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Rector's Annual Report

Submitted by: Fr. Raymond Hess III

This past year was a time for continued healing, refocusing, and some growth for St. Mary's. We have continued the healing process from our membership losses in 2008. It has taken time for us to let go of those who departed, to sort out how to do our ministries with those who are here, and to cope with real financial challenges. By the middle of 2009, we seemed ready to move on emotionally and spiritually.

The financial challenges have been more stubborn. In 2008, we lost about \$60,000 in pledges, which carried over into 2009. In our budget for 2009, the vestry cut all possible expenses and planned to use our financial reserves (about \$20,000) to help us get through the year. By mid-year, we could see that we were using up our reserves faster than anticipated. Expenses were as planned, but we did not have much membership growth, and pledges did not come in as well as we expected. We made things work over the summer because of excellent fund raisers, but by fall it was clear that finances for the rest of the year would be very tight. The vestry was also aware that in 2010 we would not have any reserves to help us. Before the end of the year, the vestry decided that we could not fund a full-time rector position for 2010 (more about this later).

One very positive part of 2009 was our fund raising work. We had four successful, fun events: the fireworks booth in July, the rummage sale in August, the Heavenly Faire in November, and the tamale sales in November and December. Our parish members worked very hard on these events, we had great participation in doing the fund raisers, people had fun with one another, we created good community visibility, and each event made a lot of money for our ministries. Thanks to all who gave so much to make these events happen, especially Rod Pugh, John and Angie Taylor, Lois Anderson and Lori Hill, and Barbara Nill!

Another wonderful parish event of 2009 was our Kids Kamp (what we used to call Vacation Bible School). We did a "home-grown" camp this year with the theme "Harry Potter and God's School of Wisdom and Wizardry." We had invaluable help for the program from St. Paul's, Benicia. The Kids Kamp was a fantastic experience, with great craft projects and the transformation of our worship space into Hogwarts Hall, complete with Hedwig the owl messenger each morning! I thank all who taught and helped with our camp, especially Lois Anderson and Lori Hill for amazing work on our crafts.

An important part of our refocusing in 2009 was the creation of a new parish slogan. We had a very participatory process for this, with parish members entering ideas for slogans and then a parish vote to decide the winning slogan. The winner was "Opening Hearts and Minds to All." I think that this was guided by the Holy Spirit and reflects well our parish focus now. We are a parish truly open to all – including people of different ages, cultures, races, sexual orientation, and theological views. I believe that we are really growing into this slogan – not as a surface slogan but as a deeper statement of who we are as a parish community.

In the second half of 2009, we started to grow again in membership. In the past six months, we have seen many more visitors on Sundays. Our Sunday attendance has grown from about 85 per Sunday to about 100 per Sunday by the end of the year. We have worked hard on our newcomer incorporation process, with new welcome folders for guests, regular newcomer desserts, better tracking of newcomers, and a continuous six-session Newcomer Class on Sunday mornings.

We have important ministries ahead of us for 2010. In the first half of the year, we will complete the renovation of our church building, especially of our worship space, along with adding new landscaping at the church entryway. We plan to develop our children's ministry and to start new youth ministry, especially for the junior high age group. I have the goal of doing good work on our adult formation (adult education and spiritual growth) with classes like Living the Questions. We will need to adjust to my working $\frac{3}{4}$ time in 2010. The way I will do this is to take one long weekend off each month (Thursday through Monday). Because I will have less time available for parish ministries, I will have to

be focused in my use of time, and our lay leaders will need to pick up some of the ministries I have been doing.

I thank all our staff – Mark Voskuil, Shannon Castaneda, and Maria Yearwood – for wonderful ministry in the midst of change and financial challenges. Thanks also to our vestry, especially to our wardens Angie Taylor and Barbara Nill. I have deeply enjoyed working with Angie and Barbara in the struggles and joys of the past year. I also thank my wife Deborah for being a loving companion in ministry and family. I have confidence that 2010 will be a year of strength, increasing health, and growth for St. Mary's.

In Jesus' love,
Father Ray



Office Annual Report

Submitted by: Mark Voskuil

2009 was a challenging and stressful year in the church office. It was distressing to see so many leave St. Mary's and to be a part of the crash of our finances.

The development of the PowerPoint presentations for two of our Sunday services has made following the service much easier for newcomers and seasoned Episcopalians alike. Paper publications continue to include booklets for the 7:30 & 11:00 a.m. services, funerals, and weddings, the five Easter week services, Christmas Eve and Day, Annual Reports, sign-ups, flyers for the Fireworks Stand and Rummage Sale, inserts for announcements, calendar, lay schedules, and prayers at the Sunday services. Also, the Christmas letters, the Easter letters, welcome letters, transfer letters, and other miscellaneous communications. Our Riso duplicator, printer, and copier get quite a workout and do a great job.

One of my other duties is keeping the membership roster up to date. This database enables us to address all of our mailings accurately, communicate through e-mail (if you gave us your e-mail address!), and our telephone roster.

In addition to answering the phone, responding to any messages or e-mails that come in, and checking the mail, this time of year is also busy with state and diocesan business. Reports need to be filed with both entities and the Parochial Report is due soon, updates to the Diocesan newsletter mailing list and updating of the parish web site. These tasks are all things that I am able to do to free up Fr. Ray so that he is able to do the job that he was hired to do, the pastoral care of our parish family.

Well, I couldn't do it alone. A special Thank You to our "Booklet Crew", Angela Campbell and Bob Weil. And to our "Mailing Crew", Clayton and Jean Beach, Ron and Ann Mendleski, and the others that dedicated their time to help out with assembling and envelope stuffing.

The challenges will continue into 2010 as my hours have been cut to 10 per week. We now need volunteer help in the office so if anyone is interested in helping out, contact Fr. Ray. In the coming year my challenges will include keeping costs down for our publications and postage, trying to keep our web site current, and keeping our equipment running. Since my hours have been slashed to help balance the budget the office will only be open periodically.

Music Director Annual Report

Submitted by: Shannon Castañeda

During 2009:

- The Quest service was reworked to include more spoken liturgy in an effort to more accurately reflect our Episcopalian identity
- Advent Lessons & Carols became a Sunday morning service rather than an evening event
- A library-on-disk of worship song/hymn accompaniments was begun; songs and hymns are being continually added
- Additional microphones, cords, mic stands, and music stands were purchased to accommodate a growing vocal ensemble
- Percussion was a welcome addition to the 11:00 service music



Senior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: Angela Taylor

People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them.
~G.B. Shaw, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, 1893

With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable.
~Thomas Foxwell Buxton

Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go.
~William Feather

It is hard to find the perfect quote that accurately describes the year of 2009, but based on the ones above you get the point. 2009 was an interesting year; chock full of challenge, yet brimming with blessing. It is true silver always lines the clouds.

The new 2009 Vestry initially aimed to press on with our freshly minted strategic plan, but soon realized with current resources it was best to refocus on ensuring a well-run church in which to welcome and nurture the community. However, carrying out what St. Mary's discerned as God's plans through these objectives remains a commitment for us. One positive result of this refocus is the creation of a solid ministry structure better representing our current level of ministry.

The single largest challenge faced this year was addressing a difficult financial situation caused by cash flow, ministry level and prolonged recession. The Clergy, Wardens, Vestry, and Finance committee realigned the 2009 budget. With a revised budget, parishioner support, and four fund raisers normally used for special projects and outreach (Fireworks Booth, Rummage Sale, Heavenly Faire, and Tamale sales) we made it. These successes proved once again God is full of grace through the wonderful we-can-do-this, and fun spirit so characteristic of St. Mary's.

We discovered in building the budget for 2010 that we could not afford a full-time Rector for this coming year. We were blessed with a miraculous solution. With permission from the Bishop, Father Ray was able to retire and also choose to continue as our Rector. Father Ray's dedication to God's work through St. Mary's is just one example of how blessed we are to have him, and his wife, Deborah. We look forward with the hope of having a budget sufficient to support a full-time rector as soon as next year.

It is clearly evident in describing the events of the last year that God provided in each situation. And, there is more! There were many other blessings during the year including, but not limited to, the following:

- We had a fantastic Harry Potter themed Kids Kamp that was so much fun for all the participants and members that put it on. We all became kids the final Sunday of camp with a transformed church.
- St. Mary's had its first ever Seder Supper. Much effort went into creating a beautiful and meaningful evening.
- Through the Rummage Sale we were able to bless people in Nigeria with clothing, St. Matthews with upper end clothing for their clothes closet, the America's Veterans with miscellaneous items, and we donated many things to needy families in our own neighborhood.
- The annual ski trip was great fun for those who went.
- Starting with the Heavenly Faire, each fund raiser will now donate 10% to outreach ministries.
- We have given food to the Elk Grove Food Closet, baby items and clothing to local families, and funds for a new roof for our sister parish in the Philippines.
- A slogan contest provided our new "branding": Opening Hearts and Minds to All. Plus a beautiful graphic was created to accompany the slogan.
- A new Diocese Communication Director is professionally guiding us in all communication efforts.
- New members are welcomed into our community through an innovative Newcomer's class.
- The Quest service is going strong with plenty of wonderful music, drama, and video.
- St. Mary's has joined the social networking world--we are on Facebook!



Junior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: Barbara Nill

As I think back on 2009 and what God has done within our St Mary's congregation, I am reminded of the letter I wrote when I became your Junior Warden 12 months ago. It focused on the warmth and welcome that many of you feel and try to convey to all in our midst when they enter St. Mary's for worship and for activities or events. I discussed our challenge and hope of taking our welcoming and warm spirit out the doors and into our community. I am happy to say that in 2009 I think we began to do that. We started to create opportunities within our parish and community that echoed our motto, Opening Hearts and Minds to All. We focused our ministry structures around our core values of commitment, care, compassion, and celebration. We tried to make our parish worship offerings diverse but still remain Eucharist centered and welcoming. We had lively and respectful communication process with one another and in our committee and vestry meetings and realized that although we did not agree on everything, we continually sought God's presence in our planning, implementation, and evaluation.

We welcomed new members to our parish this past year that have enhanced our St. Mary's family. Their presence makes us new and fresh and reminds us that each person within our congregation, new and not so new, defines who we are and who we will become as a parish.

When we consider the financial realities we had to address and grapple with in 2009, commitment and care defeated doom and gloom. When asked to commit financially to your parish for 2010 you all responded by showing your stewardship to St. Mary's and God's work in your life. When asked to help and support the fellowship events, fireworks booth, the rummage sale, the tamales sales, the Heavenly Faire, you answered by committing time, talent, and treasure. You worked hard, hopefully had some fun, and got to know your fellow parishioners a bit better. We hope to continue this dynamic during our church renovation for 2010 and in all our worship, parish activities, fellowship events, and fun(d)raisers for 2010.

In closing, I thank you all for what you bring to St. Mary's. Your commitment, care, compassion, and celebration. I am proud to represent you as your People's Warden and look forward to doing God's work with you in our parish, our community, and in our world.

Average Sunday Attendance

2009	86.8
2008	111.6
2007	112.5
2006	98.7
2005	108.1
2004	118.7
2003	141.3
2002	139.9
2001	131.3
2000	139.0
1999	137.0
1998	135.0



Treasurer Annual Report

Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

Savings, Investments & Loans Summary

	12/31/2008	12/31/2009
New Building Funds		
Smith Barney CDs	\$ 78,299	\$ 53,250
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 2,152	\$ 14,741
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 42,475	\$ 33,127
Patelco CU Checking	\$ 110	\$ 82
	\$ 123,036	\$ 101,199
Designated Funds/Memorial Money		
Smith Barney	\$ 2,215	\$ 1,600
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 37,385	\$ 11,811
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 10,160	\$ 10,402
Discretionary Fund	\$ 3,471	\$ 2,232
Patelco Credit Union Checking	\$ 326	\$ 1,023
	\$ 53,556	\$ 27,068
 Total Checking, Savings, CDs	 \$ 176,592	 \$ 128,267
 Back Apportionment Loan	 \$ 8,739	 \$ 5750.00

Annual Meeting Budget Report

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Budget	2009 Actual	2010 Budget
Budgeted Income:					
Pledges	\$183,260.00	\$145,672.00	\$120,000.00	\$119,250.00	\$128,300.00
Givers of Record / Plate	\$15,500.00	\$9,380.00	\$10,000.00	\$13,386.00	\$10,000.00
Strawberry Field Rental	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Assistance from Diocese	\$0.00	\$18,174.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scrip/Fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$13,221.00	\$10,000.00
Reserve Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00	\$20,587.00	\$0.00
Rental Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$2,700.00
Total Income	\$199,260.00	\$173,626.00	\$158,000.00	\$167,294.00	\$151,000.00
Budgeted Expenses:					
Adult Formation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Advertising	\$2,700.00	\$3,527.00	\$0.00	\$3,209.00	\$700.00
Apportionment	\$32,000.00	\$32,570.00	\$27,000.00	\$33,146.00	\$23,200.00
Apportionment Note	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,989.00	\$3,000.00
Building & Grounds	\$2,300.00	\$2,153.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,270.00	\$1,400.00
Capitol Expenditures	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Child & Youth Formation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Christian Education:					
General Education	\$400.00	\$228.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunday School/Chapel	\$700.00	\$511.00	\$1,000.00	\$282.00	\$0.00
Youth Activities	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Continuing Ed.-Music Director	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Convention	\$100.00	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Discretionary Fund	\$1,200.00	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Growth & Opportunity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,800.00
Hospitality Expense	\$500.00	\$219.00	\$1,250.00	\$593.00	\$500.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$3,500.00	\$4,374.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,792.00	\$4,800.00
Music Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,900.00	\$1,500.00
Non-Designated Funds	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Expense	\$8,000.00	\$7,412.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,677.00	\$3,000.00
Phone & DSL	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,979.00	\$2,000.00
Outreach/Evangelism	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,566.00	\$1,000.00
Payroll Expense	\$119,654.00	\$121,586.00	\$106,250.00	\$109,555.00	\$75,500.00
Rector Funds	\$4,700.00	\$4,055.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,116.00	\$4,500.00
Reserve Savings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Sabbatical Savings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Scholarship Fund	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Stewardship	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supply Clergy	\$1,800.00	\$1,101.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,141.00	\$2,200.00
Supply Music Director	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Utilities	\$4,500.00	\$4,951.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,580.00	\$5,000.00
Worship					
Altar/Supplies/Acolytes/etc	\$2,200.00	\$1,466.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,355.00	\$1,000.00
Music	\$1,500.00	\$1,042.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$196,154.00	\$191,870.00	\$161,750.00	\$177,150.00	\$151,000.00
Total Deficit/Excess	\$3,106.00	-\$18,244.00	-\$3,750.00	-\$9,856.00	\$0.00

2009 Annual Report of the Vestry

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

At the beginning of the year the New Building Committee was tasked with developing a plan to deal with the worn carpeting and the drab state of the interior of the church. They were also to continue working on the permitting process with Sacramento County. The committee held several meetings and sponsored two special meetings of the entire congregation and developed a plan to reorganize the worship space, paint the interior, and replace the flooring. This will include the worship space, the fireside room and the office. Vestry approved the plans and authorized the expenses from the new building funds. Once phase one of the new building plan is completed, the current worship space will be our new fellowship space. This new use was addressed in the remodeling plans. Work has begun. The intention is to be completed by Easter of 2010. In May of 2009 we had the county approval of a draft use report for the new building. Sacramento County Planning Department approved our site plan in June. We now officially have a plan – 25 year, 5 stages. We will still need to get the building permit with detailed plans. We have three years to start building or will need to apply for an extension. We are making slow but steady progress on our new building.

The newly elected vestry started off the new year with a two day retreat. During the retreat a new committee structure was developed. Each vestry member volunteered to work with different parts of the structure as liaisons to the different committees and organizations. There was also discussion of developing a theme for St. Mary's. In April the entire congregation was asked to submit ideas for a theme. The Communications committee would select the top 5 ideas and submit them for a parish vote. The result is our new theme is "Opening Hearts and Minds to All". Roberta Merrill developed a graphic to reflect this theme. They are both on the first two pages of the annual report.

In June the Vestry again held a very successful mid-year retreat called a Mutual Ministry Review. This is a way to assess how we are doing with our ministries. We plan to do this every year as an aid to refocus our work half way through the year.

Finances were a topic at each Vestry meeting. Pledging was not enough to meet our obligations. Vestry authorized several different ideas as fund raisers throughout the year. The Rummage sale was revived and proved very successful. The fireworks booth was again successful. We decided to revive the Heavenly Faire which had not been held for more than 5 years and held two Tamale sales. All of these efforts and the special efforts of the congregation brought in enough funds to allow us to pay all our bills and end the year in the black.

In October we were asked to share our space with the Tongan Free Church as the facility they had been using increased their rental fee way beyond their means to pay. Vestry approved a contract with them and they are meeting on Sunday afternoons.

After reviewing the pledges for 2010, it was necessary to make some drastic changes in our expenses. All ways of cutting expenses were looked at. Our reserve funds were gone. Fr. Ray came up with a plan where he would take part of his retirement and work three quarter time. This gracious and very unusual arrangement will allow us to continue for another year. This arrangement was approved by the Bishop but only for one year. During the next year we will need to work hard on curbing expenses and increasing income so we can have Fr. Ray back on full time.

SAINT MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
21st ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2009

Opening Prayers was led by Fr. Raymond Hess at 6:20 P.M.

Discussion and Vote on By-Laws Revision

The proposed change to the By-Laws deals with the terms of office for elected vestry. After an explanation to the congregation at the meeting, Harriet McKinnis moved, Ron Mendleski seconded that the by-laws be amended as follows:

6.15 The openings shall be filled by decision of the new Vestry at the Vestry meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting or at the first regular meeting of the Vestry after the Annual Meeting. If the Vestry cannot agree about who will fill which term, the Rector and Wardens will assign the newly elected Vestry members to their terms.

The proposed change was read and explained before calling for the vote. The proposed amendment has already been passed by the Vestry. Motion Carried.

Voting Instructions were given by Lois Anderson, clerk of the Vestry

Nominations: Paul Merrill read the list of nominations: Angela Taylor, Rod Pugh, Ben Timmons, Ron Mendleski, Carl King and Barbara Nill. There being no nominations from the floor for Vestry, Lynn Holman moved, Victor Anderson seconded that nominations be closed. Motion carried.

Paul Merrill read the list of nominations for delegates to the annual convention: Coline McNeil, Paul Merrill, Dorothy Stoppelmann, Mark Voskuil and Julie Vice. There being no nominations from the floor for Delegates to the Convention, Harriett McKinnis moved, Jean Beach seconded that nominations be closed. Motion carried.

Voting: Ballots were distributed and polls opened at 6:30P.M. followed by a brief recess for dinner and an opportunity to vote.

Thank you to the servers who helped with the appetizers, Michelle Reynolds, Elizabeth Stoppelmann and Malachi Laney.

Blessing for the meal led by Fr. Ray.

Shannon Castañeda, music director, and the Quest singers led the congregation in a Sing-a-Long while people finished eating and voting.

Minutes - Approval of the Minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting. There being no corrections, Harriett McKinnis moved, Richard Lange seconded, that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion carried. Thank you to Lois Anderson for her accurate minutes from last year.

Financial Report: 2008 Financial Report and Budget Presentations – Susi Jacobo- Vice, Treasurer. Complete report is in the annual report. Pledging was down. Expenses exceeded income by over \$18,000. All our bills are paid. Budget for next year has been trimmed. The small deficit, \$3000, we are hoping to make up through growth and new pledges. We are counting on everyone pitching in on fund raising, through Goodsearch, E-Script, fireworks sales and other fundraisers throughout the year. Thank you to the finance committee for their efforts in creating the budget for next year.

Junior Warden's Report—John Stoppelmann. Fr. Ray made a special thank you to John for serving as Junior Warden for the past three years. John discussed the turbulent year; we had many close friends choose to leave St. Mary's this year. John related a wonderful story that illustrated how St Mary's is his rock, his sanctuary and his hope that all who come through the door can also be feed as he is.

Senior Warden's Report—Paul Merrill. Paul thanked Fr. Ray for choosing to come to St. Mary's and for staying through the turmoil. We don't know what the future holds, however he believes that we are going to build something in the coming year that will surprise us.

Polls declared closed at 7:30 P.M. Counters, John Stoppelmann, Susi Jacobo-Vice and Victor Anderson were sent out to tabulate the results of the election.

Thanksgivings – Fr. Ray. John Stoppelmann and Paul Merrill were called forward, thanked for their years of hard work and presented with a gift. Mary Ann Renzi and her crew were thanked for the wonderful Italian dinner we enjoyed at this meeting. Thank you to Lois Anderson and Susi Jacobo-Vice for serving as Clerk and Treasurer. They were presented with a gift of flowers. Thank you to Ana-Maria DeYoung, Angela Taylor and Ron Mendleski for filling positions of vestry members who left during the year. Thank you to Julie Vice, Jim McNeil and Richard Lange who are continuing on as Vestry. Thank you to Mark Voskuil for his good work on the annual report and all the other projects he works on in his position as office manager. Thank you to Bob Weil for volunteering to fold the worship booklets and other publications. Thank you to Shannon Castañeda for taking on the role of Music Minister and the wonderful job she has done. Thank you to Maria Yearwood for all her years of service in our nursery. Thank you to Fr. Ray Potter, retired clergy for helping and the Fr. Roy Coloma for his dedication and commitment to the life of this congregation.

We have more committees than we have people so we will be working on simplifying the structure. Thank you to Deb Hess for her work on Buildings and Grounds, Lynn Holman for Worship, Coline McNeil for her wonderful efforts with Outreach. Mary Ann Renzi, the chair of fellowship, for her wonderful creativity on our events. Brenda Pfau, Heidi Pugh and Mary Beth Voskuil for their work on children's ministry. Paula Sink, the chair of our senior group. A great group that meets twice a month for lunch and usually one field trip each month. Coline McNeil chair of Daughters of the King and Lynn Holman, Diocesan chair. Mark Voskuil for chair of Brotherhood of St. Andrews, Brenda Pfau and Barbara Nill for children's chapel, Rod Pugh for his amazing work on audio visual, A general round of applause for all those who help in worship. Rich and Jan Siers, John Stoppelmann, Ron Mendleski, Deb Hess and a small group who come out regularly to work on the buildings and grounds. Thank you to all those who have left this year for all that they did do while they were members of the congregation and thank you to all those who are here for all that they have done for St. Mary's and for still being here. More songs led by Shannon and the Quest singers.

Rector's Address— Review of the ReVision Plan. Initiative one, we cleared out the east lot, took out treed, filled the pond, transferred the property to our name, memorandum of understanding with the diocese of how to handle the finances, working on the use permit, installed out new audio-visual system. In the year to come, expect to get our use permit, explore ways to get this moving forward, continue to do things to improve this space-the carpet is worn out-, this space will continue to be used for quite a while, work on our outdoor spaces to make them inviting and expand our useable space. Initiative two. Want to move forward on working on our youth ministries. We are going to do a u2eucharist this year, parish ski trip, working to attract more youth, work with other area congregations to get a youth group started. Initiative 3 deals with visibility. Calvine road is an asset because so many people pass by each day. Angela is working hard on the communication committee. We held a Filipino Fiesta last June and hope to do so again, added signs and banners, working on our website, Fr Ray is planning on starting a blog, investigating the potential of installing a "Welcome to the Episcopal church" sign. Becoming more involved in community events such as Western Festival and the Harvest Festival. Initiative four deals with hospitality. This is how we welcome and incorporate newcomers in our life. Lois Anderson and Fr. Ray worked on developing a road map for this. We have newcomer's packets and

our mugs and are working on improving our handouts. The Quest service is particularly developed to reach out to new people. The foundations class was offered to explain to new people exactly what the Episcopal Church is. The bishops conference in April is about intercultural ministry and want to see us continue to work on developing our intercultural ministry here at St. Mary's. Initiative 5 is about developing Christian education. Vacation bible school, Lenten program, foundations class and other planned classes are working toward this initiative.

New Prayer Board - Angela Taylor. We had quite a year and it is time to move on with hope, excitement and promise. We are another parish now. We can guide our future. We are developing a prayer board in the fireside room. Everyone is asked to cut out pictures and words to illustrate who we are now. What do you see as St. Mary's, what are your prayers and wishes for us? It will remain up for a few months for people to add to as they envision who we are.

Skit – A skit, used at the Quest service, to coordinate with the theme of the week, was presented to the congregation.

Announcement of Election Results – John Stoppelmann

New Vestry members for 2009 are: Carl King, Ron Mendleski, Barbara Nill, Rod Pugh, Angela Taylor and Ben Timmons.

New Convention Delegates for 2009 are: Paul Merrill, Dorothy Stoppelmann, and Julie Vice. Alternates are: Mark Voskuil and Coline McNeil.

Thank You Gift – A thank you gift in appreciation of his dedication was presented to Fr. Ray by Paul Merrill and John Stoppelmann, retiring wardens, as they both leave Vestry this year.

Vestry Meeting – immediately following this meeting, in Fr. Ray's office.

Closing Prayer led by Fr. Hess. All stood for closing prayer. Meeting closed at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois B. Anderson, Clerk of the Vestry



Committee Reports

Communication Committee Annual Report

Submitted by: Angela Taylor

The Communication Committee has enjoyed an active year. The committee currently has six regular members: Father Ray Hess, Angela Taylor, Lois Anderson, Mark Voskuil, Ben Timmons, and Jeremy Dacuycuy, and five ad hoc members: Lori Hill, John Hill, Roberta Merrill, Susi Jacobo-Vice and Rod Pugh. Church communication really requires a gamut of skills and each member brings different talents and strengths to this important area.

The committee deals with both internal and external communication needs and communication is complex. St. Mary's members are multi-generational requiring many communication avenues. Meeting the needs of those who are technology savvy as well as those who prefer pen and paper are equally important. The main responsibility of the committee is ensuring the church community receives information in a timely and efficient manner. To this end the group oversees verbal announcements at church services, weekly updates via email, quarterly newsletters in regular mail and e-mail attachment, website updates, and most recently a Facebook presence.

Externally for our local community, the committee submits press releases to a variety of newspapers, sponsors an occasional radio advertisement, advertises on Craig's List, roadside signage, and of course, the website and Facebook.

Highlights during the last year:

New Slogan and Logo—a contest was held for a new slogan. Kirstin Csik submitted the winning slogan, "Opening hearts and minds to all". Roberta Merrill designed a beautiful logo to accompany the slogan. A large vinyl sign was made for the front area and will be permanently installed there when the new landscape design is installed after the interior remodel is finished. The slogan and logo will be our "branding" and will appear on all print and visual material.

Facebook—St. Mary's has a Facebook presence! The committee decided that although the website is important and we will continue to work on it, Facebook is the wave of the social communication future. We are able to do many things on this tool and will continue to encourage the congregation to embrace this.

Diocesan Communication Director—the Diocese has hired a wonderful new communication director, Keri Lopez, whose mission is to assist all Diocesan churches with their communication needs. The committee is really taking advantage of this benefit and Keri is providing the committee personal guidance on all communication matters.

A few goals for 2010:

- **Website**—the website needs updating and a person or team committed to providing fresh material to the webmaster is a real necessity.
- **Photo ops**—it is important to consistently have all our community events well covered with photographs. A person, or group of folks, willing to be committed to this would be wonderful.
- **Branding**—continuing our efforts on making sure all of our material is easily and readily recognized, and communicates who we are through use of the slogan and logo.
- **Facebook**—encouraging everyone to become a "Friend of St. Mary's" on Facebook!



Outreach Annual Report

Submitted by: Julie Vice

Wow, what a year! St. Mary's has again placed a high priority on outreach. Helping folks in our community has become "just something we do" and I am very proud of that. I must confess that this has been a very busy and at times stressful year for the Church but Outreach continued. Much of the organizational credit must go to Deb Hess. She has really taken on the role of initiating many of the projects. So from the congregation and me –Thank You! Thank you also to EVERYONE who has participated in the numerous activities. I want you to know that it really has been a pleasure to directly see the impact your giving has had.

So what did we do this year? There were the monies earned to assist with the roof for our sister church in the Philippines. We assisted in the completion of 2/3 of the roof and continue to collect money for its completion. Again this year, we collected socks and mittens for the less fortunate during the cold winter months, and collected our monthly food drives for Elk Grove Community Services (formerly Elk Grove Food Bank). We were also involved in many other things that were forms of outreach: the booth at the Western Festival and our Fireworks and Rummage sales. Then there were the baby clothes and supplies for the Alternatives Pregnancy Center and the adoption of two families for Christmas (one from the congregation and the other from the senior group). Taking the presents to the family was another great gift. I am certain I have probably left out other opportunities we have shared, but just knowing that we will continue to reach out in 2010 makes me blessed to call St. Mary's home.

Support Ministries

Buildings and Grounds Annual Report

Submitted by: John Stoppelmann

Buildings and Grounds has had a challenging year in that we are taking care of 5 acres of property as opposed to the 2.5 acres that church sits on. The folks that were on this ministry stepped up and did what had to happen to keep the site looking great. The accomplishments of the year include: finish all the planter areas in the parking lot with mulch. This was a very large task as they would work a couple hours on the 1st Saturday of the month. I would especially like to thank Deborah Hess for organizing these Saturday workdays. We also got the railings painted on both the class rooms and the entrance to the church. The ivy next to the church entrance has been removed and has been replaced with wine barrels as planters. The Siers, Langston's, and the Hess's worked together to get the grass mowed and under control this year.

There were 3 major projects that the committee wanted to start the planning for and knew that our small group would not be able to accomplish these tasks without the support and the prayers of the congregation. We developed a process to bring these projects to the congregation to get feedback and to form a sub-committee under the Building and Grounds committee. These 3 projects were: landscaping the front street corridor, renovation of the existing church space and a community garden. All 3 of these projects meet the needs of the vision plan as we move forward with the expansion of St. Mary's.



Building Planning Annual Report

Submitted by: John Stoppelmann

This is what was written for the annual meeting in 2008:

"Since all the environmental reports are completed, it will be time in 2009 to get approval for our use permit. The final hurdles for this approval are a couple of meetings with the community discussing our project, a meeting with the community action committee (PAC) for the Vineyard area, a design review that will happen at the county level and then finally coming before the County Planning Commission to get final approval for our use permit."

Guess what? These items were all accomplished in 2009! We had two meetings with the local community in regards to our general plan. The local community approved our general plan. We then had to get approval from the County design and review committee. Guess what? We got approval! The final hurdle was to get approval from the County Planning Commission. We got this approval as well!!!!



Finance Committee Annual Report

Submitted by: Paul Merrill

Greetings! This is short so that you will read it.

- 2009 began with a budget dependent upon fund raisers and \$18,000 in reserve funds. We were in a financial pinch with a vast and hopeful vision.
- 2009 ended with \$1000 in our checkbook and all of our bills paid, because of a wonderful and gracious response from members old and new.
- God cannot help but be pleased with our faithfulness and commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ through St. Mary's Episcopal Church Elk Grove.
- 2010 begins with a balanced budget, a vision for growth in ministry and resources, and with the hope of a full-time Rector in 2011.

I am grateful for the partnership in this work of Susi Jacobo-Vice, our incredible Treasurer; Rod Pugh, Vestry Liaison; and Rich Siers. Thank you St. Mary's, and Thanks be to God.

Stewardship and Fundraising Annual Report

Submitted by: Rod Pugh

The need for Stewardship (time, talent, and treasure) and for fundraisers was extraordinary this year, but the results were miraculous. St. Mary's started the year with what I can only describe as a deficit of time, talent, and treasure (TT&T). We mourned the loss of those friends who choose to leave our parish, and we missed all that they brought to our community. Those of us left were called upon to work harder and dig deeper. We did! We finished our mourning, we rolled up our sleeves, and St. Mary's was healed. No longer did we have a few people working for the benefit of the community, but everyone that I know of and many who I had yet to meet made contributions of TT&T as they never had before.

It started with the fireworks booth in July; our year of mourning over. Many, many people who had never worked in the fireworks booth before came out to work this year. Despite a collapsing economy around us, we maintained last year's sales and slightly increased that. Immediately after the fireworks booth, we had Kid's Camp. Although not a fundraiser, it definitely served as a stewardship activity with the time and talent that was contributed by many willing hands. The rummage sale and the Heavenly Fair were our other two major fundraising events. Both of which were as successful as fellowship and community building events as they were as fundraisers.

This year's Stewardship campaign, as a formal event, was very low key. It was simply an honest letter from our Rector and Wardens giving the state of the parish. The people of the parish responded with equal sincerity and made pledges from their hearts, to the extent that the 2010 budget includes provisions for re-building a reserve, and money for growth opportunities although we have to get by with a part-time rector. With God's help, we will be able to have a full-time rector again in 2011.



Caring Ministries

Worship Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

Altar Guild

St Mary's Altar Guild is made up of committed, dependable, and cooperative Parish members working together in teams to prepare the altar, holy vessels, and liturgical vestments for worship. The members work behind the scenes preparing the altar and church for the regular services, the holy days, and the great festivals of the church such as Christmas and Easter. During 2009 our Altar Guild continued to dwindle in Altar Guild members, we are now down to five members for three services, and Saturday set-up. We are spread pretty thin and we are looking for new members to help fill the gap. A special thank you to our current Altar Guild members for their dedicated service, they are Clayton Beach, Coline McNeil, Nancy and Wayne Crowder, and Lynn Holman. We thank Dolores Hanson, Ron and Ann Mendleski for their past service to Altar Guild. Thank you also to our dedicated bread bakers Irene Roltsch and Harriett McKinnis, and to Lois Anderson for her wonderful sewing abilities in mending and making new linens as needed. The entire Altar Guild team wishes to thank Mary Liz Pugh who launders the linens each week. And thanks to Harriett McKinnis for helping with the foliage during the Advent season.

Lay Ministers

We currently have nine trained to administer the Consecrated Elements (wine and bread) at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist. Many of our Eucharistic Ministers attend Lay Minister workshops that are held each year by the Diocese, as well as attend quiet days and retreats to continue to broaden and deepen their spiritual growth. Our Eucharistic Ministers are also responsible for the duties of First

Server. A special thank you to our current Eucharistic Ministers for their dedication in service to others, and for faithfully administering the Eucharist, they are Norm DeYoung, Lynn Holman, Butch Mosley, Mark Nill, Scott Siers, Mary Ann Renzi, Ron Mendleski, Julie Vice, and Ben Timmons.

Greeters/Ushers

Thanks to the greeters/ushers everyone who comes through the doors on Sunday morning is met with a smile and a bulletin. They are the first "face" St Mary's guests see and they are our hand of welcome. They answer questions and act as a guide to Sunday School, Nursery, and Fellowship. They collect the offerings of the people and present them at the altar. At Communion time, we rely on them to direct us to the altar rail. We often forget that they also take responsibility for putting the pews back in good order after the service, ready for the next service. A special thank you to Carl and Cely King, Mary Ann Renzi, Rich and Destiny Siers, Richard and Shelia Lange, John and Dorothy Stoppelmann, Jean and Clayton Beach, Julie Vice, Susi Jacobo-Vice, Mark and Barbara Nill, Nancy and Wayne Crowder.

Lectors/ Intercessors

Lectors assist in the worship services by reading the First and Second Lessons and lead the congregation in the Psalm appointed for the service. Intercessors assist in worship services by reading the Prayers of the People appointed for the service. A special thank you to Diana Siers, Scott Siers, Butch Mosley, Mary Ann Renzi, Norm DeYoung, Carl King, Paul Merrill, Roberta Merrill, Sean Nill, Dorothy Stoppelmann, Julie Vice, Harriett McKinnis, Mark Nill, Paula Sink, Lois Anderson, Lynn Holman, Ron Mendleski and Ben Timmons.

First Server & Torch Bearer

Our First Servers and torchbearers serve at the 7:30 am, 11:00 am, and special holiday services. A special thank you to Michael and Destiny Siers, Jake and Luke Pfau, Jessica Bean, Liam and Malachai Laney, and Elizabeth Stoppelmann. A special thank you also to Elizabeth Stoppelmann who serves as Thurifer at special services.

Eucharistic Visitors

Our homebound parishioners are remembered in our prayers every Sunday. In addition to our prayers, and at their request, they are also visited by our Eucharistic Visitors. After the Sunday service the Eucharistic Visitor carries Communion to them, but more important, they carry our good wishes and remind those who cannot join us here in Church that they are not forgotten. This visitation ministry is at the heart of St. Mary's outreach efforts to our homebound parishioners, a special thank you to Ron Mendleski, Ben Timmons, and Julie Vice.

Audio-Visual

At the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services we provide power point presentations. We wish to thank our Sunday soundboard technicians that keep our power point system synchronized to our Sunday worship services, Ben Timmons, Susi Jacobo-Vice, John Stoppelmann and Rod Pugh. Also we thank Rod Pugh who puts the power point presentations together with wonderful visuals and graphics.



Fellowship Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Richard Lange

Mary Ann Renzi, Committee Chairperson

Richard Lange, Vestry Liaison

First and foremost, I wish to thank MaryAnn Renzi and her committee, who's tireless efforts made our fellowship gatherings so successful.

Beginning with our Annual Meeting, we had a delicious dinner before “getting down to business”.

Our Seder Supper not only satisfied our appetites, but filled our minds with knowledge by teaching us about other religious traditions.

The Oktoberfest was not only a sumptuous meal, but the entire evening was filled with great rousing German music and songs and laughter. I think most of us wanted to do the Polka... oh, and the beer was good too.... I understand we have the band scheduled to come back for Oktoberfest in 2010. It's a date to put on your calendar.

Our Fellowship Hour is held after each service. It is always a great time to get together with our fellow parishioners. Many thanks to those of you who bring treats and make coffee. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I look forward to many wonderful events in 2010.



Newcomer Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

The Newcomer Incorporation committee started the year with a new format. We were going to try inviting visitors to a welcome dessert and then follow that up with a class to be offered a week later. Through the year, we offered five welcome desserts. Thirty four family units were invited to attend one of these. One or two other members of the congregation are also invited. They were held on a weekday evening. Desserts and beverages were served and an opportunity for general conversation was offered. All who attended appeared to have a good time. Several families are now active members of the congregation. As the year progressed, the style of the class changed. We are now offering a class each week during the Sunday Adult Formation time. There are six classes: History, Vision, and Direction of St. Mary's; Financial Stewardship and Pledging; Formation Ministries for All Ages – Children, Youth, Adults; Worship and Caring Ministries; Community Ministries – Outreach, Communications; and How to Become a Member of St. Mary's. They are each taught by a different person. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to attend any Sunday. After someone has attended the classes, they are invited to be presented and introduced to the congregation. It is their choice and something the congregation enjoys.

Currently this committee consists of Lois Anderson and Pat Picton who has offered to do the phone calling. If anyone else is interested in the committee, please contact me. Help baking and welcoming is always encouraged and appreciated.



Pastoral Care Committee Annual Report

Submitted by: Ben Timmons

This year our pastoral care efforts while small in scope were still worth reporting.

Annie Mack restarted the Sunshine Ministry, sending letters to those parishioners who were sick or recuperating and needed some cheering up. I got a letter when I was sick and it buoyed me greatly.

Father Ray and I continue our ministry as Volunteer Chaplains, at the nearby Kaiser hospital in South Sacramento. We've visited patients in the Medical Surgical, Intensive Care, Pediatric Intensive Care and Trauma units. For me the duties, while sometimes sad are shown to be uplifting to patients and their families. I've received letters of thanks from patients and their families for being a late night or early morning cheering presence.

Father Ray continues his ministry of visiting parishioners and family members in area hospitals. I was asked to visit a parishioner's family member facing a difficult diagnosis and I am told it helped. I've

visited other parishioners at Kaiser who told me how much they enjoyed Father Ray coming to see them too!

Community of Hope is dormant for now pending a reorganization of the ministry.
Order of St. Luke continues to meet in the area. I am working to get our parish more involved in 2010.



Formation Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Barbara Nill

The Formation Ministries include Children, Youth, and Adult Formation along with the organizations Daughters of the King and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

The Formation Ministry charter created in 2009 gave these areas a mission and a vision in which to grow and develop their members.

The vision of the formation ministry is to empower all ages in their spiritual journey and discover the word of God, nurture the Spirit, and learn and live the teachings of Christ Jesus.

This year we worked toward that vision in age based classes with Adult Formation lead by Fr. Ray, participating in Sunday Bible study and Wed. am and Thurs. pm classes on a quarterly basis. This group started the Living the Questions series in September which was well received and this year long series will continue in 2010.

The Youth and Children Formation of St. Mary's started the Sunday School program, The Seedlings, this past September. We have over 15 children and young teens participating in the classes led by Brenda Pfau, Deborah Hess, Cathy Anderson, Barbara Nill, and Maria Yearwood. We are enjoying our dedicated and active group and getting to know one another and Christ in our spiritual formation. We have been blessed with many returning kids and have welcomed some new children into our parish who have added to our fun and learning. I'd like to thank the teachers and the children for their hard work and commitment that they bring each week and look forward to the next year ahead.

We are excited about planning a Youth Group for our St. Mary's youth and have met with Diocesan Leadership to get guidance and assistance in this endeavor. Our youth are excited about this proposal and we have great lay leaders within our church interested in making this dream a reality. Look for your St. Mary's youth to have an inaugural meeting sometime within the first quarter of 2010.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew's is led by Mark Voskuil and met on Fridays throughout the year. The Daughters of the King is led by Coline McNeil and they too have met throughout the year. I thank them for their service and encourage anyone interested in these organizations to contact them for information.



Brotherhood of St. Andrew Annual Report

Submitted by: Bro. Mark Voskuil

The St. Mary's chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was established in 2005. We did not meet much in 2009 but some of our members attended a retreat in March with the Brotherhood chapter in Roseville at the Springs of Living Water retreat center. We look forward to attending again this year. We hope to be reforming the St. Mary's Brotherhood Chapter in the near future. We are looking forward to being of service to St. Mary's and to the larger community and we would welcome anyone interested in joining. All men and boys are welcomed and encouraged to attend our monthly meetings. If anyone is interested in being the Director of the chapter, contact Fr. Ray Hess.

Daughters of the King Annual Report

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

The Daughters of the King (DOK) is an Order for women who undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish. DOK members are Paula Sink, Lynn Holman, Verla Everson, Annie Mack, Coline McNeil, and Ann Mendleski. Mary Lou Evans has joined our meetings and is in discernment about becoming a daughter. Coline McNeil continues as our President and Paula Sink is our Treasurer.

Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month and are held at Annie Mack's home. Our meetings consist of evening prayer, devotionals and bible studies on various subjects. During the past year we have used the book "Cast of Characters" written by Max Lucado, this book includes stories about various characters of the bible. We also did a bible study on Moses and the Women of the Exodus, Dancing With God, and during Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas we did special studies and prayers relating to the season.

On April 25, 2009 we hosted the Spring Assembly for Daughters of the King of the Northern California Diocese. We had approximately fifty daughters from around the Diocese; our program was Agape – God's Love. Father Ray celebrated the Eucharist and provided the homily, Shannon Castañeda providing the music, and Rod Pugh operated the audio/visual equipment for us. Thank you to all who helped make the day a success. In July 2009 Lynn Holman attended the Daughters of the King Triennial in Anaheim, CA as a delegate of our St. Mary's chapter. At the July 2009 Triennial Lynn was installed as Vice President of the Daughters of the King for Province VIII, and in October 2009 Lynn completed her three-year term as President of the Daughters of the King for the Northern California Diocese.

The Daughters continue with their first mission of prayer for the clergy, parish members and service. Our members continue to be involved in the life of our parish through their ministries as Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Guild, the Sunshine Ministry, Outreach Ministries, Pastoral Ministries, SMART Seniors, Worship Ministries, and Educational Studies. We invite any interested women of St. Mary's to attend our meetings to learn more about us and see about becoming a Daughter.



Parish Organizations Reports

SMART Seniors Annual Report

Submitted by: Paula Sink

This year the seniors were limited in the lack of members.

We only had 2 "bake sales"; one at Easter time and the other our "cookies by the pound" at Christmas. We did have one Ice Cream Sunday sale which we will repeat again in 2010. We had no other money making events this year. The seniors did sponsor the food area at the Heavenly Faire.

The seniors gave \$300 to the Kohls school clothes sale for kids sponsored by the Optimists. Kohls took it over from Mervyns when Mervyns closed. We also gave \$300 to sponsor a family at Christmas and had the giving tree for the babies at the Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center. We supplied a high chair, stroller and playpen. There was also sending the acolytes to a workshop at the cathedral. There was also the Easter egg hunt between services. We also gave money to the flower fund on two Sundays. The seniors purchased a new mike for the sound system as one had a broken wire. Fr. Ray's was working but the one for our other priests snapped.

We have had very few outings as we have few drivers and large enough vans. We did go to Apple Hill this October right before the cold weather came. We are planning a short outing the end of January and hope to have more along with more money raising.

Remember, any one 55 years of age or older (and we don't check ID's) is welcome every first and third Thursday at 12 noon for lunch and fellowship. Bring something to go with the provided salad and your drink.



Fellowship Dinner Groups Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

In 2009, we continued our Fellowship Dinner Groups. These are groups of 6-9 people who meet once monthly in one another's homes for dinner and fellowship with each contributing a part of the meal. We do two series each year, a spring and a fall series. The spring one was very successful. The fall one never got off the ground. Schedules were just too hectic for those who signed up. We will try again in the spring of 2010. These groups are a fun way to get to know other members of the congregation.



Heavenly Faire Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

This year, Vestry decided to try a craft fair as a fund raising event. Lois Anderson and Lori Hill volunteered to be the co-chairs of this event. It was decided to try to have this event help many people in various ways. The first would be helping to raise some much needed funds for the budget. The Vestry also agreed to tithe 10% of these funds to the Elk Grove Food Bank. It was also decided to collect non-perishable food items during the event from vendors and attendees. These would be donated to the Elk Grove Food Bank. The third way of helping was to open the event to vendors, local people who were trying to meet their budget by selling craft items that they had made. A surprise fourth way of helping was the special booth set up to help raise some more of the funds we pledged to replaced the roof on our sister parish in the Philippines.

A very dedicated group met on Monday nights at the home of Lois Anderson to work on crafts. These crafts would then be offered for sale at the Heavenly Faire. Special thanks go out to Deb Hess, Cathy Anderson, Lori Hill, Margarida Silveira, Eva Moredock, and Nancy Crowder for their efforts in tackling something different each week. Also, thanks to Dolores Hanson who taught us how to roll bee's wax candles.

The event was held on Saturday, November 21 using almost every square inch of the available space. A special thank you to everyone who turned out on Thursday to tear down and set up, everyone on Friday who turned out to set out the goods and price, everyone on Saturday who brought baked goods to sell, helped staff, bought hand crafted items and helped tear down and set up again for the Sunday service.

This was a successful fundraising event. We cleared \$ 1559.94 and sent \$ 185.00 to the Food Bank. There were a total of 12 vendors who paid for table space. Thank you to Susi and Julie Vice who took a car load of food over to the Food Bank from this event and the reverse offering sponsored by the Outreach Committee.