

Prince of Peace Episcopal Church
Annual Report for the year
2007



To be instruments of God's peace.

420 Main Street ☩ Dallas ☩ Pennsylvania 18612
(570) 675-1723 ☩ www.princeofpeacedallaspa.org

The Right Reverend Paul V. Marshall, Th. D., Bishop
The Reverend James P. Stevenson, Priest-in-Charge
The Reverend John S. Prater, Rector Emeritus
The Reverend Mary Lou Divis, Deacon

*To be "sowers of peace," so imbued with
the Spirit of Jesus that we become
instruments of God's peace and sow that
peace through acts of love, forgiveness,
faith, hope, and joy.*

- PARISH MISSION STATEMENT



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CLERGY, WARDENS, & VESTRY

The Right Reverend Paul V. Marshall, Th. D., Bishop
The Reverend James P. Stevenson, Priest-in-Charge
The Reverend Mary Lou Divis, Deacon
Hugh Kelley, Senior Warden
Daniel Monk, Junior Warden
Carl Goeringer, Jr., Clerk of the Vestry

Dan Monk (2008)
Hugh Kelley (2008)
Sandy Sheehan (2008)

Linda Shrader (2009)
Chris Sutton (2009)
George Yatsko (2009)

Daniel Plashinski (2010)
Carl Goeringer (2010)
David Wright (2010)

STAFF AND LAY MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Staff

Parish Administrator:	Jennifer Martin
Outgoing Treasurer:	Bonnie Hiscox
Incoming Treasurer:	David Wright
Minister of Music / Choir Director:	Jacqueline Sheehan

Layministry

Acolyte Master:	Ed Dreisbach
Altar Guild:	Sandy Sheehan
Chalice Bearers:	Chris Sutton
Children's Advocate:	Chris Sutton
ECW President:	Edna Yatsko
Parish Nurse:	Patricia Wright
Lectors/Intercessors:	Chris Sutton
Newsletter Editor:	Jennifer Martin
Sunday School Coordinator:	Jennifer Martin
Ushers:	George Yatsko
Webminister:	Jennifer Martin

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

THE BURIAL OFFICE:

✠ *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord; And let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Leo Swanick

Helen Meeker

Minutes from Last Year's Annual Meeting held January 21, 2007

The meeting was called to order with prayer from Father Harer. A quorum was determined.

The minutes of 2006 were read, motion to accept the minutes by George Gwilliam, seconded by John Sheehan. Motion passed.

Jennifer Martin was appointed as Tellers of Elections.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention: Chris Sutton and Jackie Sheehan volunteered as delegates. David Wright and Liz Plashinski as Alternates. Motion by Gail Ide, seconded by George Yatsko, motion passed.

Voting Procedures were reviewed.

Nominating Committee (report by Mary Jillson-Stout) presents as candidates for Vestry George Gwilliam, Dan Plashinski, David Wright and Carl Goeringer.

No nominations from the floor. Motion by John Sheehan to close nominations, seconded by Dan Monk, nominations were closed.

Committee Reports:

Finance

- Dan Monk gave report which highlighted the increase in pledges in 2007 over 2006. John Sheehan made a motion to accept Treasurer's Report, seconded by Gail Ide, motion carried.
- Dave Schooley discussed the Stewardship results and complimented the membership on their response and generosity. Hugh Kelley also expressed his gratitude.

Outreach Commission

- Correction made to the amount of support given to our sponsored child in the Philippines; should be \$18 not \$8.
- Meals on Wheels (Edna Yatsko) Need volunteers.

Parish Life Commission

- Parish Luncheon is planned for May or June
- Ed Dreisbach complimented the Acolytes on their faithfulness.
- Edna Yatsko reported on the activity of the ECW
- Volunteers are always needed to serve as part of our Layministry (Lectors, Intercessors, Chalice Bearers, Lay Eucharistic Visitors)

Property Commission

- Properties are in good condition
- Encouraged by the number of volunteers for projects in 2006.
- Spring Clean-up is scheduled for April 21, rain date is April 28.

Father Harer thanked Liz Plashinski for serving as Flower Coordinator. Liz has retired from this position.

Senior Warden (Hugh Kelley) offered comments on 2006 and reflected on our mission statement and our responsibility to the church.

Rector's Report

- Goals of Vestry Retreat were discussed
- Recognized Jennifer Martin and Deacon Lou Divis for their contributions in 2006.
- Thanked Gail Ide, Ed Dreisbach, and Mary Jillson-Stout for their service on Vestry
- Hugh Kelley will remain as Senior Warden for 2007.
- Father stressed the requirement of Prince of Peace to grow through members and attendance for the next two years. His goal is to double membership and attendance by 2009.
- Discussion of "Growth"
 - Actively recruit and incorporate new members
 - Purchase or Produce DVD of our parish.
 - Involve children in worship.
 - Opportunities for Contemporary Worship (Sat evening services will begin the first Saturday in Lent).
 - Strong sense of purpose and mission, outreach to the community.
 - Other Factors of Growth: lack of conflict, good location, good website, small groups for study and prayer.

Election Results for New Vestry Members: Carl Goeringer, Dan Plashinski, and David Wright have been voted in for a three year term.

Motion by John Juris, seconded by Dan Monk to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned with prayer at 11:50 am.

Respectfully Submitted by Carl Goeringer, Jr.

Commission Reports

Vestry members are assigned to lead the various Commissions each year. The entire congregation is asked to participate in the Commissions as interest and needs arise. Please attend meetings and offer your time and talents.

EDUCATION COMMISSION

Submitted by Jennifer Martin, Sunday School Coordinator

Our children's Sunday School has moved from 9:00 am to 10:00 am, due to the service time change. Deacon Lou & Father Stevenson have begun offering Adult Education, on Sunday mornings, at 9:00 am.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School meets at 10:00 am every Sunday morning (except the 3rd Sunday of each month, for the Family Service) from Fall through Spring. We have two classes: Elementary, lead by Dave Dillon, Kim Jacobs, and Trish Wright in the undercroft and Jr./Sr. High, lead by Ed Dreisbach and Patti Harabin in the rear of the Parish Hall. We invite all youth to join us!

Following is a list of some of the activities the Sunday School sponsored and/or participated in during the last year.

Family Services (3rd Sunday of each Month)
Breakfast at Mark II
Family Night at Stations of the Cross
Palm Sunday Bake Sale
Easter Egg Hunt
Youth Sunday Celebration
Community Vacation Bible School

Observed the Annual Children's Sabbath
Halloween trip to the Pumpkin Patch
Pennies from Heaven
Advent Poster/Calendar Sale
Christmas Tree Trimming
Christmas Pageant

Thanks to all of the teachers and helpers, we had a great 2007!!

FINANCE COMMISSION

See Financial Reports.

OUTREACH COMMISSION

Submitted by Dan Plashinski, Coordinator

We started 2007 with the goal of accomplishing some kind of outreach each month and we almost made it.

- † **January:** In our annual contest for the “Souper Bowl Sunday”, we collected in excess of \$100.00 which was donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen.
- † **March** activity was a Ham and Cabbage Dinner that was somewhat of a success with Parishioners and a smattering of outside guests.
- † **February** – There was no activity.
- † In **April** a group volunteered to assist Trinity Presbyterian Church in Dallas to Support the Luzerne County VISION Program. Food was gathered and a meal was served one evening, with sandwiches prepared for the next day. April also had a fundraising Spaghetti Dinner in support of Cori’s Place.
- † **May and June** were inactive months.
- † **July** saw a group of volunteers who worked for the day at the St. Vincent Paul kitchen preparing and serving the Dinner meal.
- † **August** Prince of Peace members gathered a collection of school supplies for needy children. The supplies were delivered to the McCauley House in Plymouth.
- † **September** Our volunteers organized and handled our booth at the Dallas Harvest Festival; and, the yearly Giving Tree was initiated. The articles which were collected from the Giving Tree were delivered to the St Stephen’s Clothes Closet for disbursement.
- † **November** saw POP give a food gift card to the “Adopt a Family” program for Thanksgiving. The “Adopt a Family” Christmas program commenced with a listing of the number and sizes of the adopted family members and their “wish lists”. Members of the congregation chose items from the list and donated the articles.
- † **December:** A “Wrapping/Pizza Party” was held on December 21. A member of the Adopt a Family program received the Gifts.

Throughout the year we filled the Back Mountain Food Bank grocery cart with items that were delivered to the Food Bank.

Every effort was made to get publicity articles and photos to the Dallas Post, and Back Mountain Community News

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

Submitted by Linda Shrader, Coordinator

Some of the parish life activities enjoyed during the past year include:

- † **January:** New Years Champagne Brunch
- † **February/March:** Shrove (Fat) Tuesday Mardi Gras celebration at the Harer’s; Lent: Stations of the Cross followed by a soup dinner; Maundy Thursday: Agape Dinner
- † **May:** Theme Tea; Pentecost Celebration
- † **June:** Ice Cream Sundae Sunday
- † **September:** Parish Picnic at Francis Slocum
- † **October:** Blessing of the Animals
- † **November:** Veteran’s Brunch

‡ **December:** Blessing of the Crèche and Pot Luck Dinner; Gingerbread Houses; Champagne Brunch

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Parish Life Commission and we welcome new ideas for the parish community to enjoy.

Acolytes

The past year has been a time of a few small changes for our Acolytes. However, we are at this time rebuilding our numbers with the graduation of five of our boys. At present we are training some of our younger children ages eight to ten. They are becoming a truly great group of dedicated young people. Father Stevenson wants each Acolyte, no matter of what age, to understudy serving the altar if not yet so trained. Our training approach continues to be on a mentorship basis. Father Stevenson makes it clear to all Acolytes that he understands there will be a glitch now and then. This helps the confidence of the new boys and girls.

Our Acolytes are:

Dominic Wright	Jim Monk
Matthew Dillon	Christopher Dillon
* Jason Harabin	*Nicholas Harabin
* Michael Hiscox	*Harry Hiscox
*Brandon Hiscox	Megan Hiscox
Ryan Monk	*Robert Monk
Robert Graham	Elizabeth Dillon
Tara Gwilliam	Kelly Jacobs
Catherine Dillon	Lindsey Jacobs
Kaitlyn Palmer	

*Emeritus

Acolytes are asked to schedule themselves on those Sundays which are most convenient to their plans. This tends to keep the no-show rate down and allow friends to serve together.

We do not actively recruit Acolytes. Boys and girls who are age eight and older are eligible and should ask to begin training. We start off with basics. It has been found that training a small group of one or two works best. An Acolyte Class is never formed. However, by using a mentorship approach where an experienced Acolyte works closely with a trainee we have had good results. As always we stress working as a unit, unhurried and deliberate. The unhurried part is often difficult for new Acolytes.

ADULTS please note: There are many times when our youth are not available and it is desirable to have an Acolyte or so. These times are midweek services, funerals, etc. when youngsters are in school. There is no rule that says after age eighteen you cannot Acolyte. If interested please let me know. AS A NOTE of interest: during this time of "restructuring we now have had several adults do some Acolyting. They are Barbara Wentz, Chris Sutton, Dave Dillon, Patti Harabin, John Sheehan, and Carl Goeringer. (and we hope to add a few more.) We are most appreciative of their support.

As to a treasurer's report: there never is one. Our Acolytes claim they have no finances.

Per usual, working with these youngsters is interesting. It continues to be fun and on occasion, a bit

frustrating. As always, much goes on "behind-the-scenes" that is considerably different from the saintly appearances when they are "up-front"! But it is still great fun.
Ed Dreisbach. Coordinator (Jan 2008)

Altar Guild

We are so grateful for all that these behind-the-scenes folks do to enhance the beauty and solemnity of our worship services. The Altar Guild is responsible for maintaining the sacred vessels, linens, vestments, candles and all the necessary elements for worship. The faithful members work together in pairs throughout most of the year, coming together as an entire group to prepare for the Christmas and Easter services.

Over the past year or Altar Guild members have included: Sandy Sheehan, coordinator, Grace Goeringer, Carol Jones, Megan Palmer, Beverly Cushner, Mary Stout, Barbara Wentz and Liz Harer. I am happy to report all members except Liz Harer will remain on for the upcoming year, plus we have two new members Lisa Kasarda and Heather Hules. I personally, would like to thank all the members who worked so hard this past year with all the changes we had.

Please continue to provide fresh flower arrangements on the Altar each Sunday, except during Lent. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Add your flower dedications in the place provided. Please be sure to list all the necessary information for the Sunday bulletin. You may order flowers yourself or if you wish the church office can order them for you. If you want the church office to order them please let Jennifer know.

Serving on the Altar Guild is a wonderful ministry. It's an opportunity that is open to both women and men. If you would like to find out more about this fulfilling and satisfying ministry, please contact any member of the Altar Guild.

Sandy Sheehan
Altar Guild Coordinator

Layministry

A heartfelt thank you, to all who have contributed to the lay ministry at Prince of Peace. This is a very important calling within a parish. I invite all to continue their commitment as well as inviting all interested members to join us. Everyone has a gift to offer. Prayerfully consider if yours may be serving as a Lector, Intercessor, Eucharist Minister or Eucharist Visitor. As members of the POP family it's not really if we should be involved but rather we should ask "what may I do".

All those interested in continuing their ministry and all newcomers please speak to Father Stevenson or Chris Sutton. God Bless, Chris Sutton

PROPERTY COMMISSION

Submitted by Dan Monk, Junior Warden & Property Chair

The Church building is in good condition. Minor repairs have been made through the year. The only major item is the front entrance stoop which will need further repairs in the spring. We would like to schedule 2 cleanups of the grounds and 1 clutter reducing day. Please watch news letter and bulletin for dates and times.

Rectory is rented thru end of August. Tenants seem fine and the building is in good condition.

Stewardship Report

HOW OUR MEMBERS RESPONDED 2008 Campaign

Pledge Cards Returned (Existing Pledgers)	Number	% (of Total)	Pledge This Campaign	Pledge Last Campaign	Change	% Increase (Decrease)
1. Increased Offering	18	45.00%	\$ 31,849.92	\$ 25,887.00	\$ 5,962.92	18.72%
2. Decreased Offering	5	12.50%	\$ 10,600.00	\$ 12,534.00	\$(1,934.00)	-15.43%
3. Renewed Same Offering	12	30.00%	\$ 12,534.00	\$ 12,534.00	\$ -	0.00%
4. Subtotal (lines 1,2,3)	35		\$ 54,983.92	\$ 50,955.00	\$ 4,028.92	7.33%
Pledge Cards Returned (New Pledgers)	5	12.50%	\$ 5,332.00			
Total of Lines 4 & 5	40		\$ 60,315.92			

2008 Pledged Income (40 pledging units)	\$ 60,315.92	
2007 Pledged Income (46 pledging units)	\$ 67,025.00	
Difference	\$ (6,709.08)	-10.01%

Financial Statements

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures & Proposed Budget

For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

	Budget 2007	Actual 2007	Budget 2008
Revenues			
Pledges:			
. 2008	0	0	60,316
. 2007	65,685	55,687	0
. Other years	0	3,321	0
	<u>65,685</u>	<u>59,008</u>	<u>60,316</u>
Plate offerings	1,700	1,798	1,300
Church school offerings	100	96	100
Special offerings	1,000	2,260	1,000
Member contributions	5,000	10,447	5,000
Restricted offerings	2,000	155	1,000
Visitor contributions	250	75	150
Investment income	14,644	14,773	12,000
Other operational income:			
Fundraising (net income)	5,000	3,012	2,500
Memorials for operations	0	0	0
Organization pledges	2,000	1,000	0
Rental (net income)	<u>720</u>	<u>3,381</u>	<u>11,500</u>
	7,720	7,393	14,000
Grant from Diocese	8,000	7,333	0
Transfer from Savings	41,685	20,000	0
Other Income	0	2,249	0
Total revenues	<u>147,784</u>	<u>125,588</u>	<u>94,866</u>
Expenditures			
Diocesan assessment	12,252	12,252	17,844
Diocesan acceptance	0	0	
Rector	76,333	44,218	21,400
Deacon	0	1,201	800
Evangelism/outreach	316	304	1,000
Worship	975	986	875
Music	325	27	1,200
Education	1,097	909	700
Ministries	2,000	41	0
Parish life	1,145	923	1,475
Stewardship	750	868	1,000
Administration	6,300	5,726	8,800
Employees	19,254	18,651	18,970
Church property	15,670	15,664	14,869
Rectory property	5,906	5,231	2,170
Taxes	90	95	100
Insurance	3,500	2,647	3,000
Unrestricted Funds Disbursements	41,685	20,000	0
Audit			1,000
Rector search	0	13	0
Other Expenses	0	1,435	0
Total expenditures	<u>187,598</u>	<u>131,191</u>	<u>95,203</u>
Surplus(Deficit)	<u>-39,814</u>	<u>-5,602</u>	<u>-337</u>

Does not include: Up to date ECW Activity; Diocesan Investment Trust Market Value Adjustments for year end.

