



Wicomico Parish Church
5191 Jessie Ball duPont Memorial Highway
PO Box 70 Wicomico Church, VA 22579

2011 Annual Report

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WPC Committees and Other Ministries – December 201

Worship Committee	- Howard, Jan Hinch, Olivia Cockrell
Membership	- Hoppie Cockrell, Joy Young
Grounds	- Dick Doyle
*Outreach	- Susan Moore, Ralph Millar
Finance	- Vacant
*Search	- Marshall Waterman, Jim Harding
*Altar Guild	- Jan Hinch, Tina Powell
*Ushers	- John Hollowell
Every Member Canvass	- Andy Kauders
Men's Breakfast	- Jim Groff
*Parish Nurse	- Janice Litsinger
*Cemetery Wardens	- Lou Anstine, John Hollowell, Jim Stone, Dave Eilers
Trustees	- Bill Throckmorton, Joe Hudnall, John Hollowell
*Gleamers and Blenders	- Jere Litsinger
United Thank Offering (UTO)	- Vicki Harding
*Interfaith	- Ralph Millar
*Discoveries Thrift Shop	- Jane Holcombe
Church Directory	- Paula Ransone, Vicki Harding, Denise DeVries
*Market Day	- Marianne Stackpole, Susan Hice, Susan Moore
*Meals on Wheels	- Lela Ingram
*Parish Registry	- Jean Ryan
Lay Volunteers 8AM	- Anne Reisner
Lay Volunteers 10AM	- Marshall Waterman
Ladies Group	- Ginny Ritter, Susan Moore
Coffee Hours	- 8AM Adrienne Green - 10AM Joyce Mullins
Pot Luck Suppers/EMC	- Adrienne Green
Annual Meeting	- Joyce Mullins
Funerals/Special Occasions	- Donna Doleman, Susan Hice
Lenten Series Dinners	- TBD
Veteran's Day	- Jack Ritter
*Parish Friends	- Weezie Kingsley, Patti Doyle
*Endowment Fund	- Terry Greene
Disaster Preparedness& Response	- Bill Armbruster
*Annual Reports NLT 9 December	

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild has prepared for all Sunday services, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. The group currently consists of 25 faithful ladies who are divided into six teams. When it is their turn to prepare the Altar, the team meets at the church on Saturday to do its work and ready the church for the 8:00 AM service. On Sunday, that team prepares for the 10:00 service and afterwards returns everything to its proper storage place.

This year the Altar Guild was able to have a number of the brass items used at the Altar professionally polished and lacquered. We hope to be able to complete the remaining items in the near future. We plan to have the small flower stand tables refinished in late January. Several other items are on our acquisition wish list. These include an Altar Service Book, a small mahogany table to use for Baptisms and special services, and two traveling communion sets.

Cemetery

There was one inurnment, a memorial tree was planted in the cemetery, and the cemetery database was installed in the new parish computer this year. We did not sell burial rights to any cemetery lots or columbarium niches this year. There are two hundred thirty lots and seventy six niches remaining for purchase. When you are ready to plan your final resting place, contact one of the following cemetery wardens: Lou Anstine, David Eilers, John Hollowell, or Jim Stone.

Discoveries

January 22nd will mark the anniversary of the opening of Discoveries.

Our Manager KaKa Crowther provided a vision for our shop and did a wonderful job in making it happen! Sadly KaKa had to resign due to Tommy's illness.

The same week that KaKa resigned, Bonnie Williams agreed to be our new manager. There was a little learning curve for us, but between Bonnie who brought endless enthusiasm and a welcoming smile, and Lela our Volunteer Coordinator, PLUS so much more, Discoveries evolved into a shop that our customers look forward to visiting.

Thanks to our consignment program and generous donations we have been able to operate in the black since the beginning!

Endowment Trust Board

The Wicomico Parish Church Endowment Trust currently has assets of approximately \$165,000, the exact amount depending on the condition of the stock market.

The Trustees have recently prepared a thorough revision of the charter that was written when the Trust was established in 1998. The revision, approved by the Vestry in November, brings the charter up to date and in harmony with the guidelines and protocols of the Vestry. It clarifies the mission of the Trust as a long-

term endowment whose income will provide for new programs and new projects outside of the operating budget of the Parish. It does not provide a means to balance the annual budget. The principal of the Endowment Trust can be invaded only in cases of extreme emergency. Disbursals of the earnings will be available after the Trust reaches a value of \$500,000.

There have been some changes in membership of the Board of Trustees. Chairman Laurie Rennie resigned, as he and Barbara have moved to Richmond. Craig Kelly was nominated and approved by the Vestry to fill the vacancy on the Board. . Carol Throckmorton resigned, feeling that she could not devote sufficient time and energy to the Trust while she is contending with her illness. _____ has been nominated and approved [I hope this will be the case] as her replacement. I have been chosen to replace Laurie as Chair.

The Trustees have also prepared a brochure on *Planned Giving* that provides an overview of various options for donating to the Trust, such as bequests in one's will, pooled income funds, charitable annuity trusts, charitable remainder trusts, gifts via insurance policies and retirement accounts, and gifts of real estate, securities, cash, and tangible personal property. We have been greatly assisted in this effort, and in the revision of the charter, by the Episcopal Church Foundation, headquartered in New York. The Foundation, by the way, says that 80% of the funds donated to church endowment trusts are via bequests in wills. We also have detailed booklets from the ECF on planned giving options that you may want to review as you consider a donation.

Which leads me to report to you that the Trust has received two major donations this fall, one from the estate of Les Inskeep and the other from the Jack and Susan Moore Foundation. We bless the memory of our friend Les, and thank Jack and Susan for their continuing generosity in supporting the Trust. This is their third contribution.

We will now pass out copies of the brochure on Planned Giving. Please make sure that you have a copy for each family unit. We will mail out copies of the brochure to all families not here tonight. You can help us make this task efficient by being sure that your names are on the sign-in list. We'll circulate the list to those who have not signed.

While we are passing out the brochures I will try to answer any question about the Trust.

Terrell Greene, Chair
Endowment Trust Board

Faith Community Nurse/FCN

My activities as the Parish Nurse (Faith Community Nurse/FCN) have included periodic blood pressure checks and more frequently announcements to the congregation regarding current health and wellness issues. Most recently we included in the weekly bulletins some pointers on how to deal with stress during the holiday season. I am a member of the Parish Friends Committee and while helping them with routine visitations and communications with parishioners, I have also served as a resource on health and medical issues. I have responded to a number of individual concerns, answered questions and made visits.

Last April I attended the annual FCN Retreat sponsored by Shenandoah University. While there I obtained a variety of educational materials on health matters which I have shared with parishioners. The next retreat will be held in Richmond at the Diocese of Virginia headquarters. This retreat is a two day event with inspirational and health based speakers and topics. I expect to collect a variety of literature which will be made available to our parishioners.

Plans for 2012 include offering CPR classes for parishioners to include an update on use of the defibrillator.

Grounds Committee

The focus of the Grounds Committee is the annual maintenance of the mulched and planted beds as well as the trees, bushes and hedges, but primarily on the removal of fallen leaves and branches. Traditionally the committee oversees two major efforts regarding the church grounds. These are an early spring and late fall spruce up/clean up. The work is carried out primarily by church volunteers known best as the "Usual Suspects". However this year the "Suspects" have been aided greatly by paid assistants. The addition of this help has increased the amount of work accomplished and had a salutary effect on the morale of the "Suspects".

Early spring effort includes:

- Pick up/clean up and haul off of all winter debris
- Raking and cleaning of beds in prep for mulch
- Getting and spreading/refreshing of mulch in all beds (usually 70-80 bags)
- Identification and execution of necessary pruning and cutting
- Suppression of weeds in parking lot (Irv Talley head Suspect)

Fall effort includes:

- Raking, loading and hauling leaves
- Pick up/clean up of debris
- Trimming/pruning where necessary
- Addition of mulch if necessary

Ongoing tasks....are seldom accomplished by a formal work session but rather on an as needed basis and includes:

- Pick up/clean up of limbs... this following storms (our sycamore trees are notorious for shedding of limbs)
- Spraying of weeds in beds
- Minor pruning of trees overhanging driveways and bushes
- Work on special grounds projects as needed

Thoughts and suggestions:

- Continue the assistance of paid help to the degree that it is practicable.

- Appoint a master gardener or the equivalent to meet with grounds chairman to walk the grounds, discuss plants and recommend needed pruning and proper pruning techniques etc...
- At this point the committee has limited its role to a maintenance role and wish that status to remain so. However it would be well to tap the talents within the church community to create an overall plan for the future of the various beds to include design and the addition and removal of bushes and ornamentals.

Junior Warden

Major project – renovation and rehabilitation of the Wicomico House new kitchen, heating and air conditioning system, repaired chimneys, refinished floors, installed two new doors on garage, completed repainting of the interior and the outside trim. Normal activities – supervised spring and fall cleanup, performed or supervised normal maintenance and repairs on the church, parish hall and Discoveries structures.

Market Day Committee

The Market Day chairs were Susan Hice and Marianne Stackpole with guidance from last year's chairman, Susan Moore.

Committee Chairs were:

Artisans – Sue Broadway, Mary Ellis and Mary Carter Hughes

Bake Sale – Nancy Millar and Patti Doyle

Books – Jane Langloh and Helene Braatz

Church Tour- Lela Ingram, Bill Johnson and Harding McClelland

Chili & Parishioner Soups – Sylvia Anstine and Marianne Stackpole

Discoveries – Bonnie Williams and Vicki Harding

Early Morning Food – Martha Tallent

Jewelry – Donna Doleman

Marketing – Donna Doleman

Parking – Carter Fox

Printing Tags etc – Paula Ransone

Refreshment stand – late morning – Hal and Sally White

Security – Vicki Harding

Treasurer for event day– Sylvia Anstine

Vendors – Marshall Waterman

Yard Sale – BJ McMillan, Charlotte & Jim Schmidt, Dorothy Pagano and Robert Gauthier

Because of the hard work of all the above and the many, many volunteers who helped throughout the year and on Market Day, we made \$16,619. We will hold back about \$500 as seed money for next year and the rest will be distributed by the Outreach Committee.

Detailed reports for each Market Day committee, meeting minutes and information on ordering, logistics etc. are available for next year's committee chairs.

Outreach

Many members of our congregation volunteer for Meals on Wheels, Hospice, the Free Health Clinic, and other organizations. We meet immediate needs by providing school supplies and buying Christmas gifts for needy children. We support the Interfaith Service Council which uses volunteers to provide emergency home repair help, provide household goods, and meet other pressing needs. We pay the utility costs of operating the Gleamers and Blenders food bank in Burgess. Members of the congregation also pick up food from Food Lion and contribute non-perishable food for this food bank. The Outreach Committee administers the annual Jessie Ball DuPont grant to help People In Need in our community, distributing \$10,000 to people who need emergency help with utilities, rent, food, and medical supplies. In January the Outreach Committee also will coordinate the process of allocating 2011 outreach donations to local, state and international organizations including \$6500 from the church budget, over \$16,000 from Market Day, and net proceeds from Discoveries Thrift Shop and Men's Breakfast. If anyone would like to join the Outreach Committee, please call Ralph Millar (529-9870) or Susan Moore (580-8629).

Parish Friends

Parish Friends took shape this Spring to reach out to each other within the WPC family. Many great things have happened. Rev. Howard Hanchey appointed Marianne Stackpole Lay Eucharist Minister, and she has celebrated communion with several parishioners who couldn't attend services. The Prayer List has been reorganized, and listed names are read aloud in the service during The Prayers of the People. In keeping with the Mission of Wicomico Parish Church, we also reach out to our Parish with thoughtful cards or a call, keeping in better touch. Hospital and Nursing Home visits have taken place as well as to those at home. Help with arranging transportation to a distant medical appointment or to Sunday services has also taken place.

Please consider joining Parish Friends. We can't do everything, but we can do so much.....Weezie Kingsley

Registry

After 16 years of service, Ruby Hyatt relinquished her responsibility for our Wicomico Parish Register soon after Rev. Scott Dillard's retirement. Jean Ryan agreed to carry on the responsibility for the Register. A review of Wicomico Parish Church's membership records was conducted, and it is reported that the membership data base is up to date.

Search Committee Report

The Search Committee began the year by working on our Parish Profile and the Parish Portfolio required by the Office of Transition Ministry. At the same time, effort went into organizing and defining the search process in preparation for our evaluation of candidates to begin after Scott Dillard's retirement.

The Parish Profile was presented to the congregation on May 22, and the Open Position for Rector was posted on July 5.

The committee reviewed materials submitted by 41 candidates from 21 different states and Washington, D.C. Of these candidates, 21 were male and 20 were female. As candidates advanced in the process, the committee studied sermons and other additional information, conducted telephone interviews and checked references.

By November, the committee had identified a single outstanding candidate who was invited with his wife to visit WPC, to meet the Vestry and to participate in a face-to-face interview with the Search Committee. A formal background check was conducted, and he met with Bishop Shannon Johnston.

On November 17, the committee voted unanimously to present this candidate, Jim Silcox, to the vestry as our choice for Finalist for Rector.

Senior Warden's Report

Movin' On

Early in the year, we were able to honor our Organist/ Choirmaster and surprise her we did with a nice cash gift, a sumptuous dinner and entertainment. This was followed by a show fit for Prime Time in April honoring our departing Rector Scott Dillard after 18 years of service at Wicomico Parish Church (WPC). Of course Pauli who played an important role in many facets of WPC life was honored as well. A hard bound "Memory Book" documents this gala dinner affair at Festival Halle in Reedville. It was an extravaganza and over 50 parishioners participated in putting the songs and skits together; and, 80 attended the event. Other than that the early part of 2011 saw activity at a near normal pace at WPC. That changed upon Scott's departure.

We are a blessed Parish and the arrival of Rev. Howard Hanchey in May as our Interim Rector is ample evidence of that. Howard hit the ground running and spent countless hours preparing us for a new rector as well as tending to his teaching and pastoral duties. This was not a part time job and he made this transition appear seamless.

Our Episcopal Church Women (ECW) was changing as times do change and a survey along with several meetings gave voice to some new interests of our ladies. One of these interests has developed into "Friends" (or Friends of the Parish) and this expanding group of ladies have identified our "super senior" parishioners and canvassed them to determine needs which WPC might fulfill. This has resulted in arranging or assuring transportation for several parishioners, making sure that our weekly announcements were being received, home visitations, home communions, and simply letting our "super seniors" know that WPC cares about them. I predict this effort will continue to grow. And, just recently several ladies have begun planning follow-up to another interest identified earlier and that is a spiritual

interest. Where that might lead is not yet clear but Bible study, prayer groups, working with the new rector in how we worship, all are possibilities. There are other interests mentioned by our ladies and they await someone to step up to the plate and give them life.

Our "in process of becoming an" annual fall visit to Shrine Mont was once again a satisfaction to 30+(?) of us. This time away is both entertainment for us, and a time of community building, strengthening WPC all the more.

Renovations of Wicomico House are about complete and one of the challenges for 2012 will be to explore possible uses and/or the disposition of this 100 year old property.

The Vestry completed reviews of several key areas for WPC to include the Pauli Dillard Scholarship Fund which was updated (and found fiscally sound), the WPC Gift Policy including a list of recommended Gifts was written and now in effect, and our membership records were reconciled and now are current. The WPC Insurance policies were carefully reviewed and found to be very comprehensive. It was recommended that we conduct and document results of an inventory of all property including photos and that effort is underway. An interim directory has been distributed and a complete new directory is anticipated in March.

Our Endowment Fund is under new direction and has added two new members. The Board has updated the 1998 document which established the Trust Fund and they will soon unveil a plan to grow this Fund which is vital to the future of WPC.

The Outreach accomplished by this small Parish is impressive. Even in these difficult economic times this year's Market Day earned a net of over \$16,000. Our 'Discoveries' consignment/thrift shop opened less than a year ago and has earned money every month since opening. But in addition to adding funds to our Outreach Ministry, Discoveries is also an important "green" organization, helping recycle the "trash" for some into the "treasure" of others. With the crowds attracted on Market Day, Discoveries had a record one-day revenue. This shop has great potential and will grow as we are able to attract more customers. With active leadership, the Outreach Committee has grown this year and currently all stakeholders have a voice in Committee business. New guidelines for distribution of outreach funds are under development. Rest assured the priority will remain local.

Last but clearly not least, the seven parishioners we asked to serve on our Search Committee have - simply stated - 'overachieved'. I said we were blessed! The number of hours that this committee spent in the search for our new Rector is huge, but the effort paid high dividends. In record time they selected a finalist who visited us in November; they agreed unanimously upon this finalist, recommended him to the Vestry who on the same day agreed - again, unanimously. The Reverend Jim Silcox and his wife Jane will come to us on/about March 1. (Great sighs of relief have been heard from the committee's spouses.)

Given Howard's leadership for the past months, an active and supportive congregation, the efforts of this year's Vestry, the anticipated performance of the 2012 Vestry, along with Jim and Jane Silcox soon to arrive, WPC is in good hands headed in the right direction to serve our Lord!