

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

2009 Highlights

Personnel Committee

- Adopted new personnel policies such as Parental Leave and a Nepotism policy. Completed revision of Employee Handbook.
- Participated in annual reviews and established salary raises for employees and proposed terms of call for the pastors.
- Reviewed and approved changes to job descriptions and participated in the search process for several new hires and newly-created positions, such as Doug Congdon as Director of High School Ministry, Mark Charbonneau as Director of Local and Regional Mission, Nancy Gray as Director of Communications, and Todd Mayo as Director of Contemporary Music.
- Helped create personnel budget which included proposed raises for staff in 2010.
- Studied the book *Incarnate Leadership* by Bill Robinson together.
- Recognized staff who had served our church 20+ years, including Emily Craven, Cindy Gangstad, Paul Keith, Travis Lewis and Dee Fuger.
- Assisted the new senior pastor in relocating to Austin and helped him establish a new schedule for staff meetings and a new structure of staff alignment.

Facilities Committee

- Completed a lighting retrofit project covering classrooms and common areas which has resulted in at least a 15% reduction in electric utility cost.
- Updated facilities plans were prepared as a resource for future construction, presentations and space allocation.
- Initiated an effort to coordinate and enhance décor in the common areas. Specific projects were window treatments in the Chapel, cry room and music room.
- Removed a large dead oak tree in the play ground area, replaced the tree and upgraded the area.
- Deferred the third phase of roof replacement because of budget constraints. The necessary repairs to get us through the year were made instead.
- The 15 passenger vans were removed from passenger service (safety concerns). The buses were upgraded by an improved maintenance program.
- Long Range Plan: A review and analysis of previous work on facilities expansion as a starting point for a future expansion was done. A presentation to Session has been prepared.

Finance Committee

- Oversaw the management of the operating budget for 2009, staying within budget and ending the year with a small surplus.
- Developed a 2010 balanced budget while still providing the financial support needed to continue the church's program and administrative junctions without borrowing money.

Communications

- Maintained website using Church Square.
- Published the Echo monthly.
- Continued use of plasmas in the building and Media Shout in worship.
- Worked with individual ministries to publicize and promote events and programs.
- Hired Nancy Gray as new Director of Communications.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Brad Shields, Moderator; Sam Cangelosi, Vice-Moderator; Ki-Mi Fields, Secretary

Class of 2009: Ki-Mi Fields, Mike Grome, Marion Nordeman, Terri Key, Brad Shields, Walter Stokes, Stacy Winegar

Class of 2010: Sam Cangelosi, Scott Ela, Mary Jo Ingram, Shirley Kopp, Keith Martinson, Jeanne Otto, Mike Wetzel

Class of 2011: Leigh Doggett, Melanie Hirschfeld, Ann Holden, Betty Jo Harris-Sahling, Paul Tiah

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2009 Highlights

- Flower Ministry - Coordinated the delivery of hundreds of flower vases from the weekly worship services to individuals and families of the Cares and Concerns list.
- Bereavement Ministry - Hosted receptions at numerous funeral and memorial services.
- Prayer Ministry - Lead the deacons in intentional prayers for the WHPC family.
- New Members Ministry - Assisted with the new members classes conducted this year by welcoming new members and helping to introduce them to other members in their NCG.
- NCG Leader Support and Training - Trained and supported those who step forward to serve as leaders in their NCG to provide them with the tools and resources to work alongside the deacons to care for NCG members and help them connect through opportunities for service and fellowship. This group has also been working to find a new mission for the NCG's and will lead a reorganization in 2010.
- Special events Ministry - Coordinated the parlor hosting activities as well as providing refreshments and meals for the choir and staff during Easter and Christmas celebrations.

WHPC FOUNDATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Van Hoisington, Peter Barnes, Betsy Scheffe, Bob Bowman, Morris Davis, John Doty, John Gangstad, Susie Kelly and Bud Reynolds.

DONORS 2009

John and Catherine Doty. Wesley Crochet, Bud and Sue Reynolds. Van and Jeanne Hoisington.

We are thankful for WHPC members who have contributed to a permanent fund, the Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church Foundation, in an effort to give back to our world and community.

The fund provides support to:

- Hospitals and schools in developing areas of the world
- Pastors, seminary students or other teachers spreading God's Word
- The physical facilities of WHPC
- Local ministries and outreach programs

GRANT RECIPIENTS IN 2009

- WHPC Seminary Students

Three members of our own church who attend Austin Theological Seminary received grants to help them pay for tuition and fees, and purchase books.

- Justo Mwale Seminary Students

The Foundation supported three seminarians in Zambia with a grant for tuition and books.

- Fundacion el Samaritano Ambulatory Surgery Center
- Nicaraguan Theological Institute

A grant provided surgery equipment for this center in Managua, Nicaragua.

The Foundation provided money to train pastors in Nicaragua who are working on their three-year diplomas or the four-year baccalaureate program.

- Casa Esperanza

A grant provided support and shelter to women in Nicaragua seeking a new life after working in the sex trade.

For more information about how you can participate in the WHPC Foundation, go to [www.whpc.org /About Us/WHPC Foundation](http://www.whpc.org/AboutUs/WHPC_Foundation); or you may call Susie Kelly at 306-9086.

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Annual Report

Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church

A MESSAGE FROM DR. BARNES

Dear Friends in Christ,

2009 was quite a year of change, challenge, and opportunity! As *A Tale of Two Cities* said many years ago, it could be said it was the best of times and it was the worst of times. On the one hand, it was the worst of times. The economic meltdown which began in 2008 continued through 2009, and many say it was the worst economic challenge our country has seen since the Great Depression. Many in our congregation lost jobs; others lost income. In addition, a number of our church families experienced other kinds of loss through the death of loved ones, declining health, and dashed dreams of one kind or another. I had one friend say that given the economy and the health crises his family faced, he looked forward to saying to 2009, “Going, going, gone!”

On the other hand it could be said 2009 was the best of times. Despite the many challenges we faced, God was faithful to see us through and we have many reasons for giving thanks. A new senior pastor (me!) and his wife moved to Austin and began their ministry at WHPC, God called new staff which have brought a new sense of optimism, hope and passion, people who left our church during the interim period have returned, and we finished the year in the black financially. There is much to be thankful for as we reflect on the past year.

In the pages of this annual report you will read the various reports of our divisions, committees, and ministry areas. You’ll also note the “numbers” of our church in terms of finances and membership. However, what I want to make sure you and I don’t lose sight of the people behind all these numbers and the lives that are being changed through the ministry of WHPC. This is a church where the Lord is doing exciting things. God is at work, and, as C.S. Lewis once wrote in his *Chronicles of Narnia*, Aslan is on the move! Let us give thanks to God for His unfailing love and faithfulness, and let us look in faith to Him as we head into 2010. To God be the glory!

Dr. Peter B. Barnes
Senior Pastor

COMMUNITY DIVISION

Division Members:

Elders Kerry Pollard, Helen Marrow, Vicki Gabriel, Barbara Humphrey, and Drew Beckley

At the heart of all the programs and ministries of the Community Division is our sincere desire to help WHPC nurture relationships with God, one another, our neighbors and the world.

2009 Highlights

- **Leadership Development**

In 2009, the Community Division was comprised of five sub-teams:

Hospitality, Special Events, New Member Class, Preferred Path and Congregational Care. Our elder team leaders are Terry Irion, Chair. Jarrett Anderson, Hospitality. Jim Johnson, New Member Class. Kerry Pollard, Preferred Path and Vicki Gabriel, Congregational Care.

- **Community Connections**

In 2009, we intentionally increased hosting events that nurture relationships in our church community. They included four pancake breakfasts, one cinnamon roll Sunday, the All Church Retreat, Summer Family Movie Nights, the We Are One Fall Kick off, and the Old Fashioned Christmas Caroling event.

- **Community Care**

In 2009, we deepened our intention to care for one another by revising the Weekly Prayer Guide and Congregational Care Update, sending it to the entire church membership. We also introduced the Preferred Path to the congregation as our preferred conflict resolution path at WHPC. In the last quarter, we began a new Marriage Support Ministry, which is planning several major events in 2010.

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WORSHIP DIVISION

Division Members

Elders: Nick Dunn (Chair); John Hurst, Sheryl Streder-Becker; Deacons: Shirley Kopp
Members: Mike and Judy Ervin (Communion Coordinators); Luke Lowery (Usher Coordinator); Kent Redding, (Hospitality); Barbara Lundeen, (Decorations)
Staff: Peter Barnes (Senior Pastor); Emily Craven, (Director of Music); Paul Keith, (Organist)

2009 Highlights

- Hiring of Todd Mayo as Director of Contemporary Worship, to lead and direct music at the 9:00 contemporary service.
- A summer worship schedule was adopted to combine resources and gather the congregation into 2 services instead of 3, with a traditional format at the early service and a blended format at the later service.
- Worship Survey of the congregation conducted in September to gather information about the summer worship schedule, year-round worship times and formats, local missions participation and hospitality.
- The decoration committee refreshed the Christmas decorations, adding a new Crismon tree, lights on the balcony garlands, and decorations in the new chapel.
- In an effort to be inclusive, communion options included a gluten-free station as well as individual cups instead of the common cup as a precaution against germs.
- The division supported special services which included both traditional and contemporary music and musicians on several occasions: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, single services in September and December, as well as Peter Barnes’ installation service in March.
- Members of the Music Ministry - adult, youth and children - continued their mission to express their love for God through music, to use their musical gifts, to grow in fellowship with one another and to enjoy the gladness of praising the Lord together.

MISSION DIVISION

Division Members

Elders: Phil Haag (Chair), Kathleen Bender (Preschool), Jerry Hughes (Global), Wally Warrenburg (Local); Deacon: Keith Martinson; Members: Larry Bloomquist (Evangelism), Karen Burgess (Denominational Relations), Chris Shannon (Financial Stewardship); Staff: Carol Friesen, Linda Barstow (Jan.-July ’09), Mark Charbonneau (Aug.-Dec. ’09), Susan Bright (Preschool).

The vision of the Mission Division is to intentionally nurture our relationships with our neighbors and the world through 1) local and regional partnerships, 2) global mission partnerships, 3) evangelism, 4) stewardship of time, talents and treasure 5) developing our denominational connections and 6) ministering to our community through the preschool.

2009 Highlights

- Monthly Mission Spotlights took place during each of the Sunday worship services.
- Mission Sunday on April 19 celebrated our Partnerships in the City and Around the World.
- Mark Charbonneau came on as a fulltime Local and Regional Mission Director.
- Short Term Mission Trips to Mexico, Nicaragua, Zambia and Afghanistan.
- The Environmental Stewardship Team presented to each Sunday School class and continues to champion the use of non-disposable mugs and dishware at WHPC.
- Matthew’s Market highlighted awareness of our Mission Partners taking \$9,000 (75% more than 2008) .
- A mission survey revealed that 24% of respondents serve a local mission at least once a month.
- WHPC gave over \$450,000 in 2009 to support our mission partners locally and around the world.
- Our Christmas Eve Offering for a WHPC Habitat Build here in Austin was over \$58,000.

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DISCIPLESHIP DIVISION

Division Members

Elders: Craig Fleming, (Chair); Mary Reagan; Jim McBride; Fred Wilder;
Staff: Ron Ragsdale (Director of Discipleship); Cindy Gangstad (Director of Children’s Ministries); Doug Congdon (Director of High School Ministries); Jay Patterson (Director of Middle School Ministries); Kathryn Weldin (Director of Women’s Ministries); Peggy Greenawalt (Librarian)

The mission of the Discipleship Division is to foster growth as disciples of Jesus Christ together as we nurture relationships with God, one another, our neighbors and the world. The scope of the division includes ministry to children and their families, middle school and high school students and their families, college, adults, Christian education, and men’s and women’s ministries.

2009 Highlights

- **Adult Ministry**

Participation in adult Sunday School waned. A number of new classes were developed in the second half of 2009 with significant attendance. A Marriage Ministry Team was created in conjunction with the Community Division with new programs coming “on line” in January, 2010. Young Couples Ministry was formed and has begun meeting. Through adult education and ministry team venues, WHPC carries out a broad-based program of connection and discipleship for members.

- **Women’s Ministry**

Kathryn Weldin continues to lead an active array of women’s groups and opportunities. Special mention goes to the continued blessings from the monthly 1st Thursday Fellowship Luncheons and the new Women Making A Difference in Marriage Bible study.

- **Men’s Ministry**

Tuesday Morning Men’s Group continued its growth in discipleship and Kingdom impact. Through the men’s group, members are engaged in evangelism, service, and local / regional / global mission. “As Iron Sharpens Iron” is our theme, and it is truly what we do as God works within us.

- **High School**

2009 was a year of transition in high school ministry. Doug Congdon came as new director in June. Weekly discipleship groups increased with new volunteer youth-workers engaged with kids. Excellent participation in all major program elements of HS ministry, e.g., summer camp, Confirmation, and Celebration. God is faithful and mightily at work in kids’ lives! We are excited about the future of WHPC high school ministry.

- **Middle School**

JAM, Sunday School, Sunday Night Bible Study, retreats, summer camp, one-day-get-aways, and service projects ... WHPC Middle School Ministry was active and effective throughout 2009. Jay Patterson concluded a long and fruitful service in December. Morgan Stokes also concluded as MS associate director. Leigh Congdon is serving as interim director as a nation-wide search takes place. Like our HS ministry, we celebrate the past and look forward to an exciting future.

- **Children’s Ministry**

Continued emphasis on Family Ministry with many resources and events throughout the year. Another record with VBS attendance (over 400 children). Expanded engagement of children and families in mission-service, e.g., shoes for Mexico and Nicaragua, presents for Operation Christmas Child, etc. Kingdom Court on Sunday mornings with additional learning goals each month. 2009 was a vibrant year in WHPC Children’s Ministry.

- **Library**

The WHPC library is staffed by Peggy Greenawalt and Colleen Bull. The collections are constantly upgraded and well-used by visitors and members. The librarians encourage the connection with our preschool and children’s ministry. Daytime and evening women’s book clubs meet monthly. Over 20 staff computer desktops were loaded with the library online catalogue, and an additional patron computer has been added for catalogue search. The reading corner was remodeled. Book reviews are also submitted periodically to the Echo.

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