



2009 ANNUAL REPORT

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Responding to God's love, we are First Congregational United Church of Christ, an inclusive, ecumenical, and spiritual people, who through worship, education, fellowship, and outreach seek to embrace the mystery of God.

Table of Contents

1
Church Moderator Report

2-3
Annual Meeting Agenda & Minutes of 2009
Congregational Meeting

4-5
2010 Church Structure & Organization Charts

6-8
Vice-Moderator, Treasurer & Secretary Reports

9-11
2009 Financial Statements & 2010 Proposed Budgets

12
Council Member for Worship & Spiritual Life Report

13
Council Member for Education Report

14
Council Member for Outreach Report

15
Council Member for Care & Fellowship Report

16
Membership Report

Moderator Report

Andrea Barker

This year began with an undercurrent of uncertainty – how would the evolving economic situation impact our congregation? Council and the church staff monitored our financial position with increasing concern as the year progressed. March and April revealed a significant drop in the total offerings received. We had a projected \$60,000 shortfall for the year when we announced the situation and outlined possible actions to address expenses and to ask for your prayerful consideration of honoring the pledges made to get us back on track. The full time Youth and Young Adult Coordinator position was not filled after Jeff Dodson left in May and the office was closed on Fridays during the summer. We entered the summer months wondering what further financial cuts would be necessary.

Your response to the situation was truly amazing. A committed team of volunteers stepped up to lead activities for our youth, giving freely of their time and believing strongly in the value of youth involvement in church activities. Not only were pledges caught up, but several families increased their levels of support. By Fall 2009, the outlook had moved from fear and uncertainty to a growing awareness of God's grace and the generous nature of our congregation. No further cuts were necessary, we were able to hire a part-time Youth and Young Adult Coordinator and restore operations to our budgeted levels. Grace is indeed washing over us in unexpected and wonderful ways as you will see in the other articles of this report covering this year's program and ministry areas.

As we move into 2010, may the grace of God continue to inspire our commitment as a congregation of our time, resources and talents as we respond to Christ's teachings to care for all people with justice and loving kindness. It has been an honor to serve this community for 2009, and I look forward to serving for the next year.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY JANUARY 31, 2010

Lunch sponsored by the Church Council,
12:00 – 12:30pm

Annual Meeting, 12:30pm in the Sanctuary

Nursery Care provided for children up to 3 years of age

Child Care provided for children 4 years – 5th grade

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA / MINUTES OF 2009 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Colorado Springs, Colorado
Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 31, 2010, 12:30pm
AG E N D A

Call to Order	A. Barker
Opening Prayer	B. Broadbent
Memorial Tribute	J. Franklin
Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting (January 25, 2009)	P. Hokanson
Review of the 2009 Report (see Annual Report at www.fcucc.org , or available in the church office)	Members of the Congregation
Highlight Presentations from each ministry area	Council Members
New Business	
I. Recommended Budget for 2010	B. Warren
II. Election of Church Council and Nominating Committee members	S. Kern
III. Funding of Feasibility Study	B. Warren
IV. Installation of Church Council and Nominating Committee members, and Commissioning of Committee Chairs	A. Barker
Expressions of Opinion, Concern, and Appreciation	Members of the Congregation
Benediction	B. Broadbent
Adjournment	A. Barker

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church of Colorado Springs January 25, 2009

A quorum of members was confirmed by Eric Ridings, Secretary of the Church Council, and recognized by Andrea Barker, Moderator, who called the annual meeting of First Congregational United Church of Christ to order at 12:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Rev. Broadbent, followed by a memorial tribute to members of the congregation who passed away during the previous year.

The minutes of the January 27, 2008 annual meeting and the minutes of the August 10, 2008 special congregational meeting were approved as submitted.

Rev. Broadbent shared statistics and his reflections regarding the growth of church membership, average weekly attendance, staff, giving and the budget between 1998 and 2008.

The authors of several sections of the 2008 Annual Report verbally gave corrections and additions to their sections of the report: The co-chairs of the Justice and Peace committee are Paul Carpenter and Arnie Sparnins. Our interactions with IHN have been coordinated by Jerry and Cathy White. The chair of ONA is John Shada. Co-chairs of Community Life are Denise Ellsworth and Sandy Wolczak. Douglas Fox (p.15) was a member of the congregation. The number of new members who joined the church on Nov. 23, 2008 should have been 11. The 2008 Annual Report was received by the congregation.

MINUTES OF 2009 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Treasurer Bruce Warren presented a budget for 2009 of \$673,642. He noted that 76% of our expenses are personnel, 6% committee budgets and 18% core resources. The number of pledging households for 2009 increased substantially, from 270 in 2008 to 330 for 2009. Dollars pledged to the general fund increased by 6%. The budget for personnel increased 8.8%, partly from continuing to try to move compensation for all of our staff to at least the 50th percentile as determined by the HR committee, and partly due to the impact of having full time, full year costs for our associate minister and for our Youth and Young Adult Coordinator.

He also reported that of the two million dollars raised in the capital campaign, about \$400,000 remains to complete the work on the windows (in the tower) and for interior restoration.

There were no questions regarding the 2009 budget. Bruce made the following motion.

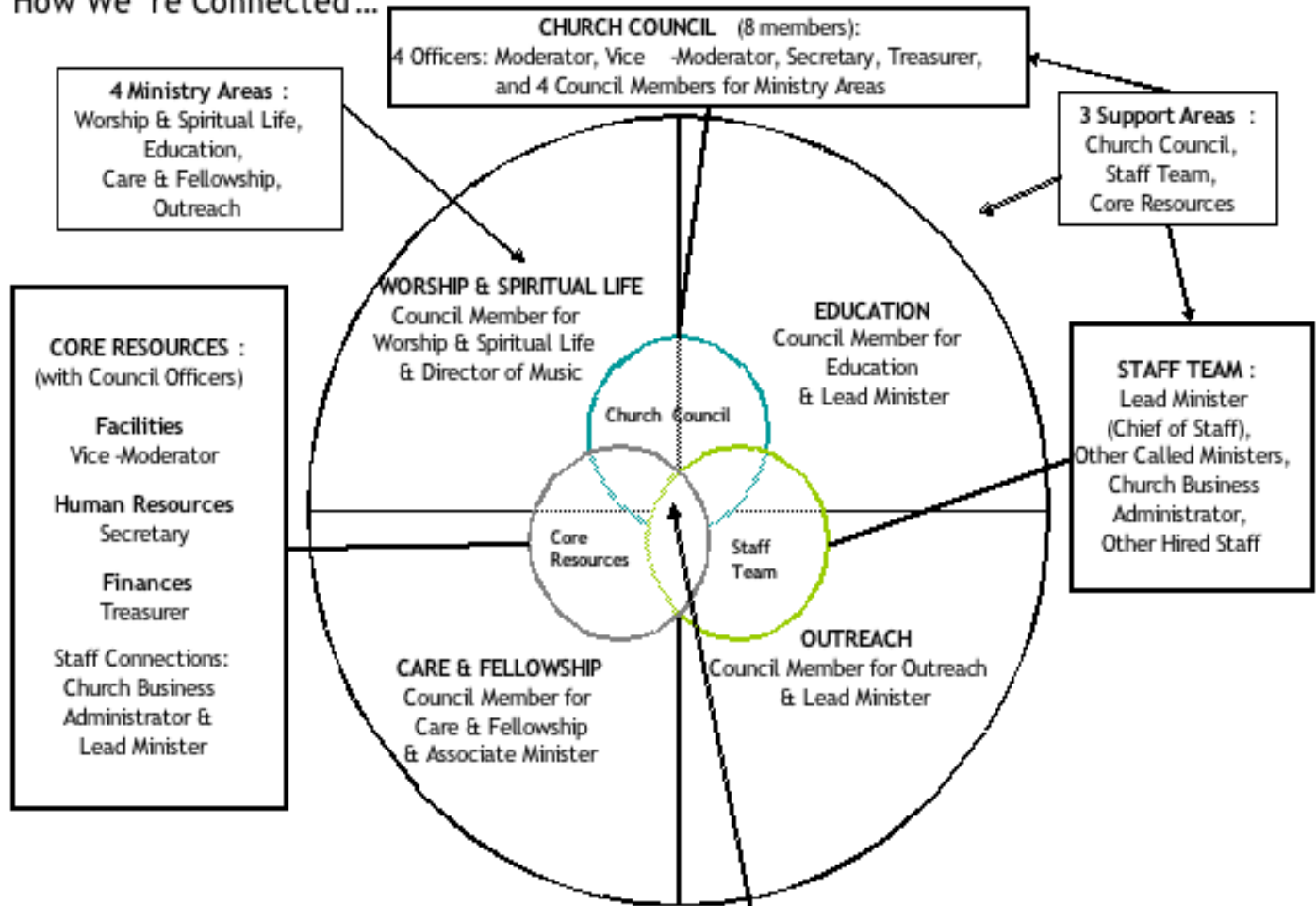
MOTION: To adopt the recommended annual budget for 2009 as presented to the congregation on January 25, 2009.

The congregation approved the motion unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Ridings, Church Council Secretary

2010 CHURCH STRUCTURE

How We're Connected...



OUR MISSION : Responding to God's love, we are First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Colorado Springs, an inclusive, ecumenical, and spiritual people, who through worship, education, fellowship, and outreach, seek to embrace the mystery of God.

2010 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The Congregation

Church Council

Officers: Andrea Barker (Moderator); Lee Lehmkuhl (Vice-Moderator);
 Polly Strovink (Treasurer nominee); Pete Hokanson (Secretary)
 Lead Minister (non-voting) – Benjamin Broadbent
 Council Members: Jane Gazal (Care & Fellowship); Deidre Schoolcraft (Outreach);
 Patty Lee (Worship & Spiritual Life nominee); Beth Garrison-Kemp (Education nominee)

Committees & Chairs		Coordinators, Appointed Officers & Staff Team	
Audiovisual. Paul Schwotzer	Mission Giving & Outreach. Angie Adams	Acacia Dinners. Janice & Olive Simonton	Ushers. Lisa Cook & Oscar Ridings
Bereavement Receptions. Patti White	Movement Ministry. Jenny Finn	Book Discussion.	Weddings. Gari Steadman
Camp Out! Liz Arnold & Jenny Glick	Music & Arts. Dave Nath	Communicator Newsletter. Kris Jones & Jane Warren	Women's Retreat. Brooke Bell & Nancy Henjum
Clergy Congregation Relations – Lead Minister. Casey Tencick. Associate Minister. Eric Ridings	Mystery Tradition. Nancy Forgy	ESM Board Representative. Angie Adams	Lead Minister. Benjamin Broadbent
Communion. Peggy Dyer-Weissman	Nominating. Open	Fellowship Hour. Lori Goodwin	Associate Minister. Jacque Franklin.
Community Life. Lin Luinetti Quinlan	Open & Affirming. Trey Austin	Film Group. Jerry White	Business Administrator. Ruth Roland
Faith Formation. Tom Francis & Casey Tencick	Our Whole Lives ~ Sexuality and Our Faith (OWL) Steering Committee. Jim Matson	Flowers. Ann Benson	Office Administrator. Christy Kessler.
Financial Advisory. Polly Strovink	Planned Giving. Bill Edmondson	Flute Choir. Phyllis White	Administrative Assistant. Richard Grebenstein
Health Ministry. Nancy Lippincott	Plymouth Circle. Marilyn Johnson	Funerals. Carol Fields	Organist & Director of Music. Frank Shelton
Historical. Bob Murray	Prayer Shawl Ministry. Teri McCabe	Historian. Wil Green	Chancel Choir Director. Mandy Todd-Moore
Human Resources. Gordon Riegel	Project Management. Judy Pickle	Interfaith Hospitality Network. Cathy & Jerry White	Handbell Choirs Director. Carol Fields
James W. White Endowed Lectureship. Sue Scott	Risk Reduction & Response. Nancy Dawson	Liturgists. Marsha Garrett	Education Coordinator. Del Hokanson
Justice & Peace. Jerry White	Sanctuary Arts. Chris Hall	Membership Clerk. Lois Benson	Youth & Young Adults Coordinator. Marta Fioriti
Kitchen Witches. Lois Benson & Dolly Eager	Spiritual Formation. Karin Henriksen	In Care Committee. Steve Brown	Nursery Attendants. Charlotte Ady, Linda Margrave, & Kayla Schroeder
Gregg Library. Jeanie Tate	Stewardship. Matt Turner	Stephen Leaders. Benjamin Broadbent, uke Cammack, Sheryl Cline, Jacque Franklin, Jan Johnson, Kathy Sparnins, & Lynne Stefanik	Custodians. Lee Hamilton & Bob Scheafer
Marketing. Mike Matthews	Whole Earth. Erik Henriksen & Brian Kerrigan	Taize Worship. Patty Lee	Sunday Sexton. Teri McCabe
Membership. Scott Huger			

VICE-MODERATOR REPORT (FACILITY RESOURCES)

LEE LEHMKUHL

Project Management Team (PMT). WOW!! The exterior historic restoration is complete. A 2003 historic structure assessment led to work beginning in 2004. A new roof, paint, exterior stone cleaning and sealing, pocket door automation, and most recently removal, cleaning, and re-leading of our stained glass. We received \$1.375M from capital campaign pledges, \$115K in investment income, \$95K in bequests and through the creativity and hard work of the PMT grant writers, we garnered \$688K in awards from historic preservation funding sources, eventually receiving \$553K in grant income. In addition, we provided \$64K in designated pledges for the La Foret Restoration project.

The committee's next challenge is planning the historic interior restoration. We have project documentation and budget estimates for the historical interior work. We now look forward to a time of congregational discussion, discernment, and planning for interior restoration and renovation. The recent failure of the 120 year old plaster on the east side of the sanctuary reminds us of our congregation's continuing responsibilities as the steward of this beautiful, historic, and holy space.

As PMT wraps up its fifth year of project management, here is a look back at the original capital campaign project list, the estimate of project cost, and the actual project costs:

Priority	Project	2004 Estimate*	Actual Cost	Cumulative Actual Cost
1	Repair electrical wiring in sanctuary; plan roof project	\$20,000	\$40,228	\$40,228
2	Replace roof & drainage system; add lightning protection	310,000	471,209	511,437
3	Repair foundation & stone lintels; plan mechanical system rehabilitation	65,000	48,752	560,189
4	Improve sanctuary heating & ventilation	100,000	35,208	595,397
5	Restore stained glass	490,000	1,019,829	1,615,226
6	Restore sanctuary interior; construction drawings completed	640,000	48,170	1,663,396
7	Restore organ	80,000	0	1,663,396
8	Clean & repoint masonry	25,000	100,785	1,764,181
	Replace pew cushions; restore pocket doors	0	69,570	1,833,751
	Capital campaign expenses	35,000	43,921	1,877,672
	Pay off mortgage debt	87,000	77,236	1,954,908
	Project management, Events, Fees	0	14,511	1,969,419

*2004 estimate of project cost from the Historic Structure Assessment document published in 2003.

Prioritization Committee. This committee is just coming together. It is the counterpart to the PMT for upcoming non-historic interior restoration and renovation projects approved by the congregation. Kitchen remodeling and improved handicapped access are examples of potential projects in their portfolio.

Audio-Visual (A/V) Team. The A/V Team continues to provide excellent sound amplification service during worship and special events. The team made several improvements our sound system, trained new A/V operators, and is planning upgrades to our wireless microphones to avoid interference from upcoming bandwidth reallocations by the Federal Communications Commission.

Kitchen Witches. The team continues its tradition of exemplary service, maintaining a clean, well-stocked kitchen for the use and enjoyment of church members and friends. The Witches will be a source of invaluable expertise as FCUCC considers future kitchen remodeling.

VICE-MODERATOR REPORT (FACILITY RESOURCES)

LEE LEHMKUHL

Grounds. The Grounds Committee has greatly improved the “curb appeal” of FCUCC through a combination of volunteers and commercial services. We added more rhyolite stone benches and some beautiful landscaping supported in part by a 2008 Challenge Grant from the Downtown Development Authority.

Marketing. A reduced budget affected the scope of Marketing’s activities this year, but the committee still had a significant impact by leveraging the talents of our church staff and other resources. We are grateful to Mission Giving & Outreach Committee for their generous support in sponsoring the local NAACP chapter’s Juneteenth Celebration.

Safety. FCUCC continues to pursue the committee’s safety recommendations, including CPR training and our first ever church service fire drill on October 25. The fire drill uncovered the need for louder alarms and a redirection of some evacuees to avoid bottlenecks.

TREASURER REPORT (FINANCIAL RESOURCES)

BRUCE WARREN

We have much to be grateful for in our financial results for 2009 and our budget for 2010. Despite a difficult economic time, we have ended the year with our pledged offerings exceeding the amount budgeted for the year by \$5,810 and with a surplus over expenses of \$33,851. That surplus will be added to reserves as part of Council’s continuing efforts to have a reserve to cover three months’ expenses (approximately \$150,000). The budget for 2010 is equally gratifying. Our budgeted offerings for the year are \$674,910, an increase of 6% over 2009. This has enabled the Council to adopt a balanced budget for 2010 with income from all sources of \$711,629.

The largest expense item is our personnel cost, since we now have a total of 7 full-time and 10 part-time employees. Over the past three years, our HR Committee has made thoughtful and conservative recommendations to Council to increase the salaries of our key personnel so that they are in about the 50th percentile of salary range for their job position. After incremental increases over the last three years, we have attained that goal in all but one position. Overall, 76% of the Church’s operating budget – or \$538,666 for 2010 – goes to pay staff salaries, benefits, and other personnel expenses.

In addition to these financial results, we have taken important steps to increase the transparency and accountability of the Church’s finances to meet the best practices required of nonprofit organizations in these times. Among them are hiring auditors for the Church with the expectation that we will have 2009 audited financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; adopting a records retention and destruction policy for the various types of accounting, contract and other business records; requiring that reimbursement of expenses be fully accounted for by employees and volunteers; and creating a gift acceptance policy for all types of gifts to the Church, from cash to real property to securities. Finally, our Financial Advisory Committee is working on an investment policy for the Church’s liquid assets which will be considered by the Council in 2010.

None of these important milestones would be possible without the tremendous support of everyone in the congregation who pledged their financial resources and time to accomplish the vision and mission we all have for the Church. I especially want to acknowledge the dedicated leadership of our Financial Advisory Committee, particularly Linn Gustafson who has assisted with the audit process, the Stewardship Committee, under the able leadership of Jack Holladay, and the Planned Giving Committee, wisely chaired by Bill Edmondson. Thanks to everyone for your commitments to the Church.

SECRETARY REPORT (HUMAN RESOURCES)

PETE HOKANSON

The **Human Resources Committee** focused on gathering information that would help identify the salary ranges for our church's personnel who hold jobs similar to those in other churches and non-profit organizations. Progress had been made for many positions in previous years, so this year focused particularly on the salary ranges for the lead minister, associate minister, and business administrator. After careful consideration, those salary ranges were established, and in December, the committee made recommendations to Council that would bring those three positions more in line with market based norms.

The **Risk Reduction and Response Team** continued to oversee policies and practices that have been put into place over the past several years. Nancy Dawson stepped in as the new chair. Regular training for volunteers who wish to be risk reduced continues each month. This is important as programs for children, youth, and the Stephen Ministry at our church grow and more people are volunteering to work in those programs. As the year ended, the committee was working on separating policy statements from procedural information which is a step to streamline a process that is working very well for the church.

Clergy Congregational Relations groups for both the lead and associate minister are in place and functioning well. Reverend Broadbent did invite feedback from some members of the congregation on the sermons that he prepared as a part of his Doctor of Ministry in Preaching through the Association of Chicago Theological Schools.

2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Church Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2009

Current Assets	
Cash & Money Market Accounts	\$502,508
Certificates of Deposit maturing <12 months	0
Grant Income Receivable	27,075
Total Current Assets	\$529,583
Longterm Assets	
Endowment Investments at current value	\$452,630
Fixed Assets – Burial Plots	2,590
Trust Investments at current value	201,455
Total Current Assets	\$656,675
Property & Equipment	1,414,797
Total Assets	\$2,601,055
Current Liabilities	
Tax & Employee Withholding	\$10,192
Accounts Payable/Vendors	7,307
La Foret Pledges Received	3,063
Total Current Liabilities	\$20,562
Total Liabilities	\$20,562
Fund Balances	
Unrestricted Funds	\$1,604,504
Board Designated Funds	22,711
Temporarily Restricted Funds	387,143
Permanent Restricted Funds	566,135
Total Funds	\$2,580,493
Total Liabilities and Funds	\$2,601,055

Capital Campaign Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2009

Current Assets	
Cash & Money Market Accounts	\$193,044
Certificates of Deposit maturing <12 months	0
Grant Income Receivable	27,075
Total Current Assets	\$220,119
Certificates of Deposit maturing >12 months	0
Total Assets	\$220,119
Current Liabilities	
La Foret Pledges Received	\$3,063
Fund Balances	
Capital Campaign Fund – Unrestricted	\$222,910
Capital Campaign Fund – Temp Restricted	(5,854)
Total Fund Balances	\$217,056
Total Liabilities and Funds	\$220,119

2009 Income Statement – General Fund

	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	Better / (Worse)
Income:			
Contributions	\$640,847	\$635,036	\$5,811
Other Income	14,466	8,946	5,520
Transfers in from Restricted Funds	12,168	29,660	(17,492)
Total Income	\$667,481	\$673,642	\$(6,161)
Expense:			
Personnel	\$485,140	\$511,127	\$25,987
Ministry Areas	32,064	38,174	6,110
Core Resources - Facilities	99,258	110,787	11,529
Core Resources - Financial	15,204	11,130	(4,074)
Core Resources – Human Resources	1,964	2,424	460
Total Expense	\$633,630	\$673,642	\$40,012
Net Revenue Over / (Under) Expense	\$33,851	\$0	\$33,851

2009 Income Statement – Mission Giving & Outreach Fund

	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	Better / (Worse)
Income:			
Contributions	\$111,150	\$111,622	\$(472)
Other Income	3,326	800	2,526
Transfers in from Prior Years Reserves	14,790	28,589	(13,799)
Total Income	\$129,266	\$141,011	\$(11,745)
Expense:			
OCWM Basic Support to wider settings of the UCC	\$56,211	\$56,211	\$0
Local Community	29,000	24,205	(4,795)
Interfaith Hospitality Network	487	3,373	2,886
Ecumenical Social Ministries	9,036	10,118	1,082
Acacia Seniors Dinner Program	200	200	0
Non-Local Community	10,715	10,715	0
Seminary Scholarships	3,000	3,500	500
CUE Seminaries Support	0	4,000	4,000
Postage / Mission Booklet	371	100	(271)
Disbursements from Prior Years Reserves	19,075	28,589	9,514
Total Expense	\$128,095	\$141,011	\$12,916
Net Revenue Over / (Under) Expense	\$1,171	\$0	\$1,171

Capital Campaign Income Statement (Campaign-to-Date) – December, 2009

	Campaign-to-Date
Beginning Fund Balance	\$4,975
Income:	
Pledge payments, contributions, bequests, refunds	\$1,473,612
Grant Income	553,118
Dividends/Interest Earnings	114,543
Total Income	\$2,141,273
Expense:	
Capital Campaign Start-up	\$8,921
Capital Campaign Consultant	35,000
Mortgages paid off	77,236
Investment fees	135
Capital Projects	1,807,900
Total Expense	\$1,929,192
Ending Fund Balance	\$217,056

2010 PROPOSED BUDGETS

Note: A limited number of detailed line item budget presentations will be available in the church office, and at the annual meeting of the congregation on January 31, 2010. The detail presentations are also available on the church's website.

2010 Proposed Budget – General Fund

Income:	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	Increase / (Decrease)
Contributions	\$635,036	\$674,909	\$39,873
Other Income	8,946	13,450	4,504
Transfers in from Restricted Funds	29,660	23,269	(6,391)
Total Income	\$673,642	\$711,628	\$37,986
Expense:			
Personnel	\$511,127	\$538,666	\$27,539
Ministry Areas	38,174	44,060	5,886
Core Resources – Facilities	110,787	107,752	(3,035)
Core Resources – Finance	11,130	19,230	8,100
Core Resources – Human Resources	2,424	1,920	(504)
Total Expense	\$673,642	\$711,628	\$37,986
Net Revenue Over / (Under) Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0

2010 Proposed Budget – Mission Giving & Outreach Fund

Income:	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	Increase / (Decrease)
Contributions	\$111,622	\$113,645	\$2,023
Other Income	800	3,750	2,950
Transfers in from Prior Years Reserves	28,589*	14,969*	(13,620)*
Total Income	\$141,011	\$132,364	\$(8,647)
Expense:			
OCWM Basic Support to wider settings of the UCC	\$56,211	\$58,573	\$2,362
Local Church Advocacy Ministries	0	6,360	6,360
Budget amount to be allocated by MGO at later date	0	36,762	36,762**
Local Community	24,205	0	(24,205)**
Interfaith Hospitality Network	3,373	0	(3,373)**
Interfaith Hospitality Network supplies	0	500	500
Ecumenical Social Ministries	10,118	9,000	(1,118)
Acacia Seniors Dinner Program	200	200	0
Non-Local Community	10,715	0	(10,715)**
Seminary Scholarships	3,500	6,000	2,500
CUE Seminaries Support	4,000	0	(4,000)**
Postage / Mission Booklet	100	0	0**
Disbursements from Prior Years Reserves	28,589	14,969	(13,620)
Total Expense	\$141,011	\$132,364	\$(8,647)
Net Revenue Over / (Under) Expense	\$0	\$0	\$

* The MG&O Committee typically disburses any remaining prior year surpluses in the following year.

** The MG&O Committee will allocate the remaining expense budget lines in the first quarter, 2010.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOR WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL LIFE REPORT
KARIN HENRIKSEN

Liturgists:
50 - 60

Worshippers
18,844
including
Easter - 767
Christmas Eve - 669

Average attendance:
1ST SERVICE - 136
2ND SERVICE - 211

Communion servers
18

Ushers
50

Chancel stewards
15

Funeral services
12

Weddings
0

Taize Services
17

Choir members:
Chancel - 31
Joyful Noise - 13
Daytime Handbell Ringers
- 14
Nighttime Handbell
Ringers - 18
Flutes - 14

ancient paths; which was the good way? Take it and you will find rest for yourselves. (Jeremiah 6:16)

In what was a challenging year for many of us, our church home offered us a place to pray, ponder, and find rest and renewal on our paths, thanks to the work of many dedicated volunteers; from ushers to artists and from communion servers to prayer shawl makers.

One page would not suffice to describe all the wonderful events that were sponsored by the **Music and Arts Committee**, chaired by Victoria Hansen, this year: Worship Artists' Appreciation Sunday, the Folk Service, and Madrigal, just to name a few. In addition, the flute choir under leadership of Phyllis White, the handbell ringers directed by Carol Fields and our youth and adult choirs added much "joyful noise" to our worship experience.

The **Spiritual Formation Committee** organized a very successful all-day retreat with Jane Vennard in January and started a once-a-month prayer group based on Joyce Rupp's book *May I Have This Dance*.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry continued its healing ministry of providing "portable hugs." Shawls have traveled all over, including to an orphanage in Uganda and to TESSA for victims of domestic violence.

Head Ushers Lisa Cook and Oscar Ridings ensured that ushers were in place to give a warm welcome to members and visitors.

Peggy Dyer-Weissman coordinated the **Communion Team** this year.

Funeral services were coordinated by Carol Fields with the help of Ann Skinner.

Connie Raub, Chris Hall, Jerome Carter and the chancel stewards of the **Sanctuary Arts Committee** enhanced our sacred space for Sunday morning services.

Marsha Garrett continued her wonderful work as **Liturgist Coordinator**.

Jenny Finn and Jenny Glick headed up the **Movement Ministry**, Shekhinah, and based their Saturday morning practice on the lectionary Sunday scripture.

Under Ann Skinner's prayerful leadership and with the support of Frank Shelton, the **Taizé** service format was streamlined, inviting a growing number of seekers an opportunity to find comfort and renewal at these beautiful services. A photo article about FCC's Taizé service was featured in The Gazette.

At the end of my term as council member, here is a big thank you to my staff liaison Frank Shelton for his support and friendship.

*Stand at the crossroads
and look, ask for the*

COUNCIL MEMBER FOR EDUCATION REPORT

SUE SCOTT

Adult Education. Dave Seyfert coordinated another successful year for the Sunday morning Adult Forum. Weekly Bible Study groups included those led by Ted Lindeman and Paul Carpenter and the biweekly Northern Lights group facilitated by Lee Kelly. Ceil Malek's Spiritual Writing Group continued to meet bimonthly. The Book Discussion Group shared *The Shack*, *Angle of Repose*, *One Thousand White Women* and *Say You're One of Them*.

Children's Worship. Denise Ellsworth continued to coordinate a program with Preschool thru 1st graders entitled *Godly Play* based on Bible stories. Dedicated "Grandpas" assisted.

Christian Education. The *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum initiated in 2008 continued to be used for Sunday school. In addition, several other programs were integrated throughout the year. Children started each week in Kid's Community, a program created and facilitated by Del Hokanson to create a positive relationship between all the children. Throughout the summer students learned about the circumstances of other children throughout the world at Camp Edge, during summer Sunday school, and raised funds for the Cuban caravan "Pastors for Peace." The summer culminated with a children's service that included a reenactment of the December 1, 1955, when Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to make room for a white passenger, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Confirmation. A confirmation class of twenty-five students completed a year-long program co-led by Rev. Broadbent, Rev. Franklin and Youth & Young Adult Coordinator Jeff Dodson. This faith journey for 9th & 10th graders culminated in May with special prayers, affirmation of baptism and membership in the church for nineteen of the youth.

Gregg Library. ResourceMate® was selected as the small library automation software for the library catalog. Jeanie Tate, Phyllis & Elwood White, and Julie Jones-Eddy have entered 1,200 titles out of a collection of approximately 3,400.

Historical Committee. On Historical Sunday the committee recognized members with thirty, forty, and fifty years of membership in the church. Wil Green served as Historian. The committee also created a plan for the development of a reading room in the south balcony.

James W. White Lectureship Committee. Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, presented a lecture *Jesus and Family Values: What the Gospels Really Say* and two workshops, and at Sunday Worship services as the 3rd annual James W. White Lecturer.

Nursery Care. The nursery staff continued to expand providing care during church activities. The *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum will be integrated into this program.

Our Whole Lives - Sexuality and Our Faith (OWL). Peggy Lovelace and Pete Hokanson facilitated a class of thirteen kindergarten & first grade children in this age-appropriate, faith-based sexuality education program. Jenny Chapman and Chris Reimer facilitated a 5th & 6th grade class of twenty-two. Jon Vigne, Del Hokanson and Jean Hagerman are in the middle of a yearlong class for nineteen 8th & 9th graders. Joe Bair and Logan Bennett lead a Young Adult group for Colorado College students.

Youth Programming. Marta Fioriti became our Youth & Young Adult Coordinator in September. In addition to meeting on a weekly basis for food, fellowship and worship, the youth groups walked the labyrinth at Colorado College, worked on mural planning with Kim Polomka, attended retreats at LaForet, participated in the Crop Walk, assisted in set-up for IHN, and served food at the Marian House.

In 2010, look for the Gregg Library move online. Save the dates, April 23rd-25th, for Bernard McGinn as the James W. White Lecturer. Take part in the new 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School class.

Mission Giving & Outreach (MG&O) Guided by the leadership of Angie Adams, the committee organized its giving into bi-yearly events: summer for local giving, winter for national/international giving. Rick Purinton has energized MGO by heading up its member outreach efforts; under his leadership FCC is now serving meals to the homeless regularly at the Marian House, working with Habitat for Humanity and planning a trip with the youth to La Puente at the end of August. MGO hosted its second annual Mission Fair, which continues to connect church members and friends with vital organizations in the Colorado Springs community.

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) FCC had two hosting opportunities in 2009, with 6 families (9 adults and 16 children – youngest was 14 months old) and about 300 FCC volunteer hours. We anticipate increased demand and challenges for graduating families as we move forward in 2010. IHN continues to be shepherded by Jerry and Cathy White, along with new food coordinators, Jill and Drew Robinson.

Justice & Peace Under the co-leadership of Paul Carpenter and Arnie Sparnins, the J&P Committee sent Cyndy Kulp to Palestine on a peace mission, hosted the 8th Annual 2009 Micah 6 Awards Dinner, worked FCC's Juneteenth booth at Colorado College, hosted a meaningful fall film series, participated in several anti-Iraq War events, and walked in the Peace March on Jan. 1. In 2010, Jerry White will be taking the helm as Chair for J&P.

Open & Affirming (O&A) O&A, headed for most of the year by Diane Martin, gave us our best Pride Sunday ever with new T-shirts designed by our own Trey Austin, and hosted the well-attended fall Forum discussion over the film *For the Bible Tells Me So*, expertly led by John Shada. Trey Austin will chair the committee in 2010 as FCC, as an O&A church, continues to support GLTB concerns and have a major role in Pride Fest, Colorado Springs.

Whole Earth Under the leadership of Judith Rice-Jones, Whole Earth continued to raise consciousness about earth stewardship. The committee hosted a booth at Colorado College's Earth Day extravaganza (we were the only church present), tended a community garden plot, provided educational materials to congregants throughout the year and inspired the Council and Staff of FCC to "go green" and "sustainable" at all meetings. Judith steps down as Chair this year; taking her place are co-chairs Erik Henriksen and Brian Kerrigan.

In Care Committee Facilitated by Steve Brown, this process for ordaining ministers yielded three ordinations at FCC: Joe Bair, Clare Twomey, and Lyn Boudreau.

Membership

This hard working committee held 12 Inquirer classes and 4 New Member Orientations and as a result welcomed 51 new members to FCC in 2009. A full report of membership can be found at the end of the Annual Report.

Stephen Ministry

There are 7 Stephen Leaders who coordinate the efforts of 16 Stephen Ministers and started the third class of 5 new Stephen Ministers. As a result 17 members have been visited regularly.

All Church Campout

Camp Out committee planned and carried out the Eighth Annual All Church Camp Out, September 11-13 at Camp La Foret in Black Forest. The event was well attended. Families had great fun playing and praying together.

Health Ministry Committee

Forming in 2009 under the leadership of Nancy Lippincott, Parish Nurse, this committee will carry out projects of Health and Wellness that the congregation have identified in a recent survey.

Second Sunday Singles

Started in 2009 this group is targeting folks in the age range of 50 – 60's who are single and looking for company and fun. Group numbers range from 20 – 40 people.

Community Life

The members of this group draw folks to social events. Nine to Dine groups gather and share a meal. At Fall Fest we carved pumpkins, ate chili, had a costume contest, and listened to Folk Music. At Mardi Gras we ate pancakes and bacon, had a pancake flipping contest, and judged outrageous outfits. At the Rally Day Church picnic, many came to America the Beautiful Park for a cook-out and games. These events serve to welcome newcomers and oldtimers to this community of faith.

Plymouth Circle

The women of this fellowship group meet the first Wednesday of the month. Each meeting has a presentation, fellowship, and refreshments. In December the women assembled 96 Stockings of donated toys for the Salvation Army.

Women's Retreat

Around 78 women gathered at La Foret to explore self-care and Psalm 138. We danced, wrote, meditated, got massages, laughed, worshiped and got to know one another better.

Pooped Out Parents

Continues to meet every other month at someone's home for potluck and fellowship. Gatherings range from 10 – 40 people.

Film Series

The FCC Film Series offered wide ranging fare—Lenten films focused on the theme "A Balm in Gilead: Remedies for the Sin-Sick Soul" and ranged from Palestine to Antarctica, and from a peaceful French elementary school to a terrorist bombing cell in the Middle East. An additional four films were shown in the Summer Fall Winter Spring Series, from 1910 Russia to 21st Century Vancouver. Ten short films were also screened. We've explored cinema's comments on the scripture, on the culture, and on the funny bone. Sharing good food, camaraderie and always-interesting discussion we are bound together by a few hours in a dark room and the silver screen.

Men's B&B

The Bran Flakes and Bonding men's group met Thursday mornings at 6:45! What a grand way to start a day with strong coffee, heartfelt discussions and of course a few jokes.

A Look Ahead to 2010

Feb. 5, 6 – Men's Retreat; Feb. 16 – Fat Tuesday Pancake dinner

May 9 – Mother's Day flowers distributed; June 20 – New Member Joining

Aug. 27, 28, 29 – All Church Camp-out; Sept. 12 – Rally Day and All Church Picnic

Oct. 30 – Pumpkin Carving and Chili Cook-off

Nov. 19, 20, 21 – Women's Retreat; Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Day dinner in the Founders' room.

Note: Detailed membership report is on file and available from the church office.

2008 year end total = 723
2009 year end total = 702

NEW MEMBERS (51)

March 22	16
May 17	15
June 28	14
September 27	5
November 3	1

DEATHS (8)

Lynn Pettit (1/5)	Georgia Greene (8/5)
Walter Field (2/6)*	Alton Forgy (8/10)*
Jim Goosman (4/23)	Bill Gallegos (8/24)*
Ernie Ohle (4/27)	Lovina Nace (9/6)
Noah Wilkerson (6/30)*	William Stoner (11/8)
Ulrich Wesche (7/25)	
*(friend of the church)	

TRANSFERS OUT (6)

INACTIVE BY MEMBER REQUEST (35)

INACTIVE BY COMMITTEE (20)

REMOVED BY MEMBER REQUEST (3)

REMOVED BY COMMITTEE (0)

BAPTISMS (12)

MARRIAGES (1)