

The Ministry of Mission for 2010 at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church



Phil English and Carolyn Johnson, Co-chairs of the Mission Committee

At CCPC, mission brings members of our church family closer together and links them with the needs of our local community, and issues of poverty, social justice, and peace in the wider world. Our mission work combines **ministries of compassion** and **ministries of justice**. We provide immediate services while also working to reform public policies. A great many people are involved in mission through the projects funded through the Mission Committee, volunteer efforts through the church, and their own calls to service as engaged Christians.

In 2010, the Session-approved Mission Budget of \$102,400 represented 8.25% of the annual church budget, a reduction of \$20,000 from the previous year. The addition of Special Offerings, Gifts of Hope, and other special giving opportunities brought the total of mission contributions to \$187,332.

Among the responsibilities of the Mission Committee are:

◆ **To plan and conduct two special worship services, Justice Sunday & Environmental Justice Sunday**

Summary of What We Contribute -2010

Denominational	\$ 81,982
Local and National	\$ 79,496
International	\$ 25,854

Total Mission Contributions **\$187,332**

Early in 2010, on **Justice Sunday** we welcomed Lester Strong, CEO of Experience Corps, an organization that engages adults 55 and older as literacy tutors for struggling students in public schools. In his sermon, Lester offered his special perspectives on God's love as it translates into what we are doing to give the highest and best of ourselves in service. Following the service he participated in a lively panel discussion with interested members of the congregation.

On April 18, we celebrated the stewardship of God's creation on **Environmental Justice Sunday**. The guest preacher was Beth Norcross, an adjunct faculty member at Wesley Theological Seminary where she teaches courses about eco-theology. Beth has led workshops and retreats on nature and spirituality, and she has developed a number of educational resources. The day included special displays and information provided by our Earth Stewards Task Force.

◆ **To coordinate and oversee CCPC's own Hunger Offering plus four Special Offerings**

CCPC's own **Hunger Offering** is collected monthly, on the 3rd Sunday of every month. The offering is distributed equally among the following: CCPC's own Transition Assistance Program (TAP); Shikoko Orphans Ministry (Shitoli Solid Rock Group) in Kenya; and Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring.

One Great Hour of Sharing, which was received during Lent, was given through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for rebuilding in Haiti following the devastating earthquake in January, 2010.

The **Pentecost Offering** recipient, Interfaith Works, was designated by Session upon the recommendation of the Mission Committee. The offering was divided among the Backpack Program, providing needed school supplies; Friends in Action, a family mentoring program; and the Vocational Services Program, helping low-income and homeless individuals become self-sufficient through employment.

The **Peacemaking Offering** was collected on World Communion Sunday, October 3, and divided among peacemaking programs of the denomination, presbytery, and congregations. The Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza was chosen by the Mission Committee as the recipient of 25% of the offering.

The **Christmas Joy Offering** was collected during Advent and divided among the Presbyterian Racial-Ethnic Schools and Emergency Relief Funds for retired clergy and missionaries through the Presbyterian Board of Pensions.

◆ To allocate the Session-approved Mission Budget through a proposal process that occurs early in the calendar year

The Mission Committee's largest single contribution (30% of Mission Budget in 2010) helps to underwrite the important national and international mission activities of the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 2010, about 50% of CCPC's total mission donations funded more than a dozen local organizations in the Washington metropolitan area, most of which provide direct services for poor and under-served populations and/or work on issues of social justice. Generally receiving grants ranging in size from \$1,000 to \$5,000, these organizations also benefit from the participation of CCPC volunteers. The remaining mission contributions were directed both within the US and internationally. Some highlights from recipients of funds from our Mission Budget:

CCPC's own **Transition Assistance Program (TAP)** serves indigent men and women who are striving to make positive transitions in their lives. TAP has 24 active volunteers and one part-time paid worker who run the program on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. In 2010, TAP served 862 clients who made 1446 visits to TAP's office at CCPC. The program helps clients in a variety of ways, most aimed at improving their chances for employment. Examples in 2010 were 388 DC photo IDs; 579 birth certificates; 538 SmarTrip farecards and bus passes for travel to interviews and to the early weeks of a new job; 163 police clearances; and work-appropriate clothing for 351 clients.

The **Reentry Task Force** has focused on persuading the DC City Council to support Ban the Box legislation, and retain funding for the CIC (Corrections Information Commission). The Council did vote for Ban the Box, which removes the requirement for job applicants to indicate whether they have been incarcerated at the outset of their job application. The law only applies to government jobs. The Task Force continues to press for it to apply to contractors. The Task Force sends out publicity about many training events in the area to its broad network of members.

In October 2010, in conjunction with CCPC's financial support of the **DC and Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity** affiliates, more than 20 CCPC members participated in our congregation's 7th annual build day. The group worked at an ambitious new construction site in the Ivy City neighborhood of Northeast Washington, building side-by-side with future homeowners to help transform a neighborhood.

Other principal local missions of the church include volunteers and support for: ESL classes on Sunday afternoons at CCPC, Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place, IONA Senior Services Center, Jubilee Jobs, Miriam's Kitchen, Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic, Thrive DC, Capital Partners for Education, the Downtown Cluster of Congregations, the Sunday Evening Meal Program at Our Lady of Lourdes in Bethesda, a week of meals at the Community Based Shelter of Interfaith Works, and the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), where we renewed our membership commitment in 2010.

Finally, the village of **Shikoko in Western Kenya**, CCPC's primary international mission activity, continued to receive support from the annual mission budget, Gifts of Hope market, and the monthly Hunger Offering for health, education, orphan feeding, and other community development projects. A new well finally became operational in August, complete with an electric pump, a storage tank, and pipes to provide running water to the primary and secondary schools, and the clinic. A second highlight was the establishment of a computer center at the secondary school with the help of two CCPC youth who spent one week introducing students to the wonders of computers and the internet.

Denominational Mission

Where We Contribute...

- Project Homecoming, New Orleans \$ 5,000
The home rebuilding ministry of the Presbytery of South Louisiana.
- General Benevolence Support to the Presbyterian Church (USA) \$ 30,000
Unrestricted donations to support local, national, and international mission programs, including overseas mission partners and co-workers sponsored by the denomination and the presbytery.
- Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
 - Peacemaking Offering (*dedicated on World Communion Sunday*) \$ 5,826
 - Christmas Joy Offering (*dedicated the Sunday before Christmas*) \$ 8,318
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
 - Haiti Earthquake Relief (*from One Great Hour of Sharing and a special offering*) \$ 23,653
 - Pakistan Flood Relief \$ 7,535
 - General PDA Contributions (*from Gifts of Hope*) \$ 1,650

Where We Serve...

- **Project Homecoming New Orleans Mission Trip** - 6 adults participated in a week-long mission work trip to New Orleans in February working to help rebuild homes.

Local & National Mission

Where We Contribute...

- Transition Assistance Program (*mission budget, Gifts of Hope, and Hunger Offering*) \$21,561
- Interfaith Works (*Pentecost Special Offering and Gifts of Hope*) \$13,395
- Habitat for Humanity (*both Washington, DC and Montgomery Co.*) \$ 6,125
- Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place \$ 5,000
- Jubilee Jobs \$ 5,000
- Washington Interfaith Network \$ 4,000
- Shepherd's Table (*monthly Hunger Offering*) \$ 3,501
- Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic \$ 3,000
- IONA Senior Services Center \$ 3,000
- Bread for the City (*from Gifts of Hope*) \$ 2,463
- CCPC's ESL Program \$ 2,072
- Capital Partners for Education \$ 2,000
- Youth in Mission (*mission budget and silent auction fundraiser*) \$ 1,918
- National Capital Presbytery Clergy Crisis Fund (*special offering*) \$ 1,629
- Sunday Evening Meal Program at Our Lady of Lourdes, Bethesda \$ 1,200
- Downtown Cluster of Congregations \$ 1,000
- Bread for the World \$ 1,000
- Miriam's Kitchen \$ 1,000
- Earth Stewards and Church Recycling \$ 500
- Anacostia Community Outreach Center (ACOC) Christmas Party \$ 132

Where We Serve...

- **Transition Assistance Program (TAP)** - is a direct outreach ministry of CCPC, staffed and run primarily by volunteers who interview and assist clients, prepare bag lunches, maintain the clothes closet, and oversee administrative responsibilities. Some volunteers serve 3 hours on the 3 days per week that TAP is open. Others work "behind the scenes." The CCPC After-School Program makes sandwiches for TAP weekly.
- **Bread for the City** - CCPC members gave more than 300 new and used children's books for the medical clinic waiting room.

- **Miriam’s Kitchen** – A dozen volunteers prepare and serve breakfast on the first Tuesday of the month. Cereal, coffee, and other items are collected throughout the year.
- **Thrive DC** – Volunteers prepare and serve dinner on the fourth Monday of the month. (3-4 volunteers monthly)
- **Sunday Evening Meal at Our Lady of Lourdes, Bethesda** – Volunteers from CCPC, including young adults and Hearthstones and Firesides youth, prepare, deliver, and occasionally help serve the evening meal for 50 people every other month on the 4th Sunday of the month.
- **Habitat for Humanity** – More than 20 members participated in a build day in October in the Ivy City neighborhood of Northeast Washington, DC.
- **Interfaith Works Community Based Shelter** – About 30 volunteers provide meals for the Montgomery County Shelter for one week each year.
- **English as Second Language** – Volunteers teach English classes weekly on Sunday afternoons. (6-8 volunteers serve 30-plus enrolled students weekly)
- **Earth Stewards** – Earth Stewards advocate and educate within the congregation on environmental concerns related to global warming, water and energy use, and recycling.
- **Re-entry Task Force** - CCPC members join with community representatives to work on concerns of returning residents following prison.
- **Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)** – In 2010, CCPC officially rejoined WIN and volunteers participated in WIN meetings and voter information in DC.
- **Anacostia Community Outreach Center (ACOC)** – The Weekday Nursery School and After School Programs collected toys for the children at ACOC for Christmas.
- **Children’s Hospital** – The CCPC After School Program and Sunday School made and filled 28 Christmas Stockings for children at Children’s Hospital.
- **Gifts of Hope Alternative Gift Market** - Gifts of Hope offers the opportunity for people to make meaningful contributions to many of the mission projects and ministries which CCPC supports in lieu of other Christmas gifts. (*Those contributions are reflected throughout this report.*)
- **CCPC Confirmation Class** members each undertook a personal service project and together provided an evening meal for the Interfaith Works Community Based Shelter.

International Mission

Where We Contribute...

▪ Shikokho Mission Partnership in Western Kenya <i>(mission budget and Hunger Offering)</i>	\$15,001
▪ Heifer Project International <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	\$ 3,738
▪ Medical Benevolence Foundation <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	\$ 2,835
▪ Ali Arab Hospital in Gaza <i>(mission budget and Peacemaking Offering)</i>	\$ 3,000
▪ Chile Earthquake Relief <i>(individual gifts)</i>	\$ 1,280

Oikocredit - CCPC has \$4,335 invested in Oikocredit, an international micro-lending fund which supports small-dollar loans in developing countries.

Where We Serve...

- **Shikokho Mission Trip** - In August, four CCPC representatives traveled to Kenya for a visit with our mission partners in Shikokho and brought greetings and support from CCPC. They also took eyeglasses and “Crocs for Kenya” contributed by the congregation.

In 2011, the **Mission Committee** hopes to broaden CCPC’s Mission work, linking it more closely with other aspects of church life and engaging more people, especially youth and younger families. All are welcome to the Mission Committee meetings, which usually occur on the fourth Tuesday of each month.
