversity and Inclusion continue to be important areas of our life together as a faith community. Trinity-St. Paul's continues its membership in the national church's Affirming congregations network and supports the United Church presence in the Gay Pride Parade in Toronto. The Circle is currently liaising with Alcris Limongi in the UCC office, (Ms. Limongi's mandate is racial and gender justice, within the context of intercultural and diverse communities in ministry) in an effort to find resources and people who can support us in offering training in this area at TSP. We intend to send representatives from TSP to the "train the trainer" workshops in racial justice being organized by the United Church of Canada, and slated to take place in the Spring of 2010.

### **Accessibility at TSP**

The NCDC Circle is taking leadership on assessing accessibility needs at TSP. We were very pleased in 2009 to see a number of physical improvements made to TSP, which have increased accessibility on a number of levels. These include:

- An improvement to lighting in the sanctuary and the gym;
- The renovation of washrooms to provide barrier free access for families and individuals;
- The redesign and replacement of the ramp and stairs leading to the western-most entrance on Bloor Street.
- Assisted hearing devices were donated for use in the Sanctuary. There have been other technical recommendations made to improve the sound quality in various rooms at TSP, which are being followed up by staff.

There are continued plans to make spaces more accessible at TSP, including the renovation of the stairs to the washrooms in the basement on the west side of the building as the rise is different for each step; the installation of new handrails for basement washroom stairs; and the creation of more barrier-free rooms on main floor.

As well, discussions are underway with members of the congregation who currently use wheelchairs. Their perspectives are being sought in order to make recommendations for further changes to the physical space at TSP. Thank you to Betty Stone for her leadership in this area. We also thank Bob Fugere for all his work in applying to the Trillium foundation, the Building Management Sub-Committee, and Jackie van't Voort for making the improvements happen.

As is the case with so much of the work of TSP, the Nurturing Community and Discipleship Circle benefits from the ongoing contributions of many congregants - there are too many to name in this report, but their participation is a sign of the health and strength of the

TSP community. We have been well supported in our efforts by our ministers, Hans Van Nie, and Vicki Obedkoff. Vicki attended our bi-monthly meetings, and served as wise sounding board, enthusiastic participant, and faithful champion of our efforts.

The Nurturing Community and Discipleship Circle is pleased to contribute to the life and work of the congregation, and looks forward to articulating and living out the vision of the Centre for Faith Justice and the Arts as it unfolds in the years to come.

Submitted by  
 Alexandra Horsky,  
 Convener, Nurturing Community and Discipleship Circle

**Worship and Faith Formation Circle  
 Report to the Annual General Meeting**

Members of Worship and Faith Formation Circle, as of February 1, 2010:

FALLIS, Bill	
GRIFFITH, Gwyn	
PHIPPS, Sarah	
RATZLAFF, Brad	Staff
SHEPPARD, Anne	Convener
TAYLOR-WALSH, Ella	
VAN NIE, Hans	Staff

**Mandate of the Worship and Faith Formation (WAFF) Circle:**

- Facilitation of activities in congregation to learn about and express our Christian faith, including Children’s Church, Youth on Bloor, study groups, etc.
- Co-ordination of opportunities to engage in spiritual reflection and practice
- Provision of leadership development and support
- Creation of Worship

**Summary of Activities of the WaFF Circle during 2009:**

Many of the challenges we faced and goals we set in the previous year continued into 2009. We had set a goal to develop the infrastructure of the WaFF circle so that the many tasks that fall within the bounds of this circle can function independently of the bi-monthly meeting time. Our needs in this regard were largely accomplished through the filling of some key positions, namely, the Children’s Church coordinator in January and the Adult Faith Formation coordinator this fall; and with the return of the YouthonBloor coordinator in the summer. However, there are many other tasks that fall within the realm of this circle and few members to shoulder the work. Throughout 2009 we did not add any new members to our circle and Carol Allain unfortunately had to resign due to other commitments that interfered with her attendance at meetings. In our effort to live into the Anti-Racism policy and to reflect our commitment to the arts and justice issues as part of faith formation, we strive to support and promote a range of cultural points of view in our activities. We are ever mindful, however, of the breadth of the mandate of

this circle and what relatively little time we have set aside to meet and plan and to coordinate and communicate together.

### **Adult Faith Formation coordinator**

As mentioned above, we are happy to report that we now have an Adult Faith Formation coordinator. This fall, Paul Stott volunteered to take on this role. Paul has provided small group bible studies for TSP members over the past several years, has collaborated with his wife Lynne in running the new members' class, and provides a Hymn blog on the TSP website each week. We are delighted that he has offered to coordinate this aspect of our work and look forward to benefitting from his expertise.

Over the course of the year our circle has discussed several issues to consider in providing adult study groups, such as how a mix of various small groups is needed, and for varying time-lengths of commitment; and how it is sometimes effective to combine with other congregations or pair with other activities of interest (e.g. theatre) in order to attract folks. We also realize there is overlap with pastoral care and the work of some of the other circles as their activities also comprise aspects of faith formation.

A sample of some of the faith and spirituality small groups that ran this past year includes:

- *Spirituality Writing Group*, led by Linda Dawn Pettigrew and Kenn Chaplin, attracted a range of folk from BSU, TSP and the neighbourhood
- *Lenten series*, provided a range of worship styles, Bloor Street invited to participate
- *Dead Sea Scrolls*, some discussions led by Tim McLay
- *Bible study of the book of Luke*, led by Paul Stott
- *Monday Night Women's Group*, on-going group which generally is organized as a book study
- *New Members' Group*, facilitated by Vicki Obedkoff

### **Children's Church**

Another reason for gratitude in the past year has been the work of Patty Zuver in the dual role of Children's Church coordinator and teacher of one of the classes. She has also taken it upon herself to attend the Tuesday morning worship planning group and this has greatly enhanced the meaningful integration of children into our worship services. We currently have 3 Children's Church teachers in addition to the YouthonBloor coordinator who does a Sunday morning class for the youth of TSP, Bathurst and Bloor Street. The parent support group did not materialize as hoped this year, so communication via email seems to be the most effective means of staying in touch with our busy parent community at this point. Patty has written a separate report to summarize the Children's Church activities.

### **Confirmation Class**

An important development related to the faith formation of our youth in the past year, was the creation of the Confirmation class. We have 8 youth engaged in the process of exploring their personal spiritual growth related to the United Church statements of faith. The group meets monthly with Hans van Nie and Anne Sheppard for discussion and theme-based activities, largely centered on the New Creed. Through the course of discussion and sharing, new connections and relationships are being formed. In addition to the meetings, some excursions and events enrich the program. A couple highlights this year were the canoe trip on the French River so ably organized by Bob Savaria, and a Pow Wow at Curve Lake with an overnight at John Olthuis and Lois Kunkel's cottage. Another aspect of the program involves working with adult mentors to explore common aspects of their faith journeys. The class will culminate in a service of confirmation planned for the spring, and

after that the youth will be assigned an “internship” in the church to serve in some capacity as a sign of their new stage in relationship to the church.

### **YouthonBloor program**

The YouthonBloor program went through some changes in staffing in the spring of 2009 when Kristen Phillips (who was hired to fill in while Shannon Neufeldt was away) decided to move on to another position. We were very grateful that Bloor Street member, Alcris Limongi was willing to take on this role for a few months until Shannon began again in the summer. A key event which took place this fall was a YouthonBloor visioning process held on November 1<sup>st</sup>, with participation from parents and teens of the 3 congregations. A proposal was put forward to continue this program for another three years, which is currently under consideration by the 3 congregations. Please see Shannon’s report for further details.

### **Christmas Pageant**

Yet one more blessing in 2009 was the contribution of David Craig whose artistry and skill led us to challenge our traditional understanding of the nativity. In the process of working with his script, some of the youth were heard to debate which gospel held an account of particular elements of the story. Talk about an effective pedagogy! His vision also provided the framework for the unveiling of talents of many of our congregants and children and youth. The set designed and built by Brian Stewart and the costumes by Jane Witherspoon and Paula Nieuwstraten were outstanding. As a follow-up, members of our circle met with some of the folks involved in the production to highlight things we need to consider to improve the communication and planning aspects of a production like this in the future. Some of the issues relate to budget, sound equipment, dedicated space to create and store sets and costumes, timing of production and ability of children and youth to add rehearsal time to their already full schedules. We also recognize the impact a production like this makes on our regular Children’s Church program and we want to make sure the teachers’ ability to deliver the key messages of the Advent season is not completely overshadowed. This year we had initially planned to create a co-production with Bloor Street, but that plan changed when a key BSU member had to work out of town, so our plans for rehearsal and space usage were altered significantly. One consensus of our post-production discussion is that we need to begin to plan for an event like this as early as the spring (March) prior.

### **Guidelines for Space Usage**

Given the fairly frequent request for donation of in-kind space (TSP sanctuary or St. Paul’s centre) by individuals or groups, we became aware of the need for a document to provide some guidelines to help determine what type of requests or which groups might be appropriate to provide this service to. A draft document has been prepared and is in the process of being vetted through other circles.

### **Budget**

We spent a good deal of time on the budget this year, with particular assistance from Hans, looking for ways to clarify the book-keeping by eliminating some lines and consolidating some categories to more easily track our regular expenses. The most significant change for the coming year will be that the payment of Children’s Church teachers and coordinator and nursery staff will not come out of the WaFF budget, but will be moved to the Personnel budget.

As convener of the Worship and Faith Formation circle, I want to take this opportunity to express thanks to all the circle members for their continued faithful support and collaboration. In particular, I am grateful to Hans for the wisdom he imparts and for the

continuity he provides between WaFF meetings. As a circle, we also want to express heartfelt thanks to Hans, Vicki and Brad together for the leadership, inspiration and faith formation they consistently provide in our regular weekly worship services.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Sheppard  
Convener, Worship and Faith Formation

## **Worship Planning**

The Worship Planning Group has continued to meet with the pastoral staff and music director most Tuesdays through 2009 from 9:30 am to 11 am to review the previous Sunday's worship and to hear any feedback from those who attended. The group has assisted the pastoral staff in planning worship, and in choosing hymns, responses and prayers. In choosing themes and sometimes guest preachers, we have tried to keep a creative balance between matters of faith and justice, and to pay attention to the variety of music that inspires our worship. It has been a joy and privilege to be involved in this way in the worship life of Trinity-St. Paul's. We would like to thank members of the Group who have taken on specific tasks: Marion Kirkwood for arranging the roster for scripture readers and leaders for the prayers of the people, Marion Pope for finding the ecumenical prayers, and Paul Stott for his wide knowledge of the hymns in *Voices United* and *More Voices*. It has been a pleasure to welcome Patty Zuver to the group as Children's Church Convener. She helps us to integrate the time with the children into the rest of worship as well as making a valuable contribution to the general discussion. We take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped with the arrangements for worship, namely: Pat Ashwin for organizing greeters and Anne Russell for communion preparation. Thanks are due also to all who have participated in the leadership of worship through the call to worship, through reading scripture, through the prayers of the people, and through serving communion. It is this diversity of leadership and participation which adds to our pastoral leadership and makes Trinity-St. Paul's worship so meaningful. Many thanks in particular to Hans and Vicki for encouraging us willingly in this cooperative process.

Ella Taylor-Walsh

## **Children's Church 2009 Report**

Children's Church continues to be an exciting place to experience Community in our church.

Patty Zuver has been coordinator since January, 2009; Christe Okwonko-MacKenzie ended her one year term in June of 2009. We are grateful to her for stepping into a challenging position and contributing greatly to the life of Children's Church. A hiring process found many good candidates to replace her and Sidrah Ahmad was hired in September, 2009. Sidrah has been an amazing addition to our team. We are blessed to have Martha Silva back this year. There are currently three regular teachers: Martha for the 3-5 year olds, Sidrah for the 6-8 year olds and Patty for the 9-11 year olds. This has been working quite well- Sundays have been both consistent and lively.

David Fallis continues to help with music on Sundays during the "Gathering" portion of Children's Church.

Children's Church has participated in many activities in the past year. We saw a fantastic play called "Binti's Journey" presented by Theatre Direct at Wychwood Barns. This was about children in Malawi whose lives are affected by HIV-AIDS. The children responded to this play with a project called "40 coins"; they collected about \$150 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation. There was also an outing to see the movie "Earth". Both of these outings were very well attended.

In November, there was a joint lunch sponsored by the Nurturing Circle and Children's Church. Families were invited to a pizza lunch before going to watch the Santa Claus Parade. This was such a success that more family lunches are being planned; the next one being on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Families are invited for a pizza lunch and then they will make their way to the Kuumba Festival at Harbourfront. Kuumba is a celebration of African heritage in Toronto/Canada.

December brought an incredibly successful Pageant, directed by David Craig. David had many assistants including Anne Sheppard and Robin Craig. Jane Witherspoon and Brian Stewart (with help from Paula Nieuwstraten) did the amazing costumes and props and Carolyn Barber, Gillian Graham and many others contributed in lots of meaningful ways.

The children decided to give their Collection money to two places this December- an animal shelter in Toronto and Save the Children. Both of these organizations received \$125 from Children's Church.

As a response to the crisis in Haiti, the children held a bake and bookmark sale that raised \$450 for the United Church's Emergency Appeal for Haiti.

We look forward to continuing to learn and grow with one another in the spirit of Christ in Children's Church.

Patty Zuver

## **YouthonBloor 2009**

By Shannon Neufeldt, YoB Coordinator

YouthonBloor (YoB) is the joint youth program of Bathurst United, Trinity-St. Paul's United (TSP) and Bloor Street United Churches. YoB creates fun and relevant opportunities for youth participation in the life and worship of the churches, for learning about the cultures and values of these churches, and for living out our values and interests in a group setting. Among our YoB values are a safe, welcoming, and supportive community where all youth are affirmed, empowered, and challenged.

During the first half of 2009, YoB Coordinator Shannon Neufeldt was finishing a maternity leave. Interim staffing allowed for an active Sunday morning program to continue throughout the year, for those congregations that participate in the morning program (TSP and Bloor). However, with interim coverage at fewer hours than the regular schedule and an unforeseen change in interim staffing, other programming was minimal.

Shannon returned July 1, which allowed some time for planning and meetings before the start of fall programs. YoB is for young people in grade 7-12 and this year there are quite a few new participants in grades 7 and 8, which makes for a vibrant larger group. We

draw approximately a dozen regulars, with an average showing of about 8 at a time. The Sunday morning program is our constant and most regular contact. We alternate between Bloor Street and TSP at intervals in the church calendar and made one visit to a Bathurst worship service this fall.

Other events this fall included a trip to the Curve Lake Powwow in September with leadership from Lois Kunkel of TSP, a parent and long-time powwow attendee. We helped with the “Grandmothers to Grandmothers” Tea (a Stephen Lewis Foundation group at Bloor Street United, raising money for those stricken by AIDS in Africa) in October. A large group of youth and parents attended a tour of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the ROM in November, with excellent guidance by one of Bloor Street’s own PhD students, Carmen Palmer. In December the youth helped Shannon plan an energetic Christmas party that included bringing gifts for children connected to the Refugee Outreach Project at Bloor Street, exchanging their own homemade Secret Santa gifts, and ending with several rousing 3-storey rounds of tag, hide and seek, and sardines once we had the building to ourselves.

A pivotal event for YoB was the November 1, 2009 “Future of YouthonBloor” visioning event. The afternoon workshop, led by United Church staff person Amy Crawford, was well attended by over 30 participants, including almost one-third youth, as well as parents and congregational leadership, with strong representation from each of the three congregations. The YoB Reference Group (which oversees the program) developed the feedback received into a proposal for a further 3 years of joint youth ministry. This proposal is currently being considered for adoption by each of the three congregations. The November 1 event showed strong support and interest in an ongoing YoB program. It also generated many great ideas for new program directions and activities.

Questions about YoB can be directed to your congregational representatives on the YoB Reference Group: Krystyne Akinniyi and Ralph Wushke/Cindy Bourgeois (Bathurst), Ellen Schwartzel and Alydia Smith (Bloor Street), Anne Sheppard and Hans van Nie (TSP).

## **Ministry and Personnel Report to the Annual General Meeting,**

The Ministry and Personnel Committee are Anne Nikkel, Derek McKee, Sumiko Jin, Marion Kirkwood, Gail Allan and Lois Kunkel.

We meet regularly, working on behalf of our TSP Church Board, with our many staff: our Pastoral staff Vicki and Hans; our Music Director, Brad; our Building Coordinator Jackie, our Office Coordinator John, and the maintenance and building staff: Tim, Ron, Linda, Jim, Lynn, David, Shannon, Marc, Shaughn.

For many of our renters and visitors, our office and building staff are the face of TSP and the Centre. We are grateful to them for their commitment and dedication to TSP and our Centre vision.

We welcomed Marc Young in the summer and he works at the front desk. His shift time changed so that he could be here earlier in the afternoon to allow John Bell time away from the front desk. John spends this focused time on the congregational life and work of TSP.

This past summer's construction and renovations provided additional excitement, stress and work for all our staff, especially Jackie and our building staff.

Several of our staff have been here for many years. Jackie has been at TSP for 15 years, starting as a building attendant and becoming Building Coordinator in 2004. Tim Addis will have been with us 15 years come August.

Brad Ratzlaff has been our Director of Music and our beloved choir director for 18 years.

Team ministry is a challenge and we are pleased that Vicki and Hans navigate this with respect and ease.

M&P has been working to standardize the continuing education and overtime benefits, ensuring that our Personnel Policy is implemented in a fair and equitable way.

The terms of office for M&P have been extended to a 3 year term. We asked the Board to add another year, as it takes time to get a grasp of this work and to feel comfortable with the tasks it requires. Most of our members will be in their last year of service, unless we persuade them to take another term! Thank you to Derek serving since 08, Sumiko and Gail serving since 2007. Anne joined the committee in 09. Marion is in her second term as of 09 as is Lois.

Respectfully submitted by Lois Kunkel, Chair of M&P, January 31, 2010

## Ministry Team 2009 Annual Report

The year 2009 was a good year for Trinity-St. Paul's United Church and Centre for Faith Justice and the Arts. We continued to explore the diversity of ways in which the wisdom of our faith tradition informs the living of our lives in a challenging and complex world. We drew inspiration from the work and words of Jesus as described in the Gospel of Mark and from the wider wisdom in the lectionary passages. Our faith came to life in creative celebrations of worship, through courageous efforts in seeking justice, and through caring accompaniment of persons. We partnered with many organizations and communities, both local and global, in the exercise of our ministry. We faced formidable challenges but were strengthened by the gifts of the Spirit to carry on with our vocation.

There were many highlights in our life together; we'll name a few as examples. We began the season of Lent with a choral communion service featuring Ariel Ramirez's *Misa Criolla*. The dynamic and exuberant music of this Argentinian masterpiece helped set the tone both for "inaugurating" our vision of faith, social justice and the arts intertwined, as well as for our Lenten experience which also included a wonderful variety of Wednesday evening liturgical experiences. With community partners and the direction of David Fallis and a dedicated TSP team, we enjoyed a wonderful eco-festival. We look forward to collaborating with Tafelmusik in a 2010 eco-fest. The summer season is canoe trip season at TSP, orchestrated by Bob Savaria and Mary Reeve. The summer of 2009 included a canoe trip for members of the current Confirmation class which spent several days on the French River getting to know each other, reflecting on the meaning of life, and living with respect in Creation, a burgeoning theme in our ministry as we focus more and more on climate justice and environmental issues. In September, Vicki and Lois Kunkel accompanied the Confirmation class to a Pow Wow at Curve Lake and a sleep-over at the Kunkels' cottage.

Our worship services and "Global Gossips" were enhanced by vibrant participation from our congregants. For example, the five young adults in our congregation who travelled with Vicki to Israel-Palestine as part of the national church's "United for Peace" program, shared their experiences during a September service. Sonya Wu-Winter gave a remarkable sermon linking Job to the experience of "Bilal" in Guantanamo prison. Our congregation, after careful consideration, has applied to sponsor this Kurdish man as a refugee. Another Fall highlight was our church board retreat. Board members spent a full Saturday reviewing priorities for our ministry and shaping our next five year plan. Their collective wisdom and personal dedication is remarkable and deeply appreciated. In December, we enjoyed another extraordinary Christmas pageant, written and directed by David Craig. This time the pageant was based on the Gospel of Matthew, featuring King Herod, the Magi, and a group of Innocents representing the suffering of children around the world, calling people of faith to embrace and live out the presence of Emmanuel, God-with-us.

It takes a tremendous amount of faith, effort and good-will on the part of everyone in the congregation to create a year of ministry. It is a profound privilege to participate with all of you in the life and work of Trinity-St. Paul's. May the gifts of the Spirit continue to strengthen and guide us in our ministry together.

Vicki Obedkoff & Hans van Nie

## Music Director's Report

To begin, I would like to report on some good news. After a number of years of ever increasing concern over the deteriorating condition of our pipe organ, the Official Board recently approved a plan to repair the console of our ageing Casavant organ. As I write this report, the inner parts of the organ console lie disassembled in the workshop of the Alan Jackson Company, undergoing much needed repair. When this work is complete, all stops, pistons, and couplers will finally be operational. I would especially like to thank Tom Hutchinson and Hans for their dedication and energy in making this extensive repair project a reality!

Music continues to play a pivotal role in TSP's exploration of the implications of being both a church and a centre for faith, justice, and the arts. Last year, the TSP Choir and Viva Youth Singers presented Ariel Ramirez' folk mass, *Misa Criolla*. The music of this mass is based on indigenous rhythms and melodies of South America. It was wonderful to sing this music as part of a Sunday morning communion liturgy. A few weeks later, both choirs provided music for a celebratory Eco-fest service.

There are two special musical events taking place in our worship in the next few weeks. On Sunday morning March 7th, the church choir and VIVA will once again sing a mass as part of the communion service. The composer of 'MASS' is the contemporary Scottish composer James MacMillan. This should be an exciting worship experience, with Hans actually singing certain parts of the Eucharistic Prayer at the communion table, and the congregation responding with their own chant. Look out St. Mary Magdalenes! James MacMillan has written a magnificent organ accompaniment for this mass, so the worship service will also be a time of celebrating our newly restored organ console. On Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup>, the choir will present Bach's cantata, *Halt Im Gedachtnis*, a cantata composed for the first Sunday after Easter. The cantata is based on the lectionary readings of the day dealing with the story of doubting Thomas.

Once again I would like to thank our choir and section leads for their dedication and beautiful singing Sunday after Sunday. Over the past number of years, we have been able to keep the same section leads. This past year however, after five years as alto section lead, Charlotte Burrage moved on to Vancouver. We are very fortunate to have Erin Morgan as our new alto soloist. She joins our section leads: Janna Pardy (soprano), Phil Kalmanovitch (baritone) and Cian Horrobin (tenor).

I continue to experience joy and fulfillment in my job as Music Director at TSP. This is truly a singing congregation, and especially meaningful to me are those times in worship where the congregation is left singing by themselves, unaccompanied, a simple but beautifully harmonized hymn tune or prayer response. As theologian and hymn writer John Bell says; in worship "...there are no substitutes for the voice of the people actively praising their Maker." Thank you everyone, and keep on singing.

Brad Ratzlaff

## **Building Coordinator's report.**

Another year has flashed past in a flurry of activity. The largest and most notable or perhaps easily recognized work of the Building Management sub Committee is the change to the entry with the much safer and less terrifying accessibility ramp and the wider, more welcoming inner door. The next really obvious piece of work is the main floor washrooms which now include a family/accessible washroom.

The Dance studio also had a big face lift this year with the installation of a new floor and better lights and a fabulous paint job by a group known the TSP paint team. Anyone can join this team and it is a lot of fun especially for me as staff. Thank you to the many painters who helped with paint projects this year.

There has also been much work done in the sanctuary with the installation of winches to lower light fixtures so bulbs can be changed safely, and the installation of cat walks in the cupola area to get to the winches. We also had wall sconce lighting installed on the lower floor and infrared hearing assist devices were installed. Most of the material and labor for these projects was donated and we would like to extend our gratitude for the time and generosity to all concerned.

On a more routine note, we have also completed another section of roof repair. This year we did the south east dormer over the Sanctuary. The boiler pipes seem to be doing well this year in terms of not springing many leaks. The boiler itself has required some repair for regular mechanical wear and tear but otherwise seems to be living up to its expectations of useful life.

Staffing changes in 2009 were minimal. Richard Milley left the employ of Trinity St. Paul's, we wish him well in his new endeavors. We welcome Marc Young who has been hired to work the full-time building attendant position left vacant by Rick. We also welcome Shannon Ruaux as a contingency staff person who has been hired in a custodial role.

In particular this year I would like to highlight the strength of the staff team of Trinity St. Paul's as we worked through the stress, commotion, and confusion of the capital projects of this past summer: Tim Addis, Ron Blake, Shannon Ruaux, Shaughn Melvin, Linda Browne, Lynn Jonderville, Jim Gronau, David Macmillan, Marc Young, and John Bell.

Jackie van't Voort