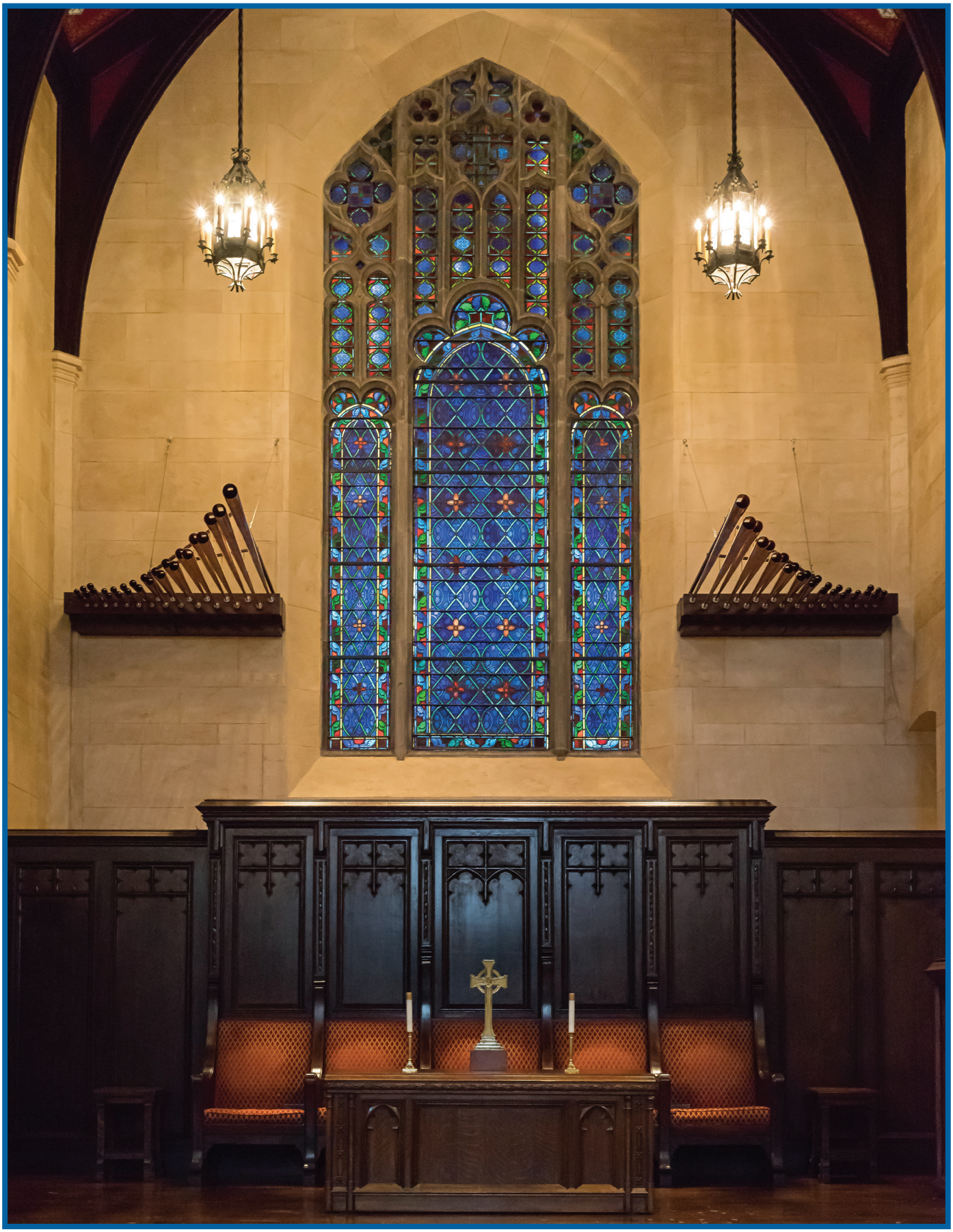
St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church



Annual Report 2013

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to present this 2013 Annual Report for St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church and hope that you will find it helpful and informative. The more we know about our church, the stronger will be our commitment as disciples of Jesus Christ to the community and the world.

In many ways, it was a very good year. Our church is on a growth streak in terms of membership, giving, programs and outreach. Worship attendance continues to show a steady increase and participation in Sunday School, youth groups, Wednesday Night Out, and a host of weekly small groups is climbing. Our music program, from children through adults, is second to none; and our recent renovations have proven to be a hit for both church and community. In addition, we are well-served by 47 dedicated Elders, all of whom are vitally involved in the church's mission through various team assignments. That we have such a dedicated and highly competent church staff is something else that sets this church apart.

Personally, it remains a pleasure and privilege to serve as Senior Pastor. I would take this opportunity to thank my colleague Kelly Hostetler for her outstanding preaching, teaching, pastoral care, and administration…and for being a faithful friend in ministry.

May God continue to bless our congregation as we embark on another year of witness and service, all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,

Donald R. Frampton

A special thanks to our Elder Class of 2013 for three years of hard work!

Wendi Adams
Aimée! Bell
Rene Curry
Harrison Dunlap
Harrison Frampton
Megan Guy
Larry Hamric
Bobby Hassinger
Matthew Hinson
Sydney Lawder
Margaret Ann Lindsey
Kelley McWhirter
Mary Dawn Pugh
April Weiser
Hallie Boh
Madden Wilbert
George Wilson

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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Agenda
Meeting of the Congregation
St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
New Orleans, Louisiana
Sunday, February 9, 2014

1.	Call to Order	Don Frampton, Moderator
2.	Opening Prayer	
3.	Declaration of Quorum and Purpose of Meeting	Bob Vorhoff, Clerk
4.	Distribution of Annual Reports	Ushers
5.	Presentation of 2014 Church Budget Capital Campaign Visionary Fund	Lee Randall, Chair, Finance
6.	Election of Congregational Nominating Committee Nancy Ellis, Class of 2014 John Dunlap, Class of 2015 Tripp Edwards, Class of 2016 - Chair Sarah Alexander, Youth Catherine Cauley, 20/30 Betty Hope, PW Sydney Lawder, Senior Adults Don Frampton, ex officio	
7.	Approval of Changes in Terms of Pastors' Calls	John Hope, Chair, Personnel
8.	Remarks	
9.	Closing Prayer	Kelly Hostetler, Vice Moderator

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM

Chair: Larry Hamric | Vice-Chair: Crorey Lawton
Director of Christian Education: Michele Murphy

Bible Adventures

The Childrens' Sunday School Classes (3 year olds-3rd Grade) continued the curriculum "Grow, Proclaim and Serve." The students learned about the Bible through fun activities, stories and projects. Each week they watched a video about Leaper's Point, a fictional small town whose citizens tell the Bible story in a contemporary way. Students in all classes learned the same story each week, which has been helpful for parents in weekly discussions at home.

Challenger Class

The Challenger Class (4th & 5th Grades), continues to have a strong program. In October, thirteen students attended a weekend retreat to Tickfaw State Park with the theme "Living in Christian Community." This year we focused on what it means to be a Presbyterian, the Book of James and Old Testament heroes. The Challenger Class also participated in community service by raising funds and gifts for Operation Christmas Child and raising money for Second Harvest Food Bank through the Souper Bowl of Caring. In the spring, eighteen 4th Graders received Bibles from the church.

Vacation Bible School

VBS was held the first week in June with the theme, "Everywhere Fun Fair." There were 95 participants and 30 youth counselors. Favorite activities included a climbing wall and closing reception.

LIGHThouse

LIGHThouse started the year with the curriculum "Awesome Adventure – God's Amazing Kids". Beth Hassinger and Michele Murphy led the students, who are in Kindergarten through 5th grade, in learning about children's roles in the Bible. Starting in the fall, the class began a curriculum entitled "The Awesome Adventures – Journey through the Bible." The class now meets from to 5:00–6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening with WNO dinner following from 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Small Groups

Several small groups started this year, including a Wednesday afternoon women's group led by Kelly Hostetler, and a men's Wednesday evening Bible study led by Don Frampton. Both a senior high girls' and a senior high boys' group began meeting this year. The Thursday Morning Prayer Group meeting at SCAPC continued, as did the Wednesday morning Full Rooster Society book group that convenes at Between the Bread Restaurant in the CBD.

Nursery School

The Nursery School continued to offer weekday programs for approximately 100 children under the leadership of Director, Keflyn Fransen. Summer and holiday camps for this age group were also held during the year.

MOMs Group

This demographic flourished with two monthly offerings - a Presbyterian Women's Bible Study and a monthly class with the theme of "Parenting: The Early Years." Mothers of children under 5 years of age enjoyed having a place to bring their children and gather with others in the same stage of life.

40/50 Group

In December, the 40/50 group enjoyed the Third Annual Progressive Dinner. 52 adults attended and we enjoyed a delicious three course meal at Jennifer and John Steck, Ebie and Berney Strauss and Laura and Sonny Shield homes. It was our largest event and everyone had a great time.

Summer Sundays

During the summer months, the church offers one combined worship service at 9:30 a.m. we continued the Grow, Proclaim and Serve curriculum which brought the children through familiar stories from the old and new testaments.

Adult Christian Education

2013 featured a rich offering of adult Sunday School opportunities. In the spring, course offerings included People's Bible Study on the Book of Mark led by Don Frampton, "The Problem with Evil," "Wisdom from the Early Church," "Twenty-Four Hours that Changed the World" and a class on prayer. All adult Christian education classes met together for the Selley Series Lecture presented by the Rev. Dr. Lee Bowman of Highlands Presbyterian Church (NC) on Sunday, April 7, 2013. Over the summer, a new offering led by Crorey Lawton was initiated based on the weekly lectionary, and was well received. It is anticipated that in the future this will become a recurring offering during the summer and possibly other times of the year. In the fall of 2013, "People's Bible Study" was continued by Dr. Frampton on the Book of Isaiah. Other adult CE offerings and teachers included the "The Power of Now" (a one day whole church class by Dr. Frampton), "After Sin: Repentance and Forgiveness" (Bill Banta), "The Journey to Bethlehem" (Cathy Franklin and John Galbraith), and "Humor in the Bible" (Crorey Lawton). In December, a course entitled "Time for the Church" began on the liturgical calendar, taught by Larry Hamric. The Lupberger Lecture was presented in early November by the Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, Senior Pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City, who focused his teaching and preaching on the state of the church in the context of the predominant culture of the United States.

A particular goal of the CE Team was to push out the planning horizon for adult CE offerings so that plans are in place for each CE year (fall and spring) up to one year in advance. This effort has largely proved successful, although the CE Team remains flexible in the face of changing commitments on the part of church staff and lay teachers from the congregation. Plans are already in place for course offerings in the spring of 2014, and are well along for fall of 2014 and spring of 2015.

Respectfully submitted, Laurence M. Hamric, 2013 Chair

COMMUNITY MINISTRY TEAM

Chair: Robert Edgecombe

Introduction

The Community Ministries Team supports agencies and organizations which provide a wide range of critical services to the neediest residents in our city. We provide this support in the form of substantial financial resources, volunteers, and prayer. Our partnerships continue to inspire the congregation, and they provide an immediate opportunity for all members to become involved in our church's ministry outside our walls.

In addition to our support of these partners, a highlight of the 2013 year was the remarkable outcome of the West Carrollton Study Group, which was affiliated with Community Ministries. This group, formed in April 2012, was led by Mary DeWitt Dukes and engaged in a long process of discernment for ways in which SCAPC might deepen and expand our work in the West Carrollton neighborhood. The result was the establishment of a new ministry—a camp for children.

The purpose of this camp is for children living in the West Carrollton neighborhood to spend time together in a safe, nurturing, fun, and enriching environment. Additionally, it provides structure and nourishment to children during times when some families—because of scheduling, resources, or other circumstances—are least able to do so. And more fundamentally, it affords children an opportunity to hear and learn, in whatever way our camp can convey, a positive message about God's love, acceptance, and affirmation of them.

The first installment of the camp—the Carrollton Christmas Camp—took place in December 2013/January 2014 with Emma Cate Pegues serving as the Director. By all measures it was a tremendous success. The outpouring of time, talents, and resources from the SCAPC congregation was remarkable, and anyone who spent any amount of time there knew that God has indeed led us into a special, dynamic, and exciting new place in the life of our church. We fully expect to build on the success of Christmas Camp this summer and beyond, and look forward to creating a powerful and lasting new ministry in this neighboring part of our city.

Supported Ministries

Carrollton United

CMT Liason: Dave White

Carrollton United is a neighborhood organization working toward improving the physical, mental, financial, educational, and spiritual health of Carrollton residents in the area defined by I-10 to the river and Broadway to the Jefferson Parish line.

Connect Missions

CMT Liason: Kelly Hostetler

Connect Missions is a cross-cultural ministry focused on university students, with a strong commitment to supporting the church, as it brings people into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. In 2012 there was a special focus on college ministries with 9 movements on 5 different campuses with 10 more in the works. SCAPC supplied financial support as well as volunteers.

Crescent City Café

CMT Liasons: Bobby Segal, Lindsay Hamm-Bell

In 2013, a bi-monthly breakfast was served to the homeless and marginalized people of New Orleans with dignity and love. The Café also provides a forum for young adults with similar values to connect through service in preparing food, providing table service, and connecting with the café's guests. SCAPC provides some funding and our 20/30s group members volunteer on a regular basis.

Eden House

CMT Liason: Kelly Hostetler

Eden House is one of two new ministries supported by CM. It serves women who have survived prostitution, addiction and human trafficking. The home accepts women for two years, free of charge, while providing space for healing, programs for recovery and opportunities for job training. Volunteers are needed for a wide range of activities from tutoring to providing meals.

General Equivalency Diploma

CMT Liason: Ann Van Horn

In 2012, the Community Ministries Committee made the difficult decision to discontinue the SCAPC-based GED program, largely because the updated testing requirements made our continued support cost-prohibitive. After its last session in May 2013, the staff, students, and volunteers were recognized in a powerful and public way during one of our 10:30 a.m. worship services. SCAPC continues to be committed in spirit to the work of all involved in providing this service throughout New Orleans.

Community Garden at James Weldon Johnson School/Young Adult Volunteer Program

In our commitment to building communities, James Weldon Johnson is an RSD grade school in The West Carrollton area that SCAPC has supported for a number of years. SCAPC and RHINO have provided volunteers at the school when they have asked for help from us. Their future at this site is being evaluated. We will have to wait and watch carefully what is in store for this Mission's future.

Ministry of Hope at First Presbyterian Church

CMT Liason: Edna Charles

During 2013 the Ministry of Hope served 60 to 80 homeless people once a week. This joint mission of seven Presbyterian churches in greater New Orleans prepared lunches, served coffee and doughnuts and offered clothing, hygiene items, toiletries, bus tokens and vouchers for a night's stay at the Salvation Army. Limited information about housing, jobs, counseling, prayer and worship was available. SCAPC provided major funding and weekly volunteers. SCAPC also provided bag lunches for two months as did the other participating churches. Ongoing donations of clothing and toiletries by SCAPC members have added to the success of this program.

New Orleans Mission

CMT Liason: Mary Dawn Pugh

Founded in 1989, the New Orleans Mission is one of the principal providers for homeless individuals in the city. It provides free shelter, food, clothing, job training, adult education, substance rehabilitation and abuse rehabilitation for those in need. In 2013 the mission made available more than 45,000 showers and emergency shelter beds for up to 150 men and women per night. It served more than 100,000 meals, distributed clothing and groceries, sponsored a free health clinic each week and provided rehabilitation for 50 men. SCAPC's support in 2013 included funding to partially offset operating costs of the facilities. Also, our volunteers help to prepare and serve lunch each Thursday afternoon.

Raintree Services

CMT Liason: Kathy Randall

Raintree is a social service agency giving hope to abandoned, abused or neglected children through group housing, single family foster care, and developmental disabilities case management. SCAPC provides funding and participation on their Board of Directors, along with volunteers when needed.

In 2013, a group of volunteers from SCAPC and Lakeview Presbyterian partnered to paint the exterior of a two-room building on Raintree's campus, saving Raintree thousands of dollars. Additionally, the agency uses Frampton Fellowship Hall for its Annual Meeting space, as well as the foster family Christmas party. It is a remarkable ministry and our volunteers go when called.

Reconcile New Orleans

CMT Liason: John Martin

The newly renovated five-story building in which Reconcile is headquartered has enabled the program to provide a range of new and improved services to its students and will hopefully increase the size of classes. As expected, the number of graduates increased in 2013 over 2012. The SCAPC Community Ministries Team enjoyed a wonderful meal at Café Reconcile and received an enlightening tour of the building and an overview of Reconcile's comprehensive training and job placement programs.

Rebuilding Hope In New Orleans

CMT Liason: Ruth Hinson

The Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans Ministry (RHINO) provides meaningful, faith-filled service opportunities for both out-of-town and local volunteers. The ministry has 2 main parts: 1) RHINO-serves primarily volunteers 18 and over from Oct 1- May 31, and 2) Camp RHINO Youth Ministry, serves middle and high school age youth offering 1 week summer camp experiences during the months of June and July. RHINO partners include the Brent House Hotel, Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Orleans, the St. Bernard Project, Trinity Mobile Loaves and Fishes, and Pralines by Jean…and Cupcakes Too! RHINO's key strength is its unique church-based structure. Known as the RHINO church locally, SCAPC is also known as the RHINO church across the US. With an 11 member volunteer board composed of SCAPC members, the RHINO leadership team focuses on strengthening the sustainability of the RHINO Ministry by ensuring long term viability as a church-based ministry of SCAPC. Through its history, beginning in October 2005, RHINO volunteers have built 28+ homes, gutted over 300 homes and hosted more than 6,000 volunteers. In 2013 a total of 558 volunteers from across the nation participated in both RHINO and Camp RHINO programs.

New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School (Sci High)

CMT Liason: Mimi Smith

Sci High has been a full 9-12 grade high school since 2006. It is one of the few open admission schools in the country whose students are economically disadvantaged. There are 375 students enrolled. 94% of the 2012 class graduated. The Cowen Institute selected Sci High as one whose faculty are trained to offer advanced placement classes. SCAPC provides funding to support a math specialist on the school's staff.

St. Thomas Clinic

CMT Liason: Charlie King

The clinic in 2013 not only expanded into new facilities, more than doubling its size, it also completed the renovation of the other building on Magazine Street that it owns. The clinic is readying itself for even greater usage of the facilities in 2014, including expansions to its services providing walk-in mammograms. There is no charge for those that do not have the ability to pay for the clinic's services. It is a great service that St. Thomas gives to that area and SCAPC is glad to help them.

Start The Adventure In Reading (STAIR)

CMT Liason: Bob Smith

Start the Adventure in Reading (STAIR) is a children's literacy program that provides free one-on-one after school tutoring in reading and language skills to at-risk public elementary school students and literacy support to family members. STAIR is led by a strong all-volunteer Board of Directors and Advisory Council, staffed by qualified literacy administrators, and endowed with a volunteer force of more than 350 trained community individuals. SCAPC members serve as tutors, site directors, Board members, Advisory Council members, and donors. One member of our congregation is trying to start a STAIR program in the Mandeville area.

Uptown Shepherd's Center

CMT Liason: Ellen Brandao Christie

The Uptown Shepherd's Center (USC) operates a senior day center serving a group of about 130 multi-ethnic seniors each week. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for its members and maximize independence by learning new skills and sharing with others. Activities include: exercise, Spanish, Tai Chi, poetry, sewing/quilting/knitting, music, Bible study, board games, drama class and citywide performance, speaker forums on health and medical care, LSU nursing students conduct monthly blood pressure checks and Loyola SMILE student volunteers lead activities. SCAPC activities in 2013 included serving on the Board and Board meeting attendance, volunteer hours from three SCAPC members and providing funds to sustain the center.

Victories in Service, Inc.

CMT Liason: John Martin

The Victories in Service program continued to build on its recent successes. Its new programming at Langston Hughes Charter School allows the program to serve over 100 PK – 4th grade students in addition to its established presence at Samuel Green Charter School, where it serves 30-50 students. The program occurs after school and features academics, character development, and sports (baseball and track).

White Gift

CMT Liason: Sarah Edgecombe

SCAPC's White Gift program gives members the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts to children served by our many partner agencies. In 2013, SCAPC members gave gifts to over 170 children from Lafayette Academy, Eden House, Benjamin Banneker Elementary School, Ferry Place, and Raintree Services.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Edgecombe, 2013 Chair

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

Chair: Caty Flower | Vice-Chair: Margo Phelps

Alzheimer's/Dementia/Aging Caregiver Support Group

A new challenge for the church and specifically, Congregational Care, is the increase in members who are struggling with diseases affecting memory. This is an issue that many churches and communities are confronting. Caty and Kelly did some research to see how others were responding, and ultimately determined that the most feasible way to begin a ministry would be for caregivers. The National Alzheimers' Association provided training for a facilitator of a Caregiver Support Group, and member Barry Thompson agreed to be trained to provide this service to our congregation and community. He was trained in early December, and we plan to begin a support group open to members and the community in February 2014.

Baptismal Cloth Samplers

The Baptismal Cloth sampler project is headed by Judith Halverson with help from Wendi Adams, Allison Flanagan, Betty Founds, Carol Pointer and Jennie Steele. The team hand-stitches a sampler cloth for every child baptized at SCAPC under 5 years of age. The sampler cloth is inscribed with the child's name and date of baptism. The pastors acknowledge the project when presenting the cloth to the baptismal family during Sunday morning worship services. In 2013, the group stitched 20 sampler cloths for 20 babies baptized!

Caring for Nursing Home Residents

CC team members supplement and add to the care provided by pastors to residents of local nursing homes. The CC team prepared and delivered decorative gift bags filled with items of encouragement and fun to those SCAPC members on Easter, Fourth of July and Christmas. With each holiday, more than two dozen treat bags were delivered to members at Lambeth House (with St. Anna's residents newly part of Lambeth) and Poydras Home, with a short visit and expression of care. Mayson Buffington continues to deliver flower arrangements after worship services to Poydras Home and Lambeth House.

College Ministry

The SCAPC College Ministry Team met in the fall of 2012 to develop a Monday lunch and devotional for College students in 2013, called Starting Point. We partnered with a supported ministry of SCAPC, Connect Missions. Executive Director Adam Suter co-led with Kelly Hostetler, and with the support of the College Ministry Team members, we provided a free lunch, devotional and community of encouragement for students each Monday of the semester, starting in January 2013. We were preparing to gear up for Fall, when Connect Missions made a long anticipated change from college ministry to young adults ministry. Without the support of Adam's team, the ministry team decided to point efforts towards Sunday morning hospitality for worship and a College Women's Bible Study on Sunday mornings, led by Kelly Hostetler and Michelle Baker. This started in November 2013, and has gone very well so far. The groups will resume in January 2014.

Correspondence

Roney Morton, Caty Flower, and the pastors, along with select team members continued to write notes to SCAPC members for sympathy, healing, encouragement, congratulations and other occasions. The entire team worked together to send birthday cards to SCAPC's senior adult members 70 and over. Addresses of SCAPC member families with college students are currently being collected and notes for the New Year will be sent to those students whose parents responded to offer updated addresses for them.

Online Daily Devotional

The Congregational Care team continues to provide oversight for the SCAPC Daily Devotional, begun in 2011. The list of recipients continues to grow, with over 300 households currently receiving a 5:00 a.m. email with a devotional. We regularly receive feedback about these meaningful and timely words of encouragement and challenge to the spiritual lives of recipients. The team continues to use devotionals by Henri Nouwen, with prayers and scripture references written by Kelly Hostetler.

Miscarriage Ministry

After Rev. Kelly Hostetler suffered a miscarriage in November of 2012, she suggested that the Congregational Care Team might consider actively and compassionately responding to families who endure a miscarriage, as it is something people rarely discuss or is known by the community. The Team decided to put together a generous care bag with items including a soft blanket, chocolate, a candle and journal, to communicate support, encouragement and care. One member of the team donated the funds to cover these bags. Although we put the information about this response in the bulletin, to date no one has notified the team of a possible recipient. We will renew our efforts in 2014 to make the congregation aware of this ministry.

Pantry Ministry

One of our most successful ministries to date is the Meal Delivery Ministry, using meals prepared by the congregation which are stored until needed, and delivered by team members to those recovering from surgery, illness, loss of a loved one, pregnancy or birth, or other instances where a prepared meal is a support and help. The Congregational Care Team sponsored a congregation-wide meal drive in the Spring and Fall, providing containers and recipes for members to use in preparing the meals, and collecting them to store in the church freezer. In the spring approximately 35 meals were collected and used in deliveries; and in the fall, approximately 40 meals were collected and continue to be drawn upon as needed. We typically try to empty out our stock as the height of hurricane season approaches – August-October.

SCAPC Grief Support Group

This group was new in 2013, meeting twice during the year: four weeks in the Spring, and another four weeks for an entirely new group in the Fall. Jan Kahoe, Founder of Metairie's Seasons Grief Center and a counselor with over 20 years' experience in grief counseling, led both groups. The Spring group had 11 members and the Fall group had 5 members. Feedback was very positive and, in some cases, truly healing and life-affirming. We are grateful for the leadership of Jan Kahoe. Kelly Hostetler assisted in facilitating both groups.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caty Flower, 2013 Chair

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE TEAM

Chair: Lilla Wright | Vice-Chair: Geoff Snodgrass
Team Member: Nancy Ellis

Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Fellowship was very strong this year, attended by over 100 church members and visitors each Sunday. The team supplied the snacks each Sunday following both 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. There were lots of yummy treats for happy church goers - both young and old!

September Arts Spectacle

The very popular SAS (September Arts Spectacle) art show was back and a huge hit! Approximately 20 artists displayed their work at the show. The opening of the show was partnered with WNO. Many members viewed the art that evening, and throughout the weekend that followed.

Supper Clubs

Supper Clubs started back in full swing in the fall of 2013 with 85 participants in 9 groups

Benefit Concert

On November 7th, Don Frampton's brother, Mac Frampton, and local vocalist Philip Manuel teamed up for a benefit piano and vocal concert in the Sanctuary. Over 100 people attended and the proceeds of the concert benefitted RHINO and a charity designated by Temple Sinai. Louellen and Darryl Berger generously hosted a patron party at their home during the hour before the concert.

WNO

WNO is growing in popularity each month. We had a quiet Spring. Wednesday nights in the Fall were fabulous - with the September Arts Spectacle, a panel discussion on SCAPC's joint trip to Israel and Jordan with Congregants from Temple Sinai, a Supper Club special dinner night, and the Shades of Praise gospel choir filling our church with beautiful sounds. The number of people dining each Wednesday rose in the Fall, and we look forward to growing even more this Spring.

Thank you - to everyone who brought snacks on Sundays for Coffee Fellowship - every morsel was loved by all. Many thanks to our sextons, Terry Patterson, Donald Jefferson, and Joe Bean for all their help with the CL Team and our activities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lilla Wright, 2013 Chair

FINANCE TEAM

Chair: A. Peyton Bush, III

Operating Budget

Our net result for the year unfortunately was a loss of $24,000. We received over $300,000 in operating receipts in December, some of which arrived at the last possible moment, but it was not quite enough to bring us into the black. The loss from budgeted operations was $36,000, but after net wedding profits of $12,000, the total loss for the year was reduced to $24,000.

Most of this loss can be attributed to our having over-budgeted for pledges and related revenue, because total operating expenses were $22,000 below budget. Total pledge revenue budgeted for 2013 was $1,325,000, but actual 2013 pledge cards received totaled only $1,277,000. We ended up with payments on these pledges of $1,209,000 by the end of the year (there will be additional payments on some of these in 2014). However, our "Members without Pledges" receipts were $136,000, far greater than the $50,000 that was budgeted. In the aggregate, actual pledge and related receipts were $43,000 below budget for the year.

The only department which was materially over budgeted expenses was Property, which was faced with some larger-than-usual maintenance and supplies expenses (mostly lighting) near the end of the year. Music would have been over budget due to the $12,000 cost of the December concert except for $8,000 in generous contributions to the music fund in December.

Our cash position remains strong. We were able to pay $879,000 in final renovation expenses and also pay down $610,000 in bank debt during the year due to receipts of Capital Campaign pledges in excess of the final cost of the renovation, leaving a current debt balance of $200,000. We currently have $395,000 in Capital Campaign pledges still outstanding to be received over 2014 and 2015, with the renovation essentially finished except for ongoing interest expense and audit fees related to outstanding debt.

RHINO Program

During 2013, the Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans (RHINO) program was able to maintain the size of its historical volunteer program while increasing the size of the Camp RHINO summer program by 50%. Plans are afoot to expand the number of volunteers coming to New Orleans to experience what arguably remains the best domestic mission trip program in the country.

Capital Campaign and Renovation

All of the renovation expenses were completed by the Fall of 2013. Through the end of 2013, the project showed essentially break-even results between cumulative receipts and cumulative renovation expenses. The only anticipated remaining expenses for the entire project will be for interest expense on the $200,000 in bank debt still outstanding and another $11,000 for the auditors to review our 2013 financial results to comply with lender requirements. With a balance of $395,000 remaining in Capital Campaign pledges outstanding, most of these funds are anticipated to be available for the Benevolence fund by the end of 2015.

Land Building and Education Building 2013 Renovation

This project was nearly completed in 2013, having spent $258,000 of the $265,000 approved budget by the end of the year. The remaining $7,000 in designated funds from Prior Year Surplus will be used in 2014 to address certain Property maintenance issues in the Land Building that were discovered during the renovation.

Visionary Fund

The Visionary Fund assets increased by $23,000 due to the strong stock market, even after we transferred $650,000 in cash from Visionary to Operating during the year in order to reconcile intercompany accounts.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Peyton Bush, III, 2013 Chair

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPERATING ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2013 BUDGET	2013 VARIANCE	2014 BUDGET
RECEIPTS					
Pledge Payments	$1,160,910	$1,208,926	$1,325,000	($116,074)	$1,360,148
Prior Year Pledge Payments	49,338	29,227	30,000	(773)	30,000
Members without Pledges	112,342	135,836	50,000	85,836	80,000
Visitor and Loose Plate Collections	65,093	57,912	69,882	(11,970)	70,000
Subtotal--Donation Revenues	$1,387,683	$1,431,900	$1,474,882	($42,982)	$1,540,148
Visionary Fund Operating Draw	160,000	165,000	165,000	0	170,000
Visionary Fund Pastoral Housing Draw	31,843	32,152	32,152	(0)	34,342
Visionary Fund Employee Benefits Draw	42,222	0	0	0	0
Visionary Fund Property Draw					50,000
Wedding Revenues (Net)	12,744	11,675	12,000	(326)	12,000
Other Budgeted Misc. Revenue (Net)				0	
Campus Ministry Revenue	9,439	8,641	9,439	(798)	9,439
Interest Income (Net of Fees)	(3,488)	(2,585)		(2,585)	
Total Receipts	$1,640,444	$1,646,783	$1,693,473	($46,690)	$1,815,929
DISBURSEMENTS					
Benevolences:					
Presbytery Tax	(28,840)	(31,010)	(31,010)	(0)	(31,011)
Greater Church	(35,403)	(35,910)	(35,910)	0	(36,267)
Seminary Support	(2,300)	(2,300)	(2,300)	0	(2,300)
Local Projects-Community Ministry	(164,642)	(170,929)	(175,000)	4,071	(175,000)
Missions	(9,249)	(5,095)	(5,150)	55	(6,500)
Total Benevolences	($240,434)	($245,244)	($249,370)	$4,126	($251,078)
Adult Christian Ed	(1,739)	(2,684)	(2,800)	116	(3,250)
Children's Christian Ed	(10,051)	(13,301)	(14,086)	785	(14,712)
Youth & Young Adults Christian Ed	(23,850)	(19,739)	(24,720)	4,981	(24,720)
Speaker Series	(2,498)	(1,380)	(2,500)	1,120	(2,500)
Congregational Care (incl Campus Ministry)	(5,735)	(10,815)	(8,750)	(2,065)	(12,639)
Congregational Life	(8,195)	(15,163)	(18,003)	2,840	(18,487)
Property	(269,346)	(273,513)	(264,409)	(9,104)	(313,013)
Membership	(494)	(903)	(1,000)	97	(1,000)
Music	(67,622)	(67,479)	(72,268)	4,789	(77,123)
Personnel	(926,125)	(966,520)	(972,500)	5,980	(1,036,000)
Member Involvement	(5,524)	(2,077)	(1,550)	(527)	(1,900)
Stewardship	(323)	(969)	(800)	(169)	(800)
Worship	(3,522)	(4,188)	(4,700)	512	(5,350)
Office	(44,636)	(46,684)	(56,017)	9,333	(53,357)
Visionary Fund	0	0	0	0	
Total Expenses	($1,610,095)	($1,670,658)	($1,693,473)	$22,815	($1,815,929)
Net Surplus (Deficit)	**$30,349**	**($23,875)**	**$0**	**($23,875)**	**$0**

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE SHEET	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ASSETS					
Cash & Equivalents	$440,957	$431,495	$1,539,797	$620,565	$471,923
Deposits in Transit and Acc Receivable	$99,208	$100,933	$152,839	$184,049	$71,195
Due from Visionary Fund	$312,464	$351,699	$563,402	$612,116	$218,006
Renovation Project Assets				$501,022	$321,214
Other Assets	$16,482	$12,382	$13,991	$12,382	$12,382
TOTAL ASSETS	$869,110	$896,508	$2,270,029	$1,930,134	$1,094,719
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	$1,317	$10,261	$13,677	$8,140	$5,776
Accrued Liabilities	$15,192	$15,428	$18,962	$20,940	$17,931
Deferred prepaid pledges received	$214,105	$229,369	$191,276	$174,877	$190,912
Other Deposits received	$4,600	$8,500	$8,500	$32,850	$11,500
Temporary Gifts & Memorials	$18,323	$16,796	$3,915	$3,920	$2,676
Total Current Liabilities	$253,537	$280,353	$236,329	$240,728	$228,795
Gifts & Memorials					
Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials	$9,212	$10,073	$12,610	$29,766	$25,123
Restricted Gifts & Memorials	$72,574	$65,069	$59,461	$61,936	$65,255
RHINO Fund	$153,934	$155,316	$132,439	$151,450	$130,983
Total Gifts & Memorials	$235,720	$230,458	$204,509	$243,152	$221,361
Other Liabilities					
Renovation Fund	$5,000	$61,792	$1,620,045	$402,759	$320,028
Reserve for Major Maintenance (PPRSM)	$25,000	$11,000	$15,000	$15,000	$0
Bank Loans Payable				$810,000	$200,000
Total Other Liabilities	$30,000	$72,792	$1,635,045	$1,227,759	$520,028
TOTAL LIABILITIES	$519,257	$583,603	$2,075,883	$1,711,639	$970,184
CAPITAL					
Prior Year Surplus	$349,854	$312,905	$194,146	$218,495	$124,536
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	$869,110	$896,508	$2,270,029	$1,930,134	$1,094,719

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

UNBUDGETED FUNDS SUMMARY	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Sources of Unbudgeted Funds					
Funds from Gifts & Memorials	262,887	254,994	227,532	206,448	227,910
Funds from Property Maintenance Reserve	3,279	43,730	0	0	15,000
Funds from Prior Year Surplus	58,192	61,622	150,852	6,000	77,134
Funds from Capital Campaign Pledges			251,021	2,317,454	719,277
Funds from Bank Loans				810,000	
Funds from Nursery School		$18,388	1,800		
Funds from Visionary Fund		$378,161			791,017
Total Sources of Unbudgeted Funds	$324,358	$756,894	$631,204	$3,339,902	$1,830,339
Uses of Unbudgeted Funds					
Gifts & Memorials Expenses	(73,450)	(92,799)	(77,495)	(33,969)	(127,479)
RHINO expenses	(189,437)	(162,195)	(150,036)	(172,479)	(198,609)
Renovation Expenses	($37,682)	(40,622)	(370,563)	(3,133,454)	(879,250)
Repayment of Bank Loans					(610,000)
Audit/Review Expenses	($8,000)				
Other Capital Expenditures	(15,790)	($461,278)	(33,109)	0	(15,000)
Total Uses of Unbudgeted Funds	($324,359)	($756,894)	($631,204)	($3,339,902)	($1,830,339)

RHINO (Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Beginning RHINO Fund	$212,965	$153,934	$155,316	$132,439	$151,450
RHINO Receipts--Currrent Year Fees	$87,291	$84,187	$91,588	$127,746	$116,790
RHINO Receipts--Donations	$43,116	$79,390	$19,521	$38,526	$37,487
Total RHINO Receipts--Current Year	$130,406	$163,577	$111,109	$166,272	$154,277
RHINO Expenses--Lodging	($122,268)	($110,344)	($97,277)	($103,175)	($112,707)
RHINO Expenses--Projects					
RHINO Expenses--Staff	($53,209)	($44,800)	($39,581)	($48,067)	($57,433)
RHINO Expenses--Food, Supplies	($13,960)	($7,052)	($13,179)	($21,238)	($28,469)
Total RHINO Expenses--Current Year	($189,437)	($162,195)	($150,036)	($172,479)	($198,609)
Net Surplus (Deficit)--Current Year	($59,031)	$1,382	($38,927)	($6,208)	($44,332)
RHINO Receipts--Future Year Bookings			$16,050	$25,219	$23,865
Ending RHINO Fund	$153,934	$155,316	$132,439	$151,450	$130,983

FORWARD TOGETHER! Capital Campaign and Renovation	Cumulative 2009 - 2012	2013	Cumulative 2013	Estimated Remaining	Estimated Total
Receipts					
Pledge payments received	$3,280,464	$720,207	$4,000,671	$362,401	$4,363,072
Drawn from Prior Year Surplus	$196,047		$196,047	$0	$196,047
Other income	$2,325		$2,325	$0	$2,325
Transaction fees	($3,296)	($930)	($4,227)	($1,000)	($5,227)
NET RECEIPTS	$3,475,540	$719,277	$4,194,817	$361,401	$4,556,217
Expenses					
Contractual Hard Costs (Construction Contra	($2,649,982)	($488,115)	($3,138,097)	$0	($3,138,097)
Contractual Soft Costs:					
Architectural Fees	($374,217)	($5,380)	($379,597)	$0	($379,597)
Consultant Fees (Engineering, Acoustical,	($87,103)		($87,103)	$0	($87,103)
Other Consultants, Miscellaneous	($11,611)	($12,556)	($24,167)	$0	($24,167)
Total Contractual Soft Costs	($472,931)	($17,936)	($490,867)	$0	($490,867)
Other Soft Costs (Windows, Furniture, Legal	($437,512)	($106,186)	($543,698)	($11,000)	($554,698)
Additional Project Expenses	($11,275)	$0	($11,275)	$0	($11,275)
Interest Expense	($1,615)	($9,964)	($11,579)	($3,421)	($15,000)
TOTAL EXPENSES	($3,573,315)	($622,201)	($4,195,516)	($14,421)	($4,209,937)
Net Project Surplus (Deficit)	($97,775)	$97,076	($699)	$346,980	$346,281
Estimated Reserve for Benevolence Component					($337,963)
Estimated Potential Surplus (Deficit)					$8,318
Bank Debt Borrowed	$810,000		$810,000		
Bank Debt Repaid		($610,000)	($610,000)		
Bank Debt Outstanding	$810,000	$200,000	$200,000		

2013 RENOVATIONS
LAND AND EDUCATION BUILDINGS

Sources of Funds

Memorial Fund--Abby Nalty	$10,150
Memorial Fund--Ellen Hinson	$4,050
Bequest--Margaret Craig Sanders	$10,000
Bequest--Louise Berdon	$25,000
Bequest--Eleanore Monaghan	$95,468
Memorial Fund--Unrestricted	$15,000
Visionary Fund--Evans Property Fund	$45,549
Operating Prior Year Surplus	$59,783
Total Sources of Funds	$265,000

Uses of Funds	Actual Through 12/31	Budget	Variance
Contractor Payments	($94,212)	($87,278)	($6,934)
Electrical	($16,973)	($16,075)	($898)
Plumbing	($14,175)	($14,175)	$0
Floor Tile Work	($8,012)	($7,535)	($477)
Painting	($26,600)	($26,425)	($175)
Total Contractor Expenses	($159,972)	($151,488)	($8,484)
Appliances	($3,287)	($3,287)	$0
Audio/Visual Equipment	($29,015)	($25,000)	($4,015)
Furniture & Furnishings	($51,138)	($58,000)	$6,862
Hazardous Materials Removal	($6,326)	($6,326)	$0
Lightning Rod Protection	($7,140)	($7,140)	$0
Landscaping	$0	($10,000)	$10,000
Miscellaneous	($1,072)	($3,759)	$2,687
Total Other Expenses	($97,978)	($113,512)	$15,535
Total Uses of Funds	($257,950)	($265,000)	$7,050
Net Funds Remaining (See Dedicated Surplus Reserve)			$7,050

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VISIONARY FUND	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
NET ASSETS					
Cash--Money Market Fund	250,065	109,337	109,348	4,356	4,356
Investments at Market Value	4,640,871	4,946,101	4,816,093	5,363,764	5,386,802
Due From (To) Church Operating Acct	(312,464)	(351,699)	(563,402)	(612,116)	(218,006)
Net Fund Assets	$4,578,472	$4,703,740	$4,362,039	$4,756,004	$5,173,153
NET FUNDS					
Unrestricted Fund	$697,655	$757,641	$702,821	$814,315	$785,250
Benevolences Fund	$742,981	$793,859	$736,240	$790,803	$866,650
Missions Fund	$108,011	$116,523	$108,066	$116,075	$127,207
Seminary Support Fund	$40,971	$43,776	$40,599	$43,608	$47,790
Counseling Fund	$10,370	$11,080	$10,276	$11,038	$12,096
Favrot Fund	$197,787	$211,331	$195,993	$210,518	$230,709
Christian Education Fund	$59,964	$68,267	$63,410	$68,418	$74,980
Flowers Fund	$15,798	$16,880	$15,655	$16,815	$18,428
Music Fund	$39,978	$42,716	$39,615	$42,551	$46,632
Speakers Fund	$40,018	$42,758	$39,655	$42,594	$46,679
Property Fund	$169,635	$189,240	$175,505	$188,316	$286,476
Meier Campus Ministry Fund	$51,320	$54,834	$50,854	$54,623	$59,862
Maddox Property Maintenance Fund	$969,347	$1,016,134	$942,383	$1,012,223	$1,109,306
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	$108,178	$112,934	$109,771	$119,053	$133,940
Trustees' Discretionary Fund	$35,181	$38,153	$37,084	$41,734	$47,754
Reddoch Scholarship Fund	$25,036	$27,945	$26,676	$28,332	$32,420
Turfitt Scholarship Fund	$125,319	$134,355	$125,246	$132,509	$157,461
Phifer Library Fund	$27,562	$29,602	$27,588	$28,796	$29,146
Employee Benefits Fund	$112,367	$70,366	$23,402	$21,444	$21,804
Pastoral Housing Fund	$742,694	$796,068	$744,842	$802,391	$881,362
Lupberger Theological Fund	$29,615	$42,733	$49,840	$49,698	$53,811
Peirce-Geiser Fund	$36,338	$44,903	$56,044	$74,601	$91,945
Evans Property Maintenance Fund	$192,348	$41,641	$40,475	$45,549	$0
Lindsey Fund					$11,443
Total All Funds	$4,578,472	$4,703,740	$4,362,039	$4,756,004	$5,173,153

EARNINGS--YEAR TO DATE	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Beginning Asset Balances	$3,921,218	$4,578,473	$4,703,740	$4,362,039	$4,756,004
Realized Investment Income	162,757	135,387	83,979	87,421	100,009
Realized Capital Gains (Losses)	(349,465)	86,932	199,429	89,297	363,965
Contributions Received	62,428	285,057	23,030	107,114	99,164
Draw for Church Operations	(148,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(160,000)	(165,000)
Draw for Employee Benefits & Pension	(46,463)	(49,351)	(46,290)	(46,170)	0
Draw for Pastoral Housing	(28,315)	(29,493)	(29,766)	(31,843)	(32,152)
Transfer Cash to Operating Fund				(104,000)	(650,000)
Other Distributions Made	(5,165)	(436,200)	(8,676)	(22,815)	(157,902)
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	1,009,478	282,935	(413,407)	474,961	859,064
Ending Asset Balances	$4,578,473	$4,703,740	$4,362,039	$4,756,004	$5,173,153

MEMBER INVOLVEMENT TEAM

Chair: Bob Vorhoff | Vice-Chair: Beth Poe

Team Purpose

To coordinate the enlistment, training, and assignment of officers and church members to leadership positions in the organizational structure of the church. Key responsibilities include (but not limited to): Planning and executing the annual Session Retreat and enlisting elders to serve as commissioners to Presbytery meetings. The team provides support, as requested by the ministers, in the assignment of elders to teams, selection of team chairs (and vice chairs), selection of elders to be elected by congregation to the Elder Nominating Team and in the leadership training of new elders.

Session Retreat

Planning for the 2013 Session Retreat began in August 2012. The retreat was held in the newly renovated Chapel and Fellowship Hall of SCAPC on January 26, 2013 with over 50 elders, staff members and team members attending the event. The January session meeting was held on January 26, 2012 during the retreat. Team members not on the session joined the retreat on Saturday, January 26, 2013 to help set goals for the year and continue to find ways to implement the suggestions from the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church (SCAPC) 2011-2013 Long Range Plan. A reception was held Friday, January 25th for elders at the home of Bob and Germaine Vorhoff.

Session Nominating Team

Don Frampton and Kelly Hostetler prepared a slate of candidates for the 2013 Nominating Team to select the new elder class of 2016, which was then elected by the congregation. The class includes:

Amber Beezley, Rasch Brown, Brent Butcher, Tripp Edwards, John Geiser, III, Henrietta Harris, Price Lanier, Donna Ryan Lupberger, Michael O'Keefe, Margo Phelps, Mike Pugh, Debbie Rees, Jean Stickney, and Ben Tiller. In addition two youth elders were selected: Nathan Fernandez and Casey Root.

Class of 2016 Elder Training

Kelly Hostetler trained the class of 2016 elders elect. The new elders were examined by the session on Monday, November 28, 2013, and gave their faith journeys. The session approved all members of the Class of 2016. All elders of the Class of 2016 were ordained and installed on Sunday, December 8, 2013.

Presbytery Meeting Commissioners

The chairman and ministers recruited session members to volunteer as commission¬ers for the three regular and called meetings of the Presbytery of South Louisiana (PSL). The chairman shared information provided by the PSL with session members and team chairmen regarding pertinent upcoming events.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robbert Vorhoff, 2013 Chair

MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Chair: Margaret Ann Lindsey | Vice-Chairs: Trey Sundmaker and Gwen Wertz
Other Team Members:
Kate Bruce, Louise Bernstein, Rene Curry, Elizabeth Favret, Marshall Fisher,
Julie Graybill, Jack Hinrichs, Frances Hinrichs, Mary Lou Holmes, Louise Kepper, Ed Lindsey,
Jack Little, Sarah Lowman, Ann Maier, Jim McCall, Linda McCall,
Laura Malone, Margaret Maxwell, Ashley McCoy, Elizabeth McGough,
Rozelle Middleton, Debbie Powell, George Schneider, Bob Smith,
Kandice Snow, Barbara Weiser

Our goal for the three years we have worked together has been reached: 263 new members were received. New members have uniformly been impressed by the commitment of those in the church to the many outreach programs and the sense of caring for others. Worship is central to their interests: sermons are Bible-centered and skill crafted; the music program is outstanding; the congregation genuinely seems to be alive for Christ.

The principal role of the Membership Team is to interest, welcome and orient new members. Were it not for our pastors inviting all attending the services to sign the Friendship Pad, our work would be tedious. First-time visitors receive letters, emails and phone calls. They can be received as members every Sunday morning following worship services. A navigator is assigned to each new member.

Orientation sessions are designed to introduce new members to opportunities for involvement: Session chairs discuss the responsibilities of their teams; representatives of RHINO and Presbyterian Women also extend invitations for participation. Presbyterian 101, a one-hour course presented by a pastor, deals with the rich history of the Reformed tradition in general and of the Presbyterian church in particular. Members – new and current – are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

At least twice annually, members graciously open their homes for a Sunday brunch to honor those who have joined during the year.

Membership on any team, be it church or community-related, requires PARTICIPATION.

Never have I been part of a group so completely dedicated as those who have faithfully served on the 2011-2013 Membership Team. They have eagerly and generously shared time and talents. We have truly been a team and are also grateful for the wonderful work of Pierce Young and the entire church staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Ann Lindsey, 2013 Chair

PERSONNEL TEAM

Chair: John Hope | Vice-Chair: Hans Jonassen

Saint Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church continued its recent trend of rapid growth in membership and programs in 2013. The church has received over 250 new members in the past three years. Camp RHINO completed its second year this summer and should continue to grow. The West Carrollton Christmas Camp was held this last holiday season and was a new initiative for the church in Community Ministry. Adult Bible study and Sunday School classes have expanded as well as several small group initiatives. The energy and participation in the Youth Program is outstanding.

Again, last November, members of the Personnel Team met individually with all members of the church staff including the pastors. Morale is excellent and positive feedback was consistent. There was discussion about work load, especially given the growth in church membership and programs. The team discussed the work load issue and then spent time with Don Frampton and Wayne Willcox in further discussion. Ultimately, it was decided to request two new part time positions: a 20/30s Coordinator and a yet to be defined position to address facility/event coordination. Both positions are included in the 2014 budget request.

Finally, the team worked with the pastors and Wayne Willcox to review compensation and benefits for 2014. Recommendations were also included in the 2014 budget request.

Respectfully submitted,
John C. Hope, III, 2013 Chair

PROPERTY TEAM

Chair: Jeff Mazzanti | Vice-Chair: Bruce Peterson

The year started out on a high note in January with the conclusion and dedication of SCAPC's major renovation project of the first floor of the main building which included a new chapel, repositioned chapel organ, enhanced and widened corridors and entryways, refurbished Fellowship Hall, classrooms and parlors, a new Phifer Library, new bathrooms, a completely renovated unisex bathroom, a new columbarium and garden, and extensive landscaping between St. Charles Avenue and Benjamin Street.

New Renovation Project (Land Building and Upper Floors of Education Building)

As a result of the expansion of the Church's educational programs, especially in the case of children, youth and young adults, the Church staff has been grappling with space constraints. Over the summer the Property Team, with congregational approval, implemented the following changes to our facilities and the way they are used:

- Moved the entire STAIR program offices from the second floor of the Education Building to the second floor of the Land Building. The Guest Room on the second floor of the Land Building was converted to an office for STAIR.
- Renovated the first floor of the Land Building (including the rest rooms and kitchen) to accommodate small meetings and classes in addition to functions offering food and drink. The first floor of the Land Building is reserved primarily for SCAPC use but the STAIR tutoring program can share that space as well.
- Relocated the laundry facility from the Land Building to the second floor of the Education Building.
- Relocated the pastors' study from the second floor of the Land Building to the second floor of the Education Building in the former STAIR executive office.
- Moved the fourth and fifth grade "Challenger Class" activities from the third floor of the Education Building to the former STAIR office on the second floor.
- Renovated the Learning Center on the second floor of the Education Building to accommodate small meetings and classes.
- Expanded the Youth activities into the Junior and Senior High rooms on the Education Building third floor.
- Installed technological upgrades to audio/visual equipment providing better presentation facilities for Sunday School classes and other functions located in the Youth rooms on the third floor of the Education Building, the Learning Center and the new Challenger classroom on the second floor of the Education Building, and the first floor of the Land Building
- Enhanced the Children's Library and the Art Room on the second floor of the Education Building.

Other General Property Matters Adressed During 2013

- Engaged Durable Slate to repair some areas of spalled concrete on the exterior face of the Education Building near the Phifer Library that was allowing water intrusion.
- Repaired locations of water intrusion in the Sanctuary and Narthex but are still monitoring a few pesky locations to be certain the issue has been resolved.
- Replaced the Narthex air conditioner.
- Had a new "temporary" sign made for short term announcements on the front lawn of the church.
- Replaced the light bulbs in the Sanctuary.
- Re-keyed all the exterior entrances.

Financials and Budget:

- A budget was presented to the Finance Team and the 2014 Property Team Budget has been determined.
- With all the major renovations that have come online within the year we are still trying to quantify their impact on our routine costs (i.e. insurance, utilities, supplies, maintenance). Some of the efficiencies that could be expected with new facilities (i.e. reductions in maintenance and utilities) were offset by significant increases in utilization of all our new facilities. For the year, we were over budget by approximately 3%.

Thanks to all Property Team members for their input and participation in another active year, and thanks especially to Wayne Willcox for his invaluable leadership, effort and expertise in overseeing yet another renovation project this year in addition to his already full slate of routine property and maintenance concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffry Mazzanti, 2013 Chair

STEWARDSHIP TEAM REPORT

Chair: Hallie Boh | Vice-Chair: Scott Zander

Building on the guidance and success of our preceding Stewardship leaders, the 2014 Stewardship Team enjoyed a record-breaking year of fundraising and dream-building.

Our theme was "Anticipate Miracles," borrowed from Kelly Hostetler's weekly charge. These words beckoned us not only to believe in Christ's miracles in the here and now, but to prepare for them as well. In so doing, we surveyed church staff and team chairs to determine a list of tangible goals we could achieve with a 5-10% increase in our operating budget. We then included these goals in our Stewardship materials.

In May, we hosted a "Gathering of Stewardship Leaders" at the exquisite home of Sybil and Blair Favrot who generously provided all of the refreshments and libations. It was a jovial and productive night of brainstorming. We learned about efforts that had succeeded and failed in the past as well as ideas from other fundraising campaigns around the city. Almost all of the ideas suggested from this night were implemented in our campaign, including a lead gifts effort which ensued in the months that followed.

On September 29th, we held a "Kick-Off Celebration" following worship services in Frampton Fellowship Hall. We announced that 100% of our Session members had committed to their 2014 pledge, with an average increase of 11%. We encouraged the congregation to follow suit by considering an increase of 5% or higher in their pledging. Fellowship Hall was decorated with signs depicting how our pledge dollars would be implemented, and a running slideshow reflected current mission dollars at work.

On October 20th, the congregation dedicated their pledges during morning worship by bringing them forward to the communion table together. All were encouraged to wear blue, as our ancestors did before us to show their commitment to Christ (Numbers 12) and also as a reflection of the color of heaven and the miracles that lie beyond our earthly knowledge. It was a moving show of devotion by all. The demonstration was fruitful, bringing in, among several others, over $25,000 in brand new pledges.

At the December Session meeting, we were pleased to announce that $1,360,148 total dollars were pledged for 2014, representing a 6% increase over pledges in-hand for the current year, and a 9% increase among those who previously pledged. As a thank you to our pledgers, we enclosed SCAPC car magnets in all thank you letters.

I am deeply indebted to my Vice Chair, Scott Zander; Rising Vice Chair, John Dunlap; and Ex Officio Don Frampton, as well as Wayne Willcox, Carol Pointer, Caitlin Rowland, Kyle Focht, Steven Blackmon, and Pierce Young of the SCAPC staff. The success of this campaign rides on their shoulders, especially, as well as on those of our ever-enthusiastic and creative team members:

Anderson Baker, Louellen Berger, Barbara Bush, Peyton Bush, Burt Carnahan, Jackie Derks, David Edwards, Sybil Favrot, Ruthie Frierson, Harry Hardin, Walter Harris, Bobby Hassinger, Chesley Hines, Betty Hope, John Hope, Hans Jonassen, John Morton IV, Julie Nice, Michael O'Keefe, Kathy Randall, Dawn Talbot, Germaine Vorhoff, George Wilson

Respectfully submitted,
Hallie Boh, 2013 Chair

WORLD MISSIONS TEAM

Chair: Askala Harris/Renee Peck

Overview

The World Missions team focused last year on supporting our missionaries around the world, receiving missionaries who came to visit with hospitality and encouragement, educating the congregation and collecting donations to help support those affected by natural disasters in the U.S. and internationally, continuing our work in Cuba with two mission trips related to the work of Living Waters, and continuing our partnership with the Presbyterian church in Ghana. Our small group of dedicated team members believes wholeheartedly in expanding the work of the church to include world mission in ever greater ways – through financial support, education, relationships and spiritual engagement.

Missionaries

The World Missions team voted to help fund current church-supported missionary teams in 2013. These include Dennis and Maribel Smith in South America, Drs. Leslie and Cynthia Morgan in southeast Asia, Robert Gamble in the Ukraine, Jo Ella Holman in the Caribbean, and Larry and Inge Sthreshley in the Congo. The church's commitment to each team in $2,000 annually. A portion of these funds come from the Pierce-Geiser Fund, which is dedicated to mission projects.

Various mission leaders visited St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian during the year. Bangladesh missionaries Drs. Leslie and Cindy Morgan visited and spoke to the congregation in January, Cuban church liaison Marta Elvis came to New Orleans in September, and Cuban minister Joel Dopico visited New Orleans and spoke during morning worship in November.

Sister Church

In 2012, the session approved a sister relationship with the Senchi Ferry Presbyterian Church in Ghana, through the mediation and encouragement of SCAPC member John Geiser, who has worked with church members and leaders there. The church is growing, but has very little financial backing or support. The Mission Team voted to send $500 to the church to help in the work of building a structure where the people can meet for their Sunday School. John Geiser will travel to Ghana again in January, 2014, to see how things are coming along, and we plan to commit more funds to this church in 2014.

Cuba

SCAPC participated in two trips to Cuba in 2013. In May, a team lead by Laura St. Clair installed an ultra-violet water filtration system at a convent in Havana, and took filters and supplies to partner churches in Cardenas. In November, a PSL Living Waters team, with 11 members from eight churches (including Martha Beveridge, Mary Monsted and Laura St. Clair from SCAPC) installed a Living Waters system at the Presbyterian church in Matanzas. SCAPC continued to send filters and supplies to maintain the two Living Waters filtration systems church teams have installed in Cardenas.

Mission Trips

The World Mission team has been discussing ways to encourage SCAPC members to participate in mission trips – both local and long-distance. One way we've decided to use our resources is to partner with Andy Fox, and SCAPC Youth Ministry, and encourage family, couple, and single church members to participate in mission trips through the Youth Program. We plan to dedicate some of our budget and much of our energy to supporting this effort in 2014, as we believe this is a great way to encourage mission across the demographics of the church – and not to let mission trips be trapped in the silo of "youth."

Disaster Relief

A special offering for Presbyterian Disaster Relief was taken during Sunday worship in May 2013, on behalf of victims of the Oklahoma tornadoes, which raised more than $2,000. Another was taken during Sunday worship in November 2013, for victims of the tsunami in the Philippines, for which we raised over $3,500.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Peck, 2013 Chair

WORSHIP AND MUSIC TEAM

Chair: Wendi Adams | Vice-Chair: Jim Rumsfeld

OVERVIEW OF GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Worship is central to our faith as Christians, and our team is responsible for providing support to the pastors and staff for services of worship.

Communion

Many thanks to Mayson Buffington for graciously preparing our communion elements for both the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. worship services. We have eliminated the intinction method at the 10:30 service due to concerns over the appearance of the communion cup after multiple "dips!" We have heard positive feedback about the "down front" method, and feel this method makes the service much more meaningful and personal. Thanks to all the elders who served communion this year. In addition, our youth elders and advisors served communion for World Communion Sunday last year as part of Youth Sunday.

Baptisms

The team was responsible for obtaining Session approval for baptisms. This year 25 baptisms were approved. Many thanks to Emily Fleshman for coordinating this process. Also thanks to the SCAPC Stitchers for providing beautiful baptism samplers as mementos for the families.

Flowers

Congratulations to Jennie Steele, who did a wonderful job coordinating a schedule for floral memorials this year. Special floral arrangements were provided for Palm Sunday, Easter, Mother's Day, Heritage Sunday, and Christmas services. Poinsettias and wreaths decorated the Sanctuary during Advent. Bob Weaver graciously provided the palms for the processional on Palm Sunday.

Ushers and Acolytes

Geoff Snodgrass and his team of ushers have done a wonderful job of ushering, both for worship services and funerals. We are all grateful for their service. New buttons featuring the Louisiana tartan (created by Nancy Ellis) help to identify the ushers to newcomers. Additionally, the ushers are very helpful during emergencies, calling for emergency help, wheelchairs, and above all, remaining calm in the storm! Thank you for all that you do for us.

Sanctuary Banners and Paraments

Special thanks to Sandra Freeman for creating a gorgeous set of needlepoint paraments used in our new Chapel. The designs and colors complement the stained glass windows and architecture beautifully. We are grateful to the Favrot family for providing our beautiful Advent banners, created by Patti Adams. Thanks also to our own team member, Donna Davis, for the design and creation of the Palm Sunday banners.

Banners were added for Heritage Sunday this year, featuring the Louisiana tartan. These were created by Christyn Elliott, a local artist recommended to us by Dave Grissett. Thanks to Dave and Christyn. We look forward to using these banners for years to come. Special thanks to our sextons, for service above and beyond the call of duty!

Special Services

We had MANY special services through the year, including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Heritage Sunday, as well as the White Gift service, Celebration of Carols, and the Christmas Eve services! All were well attended and certainly enhanced our worship experience. The Chancel Choir under the direction of our own maestro, Steven Blackmon, performed Mack Wilberg's hauntingly beautiful

"Requiem" for Palm Sunday. The Celebration of Carols on December 22 included "Ave Rex" by Mathias, as well as some familiar favorites. We were blessed to have members of the LPO performing with us for these special services in the life of our church.

Our youth provided a wonderful Youth Sunday service in November 2013, with preaching by our own Harrison Dunlap. Watch out, Don and Kelly! You may have some competition.

Our church is blessed to have two educational series, the Selley Speaker series in the spring, and the Lupberger Lecture series in the fall. Last year we were privileged to host the Rev. Dr. Lee Bowman for the Selley Series and the Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston for the Lupberger Lecture. These events included seminars on Saturday, as well as Sunday services and Sunday School. Many thanks to the Selley and Lupberger families for the gifts that make these events possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendi Adams, 2013 Chair

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT TEAM

Co-Chairs: Lee Ann Trichel (Youth Leadership), Kelley McWhirter (20/30s Leadership)
Team Member: Matt Hinson

Overview

During its third year of existence, the Y&YA were divided into two groups that were designated with Lee Ann Trichel and Kelley McWhirter as respective leaders. The members of the team acted as representatives of both the Youth and the 20/30's on the session. The team itself is more of a medium to speak to the session should either group need a voice. The session also includes two youth that serve as active session members. There are also numerous 20/30 members and Youth Leaders serving on the session.

20/30

Programming continues to be laid out twice a year, once in the summer and again in the winter for the upcoming spring and fall seasons. Andy Fox leads the 20/30 Leadership Team thru a review of past engagements from the prior year. The events for each period usually follow the prior year's events. There is a consensus that we provide a well balanced mix of ministry and social engagements. We are always looking to include more spiritual development when possible. A 20/30 Sunday school class is currently in progress on Sunday mornings. Another option is a small group study. This is being discussed and executed by Andy Fox. There are also Faith Forward events, once or twice a year.

The 20/30 Ministry now has a Coordinator (Genny Hagler) who is in charge of the planning and execution of the group's activities. This position and its role has not yet been discussed with the Youth and Young Adult Team. The Coordinator will assist with the execution and planning of the 20/30's Leadership Team and Andy Fox.

Youth

During 2013, the youth ministry at SCAPC continued its development and growth, both in numbers and in faith.

The highlights of the year include two new small groups for Senior High students; one group for females, and one group for males. This has proven to be a very positive avenue for spiritual formation and a deeper level of belonging felt by the students. During the summer months, the group participated in three successful trips; a beach retreat for Junior High students, a week-long urban mission trip to New York City for Senior High Students, and a week-long trip to the Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, NC for the Senior High Conference. 2013 gave us the rare chance to plan and execute two Youth Sundays, since we are moving Youth Sunday to a fall activity. Sunday School continues to be a small but committed group of students.

Over the last year, we have averaged over thirty students per week participating in Youth activities on Sundays. This is something that we can all celebrate! We have also been able to recruit seven new youth leaders in the past year.

Because of the great success of the youth ministry as well as continued success with the 2030 program, we have been able to expand our staffing needs to better serve the congregation in 2014.

Many thanks go to the faithful youth leaders that volunteer their time to helping make the youth ministry at SCAPC so wonderful.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee Ann Trichel and Kelley McWhirter, 2013 Co-Chairs

St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
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