



Go Forth

Annual Report 2009

Our Purpose

To receive, live, and share the abundant life of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

We are a warm church overflowing with inspired worshipers, steadfast disciples, and passionate servants for Christ in the world.

Our Values

Tradition, Community, Leadership, Worship, Mission, Steadfastness

Table of Contents 2009 Annual Report

		Page
Strategic Plan Outline		5
Rector's Report	The Rev. R. Leigh Spruill	6
Warden's Report	Calvin Lewis Amy Norton	9
Treasurer's Report	Pete Lutz	11
Stewardship 2009 Report	Bob Kinard, chair	11
Mission Commission	Bryan Essary, chair	13
Parish Life Commission	Rowanne McKnight, chair	16
Worship Commission	Rich Maradik, chair	19
Vestry Information		23
Parish Statistics		24
St. George's Trust Report	John Abernathy, chair	25
Addendum	December 31, 2009 Treasurer's Report	27

St. George's Episcopal Church

2007-2016 Strategic Plan

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The Great Commission: "Go forth, therefore, and make all nations my disciples; baptize men everywhere in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all that I have commanded you. And be assured, I am with you always to the end of time."

Matthew 28:19&20

PURPOSE

To receive, live and share the abundant life of Jesus Christ.

VISION

We are a warm church overflowing with inspired worshipers, steadfast disciples, and passionate servants for Christ in the world.

VALUES

Tradition

Community

Leadership

Worship

Outreach

Steadfastness

OUTCOMES

1. We offer a comprehensive Christian formation program that is exciting to families and people of all ages.
2. Our members find healing and loving support for their emotional, physical, and spiritual needs through our Ministry of Caring.
3. Our focused mission efforts enable us to build lasting results for targeted populations.
4. Our worship draws inspiration from our heritage of the classical Anglican tradition, as well as meaningful worship in other styles and venues.
5. Our parishioners feel a deep sense of belonging because of our intentional creation of community that focuses on our relationship with Christ and one another.
6. We have 3000 active members.

Rector's Report

This report represents the fifth time I have offered reflections and information on the state of St. George's Church for the Parish Annual Meeting. In so many ways this time among you in shared ministry has passed very quickly. I remain as grateful and happy as ever for the privilege of serving you as rector. And I am as confident as ever that our most powerful and vibrant ministry as a parish family is yet ahead of us. It is, however, important to celebrate the blessings of our past while charting our course for the future.

St. George's marked an important milestone in 2009: the celebration of **our 60th anniversary** as a worshipping community. On All Saints' Sunday, we honored our founding members and families. Almost twenty of these earliest members were present to be recognized that day. In my sermon for this special occasion, the following was offered:

We "sing a song of the saints of God" today. And especially we sing our praises to those whom we recognize and thank as founding members and first families. ...In significant ways, our relative health and vitality as a parish today are rooted in those sacred beginnings of growth and development in this place. Every single one of us here is a Christian by the grace of God, but by a grace that works its way from Christ through other people, people who have influenced our lives as Christians. ... Part of what we do on this day is to submit in thanksgiving and humility to the witness of others who have come before us. Directly or indirectly, we are who we are as Christians through their life and witness....

We have been so blessed by those who embraced the vision for this congregation early on, and my prayer is that this parish will continue to increase in faith and witness more and more. We will grow and flourish to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future because we will build on the best of our past.

Annual reports typically contain statistics and information helpful to objectifying our health. Undoubtedly the year 2009 was for St. George's – as for our country – a time of "belt-tightening" and no small anxiety about **finances**. While you may read more detailed information in the Treasurer's Report found elsewhere in this booklet, I am very pleased to share that once again our year-end financial numbers are in "the black." I offer great gratitude to the congregation for your generous giving in spite of uncertain economic conditions. Projected revenues for the year exceeded estimates, primarily through unpledged offerings. I also give thanks to our vestry, wardens, Executive and Finance Committees, as well as our Parish Administrative Officer, Laura Zabaski, for helping us manage expenses so well in 2009.

Due to the dramatic turn our national and local economy took in the fall of 2008, St. George's budget was reduced by roughly nine percent in 2009 from its 2008 levels. While I am eager for us to return to - and hopefully exceed - the 2008 budget figures in the near future, we have every reason to feel positive about our financial stewardship. At this writing we are anticipating an increase in 2010 pledges over 2009, and we continue to soar more than 50% above pledged revenue from five years ago.

I am aware of my propensity for overstatement stemming from my unbounded enthusiasm about St. George's. But I have a keen eye for what is happening in the larger church, and I believe St. George's is one of the healthiest Episcopal congregations in the country. This vitality can be attributed primarily to **leadership**. We are blessed by an abundance of superb leaders. From the Altar Guild to the Lay Eucharistic Visitors to choir members to In-reach Shepherds and to each of the myriad ministries it is not possible to mention here, St. George's is a community of servant leaders.

Here I wish to offer a written word of thanks for our vestry in particular. They tire of me saying it but this is true: we continue to have some of the hardest working and most committed church leaders I have ever been around. I share my deepest gratitude for the commitment of our outgoing vestry members now completing their three-year term: Senior Warden, **Calvin Lewis**, Junior Warden, **Amy Norton**, as well as **Bob Kinard**, **Rich Maradik**, **Claudia Padfield**, and **Sally Smallwood**. Their vestry term has been defined by much hard work, productive ministry and exciting growth in key areas of our parish life, much of which is highlighted elsewhere in this report.

I also want to highlight the leadership and dedication of our **church staff**. At no time in my ordained ministry have I been surrounded by a more collectively talented, committed and faithful staff. They are also a pleasant, polite and fun group with whom to share in ministry. I am very proud of the staff we have assembled. While we are far from perfect, I do feel God has blessed us in bringing together at St. George's some very fine people whose unique gifts and experiences compliment the whole and further the gospel for our entire parish.

On January 9, 2010, the vestry gathered for a half-day retreat to revisit and enlarge our **Strategic Plan** for St. George's Church as we envision God's purposes for us over the next few years. We already have a "living and breathing" plan developed more than three years ago. However, it is time for our parish once again to think boldly and hopefully about new and deepened ministry. As I have shared literally from my first day in this role, my greatest fear for St. George's is that we will have insufficient expectations of God's future for us.

Jeremiah 20:11 promises, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." God has plans for us. Some may call them dreams. How can we best discern these plans and dreams? How can we implement them as God would have us do?

I share several highlights of our strategic visioning that point both backward to this past year and forward to the years to come. Your vestry, clergy, and other staff and ministers involved in the implementation of our plan are aware that despite our plethora of committed church leaders we have a large number of parishioners who are not well-connected to the parish or do not perceive themselves to be. We will need to focus on four areas to address this reality.

First, the vestry and key staff have identified throughout the past few years that we have many members whose commitments and presence are nominal. In some ways, this pattern mirrors other large, corporate churches where the proverbial 20% - 80% "rule" applies. (That is, 20% of the people do 80% of the work.) Still, this reality need not persist without intentionally inviting

more of our members to become actively engaged in parish life. It is the witness of countless long-time members that St. George's has more offerings and ministries available for members than ever. I am particularly excited about the accelerating growth of our small groups for men and women, especially the **CLC** ministry and **LIFE Groups**. These are but two excellent entry points into deepened discipleship at St. George's. There are many others. However, it is up to each of us active members to help us identify and invite our less active members into regular contact and engagement with our ministries. My expectation moving forward is that our Strategic Plan will place even greater emphasis on this area of ministry.

Second, as I have shared in a recent article for the Shield, it is difficult for some to feel a deep **sense of belonging** at St. George's, given our size and complexity. We are not a small town parish where each member's whereabouts and situation are ever before the leadership and congregation. One can get lost in the hubbub of St. George's. In the past year, an *ad hoc* committee has been exploring ways we can reach out in more regular and intentional ways to our shut-ins and those who find it difficult or impossible to attend church. I am pleased by their progress and feel that our **pastoral care** to homebound members and those in the hospital is good and improving. But we can do more and better ministry on this front. Similarly, I am hopeful that 2010 will be the year that mid-sized **community groups** will "take off" within the church. These groups are designed to foster fellowship and discipleship for members in settings conducive to greater familiarity and belonging.

Third, the parish leadership is eager to embrace new ministries to identify and disciple high potential leaders for our church life. One subtle danger in a church possessing such obviously committed and gifted leaders is that we may risk asking these leaders to do too much, too often. Leadership development has emerged as a key focus for your clergy team, and I am confident that vestry leadership will encourage greater intentionality on this front in the immediate future.

Fourth, I have repeatedly expressed my highest hopes that more of our members would be regular in church attendance. While our average Sunday attendance (ASA) is up more than 100 people over the past five years, a more dramatic increase was desired. In fact, in 2009 our ASA remained flat. My strong suspicion (and bias) is that we offer the most beautiful, theologically sound, and musically rich Anglican worship in Nashville. While we do not worship God here in order to achieve some statistical mark, it is the case that St. George's continues to have below-average worship attendance given the size of our baptized membership. Space precludes a full analysis of this reality from my perspective, but among other considerations, I have appointed a committee of current and former vestry members to help me examine the best configuration of service times. We will continue to offer classical Anglican worship in all the ways with which we are familiar. But I am not convinced our Sunday morning schedule is maximizing the potential for greater attendance. This will be examined thoroughly in 2010.

Lastly, the year 2009 was another important year for our **mission and outreach** at St. George's. Despite the reduction in our budget over 2008, I was proud of our vestry for maintaining our commitment to a tithe of pledged revenues for mission and outreach. We are making a difference in the lives of many who are less fortunate than ourselves. I was also blessed to travel to South Africa in the fall to witness our partnership with St. Thomas in Kagiso. Undoubtedly there is strong potential for exciting growth in this ministry. Likewise, there is reason for

excitement about new or deepened ministries in Honduras and among the many agencies we support in Nashville. Moving forward, I do hope that the parish will consider more deeply, however, the Great Commission aspect of our calling as Christians, exploring new ministries where we might share the gospel message with those who have not yet heard it. We shall see.

Once more, I am honored to share in the work of Christ with you. The best is still yet to come!

The Rev. R. Leigh Spruill+

Warden's Report

“When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.’” Luke 5:4

At our Vestry retreat three years ago, as the 2010 Vestry class began its term, Leigh invited us to reflect on this well-known passage from Luke. He asked us to consider Jesus' words to Simon as they related to God's call for our collective ministry and to heed Jesus' call and dream big. Fast forward to today and we see that our nets are, indeed, full: God is faithful and St. George's is blessed.

As the third year of strategic plan implementation comes to a close, we give thanks to the dedicated clergy, vestry, laity, and staff who have intentionally and with great resolve lived into the mission of the plan. Although this is by no means an exhaustive list, the following programs, projects, and people highlight how St. George's spent 2009 receiving, living, and sharing the abundant life of Christ:

- Bookstore Rejuvenation - led by Rowanne McKnight, along with Sally Graham and Sally Shepherd
- Ministry of Care and Healing's work on Senior Ministry - thank you Karlen Garrard and Lynn Ragland
- Bus - a generous gift and answered prayer
- Newcomer's Program - this blossoming ministry continues to flourish with 100 confirmands in 2009
- Rejuvenated Buildings and Grounds Committee
 - extensive renovations and improvements to our HVAC system
 - development of 10-year major maintenance schedule
- New staff hires in 2009 brought incredibly capable and talented people into our midst:
 - Laura Zabaski, Parish Administrative Officer
 - Dr. Mark Ring, Director of Music Ministries
 - Nate Huddleston, Assistant Director of Student Discipleship
 - Rick Backhouse, sexton and in-house chef

- Live Streaming Video implemented and creation of the Apostles of Sound - engineered and organized by Skip Woolwine
- Kitchen reorganization (both equipment and policies) and many meals prepared in-house
- Outreach Management Committee formed as a result of growing outreach ministry to provide structure and oversight, both from funding and program perspectives - led by George Mabry, Jr., Greer Cummings, and Bryan Essary
- Planning of pictorial directory
- Re-design of *The Shield*
- 60th Anniversary Celebration
- Amazing attendance at the Wednesday night parenting series by DayStar
- Financial Peace University financial planning course offered
- Community Groups increased in activity in 2009. GEORGE is a recognized entity and a new group, Loose Canons is growing. Our efforts to make small group connections within a large church are improving.

We are grateful to all staff for excellent cost controls in the teeth of a struggling economy, which allowed St. George's to stay on budget.

Thank you Laura Zabaski: you joined our community during a fiscally challenging time and bring so much professionalism and efficiency to our organization, and you are a pleasure to work with.

Our vestry has demonstrated superb dedication and commitment, and it has been a privilege to serve with such an energetic and positive group of talented leaders who dream big, think strategically, and follow through.

Special thanks to Gerry Senechal for an extraordinary job as Interim Music Director. We benefit greatly from the energy and talent Gerry brings to our music ministry.

To Leigh Spruill: St. George's is incredibly blessed to have a rector of your caliber. You are a spiritual leader in every sense of the word, are a joy to work with, and have enabled our experience as wardens to be a fulfilling one. And to your clergy colleagues Tim Jones, Tony Welty, Marcia King, Tim Taylor, and Roger Senechal: your ministry has only added to the richness of our experience.

And finally, to the entire St. George's parish: thank you for your support and focus in 2009. We end the year on a resounding positive note when the outcome could have been vastly different, given the economic situation in our country. By the grace of God, to whom we give great thanks, as well as our community of committed parishioners, our future is bright indeed.

Calvin Lewis, Senior Warden

Amy Norton, Junior Warden

Treasurer's Report

It is with great pleasure to report to the parish of St. George's Episcopal Church that we finished the year 2009 within our approved budget and with no outstanding debt. Everyone involved in this process continues to be good stewards of our pledge dollars.

	<u>09 Budget</u>	<u>09 Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Pledges	2,652,042	2,613,777	(38,265)
Other Income	406,337	493,543	87,206
Total Income	3,058,379	3,107,320	48,941
Expense	3,158,379	3,107,320	(51,059)
	(100,000) *	-	100,000

* Due to the economic challenges experienced at the beginning of the 2009 calendar year, the budget was approved with a \$100K deficit, with the intention of making up the deficit during the course of the year. We were successful in our efforts and closed the year in the black. See December 2009 Treasurers report for more detail

2009 proved to be a very successful year in spite of the challenges of dealing with a struggling economy. Even though actual pledges were down by \$38K, unpledged gifts and plate offerings more than made up for the pledge revenue shortfall providing \$49K more revenue than anticipated for the year.

Expenses for the year were carefully controlled, resulting in spending \$51K less than budgeted for the year.

There were several things that we were able to do with our funds during 2009 that included the following:

- Purchase a much needed piano for the choir room
- Rework the kitchen area to better accommodate parish events
- Establish a surplus fund to accommodate unforeseen outreach efforts
- Update and improve the website
- Contribute \$35K to the Phillips fund for future, major maintenance needs

I would like to add a special thanks to the entire staff and volunteers of this church for their dedication. They continue to go above and beyond the call of duty, and we are blessed to have such a committed group.

In closing, I want to thank you, the parishioners of St. George's, for your pledges and continued support of this parish. Without your gracious generosity none of God's work could be carried out.

Stewardship

The 2009 Stewardship Committee was led by Stewardship Chair Bob Kinard and Vice Chair Carolyn Sorenson. Serving on the 2009 Stewardship Committee were Lella Wilbanks, Seawell Brandau, Bob Grohovsky, George Mabry, Jeff Beemer, Catherine Beemer, and Louis Garrard,

with a lot of assistance from the Vestry and Wardens. Despite the economic downturn and resulting uncertainty, overall pledge participation was outstanding, as indicated below:

<u>TOTAL PLEDGED</u>	<u>PLEDGES</u>	<u>AVERAGE PLEDGE</u>
2009 - \$2,818,431	2009 - 642	2009 - \$4,390
2008 - \$3,146,127	2008 - 635	2008 - \$4,954
2007 - \$3,865,063	2007 - 652	2007 - \$4,411
2006 - \$2,247,200	2006 - 638	2006 - \$3,567
2005 - \$1,847,200	2005 - 589	2005 - \$3,136

Pete Lutz, Treasurer

Mission Commission

The Outreach Committees for St. George's had a very busy and exciting 2009 as we continued to build on the strong foundation of the last decade, while introducing new missions for the parish for the betterment of our city, our country, and the world.

During 2009, parishioners returned to Our Little Roses Home in Honduras for our two annual pilgrimages to share the love of Christ—a ministry we have supported for over eighteen years—delivering shoeboxes filled with cards, letters, and special gifts from parish families. In addition, other families collected new and used clothing for the girls ages three to twenty-five. Members of the parish also made our third and largest pilgrimage to South Africa in October, partnering with our sister church, St. Thomas Anglican Church in Kagiso, to support their Outreach ministries for the surrounding impoverished community.

In addition to providing monetary and manpower support to those in need throughout our community and beyond, the Outreach Activities Committee, lead by Lisa Ellis, spent a great deal of time in 2009 creating awareness and generating support within our church. Activities that directly involved members of our congregation included the recent Outreach Fair, the ever popular Boulevard Bolt (raising over \$185,000 for local charities that help the homeless), our Sunday and Thursday Lunch programs, the largest ever St. Luke's Adopt-a-Family program (touching 63 families and 30 Seniors), Room in the Inn, the Lenten Food Drive for Second Harvest, The Gift That Gives (raising approximately \$6,300), and many others!

The Outreach Management Committee, which was created and approved in 2008, was again led by George Mabry, Jr. and has attempted to provide strategic direction and oversight to the Outreach process at St. George's. These efforts have included the preparation of written guidelines for the Outreach funding process, for emergency funding requests, for the Christmas offering, and other Outreach activities.

The 2009 Outreach Funding Committee, composed of Greer Cummings (Chair), Steve Avery, Monica Carlson, Jean Hastings, Katharine Schull, Steve Taylor, Larry Trabue, Emily Zerfoss, and clergy representative, the Rev. Timothy Jones, had a challenging year in light of the economic crisis. Nevertheless, due to your generosity, and after a thorough process of applications review and deliberation, with a budget of \$273,305, (down from \$354,150 in 2008), we were still able to positively impact over 32 Outreach agencies/missions in our community and around the world. The efforts supported by St. George's Outreach in 2009 are outlined below:

Caring & Empowerment

Campus for Human Development	\$13,455
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 5,000
Magdalene	\$10,000
Pastoral Counseling Centers	\$ 7,500
Restore Ministries	\$10,000
Room in the Inn	\$ 500
Rooftops	\$15,000
St. Luke's	\$72,500

St. Mary's Sewanee	\$ 3,500
Salama	\$15,000
Sunday Lunch	\$ 1,250
Thursday Lunch	\$ 1,000
Matthew 25	\$ 1,500
Oasis	\$ 1,000
The Next Door	\$ 500
All About Women	\$ 500
Better Decisions	\$ 500
Boy Scouts	\$ 1,000
104 Belle Meade Blvd. expenses	\$11,100

Health Care

Interfaith Dental	\$ 500
Siloam Family Health Center	\$15,000

Education

East Academy	\$ 2,500
KIPP Academy	\$ 2,500
LEAD Academy	\$ 2,500
Seminaries	\$12,000
Sponsors	\$ 2,500

International

Our Little Roses	\$17,500
Lwala Community Alliance	\$ 5,000
St. Thomas, Kagiso	\$25,000

Emergency Relief

ERD	\$ 1,000
Emergency Relief	\$15,000
Trinity Pass Christian	\$ 1,500

TOTAL **\$273,305**

In addition, the 2009 Christmas offering, which raised \$21,646, was designated for distribution in equal shares to Faith Family Medical Clinic, Safe Haven Family Shelter, and Rooftop.

The Shield and the Outreach bulletin board have provided information throughout 2009 on Outreach opportunities and on personal interest stories relating to our various Outreach programs. Outreach is a thriving ministry at St. George's. Every member of this parish serves as an Outreach minister in our community and for all those you touch. We invite you to participate in any of our incredible programs, because we know you will receive far more than you ever give.

Newcomers

Leigh Hillenmeyer & Charlotte Ward, co-chairs

What is it like to be a visitor at St. George's? There was a time when one could walk through our doors and leave basically unnoticed. Today, we are close to ensuring that this does not happen, thanks to the untiring efforts of the many members of our parish who have stepped forward and enhanced the effectiveness of our process in identifying and reaching out to visitors and new members.

Over the past year, we welcomed over 200 visitors who have received information and have been assigned a Sponsor. Special thanks to the entire Newcomer Committee, especially Marcy and Seawall Brandau, Jan Ramsey, Brad Thomason, Beth Ross, Lisa Ellis, Elizabeth Davidson, Carly Woodfin, Agatha Nolen, Rebecca Teel, and countless others, for all their efforts. We are also truly blessed by our wonderful committee of Newcomer Sponsors and friendly staff of Greeters who make sure visitors feel welcome in our church.

We are always in need of more parishioners to help with this ministry and we encourage those who have not had the opportunity to share in the process of engaging a visitor to please contact Leigh Hillenmeyer, Charlotte Ward, or Rebecca Teel. We know you will find this ministry very rewarding.

Kindergarten & Mother's Day Out

Zee Pendleton, Director

The Kindergarten and Mother's Day Out programs continue to be a very visible ministry in this church and community. We are dedicated to providing a high quality education based on developmentally appropriate curriculum for preschool-aged children. The school is committed to partnering with families to foster a positive sense of self and a lifetime love of learning within a Christian environment. Our program enrolls 331 children making it the largest Episcopal preschool in the nation.

St. George's Preschool and Mother's Day Out has an incredible and dedicated staff of 44. Each has extensive education and experience, complemented by twenty-four hours of continuing education each school year. St. George's Kindergarten earns 3 Stars which is the highest rating deemed by the Department of Human Services. The school is presently seeking a new accreditation through the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation. We also hold memberships in the Tennessee Association of Episcopal Schools, the National Association of Episcopal Schools, the National Association of Education for Young Children, and the Southern Early Childhood Association.

One of St. George's core values is to provide a Christian environment and education. Each classroom offers a Christian education component in their weekly lesson plans. The Rev. Tony Welty leads our 4- and 5-year olds in a chapel program every Thursday, sharing the love of God through Bible stories, songs, and prayer. Father Tony is a vital member of our school faculty. He is always available and supportive to our children, staff, and parents.

Over 200 people enjoyed a festive evening and collected toys for St. Luke's.

Summer Sundays - A light breakfast was served each Sunday during our summer program session.

Third Sunday Brunch - Madge Bass helped organize this popular brunch held after the 11:15am service each month.

Receptions – *Chair:* Jean Bowden. This wonderful committee prepares and serves food and drink to mark special occasions and events at St. George's such as Lessons and Carols and Confirmation.

Bookstore - *Gift Manager:* Sally Shepherd; *Book Manager:* Sally Graham; *Finance:* Carolyn Taylor. The Bookstore continues to be a great resource for class materials, personal gifts, and great books. This year we installed excellent software to help us track sales and trends to better serve the congregation. The volunteers spend countless hours making this a top notch operation.

Prime Time Speakers Series

Seawell and Marcy Brandau, chairs

The Prime Time Speaker's Series sponsors monthly programs for the benefit of the entire St. George's congregation and its guests. Those attending are mostly seniors, but the programs are designed for everyone and usually held on the third Thursday of every month with a luncheon followed by the program. During 2009 we heard from:

- Senator/Dr. Bill Frist, "A Passion for Global Health and Making it Work"
- The Rev. Leigh Spruill, "The Nine Most Important Words for Lent"
- "Medieval Treasures from 200 to 1450AD at the Frist" visual presentation by Andee Rudloff, Educator for Outreach at the Frist
- Judy and President Bob Fisher, Belmont University, on their book *Life is a Gift: Inspiration from the Soon Departed*
- Nashville attorney Charles Warfield, "God and Man in Literature"
- "Abraham Lincoln at St. George's," John Mansfield, dressed as the President telling stories from his life
- John Holzapple, Polk Home Director, "The Greatness of President James K. Polk and His Home in Columbia, Tennessee"
- St. George's new Music Director, Dr. Mark Ring, "My Life in Music – A Joy to Share"
- Former NASA Astronaut Dr. Rick Chappell, "Fifty Years in Space, What Next?"
- Nationally recognized portrait artist Michael Shane Neal, "*Art, Artist, and the Creator*"
- Cindy Moore as Cousin Minnie Pearl, "In Thanksgiving for Healing, Healers, and the Healed"
- "Joyous Christmas Music" presented by Dr. Mark Ring, Gerry Senechal, and three St. George's choir members

Guided trips were made to the Frist Center, James K. Polk Home, St. Peter's Church-Columbia, and St. John's-Ashwood. Prime Time also organized "St. George's Night at the Dyer Observatory."

Personal prayers for healing are now held in the chapel following the luncheons with clergy and lay teams praying for the needs requested. In the fall we started honoring individual personal ministries at each meeting. One of the important aspects of this series is that many of members invite guests to share in these programs. In total, about 920 persons attended this the year.

Other Fellowship Opportunities: Laymen of the Church, Aelfric's Readers, Daughters of the King, Annual Buffalo River Canoe Trip

Sense of Belonging

Eb LeMaster, chair

Sense of belonging is the strategic plan outcome area which focuses on increasing parishioners' connectedness within our large church community, especially through small groups. The Rev. Tony Welty and Eb LeMaster developed a community group committee 2009 whose purpose was to (1) look at St. George's current offerings, (2) develop a strategy for community groups at St. George's, and (3) make a recommendation for the process going forward. After taking an inventory of all group offerings, and surveying the leaders of these groups, the Community Groups Committee presented these recommended goals to the Vestry:

- Start three community groups in the next 12 months, such as a regional group (*e.g.* Brentwood/Franklin), a singles/married without kids group, and a group for couples with children in the core area surrounding St. George's.
- Build structure and training to facilitate and support these groups.
- Have regular meetings of the leaders of the community groups to see what is working and what can be done differently.

GEORGE, a group geared to the under 40 set, and Loose Cannons, geared toward the "empty nester" demographic, are community groups that are thriving at St. George's, and have consistent monthly attendance of 35 or more people to events that are social in nature, but incorporate elements of worship, discipleship, and outreach and we look forward to others emerging in the coming year.

Ministry of Care and Healing

Karlen Garrard, chair

St. George's Ministry of Care and Healing seeks to address Outcome Two of the Strategic Plan: to lovingly address our members' emotional, physical, and spiritual needs.

Highlights for 2009 were:

- Creation of comprehensive brochure of Care and Healing programs and offerings.
- Creation of ad hoc senior committee to assess needs and identify leaders in this community. There were 6 meetings in 2009, with 10-20 attending each.

- Health ministry - Bone Marrow Registry and Blood Drive –March 27-28, 2009
Flu Awareness/Preparedness Team – Fall 2009
- Transportation – 15 passenger bus was made available for transportation for seniors and/or other parishioners.
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors - Approximately 20 LEVs took weekly communion to home bound parishioners.
- Caring Connections – Formation of new ministry to visit homebound parishioners and keep them connected to the church. Team leaders and 35 volunteers were recruited.
- Volunteer Appreciation/Training Event – December 9, 2009. 35 volunteers attended representing Caring Connections, LEVs, and Inreach Shepherds.
- Care of Creation - Green Team recycled paper and cardboard weekly.
- Living Fully, Dying Well 8-week Series in the Fall of 2009

Other Care and Healing Ministries: Birthday Cards, Chefs on Call, Inreach Shepherds, Flower Ministry, Healing Services, Littlest Angels, Clergy Hospital Visits, Help Groups

Rowanne McKnight, Commissioner

Worship & Discipleship Commission

The primary outcome for worship in the strategic plan is as follows: “Our worship draws inspiration from our heritage of the classical Anglican tradition, as well as other styles and venues.”

Music

Dr. Mark Ring, Director of Music Ministry

The Music Ministries have had a very fine year, with the arrival of new staff and the continuation and growth of St. George’s excellent musical heritage.

Our new staff includes Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Mark Ring, who arrived from Minnesota with his family this summer, beginning his duties in July. This fall saw the addition of Kim Messer as Music Librarian and Administrator. She has been invaluable to the success and growth of our program. We are also delighted to welcome Laurel Fisher and Rachel Hansbury as our Choral Music Assistants in the Royal School of Church Music Program for children and youth. Both have outstanding backgrounds, abilities, and commitment.

Our Associate Director of Music and Organist, Gerry Senechal, is to be heartily thanked for his outstanding work as Interim Director of Music during the lengthy search process. He continues to be vital to the music ministry in many ways. He accompanies worship and St. George’s Choir, directs St. Gregory’s Choir, and together with Dr. Ring provides leadership to St. Dunstan’s Choir.

Our music ministry is healthy and thriving, with excellent choral opportunities for adults (St. George's Choir), youth (St. Gregory's Choir), and children (St. Dunstan's Choir.) We continue to employ the wonderful Royal School of Church Music curriculum with the youth and children, and are delighted to see their growth musically, liturgically, and spiritually. In addition to music in weekly Eucharist services, we offer monthly Evensong services on Sunday evenings, monthly Compline services on Wednesday nights, and seasonal services and concerts.

The *In Excelsis* Concert Series presented a number of successful concerts, including a joint performance by St. George's Choir with the First Presbyterian Church Choir in the Spring. This fall included a joint organ recital with Dr. Mark Ring and Gerry Senechal, with numerous performances coming up later in the season.

St. George's Choir welcomed its new director, Dr. Mark Ring, and began preparations for renewing its history of recordings and touring, beginning in 2010.

St. Gregory's Choir, under the direction of Gerry Senechal, was honored to serve as Choir-in-Residence at Washington National Cathedral for a week in July. They sang the daily services at the Cathedral and visited national and historical sites during their time in Washington, D.C..

We are deeply grateful for the extraordinary support given by St. George's parishioners to the music ministry. We look forward to sharing with you in praise and prayer during the new year.

Christian Discipleship

Adult Discipleship

The Rev. Timothy Jones, Senior Associate Rector

A key way we "live and share the abundant life of Jesus Christ," as our purpose statement puts it, comes through opportunities for growth and discipleship for adults. The word *disciple* itself in the original language of the New Testament means "learner" or "student." It has the idea of apprenticing so that we become more competent and confident in our Christian walk. Through our discipleship efforts, we experience the joy of learning together, and we help create also a climate of lifelong transformation.

Adult discipleship offerings are too numerous to mention, but during the program year there is hardly a weekday in which there is not at least one (usually more) Bible study or small group event meeting at the church. Alpha continues to draw people and change lives. Companions in Christ has been quietly thriving. A new men's Tuesday morning Bible study has grown, complementing the one that has met for years on Friday mornings. CLC (Christian Leadership Concepts) groups continue to proliferate with seven groups involving 80 men. LIFE (Living in Faith Everyday) groups for women have started under the leadership of the Rev. Marcia King. "Wednesday Night Live" has been the name of our relaunched Wednesday programming and several groups have thrived, including a well-attended parenting series by Daystar Ministries and Financial Peace University.

Sunday mornings offer an array of classes, of course, with an average attendance well over 200 adults participating in adult Sunday classes (to say nothing of the many who are teaching children or youth at that hour!).

More and more lay people are providing leadership to such groups, too, as leadership development continues to be a key goal in our discipleship offerings.

EYC: Student Discipleship

Holly Rankin Zaher, Director of Student Discipleship

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it. Colossians 3:12-14

There are moments such as at Jr. Vestry when young people brainstorm things that *they want to lead* that illustrate beautifully how amazing 2009 has been for St. George's Student Discipleship.

Several adults spent several months in the spring visiting other youth ministries and reflecting on the purpose of youth ministry. This culminated in a gathering of adults and youth in a strategic planning session where we came up with three initiatives for the year: a welcoming initiative, a student leadership initiative, and an initiative to expand the ministry beyond Sunday Morning Student Discipleship.

We also welcomed the addition of a second full-time youth minister, Nathan Huddleston. He, along with our Student Discipleship Program Coordinator, Calvert Garstin, round out our amazing staff.

The fall of 2009 was spent focusing around a passage from Colossians 3 as a way for us to live more into the people God has called us to be and become. We have started the Jr. Vestry, a monthly gathering of students and leaders to cultivate leadership skills and places to practice those skills in the context of the youth ministry. We have initiated EP, a ministry to and with High School students on Sunday afternoons. We have seen consistent attendance during Sunday Morning Student Discipleship and an increase in our retreats and events outside of Sunday morning. Even more than these numbers, there are relationships being built between young people and other young people, young people and caring adults, young people and their world, and young people and God!

We have an amazing group of adults who give of their time, talent, and treasure to walk alongside our young people at St. George's. We also have a phenomenal group of young people who are full of insight, laughter, and creative ways to connect their faith and life.

Thank you all for your support of this vital ministry for our parish!

Children's Discipleship

Joanna Williams, Director of Children's Discipleship

Children's Discipleship is blessed to have Elizabeth Nash, Children's Discipleship Program Coordinator and Abby Lomax, Children's Program Assistant on staff. The Children's program also has numerous parents and other parish volunteers without whom we would not be able to do what we do.

The following are highlights from 2009:

- 271 children enrolled, average weekly attendance of 125
- This year we completed the Level 2 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd course with 3 graduates from St. George's and began a new Level 1 training course with 4 parishioners attending.
- We can now conduct all Level 1 training in house, due to the National Association's approval of Joanna Williams as a Level 1 Formation leader.
- Missions Camp added to our Vacation Bible School week in order to engage older children and offer an opportunity to learn more about and participate in St. George's outreach.
- Other outreach efforts conducted by the children include the St. Luke's Toy Drive, VBS/Missions Camp medicine drive for Siloam Family Health Center and food drive for Second Harvest Food Bank, support for our sister atrium in St. Thomas-Kagiso, South Africa, and the Mite Box Collection for St. Thomas's feeding program.
- Other events include the Fall Kick-Off, the Advent Fair, and the Christmas Pageant.

Nursery

Sandra Sarratt, Nursery Coordinator

This has been a busy year for the nursery at St. George's. Our nursery rooms have been open often this year. We are so blessed to have this space dedicated solely to our youngest parishioners. Everyone seems to come in always looking for his or her favorite toy! We have been caring for our children during Sunday morning services, Bible study classes, and Wednesday evening programs. Our dedicated staff continues to love and nurture our youngest parishioners. Our nursery greeters are doing a wonderful job on Sunday mornings. Thank you to all these dedicated committee members. If you are interested in joining the committee please contact Sandra Sarratt at 385-2150 x 229.

Rich Maradik, Commissioner

Vestry Information

Retiring Vestry Members Class of 2010

Bob Kinard
Calvin Lewis
Claudia Padfield
Rich Maradik
Amy Norton
Sally Smallwood

Retiring Vestry Members Class of 2011

Greer Cummings
Bryan Essary
Karlen Garrard
Joe King
Rowanne McKnight
Frank Puryear

Retiring Vestry Members Class of 2012

Madge Bass
Tim Douglas
John Fitzgerald, Jr.
Frank Hammer
Eb LeMaster
Carolyn Sorenson

Parish Statistics 2009

Communicants Reported December 31, 2008	2,202
Communicants Added by Confirmation	89
Communicants Received	8
Communicants Transferred In	41
Added from Inactive List	0
Total Additions	138
Communicants Transferred Out	19
Communicants Lost by Death	15
Communicants Moved to another Denomination/Inactive Status	2
Total Losses	36
Communicants Reported December 31, 2009	2,304
Total Baptized Members (including Communicants) reported December 31, 2009	3,120
Official Acts:	
• Baptisms	49
• Confirmation	89
• Received	8
• Marriages	8
• Burials	23
Daily Office:	
• Sundays	4
• Other Days	10
Holy Communion:	
• Sundays	197
• Weekdays	421
• Private	352
Total Sunday Services	197
Total Weekday Services	421
Average Sunday Attendance	675

St. George's Episcopal Church Trust Fund
9/30/2009

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Fund Beginning Balance	\$2,592,771.89	2,556,839.64	2,726,787.75	3,060,489.68	2,592,771.89
Episcopal Endowment Corporation Investment Account					
Beginning Market Value	1,765,534.82	1,665,352.46	1,806,011.38	1,961,153.78	1,765,534.82
Additions					0.00
Deductions					0.00
Distributions	-30,557.69	-21,079.36	-21,079.36		-72,716.41
Realized Gains (Losses)	-20,666.26	-21,514.33	172.20		-42,008.39
EEC Income	9,987.72	10,815.23	9,548.94		30,351.89
Expenses	-1,556.23	-1,678.41	-2,532.36		-5,767.00
Change in Unrealized Gains (Losses)	-57,389.90	174,115.79	169,032.98		285,758.87
Ending Market Value	1,665,352.46	1,806,011.38	1,961,153.78	1,961,153.78	\$1,961,153.78
Mortgage Principal (beginning)	578,293.29	575,148.76	571,329.57	567,238.84	
Mortgage Principal (end of period)	575,148.76	571,329.57	567,238.84	567,238.84	567,238.84
A.G. Edwards Liquid Account					
Beginning Balance	248,943.78	316,338.42	349,446.80	532,097.06	\$248,943.78
Mortgage Principal Return	3,144.53	3,819.19	4,090.73		11,054.45
Mortgage Interest	7,017.38	6,992.84	7,371.42		21,381.64
Money Market Interest	575.04	216.99	58.75		850.78
Bequests	26,000.00	1,000.00	150,000.00		177,000.00
Memorials	100.00		50.00		150.00
Receipts from EEC	30,557.69	21,079.36	21,079.36		72,716.41
Disbursements to EEC					0.00
Refund from Vestry					0.00
Disbursements to Vestry					0.00
Ending Balance	316,338.42	349,446.80	532,097.06	532,097.06	\$532,097.06
Fund Ending Value	2,556,839.64	2,726,787.75	3,060,489.68	3,060,489.68	\$3,060,489.68
Fund Value Change	-\$35,932.25	\$169,948.11	\$333,701.93	\$0.00	\$467,717.79

* received 4/23

Trustees: The Rev. R. Leigh Spruill, Rector
Calvin Lewis, Senior Warden
John Abernathy
Hap Castner
Greer Cummings
Jimmie Perkins
Buist Richardson

St. George's Episcopal Church Trust Fund
12/31/2008

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	YTD
Fund Beginning Balance	3,179,529.50	3,058,046.09	3,088,821.15	2,893,646.09	3,179,529.50
Episcopal Endowment Corporation Investment Account					
Beginning Market Value	2,322,911.01	2,194,430.92	2,169,405.87	2,035,402.43	2,322,911.01
Additions	0.00		100,000.00		100,000.00
Deductions					0.00
Distributions	-24,822.50 *	-19,702.80	-30,557.69	-30,557.69	-105,640.68
Realized Gains (Losses)	4,054.36	377.98	-14,307.64	-20,569.75	-30,445.05
EEC Income	22,097.57	13,474.98	12,441.05	15,007.40	63,021.00
Expenses	-2,394.77	-2,155.22	-2,273.72	-2,349.63	-9,173.34
Change in Unrealized Gains (Losses)	-127,414.75	-17,019.99	-199,305.44	-231,397.94	-575,138.12
Ending Market Value	2,194,430.92	2,169,405.87	2,035,402.43	1,765,534.82	\$1,765,534.82
Mortgage Principal (beginning)	591,886.15	589,600.19	584,899.37	581,829.24	
Mortgage Principal (end of period)	589,600.19	584,899.37	581,829.24	578,293.29	578,293.29
A.G. Edwards Liquid Account					
Beginning Balance	264,732.34	274,014.98	334,515.91	276,414.42	\$264,732.34
Mortgage Principal Return	2,285.96	4,700.82	3,070.13	3,535.95	13,592.86
Mortgage Interest	4,922.06	9,715.22	7,091.78	7,276.08	29,005.14
Money Market Interest	2,074.62	1,459.59	1,178.91	1,159.64	5,872.76
Bequests				10,000.00	10,000.00
Memorials		100.00			100.00
Receipts from EEC		44,525.30	30,557.69	30,557.69	105,640.68
Disbursements to EEC			-100,000.00		-100,000.00
Refund from Vestry					0.00
Disbursements to Vestry				-80,000.00	-80,000.00
Ending Balance	274,014.98	334,515.91	276,414.42	248,943.78	\$248,943.78
Fund Ending Value	3,058,046.09	3,088,821.15	2,893,646.09	2,592,771.89	\$2,592,771.89
Fund Value Change	-\$121,483.41	\$30,775.06	-\$195,175.06	-\$300,874.20	-\$586,757.61

* received 4/23

Trustees: The Rev. R. Leigh Spruill, Rector
Don Shriver, Senior Warden
John Abernathy
Hap Castner
Greer Cummings
Jimmie Perkins
Buist Richardson

Disbursements												
No.	Budget Items	Month of December			2008			December Year to Date			2009 Budget	
		Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance		
	Other Administrative Exp.											
5322	Miscellaneous	370.14	3,551.00	(3,180.86)	4,325.62	42,609.00	(15,860.43)	26,748.57	42,609.00	(15,860.43)	42,104.79	42,609.00
5324	Audit	0.00	553.00	(553.00)	0.00	6,566.00	334.00	6,900.00	6,566.00	334.00	6,762.50	6,566.00
5410	General Insurance	11,929.00	778.00	11,151.00	0.00	58,931.00	12,920.00	71,851.00	58,931.00	12,920.00	73,289.00	58,931.00
		12,299.14	4,882.00	7,417.14	4,325.62	105,499.57	(2,606.43)	105,499.57	108,106.00	(2,606.43)	122,156.29	108,106.00
	Building & Grounds											
5014	Sexton's Salaries	11,667.64	7,572.00	4,095.64	10,955.37	97,899.75	7,034.75	97,899.75	90,865.00	7,034.75	109,584.01	90,865.00
5412	Housekeeping	5,415.58	3,921.00	1,494.58	7,166.96	42,918.39	(4,131.61)	42,918.39	47,050.00	(4,131.61)	54,828.18	47,050.00
5414	Grounds Maintenance	2,911.21	3,100.00	(188.79)	19,175.51	33,472.11	(3,727.89)	33,472.11	37,200.00	(3,727.89)	56,614.97	37,200.00
5415	104 BMB Maintenance	(320.86)	0.00	(320.86)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,757.27	0.00
5416	Church Repair/Maint	12,713.69	6,687.00	6,026.69	14,674.78	81,721.49	1,479.49	81,721.49	80,242.00	1,479.49	130,899.09	80,242.00
5417	Repair/Maint Reserve	34,036.28	0.00	34,036.28	50,000.00	34,036.28	0.00	34,036.28	0.00	34,036.28	50,000.00	0.00
5418	Church Utilities	14,896.37	20,001.00	(5,104.63)	18,178.08	171,894.67	(29,674.33)	171,894.67	201,569.00	(29,674.33)	186,172.71	201,569.00
5420	Utilities/104 BMB	0.00	0.00	0.00	620.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,656.02	0.00
5422	Web/Technology	1,424.84	2,758.00	(1,333.16)	12,346.07	41,414.59	8,314.59	41,414.59	33,100.00	8,314.59	36,731.49	33,100.00
		82,744.75	44,039.00	38,705.75	133,116.95	503,357.28	13,331.28	503,357.28	490,026.00	13,331.28	634,243.74	490,026.00
	Evangelism											
5650	Newcomers Ministries	575.26	732.00	(156.74)	41.28	2,958.44	(91.56)	2,958.44	3,050.00	(91.56)	3,014.98	3,050.00
	Pastoral Care											
5651	Pastoral Care	372.23	2,100.00	(1,727.77)	1,772.89	4,771.74	(1,228.26)	4,771.74	6,000.00	(1,228.26)	5,190.41	6,000.00
	Stewardship											
5328	Stewardship	1,249.78	0.00	1,249.78	1,030.79	5,613.60	(3,386.40)	5,613.60	9,000.00	(3,386.40)	8,399.28	9,000.00
	Liturgy/Music											
5330	Worship/Liturgy Supplies	50.61	42.00	8.61	678.80	1,324.44	824.44	1,324.44	500.00	824.44	1,268.82	500.00
5332	Altar Guild	906.35	583.00	323.35	157.90	6,482.82	(517.18)	6,482.82	7,000.00	(517.18)	6,499.12	7,000.00
5810	Choir Fellowship	7.45	229.00	(221.55)	0.00	891.43	(1,858.57)	891.43	2,750.00	(1,858.57)	0.00	2,750.00
5812	Choir Salaries	9,965.00	7,183.00	2,782.00	16,155.00	87,054.18	854.18	87,054.18	86,200.00	854.18	94,125.00	86,200.00
5814	Choir Supplies	1,043.07	729.00	314.07	2,014.72	9,075.99	325.99	9,075.99	8,750.00	325.99	13,248.08	8,750.00
5815	Choir Trips	15.25	479.00	(463.75)	0.00	5,981.75	231.75	5,981.75	5,750.00	231.75	3,000.00	5,750.00
5816	Organ Maintenance	0.00	1,458.00	(1,458.00)	430.00	3,695.00	(13,805.00)	3,695.00	17,500.00	(13,805.00)	19,085.79	17,500.00
5822	Instrumentalists	0.00	333.00	(333.00)	200.00	3,990.00	(10.00)	3,990.00	4,000.00	(10.00)	3,550.00	4,000.00
		11,987.73	11,036.00	951.73	19,636.42	118,495.61	(13,954.39)	118,495.61	132,450.00	(13,954.39)	140,776.81	132,450.00
	Christian Education											
5334	Library Account	59.18	62.00	(2.82)	11.82	581.88	(168.12)	581.88	750.00	(168.12)	752.12	750.00
5610	Children's Discipleship	5,395.49	6,900.00	(1,504.51)	18,166.83	25,544.11	(18,025.89)	25,544.11	43,570.00	(18,025.89)	62,419.37	43,570.00
5611	Adult Discipleship	410.63	1,425.00	(1,014.37)	75.00	9,495.49	495.49	9,495.49	9,000.00	495.49	10,786.33	9,000.00
5612	Nursery/Childcare	5,012.00	5,322.00	(310.00)	3,232.00	34,942.25	1,337.25	34,942.25	33,605.00	1,337.25	28,926.00	33,605.00
5615	Nursery/Childcare Supply	79.79	0.00	79.79	168.08	323.71	0.00	323.71	0.00	323.71	508.79	0.00
5618	Student Discipleship	1,487.56	4,117.00	(2,629.44)	3,141.59	27,890.34	1,890.34	27,890.34	26,000.00	1,890.34	25,393.31	26,000.00
5619	Community Groups	602.45	950.00	(347.55)	0.00	2,727.45	(3,272.55)	2,727.45	6,000.00	(3,272.55)	0.00	6,000.00
5621	Young Adults/Families	0.00	1,584.00	(1,584.00)	606.98	2,002.84	(7,997.16)	2,002.84	10,000.00	(7,997.16)	7,923.36	10,000.00

