

# **The 2008 Annual Parish Report**



**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Gordonsville, Virginia

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Priest-in-Charge.....	3
2. Senior Warden.....	3
3. Junior Warden.....	4
4. Treasurer.....	5
5. Altar Guild.....	10
6. Choir.....	11
7. Children’s Sunday School.....	12
8. Episcopal Church Women.....	12
9. Hospitality Committee.....	14
10. Outreach Guild.....	14
11. United Thank Offering.....	15
12. Appendix: Excerpt from the “2007 Annual Meeting Minutes”.....	16

### A WORD ABOUT THE 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

The canons of the church require only the election of new vestry members during the “annual meeting”. Therefore this year, the only official business to be conducted will be the election of new vestry members. Once the election is conducted, the official meeting will be concluded. The remaining time will be spent in fellowship over lunch and an informal question and answer period with the Priest-in-Charge.

Questions about the specific content of any of the reports that follow should be addressed directly to the individual who submitted said report.

As always, the Priest-in-Charge is willing to meet and discuss any aspect of our common life in Christ with anyone attending Christ Episcopal Church, Gordonsville. Please feel free to contact him at the office 540-832-3209 or by email [rfichterjr@msn.com](mailto:rfichterjr@msn.com).

## 1. Priest-in-Charge

As of the composition of this report, I will have completed my first six months at Christ Church, Gordonsville. During this time, I have begun to gain an understanding of who you are as an outpost of the Gospel of Christ. I am pleased to say, for the most part, you are a typical and basically healthy rural community parish in the Diocese of Virginia. While you certainly have weathered some unfortunate events in your common life together, you are a vibrant community with the potential for a very strong future.

As your Priest-in-Charge, I am basically your rector with a time certain tenure. What that means is that I committed to the Vestry and the Bishops of Virginia that I would remain here for three years. (Your prior rector's tenure was 3½ years.) There is the possibility for that tenure to be extended; however, that determination will not be made for another two years.

Beside the regular duties I have as priest, pastor and teacher of this parish, I have been charged by the Bishops with ensuring that this community follows the normative patterns for an Episcopal Church parish. For the most part, this charge will not affect my relationship with you. However, there will be times when I am requested to return to outmoded practices of parish administration or worship styles. Regardless of my affections for you, I will not be able to grant such requests. That said there is wide latitude in how we worship and order the parish. And I will do my best to build upon the vibrant yet traditional nature of this parish's ethos.

Lastly, I was very pleased to find that Christ Church is blessed with an excellent staff. Our music department is headed by two very talented musicians: Tom May, organist, and Ben Armistead, our uncompensated choir director. Our buildings are cleaned by our sexton, Sharon Chapman, and her crew. And finally, our parish secretary, Kerri Creel, is a real gem. Her ministry keeps the office running smoothly and makes sure I am on track. I greatly appreciate all the hard work our staff puts into making this parish run well, look good and sound joyful!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Richard E. Fichter, Jr.

## 2. Senior Warden

The year 2008 has been busy and productive in the life of Christ Church. We began the year without a rector and relied on Supply Priests until May 14<sup>th</sup>. During this period we were fortunate to have the Reverend Grace Cangialosi for most services. We were most ably served and are grateful to Grace for her care and compassion.

A Search Committee was formed in January and met with Diocesan staff to begin the process of selecting a new rector. During this period, Bishop Peter James Lee recommended that the Reverend Richard E. Fichter, Jr. be called as Priest-in-Charge for a three year term. The Vestry

voted to accept Bishop Lee's advice and Father Fichter joined us on May 15, 2008. My sincere thanks to the members of the Search Committee for your willingness to serve Christ Church.

The Vestry also decided to pursue the possibility of repaying the loan from the Diocesan Missionary Society for the new Parish Hall. It was determined that the loan balance was \$54,662.11 with an interest rate of 7.25%. On September 24, 2008, the Vestry authorized the Finance Committee and the Treasurer to retire this debt in such manner as to be most advantageous to Christ Church. It was determined that \$30,000 would be paid immediately from the General Endowment money market account, and when the financial markets stabilize, assets will be sold to pay the balance. We will repay ourselves by continuing to make the mortgage payment to the General Endowment until mid 2014. This action will save the parish approximately \$11,730 in interest payments.

In August, the Priest-in-Charge and the Vestry began developing goals to improve the spiritual life of Christ Church. On October 22, 2008, goals were adopted to strengthen the following areas of our ministry:

- Participation of Laity in Worship
- Christian Education
- Youth Group
- Parish Life
- Parish Administration

These goals involve each of us in our daily life in the parish. In order to achieve these goals, it will be necessary for parish members to lend their support to this program. A copy of these goals is available upon request.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude and admiration to the Vestry of Christ Church. We have dealt with many important issues and your devotion to the welfare of Christ Church is exemplary. I believe that we face the future with able Spiritual and lay leadership. It has been a privilege to have served with you this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. Nelson Tucker

### **3. Junior Warden**

The following projects were in progress during the 2008 calendar year:

1. Resolved the water runoff issue from church to High Street
2. Electrical panel of church upgraded to code
3. Church wall repaired
4. Purchase and installation of new church sign

5. Front door of church stripped and painted
6. Bat problem solved at present
7. Trees in church courtyard trimmed
8. Boxwood treatment in courtyard; *ongoing*
9. New cellar door ordered
10. Rubber roof over parish hall bathrooms repaired
11. Rectory gutter reinstalled properly
12. Old satellite dish and cables in rectory yard removed
13. Master bathroom at rectory currently under renovation

Plans for the 2009 calendar year include completion of any outstanding work from 2008 as well as the following new projects:

1. HVAC system at rectory to be updated for better efficiency
2. All other bathrooms in rectory to be remodeled
3. Rectory lawn to be redesigned to be more efficient
4. Crawl space at rectory to have proper vapor barrier and treatment for mold

Respectfully submitted,  
Floyd C. Hill

#### **4. Treasurer**

The following unaudited “balance sheet” gives a snapshot of Christ Church’s financial state. It is divided into three major sections. The first section contains the asset accounts. These are the instruments used to maintain Christ Church’s financial resources (i.e. bank and brokerage firm accounts). The second section lists the liability accounts. These accounts are moneys to be paid by Christ Church and represent monies that cannot be for any other purposes. The last section lists the Fund Balances that represent how the remaining monies not owed as liabilities are distributed.

The Fund Balances are subdivided into four groupings. The first grouping represents the monies used to operate Christ Church on a day to day basis. The “Operating” funds include the “General Operating Fund”, which is the budget, and “Surplus”, which are monies that remained from prior years when income exceeded expenses.

The “Designated” funds are those monies with designated purposes. The “Christ Church Discretionary Fund” is what used to be called the “clergy discretionary fund”. The change in nomenclature for this fund is because of IRS rules. The funds are available for use at the discretion of the clergy but cannot be used to benefit the member of clergy personally. The altar guild fund comprises gifts to the altar guild for flowers and other needs of the altar guild not covered by the standard budget line item.

The “Specified” funds are what are commonly called “endowment funds” at Christ Church. Technically and in a legal sense these funds are not endowments but are rather funds set up by prior vestries for specific purposes. Their existence and usage is at the pleasure of the vestry.

The final subdivision is comprised of those monies which Christ Church has been asked to hold for St. John’s Chapel, which is technically a diocesan chapel. We are merely the local agents for paying the expenses related to the upkeep of said chapel.

A balance sheet is named such because the following mathematically formula must hold true:

$$\text{Assets} = \text{Liabilities} + \text{Fund Balances}$$

**THE BALANCE SHEET FOR OCTOBER 31, 2008**

Account name	Beginning balance	Totals as of Oct 31
Bank of America Checking	\$28,947.86	\$28,109.72
Christ Church Discretionary	\$2,858.95	\$3,058.95
Trustees of Dio of Va Fund	\$28,605.03	\$28,605.03
DMS Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
SS General Endowment Inv	\$202,291.14	\$173,870.10
SS General Endowment MM	\$30,945.74	\$978.25
SS SD Outreach Inv	\$182,108.82	\$160,394.55
SS SD Outreach MM	\$8,975.96	\$8,993.02
SS SD Building Maint Inv	\$141,914.47	\$120,692.60
SS SD Building Maint MM	\$127.28	\$127.52
SS Organ Inv	\$34,756.82	\$29,122.95
SS Organ MM	\$641.30	\$641.35
SS Yard Inv	\$6,042.22	\$5,062.82
SS Yard MM	\$2,388.18	\$2,392.72
<b>Total Assests</b>	<b>\$671,603.77</b>	<b>\$563,049.58</b>
Tax Withholdings	\$648.93	\$0.00
403b	\$400.00	\$6,850.00
Misc Carry-over expenses	\$568.42	\$0.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,617.35</b>	<b>\$6,850.00</b>
General Operating Fund	\$0.00	(\$1,358.34)
Surplus Fund	\$15,849.73	\$15,849.73
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>\$15,849.73</b>	<b>\$14,491.39</b>
Christ Church Discretionary	\$2,858.95	\$3,458.95
Altar Guild Fund	\$705.50	\$448.75
<b>Total Designated</b>	<b>\$3,564.45</b>	<b>\$3,907.70</b>
General Endowment	\$262,841.91	\$204,453.38
Outreach Fund	\$191,084.78	\$169,387.57
Building Maintenance Fund	\$142,041.75	\$120,820.12
Organ Fund	\$35,398.12	\$29,764.30

Account name	Beginning balance	Totals as of Oct 31
Yard Fund	\$8,430.40	\$7,455.54
<b>Total Specified</b>	<b>\$639,796.96</b>	<b>\$531,880.91</b>
St. John's Chapel Fund	\$10,775.28	\$5,919.58
<b>Total Non Christ Church</b>	<b>\$10,775.28</b>	<b>\$5,919.58</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$671,603.77</b>	<b>\$563,049.58</b>

*N.B. – The beginning balances represent the beginning values as of the entry into the accounting system. Not all begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>. In particular, the Scott and Stringfellow (SS) account beginning balances represent the market value as of September 30<sup>th</sup>.*

The loan balance on the parish hall renovation will be \$23,613.48 as of December 2008. After that loan has been repaid to the Diocese in 2011, the same payment amount will be deposited monthly into the General Endowment until the \$30,000 has been restored.

The following is the unaudited “Treasurer’s Report on the General Fund”, better known simply as “the Budget Report”.

**TREASURER’S REPORT ON THE GENERAL FUND FOR OCTOBER 31, 2008**

Category	As of Oct 31	2008 Budget
Plate Offering	\$13,361.86	\$15,000.00
Pledge Offering	\$86,971.69	\$119,100.00
Special Offering	\$2,460.85	\$0.00
Misc. Income	\$838.60	\$0.00
Interest	\$65.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$103,698.00</b>	<b>\$134,100.00</b>
Rector Salary	\$19,375.00	\$40,733.00
Rectors SECA Reimbursement	\$1,350.00	\$3,012.00
Rector Pension	\$7,194.60	\$10,720.00
Rector Insurance	\$1,935.00	\$13,800.00
Rector Transportation	\$120.00	\$1,200.00
Rector Continuing Education	\$1,135.00	\$0.00
Secretary Salary	\$6,000.80	\$6,961.00
Organist Salary	\$5,039.28	\$6,719.00
Sexton Salary	\$3,513.30	\$4,075.00
Child Care Salary	\$270.00	\$600.00
Supply Clergy	\$4,371.68	\$1,000.00
Payroll Tax	\$1,040.49	\$1,249.00
Payroll Services	\$421.71	\$400.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$51,766.86</b>	<b>\$90,469.00</b>
Misc	\$4,741.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total of Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$4,741.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>

**THE 2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

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<b>Category</b>	<b>As of Oct 31</b>	<b>2008 Budget</b>
Electricity	\$2,277.89	\$5,000.00
Fuel Oil and Gas	\$4,917.80	\$7,000.00
Water and Sewer	\$447.31	\$1,500.00
Telephone	\$1,811.27	\$1,200.00
Rectory Electricity	\$1,410.20	\$0.00
Rectory Water and Sewer	\$411.93	\$0.00
<b>Total of Utilities</b>	<b>\$11,276.40</b>	<b>\$14,700.00</b>
Repair and Maint	\$8,468.78	\$5,000.00
Building Maintenance Rep	\$781.99	\$3,000.00
Lawn Care	\$221.72	\$750.00
Facilities Insurance	\$5,305.95	\$6,500.00
<b>Total Facilities</b>	<b>\$14,778.44</b>	<b>\$15,250.00</b>
Office Supplies	\$2,938.56	\$3,000.00
Advertising	\$0.00	\$400.00
Debt Service	\$8,673.70	\$10,409.00
NFS Checks	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stewardship	\$50.00	\$300.00
<b>Total Admin</b>	<b>\$11,662.26</b>	<b>\$14,109.00</b>
Diocesan Pledge	\$6,666.02	\$8,000.00
Region 15	\$500.00	\$500.00
Diocesan Council	\$308.16	\$700.00
<b>Total Diocesan Obligations</b>	<b>\$7,474.18</b>	<b>\$9,200.00</b>
Altar Supplies	\$240.12	\$1,400.00
Choir Supplies	\$0.00	\$300.00
Worship	\$752.35	\$600.00
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$992.47</b>	<b>\$2,300.00</b>
Christian Education	\$646.10	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>\$646.10</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
Hospitality Comm.	\$218.63	\$300.00
<b>Total Parish Fellowship</b>	<b>\$218.63</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
Discretionary	\$1,050.00	\$1,200.00
Christian Welfare Board	\$100.00	\$100.00
Fire Department	\$100.00	\$100.00
Theological Education	\$250.00	\$250.00
<b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,650.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$105,056.34</b>	<b>\$150,978.00</b>
<b>Total Income – Expense</b> <i>(General Operating Fund Balance)</i>	<b>-\$1,358.34</b>	<b>-\$16,878.00</b>

The Vestry at their November meeting passed the “expense side” of the following 2009 Budget.

Category	2008 budget	2009 Budget	Notes
Plate Offering	15,000.00		
Pledge Offering	119,100.00		
Special Offering	0.00		
Misc. Income	0.00		
Interest	0.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>134,100.00</b>		
Rector Salary	40,733.00	46,500.00	43,500 stipend + 3,000 housing allow.
Rectors SECA Reimbursement	3,012.00	3,500.00	actual amt will be 7.65% of stipend, housing, rectory utilities
Rector Pension	10,720.00	12,334.00	from CPG
Rector Insurance	13,800.00	4,644.00	Drop is from Family to Individual Rate
Rector Transportation	1,200.00	2,000.00	to paid by GSA rate for actual mileage
Rector Continuing Education	0.00	1,000.00	use or lose
Secretary Salary	6,961.00	7,226.00	3.8% increase as per Diocesan rate table
Organist Salary	6,719.00	6,974.00	3.8% increase
Sexton Salary	4,075.00	4,229.00	3.8% increase
Child Care Salary	600.00	600.00	
Supply Clergy	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Payroll Tax	1,249.00	1,500.00	7.65% tax on non clergy employees
Payroll Services	400.00	600.00	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>90,469.00</b>	<b>92,107.00</b>	
Misc	2,000.00	2,000.00	
<b>Total Misc</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	
Electricity	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Fuel Oil and Gas	7,000.00	7,000.00	
Water and Sewer	1,500.00	1,200.00	
Telephone	1,200.00	2,200.00	
Rectory Electricity	0.00		rectory utilities are budgeted with church
Rectory Water and Sewer	0.00		actuals will be monitored separately
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>14,700.00</b>	<b>15,400.00</b>	
Repair and Maint	5,000.00	8,000.00	
Building Maintaience Rep	3,000.00		combined with "Repair and Maint"
Lawn Care	750.00	500.00	
Facilities Insurance	6,500.00	6,500.00	
<b>Total Facilities</b>	<b>15,250.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	
Office Supplies	3,000.00	4,000.00	inc from combining "Advt", "Worship"
Advertising	400.00		combined into "Office Supplies" line item
Debt Service	10,409.00	10,409.00	
Stewardship	300.00	300.00	
<b>Total Admin</b>	<b>14,109.00</b>	<b>14,709.00</b>	

Diocesan Pledge	8,000.00	10,500.00	Increase is movement to restore the 10% required by "Virginia Plan"
Region 15	500.00	500.00	
Diocean Council	700.00	500.00	
<b>Total Diocesan Obligations</b>	<b>9,200.00</b>	<b>11,500.00</b>	
Altar Supplies	1,400.00	1,400.00	
Choir Supplies	300.00	300.00	
Worship	600.00		combined with "Office Supplies"
Total Worship	<b>2,300.00</b>	1,700.00	
Christian Education	1,000.00	1,000.00	
<b>Total Christian Ed</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	
Hospitality Comm.	300.00	300.00	
<b>Total Hospitality</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>300.00</b>	
Discretionary	1,200.00	600.00	halved to give money to "Christian Welfare Board"
Christian Welfare Board	100.00	700.00	increased with half of "Discretionary" line item
Fire Department	100.00	200.00	increased with 100 from "Theological Education"
Theological Education	250.00	150.00	reduced by 100 as we have no seminarian
<b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>1,650.00</b>	<b>1,650.00</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>150,978.00</b>	<b>155,366.00</b>	
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-16,878.00</b>		

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Shiflett

## **5. Altar Guild**

The Altar Guild prepares for the meeting of the people with God. Each member is devoted to Christ and His Church to give of herself/himself to the service of the altar.

Our devoted members continue this ministry graciously.

We appreciate Beverley Allison maintaining the fair linens so faithfully. This is a task requiring much skill and patience. Gail Bowers most graciously offered to tend to the rest of the linens used at our services. This assures our inventory is complete and properly handled. She does an excellent job.

The brass is faithfully cared for by Virginia Jarvis, Melanie Fredericks, and Serena Wiley throughout the year. Thank you ladies for a job well done. Thanks to Joe Jarvis for his skill at the repairs that are sometimes needed.

Tom May, Ben Armistead, Greta Shaw, Barbara Shaw, Nicole Greene, Beverly and Nelson Tucker beautifully decorated our church for the Christmas services.

Beverly Tucker, Beverley Allison, Gale Martin, Barbara Shaw, and Claudia Shiflett participated in the Maundy Thursday service. This particular service is one in which Altar Guild shares a visible role.

For Easter, Tom May, Ben Armistead and Team arranged the flowers, again beautifully. We are so fortunate to have their talent available to us.

As of September 2008, Gail Parrish and Beverly Tucker assumed the positions of Co-Chairs of our group. Their capability and experience are invaluable. Their first meeting, held October 19, was quite informative. Father Fichter led an instructional session explaining his preferences in setting up for Holy Eucharist.

The Altar Guild is pleased to welcome new members JoAnne Balling and Nicole and Cecil Greene. Greta Shaw returns to this service after an extended break.

Thank you for your time and service to this ministry. The duties of Altar Guild create an affable fellowship that is reflected in our actions to one another and our church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Shiflett & Barbara Shaw  
*Prior Co-Chairs*  
Gail Parrish & Beverly Tucker  
*Current Co-Chairs*

## **6. Choir**

Music continues to be a vital part of spiritual life here at Christ Church. Visitors regularly comment on the level of congregational participation in the hymns and other service music.

It would also not be possible to have the kind of music we have here without the continued dedication and support of our choir members. This outstanding group is always open to new ideas and regularly put church first each Sunday as they come together to prepare and present our music in both a spiritual and joyful manner.

Thanks also to Marilyn Freidag who has volunteered to take on a much-needed task - to present music to our youth in Sunday School. This is now being done on a monthly basis. Thank you, Marilyn.

We look forward to being able to further enhance the features of the organ as we receive future contributions to the Organ Endowment Fund.

Please consider joining the choir. We are always in need of additional members. It is both fun and rewarding in so many ways.

Respectfully submitted,  
Benjamin C. Armistead  
Choirmaster

## **7. Children's Sunday School**

The Sunday school has been enjoying our new equipment and supplies that we got after the basement flooded last year. As our children grow older, the numbers in each classroom fluctuate, and currently the elementary class is the largest and the pre-school class has decreased in size. We welcome all ages of children in our classrooms.

Thanks to our children's minute, we have made a point to focus on the life of Moses and all have seemed to enjoy this special lesson.

Many thanks go to Susette Goodwin who teaches the middle school class and to Carolyn Silberman who teaches the elementary class. They both have put a lot of time and effort into their classes. It takes a lot of commitment from these two very busy women to be there regularly for the children of the church.

I want to thank Stephanie Small for her constant help in the nursery and also with the elementary class lessons. Her devotion to the children of the church shows each time they come running to her to give her hugs and kisses.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Shaw  
Sunday School Chairman

## **8. Episcopal Church Women**

The Episcopal Church Women of Christ Church continues to carry forward its mission of service, gifts and fellowship to the parish, the community, and beyond. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, excluding July and August. Most meetings this year were held at the homes of our members, with 2 meetings held at the Parish Hall, and one hosted by our Priest-in-charge, Richard Fichter, Jr., at the Rectory.

Our close-knit group lost a beloved, long-standing member this year. Frances Wilson passed away in January. She was an integral part of ECW for many years, and until her death served as

our Prayer Leader, leading us in prayer from an old-fashioned hard cover writing tablet, in which she had hand-written a wonderful collection of prayers. Past president Molly Barrow has taken over this position and continues to read and lead our prayers from Frances' book. In February, we made a donation to the Diocesan Book of Prayer in loving memory of Frances. In June, ECW also made donations for the Book of Remembrances for church members Dennis Chapman and Sallie Bromm who had recently passed away.

On behalf of the Church and the Shelton/Daniel Fund, we made donations to Christian Appalachian Project, Hospice of the Rapidan, Sheltering Arms, Schoolhouse at Rio, Jackson Field Home, and Our Little Roses. These organizations do wonderful work locally, in the region, and beyond, and we are grateful to be able to support their efforts to help those in need.

We continued our connection with the Christian Appalachian Project throughout the year. In March, we organized a church-wide appeal for funds to help deal with the ravages of recent tornadoes in the mountains of Appalachia. We were able to forward a collection of \$1,000 for this important ministry. As mentioned above, we contributed a portion of the Shelton Daniel Fund monies to CAP. And in September, we surprised ourselves by hosting yet another Card Party/Luncheon and raffle for the benefit of CAP. This event was a real success, not only for the funds it raised ( \$1,000 ), but for the good time it provided for the folks who came to play cards and munch, and for all who worked together to pull it off - including ladies from Outreach and kids from our Youth Group. We continue to collect books for the children of Appalachia and hope to have a plan in place soon to deliver them to the appropriate location.

At our March meeting, we assembled 84 Easter greeting cards for patients at McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond. We added our own written personal message and enclosed an additional printed message and a copy of the "Footprints" poem. A bulk package was sent to the hospital for distribution to the veterans before Easter, so that they would receive our messages of thanks, remembrance, and good wishes at that special time.

In April, we embarked on a new project: the knitting and crocheting of afghans, laprobes and shawls for the patients at the Veterans and Brain Injured Center in Charlottesville. Thanks to the tremendous support of many members of the church, as well as our own ECW membership, we were able to collect a beautiful array of items, reflecting a wide variety of color schemes and pattern designs.

We continue to collect loose change in the famous clay "Leper Pig" at the conclusion of our meetings. We sent a check for \$150 to Rising Star, an organization helping a leper colony in India. At our November meeting, we watched a short video documenting the work of this mission.

Other ongoing ECW involvements include the spring and fall ingathering for UTO, the sale of note cards and cookbooks, and sending cards to members of the Parish to celebrate happy times and/or to express thoughts of care in difficult times.

We plan to continue our tradition of helping one another and those who are in need, and we extend a welcome invitation to all women of Christ Church who might wish to join us in our efforts. We would love to see you at one of our meetings - come and discover what a great little group we are!!

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie Fredericks  
ECW President

## **9. Hospitality Committee**

The Hospitality Committee ensures that you have a wonderful coffee hour and also supplies the kitchen and bathroom needs of the church. The committee consists of four members who donate their time to help set up and clean up each Sunday and all special meetings such as the annual meeting.

Our retiring members this year are Claire Taylor and Gail Dunne. Many thanks go to them for their help this past year. Dorsey Comer and Barbara Shaw are remaining on the committee for another year. Please thank Claire and Gail for their faithful service. There is a need for two new members, and we would welcome anyone who would wish to volunteer.

The Hospitality team would also like to thank everyone who pitched in and helped with the set up and clean-up of coffee hour during this past year. Special thanks to Beverly Tucker who is our coffee making expert. Everyone's help is invaluable and much appreciated.

We would also like to thank the parishioners who have signed up to host coffee hours throughout the year. The coffee hour has become a special time for parishioners to visit with each other and get to know newcomers. We would like to encourage anyone who has not previously hosted a coffee hour to team up with someone else and give it a try. We can keep this coffee hour very simple with some cookies and some fruit or crackers & cheese. Although we all love the great "meals" that are provided, we do not want anyone to feel that this must be presented at each coffee hour. We will help you in any way that you need.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Shaw

## **10. Outreach Guild**

Outreach Guild met ten times during the past year. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month with a potluck and business meeting following.

The Outreach Guild accomplishments are listed below. However, these projects would not have happened without the continued help of other Christ Church parishioners. We thank you for your help and support with our projects.

Projects completed by the Outreach Guild this year:

- Pancake Supper
- Bible School
- Rummage Sale
- Booth at Gordonsville Street Fair

Donations were made to the following projects by the Outreach Guild:

- Boy's Home Covington – Through Shelton Daniels Fund
- St. Andrew's School – Through Shelton Daniels Fund
- Episcopal Relief Development for Midwest Flood
- Gordonsville Library Fund
- Shrine Mont Scholarship for Anna Grove

Future projects:

- Angel tree November 11th -December 9th for local needy children
- Becoming involved in supporting Sheltering Arms Homeless Shelter in Orange, VA

Please join us at our meeting in January 2009. Check the monthly details for information about our meeting time and place. Also, a special thanks to Kerri, our church secretary, for all her help in getting our information into the bulletin and newsletters. Another special thanks to Jo Ann Balling for donating a quilt for our quilt raffle held during the Pancake Supper.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gail Dunne, Chairperson  
Christ Church Outreach Guild

## **11. United Thank Offering**

Our Spring 2008 United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering was held on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup> before Ascension Day, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our Fall Ingathering will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

As we know, the UTO is a personal and family devotional program of the Episcopal Church. It is the sum of our thanks for the blessings in our lives and hopes for a better life for others worldwide.

We take action by putting coins in the blue box and emptying it (or a check) in the blue envelopes and placing it in one of the offering baskets. It will be united with the prayers and offerings of Episcopalians— its ministries and grants reaching around the world. The Diocese of Virginia has 130 churches in fifteen regions contributing to the UTO every year. Our April offering was \$319.00 and was sent to the Diocese of Virginia. This year it is directed to the needs of women and children. A new vision statement for the UTO states, “We will significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ’s love.”

Let us continue to be active participants in God’s work in the world.

Yours in Christ and Thanksgiving,  
Molly Barrow  
UTO Coordinator

## **12. Appendix: Excerpt from the “2007 Annual Meeting Minutes”**

*As canon law requires only that elections be held during the annual meeting, the following excerpt from the voluminous minutes is presented here. The full text of the minutes may be found in the parish vestry archives that are available to any member of the parish at any time during normal office hours.*

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For the Election of New Vestry Members, Fr. MacPhail announced that four nominations for four positions were submitted. The four nominees so named are John McWhorter, Ben Armistead, Floyd Hill and Sara Chiles. A call for any nominations from the floor was made. There being no further nominations, a motion was made by Joe Jarvis to close the nominations, seconded by Greta Shaw. The four nominees submitted were therefore voted into office by acclamation. Fr. MacPhail offered a thank you on behalf of all to those Vestry members who would be leaving at the end of this year.

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