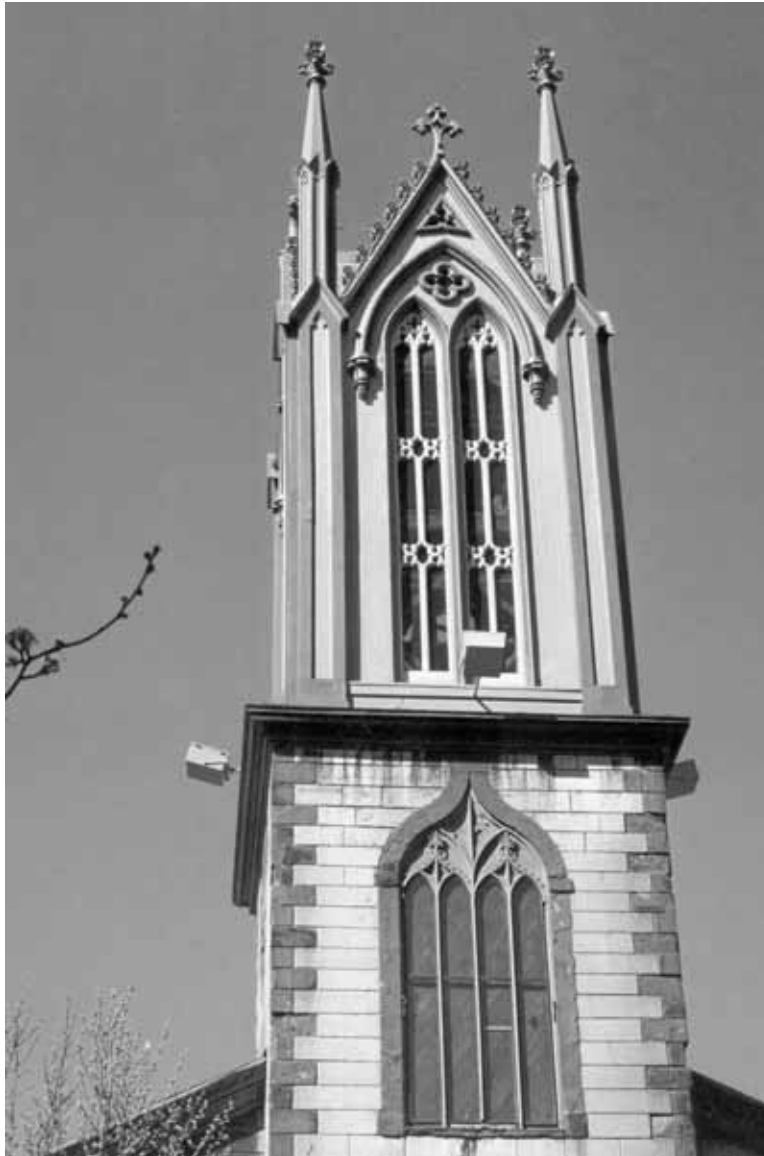


The Annual Parish Meeting
of the
Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
in the City & Diocese of Rochester, NY



Sunday - January 25, 2009

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Necrology

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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.

Dapo Adejumo	Carol Evans	Carolyn Lumbard	Terry Santiago
Stella Adejumo	Madeline Gamble	Mary Maida	Garret Saunders
Jesse Allen	Janet Gates	Gertrude Manns	Lori Saunders
David Anderson	Lynn George	Olive Mantell	Jeaninne Scott-
Ruth Anderson	Vincent Gordon	Lillian Marcus	Lamb
Rebecca Arokoyo	Herman Gourdine	Irene Marrero	Elizabeth Seidel
Dorothy Baker	Jennifer Gourdine	Betty McClenney	Robert Seidel
Paul Birkby	Thomas Gourdine	Kelley	Sally Shannon
John Bradley	Tiffanie Gourdine	McClenney	Karen Shuler
Mary Ann Brody	Yvette Green	Burnetta	Roddy Shuler
Amanda Brown	John Harmon	McCullough	Christopher Smith
Leslie Brown	Judith Henry	Evrill Miller	Sharon Smith
Charlotte Bruce	Louis Hillery	Sharon Montoya	Violet Smith
John Bruce	Jacquelyn	Amber Moore	Edith Strader
Joyce Burleson	Hopkins	Ashley Moore	Mollie Thornton
Antoinette Burr	Michael Hopkins	Carol Moore	Arlene Titus
John Burr	Lawrence Johnson	Dawn Moore	Latitia Tobler
Judith Byman	Renée Johnson	Paul Moore	Francine
Sharon Cardoza	Hazel Jones	Robert Moore	Velazquez
Jeffrey Carter	Veronica Jones	Lorraine Morgan	Bette Wallace
Renée Carter	Aaron Kane	Mavis Mowatt	Janet Wallace
Cecille Chester	Jessica Kane	Marge Nead	Susan Wallace
Chris Cleveland	Mary Kane	Renee Nelson	Merle Welsh
R. Bruce Colburn	Sylvia Kannapel	Sharon Nelson	Patricia
Francine Conwell	Walter Kannapel	Ebo Ocran	Wheelhouse
Deborah Costich	Chris Kendrick	Martina Ocran	Robert
James Costich	Jean Kenney	Deborah Oller	Wheelhouse
Rochelle Coley	Pamela Keyes	Steven Oller	Marilyn Wienk
Jack Cummings	Anne Laver	LeRoy Peasley	Carter Williams
Allan Cuseo	Michael Laver	Peter Peters	Jo Ethel Williams
Donna Davis	Sylvia Lee	Jean Phillips	T. Franklin
Michael Davis	Audrey Lewis-	Geneva Robinson	Williams
Carol Dundas	Cummings	Mary Rogan	
Elsie Egling	Beverly Linzey	Hazel Rowley	[125]

Agenda
Annual Meeting of the Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
Rochester, New York
January 25, 2009

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 2009 Charge to the Parish from the Rector & the Necrology	

Move to the Parish Hall

Closing of the Ballot Box (at 11:30 am)	The Rector
Approval of 2008 Minutes	The Rector
2008 Finance & Investment Reports	Ms. Elizabeth Seidel, Treasurer Mr. Stephen Oller, Convenor, Finance & Investment Committee
2009 Budget	The Rector
Vision Updates	The Rector
Recognition of Retiring Vestry members	The Wardens
Adjourn	

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 27, 2008
Minutes

The Rector called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The following appointments were made by the chair:

Secretary: Sharon Nelson

Tellers: Betty Seidel, Irene Marrero, and Jeaninne Scott-Lamb.

The Nominating Committee report was given Bruce Colburn, Warden:

Madeline Gamble, Warden, 2yr. term.

Paul Birkby, Jack Cummings, Armond Kane, Ebo Ocran, Vestry member, 3 yrs.

Burnetta McCullough, Vestry member, 1 yr.

Lorraine Morgan, Convention Delegate, 3 yrs.

John Bradley, Allan Cuseo, Sharon Nelson, Alternate Delegates, 1 yr.

Paul Moore Moved, Irene Marrero 2nd that the nominations be closed and the secretary cast one ballot for the slate. Approved.

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist followed.

Minutes of last year's meeting were read and approved. Toni Burr Moved, Allan Cuseo 2nd.

The rector reviewed the financial report, including the current numbers for the Capital Campaign. The Diocese handled the construction loan. He encouraged pledges to continue to come in, both for Annual Giving and the Campaign.

The rector spoke about plans for his returning to work full time two weeks before Easter. He also spoke about the new Clergy Resource Team that is being set up with the concurrence of the Vestry.

Walt Kannapel updated the congregation on the impending construction. Testa Construction has been awarded the contract. February 11th is the tentative start date with construction to last 60 to 90 days.

The rector offered a prayer for the two members of the parish who died in the previous year: Naomi Korhumel and Jane Hanford. Mrs. Hanford was the last member of parish directly related to Colonel Rochester.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm, Frank Williams moved, John Bradley 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Nelson, Secretary

The Rector's Report 2008

The Rev. Michael W. Hopkins

Four years ago during my “arrival period” I talked a great deal about coming to Two Saints to work to “thrive rather than survive.” I stand by that “mantra” but in its light some of the statistics that follow my report are humbling.

First there is good news in that our financial commitment has grown. This Fall the Vestry presented the parish with a very sobering report about the state of our Endowment Fund and parish finances in general. We outlined some painful cuts, especially to staff, in order to take the pressure off the Fund and asked for an increased commitment from you, the members of the parish. I am happy to report that you did indeed step to the plate and I cannot express my own gratitude enough. If we count the pledges that remain outstanding but are likely to continue, we went well over the 10% increase for which we asked. In addition there was the extraordinary gift from John and Nicki Harmon that reduced the staff cuts by approximately 50%. All of this is very good news.

The communicant and (especially) attendance statistics are, however, as I said, humbling. I am at a loss to explain them. I welcome your input.

Do these two statistics and our financial difficulties mean that we are “just” surviving? In one sense, I suppose the answer is “yes,” and that is not such a bad thing in the current climate. It also makes us better off than many old downtown churches around the country.

The definition of “thriving,” however, has to be about more than numbers. I admit I’m a numbers guy. I love numbers. I love statistics. Because of that love, though, I have to be very careful that the numbers do not rule me. It’s the same thing for us.

For better or for worse, I get to spend a lot of time with other clergy, mostly Episcopal, but some from various other denominations. I do not know of anyone locally (and very few nationally) who is not struggling, even among our larger sister churches. There are a lot of hard realities out there, especially for old “main-line Protestant” churches such as ourselves. But again, numbers do not tell the whole story.

What does it mean for a church to thrive? Perhaps we should leave the definition to St. Paul, in which it would have something to do with being faithful, being hopeful and being loving. I experience Two Saints as a community of faith, hope and love. I hope you do to.

Here are some ways I think we are thriving in spite of the numbers:

- This is a pretty happy place right now. There is not a lot of conflict, particularly of the sustained variety. That says a lot about our overall health.
- The collaborative with St. Stephen’s is working relatively well and the chances for continuing
- Our formation programs are great even if they don’t always attract the numbers we would like. The quality is very good and we are consistent in our offering.
- Malcolm is doing a super job with the choir (who themselves are doing a super job!).

- The level of people engaged in parish ministries is high. 72 out of 149 communicants (48%) turning in a ministry pledge sheet is very good.
- Overall the parish has dealt well with my ongoing health issues. I have felt cared for through a very difficult period.
- Our staff remains committed to the parish despite the salary reductions all of us have experienced.
- We have an active, happy Vestry. I don't think clergy-vestry relations could be better. That is always a good sign.
- We are clear about our identity as a progressive-minded community welcoming all.
- We have been successful in getting the Diocese to implement anti-racism training and are being instrumental in the upcoming Diocesan Urban Ministry Summit.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, but it is a pretty good one. Are there things we could be doing better? No doubt, and we will continue to look for them and work on them. Again, I would value your input.

For me, I will continue to find ways to encourage our thriving and not settle for just survival. I will do so out of all the faithfulness, hopefulness and love that God gives me the grace to bear. To put it somewhat bluntly, I love Jesus and I love this parish. By any measure, I call that thriving.



2008 Two Saints Statistics

	2006	2007	2008	
Communicants in good standing	173	164	153	(-7%)
Communicants under 16 years old	26	26	28	(+8%)
Average Attendance	114	119	95	(-20%)
Stewardship (1/18/09)				
Number of Financial Pledges	71	71	65	(-8%)
Total Pledge	\$138,556	\$142,303	\$151,036	(+6%)
Avrg/Pledge/Week	\$37.53	\$38.54	\$44.69	(+16%)
Ministry Pledges			72	

Assistant Rector's Report for 2008

The Rev. Mary Ann Brody

It feels good to have finished a full calendar year of our cooperative venture. That's given me a chance to establish more of a rhythm with regard to my work. I don't know that I've gotten it down pat yet, but I'm making progress. I have participated in the transitioning of bishops in our diocese. I was able to take a three-day retreat in the spring to Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY where I am an associate. I haven't done that since seminary. I also participated in a four-day workshop on urban sustainability and developing local food economies called *Gardens and Grace* in Baltimore, MD. I had the opportunity to attend the Janice Lynne Cohen lecture at URMC this fall where this year's focus was on youth and violence in the city. All of these experiences cause me to look forward to the planned Urban Summit in our diocese this spring with enthusiasm. There is much to be done, and the Episcopal Church has a part to play.

One thing is clear to me as we finish this year. My work would never have gotten done without the many volunteers who have helped in the children and youth Sunday school classes, and the many people who have contributed their time to organizing forums, conducting Bible study, facilitating EfM and other adult classes. We have a very talented group of people who willingly share their talents and interests with others. I felt very blessed to work with such committed group of people. I am deeply grateful.

While I was happy to see the enthusiasm around many of our adult formation offerings, I have been concerned about the drop in attendance in our children and youth programs. Personally, I miss the presence of our young people, because I know how much they have added to my life in church. Corporately, I miss the "family" presence that was so prevalent, especially in our All Church Sunday services, in the last few years. In this new year, I know our young people will be a particular focus for me. I will not be able to do this work alone, so I trust that God will provide the hands and hearts we need by calling some of you into service also!

I miss seeing people on a regular basis at St. Luke & St. Simon's but I feel that we have been able to remain in touch with one another through joint events with St. Stephen's, combined services, my Sunday time here, vestry meetings and my involvement in programs. The two vestries have gotten to know one another very well, and look forward to working together. My hope is that that "knowing" will deepen as members of the two congregations take advantage of more opportunities to work and learn together. That deepening of relationships is an essential part of living more deeply into the covenant we have made with St. Stephen's.

St. Stephen's is finishing up their mission and visioning work. At their annual meeting on February 8, the congregation will have the chance to offer their feedback on the work done over the last year. If all goes well, we should have the work completed by the end of February. The two vestries will then be in a place to put their visions side by side and begin the work of planning ministry together. So, as the two-year anniversary of the covenant approaches this spring, we are in a position to move forward in new ways. That is exciting news! As always, I am grateful to be among you, and grateful for the collegial spirit that is shared among the staff. Michael is a tremendous gift to me, and I feel privileged to continue to have the opportunity to work with him.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC'S REPORT

Music remains an important part of worship and spirituality at the Church of St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene. 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. The 1925 E.M. Skinner, housed in the gallery, continues to serve the parish well. The choristers of Two Saints have been a joy to work with this year. Since the summer break, we have had three performances including a joint performance on Christmas Eve at St. Stephen's. I consistently have about four choristers per Sunday. In addition to making ostinati on rhythmic instruments we have learned about range and projection in singing. Parents with children at least five years old are welcomed and encouraged to bring their children to the piano following the 10 a.m. service for music making!

The Two Saints Choir continues to lead our worship at an increasingly high level. Improvement of attendance at regular rehearsals has had a positive impact on the ability of the choir. We are getting there, but 100% every week is ideal. This year, the choir has worked on achieving a unified choral sound through improved tone production and vowel formation. We have also worked on some basic skills in musicianship to help improve intonation and tone. This year alone, the choir's repertoire list has included works from the English Renaissance, African folk songs, gospel music, and gems of the Anglican choral tradition. The growth of the choir has permitted the inclusion of more *a cappella* music to the repertoire. The choir continues to collaborate with the choir of St. Stephen's while also joining forces with the choir of St. Mary's church and Dignity Integrity. The addition of two choral scholars in 2009 will strengthen the Two Saints Choir even more. These individuals will also enhance the liturgy through their contributions to the choir and as soloists. I am thankful to the anonymous donor who made the choral scholar program a reality.

Many thanks to the choir, staff, clergy and parishioners for their continued support of music at Two Saints.

Respectfully,
Malcolm J. Merriweather

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

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	Sharon Nelson
Bruce Colburn	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 thanks to Olive Mantell for her many years of service as she enjoys a much need rest from her tireless work with us. “Well done faithful servant” You are missed.

We welcome new members Bruce Colburn and Sharon Nelson. Thank you both for your commitment.

Our goal for 2009 is to recruit and train at least 2 new members to help clean up after the 10 AM service. Presently there is a gap on the after service and a few of the 8AM members have to do double duty. We will also continue to recruit with the focus on flexibility and consistency, which has made us a team.

Like our economy, veil touching has been at an all time low so I’m calling all of us known as “Altar Quality Control Experts” (or OCD) to revive the practice to at least control something in our lives.

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—in partnership with St. Stephens—continued this year with a total of 12 participants. Five participants are studying theology this term, five are studying the New Testament, and two new participants are studying the Old Testament. John Clinton Bradley mentors those who are in their fourth and final year of the program (meeting Tuesday evenings at Two Saints) and Mary Ann Brody mentors those who are in their first and second years (meeting Tuesday evenings at St. Stephen's). Joint retreats for both groups were held in the late spring and early autumn.

FORMATION MINISTRIES REPORT

Formation continues to happen at St. Luke & St. Simon’s! More lay people are involved in organizing and running specific parts of the program, and their help is greatly appreciated. All adult formation programs not conducted on Sunday were done in conjunction with St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church.

Adults

Submitted by Mary Ann Brody

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

Public Policy Forums A list of forums presented in 2008 is included in the Public Policy report. Thanks to Marilyn Weink who once again put together a wonderful list of presenters with the help of the Public Policy Team!

Mission Forums inform us about ministries in which our parish participates. This year we also tried to use this time to get to know the ministries of our covenant partners at St. Stephen's. In 2008 we heard from:

- Interfaith Action (Roxie Sinclair & Jack Cummings)
- A forum on St. Stephen's Sunday Supper (led by Debbie Burrows)
- Bishop Sheen Housing (by Linda Delacruz & Moses Gilbert)
- Mindful Meditation (by Peter & Wendy Sullivan)

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:

- Lambeth Conference by John Clinton Bradley

Weekly Bible Study

Beginning in the fall we moved Bible study to Wednesday evenings at 6-7 PM. We also began using one of the Kerygma curriculum called *Discovering the Old Testament*. The original goal was to move through the books of the Old Testament during this program year to give people an overview of that part of our scripture. The class has so enjoyed some of the "explorations" that they have allowed themselves more time to savor them. Attendance averages about 8 persons each week. Thanks go to the Rev. John Burr & Allan Cuseo who have facilitated these meetings. In Advent, our rector, led a discussion of the Gospel of Mark.

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 during the season of Easter. We had five participants.

Via Media II continued with the third in a series of four classes. This third class, *Baptismal Decision-making*, was conducted by the Rev. Peter Peters this fall. The fourth class in the series is planned for 2009.

Seasonal Offerings:

These short courses were held in the early evening and were from four to six sessions in length. The 2008 offerings were:

- In Epiphany: Food & Faith: a book discussion led by The Rev. Mary Ann Brody,
- In Lent: Lenten House Church w/ book discussion (coordinated by Bonnie Hallman-Dye)
- In the season after Pentecost: The Great Awakening: a book discussion led by Chris Cleveland & Marilyn Wienk
- In Advent: Advent House Church (Coordinated by Bonnie Hallman-Dye & Allan Cuseo)
- An Advent Quiet Day led by Chris Farnum and Mary Jo Brach-Farnum.
- A Mindful Meditation Retreat in Advent led by Peter & Wendy Sullivan.

Children & Youth Formation Report for 2008

Submitted by Mary Ann Brody

We have six volunteers working with the Children's Sunday School program: Burnetta McCullough, Francine Velazquez, Deb Oller, Jeannine Scott-Lamb, Aaron Kane and Jessica Kane. They have been using the felt figures to familiarize our children with Bible stories. We have incorporated new stories, especially from the New Testament, with Godly Play sets. These

stories are told using wooden figures and manipulatives. The sets are kept in baskets and become an option to use during the children's "work" time following the story telling. Wondering is still a big part of what we hope our children gain from their lesson. The ability to "play" with scripture, to challenge it and challenge our faith are important aspects of our program. This fall we began to try to intentionally integrate children into service opportunities at church.

Many people have donated time and talent to help with Children's Time during the sermon on All Church Sundays. Thanks go to Carol Dundas, Burnetta McCullough, Francine Velazquez, Annie Laver, Rochelle Coley and Malcolm Merriweather!

The youth class has continued meeting Sunday mornings as well, though attendance this fall has been very sporadic. Our youth leaders are Dawn Moore, Chris Cleveland, Michael Laver and Annie Laver. The youth spent the first class or two painting their classroom and have been using the *Seasons of the Spirit* Curriculum for weekly discussion about the Sunday lessons.

INTERFAITH ACTION

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, business alliances and a landlord association, 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 and 60 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 September of 2008, through State Senator Joseph Robach, IA in cooperation with NCS Community Development Corp. and Providence Housing Development Corp., received a \$400,000 grant for the Historic Jones Square Neighborhood. Also in September, IA had a free breakfast, where 2-Saints played an active role. In October 2008, IA with New Progressive Cathedral Church of God in Christ conducted a voter registration drive when over 100 new voters were registered.

In 2009, IA is in an expansion mode. In the next 3-years, our goal is to increase our membership by 20-new congregations and to increase our staff and budget to succeed in accomplishing our ambitious goals. 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). Michael Batt, the Director' has retired and a search for a new Director is underway. In the meantime the process of providing meals to our guests has changed so that the meal is more relaxed. On the other hand this change is requiring an extra volunteer or two to assist. We would be grateful for additional volunteers.

Submitted by Toni Burr

MEN'S ASSOCIATION

2008 Officers

Jack Cummings, President
Mike Davis, Vice President
Christopher Cleveland, Treasurer
Jesse Allen, Secretary
Ebo Ocran, Sergeant of Arms

2009 Officers

Jack Cummings, President
Mike Davis, Vice President
Christopher Cleveland, Treasurer
Jesse Allen, Secretary
Ebo Ocran, Sergeant of Arms

Meeting Schedule: The Men's Association normally meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at various members' homes or in the church lounge. The 2009 meetings will be scheduled and announced when necessary. Anyone may host these meetings. Notify one of the officers if you'd like to host a meeting.

Major Events for 2008:

Month Event

May - Annual Fish Fry

We also made donations for Mother's Day Carnations, to Big Brother's & Big Sisters, and to the Capital Campaign.

Men's Corporate Communion and Breakfast: In the past, we had our Corporate Communion and Breakfast on the last Sunday of each month. In cooperation with the new Formation Committee, the Men's Association agreed to move the monthly Corporate Communion and Breakfast to "All Church Sundays", after the 8:00 am service for anyone in the Congregation. A donation of \$3.00 is appreciated to offset the Breakfast costs. The dates for 2009 are as follows:

February 8 (Absalom Jones)
March 22 (Mothering Sunday)
April 12 (Easter Sunday)
May 31 (Day of Pentecost)
The remaining months will be scheduled later.
The Fish Fry will be scheduled in Lent

Regrettably, we lost the last of one of the founding Fathers of the Men's Association in 2008, Brother James 'Buddy' Young. He is, and will be truly missed.

Brief History: The St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene Men's Association is the result of a vision of fellowship and ministry held by the late Eugene Reid. Mr. Reid expressed this as a simple desire for the men of the former St. Simon Cyrene Church to come together and share fellowship. This vision began with a monthly Corporate Communion for the men of the Parish that evolved naturally to include a monthly breakfast. Through this fellowship, the men of the Parish established friendships and expanded their understanding of stewardship and lay ministry. With this understanding, the Men's Association established a monthly meeting and expanded their activities to include fund-raisers and support of all church activities. Showing equal openness and a desire to help the church grow and prosper, the men of St. Simon Cyrene were joined by the men of St. Luke following the merger in 1988. The support of men of both congregations and new members has enabled the Men's Association to flourish and provide a rallying point for many church initiatives.

2009 Goals:

- Increase the active membership of the Men's Association
- Support the Youth of the Parish and in the Community

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Cummings

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.

Respectfully submitted,
Rochelle Coley and Allan O'Grady Cuseo

PRISON REENTRY & AFTERCARE MINISTRY (PRAM)

As reported last year, church prison ministry in general now also deals with reentry to community and care for formerly imprisoned persons and their families. This "big picture" affects sections of Rochester and beyond. A main reason is that Monroe County is home to large

numbers of incarcerated and reentering individuals. Currently, we are proud to report that twelve Two Saints members indicate interest in PRAM.

For your further information, and notably, the Diocese of Rochester's Prison Ministry (www.prisonministry-edr.org) is growing in numbers of activities and involved parishes. Its office is at Church of the Ascension in Rochester.

These PRAM activities continue to engage Two Saints parishioners.

1. Communal prayers recognize the humanity and dignity of each imprisoned man, woman, and youth as well as of those reentering society. Services for them are definitely improving. Yet the whole area requires more resources and better service coordination to reduce recidivism, assist reentrants and families, and enhance public safety.
2. Some Two Saints members engage in individual ministries. Trained as a mentor by Judicial Process Commission, one counsels a Monroe County inmate. Another is website administrator and coordinates communications and research for SMART (Safer Monroe Area Reentry Team). The website is www.smartny.org.
3. Most Two Saints associates of PRAM are interested in Girl Scouts Beyond Bars. GSBB is led by the Girl Scouts of Western New York (formerly "of the Genesee Valley"). Step by Step of Rochester, Samaritan Women, and St. Thomas parish collaborate. GSBB serves local daughters of women imprisoned in Monroe County as well as their mothers. We participate in planning. Unfortunately and frustratingly, GSWNY organizational preoccupations delayed a hoped for early 2008 start-up of GSBB. We made sure that all those who expressed interest in GSBB are known to the GSWNY persons responsible for contacting and training them.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Seidel

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

This past year started with the Capital Campaign lift/restroom construction as the committee's major oversight project. As we all know the work caused considerable confusion, dust and general upheaval. The project was successfully completed in May with, I think we can all agree, very positive results. At the same time the kitchen was upgraded with new cabinetry and a new ice machine.

The front porch landing was re-pointed and stone pavers in front of the main doors were reset to eliminate water pooling. Additionally, the Church sign (1924 vintage) was completely refurbished/rebuilt and moved to the Southeast corner of the church, for better visibility. New graphics for the sign are in process of being ordered and should be available in Spring.

A major initiative was started to convert light bulb usage to the new high efficiency bulbs throughout both Tyler House and the Sanctuary. This project should reward us with considerable energy savings as well as bulb expense.

Routine maintenance of course is an ongoing effort, with most of the work being accomplished by the Sexton with oversight from the committee.

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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, Bob Seidel, Marilyn Wienk, Frank Williams, and John Burr (ex officio). They coordinate the Public Policy Forums that occur on Sundays after late service almost every month, September through May, and also advocate the Episcopal Church's positions on peace and justice issues with local, state, and national elected officials. The Team also sponsors peace vigils and engages in other direct actions when appropriate.

Additionally, **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, John Burr, Chris Cleveland, Rochelle Coley, Jack Cummings, Allan Cuseo, Annie Laver, Michael Laver, Burnetta McCullough, Marge Nead, Ebo Ocran, Leroy Peasley, Peter Peters, Mary Rogan, Karen Shuler, Roddy Shuler, Pat Wheelhouse, and Carter Williams.

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 13—Elaine Johnson of the Downtown United Presbyterian Church (DUPC) and the Rev. Jack Heister, a retired Presbyterian minister, reported on their Peace Fellowship trip in December 2007 to Israel-Palestine.
- February 10—Marilyn Wienk presented a program about what New York State can do to lessen the effects of global warming.
- April 13—Attorney Wally Ruehle informed us about the plight of 10,000 undocumented workers in upstate New York and encouraged advocacy for comprehensive immigration reform.
- May 18—Ed Lemon and Paul Brayer of The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) presented a video and statistical information about local poverty.
- September 21—Debbie Burrows of St. Stephen's shared information about the Sojourners' national "Vote Out Poverty" campaign.
- October 19—Candidates and Issues in the 2008 Elections was the focus of this forum as well as information about the Episcopal Church's positions on issues.
- November 16—Deb Oller and Marilyn Wienk led activities helping us reflect on the results of the 2008 Elections: "What's Next?"

Besides these programs, the Team co-sponsored 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.

ROCHESTER AREA INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (RAIHN)

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 a social worker and Acting Director of the program, Nancy Elliot, to assist them in working through the system to obtain financial aid, find a job and obtain permanent housing. During the first four years of the ministry, RAIHN has provided a safe place for 143 families (458 people). In the first four years of this ministry RAIHN has provided 16,205 bed-nights and 49,558 meals for our guests. About 80% of the families graduate the program into permanent housing. Currently there are 15 faith communities who host the guests and 23 faith communities who support the host communities by providing volunteers. Our support communities are Christ Church and Dignity/Integrity. During 2008 there have been over 30 members of Two Saints providing meals, hospitality and security as well as doing laundry, contributing monetarily and household items for graduating guests.

Submitted by John Burr

RIGHT ON SCHOOL REPORT

Members

Sharon Cardoza
Madeline Gamble, Chairperson
Lillian Marcus
Burnetta McCullough
Sharon Montoya
Paul Moore
Sharon Nelson
Ebo Ocran

Right On School provided both academic and camp-like experiences in its 41st year. We were able to service approximately 125 children daily at School #14. This was like coming home for Right On School, as 21 years ago both Karon Jackson and myself became involved with Right On School at this location.

- Because of our location, we took advantage of many downtown cultural centers (museums/workshops, etc.). This allowed us the ability to walk to many of these locations—saving on transportation fees.

- Each day, children were served two meals. Our Fridays went as planned to local parks/beaches for cookouts and swimming.
- One extraordinary trip was to Corning Glass Museum. Our entire primary grades were fortunately able to go on this trip. Maybe you were able to see us on TV. Our T-shirts and very happy children were captured on camera.
- We had our community carnival at School #14. Once again, the children experienced lots of fun along with other children from the community.
- We concluded our six weeks with our annual Appreciation Night when the children demonstrated their many talents. If you were unable to attend, you missed a great performance. The children were wonderful.

Although we were much smaller in our numbers and it was essential to watch finances through your continued support and helping hands, it was a good year.

Thank you for supporting this vital ministry to the children in the Rochester urban community. I would be less than honest if I didn't express the worry I have for the future of Right On School. I'm worried, and it is my hope that the doors for this ministry not close.

Many thanks to all,

Respectfully,
Sharon Cardoza

Right On School: 2008 Budget to Actual

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
<u>INCOME</u>		
St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene Episcopal Church	\$30,000	\$30,000
Episcopal Diocese	10,000	10,000
Grants and Donations	46,200	37,078
Walktober	---	<u>643</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$86,200	\$77,721

EXPENDITURES

Based on enrollment of 125 children

Personnel/Staff (Director-1, Asst. Dir.-1, Camp Coord.-1 Sr. Counselors-8, Jr. Counselors-6)	\$65,000	\$42,777
Transportation	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,003
Administrative Expenses Counselor Orientation/Safe Church Training	\$ 250	\$ 120

Parent's Night	50	30
Postage	250	182
Administrative Services	480	173
Photo Development	150	---
Unemployment Insurance Claims	500	---
Workman's Compensation	<u>600</u>	<u>---</u>
Total:	\$ 2,280	\$ 505
T-Shirts	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,088
Park Fees		
Letchworth State Park (swimming/shelter)	\$ 300	\$ 240
Hamlin Beach	90	90
Genesee ValleyPark (swimming/shelter)	200	90
Genesee Valley Park Field Day	90	90
Bus Entry Fees	200	120
Park Fees 2009	<u>160</u>	<u>180</u>
Total:	\$ 1,040	\$ 810
Programs		
Dance Group	\$ 500	\$ ---
Storyteller	100	---
Skating Outing	500	506
Seneca Park Zoo	200	---
Grade Focused Activities	250	223
Appreciation Night	250	192
Field Day Activities	100	---
Carnival	1,200	789
Anti-Violence Program	500	---
Artist In Residence	<u>1,250</u>	<u>---</u>
Total:	\$ 4,850	\$ 1,710
Start Up Costs		
(Includes paper products, cleaning supplies, Instructional materials)	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,670
Food Products		
Campers Activities	\$ 250	\$ 231
Appreciation Night	80	74
Hamlin Beach	300	262
Letchworth State Park	300	282
Genesee ValleyPark	300	270
Genesee ValleyPark Field Day	<u>300</u>	<u>237</u>
Total:	\$ 1,530	\$ 1,356
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 86,200	\$ 54,919

Income: \$77,721
54,919
\$22,802

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Bruce Colburn

“*All Things Come of Thee Oh Lord, And Of Thine Own Have We Given Thee*” is the theme of the Stewardship Campaign for 2009. A narrative budget in the form of a booklet with cover letter was mailed during the fall of 2008 along with a pledge card. This narrative budget describes how the budget is utilized for our various ministries. At the time of writing, Two Saints has received a total of **65 pledges** (compared to 71 for 2008), for a total of **\$151,036** which is a 5.3% increase over 2008. The average pledge per week is \$44.69, and represents an increase of 15.95% over 2008. The breakdown of pledges is 35 increases, 12 same, 7 decreases, and 11 new. We still have approximately 12 pledges outstanding, and Vestry members have been making follow-up phone calls.

Of note, the *Ministry Faire* that took place last June was a brilliant success due to the help of many creative parish members, and another Faire is planned for sometime in June of this year.

Many thanks to Rev. Hopkins for his creative help with the Narrative Budget and Cover Letter, and to the Vestry for their help with this campaign.

R. Bruce Colburn
Warden & Stewardship Chair

WELCOME & INCLUSION TEAM

Submitted by Mary Ann Brody

Members this Year: Mary Ann Brody (convener), Allan Cuseo, Carol Dundas, Jacqueline Hopkins, Armond Kane, Sharon Nelson

Our efforts this year have focused on maintaining what has currently been working in our parish. We are also continuing to present opportunities for members to get to know each other in informal settings. In 2008 we have offered opportunities for people to meet and talk in small groups. In 2008 we organized a group to see *Cabaret* at the Geva Theater and coordinated a trip to visit Niagra Falls.

Below are brief updates on the foundational aspects of our Welcoming and Inclusion process.

Newcomer's Brunches were held in March, June and December. At the brunches participants viewed a power point presentation about who we are. They received printed information about our parish and our ministries. They also had an opportunity to speak informally with other parish members and parish leaders while they enjoyed their food. Bruce Colburn, Deb Oller, Geneva Robinson, Marge Nead, and Madeline Gamble have helped supply food. Jackie Hopkins continues to coordinate the invitations. John Clinton Bradley & Allan Cuseo provided the power point presentation.

An *Ambassador* training was held in 2008 to introduce a new format for welcoming. Currently we have about 26 members volunteering to help with this important ministry on

Sundays. Michael Davis and Allan Cuseo coordinate Sunday Ambassadors. The doors of our church have remained open many weekdays between the hours of 10am and 2pm. John Burr, Toni Burr, Carter Williams, and Burnetta McCullough have given much time to help with this endeavor.

The *Welcome Center* continues to serve a vital function in our parish. It is a central place for visitors and newcomers to find information about our church. Welcome packets for visitors and newcomers are updated several times during the year. Jean Kenney keeps the table neat and supplies the candy in the basket each week.

Coffee Hour continues as a central part of our fellowship following our worship. Rochelle Coley organizes the hosts for this time. Carol Dundas does the shopping for paper products.

We continue to be excited about our work! Feel free to join us at any of our meetings. Contact Mary Ann Brody at 546-7730 or ststephenspastor@frontiernet.net, or speak to any of the committee members if you're interested in joining us!

2008 FINANCIAL REPORTS

A Detailed Budget Report is Available Upon Request

GENERAL

Income

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	%
Pledge/Regular & Other Undesignated from Individuals	\$155,500	\$151,716	97.6%
Investments--Undesignated	\$64,049	\$64,049	100.0%
Investments--Designated	\$30,000	30,000	100.0%
Other Undesignated	\$6,500	\$6,770	104.2%
Other Designated	\$3,000	\$2,445	81.5%
Grants	\$13,000	\$12,955	99.7%
Total	\$272,049	\$267,935	98.5%

Expenses

	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	%
Mission	\$63,512	\$61,512	96.9%
Personnel	\$228,699	\$226,042	98.8%
Administration	\$15,100	\$14,817	98.1%
Property	\$58,525	\$47,623	81.4%
Program	\$30,900	\$19,267	63.5%
Total	\$396,736	\$369,261	93.1%

Deficit	(\$124,687)	(\$101,326)	81.3%
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UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Opening Balance 1/1/2008	\$863,424.30	
Closing Balance 12/31/2008	\$477,390.14	-44.7%

NON-OPERATING FUNDS

	Received	Disbursed
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$126.01	\$126.01
United Thank Offering	\$594.00	\$594.00

Bishop's Discretionary Fund	\$825.00	\$825.00
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$4,257.00	\$3,367.00*
Comegys Fund for Urban Ministry	\$750.00	\$750.00 (to Comegys Fund)
Thanksgiving Baskets	\$168.00	\$61.74**
RAIHN (Diocesan Grant Pass-thru)	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00

*Balance to be disbursed in 2009

**Balance carried over for future use

DESIGNATED FUNDS

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

Value 1/1/2008	\$32,687.11	
Value 12/31/2008	\$20,165.00	-38.3%

Note: \$2,100 was withdrawn this year to assist in covering mission expenses.

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

Value 1/1/2008	\$8,499.95	
Value 12/31/2008	\$5,392.27	-36.6%

Notes:

\$1,138.31 of this fund is actually general Memorial Fund money.

\$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 1/1/2008	\$4,217.97	
Value 12/31/2008	\$4,308.15	+2.1%

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

Value 1/1/2008	\$2,180.43	
Value 12/31/2008	\$1,439.45	-34%

Notes:

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

\$50 donation was deposited.

\$500 was used to construct Columbarium; \$380 was used for Sunday flowers.

\$196.92 of this balance is designated for flowers.

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

Opening Balance 1/1/08	\$15,728.26	
Balance 12/31/08	\$63,225.38	+302%

Notes:

\$57,114.15 withdrawal for expenses.

\$119,631.56 deposited from contributions; \$707.97 interest received

Comegys Fund for Urban Ministry *(for use in urban ministry education)*

Opening Balance 1/1/08	\$5,612.14	
Balance 9/30/08	\$5,226.52	-6.9%

Men’s Association

Unavailable at this time.

Right On School

See Right On School report, p. 19.

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 1/1/08	\$462.42
Balance 12/31/08	\$643.06
Disbursed Outside the Parish	\$3,212.75
Disbursed Inside the Parish	\$250.00

Assistant Rector’s Discretionary Fund

Opening Balance 1/1/08	\$300.43
Balance 12/31/08	\$0 (account closed)

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.

LIABILITIES

Kitchen Loan (2003)	\$32,225.34
Construction Loan (2008)	\$190,000.00

2009 BUDGET FOR ST. LUKE & ST. SIMON CYRENE

Income

	2009 Budget	Comparison to 2008 Actual
Pledge/Regular & Other Undesignated from Individuals	\$168,500	+11.1%
Investments--Undesignated	\$61,525	-10.9%
Investments--Designated	\$10,000	-66.7%
Other Designated	\$2,500	+2.2%
Other Undesignated	\$7,000	+3.4%
Special Gift	\$40,000	
Grants	\$31,000	+139.3%
Total	\$320,525	+19.6%

Expenses

	2009 Budget	Comparison to 2008 Actual
Mission	\$39,100	-36.4%
Personnel	\$198,950	-12.0%
Administration	\$12,550	-15.3%
Property	\$50,725	+6.5%
Program	\$18,150	-5.8%
Total	\$319,376	-13.5%

Surplus	\$1,149	
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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:

Jane R. Hanford
Esther P. Gates
Armond R. Kane
James T. Young, Sr.

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.