

Colonial Church Annual Ministry Reports 2010 - 2011

Deacon Committee

The 2010 – 2011 year was “rich and full” for the Deacons Committee. We cared for the congregation in every way imaginable. We prayed and cried with you, and made sure that we were there when you needed support. We praised you and laughed with you, bolstering the Colonial spirit. We also welcomed new members, celebrated births and sent out 20 cards per month to provide support and encouragement to members of the Colonial family.

The year started, at the request of the moderator, with a joint retreat with the Church Council to both welcome Daniel Harrell and get his perspective on the new church year. After the joint meeting we met separately to build community with the new deacons and assign responsibilities for the coming months. Each week throughout the spring the deacons read scripture, manned the welcome tables and served coffee and bagels after the first service.

The deacons served lemonade in the courtyard throughout the summer. In the fall, prior to Celebration Sunday, we worked the phones to invite people back from vacation to unite with their church family ... and on that Sunday the church was full. As the fall progressed we dressed in Pilgrim costumes for Thanksgiving, and planned Advent services at Friendship Village. The caroling party at Friendship Village was initially snowed out, and may be reevaluated.

It was felt that our staff needed more prayer support, so each deacon selected a staff member as a prayer partner. This is a new concept, and is still being evaluated by the staff.

As Lent drew near the deacons were again busy with the staff planning worship services at Friendship Village. We organized a calling campaign to invite our members to the Easter services, and held our traditional Easter breakfast for those attending the sunrise service. Daniel preached to a full house, and we could feel that Christ had risen.

From a financial standpoint we started the year with a \$5,600.00 budget ... the same as the previous year. With year to date expenses of approximately \$2,500.00, and limited expenses expected for the balance of the church year, we will end the year with a surplus. Part of this surplus is due to reduced expenses for our “In Care” program.

This has been a wonderful opportunity for both of us to do God’s work while serving with a very talented and dedicated group of deacons. We hold you all in our prayers.

Respectfully,

Jeff Scott & Jill Lindsey
Senior Deacons

Worship, Music & Arts

The Colonial Chorale was the primary worship leading ensemble at the 9:30 a.m. worship services in 2010/2011. This year the Chorale welcomed the addition of the Colonial Choral Scholars thanks in part to the foundation grant and development of the program by our full-time director of WMA, Mark Stover. 4 college students (1 in each section) added their remarkable talent to the Chorale thanks to the creation of this scholarship program. The Colonial Chamber Singers ensemble was founded in 2010 to provide an additional avenue for people to engage in the choral music life of Colonial Church. They led in worship once a month and collaborated with the Chorale for major Festival Sundays in the life of Colonial Church. The Colonial Handbell Choir played once a month in the 9:30 a.m. service and the Colonial Worship Band was the primary worship leading ensemble at the 5:00 Contemporary Worship Service.

The Worship, Music & Arts Committee was responsible for planning and contracting musical and art events for Colonial throughout the year. The Committee also assisted the Chamber Music Series events as needed by helping to serve refreshments and ushering for each of their events. Members of the Committee also assisted at the Lake Wobegon Brass Band concert in December, the Edina Church Choir Festival in February and the Bemidji College Choir concert in March.

The Committee was responsible for the changing of liturgical cloths for each Church season and church decor for Lent, Easter, 4th of July, Thanksgiving and Advent/Christmas. Kathy Jerde, Assistant to Director Mark Stover, ordered all church decor for Easter and Christmas and any other events as needed. The addition of Kathy Jerde to the staff of Colonial church has been a tremendous help to the work of WMA and was a critical development in the past year.

The Committee planned and contracted three art shows between May 2010 and April 2011, including "The Chagall Windows", a collection on loan from the McKewin Family; the colorful and joyful artwork of Mollie Paulson and the beautiful etchings and paintings of Joan Bohlig. Members of the Committee assisted in the hanging and taking down of the artwork as well as hosted a "meet and greet the artist" reception soon after the shows began.

Upcoming scheduled concerts and art shows in 2011

"That Eternal Day: Cantus Sings American Sacred Music", final concert of the 2010/2011 Chamber Series, Sunday, May 15, 2011, 2:00 p.m.

Synod Senior Concert Band, Sunday, June 26, 2011, 2:00 p.m.

Alzen Family Bluegrass Band, Sunday, September 25, 2011, 4:00 p.m.

Augsburg Men's Choir, Saturday, October 22, 2011, 2:00 p.m.

Lake Country Pastel Society, August 2011 - Mid September, 2011

Minnesota Watercolor Society, September 25, 2011 - November 5, 2011

Minnesota Artists Association, November 9, 2011 - Advent/early January 2012

Report submitted by Barb Halvorson, Chair

Building & Design Committee

The Building & Design Committee, established in 1978, is charged with maintaining a coherent and coordinated plan for the interior furnishings and decoration of Colonial Church along with the planning and caring of the four outside gardens. At the same time it is our purpose to make sure the building is an open and friendly place for people to use. In recent years our funds come only from the Spring Plant Sale and occasionally from the Poinsettias and Greens at Christmas time.

Below is a list of accomplishments for the past year.

1. Selected several quilts loaned by Susie Eaton and Susan Szulczewski (whose mother Jan, created the quilts) to be hung in a variety of places throughout the building.
2. Met with Music & Arts Committee regarding art displays hung on hallway walls by the Great Hall and to coordinate type and timing of displays. We agreed to exchange minutes with M&A to keep both groups informed of activities.
3. Plant Sale—Spring Sale event (Gerten's) held in May 2010 and plans for a repeat sale in May 2011. Lorelei B. chairs events. This is the one fund raiser for the year by Building & Design.
4. Conferred with Welcome Committee of Deacon Board as to ideas for Welcome table. A sign was provided for Welcome Area in Common.
5. Church Lighting—Met with representatives of Fraser & Morris Electric Co and Davis & Associates, to obtain some professional advice regarding upgrading the lighting in the building to make it more energy efficient and cost effective, as well as to provide brighter lighting. Areas of highest priority are the Great Hall, Fireside Room, and Common area. Other areas will be addressed later as this is the beginning of a multi-year project. As of April 2011, the Great Hall project has begun.
6. Consulted with office staff regarding furniture in office. A magnetic board to enhance communications was approved. Several pieces of furniture were moved to make the area more functional and inviting. Hallway of office area appearance was improved by painting old church pew and hanging pictures of Colonial's history and quilts on walls.
7. Supervised and participated in maintenance of the four gardens.
8. Updated the Building & Design handbook which is now in process of being prepared for members use.
9. North Parking Lot Islands—members plus other church volunteers spent time preparing the five islands and planting Of hostas and other small shrubs to make the area more welcoming.

Respectfully Submitted by the Building & Design Committee,

Julie Anderson

Lorelei Bergman

Nan Holland—Co-Chair

Sally Kamps—Co-Chair

Mary Lou Klassy--Secretary

Carole Lee Randall

Lee Strang

Outreach Committee

This year Outreach focused on four cornerstones:

- Mentoring
- Hunger
- Poverty
- “Doing Outreach”...Testify to the Light

For each cornerstone we developed and sponsored educational/informative sessions and organized opportunities for the congregation to get involved and to respond. The year concluded with another successful Testify to the Light which extended the earlier cornerstone “hunger”. We highlighted some of Colonial’s supported hunger-focused ministry partners and kicked-off a new opportunity: Hope for Haiti. This is a church-wide activity where Colonial is working with ImpactLives to:

- Raise funds to purchase, pack and ship 285,120 meals to Haitian refugees in the Dominican Republic
- Coordinate 1000 volunteers to meet at Colonial on April 30th to pack the meals
- Send a team of 20 on a mission trip (in October) to the Dominican Republic to hand deliver the meals, provide support and to help them rebuild.

Additionally we again coordinated:

- Operation Christmas Child. Prior to the holidays Colonial coordinated and served as one of the Twin Cities drop-off location for Samaritans’ Purse annual shoebox drive which provides Christmas gifts to children of need throughout the world. Hundreds of boxes were collected.
- Calvary Baptist. Organized and sponsored monthly meals at their Drop-In Meal ministry. Colonial hosted the second Sunday of each month where volunteers provided and served food to approximately 150 people of all ages.

Coordinated two mission trips this past year to Peru:

- In July we worked with World Vision Peru. Focus of trip was to help mix and pour concrete, and develop children’s ministry. We also delivered 600 pounds of hygiene and school supplies
- In February we joined other churches in teaming with Peruvian Partners teaching English and building relationships.

As stewards for Colonial resources, we made annual financial contributions to ministry partners—both locally and internationally.

Mike Marti, Chair

Nominating Committee

The role of the nominating committee is to facilitate committees in filling their openings for the next year. The nominating committee oversees the process and encourages committee chairs to seek diversity in new members in age, sex, experience, and also to include people attending both services. In addition, nominating committee provides a central place to pool names and avoid multiple committees asking the same person.

In September, 2010 at Celebration Sunday, Nominating Committee hosted a table where we sought interested volunteers for committees. All the names of people who signed up were turned over to committees for 2011-2012.

In addition, Nominating introduced a new idea. We asked for volunteers to sign up for a “one-time” or “call as needed” list. This idea attracted a longer list of interested people. The idea is to connect committees with people who can volunteer as needed but do not want a three year commitment to a committee. Jennifer Jensen agreed to take on this job.

In early January, nominating committee met with senior minister Daniel Harrell. We were presented with some exciting ideas. Daniel’s vision was to have committees become task forces, eliminating the three year commitment and increasing the opportunities for more people to be involved and work together. The moderators and council were excited about this change and it became official late in January.

This dramatically changed the role of nominating committee. Our job now was to help the three committees mandated by the by-laws: finance, foundation, and deacons, as well as nominating...

Nominating met with the chairs of these committees to help suggest names of people who might be willing and available to serve. Again, we stressed diversity in every dimension.

Incoming chairs have worked faithfully at filling their committee openings. In addition, we met with the stewardship chair again providing names of people that might be interested.

Always, the goal is to increase participation at Colonial as well as to fill committees. Nominating committee checks overlap and encourages a wider view.

Thanks goes to the members of the Nominating Committee who have first been continually flexible as changes took place, and who have been dedicated to helping committee chairs in finding new and committed people for their committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Holderness, chair

Committee: Deborah Eckland, Berrie Lounsberry, Linda Nyvall, Sally Manhard, John Marty, Kay Bochert

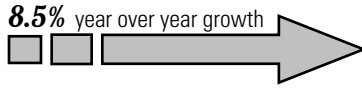
Youth Ministry

Colonial Church Annual Report

PARENTS

This past year we've tried to ratchet up our communication with parents. We send out a monthly youth-only eNews and we've started a blog at www.colonialchurch.org/youth. Last fall we had a class to try and help parents understand the changes occurring in the adolescent brain and hope to do more in the future.

104



113

The average number of students who attended Wednesday evening youth groups in the 2009-2010 school year was 104. The average for this past 2010-2011 school year was 113. This is 8.5% growth.

While we're pretty stoked to have almost 10% growth, it doesn't come close to twitter's 1,382% growth. *sigh* You can find us at www.twitter.com/colonialchurch.



PYRO 2

For the second straight year, Pyro 2 has been packed to the gills and it's a wonderful 30 year ministry of Colonial to have given so many jr. high students an unforgettable summer camp experience. You can learn more about Pyro 2 at www.colonialchurch.org/pyro.

MORE THAN A NUMBER!

113 is more than just a number. Our goal is that Colonial would be a safe place for students to build friendships with one another and with our great leaders as well. In fact, each of those students is plugged into a small group with two caring leaders. The hope is that each student will have several relationships in which they can share a care, a concern, or a joy. Don't we all really need that in our lives?

31 leaders serve each and every week

13

Speaking of **leaders**, we also have some **FUTURE** ones in our midst. Colonial has a council and the youth ministry does too. It's called the **Youth Council** and is comprised of 13 jr. high students, with the purpose of giving them a tangible leadership experience. You should hear the ideas they generate in their once-per-month meetings...

We work very hard to make sure the environment in the youth ministry is *friendly, welcoming, and accepting*. Just this past year we've had 13 jr. high students visit for the first time. They haven't missed a week since.

13

3 BIG MILE STONES

We have 22 students in this year's Confirmation Class.

Our First Communion class is for 6th graders.

We honor our graduating seniors on Baccalaureate Sunday.

EVENTS

Sometimes you just want to do something fun to break up the week to week grind. That's why we have fun events such as the Hayfire Bonride. These extra times we gather together allow us to create a deeper sense of community, plus often create entry points for guests.

TEACHING

We try hard to make the Bible relevant to students, using teaching series like "Get your BUT out of the way!", which talked about the excuses we can sometimes make as Christians, "How to be AWESOME", a 4 week study of the book of James, or "He did what?!?!", where we talked about the miracles of Jesus.

A Confo student decided that he couldn't wait any longer to accept Jesus, a skeptical guest from a tough home turning into one of our most faithful student leaders, and students coming together to build homes in Mexico. Real stories from real students being impacted by

STORIES

Jesus and we have a hundred of them.

Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry has seen great fruit in the lives of our children from the faithful way our families and lay leaders have embraced their role in passing on the faith to this next generation.

Summer 2010 was filled with creative programming for kids.

- Preschoolers had a great adventure exploring the parables of Jesus in the **Sonquest Rainforest VBS**.
- Elementary kids gathered for a unique day camp created by our staff called **God is GOD!** Everyone worshiped God by diving into His Word in the morning and then headed off campus in the afternoon to discover God in the great outdoors.
- Kids entering 4th & 5th grade joined other kids from around the cities to serve those in need at **Camp Serve**.
- Finally, Colonial kids and kids from the community enjoyed another faith-enriching week at **Camp Pyro**.

Fall 2010 saw some exciting changes in our weekly programming, despite an unexpected turn of events with my month-long stay in Australia and some critical staffing changes.

- **Stepping Stones** (2 year – 5 year old) transitioned to a beautiful curriculum, called First Look, that teaches kids three basic truths: God loves me, God made me and Jesus wants to be my friend forever.
- The Stepping Stones hallway got an **extreme make-over** with help from a generous donor and the creative genius of Carrie Calvert.
- **FaithTrek Midweek** (Kindergarten – 5th Grade) made the bold move to a contemplative-reflective curriculum, called Tru, that gives kids the time and space to respond to The Big God Story at worship stations. Staff and leaders alike have been amazed to watch kids encounter God in prayer and creative response.

The rest of the year was filled with faithful programming to kids and their parents.

- **Weekly programming** on Sundays for kids birth through 5th grade ensured kids heard God's Word and how it relates to their lives.
- **Milestones** offered families shared parent-child experiences to celebrate a child's faith journey, from baptism to entering youth ministry.
- The annual **Christmas Eve** family service delighted 'kids' of all ages.
- The second annual **Dad-Kid Camp In** was a big hit with some no-moms allowed fun!

Children's Ministry is always grateful for the loving service of our many lay leaders. It is a privilege to partner with these volunteers to make a difference in the lives of these kids for eternity. Our lay leaders give sacrificially of their time and energy and our families have stories to tell about how their children know and love Jesus more because of these volunteers. We give thanks for our volunteers.

Finally, I am personally very grateful for the staff who have given selflessly to this ministry: to Sara Silburn for her gentle service in Stepping Stones and to Michele Steinke for stepping into her position with amazing ease when Sara stepped down to care for her family; to Joel Hargrove for graciously stepping away from his position due to budget constraints, but who continues to generously volunteer; to Julie Stover for ministering to our FaithTrek kids with such integrity and to Kristin Johnson for being the 'super-glue' that keeps our ministry running smoothly at all times.

Adult Ministries

This has been a year of transitions for the Adult Education Committee. The Committee reflected on its mission in light of the departure last year of Colonial's Teaching Minister, Gary Klingsporn. We examined roles and goals, considered the various constituents we served, what their needs were and how we might help meet those needs. We explored our relationships with other groups and committees such as the Spiritual Formation Center and the Outreach Committee. We said a sad farewell to Interim Minister Jack Fortin who, with able assistance from Jennifer Jensen, had provided staff support in Gary's absence. We were privileged to be able to say a joyful hello to "new guy" Senior Minister, Daniel Harrell who jumped right in on his first day on the job to join our committee, learn about our passions, and provide much needed guidance.

The last transition step has been to hand over the responsibility for adult education planning to Danielle Jones who, along with Daniel Harrell, will use a task force model to engage Colonial members in planning and carrying out adult education activities. Danielle's new role as Minister of Congregational Life encompasses adult education along with other ways of ministering to Colonial's congregation. Prior to the transition from committee to task force model, Danielle had served alongside Daniel in supporting the work of the Committee both in planning and in delivering adult education programming. We are confident that staff working with task force members will continue to provide excellent opportunities for Colonial adults to grow.

Throughout these times of transition, the Committee worked hard to ensure that engaging options were made available for Colonial adults. In addition to monthly meetings (without a summer or winter break), Committee members also participated in numerous subcommittee planning sessions, contacted and coordinated with presenters, made room arrangements, worked on communications and publicity, served as meeting hosts, and also often served as meeting presenters or leaders. We supported the Monday Morning Bible Study sessions and arranged for a varied program of Sunday morning and Wednesday evening offerings. I would like to thank all of those who worked so hard on the Adult Education Committee this year. People who served on the Adult Education Committee during the course of the year are: Pete Allard, Kris Eide, Lindsay Wood, Beth Henrich, Lisa Johnson, Ruth Mary Lancaster, Bill Lewis, Dwayne Lowman, Bob Neal, Mustafa Omar, Cathy Pinske, Steve Radtke, and Judy Russell.

Submitted by

Ross Moen, Chair

May 1, 2011

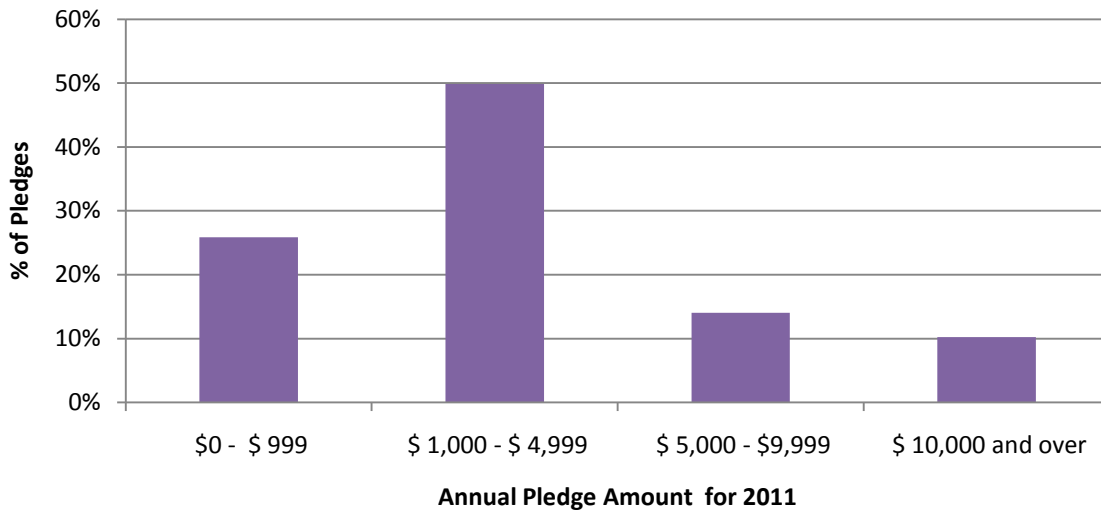
Colonial Church
Stewardship Ministry Team
Annual Report 2010-2011

The Stewardship Ministry Team collaborated with Daniel Harrell and the staff this year to plan our traditional annual stewardship season.

Daniel Harrell used scripture from 2 Corinthians in the weeks before Stewardship Sunday, November 21, to prepare our congregation for the pledging of our resources in the year 2011. Especially meaningful was our first experience with an “in and out” offering plate on November 14 that provided opportunity for people to gift cash to a plate that became a resource to those who were in immediate need. Many gave and a variety of needs were met.

On Stewardship Sunday, November 21, during the offertory time, each member of the congregation filed past the plain wooden box at the front of the church to place their Sunday morning offerings as well as to submit their pledge cards for Stewardship 2011. The card offered individuals opportunity to plan for financial giving as well as to pledge support for God’s work through service and prayer.

The response from our congregation was strong. We have received, to date, 371 pledges for a total of \$1,409,387. As compared to Stewardship 2010, 2011 pledging units are up 3.9% with pledged dollars up 5.5%.



As we live in Christ we reflect His generous spirit. As we share the many gifts of our gracious God we are a blessing to each other and to the world. Praise be to God!

Carolyn Meyer, Chair
Stewardship Ministry Team

Colonial Church Foundation Report

Overview

This year saw significant effort on the part of our committees to clarify and streamline existing procedures and to elevate awareness of the Foundation and its goals among Colonial members:

- The grants application and award procedures were clarified and expanded so that church staff and Foundation board members can apply consistent standards and jointly mark progress in the grant approval process.
- A major initiative was undertaken to review and improve the communications strategies and practices employed by the Foundation. The goal is to increase the general level of awareness among the congregation and to expand giving opportunities beyond estate planning to include major life events. This effort moves toward completion.
- Appropriate modifications were made to existing policy and investment guideline documents.
- Board members supported other church efforts such as outreach and Colonial Seniors.

Financial Results

Responsible oversight of the funds entrusted to the Foundation continues to be our primary duty. All of the losses incurred in the recent market decline have been recovered, and the fund balance is at its highest point ever even though grants have exceeded gifts and contributions since our previous peak.

- Our investment fund managed by Compass Capital reached a balance of \$1,704,846 at the end of December, and returned 10.4% for the year. While slightly below major market indicators, it exceeded our investment target and was appropriate for a balanced, conservatively managed fund. The fund was managed within our asset allocation guidelines.
- Gifts and contributions were received in the amount of \$46,309.
- Grants totaling \$84,591 were made to the church and supported a number of areas:
 - Stewardship advancement
 - Senior minister search expenses
 - Water softener replacement
 - New windows in the youth lounge
 - Gardens
 - The Guelich lectureship
 - Significant new initiatives in Music Ministry

This was an active year for the Foundation and I want to thank all of the board members, our consultant, Linda Nyvall, and the church staff for their energy and conscientious participation. New developments are sure to challenge both Colonial Church and the Foundation, but I'm confident that those challenges will be met in a spirit of service and faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Williams

Finance Committee

We entered the year with optimistic expectations – anticipating an increase in giving as a result of the arrival of Daniel Harrell as our new Sr. Minister and the increasing sense of optimism within the membership. While we were able to budget for staff raises, an opportunity not seen in several years, we were still limited in our allocations to Outreach and Building & Grounds – critically important areas of focus for our church.

We made it through the year with expenses well in check due to staff efforts and some turnover. Giving was consistently ahead of last year, but less than what we had expected. We experienced greater variation in monthly giving than in past years (highest December and lowest March since 2002), which resulted in a shortfall right at the end of the year.

Additionally:

- The audit report prepared at the beginning of the year reflected some procedural improvements made by staff.
- A positive relationship with our banker helped us continue our mortgage on a favorable basis.
- The transition following the departure of Joy Hansen and the arrival of Pam Halvorson has been handled very smoothly by staff and provides opportunities for procedural review and enhancement.
- Staff and the committee started planning for the financial tasks required for the advancement of the land use project.
- The Finance Committee has started collaborating with the Colonial Foundation to present a more coordinated approach to budgeting for continuing efforts and new endeavors.

As we close out this year, we are encouraged by the increase in pledges that you've made, and are optimistic that we can start an upward trend in our Outreach and Building and Grounds budgets.

Respectfully submitted

Colonial Church Finance Committee

Barry Naugle, Chair

Steve Thatcher, Vice chair

Paul Cavanor, Treasurer and Council liaison

Karen Larkin

Dave Fronek

Susan Lussky

Tom Smullen

Clay Miller

Kurt Duhn