

## Mission, Outreach & Social Action

*The King will reply,  
"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine,  
you did for me." Matthew 25:40 (NIV)*

The parable of the sheep and goats from Matthew 25 tells us that we, the Church, are to be God's body: His mouth, ears, hands, feet and heart; in our family, parish family, community and world. On behalf of the Vestry and parish, thank-you to all who contribute to this role in some way, both through and outside of the parish, with gifts of prayer, time or money. And once again, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight some parish-related initiatives and the particular efforts of some.

Thanks to:

- The St. Anne's Mothers' Union, in particular Ana Watts, and helpers for the huge effort given to the Christmas **White Gift** program to bless a number of needy persons.
- Mothers' Union and the Youth Group for running the annual **Loaves and Fishes** initiative to fill the cupboards downstairs so that the parish may offer an immediate meal to those who knock on our door and are hungry.
- The ACW for their great efforts primarily in holding their annual **Bazaar** for the support of local, national and foreign ministries.
- Bev Fowler and his team who organized the annual **Rod Leroux Memorial Golf Tournament** which raised \$1,200 for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.
- Sharry Pope who keeps us informed of **PWRDF** initiatives (please see separate report).
- Those who filled one or more of the 100 **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**, and to those who looked after packing and delivering them.
- The Rev. Paul and the Youth Group who hosted both a Halloween and a St. Nicholas party as an outreach to elementary school children.
- The Clergy who minister to the many needy persons who arrive at our doors.

This past fall we were pleased to have the Rev. Paul Jeffries speak to a number of groups in the parish about his work at Bishop McAllister School in Uganda. Pat Carlson, a well-know local advocate for the disadvantaged, spoke to the Social Activities Club. Dr. Stephen Hart also spoke to the Social Activities Club about his mission trip to Malawi.

The non-specified Missions/Outreach budget line of \$2050 was spent in 2008 as follows:

Church Army	\$500.00
Canadian Bible Society	\$300.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators	\$300.00
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (Dr. Scott Dunham UNB/STU)	\$600.00
Oversees Missionary Fellowship (support of Nancy Stephens)	\$350.00

In particular, we have put Nancy Stephens back on our support list. Nancy is the sister of Sharon Pope and Patricia Stephens of our parish and serves as Candidate Coordinator with Oversees

Missionary Fellowship Canada. In addition, a \$5000 donation was made to the Camps Capital Campaign from the Youth Outreach (formerly Cornerstone) Fund.

More information about the ministries the parish supports as well as other mission and outreach opportunities can be found on the bulletin boards in the downstairs hall or on the parish website (parishchurch.ca). If you are interested in being more involved in any of these areas within the parish, please speak to me.

I would like to close this report with a story Shane Claiborne tells in his book, *The Irresistible Revolution* (Zondervan, 2006), which reminds us of what God is calling us to do and be.

Two guys are talking to each other, and the one of them says he has a question for God. He wants to ask why God allows all of this poverty and war and suffering to exist in the world. And his friend says, "Well, why don't you ask?" The fellow shakes his head and says he is scared. When his friend asks why, he mutters, "I'm scared God will ask me the same question."

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Jacobs

For those interested in the news from Rob Langmaid, Church Army Captain and Northern Gateway Chaplain in The Pas, Manitoba, here is his report for the month of December 2008:

Although December was a short working month it was also a very, very busy month for the 17 days that I remained in The Pas before starting Christmas with Family in New Brunswick. During the month the main project was various Christmas activities, as such between the Chaplaincy and Living Waters Church we handed out about 100 Christmas gifts to those that frequent the Living Waters soup kitchen. We also put together 10 Christmas hampers for those that we could identify as needing them to help to help carry them through the Holidays well the kitchen was closed. Most of the people we deal with regularly leave town during Christmas to visit family on their home reserves, but for those that stay we did what we could to help them through.

This month was also a busy month with Media relations with one Newspaper and one Radio interview regarding the gifts we gave out and one Newspaper interview about the High school Wrestling Program I coach. Which I must say is going well, come January and February we move into tournament season.

Youth group continued to go well during December with every Wednesday and Friday evening occupied for the first two weeks of the month with either a planning session, youth event or Bible study. Small group went well this month with Regular Bible study, and one Carol sing at Kin Court apartments.