

THE CHURCH AT HORSESHOE BAY

The Year 2011

The following Board of Trustees members were elected by the congregation at the annual meeting on January 16, 2011: Beverly Brascom, Larry Canter, Jerry Gray, Jeff Robinson, Carolyn Thornton, and P.T. Williams.

Following are the 2011 Board Officers and Department Heads:

Jerry Gray – Chairman of Board, Building Planning Comm. Chair

Scott Matthews – Vice-Chairman of Board, Worship and Music Dept. Chair,
Nominating Comm. Chair, Men of Faith Comm. Chair

A.W. Bishop – Treasurer, Business Management Dept. Chair

Ken Lindgren – Asst. Treasurer, Grounds Dept. Chairman, Remembrance Garden
Comm. Chair, Investments & Endowment Comm. Chair

Peggy Jordan – Corporate Secretary, Congregational Support Dept. Chair, Grief Support
Ministry Comm. Chair, Caregiver Comm. Chair

Dale Amstutz – Stewardship Planning Team Comm. Chair

Larry Anderson – Personnel Dept. Chair

Beverly Brascom – Librarian, Books and Scones Chair

Larry Canter – Education Dept. Chair

Jeff Robinson – Strategic Planning Comm. Chair

Charlie Sugg – Benevolence Dept. Chair

Carolyn Thornton – Public Relations Dept. Chair

Jo Ann Warren – Congregational Fellowship Dept. Chair

P.T. Williams – Building Dept. Chair

Sandra Williams – Membership Comm. Chair

The activities of the various departments and committees of the Church for the year 2011 are described below.

BENEVOLENCE DEPARTMENT

In 2011, the committee supported 37 agencies which help feed, house and educate needy souls, and share Christ's love from Marble Falls to Mongolia. In addition to \$304,421 allocated from the Operating Fund, the Church also donated \$6,820 from the Christmas Eve offering, \$2,402 from Easter and Christmas flowers, and \$47,666 from designated individual gifts. Because of devastating fires in Bastrop and Spicewood, the committee gave \$5,000 to the Salvation Army for disaster relief, plus \$2,500 each to Spicewood and Bastrop for fire relief. Through generous donations by the congregation, the committee was able to give an additional \$4,228 each to Spicewood and Bastrop. The fourth annual Benevolence Bazaar was held on December 4, with the agencies the Church sponsors providing Church members the opportunity to learn more about their organizations.

Christmas for Others

As in the past, the committee delivered Christmas gifts from Church members to the less fortunate children in our area (310 children in 125 families). A Bible was included for each family. Our project is part of a larger community-wide event called *Christmas Is for Kids*, whereby churches, civic organizations, businesses and individuals donate new, wrapped toys and clothes for needy children.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The volunteer crew consisting of church members set up and took down chairs and tables for our Fellowship Hall and special Sanctuary events, making those events happen with ease. All ceramic lights in the porte cochere and Sanctuary have been rewired and re-hung; a new Christmas tree was donated; and the Choir room air conditioning unit was reworked.

Building Planning Committee

No expansion or remodeling projects were undertaken in 2011. In the Fellowship Hall, the audio-visual system and the ceiling speakers were replaced, and all microphones and wireless transmission devices were upgraded.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Finances

Total receipts for 2011 from contributions and other income amounted to \$1,084,234. Expenditures for benevolence, salaries and benefits, building and grounds, and other items totaled \$981,375. \$50,000 was transferred to the Building Fund.

Endowment Planning Committee

Gifts to the Endowment Fund are to be accumulated by the Church until \$500,000 has been received, at which point on an annual basis 6% of the market value may be used for “religious or charitable purposes.” At the end of 2011, the Fund balance was \$95,495, a decrease from 2010 due to a 2% reduction in value of the Vanguard Life Strategy Growth Fund, about the same as the total stock market. There was also a decrease in life insurance policy value, and one policy expired. The Vanguard fund is a long-range investment and is still considered an appropriate investment.

Stewardship Committee

This committee plans to review the Endowment brochure, in preparation of revising it in early 2012. Plans are to promote the Endowment Fund through the bulletin and website.

Strategic Planning Committee

The committee is addressing four issues important in the life of the Church: 1) the Church’s goal of attaining a dollar for dollar giving level in our benevolence program; 2) the wide diversity in giving levels among the church members and the need to communicate the church’s financial needs and differing opportunities for giving; 3) the recruitment and retention of vocal choir members as well as the Handbell choir; and 4) the use of social media, specifically Facebook, and the need for the expertise required to begin a limited program.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP DEPARTMENT

Members of our church are served through **Coffee Fellowship, Historian, Membership, Men of Faith, Singles of the Hills, Special Events, and Women of the Word (WOW).**

The **Coffee Fellowship** volunteers serve coffee, punch and cookies at both services.

The **Historian** maintains a photographic record of the Church's activities and a written historical narrative about the Church.

The **Membership Committee** has determined that the current membership stands at 789 active members, representing 469 family units. In 2012, the Membership Committee will take over responsibility for the Spring and Fall New Members Receptions from the Special Events Committee. The next update to the Pictorial Directory will be in 2014.

The **Men of Faith** group holds men's fellowship breakfast events, which are open to all men. At the April 2011 breakfast, the speaker was Coach Dave Bliss, former basketball coach at Baylor University and creator of Game Plan Ministries, a non-profit organization to offer encouragement and support to all people. At the October 2011 breakfast, the guest speaker was Greg James, Director of Strategic Partners for "Halftime", an organization which provides guidance and insight for men and women on the halftime journey from success to significance. Many attendees are from other churches in the Hill Country area.

Singles of the Hills provides a Christian environment for all singles of the Church and community to come together for support, fellowship, and friendship through monthly dinners/programs open to all singles residing in the Highland Lakes area.

The **Special Events Committee** is responsible for the Church's social events. Annual activities include a Chili Supper, Ice Cream Social, Picnic and Thanksgiving celebration. The first annual Chili Supper was held on February 23 with chili made by Church members, and the Ice Cream Social was held on May 18 in the Courtyard, with Church members making the ice cream and finger desserts. The Church Picnic was held on October 19, with Garry Kesler as "Mitch Miller" and the "Mitch Miller Band" featuring Ken and Helen Carpenter. Thanksgiving was celebrated

with special refreshments after both Sunday services. This fun committee welcomes everyone who is interested in helping with these events.

The **WOW Committee** hosts a catered Spring Luncheon open to all Horseshoe Bay area ladies and a Fall Coffee exclusively for Church ladies to promote closer relationships. A 2-day Ladies Retreat is held each November at Camp Buckner, providing an opportunity for in-depth Bible study and fellowship while encouraging area churches' participation if space is available. The committee also decorates the Church for Advent, prepares and serves a Christmas luncheon for the Church staff and their spouses, and sponsors community mission projects such as the Diaper Drive and items needed for the Children's Advocacy Center program. In 2011, WOW was a participant in planning and implementing two area-wide Bible Study Simulcasts.

CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

Seven committees assist members of the congregation during times of special needs.

Caring Cards are sent to members whose lives are touched by illness or death.

The **Congregational Care Committee** has volunteers who respond to families experiencing illness or death of a loved one by assisting with a meal or by arranging a memorial service reception.

Freezer Friends have organized and implemented a system of freezer meals which are available to families in need of a nutritious meal delivered to their home.

The Driving Force, a joint effort between Men of Faith and Congregational Support, provides transportation to congregational members on a temporary basis for medical appointments. In 2011, volunteer drivers provided over 50 rides.

A **Grief Support Group**, led by Licensed Professional Counselors, is available for those who are grieving the loss of a family member or friend. The annual Remembrance Service, a beautiful candlelight ceremony, was held on December 18.

The purpose of the **Caregiver Support Committee** is to provide support to caregivers through educational programs and group discussions. The committee hosted a seminar on Heart/Coronary Disease on April 12, with an emphasis on what caregivers can expect as they care for their patients.

The **Prayer Ministry** is available for those in need of special and individual prayers. The prayer team meets weekly to respond to prayer requests. The new addition to the church campus includes a Prayer Room, a quiet, private room created for people to use whenever they would like to pray privately, with family members, or with the Prayer Ministry team.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The three Sunday morning classes are based on a study plus service plus fellowship model.

The **Bible Study Class** meets in Classroom 4 for an in-depth study of selected books of the Bible. The class has several social gatherings each year and participates in service-related mission projects.

The **Women's Bible Study** meets in Classroom 1, and study materials include relevant Christian books and DVD courses based on the Bible. The class is interactive and participative and individual study assignments are given. The class continues to sponsor a young female child in Rwanda and sends monthly support to Compassion International.

The **Seekers Class**, which meets in Classroom 2, studies topics relevant to Christian scholarship and life applications in today's world. The service project involves assisting St. Frederick Baptist Church in Marble Falls with its "Meals-on-Wheels" program.

Coffee & Conversation with the Pastors meets on Mondays at 11:00 a.m., when the pastors are available for an in-depth discussion of the previous Sunday's service.

Pastors' Forum, a lively discussion group led by the pastors and meeting on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Library, allows participants an opportunity to take part in an open forum on a variety of topics.

The **Church Library** is open daily from 8:30a.m.-4:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings until noon.

Books and Scones, a book club for women, meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. to discuss a book selected by the participants.

The **Church Nursery** is staffed every Sunday morning from 8:30 to 12:00 noon.

GROUNDS DEPARTMENT

In 2011, restoration of the pond in the Remembrance Garden was completed. Traditionally, in February each year the names of members who passed away the previous year are engraved on memorial stones in the Remembrance Garden. 24 names were added in 2011. The outdoor lighting system is in the process of being upgraded and repaired, and plants and hedges damaged or destroyed due to the hot, dry weather will be replaced in 2012.

MISSION TRIPS

Rio Bravo, Mexico Mission

The Rio Bravo Mission trips in 2011 were February 12-19 and February 19-26. The two teams completed four casitas, facilitated crafts and songs for 50+ children and parents, helped treat about 250 patients in four days in the medical center, and participated in many other ways to "Make a Christian Difference in God's Backyard".

Camp Peniel Christian Camp Work Week

The Church's work week at Camp Peniel in Marble Falls was March 21-25. The mission group consisted of 46 volunteers who worked on a wide range of projects, including painting, general cleanup, light carpentry, etc. (to prepare for summer camp).

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

The staff continues to function effectively, both individually and as a team. Performance reviews were conducted for all staff members, and goals were set for 2012. Organist/pianist Daniel Zamora, an independent contractor, signed a contract extension through the end of 2012. Church Secretary Martha Logan celebrated ten years' employment with the Church on March 15, 2011.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

A pictorial history of church activities in 2011 was made, and the DVD is on file in the Church Library. Also, the Church at Horseshoe Bay can now be found on Facebook, administered by Carolyn Thornton and Fred Klingensmith.

WORSHIP DEPARTMENT

The committees responsible for communion, altar flowers, sanctuary services, and ushers and greeters all performed admirably. The **Music Ministry** had another good year. Several men filled a need in the men's section of the Chancel Choir. Choir activities other than regular Sunday services included monthly ministries to the Gateway assisted-living facility, fall and winter mini-retreats, an Advent season full of music including Handel's *Messiah*, and a choir Holiday party to be held in January 2012. The Handbells played regularly for both Sunday worship services. Outside artists included the Highland Lakes Brass, David Langford, and other guest musicians. The Concert Series had a successful season, with harpist Greg Buchanan performing in February and organist/pianist Dr. Daniel Zamora in June, among others. Daniel produced two CD's, *Reflections* and another with a Christmas theme; both were available for \$20 each.

As usual, there were three services on Easter Sunday, April 6, at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Rather than a traditional service, attendees were treated to a dramatic presentation from *The Philippians*, in which the Apostle Paul writes to his friends. With "The Flowering of the Cross" in the Church courtyard, the Church instituted a striking and beautiful way to symbolize the new life that emerges from the death of Jesus. Traditionally, during Holy Week the cross is draped with purple and on Good Friday the cross is draped in black. Then before the Easter Sunday

service, the black drape is removed and the cross is covered with real flowers and the top draped in white. Church members were asked to participate in placing live flowers on the Living Cross.

The Advent season offered many wonderful opportunities for worship, fellowship, and encouragement. As in previous years, poinsettias were offered for purchase in memory of or in honor of loved ones or friends. The season was begun on November 27 with our traditional "Hanging of the Greens" service. Each Sunday in Advent was filled with Christmas carols and other music of the season along with special participation by members of the congregation lighting the Advent candles. As has been the tradition, two Christmas Eve services were held, one at 5:00 p.m. for families with children (and John Arthur Martinez) and a traditional candlelight service with Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.

PASTOR PETE CHRISTY

Our Senior Pastor, Rev. Pete Christy, served as the Grand Marshal of the 2011 Horseshoe Bay July 4th Land Parade. The day's celebration honored America's military men and women.

Rev. Christy was also invited to attend in July the promotion ceremony of the newly selected Army Chief of Chaplains and Deputy Chief of Chaplains in Washington, D.C.

THE CHURCH AT HORSESHOE BAY WEBSITE

www.church-hsb.org