

**The Annual Parish Meeting
of the
Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene**

in the City & Diocese of Rochester, NY



**Blow the Trumpet!
We're Moving Ahead!**

Sunday - January 27, 2008

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VOTING LIST

The following individuals are entitled to vote at the 2008 Annual Meeting in accordance with the canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Rochester, and the by-laws of the Parish, as certified by the Rector.

Jesse Allen	Carol Dundas	Sylvia Lee	Jocey Preston
Jean Alligood-	Faye Dundas	Audrey Lewis-	Nancy Ramsey
Dorsey	Elsie Egling	Cummings	Geneva Robinson
David Anderson	Carol Evans	Beverly Linzey	Hazel Rowley
Ruth Anderson	Madeline Gamble	Carolyn Lumbard	Terry Santiago
Dorothy Baker	Esther Gates	Mary Maida	Garret Saunders
Paul Birkby	Janet Gates	Beverly Malone	Lori Saunders
Gregory Bouie	Lynn George	Gertrude Manns	Jeaninne Scott-
John Bradley	Vincent Gordon	Olive Mantell	Lamb
Marion Brant	Herman Gourdine	Lillian Marcus	Elizabeth Seidel
Mary Ann Brody	Jennifer Gourdine	Irene Marrero	Robert Seidel
Amanda Brown	Thomas Gourdine	Betty McClenney	Sally Shannon
Leslie Brown	Tiffanie Gourdine	Kelley	Savaria Simms
Charlotte Bruce	Yvette Green	McClenney	Stacey Simms
John Bruce	John Harmon	Burnetta	Charles Smith
Joyce Burleson	Judith Henry	McCullough	Christopher Smith
Antoinette Burr	Louis Hillery	Evrill Miller	Sharon Smith
John Burr	Jacquelyn	Sharon Montoya	Violet Smith
Judith Byman	Hopkins	Amber Moore	Edith Strader
Sharon Cardoza	Michael Hopkins	Ashley Moore	Erica Strong
Jeffrey Carter	Lawrence Johnson	Carol Moore	Mollie Thornton
Renée Carter	Renee Johnson	Dawn Moore	Arlene Titus
Patricia Cheney	Hazel Jones	Paul Moore	Latitia Tobler
Cecille Chester	Veronica Jones-	Robert Moore	Francine
Chris Cleveland	Anderson	Lorraine Morgan	Velazquez
Jeremy Cleveland	Aaron Kane	Mavis Mowatt	Bette Wallace
R. Bruce Colburn	Armond Kane	Marge Nead	Janet Wallace
Rebecca Comegys	Jessica Kane	Renee Nelson	Susan Wallace
Francine Conwell	Mary Kane	Sharon Nelson	Merle Anne
James Costich	Sylvia Kannapel	Ebo Ocran	Welsh
Rochelle Coley	Walter Kannapel	Martina Ocran	Marilyn Wienk
Jack Cummings	Chris Kendrick	Deborah Oller	Carter Williams
Allan Cuseo	Darryl Kendrick	Steven Oller	T. Frank Williams
Donna Davis	Jean Kenney	LeRoy Peasley	James Young
Michael Davis	Pamela Keyes	Peter Peters	
		Jean Phillips	[131]

Agenda
Annual Meeting of the Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
Rochester, New York
January 27, 2008

10 am

Call to Order & Reading of the Mission Statement	The Rector
Appointment of Secretary & Tellers	The Rector
Nominations	Mr. R. Bruce Colburn, Warden & Chair, Nominating Committee
Opening of the Ballot Box	The Rector
The Holy Eucharist	The People of God
Including the 2008 Charge to the Parish from the Rector & the Necrology	

Move to the Parish Hall

Approval of 2007 Minutes	The Rector
2007 Finance & Investment Reports	Ms. Arlene Titus, Treasurer Mr. Stephen Oller, Convenor, Finance & Investment Committee
2008 Budget	The Rector

11:30 am

Closing of the Ballot Box (at the time certain)	The Rector
Vision Updates	The Rector
Capital Campaign Updates	Campaign Co-chairs
Recognition of Volunteers	
Announcement of To-date Gifts & Pledges	
Announcement of Annual Pledges	
Comments on Next Steps	
Adjourn to Capital Campaign Party	The Rector

Mission Statement of the Parish

Adopted by the Vestry 2007

Together, as People of God, in companionship with Jesus,
and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called to be...
A Welcome Table for All...A Healing Place for Souls...
A School for Justice

Vision Statement of the Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene

Adopted at the 2006 Annual Meeting

As members of the Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene we celebrate our history, especially the coming together of two parishes to form one in 1988. We fervently believe that it is now time, eighteen years later, for us to declare the period of merger to be at an end. We are one parish now, and we are ready to grow, building on the strengths God has given us and embracing God's call to us to proclaim the Gospel and thrive in this place.

Three biblical images guide us into our future...

The gift of the transformative power of **the Resurrection** in our lives.

The call of God to build a community of faith **from every tribe and language and people and nation.**

The vision of **the Holy City** where justice and peace reign among all people.

And so, given these things, particularly the gift, the call, and the vision of God, we cast this vision for our parish...

1. We envision our parish as a healing place for souls that continues to draw members from throughout the Rochester metropolitan region *with* a clear sense of mission in the heart of the city.
2. We envision that, as a congregation, we will reach out unconditionally to all and be a caring and nurturing church community, growing our parish in numbers and in spiritual depth, including doubling *weekly* attendance by the year 2015.
3. We envision a comprehensive, challenging and flexible on-going program of formation that includes learners *of all ages* at the various stages of their faith journeys.
4. We envision a place where gifts will be discerned among us on an on-going basis and offered in a spectrum of ministries both of our own and of the community.
5. We envision our parish as a center for urban mission and ministry for the Diocese of Rochester, with special concern for families, parents and children in the city and as advocates for change in our political and economic policies and systems.
6. We envision our parish as an ecumenical and interfaith place of public prayer for our city, a true "house of prayer for all people" (Isaiah 56:7).

The Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
Annual Parish Meeting
January 28, 2007
Minutes

The Rector, the Rev. Michael W. Hopkins, called the meeting to order at 10 am. Ms. Sharon Nelson was appointed secretary of the meeting.

Warden Madeline Gamble gave the report of the Nominating Committee:

Warden (2 year term): R. Bruce Colburn.

Vestry member (3 year terms): Dawn Moore, Geneva Robinson, Lillian Marcus, Walt Kannapel.

Diocesan Convention Delegate (3 year term): Merle Anne Welsh.

Alternate Delegates (1 year term): Allan O'Grady Cuseo, Sharon Nelson, John Clinton Bradley.

There were no further nominations from the floor. Armond Kane moved that the nomination be closed. Bruce Colburn 2nd. Passed. Steve Oller moved that the secretary cast a single ballot for the slate. Lynn George 2nd. Passed. The slate was elected.

The Meeting continued with the Holy Eucharist, during which the rector outlined his seven priorities for 2007.

After the closing of the Eucharist, Allan Cuseo moved to except the minutes from the 2006 meeting as printed. Lorraine Morgan 2nd. Passed.

Finance Report: Arlene Titus, Treasurer, reported on expenses and income for 2006. The rector presented the 2008 budget, and a draft ten-year plan for reduction of the use of endowment for operating expenses.

The rector commended the reports in the Annual Report and thanked all for getting their information in on time.

The congregation then was presented with the beginnings of a plan for cooperative ministry on the West Side of the city of Rochester, particularly with St. Stephen's Church. The Bishop, Canon Steve Lane, the Rev. Michael Hopkins, the Rev. Mary Ann Brody, and Chris Cleveland have been involved in these conversations, and the entire Vestry agreed to continue the conversation after a presentation and discussion on January 13. The power point summary is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Small group conversations followed about both the opportunities and challenges of this proposal. The notes from the small groups are also attached to the file copy of these minutes. The rector and assistant rector will meet with St. Stephen's Vestry a week from Monday. St. Stephen's Annual Meeting is February 11. If all still desire to proceed, both Vestries will meet together soon after that.

Steve Oller moved, Allan Cuseo 2nd, to close this meeting. Passed. Adjournment with blessing from the rector at 12: 15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Nelson, Meeting Secretary

The Rector's Report 2007

The Rev. Michael W. Hopkins

To say that this has been an interesting year is an understatement. We have gone “from grace to grace,” with God as our constant companion.

At last year's Annual Meeting I outlined seven goals for the parish for 2007. It was an ambitious project: establishment of the HipHop E*Mass, moving forward with non-violence education with Right On School, discernment regarding a Covenant with St. Stephen's, significant anti-racism dialogue, an Accessibility Project, attention to issues of inclusion and building relationships, and development of a gifts discernment workshop and other leadership training.

I am happy to report that a great deal of progress has been made on each of these objectives:

- The HipHop E*Mass was launched and is continuing, now based at St. Stephen's with major support from our parishioners.
- Non-violence work did occur during the Right On School, including a great day with rapper D.O. from Toronto.
- The Covenant with St. Stephen's was worked out and signed and is in operation.
- Fifty members of the parish participated in an anti-racism dialogue over the summer and we sponsored a resolution that passed at Diocesan Convention in the Fall mandating the Bishop and Diocesan Council to come up with a plan to bring the Diocese into compliance with General Convention resolutions regarding anti-racism training.
- The Accessibility Project became our Capital Campaign which is still in process. Phase One of the construction work will begin soon.
- More social occasions are being offered in the parish and the Welcome & Inclusion Team continues to work on issues of inclusion.
- Two gifts discernment workshops have been held and a small amount of leadership training done with Vestry members—the latter is one area that needs much continuing work.

This Fall things took a different and unexpected turn with my illness and the necessity of my being on full and then partial disability, which continues as I write this report. I have given thanks in several other forums for the amazing work that was done in my absence (including the kick-off of the Capital Campaign) and the tremendous support I felt not only from the leadership but from all of you. Despite being a difficult time it has been a time of grace, abounding amazing grace for which I am grateful to God.

Continuing challenges remain ahead of us. Our financial situation remains not where any of us would want it, with significant amounts of money coming from our lowly shrinking endowment. The Vestry and I are painfully aware of this situation, but remain committed to “risk mode” rather than “survival mode.” Let us continue to pray that our risk will pay off in the long run.

I do not have seven new agenda items for 2008! Work continues in each one of the areas I outlined last year and that will keep us busy enough. The Covenant relationship, for one, is really just beginning to bear fruit.

If I have any “new” agenda items they are calling us to three things: First, an ever deepening spirituality both an individuals and as a parish. Our activism must be sustained not only with our vibrant Sunday morning worship, but by spiritual discernment and strength as we need ever more opportunities for grace as we continue to take risks and move forward. Second, there is the task in the wake of my illness to develop healthier ways of sharing ministry, being clear about the role of clergy and the role of laity, and calling all of us to a greater commitment to well-being, again both as individuals and as a parish family. Third, there is the need for each one of us to take responsibility for our growth in numbers. Both all available data and anecdotal evidence is that churches grow when their members ask others to “come and see.”

It continues to be a privilege to be your rector and your priest. May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.



2007 Two Saints Statistics

	2006	2007
Communicants in good standing	173	164
Communicants under 16 years old	26	26
Average Attendance	114	119

*Stewardship numbers are unavailable in total at this time due to the late start of our Capital Campaign.

VISION REPORT

A detailed report with full language is available in the back of the Church or by calling the parish office.

Vision	2007 Step	Progress	2008 Step
<i>...a healing place for souls...a clear sense of mission in the heart of the city</i>	Open Building Communicating who we are	<i>Begun 10/1/06</i> <i>Continued Newspaper & TV coverage</i>	Further Develop to attract visitors Increase individual invitations
<i>...a caring and nurturing community, growing...</i>	New ways to continue building relationships	<i>Continued Social Events</i> <i>Anti-racism Dialogue</i>	Welcome & Inclusion Team learns about & communicates “radical welcome”
<i>...ongoing program of formation...</i>	Adult Formation as part of Covenant with St. Stephen’s Sunday School continues with more adult involvement	<i>Accomplished goals</i>	Develop mission opportunity for Diocesan Youth in conjunction with HipHop Worship Explore “cell groups”
<i>...gifts discerned...and offered</i>	Gifts Discernment Workshop Database of ministries	<i>Two held.</i> <i>Still under development</i>	Continue and expand participation Finish & utilize
<i>...a center for urban mission...</i>	Participate in diocesan summit. Begin work with St. Stephen’s. Interfaith Action Anti-violence (Right On School) Prison Ministry team established working with St. Thomas’.	<i>“Summit” remains city clergy group; we participate.</i> <i>Continued involvement.</i> <i>Program held.</i> <i>Grant secured for Girl Scouts Behind Bars.</i>	Work with new bishop on urban ministry plan. Explore community group with St. Stephen’s Continue a second year. Assist in implementation of program.

<i>...a house of prayer for all people...</i>	Hip Hop Mass Host events	<i>Grant & Date secured</i> <i>9-11 Interfaith Service; Ford Memorial</i>	Hold, including ability to sustain. Annual Service for Government Employees
<i>Infrastructure Issues</i>	Staff Building Endowment Use	<i>New Music Director; All staff at midpoint of diocesan salary guidelines.</i> <i>Capital Campaign held & First Phase of construction ready to go.</i> <i>10 year plan adopted</i>	Finish first phase and second phase. Assess where we are. Hold Planned Giving Workshop.

Assistant Rector's Report for 2007

The Rev. Mary Ann Brody

Wow, what a year. That's about all I can say. Wow.

It's hard to put into words all that has happened over this past year ... conversations about the ministry cooperative ... celebrating my first anniversary as a priest ... moving into the covenant reality in July ... beginning full-time parish employment ... rushing into the program year with one foot in each parish ... Michael's illness beginning to affect us in October and his absence in November and December ... a capital campaign. Wow. What a year.

Despite all the ups and downs, I am still excited about the cooperative venture that we've embarked on together. Working through this transition has taken much of my time and energy, and there have been times when I felt like I was working very hard just to stay in the same place! St. Stephen's has demanded more of my time than I first anticipated, especially since I have been appointed priest-in-charge. There is much to be done there, but also many good people to help make things happen.

The children and youth formation programs at St. Luke & St. Simon's have continued this year with the help and support of the many lay leaders involved in them. With the exception of some of the youth experiences that we were just beginning to explore last year, things seem to be holding their own despite my absence on many Sunday mornings. Sunday school, the nursery and children's time during the sermon on All Church Sunday's happen as planned most of the time. I was especially pleased to see some of our parents agree to help with children's time on several Sundays during the year. There are still some kinks in the system, but I feel we have made a strong start.

Without parental support, and a core of adult chaperones, it is difficult to move beyond where we are with regard to our youth program. There are many things in this world vying for the attention of our young people, parental support and encouragement are vital to promoting the spiritual growth of our youth. Several of them are approaching the age of confirmation and will be discerning their commitment to a Christian life in the coming year. This could be an exciting time for them, but they will need our support.

Portions of our adult formation program have expanded to include members from St. Stephen's. I was particularly pleased to see four EfM students from there enroll in the fall! Mentoring that mixed group has been a real joy for me. This willingness to "mix" is something that I hope will grow as our relationship with and commitment to one another deepens. I have been toying with the idea of putting together a formation steering team to generate ideas for shared formation opportunities in the next program year. That might aid in planning and coordinating programs appropriate for both parishes. We have much to learn from each other.

Though I have been somewhat more removed from St. Luke & St. Simon's on Sunday mornings I have continued to maintain contact through the vestry, programs & events, weekday services and through the many people who volunteer their time. I am greatly indebted to our wardens, Madeline Gamble and Bruce Colburn, for their willingness to step up to the plate in November and December while Michael was on medical leave. I am also grateful to the capital campaign

leadership who dug in to do most of the grunt work for the capital campaign during that time. The Rev. Peter Peters has become a trusted mentor. December was much easier because of his presence. And Michael, I hope you know that it wasn't so much what you did that I missed in those months (though I can't say that I ever want to work that much again), as it was your presence. I have never wanted to minister alone, especially in a parish. It was the absence of shared ministry and vision that created a gap that was hard for anyone else to fill. I am so very thankful that you are back.

Those months were important months for the congregation as well because I believe it showed what a very capable congregation we are. Our success with the capital campaign also dispelled many doubts about whether we were actually able to raise the money we needed to create the church that we wanted to be. Those doubts can now be laid aside as we move forward in hope. There is much to be thankful for here.

I cannot deny that this new arrangement has not stretched me. I am learning much ... more quickly than I might prefer. It is my hope that as time passes those things that are taking so much time because they are new and unfamiliar will become integrated into my new role. I'd like to say seamlessly, but only time will tell! I often tell Nancy that I feel very much like a student teacher again ... asking a lot of questions, feeling my way through a lot of things and praying often. I pray that I may continue to serve you all well.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC'S REPORT

Malcolm J. Merriweather

After about six months as Music Director I am pleased submit this report for the annual meeting. The Two Saints choir continues to rehearse Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. and lead the music for the 10 a.m. Eucharist. The choristers of Two Saints rehearse following the 10 a.m. service.

It is my goal to get as many people singing as possible. It would be wonderful to get more young people involved in music at Two Saints. To be successful we need a consistent group of young people from week to week. Bring your children to the piano after church—we have fun! The Two Saints Choir has been busy focusing on good vocal technique, retention, and music literacy using our core repertoire as a comprehensive tool. I am happy to report that the choir is doing an admirable job exploring their voices and strengthening their musicality. As with many volunteer choirs, attendance and punctuality continues to hinder the full potential of the choir. While the situation is improving I am looking forward to more progress.

The covenant with St. Stephen's has already fostered two very successful collaborations of the choirs. I look forward to many more services where the choirs can lift their voices in song.

I would also like to explore the option of starting a choral scholar program at Two Saints. Starting with a least two scholars would increase the flexibility of the choir, permit the choir to do more repertoire and enhance singing during liturgy. As a product of a choral scholar program, I think this would be a wonderful outreach program for our church to embark on.

The past few months have also been a time of considerable musical growth for me as well. I am learning so much! Also, many thanks to the choir, staff, and parishioners who have been so helpful over the past few months.

Respectfully,
Malcolm J. Merriweather

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

Lorraine Morgan

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Altar Guild is to prepare the Altar, Sanctuary and Chapel for all the church services—Sunday and weekday worship, weddings, funerals and other special occasions—in consultation with the Rector.

MEMBERSHIP:

Yvette Green	Burnetta McCullough	Arlene Titus
Olive Mantell	Sharon Montoya	Bette Wallace
Beverly Linzy	Dawn Moore	
Betty McClenney	Lorraine Morgan	

“Thank you” all for your time and keen eyes that kept the services running smoothly all year. Special honors go to Bette Wallace who has chosen to be a substitute after 20+ years of service. And to Arlene Titus, our fearless leader, many thanks and “Well done faithful servant.” We still have plenty linen to wash and iron.

Our goal for 2008 is to recruit and train at least 3 new members with the focus on flexibility and consistency, which has made us a team.

Each of you has earned your title as “Altar Quality Control Expert”, with extra veil touching privileges.

To find out how you can join us, please ask any one us.

Faithfully Yours,
Lorraine Morgan – Interim Fearless leader

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EfM)

John Clinton Bradley

Our parish Education for Ministry (EfM) class continued this year with a total of 11 participants. Five participants completed New Testament studies in the spring and started Church History studies in the autumn. Six new participants (four of whom are St. Stephen's parishioners) began Old Testament studies in the autumn. The Church History group meets on Saturday mornings

with John Bradley mentoring. The Old Testament group meets on Sunday evenings with Mary Ann Brody mentoring.

FORMATION MINISTRIES REPORT

Adult Formation Report for 2007

Submitted by Mary Ann Brody

The goal this year was to maintain the integrity of our programs while increasing lay leadership as we entered into this first year of our cooperative ministry agreement with St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The hope was to offer adult formational opportunities that would serve both parishes.

Adults

Adult Forums are held from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm following the 10 am service approximately three Sundays a month.

Public Policy Forums were added after the creation of a Public Policy Committee early in the year. A list of forums presented in 2007 is included in the Public Policy report.

Thanks to Marilyn Weink who organizes all the PP Forum's for the year!

Mission Forums inform us about ministries in which our parish participates. In 2007 we heard:

- A Bishop's Forum on the occasion of Bp. Jack McKelvey's annual parish visit in January
- Forum on Cooperative Ministry (led by Bruce Colburn & Madeline Gamble)
- Interfaith Action (by Roxie Sinclair & Jack Cummings)
- Girl Scouts Beyond Bars (led by Bob Seidel & Rochelle Coley)

Rector's Forums provide an opportunity for our rector to address issues and topics that he feels are pertinent to our life as a worshipping community. Forums presented this fall were:

- An Urban Caucus in Lent
- The Anglican Communion in September
- A Pre-Convention Discussion in October

Weekly Bible Study

A lectionary-based Bible study was offered on most Sunday mornings during the program year, between the early and late services, in the chapel. We used the *Bible Workbench* curriculum which focuses on one Bible reading from the Sunday lectionary each week. Attendance varies between 2 and 6 persons each week. Thanks go to the Rev. John Burr, Allan Cuseo, & Pam Keyes who facilitated the meetings.

Foundational Courses

Via Media I originally an 8-week, video-based discussion series on the Anglican way of Christianity was adapted to a five evening, plus one Saturday afternoon format. A course was offered for the fall, but we did not have enough participants to run the course.

Via Media II The second class, *Living Liturgy in the Via Media*, was conducted by the Rev. Michael Hopkins this fall. The third class in the series is planned for 2008.

Seasonal Offerings:

These short courses were held in the early evening and were from four to six sessions in length. The 2007 offerings were:

- In Epiphany – Reaching Out in the Spirit: A Look at Different Spiritualities (The Rev. Mary Ann Brody, Allan Cuseo, Mary Maida, Scott Lyons, Susan Patton)
- In Lent: - Simpler Living, Compassionate Life: Money & Justice (The Rev. Mary Ann Brody)
- In Easter: The Heart of Christianity (The Rev. Peter Peters)
- In Advent: The Return of the Prodigal Son: An Advent Quiet Afternoon (The Rev. Peter Peters, Allan Cuseo & Pamela Keyes)

Children & Youth Formation Report for 2006

Submitted by Mary Ann Brody

Youth

The youth class continued to use *Seasons of the Spirit*. It is a curriculum designed by an interdenominational group and chosen because it incorporates opportunities to use the arts and technology in class lessons. The class has created a Wall of Faith and a Wall of Justice. These are attempts to connect what was in the lessons with the people in their daily lives. Our primary goal this year is to help the youth be able to connect biblical lessons and stories with what they do day to day, and to help them live out their Christian faith in everything they do. Thanks go to our youth class leaders: Chris Cleveland, Greg Bouie, Dawn Moore, & Terry Santiago.

We continue to encourage our youth to become more involved in diocesan youth events, though without a full-time youth missionary in the diocese those opportunities have not received as much attention. Youth regularly serve as acolytes at most 10am services and as readers on All Church Sundays.

For our youth program to grow there needs to be a greater commitment on the part of youth and their parents to be a part of planning what comes next. This might look like a Youth Steering Committee composed of youth, parents and volunteers who together plan what will happen in the coming year. They would also be a part of the implementation of that plan.

My experience with youth is that nothing works if they don't share ownership in it. Adolescents need to have input into what they do. Because our parish is not in a neighborhood, parental involvement is crucial to provide oversight (as in chaperoning events), transportation and guidance.

Children

The children's class is grounded in a Montessori approach to learning about Bible Stories. Most of the stories are told using the felt board associated with the *Beulah Land* Curriculum, but we have also begun purchasing some *Godly Play* sets that use manipulatives to tell stories. Following the story-telling, children are provided with various craft materials and invited to make their own art response.

Five of our children's class teachers attended a day-long Godly Play training with a national instructor in September. It was a good experience for them and they have incorporated some of what they learned into their lessons this year. Children continue to use a liturgical wheel to track our movement through the church year. They are learning about the seasons and colors of the liturgical year. Our children's class leaders are Aaron Kane, Jessica Kane, Deb Oller, Jeannine Scott-Lamb, Burnetta McCullough, and Debra Costich.

On All Church Sundays volunteers provide an activity for our children during the sermon. These activities generally relate to the theme of the day or season. Volunteers who have helped plan or conduct children's time this year have been: Jessica Kane (drummers for Absalom Jones Day), the Rev. John Burr (taught how to make palm crosses on Palm Sunday), Burnetta McCullough (several craft projects including Bishop's miters for our bishop's annual visit), Carol Dundas, Paul Birkby (St. Simon of Cyrene Day celebration), Francine Velasquez (Bible stories for All Saints' Day).

The Nursery

Valerie Wheeler continued as our Nursery Attendant in 2007. She is assisted by wonderful volunteers: Toni Burr and Mary Kane. There is currently no formal curriculum for the nursery.

INTERFAITH ACTION REPORT

We are people of faith who want to build one community where families and businesses can thrive in safe and healthy neighborhoods.

Interfaith Action (IA) is a Monroe County-based federation of congregations, dedicated to organizing for the common good. IA is affiliated with the PICO National Network, a network of community organizing projects, representing more than 1,000 religious congregations, 60 different denominations and faith traditions, and 1,000,000 families spanning 150 cities across the nation. PICO stands for People Improving Communities through Organizing. Locally, we represent about 10,000 families businesses whose mission is to rebuild the greater Rochester community grounded in the values of love, hope and solidarity. Visit IA's website at <http://www.iapico.org/>.

In June of 2007, 2-Saints kicked off the Faith & Families: Restoring Hope initiative. We held two small group meetings with 38 members of our congregation. And, many others completed the survey that was circulated. Your participation was sincerely appreciated. With this campaign, IA did connect with over 700 people from the community. The main concerns expressed were (1) Children's Access to Health Insurance, (2) Education / Parent Organizing, (3) Youth jobs and violence prevention, and (4) Local hiring and job growth. Organizing committees composed of several congregations and groups were formed to address these concerns. I personally invite anyone who has a concern, and wishes to work with us to find solutions to address these concerns, please contact me.

IA's operating budget for 2008 is \$123,000. It accomplishes a lot on a very small budget. The lean staff consists of one Executive Director and one organizer. As with most non-profits, we continue to seek foundation grants, but our sustainability depends on the support of individual donors. The IA Board of Directors and I thank you who have made donations and pledges for

this year and beyond. However, we need to raise additional funds this year from individual donors to meet our goals. If you feel that you are able to support this mission in any way, please contact me, or the IA office at 585-235-2590.

For your convenience, you may also make your donation through the United Way. IA's United Way Donor Designee ID# is 2428.

Thank You,
Jack Cummings

A MEAL & MORE

On each third Sunday of the months throughout the year, four to six members of St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene help prepare food, set places and serve some 45 to 70 meals at Christ Church to those in need. The work begins at 11:00am as we prepare to serve the meal at 1:30pm. Often the preparation is done by 12:30 so that we can relax before the guests arrive. Meals are served from 1:30 to 3:00 after which the volunteers may sit down to eat if there is enough to go around. Volunteers can work from 11:00 – 1:00, from 1:00 – 3:00 or both shifts. In addition, St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene collects gloves and deodorant for the Christmas bags that are handed out to guests on a Sunday before Christmas (usually the third Sunday in December).

Submitted by Toni Burr

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee reviews staff contracts and evaluations for the Rector and Vestry, recommends personnel policy to the Vestry, and makes sure all ministries in the parish are equipped with adequate job descriptions.

The Vestry has passed recommended changes in the Human Resource Policy to clarify the difference between year-round employees and seasonal employees and also the accumulation of leave.

This year all staff received a 3% cost-of-living salary increase and for 2008 we have completed the several years' project of bringing all staff to the midpoint of diocesan salary guidelines.

Respectfully submitted,
Rochelle Coley and Allan O'Grady Cuseo

PRISON REENTRY & AFTERCARE MINISTRY (PRAM)

What has been called prison ministry in the church has developed in a larger framework of reentry to community, and care for formerly imprisoned persons and their families. The social implications of the “big picture” are great too as they adversely affect entire large sections of the city.

Three areas of activity have occupied Two Saints parishioners concerned with such prison reentry and aftercare for youths, men, and women with experiences of incarceration.

1. Two Saints weekly communal prayers draw attention to imprisoned men, women, and youths and to those reentering society. These prayers usefully remind us of an often unnoticed or overlooked aspect of community. Incarceration and reentry require much greater concentration and coordination of appropriate services to reduce costly recidivism, assist reentrants and their families, enhance public safety, and improve quality of life in urban neighborhoods. This is a part of public education or “conscientization,” the English translation of a Portuguese term *conscientização*, which is also “conscienceness raising” and “critical consciousness”. Brazilian educator, activist, and theorist Paulo Freire coined the term in *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (1970). We hope to continue with this “conscientization” process.
2. Parishioners also take part in reentry ministry individually in the community. One person, trained well as a reentry mentor by the Judicial Process Commission, consults weekly with a Monroe County inmate to help prepare and strengthen him for release. A second is active in Safer Monroe Area Reentry Team (SMART), which is dedicated mainly to small, extremely lean agencies providing reentry housing and other services. SMART assists these organizations with program operation, management, efficiency, fund raising, and growth in critically needed areas.
3. Third, but not least is Girl Scouts Beyond Bars. The Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley will soon launch a GSBB troop. Parishioners have taken part in planning for this start-up. We informed the congregation about outstanding GSBB outreach with newsletter articles, handouts, and at least one showing of a heartwarming video. About six parishioners attended a GSBB meeting at St. Thomas church that encouraged volunteering, an absolute necessity for program success. We hope the complexity of the application process will not discourage interested persons who would like to become engaged as GSBB volunteers.

GSBB locally, patterned after some 40 such undertaking in the US, will serve daughters of women incarcerated in Monroe Correctional Facility and their mothers. This local effort will be the first GSBB operation in New York State. The GSBB “steering” committee also includes St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Samaritan Women, and Step by Step of Rochester.

Bob Seidel for the ministry, Rochelle Coley and Bob Seidel, chairs

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT:

We oversee the maintenance and repair of Church property, authorize any major maintenance and/or repair, and recommend to the Vestry a course of action for major work.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

We normally meet the third Tuesday each month, at 7:00 p.m., in the lounge of the Tyler building. However, check the Church calendar, the Sunday bulletin, or the Two-Saints newsletter for any changes in the schedule. We are considering changing our meetings to sometime around the noon hour during the winter months.

MEMBERS:

Judith Byman	Jack Cummings	Mike Davis	Carol Evans
Michael Hopkins	Walter Kannapel	Dawn Moore	Arlene Titus

2007 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Sealed the rear wall to Tyler House.
Made repairs to the Steam Heating system.
Purchased a snow blower for the Sexton.
We were blessed in 2007 with no major maintenance problems

2008 PRIORITIES: Capital Campaign

- Complete the renovations in the Parish Hall and Kitchen.
- Handicap accessibility for the Church and Tyler building.
- Modernize ladies' / men's restrooms.
- Refurbish the signboard at the front of the Church.

Long term:

- Modify the Church's windows to ventilate the balcony.
- Repair the cracked plaster inside the Church.
- Install an elevator in Tyler Building.
- Air-condition the Church.
- Secure ownership or exclusive rights to the parking lot next to the church.
- Clean the stone at the front exterior of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Cummings, Co-Chair
Walt Kannapel, Co-Chair

PUBLIC POLICY TEAM AND ADVOCATES

Submitted By Marilyn Wienk

Members of the Public Policy Team include Bruce Colburn, Lorraine Morgan, Sharon Nelson, Deb Oller, Peter Peters, Bob Seidel, Marilyn Wienk, Frank Williams, and John Burr (ex officio).

Additionally, ten other parishioners assist the Team as **Public Policy Advocates** by agreeing to receive information about issues and to contact elected officials about particular legislation: Mary Ann Brody, Chris Cleveland, Rochelle Coley, Jack Cummings, Allan Cuseo, Burnetta McCullough, Marge Nead, Ebo Ocran, Leroy Peasley, and Carter Williams.

The **purpose** of the Public Policy Team is to **educate** about local, state, national, and global issues, usually in monthly adult forums after the late service from September through May; to lead the parish to **advocate** for legislation that reflects the Episcopal Church's positions on peace and justice issues; and to organize and sponsor **direct actions** (like peace vigils) when appropriate.

Since the Team's formation in February of 2006, **poverty, prejudice, and violence** have been the primary focuses of the group. To these we recently added the global climate change crisis. **The monthly Public Policy Adult Forums this past year reflect these concerns as well as the interests of the Team's members.** Usually, the presenters provide suggestions for advocacy on their issues as well as timely information.

- January 11—Bob Seidel updated us on *The Monroe County Re-Entry Program for People Recently Released from Prison*.
- February 11—Dr. Peter Mott presented information and led a discussion of points in his new book, *Cancer in the Body Politic: Diagnosis and Prescription for an America in Decline*.
- March 11—Wade Norwood of the Finger Lakes Health Care System Agency led us in a discussion of *Problems in Health Care in the U.S.*, and Frank Williams, M.D., with James Halkett, Ph.D., shared the results of their health care survey conducted in November of 2006, which indicated most of us favored single-payer health coverage.
- April 22—Carly Wise, a member of SAFER (Survivors Advocating for Effective Reform), shared stories and advocated for NYS legislation that would benefit victims of *Domestic Violence*.
- September 23—Scott Cicora, local renewable energy professional, presented his slide show on *Climate Change*.
- October 21—At-Large City Council Member, Bill Pritchard, helped prepare us for *Local Elections 2007* by discussing issues facing Rochester and Monroe County.
- November 18—Dr. Anthony P. (Peter) Ziarnowski, Team Leader of the Vet Center on Mt. Hope Avenue, presented a program *Caring for Veterans and their Families*.
- December 16—Tom Moore of the Fellowship of Reconciliation gave a report on *The People of Iran* as a way of alerting us to the potential devastation to them and their culture should the U.S. launch a war there.
- January 13—The Rev. Jack Heister and Elaine Johnson, recently returned from Israel and the Occupied Territories, presented *The Occupation of Palestine: "Facts on the Ground,"* supplemented by slides showing the Wall, destroyed olive groves, and the poor living conditions in general of the Palestinians.

Besides these programs, the Team co-sponsors with members of Downtown United Presbyterian Church (DUPC) a monthly **Vigil for Peace in Iraq** on the corner of S. Fitzhugh and Broad Streets, second Tuesdays, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

RAIHN

Submitted by John Burr

Four times during each year, St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene hosts up to five homeless families that have been admitted to the RAIHN shelter. For one week we provide three meals a day and overnight accommodations. They arrive at about 5:15pm and leave at 7:00am the next morning during the week. During the day the guests stay at the RAIHN Day Center where they have social worker and Director of the program, Erica Vera, to assist them in working through the system to obtain financial aid, find a job and obtain permanent housing. During the first three years of the ministry, RAIHN has provided a safe place for 128 families (410 people). About 80% of the families graduate the program into permanent housing. Currently there are 14 faith communities who host the guests and 23 faith communities whose support communities are providing volunteers to assist the host communities. Our support communities are Christ Church and Dignity/Integrity.

RIGHT ON SCHOOL REPORT

Wrap-Up!

Celebrating in spirit of Right On School's 40th year was clearly felt on Appreciation Night at our home school—School #6. The summer goes all too quickly in many ways, however, each day was full of activity. Mornings the children were engaged in both educational and cultural activities. The second floor which is our “base” reflected the many talents of our children through their art of writing and pictorial illustrations of numerous field trip experiences throughout the Rochester community, amazing talents.

Highlighted activities included the Anti-Violence Program Initiative in which the children had the privilege of meeting D.O., a Hip-Hop Artist from Toronto—this served as a springboard to classroom discussions on strengthening our commitment to anti-violence in our own lives and community. This will continue to be a focus in 2008 and beyond, with a strong emphasis on “building the community within.” We continued our collaborations with Community Darkroom, Strong Museum (Summer Fun Program) of Play, and Elizabeth Clark Dance. This summer we expanded our Artist in Residence activities to include Salsa Dance with a talented local artist. Our third and fourth graders had weekly dance lessons and gave their show of new dance skills on Appreciation Night—they were great!

Fridays remained special with our day long trips to area state parks for swim and, needless to say, hot dogs (yeah!) and all the trimmings. We lucked out to perfect weather most of the time.

We concluded our six weeks with our annuals—Community wide Carnival, Skating Party at Horizon Fun, and of course Appreciation Night, which was a night of expressing our appreciation to our Parish family as well as sponsors of the Right On School ministry.

Without a doubt many hands of hard work and commitment continue to help and enable Right On School to thrive. It is under the church's auspices that R.O.S. will continue this worthy ministry to be an inclusive community of people whose diversity, unity, love, forgiveness and service is reflected by its support to children in the Rochester community.

I wish to "thank you" the Parish of St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene (my church family) for your support through volunteering, financial and encouragement.

Once again, I personally want to express my thanks for allowing me the privilege to serve as Director of Program at R.O.S.

Hats off to an outstanding staff.

Sincerely,
Sharon A. Cardoza

SEMINARIAN LAY COMMITTEE

Submitted by Lorraine Morgan

Our congregation was once again honored to host a Seminarian from Bexley Hall. Bryan Bedell, whose home parish is St. John's Episcopal Church in Honeoye Falls, N Y, started in September 2006 and was with us until May 2007.

The purpose of the lay committee is to act as a sounding board for any ministerial issues or concerns, evaluate the seminarian's skills, self-understanding and potential.

Bryan was scheduled for various ministries with us and it was an invaluable experience for all.

The lay committee members were John Clinton Bradley, Armond Kane and Lorraine Morgan, chair.

Bryan's ordination to the priesthood is scheduled for February 21 at St. George's, Hilton at 7:30 pm.

We were honored to host the diocesan Ordination of Deacons service in June with Bryan and David Smith being among those ordained.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Bruce Colburn

The Stewardship Committee sponsored a Spring Stewardship event where the entrance area to the Sanctuary was transformed into a forest glade. Each week of the program objects were added to symbolize different aspects: The roots of our faith, what springs from our giving, and the fruits of our giving. Instead of a Fall Stewardship Campaign, the Annual Pledge drive has been combined with the Capital Campaign Event, which started in December and will be finalized at the end of January 2008.

2007 FINANCIAL REPORTS

A Detailed Budget Report is Available Upon Request

GENERAL

Income

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	%
Pledge/Regular & Other Undesignated from Individuals	\$175,000	\$152,715	87.3%
Investments--Undesignated	\$64,100	\$64,100	100.0%
Investments--Designated	\$30,525	30,525	100.0%
Other Undesignated	\$8,500	\$6,918	81.4%
Other Designated	\$2,400	\$3,738	155.8%
Total	\$280,525	\$257,966	92.0%

Expenses

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	%
Mission	\$64,100	\$63,128	98.5%
Personnel	\$211,902	\$214,055	101.0%
Administration	\$13,225	\$14,881	112.5%
Property	\$53,400	\$52,739	98.8%
Program	\$15,950	\$16,775	105.2%
Total	\$358,577	\$361,578	105.2%

Deficit	(\$78,052)	(\$103,612)	132.7%
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ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Opening Balance 1/1/2007 \$1,063,613.15
Closing Balance 12/31/07 \$955,494.02

NON-OPERATING FUNDS REPORT

A report of income and expenses for designated funds will be published in February 2008. Our apologies for the delay.

DESIGNATED FUNDS: BALANCE

St. Simon's Fund *(for outreach and training)*

Value 1/1/2007 \$42,983.22

Value 12/31/2007 \$32,687.11

Note: \$1,050 was withdrawn this year to assist in covering mission expenses.

Baker Memorial Altar Fund *(to provide yearly income to offset Altar-related expenses)*

Value 1/1/2007 \$7,546.00

Value 12/31/2007 \$8,499.95

Notes:

\$1,685.87 of this fund is actually Memorial Fund money designated in memory of Mary Babcock, being held in this higher interest bearing account).

\$500 was withdrawn to assist in worship-related expenses.

Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund *(for college scholarships according to a process outlined by the family)*

Value 1/1/2007 \$4,036.18

Value 12/31/2007 \$4,217.97

Memorial Fund *(gifts designated for purchase of memorials)*

Value 1/1/2007 \$8,483.99

Value 12/31/2006 \$2,180.43

Notes:

See Baker Fund for additional Memorial Funds held in that account.

\$50 deposit in transit representing 2007 donation.

Capital Fund *(Money raised in 2004-2005 for building projects. Money raised in 2006 for new parish hall tables.)*

Opening Balance 1/1/07 \$1,321.33

Balance 12/31/07 \$15,728.26

Notes:

\$6,900 withdrawal in transit for expenses.

\$18,144.52 deposit in transit representing funds collected in December 2007.

Men's Association

Opening Balance 1/1/07 \$3,087.69

Ending Balance 12/31/07 \$3,746.02

Right On School: 2007 Budget to Actual

INCOME

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
St. Luke St. Simon Cyrene Episcopal Church	\$30,000	\$30,000
Episcopal Diocese	10,000	10,000
Grants & Donations	<u>43,390</u>	<u>43,030</u>
BUDGETED INCOME:	\$83,390	\$83,030
Balance 1/1/07		<u>\$13,585*</u>
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>\$96,615</u>

* Includes \$7,500 designated funds for Non-Violence Program

EXPENDITURES

(Based on enrollment of 200 children/6 weeks)

Personnel/Staff (Director-1, Asst. Dir.-1, Camp Coord.-1, Sr. Counselors-10, Jr. Counselors-8)	\$57,500	\$63,402
Transportation	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,331
Administrative Costs		
Counselor Orientation Night/Safe Church Training\$	150	211
Parent's Night	50	29
Postage	250	184
Administrative Services	200	471
Photo Development	150	98
Unemployment Insurance	--	468
Workman's Compensation	<u>--</u>	<u>611</u>
Total:	\$ 800	\$ 2,072
T-Shirts:		
Read Custom Screen Printing Company	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,415

Park Fees

Letchworth State Park (swimming/shelter)	\$ 300	\$ 233
Hamlin Beach	90	90
Genesee Valley Park (swimming/shelter)	180	193
Genesee Valley Park Field Day	90	90

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
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Bus Entry Fees	200	173
Genesee Valley Park 2008	<u>180</u>	<u>180</u>

Total:	\$ 1,040	\$ 959
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	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
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Programs

Elizabeth Clark Dance Group	\$ 300	\$ 570
Storyteller	100	--
Skating Outing	500	691
Seneca Park Zoo	400	--
Grade Focused Activities	150	259
Appreciation Night	200	344
Field Day Activities	100	--
Carnival	1,200	1,127
Anti-Violence Program	7,500	7,500
Artist In Residence	\$ 800	--
Inikori Dance Studio	<u>--</u>	<u>1,250</u>

Total:	\$11,250	\$11,741
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Start Up Costs

Including paper products, cleaning supplies, And instructional materials)	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,818
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Food Products

Campers Activities	\$ 50	\$ 241
Appreciation Night	50	80
Hamlin Beach	300	289
Letchworth State Park	300	284
Genesee Valley Park	300	267
Genesee Valley Park Field Day	<u>\$ 300</u>	<u>356</u>

Total:	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,517
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TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$83,390	\$90,255
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<i>Total Income:</i>	\$96,615
<i>Total Expenses:</i>	<u>90,255</u>
<i>Balance:</i>	\$ 6,360

Clergy Discretionary Funds

Clergy Discretionary Funds are special funds established by the Vestry under the Canons of the Church, through which the rector and/or other clergy are able to assist those in need, as well as provide for in-house expenses not otherwise provided for in the parish budget. Income for the fund comes from a set quarterly allotment from the parish budget (in 2006 this was \$150 per quarter) and from special contributions made by parishioners and others, including special donations from weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Rector's Discretionary Fund

Opening Balance 1/1/07	\$783.28
Balance 12/31/07	\$462.42

Assistant Rector's Discretionary Fund

Opening Balance 1/1/07	\$554.46
Balance 12/31/07	\$300.03

The following are the policies set by the Vestry in relationship to these Funds:

- The fund is not intended to be used for expenses that should otherwise be covered under the parish budget.
- Special offerings from baptisms, weddings, and funerals are considered designated for the RDF unless otherwise directed by the rector.
- Offerings to the RDF may not be themselves designated for any purpose; i.e., "pass-thrus" for the direct benefit of a named individual will not be accepted.
- All offerings for the RDF will first be deposited in the general fund of the congregation. The co-mingling of personal funds and discretionary funds is strictly prohibited.
- The rector will keep a written record of each check drawn on the RDF including appropriate receipts and purpose.
- The account should be received, reviewed, and balanced monthly by the Financial Secretary. She will verify that all deposits have been made from general fund disbursement and verify receipts or other back-up information. Payees are considered strictly confidential.
- The RDF is subject to the annual audit of the parish. Steps may be taken to ensure the confidentiality of payees.
- It is preferable that checks be written to vendors rather than to individuals. Cash disbursements are discouraged except in the case of an emergency.

2008 BUDGET FOR ST. LUKE & ST. SIMON CYRENE

Income

	2008 Budget	Comparison to 2007 Actual
Pledge/Regular & Other Undesignated from Individuals	\$155,500	+1.8%
Investments--Undesignated	\$32,600	+6.8%
Investments--Designated	\$64,049	0%
Other Designated	\$3,325	-11.0%
Other Undesignated	\$6,500	-6.0%
Total	\$261,974	+2.7%

Expenses

	2008 Budget	Comparison to 2007 Actual
Mission	\$63,512	+1.0%
Personnel	\$228,699	+6.8%
Administration	\$15,100	+1.5%
Property	\$58,525	+1.1%
Program	\$17,900	+6.7%
Total	\$383,736	+6.1%

Deficit	(\$121,762)	+17.5%
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Necrology

This Annual Report is dedicated to the memory of those communicants of the parish who have died since the last Annual Meeting:

Naomi Korhumel

Jane Hanford

O God, the King of saints, we praise and glorify your holy Name for all your servants who have finished their course in your faith and fear: for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs; and for all your other righteous servants, known to us and unknown; and we pray that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.