

January 17, 2009
Bouton Hall

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session met in a Called Meeting** on Saturday, January 17, 2009, to consider and adopt a church operating budget for 2009. The meeting was opened with devotion by the Moderator Mark Cooper at 9:10 a.m.

A quorum consisting of the following was present:

- Moderator Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Reverend Helen P. DeLeon; and
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler, John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Al Manson, Michael Stearns and Dennis Waehner.

Active Elders Diane Kane, Mary Lawrence, and Roy Phillips, were excused.

Elders (Class of 2011) Kathy Braeuer, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, and Jimmy Spivey were present as invited guests. Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

The **Session voted to:**

- **Approve the baptism of Lauren Elise Kidwell**, born August 16, 2007, daughter of Jennifer & Chris Kidwell
- **Elect John Jordan and Mike Stearns to serve as WPC Commissioners** at the February 7 Presbytery of New Covenant meeting
- **Approve the sale of former member and Skylab astronaut Jerry Carr's biography** at two book signings on Sunday, February 8 (one for church members immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service and one for the public at 3:00 p.m.) with proceeds from the sales being donated to the operating budget

The Moderator opened the budget discussion with his perspective on the process and his expectation of what we should be able to achieve during the meeting. Mike Stearns of the Finance team presented to the Session the estimated revenues and proposed spending budget as compiled from submittals by the all the committees.

The Finance team reported that operating budget support pledged by the congregation for 2009 is expected to be \$692,000. Taken with a projected \$50,000 in non-pledged support, the Finance team's best projection of total revenues in 2009 is \$742,000.

2009 BUDGET REVENUES PROJECTIONS

Pledged support	\$692,000
Non-pledged support	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Total revenues	\$742,000

Since this projection is only slightly less than was actually received in 2008, a starting point for the allocation of funds began with 2008 spending. Following a healthy discussion of by the Elders regarding their allocations, the **Session voted to approve following budget for 2009.**

2009 BUDGET ADOPTED BY SESSION 01/17/09			
Mission/Ministry Categories	Expenditures Actual 2008	2009 Budget	Increase or (Decrease)
Worship	\$ 7,949	\$ 8,000	\$ 51
Nurture and Education			
Children	\$ 5,208	\$ 5,400	\$ 192
Youth	\$ 1,032	\$ 1,600	\$ 568
Adult	\$ 4,023	\$ 4,000	\$ (23)
Fellowship	\$ 1,928	\$ 1,800	\$ (128)
Mission and Care			
Care	\$ 1,457	\$ 1,700	\$ 243
Mission	\$ 37,922	\$ 40,400	\$ 2,478
Administration			
Personnel	\$ 404,090	\$ 400,000	\$ (4,090)
Office	\$ 96,865	\$ 93,000	\$ (3,865)
B&G	\$ 116,196	\$ 116,000	\$ (196)
Stewardship & Finance	\$ 66,673	\$ 70,100	\$ 3,427
TOTAL	\$ 743,343	\$ 742,000	\$ (1,343)

Salaries and wages will be unchanged in the approved budget. Minor changes to the pastors' terms of call to satisfy Presbytery minimum requirements for paid study leave will be presented to the congregation for approval. A summary version of the 2009 budget will be presented to the Congregation at its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2008.

The purpose of the meeting having been accomplished, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with Prayer by Helen DeLeon at 12:05 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

January 25, 2009
Fellowship Hall

The **Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church** (WPC) convened its duly called Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2009, for the purposes of hearing Session committee annual reports, receiving the 2008 financial report, reviewing the 2009 annual budget, voting to change the Ordained Staff Terms of Call, electing at-large persons to the 2009 Nominating Committee, electing an elder to fill an open Class of 2009 Session position, and voting on a recommendation from the Special Funds Committee. Following a lasagna dinner, the meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 12:50 p.m. Gene Fisseler, Clerk of Session, served as Secretary and declared that a quorum was present.

Printed copies of the Session Committee reports, the treasurer's report, the Pastors' reports, the 2009 budget approved by Session, and the proposed changes to the Special Funds Committee charter were provided to members of the Congregation. A copy of the package is appended hereto.

Looking At What We Accomplished in 2008...

The members of Session present introduced themselves and stood for questions regarding their written reports. The reverends Cooper, Helen DeLeon, and Caressa Murray each shared their thoughts on the past year at WPC and acknowledged the contributions made by the staff, the numerous volunteers, and our elected church officers which collectively made our successes possible. Elders completing their service on Session - Jennifer Carr, Watson Dupont, Johnny Jones, Diane Kane, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, and Roy Phillips - were recognized. Deacons completing their service included Laura Grady, Freeman Gregory, Sandra McAfee, Karen Moede, Coco Motley, Carol Owens, Andy Posluszny, Alberta Rohlifing, and Sherry Straight. The Congregation received Treasurer Pat Koester's year-end financial report.

Looking to the Future...

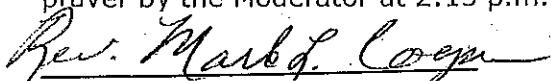
Elder Mike Stearns presented the 2009 budget adopted by Session contingent upon changes to Terms of Call for our Ordained Staff. The Moderator yielded the podium to the Chair of the Personnel Committee Watson Dupont who explained that the Presbytery recommended study leave and allowance for each of the three ordained staff needed to be increased by three days and \$240 per year. The Congregation moved, seconded and passed the proposed increases.

Chair of the Nominating Committee, James Kinzler, presented candidates Jennifer Carr and Sandy Murphy for the At-Large positions on the 2009 Nominating Committee. Each agreed to serve if elected. No other nominations were received. It was moved, seconded and passed that Jennifer and Sandy be elected to the 2009 Nominating Committee.

Mr. Kinzler then presented a candidate to fill one year of a vacated Session position. On behalf of the Committee, he recommended Cathy Black who just completed serving another one year term. She agreed to serve if elected. No other nominations were received. It was moved, seconded and passed that Cathy be elected to serve on the Session.

Dick Brackett, chair of the Special Funds Committee, took the podium to describe amendments proposed by the Committee to its charter. He explained that most of the changes were recommended to bring the 20-year old document into line with current operations of the committee and church. In accordance with the charter, the amendment had already received approval by two-thirds of the Committee and then by two-thirds of the Session at two consecutive meetings. During the discussion, it was noted that contributions to the fund need to be properly invested in a timely manner. Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed by more than the required three-quarters of the members of the Congregation present that the amendments be approved.

The purposes of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by the Moderator at 2:15 p.m.


Moderator, Mark Cooper


Secretary, Gene Fisseler

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Webster Presbyterian Church
January 25, 2009**

Agenda

Call to order and opening prayer

Assign secretary and establish quorum

Looking at what we achieved in 2008 . . .

- Session committee reports (see attached)
- Staff reports (see attached letters)
- Treasurer's year-end report
- Staff and volunteer recognition
- Outgoing church officer recognition

Looking forward into 2009 . . .

- 2009 budget as adopted by Session
- Pastors' Terms of Call
- Nominating Committee member election
- Open Session position, Class of 2010
- Endowment & Special Funds Committee Charter amendment

Closing prayer

Adjourn

2008 ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The mandate for the Buildings & Grounds Committee is to maintain the church property. The church property now consists of a full three city blocks, four buildings, three parking areas, a play ground and associated lawn, trees, shrubbery and miscellaneous equipment. The maintenance of all of this is accomplished by the Grace of God with funds from the budget and donations by members of time and money.

There are many people at WPC that contribute to the total effort that is required to keep the buildings lighted, cleaned, utilities paid, grass cut and landscaping maintained. Without the help of these dedicated members of our congregation, WPC would not look as good as it does today.

During this past year, the Buildings & Grounds Committee has done a lot of work on the HVAC systems in the Administration building and the Fellowship Hall. This has included:

- Replacement of the unit for the Meeting Room
- Replacement of the unit for the Administration Offices
- Replacement of the Condenser for one of the units in the Fellowship Hall
- Normal maintenance of all the HVAC systems

Other projects that were completed this year include:

- Replaced the doors outside the Education Wing for the Mechanical room
- Repaired the roof over the Sanctuary after Hurricane Ike
- Replaced two programmable thermostats damaged during Hurricane Ike
- Replaced the ceiling tiles in Bouton Hall
- Painted the walls in the Fellowship Hall
- Re-lamped the parking lot lights
- Repaired several roof leaks over the Administration Building
- Miscellaneous items repaired, i.e. toilets, faucets, refrigerator, other equipment, etc.
- The Electrical Power Contract was re-negotiated
- A work day was organized that completed the following tasks:
 - Painted part of the stucco on the front of the church
 - Cleaned the steeple on the Fellowship Hall
 - Cleaned the stucco outside the Administration building
 - Painted the window framing, and kitchen door on the Fellowship Hall
 - Cleaned the gutters over the Fellowship Hall and Administration Building
 - Pulled weeds in some of the flower beds outside the Sanctuary
 - Repaired rotting wood around the windows for the Japanese Garden

The little blue house on the corner is gone along with several of the big trees. Now you can now see our church from NASA Parkway. We have had lots of nice comments from both the congregation and other members of the community. Fortunately, the tree removal, tree trimming, new sod, and a little landscaping where the house used to be were donated.

The majority of our expenses this year involved HVAC replacements and repair, followed by increases in utility costs. Utility costs will continue to increase, but there should not be a significant cost for HVAC repair/replacement in 2009.

Expected major expenditures for 2009 include a new roof for the administration building and some form of acoustical modification in the Fellowship Hall.

Dan Hunter, Elder

CARE OF MEMBERS COMMITTEE

WELCOMING: There were 80+ hosts, including ushers, presented with service pins.

- **Hosting Team:** A Hosting schedule to greet our guests at both Worship services was made resulting in a positive initial impression of our family of faith. Ushers helped fill in the gaps on many occasions and continued the welcome into the Sanctuary. There were 20 people who volunteered to serve as hosts during 2008. Six new "Guest Parking" spots are in the works for our parking lot and plans to create a welcome center in the Narthex is in future plans. WPC umbrellas were placed at the doors of the sanctuary and CE wing. Signage was reviewed.
- **Connection Team:** There are five teams, scheduled by Helen DeLeon, that have visited our first time guests on Sunday afternoons from the friendship pads signed in worship. The feedback and results have been very positive.
- **New Member Team:** Under the leadership of Shallon Barboza, this team tracked guests through their second, third, and beyond visits in worship to set up Open Door Classes for membership preparation at least quarterly. Introduction to the Session for membership was made for 21 adults and 10 children. All were accepted by the session and introduced to the congregation. These new members are tracked for a year to

insure their involvement in the life of WPC worship, enrichment, and service. Three New Member receptions were held at Helen Deleon's home. There are ten members of this well organized team that are diligent in the duties they volunteer to accomplish.

PRAYER CHAIN: There are 30+ members of the prayer chain which pray daily for 20 to 30 members, family, and friends of WPC family of faith. Comfort and strength in the face of fear, trials, illness, surgery, concerns, and joys is present every moment through our Lord and Savior. Prayer requests are made through the church office, Worship prayer requests, Deacons, Stephen Ministers, and Ministers. This is a vital part of our caring for each other in Christ. Written notification to the recipient of these prayers is hoped for in the coming year to aid in their healing and comfort.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: Revitalization of our Stephen Ministry was made in the Spring of 2008 with new commissioned ministers bringing the total to six with two support leaders (Connie Carden and Julie Yencharis). This assistance is available through Deacon and WPC Minister referral for short-term confidential counseling.

BOARD OF DEACONS: There are 24 Deacons and one Youth Deacon servicing Webster Presbyterian Church in 24 zones of members. These caring WPC officers led by Moderator, Andy Posluszny...

- became acquainted with and kept track of the members in their zones;
- tracked members' church involvement and church worship attendance;
- improved communications: website ID of Deacon, map of zones, Deacon posters and displays;
- helped our ministers with hospital visitation, home visitation, prayer;
- arranged for food, transportation, and other assistance as needed;
- organized and hosted the Memorial/Funeral Receptions for our members;
- prepared elements for communion;
- kept a basket of nourishment and comfort for the family of ICU patients at St. John Hospital;
- requested the hand sanitizers that are now scattered throughout WPC facilities;
- gathered funds for a portable defibrillator to have on our premises;
- communicated and prayed for WPC military service personnel;
- contacted all zone members after Ike for situation and needs;
- invited zone membership to the successful Summer Round Table Sunday School/led discussions;
- organized and implemented the "Young At Heart" outings throughout the year;
- met monthly to share support and information concerning their zone members;
- had workshops in visitation, shared concern, prayer, and fellowship with each other;
- delivered the prayers of concern from the pulpit in Sunday Worship at least once a month;
- assisted the Session in membership updates and met jointly with the Session in December;
- received pins for their three years of service as Deacons: Andy Posluszny, Freeman Gregory, Laura Grady, Coco Motley, Carol Owens, Alberta Rohlring, Sherry Straight, Sandra McAfee, Jennifer Paden.

Jeanette Chase, Elder

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Outreach worked with diverse individuals, groups, and church staff at WPC in 2008 to help publicize events and activities in local newspapers and newsletters as well as to investigate new signage options for the church along NASA Parkway.

Items of interest that made it into local periodicals last year included Caressa Murray joining our pastoral staff, the youth musical, Lenten worship opportunities, youth mission trip, the WPC Advent calendar, AARP TaxAide training, WPC leadership of the Bay Area CROP Walk, Summer Roundtables, Lunar Communion, Rally Day, and information regarding our contemporary and traditional worship opportunities, among others. Our press releases were regularly forwarded to the Clear Lake Citizen, The Houston Chronicle (religion and Clear Lake This Week editors, The Bay Area Printing neighborhood newsletters, the Galveston County Daily, the Journal (Friendswood & Pearland), and the Reporter (Friendswood & Pearland).

The sign committee met regularly from January until Hurricane Ike blew through. The committee (Kathy Braeuer, Stephanie Dupont, Brenda Fixel, Gene Fisseler, Darla Robinson, plus Helen Deleon and Dennis Waehner) looked at numerous alternatives ranging from 15 foot tall metal signs with lighted, animated screens to monument style masonry signs. Location, lighting and landscaping were also considered. Prices quoted ranged from almost \$70,000 to \$20,000. No recommendation was made as all committee members' attention was diverted by Hurricane Ike and no monies appeared available to proceed. The team will regroup in 2009 to pull together a recommendation for Session.

Gene Fisseler, Elder

CHRISTIAN NURTURE COMMITTEE

As a Christian community of faith, Webster Presbyterian Church seeks to encounter the loving God, nurture followers of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs.

"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28: 19-20)

The Christian Nurture Committee of WPC is designed and commissioned to guide and enable people of all ages to develop their faith and grow in their relationship with God and others. Christian nurture is a life-long process of searching, learning, listening, discovering, exploring one's faith and caring for others. From children to older adults, we seek to educate, equip and empower people to live as Christ's disciples in this world through faithful worship, study, and action. We accomplish this through large and small groups, inspired teachers, committed mission opportunities, meaningful fellowship, care giving and enthusiastic study of the Word. Our hope is that those under our guidance and care will discover and utilize their gifts and abilities for the glory of God and become who God has called them to be.

John Dewey, Elder

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Vision: We will prepare the children of WPC to go out into the world as Christians

Highlights of Children's Ministry Accomplishments 2008

- Joint Mission and Children's Ministry Intergenerational project sending school supplies to Vicki Smith in Jamaica.
- We discovered Jesus' miraculous Power through our Intergenerational VBS "Power Lab." This program provided two other churches with curriculum and supplies.
- Small Group/Large Group Format for Sunday School which continues to build relationships; spiritual growth; and attendance.
- May 2008 brought Caressa Murray, our new Associate Pastor, on board to oversee Children and Families as well as youth. Her enthusiasm; professionalism and knowledge energizes the team.
- We increased our children's knowledge; understanding and participation in worship through Get Ready! Get Set! Worship curriculum; Come to the Table Communion Workshop and 8:30 service
- Children's and Youth Safety Commission team created with the purpose of addressing the safety; protection and wellbeing of WPC children and youth.
- Rally Day Intergenerational Program "Jesus Rocks" kicked off our new Sunday School Year.
- Children's Music Ministry Program and the creation of the Children's Music Room.
- Sunday School Open House for parents November 16, 2008 concluding our Bible Heroes Series
- Family Advent Celebration was a well attended evening of festivities including a potluck dinner, crafts, caroling and youth led service.

Goals for 2009

- Birth to Three Ministry to provide the needs of families with children birth to 3 years through building relationships and nurturing faith journeys.
- Children Led Worship Service February 15, 2009.
- Creation of the two and three year old Sunday Class
- WPC Milestone Ministry from Birth - 12th grade graduation
- Come to the Waters Baptism Workshop and Bible and Me Classes
- Reassignment and Renovation of Children's Classrooms to meet the needs of our growing number of infants and preschoolers- two nurseries and a children's library/music room.

Special thanks and appreciation to all the children; parents; youth helpers; team members; shepherds; childcare staff and volunteers who have positively impacted our children ministry.

Jesus said "Let the children come to me. Don't keep them away. The kingdom of heaven belongs to people like them. Jesus placed his hands on them" (Matthew 19:13-15)

Cathy Black, Elder

YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The year 2008 was for the YMC. The number of youth activities along with the number of youth participating in them has grown. This would not have been possible without the support of the congregation, the tireless work of the youth team leaders, the commitment of the numerous volunteers and parents, and the dedication of the youth themselves. In addition to the existing Sr. High Planning Team and the Junior High Planning Team we have created the Youth Resource Team, Youth Worship Planning Team and the Youth Mission Team. However, the most exciting development was the addition of Rev. Caressa Murray as Associate Pastor of Youth, Children and Families. The addition of Rev. Murray is living proof that WPC is committed to the future of our youth and the youth programs in whole.

Jr. High Youth Ministry Activities

- Weekly PYC, Wonderful Wednesday Program and Sunday School for 12 - 15 youth
- Super Bowl of Caring mission project
- Confirmation Class and associated Mentor Program for 8 youth
- Conclaves at Cho-Yeh in the spring
- Jr. High youth trip to Jr. High Jubilee at Mo-Ranch
- Midnight Madness, the annual youth planning and fellowship kickoff event
- Collected items and packed Seafarer's Christmas boxes

Sr. High Ministry Activities

- Weekly Sunday School, PYC and Wednesday Connections program for 18 - 25 youth
- Conclaves at Cho-Yeh in the spring
- Synod of the Sun Youth Workshop in Tulsa, Oklahoma attended by 8 youth
- Mission Trip fund raisers – Super Bowl Sandwiches, Sweetheart Dinner Dance, Baking Brothers, Car Wash, Christmas Post Office
- Mission Trip to Bayfield, Colorado
- Annual Summer Fellowship and Planning Retreat in August at High Island
- Presbytery involvement with 3 PYCC youth representatives and 2 PYCC adult leaders

Combined Jr. High and Sr. High Ministry Activities

- Youth Worship Services continued through the year – youth help plan/lead services
- Musical program "Exile From Egypt County"
- Support for WPC's Vacation Bible School in June
- Youth-wide fellowship activities, such as Astros game and Christian concert
- Crop Walk
- Fall Presbytery-wide Youth Rally
- Attended A.D. Players in December

Of course this report would not be complete without mention of Hurricane Ike and its affect on this church and the surrounding community. The number of youth that volunteered to assist in clean-up following the storm is an important reminder to us of the value of this ministry and the quality of our youth and their leaders.

As we begin 2009, it is the hope of the Youth Ministry Committee that we will, with God's help and guidance, meet the challenge of our vision and, through the growth of our youth's faith, change the world.

John Grady, Elder

ADULT MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Members of the 2008 Adult Ministry Committee were Rev. Helen DeLeon (Staff), Jane Markley (Covenant Groups), Bill Dixon (Special Events), Liz Loynes (Bible Study Groups), Rowena Colwell (Library) and Al Manson (Chairman). This year we started a new Sunday morning Christian Education forum and three new adult programs.

Adult Christian Education – During the past year we were privileged to introduce new Sunday school teachers as well as visiting teachers from outside WPC. They all provided a variety of interesting discussions. Also, with the help of our Deacons, Summer Round Tables were initiated and enjoyed great success. We currently have classes on Social Justice Issues and Science and Religion. There are other exciting classes planned for the Lent and Spring sessions. Please join us.

Special Events Board – This Board was formed in 2008 and is responsible for bringing special events to WPC and the local community. The first event is the Biblical Storytelling Workshop. We urge you to participate in this workshop, scheduled for Saturday, February 21. It will reconnect us with the ancient way of communicating Scripture and we will learn to become inspiring Biblical storytellers. Call the church office to ensure you have a reservation.

Men's Ministry – WPC re-started its Men's Ministry in 2008. This group plans to perform beneficial tasks for WPC and the community on a monthly basis, following a Saturday breakfast at the church.

Young Adults – WPC young adults started meeting last summer and will continue in 2009. Young adults are unmarried and between the ages of approximately eighteen and thirty.

Covenant Groups – Currently there are eight covenant groups meeting regularly for study and fellowship. We care and pray for one another and use Christian books or videos as a catalyst for discussion.

Study Groups – There are presently three Study Groups: Tuesday Morning Bible Class, Morning Break for Women and Wednesday Evening Study Group. The Tuesday Morning Class is made up of 15 to 20 men and women and is led by Rev. Cooper. The Morning Break consists of 15 women, meets on Wednesday mornings and is currently being led by Rev. DeLeon. The Wednesday Evening Study Group meets on Wednesday evening at 6:30. They are currently studying the book Thank God for Evolution, by Rev. Michael Dowd, a United Church of Christ minister. You are encouraged to join one or all of these groups.

Women's Ministries – The Women's Retreat is normally an annual Fall event in which WPC women enjoy the opportunity to escape for a weekend of spiritual renewal, relaxation and fun. Unfortunately Hurricane Ike forced postponement of the 2008 retreat. It will be held at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels the weekend of March 22, 2009.

Sisters-in-Faith - This a unique program that brings women together, two at a time, for monthly outings. A SIC (sister-in-charge) plans the event so the sisters get to know one another over a nine-month period. Please call the church office for more information about each of these women's ministries.

Al Manson, Elder

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

The Communications Team at WPC was established to support communication among church leaders, members, and to the community in which we serve. The establishment of the Outreach function in 2008 reduced the team's role regarding the interfacing of WPC with the community outside the church.

The goals of the Communications Team for 2008 included:

- Supervise the publication of the newsletter.
- Publish the Pictorial Directory.
- Maintain the church inventory of Welcoming brochures, and the Stained Glass Brochure.
- Create a brochure center in the Narthex to organize information regarding various church functions.
- Educate the new elder regarding the church communication function.

The WPC Newsletter was published each month during 2008. The assumption of this task by Daphne Riemer contributed several important features. The newsletter assumed a new format, and a much more rigorous schedule. It was published in color, which greatly improved the appearance. And, it was published from the office, which provided access to information and ideas from the staff. The absence of Daphne, and budget considerations will result in a more restricted format in 2009.

The Pictorial Directory was finally distributed in July. It was made available on a no-charge basis to all members of the congregation, although donations were requested to offset the printing costs. The income from these donations covered printing costs, but was not adequate to purchase brochure racks for the Narthex. The Welcoming brochure has been updated to reflect the presence of Caressa, and the Stained Glass brochure is printed as needed.

Calendar year 2009 will bring many challenges for the Communications Team. Budget considerations will restrict the scope and size of the newsletter, and we anticipate that much of the reporting on past events will be shifted to the website. We have not considered fundraisers, but would like to expand our activities in 2009 to include those projects from 2008, which were not completed, as well as our new agenda.

John Jordan, Elder

FELLOWSHIP TEAM

The goal of the Fellowship team is to provide the congregation a time to connect in life outside of Worship Services and Sunday School. Having this time set aside to meet people new to the church as well as visiting with other members and old friends is important and gives everyone the opportunity to really get to know each other and to share experiences whether happy or sad.

Our Fellowship team was kept busy in 2008. We:

- provided/prepared food for the Annual & Congregational meetings
- hosted several Potlucks throughout the year that were just for fun
- continually plan and cook for Wednesday night dinners – you will not find a group of folks anywhere that love to share their recipes more than we do

- coordinated the Dinner Club 7 groups
- prepared and cooked for the annual Shrimp Boil – the only remaining Mariner’s event
- provided support for the Solo Souls group
- provided additional help to the Deacons with food and reception set up during funerals as requested
- planned, cooked and served our annual Thanksgiving dinner in Bouton Hall - this gets more popular every year as word has gotten out on how good it is
- organized and hosted the first Ladies Luncheon featuring a fashion show to raise money for a new kitchen, when the time comes to build one, in the fellowship hall- “Coldwater Creek” women’s apparel store in Baybrook Mall provided the fashions and our members were the models. The waitstaff were some of the men in the church. Many of the guests were from outside our church which was the ecumenical mission and dual purpose of the fundraiser. This enormous task was made more difficult due to intrusion of Hurricane Ike but our team persevered and pulled off an event which was well received by members and guests alike.
- helped with the Youth Musical by cooking dinner both nights and providing decorations for Bouton Hall in a western theme
- implemented a new aspect of Sunday coffee fellowship giving it a name in 2008, “Wholy Grounds,” and relocating to the Fellowship Hall entryway
- served wassail, gingerbread and other goodies provided by fellowship team members and choir members after the Christmas Cantata and decorated in the Narthex for the Cantata theme “A Winter Rose”
- were always available to help other groups using our planning expertise with any special events, whether it was decorating or cooking/bringing food or just setting up a room so things could run smoothly
- continually keep the kitchen equipment in Bouton Hall in order and repaired and keep an inventory on kitchen supplies

The Fellowship team has an extensive collection of seasonal decorations that are available for use. Notify one of the team members and we will be happy to assist you in checking out what you need or providing the talent to decorate for you – we enjoy what we do!

We are blessed to have a small group of women that love to do this kind of work around the church - Joan McMillan, Carole Kloves, Carol Young and Lois Philips. Madeline Nugent was part of the planning committee for the Ladies luncheon in October. Blaine Goeckler coordinated Wednesday night dinners and Dinner Club 7.

Ed Boyer hosted a couple of events that are near and dear to his heart and brought our congregation closer. He oversaw the Early Risers breakfasts every month which was popular with members of all ages and before each Christmas season he baked the walls for gingerbread houses and teaches a class on “house decorating.” This has become a favorite tradition for many of our families and the number of attendees grows every year.

Our contributions to Webster Presbyterian Church help kept our members well fed and entertained and hopefully, prepared to deal with whatever issues and problems may be in their personal lives as well as conducting the business of the church. We look forward to our service in the coming year.

Jennifer Carr, Elder

MISSION COMMITTEE

The goal of the Mission Committee is to be the eyes, ears, hands, and feet of WPC, to identify appropriate avenues for member service, as we SHARE GOD'S HEART WITH THE WORLD.

Let there be no doubt that WPC is a mission-oriented church. We are members of the elite "5 for 5" club. Less than one per cent of PCUSA churches nationwide have this designation! Members contribute to all four special offerings throughout the year (Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peacemaking and Christmas Joy Offering) as well as contributing to the PCUSA Mission Initiative. That makes us "5 for 5."

Locally, we support:

- Bay Area Turning Point
- Habitat for Humanity
- Houston Campus Ministry
- Meals on Wheels
- Interfaith Christian Ministries Food Bank/Resale Shop/ and Christmas Store
- The Life Center homeless shelter
- Presbyterian Outreach to Patients
- Seafarer's Center
- Crop Walk
- Communities in Schools

through financial contributions, as well as the volunteer hours of over a hundred WPC members. This year, WPC was recognized as a "significant contributor" to ICM and Bay Area Turning Point. WPC's Ann Taylor was the organizer for the Bay Area Crop Walk (held less than one month after Hurricane Ike). Alberta Rohlifing was elected to the Board of Directors for Meals on Wheels. Bill Straight was honored as the Bay Area Turning Point "Man of Heart." Bill and Anita Knowles, Bill Straight, Jim Paden, Dave Armstrong, and Clint McAfee received "Helping Hands" awards from ICM; and WPC was awarded one of two "Ecumenical Awards" for 2007. Our own Rev. Helen serves on the Board and Executive Committee of ICM.

Carl and Jackie Allen have been coordinators for Habitat For Humanity workdays for many years at Webster. WPC will get to frame the 50th house for Bay Area Habitat for Humanity on February 8 of this year, just one day after WPC women will walk in the Women's Walk for Humanity on February 7, in support of a Habitat house to be built by women in 2009. Nationally and internationally, we contribute financially to:

- The Ubuntu project, a care program for children in South Africa who have been affected by AIDS
- The Institute for Civility in Government
- Vellore Christian Medical Center (our \$500 contribution pays room/board AND TUITION for one year for a nursing student...an amazing return on our investment)
- CEDEPCA
- Christmas International House (Bud Allison serves as area coordinator and director on the national board)

Your Mission Committee, with Kim Glaus-Late's leadership, initiated an "offering of letters" to our congressmen urging them to support the Millenium Goals for improved health care, water quality, and nutrition practices around the world

Additionally, Webster Presbyterian supported its very own community outreach programs. These are programs, like the Webster Technology Center, that are the brainchild and heartlight of this church alone.

- Phyllis Koenig, Steve Schulz, and Jim Young arrange for toiletries and phone cards to be sent to servicemen and women overseas.
- 40 boxes of books and school supplies were sent to our missionary Vicki Smith in Jamaica.
- Dick Brackett, Sylvia Kinzler, Kim, Paul and Sarah Harano, Lisa Haws, and Marjorie Seiter taught ESL classes to our neighbors at Casa de Esperanza.
- Anita and Bill Knowles, and their super-committee, coordinated gifts for 168 students at McWhirter Elementary and Brookside Intermediate Schools through Christmas Gifts of Joy.
- Post Hurricane Ike Recovery usurped the planned second year Katrina Response trip to New Orleans by the Adult Mission Team. Instead, the Team stayed in town and helped cleanup about 20 member and community homes. Workers included Dick Brackett, Mike & Connie Carden, Liz Clifford, Dave Cook, James & Kim Kinzler, George Koenig, Pete & Pat Koester, Carlos Noriega, Dennis Rohlving, Jimmy Spivey, Shallon Barboza, and others. In addition to their labors, members shared generators, meals, and even their homes with those who suffered serious damage from Ike.

Webster Presbyterian Church in mission: seeing, hearing, going, touching . . . taking God's heart to the world.

Diane Kane, Elder

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee serves WPC in the following ways:

- Support the leadership and staff in the fulfillment of their calling to the work and mission of the WPC ministry.
- Develop and implement policies and procedures to foster a positive work environment.
- Manage personnel and staff issues that arise within our church and to make recommendations to Session
- Ensure good stewardship relating to WPC staffing

The committee members are Watson Dupont (elder), Robert Cravens, and Janis Edwards. Major items accomplished in 2008 include:

- Finalizing the job description for our new Minister for Youth, Children and Families job description
- Reviewing and revising the WPC Personnel Policy
- Reviewing Child Care Worker pay levels

I would like to thank to Robert Cravens and Janis Edwards serving on the Personnel Committee in 2008.

Watson Dupont, Elder

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee members for 2008: Roy Phillips, Pat Koester, Mark Cooper, and committee chairman Mike Stearns

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the Heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ"
(Phillipians: 3:14)
And so let us run the truly amazing race with God's torch of light!

Committee Goals for 2008:

The committee's goals for the year included:

- to provide frequent presentations of information to the congregation through the monthly WPC Newsletter and "Minutes for Stewardship" during Worship Services on:
 - status of contributions and expenses and
 - links between contributions and accomplishments with respect to mission and ministries by providing specific examples of how contributions are being used;
- to initiate the transformation of the process for funding WPC mission and ministries into a continuous, year round effort instead of a single annual event conducted in the fall of each year;
- to initiate an annual audit/financial review of WPC financial transactions;
- to initiate process to update membership rolls; and
- to define process to establish a reserve fund which could be temporarily utilized during periods of shortfalls in contributions that fund the annual budget.

Summary of Committee Activities for 2008

Campaign for new Letter of Commitment:

- during the months of Feb, March, and April a review of the process of how WPC funds its ministries and missions was conducted; various publications on Stewardship obtained from the Resource Center of the Presbytery of New Covenant were consulted and personal contacts were made at a few local area churches in an effort to broaden our perspective in the methods of how others churches fund their ministries;
- during May a plan was initiated that would over a two or three year period discontinue the annual campaign format of the Stewardship campaign and:
 - make effort year round and request "statement of commitment" from each member of our congregation,
 - propose discipleship with Christ as the foundation for giving,
 - show linkage to WPC overall mission and ministries,
 - present specific examples through print media and direct congregational messages of how giving is making a difference in our lives and the lives of others,
 - provide congregation with monthly updates through the WPC newsletter of YTD balance between contributions and expenses for our ministries and missions, and
 - continue to provide quarterly contribution summaries to congregational members;
- during June, July, and August cost estimates for the various missions and ministries were requested and assembled into a proposed budget for 2009; the proposed budget was \$830,233, which was a 12.5% increase over the 2008 budget;

- in early October a letter to the congregation requesting a Letter of Commitment was sent by regular mail and email to all active members in the WPC congregation who have made some contribution during the last two years;
- Rev. Mark Cooper presented a Stewardship Sermon on October 12;
- "Celebration" Worship Services" for WPC Mission and Ministries led by the Revs. Helen DeLeon, Caressa Murray, Mark Cooper were conducted on October 19 with a Stewardship Luncheon led by Rev. Caressa Murray following the 11:00 AM Service; Rev. Helen DeLeon's Worship Service sermon centered on Paul's letter to the Philippians in Philippians 3:14: "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the Heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ"; attendance for the two Worship Services was estimated to be a total of approximately 275 and the Luncheon attendance was estimated to have been approximately 180; attending Elders and Deacons were located evenly among the tables during the Luncheon and led a general discussion around the meaning of WPC to each congregational member; a guideline for the discussion was prepared by Rev. Caressa Murray; with the help of all Elders and Deacons, Rev. Helen DeLeon, and Rev. Caressa Murray several testimonials from people working or benefiting from our overall mission were included in the both the Worship Services and Luncheon presentation; a brochure summarizing the 2009 operational budget and a few of the key aspects of our current mission and ministry efforts was provided to all attending both Celebration Worship Services and Luncheon; a general summary of the 2009 goals by committee for our operational budget was presented during the Luncheon; the A/V team provided excellent sound and video for both the Celebration Worship Services and Luncheon the presentation; the Fellowship team arranged for a catered barbeque meal offering for all attending the luncheon and dessert was provided by Elders and their spouses;
- during November and December updates were provided to the congregation through the WPC newsletter, direct mailings, telephone calls, and "minutes for Stewardship" during Worship Services on the status of the receipt of Letters of Commitment of financial support for 2009 as well as contributions received for 2008; and
- as of January 14, 2009, commitments had been received from the congregation in the amount of approximately \$690,000 toward the continuing support of WPC mission and ministries during 2009; this level of committed support will allow WPC to fund an operational budget of approximately \$742,000, which is the same expenditures that actually incurred in 2008.

WPC Newsletter initiative: updates by the Stewardship and Finance Committee on WPC finances and the impact on mission and ministries were presented monthly throughout the year in the Newsletter.

Audit/Financial Review initiative:

- In June three members of the congregation were selected by the Stewardship and Finance Committee to form the Audit/Financial Review Committee; committee members include Dick Mills, Robert Cravens, and Tye Cowan;
- Committee Responsibilities and Guidelines included:
 - determine the scope of the financial review,
 - determine the period to be reviewed,
 - select independent party to conduct the review,
 - define schedule for completing the audit or review,
 - obtain cost estimate for the audit or review, and
 - coordinate the availability of the financial data for the party that is selected to conduct the review;

- in October, the Audit/Financial Review Committee prepared and submitted a letter to 5 qualified vendors requesting separate bids to conduct both a financial review and a full audit for WPC financial transactions for the year ending 2007;
- in December, bids from two of the five vendors for a review of 2007 WPC transactions were received. Bids are currently being considered by the committee and a recommendation to accept one of the bids and initiate the audit/financial review are expected to be received by the latter part of January 2009; the expected cost for the audit/financial review is expected to be less than \$2,000; and,
- henceforth, plans are to continue audit/financial reviews on an annual basis.

Initiative to update WPC membership rolls: a proposal to Session was made on October 28 to form task force to update WPC membership rolls. Session approved the motion to form a committee to carry out this task and elected Roy Phillips to chair the committee.

Initiative to create Reserve Fund: a proposal will be presented to Session on January 17, 2009 during the 2009 Session Budget meeting to make a provision for a reserve fund in the 2009 budget; funding of the Reserve Fund would come from contributions received during 2009 that exceed the budgeted expenditures.

Mike Stearns, Elder

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Do you see what we've got? An unshakable kingdom! And so you see how thankful we must be? Not only thankful, but brimming with worship, deeply reverent before God. (Hebrews 12:28, The Message)

"Do you see what we've got?" This verse from Hebrews is a great reminder that if we know what we've got, then our only response is to overflow with worship in the presence of our living God. What the Worship Team strives to do is to provide opportunities that enable people to respond to God in that way - overflowing and brimming - by engaging in acts of worship and participating fully and regularly in them.

In addition to helping create a meaningful experience of worship on Sunday morning to members and visitors, the Worship Team is responsible for scheduling and coordinating the following:

- Special worship services, including such services as Lunar Communion, Youth Worship, Blue Christmas, and the Lent Noon devotionals
- A team of ushers who provide assistance to members and visitors, as well as see that things are where they are supposed to be on Sunday mornings
- Communion (prepared by our Board of Deacons)
- Sanctuary Guild meetings to clean and organize the Sanctuary
- Flowers for Sunday morning
- Seasonal planning and decorating for Lent, Advent, and Pentecost

As a congregation we are blessed by the remarkable talents of so many musicians in our midst. We have all enjoyed the gifts of the Faith Choir, Joyful Noyz, the Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Children's Ringers, Youth Ringers, Carol Bells, Carillon Ringers, the Recorder Concerts, Webster Strings and many, many fine individual instrumentalists who gave of their talents so generously.

We had many music programs as well throughout the year, such as the Children's Musical, the Youth Musical, the Lessons of Lent and a Christmas Cantata presented by the Faith Choir and our instrumentalists, to name a few. We are indeed blessed by the many talented children, youth, and adults who lead and participate in our music programs under the leadership and guidance of Glenn and Geri Foster.

This past year also brought some big changes. We added another pastor to our staff when Caressa Murray was called as the Associate Pastor for Youth, Children, and Families. Calendar year 2008 also marked the first full year of having two different styles of worship at our Sunday morning services. While the 11:00 a.m. service remains a traditional style service, the 8:30 a.m. service is more contemporary, with music led by our praise band, Joyful Noyz. Another major change for WPC worship was the installation of a projection system in the Sanctuary to complement the worship style at the 8:30 a.m. service. Under the guidance of the A/V team, this very extensive project was completed earlier this year. Special thanks go to Chuck Moede for his leadership of the A/V Team during this time of change! The role of the A/V team has also expanded as we now have volunteer editors who design and produce the power point slides for the 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning services and volunteer "sliders" who run the projection at the 8:30 a.m. service.

My sincere thanks to the Worship Team of 2008: Dennis Waehner (elder), Kathy Braeuer, Jackie Hart, Terrell McMillan, Chuck Moede, Mark Cooper, Helen DeLeon, Caressa Murray, Glenn and Geri Foster, and Judy Wilson.

Mary Lawrence, Elder

2008 STAFF REPORTS

Dear Webster Presbyterian Church Family –

It is with gratitude and thanksgiving that I am able to submit my third annual report as senior pastor of Webster Presbyterian Church. It has been, and is, a great pleasure to work with such a wonderful group of people. I continue to be humbled and impressed when I see how many people work so hard to make WPC the kind of church it is. That includes the paid staff and the many, many volunteers who give of themselves in a wide variety of ways. It is a beautiful thing.

There are many ways in which I believe 2008 will turn out to be a significant year in WPC's history. The first has to do with worship. There was a time, not too long ago, when I was worried about the viability of the 8:30 service. I thought we might need to move it to a smaller room somewhere, if not totally stop it. Something needed to be done. At the same time there was a feeling on the part of many in the congregation that we needed to start some kind of contemporary service. The movement in that direction began with the return of Glenn and Geri Foster to head our music ministry in the last days of 2007. With the great help of Joyful Noyz, a new style of worship was introduced to the 8:30 service. Then in 2008 audiovisual equipment was added to the sanctuary. Our fine AV team stepped up and began working the equipment like "old pros" almost immediately. The impact on the 8:30 service has been dramatic. It is now a lively, well-attended, energetic service. While we are still learning how and where to best use it, the addition of AV to our capabilities will impact our church in many ways for years and years to come.

Another highly significant event for 2009 was the arrival of the Rev. Caressa Murray as our Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families. She brought much in the way of

experience and training and skills. Our youth department needed her badly, and her work is already bearing fruit. Our youth group has grown dramatically in quality and in numbers. We now have the largest youth group of any church on our presbytery that participates in presbytery youth functions.

We made significant progress in some important areas in 2008. We have much yet to do, but as we continue our work we can do so hopefully and expectantly, knowing that God is expecting much from us and has great things in store for us.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark L. Cooper, Senior Pastor

Dear WPC Family,

2008 was quite a year, wasn't it? We experienced remarkable highs (our new Associate Pastor for Youth, Children, and Families, Caressa Murray joined us—a very high moment) and some dark valleys (Ike and financial distress). Through it all, we have experienced God's love and grace in and among us.

How many times have I reminded you in sermons and conversations that Jesus charged us to love one another, and that he told us that "they will know you by the way you love one another?" Well, anyone who was watching or listening certainly could tell who and whose we are as you responded to one another with love, compassion, and generosity in the wake of Hurricane Ike. You cared for one another; many spent hours and days cleaning up yards, cleaning out houses, providing shelter and food for one another, even cleaning and holding onto quilts and drapes for each other. It was a remarkable display of Christian caring. I have never been more proud to be a part of this family. That spirit was continued as 22 members of our family of faith set out for Galveston to offer food, hugs, and companionship to over 500 displaced Galveston residents for Thanksgiving. There is a strong commitment on the part of the youth and adults to spend their 2009 mission work in Galveston, doing what we had already been doing in New Orleans for the last two years. We can and should celebrate this wonderful spirit of love and cooperation among us. I am confident that God is doing so.

Unfortunately, though, the hurricane seemed to spell just the beginning of trouble. Today, we all are dealing with the reality of a financial system that seems to be falling apart. I know it has made life difficult for many of our families. Those in retirement have seen their funds dwindle; some have lost their jobs and others know theirs could be next. Many of 2009's college graduates will find a very tight job market. WPC will survive, though, because of the commitment and dedication of so many of you, and God's promise to be with us. We will continue to support our community, nation, and world through our mission giving; we will continue to provide crisis support to individuals who come to us in their hour of need. What we can do this year may be diminished slightly, but I know that we will continue to seek and to serve those who most need a hand up in a world that is increasingly difficult to navigate for those already living on the margins. Your Mission Committee is exploring the possibility of the Family Promise Ministry that offers temporary housing for families who are without a place to live, provided by a coalition of churches, each of which will provide shelter for a week at a time in their facilities. We're participating in a Women Build opportunity through Bay Area Habitat for Humanity, and we'll be bringing more opportunities for members of this family to share their love and generosity with each other and other families throughout the coming year. We will continue to support many of the

organizations that have come to rely upon us for support, particularly those in which our members are highly engaged. Locally, ministries such as Interfaith Caring Ministries, Bay Area Habitat for Humanity, Bay Area Turning Point, Bay Area Meals on Wheels, Communities in Schools; nationally and internationally, CEDEPCA, Heifer Project, SERVV, Ubuntu (added this year, a ministry that provides care and love for children orphaned by AIDS in Durban, South Africa). There are more, and the Mission Committee will be making hard decisions about how to share the funds with those most in need. Adult Ed has increased its ministry, targeting Sunday School classes to areas of most interest and adding a Special Events Board to bring guest speakers to help us grow in faith and might bring more guests into our doors. The Welcoming Teams did an outstanding job in 2008, as 21 adults and 10 children were added to our roles. The Deacon and Stephen Ministries did an outstanding job of providing one-on-one care for members who were struggling with personal or faith issues. Anytime there has been a need, members of this congregation have stepped up to fill in any gaps. It's just all too wonderful for words.

I celebrated five years of ordination and service with you in 2008, and you threw one terrific party. Your outpouring of love and kind thoughtfulness were deeply moving. When my son-in-law saw the lavish gifts you presented to me, he commented, "Wow, they must really love you." I was able to smile and say, "Yes, they do; and I love them."

You are my people, and I continue to give thanks to God for bringing me here. 2009 may be a tough year, but I know that we will hang together and continue to provide ministry for our children, youth, adults, and the community. The Webster family of faith knows who and whose we are, and we live in gratitude for all the ways God continues to bless us.

Here's to 2009, which will bring us many challenges, opportunities, and rewards as we continue to serve God and others.

Love, Helen

Dear WPC family,

It has truly been a joy and a blessing to join your community of faith this past year! Jonathan and I greatly appreciate your warm welcome and friendly hospitality. I have enjoyed learning about the traditions and ministries of Webster Presbyterian Church and getting to know you and your families. I look forward to many years of ministry and fellowship with you!

The Apostle Paul teaches us that many parts make up one body. Each person in our community of faith, whether young or old, male or female, new or veteran, is an integral part of the body of Christ. For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body – each with their own gifts to share for the glory of God.

In this past year, we have taken significant steps to educate and empower even our youngest members to discover and share their gifts as they learn and grow in their faith. Our children learned about worship and sacraments this past summer and in 2009, they will lead our congregation in worship. Our youth explored their spirituality and led creative worship services, and in 2009, they will design and provide a Lenten Spirituality Center for our congregation. Our parents shared their hopes, dreams and desires for their families, and in 2009, they will rearrange our rooms to better serve the needs of our children and help organize new ministries, parenting classes and small groups.

As I look back on 2008, I celebrate how God has been present and at work in and through our family of faith. We enjoyed a record number of children and volunteers for Vacation Bible School. From our back door to Colorado, our young people got their hands dirty in mission work. Our senior high youth experienced Synod Youth Workshop and explored the book of Psalms in a summer Bible study. We joined together during the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, providing for one another through manual labor, meals, and prayer. All ages anticipated the coming of the Christ child through an Advent Family Celebration. And we experienced the manger through a living nativity and the starry eyes of countless children.

As we enter 2009, I encourage this body of Christ to ask, "How are we fulfilling the promises we make at baptism: to guide and nurture our brother and sister by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and be faithful members of his church?" We will start to answer this question by evaluating how we nurture the faith of our children from ages birth to 18. We will focus on the family and provide opportunities for fellowship, faith development, and worship. We will connect young and old through intergenerational activities that enable this community of faith to listen and learn from one another. And we will continue building relationships and sharing leadership as we seek to follow God's will.

As I continue on this journey with you, my hope is that we will discover new opportunities to live as Christ's disciples in this world through faithful worship, study and action.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Caressa Murray

Dear WPC Family,

Last year was a tremendous year in music ministry! I am so grateful for the love, talent and commitment of all the musicians at WPC. I thank God continually for the commitment of these fine people – children, youth and adults alike.

I would especially like to express my sincere gratitude to the entire music staff: Deborah and James Kidwell, Nina Moede, Cappi McNeill, and Lauren Balletto for all the work they do with the various ensembles and musicians under their direction. As most of you know, Nina stepped down as our Children's Handbell and Children's Musical Director after many years of faithful service. Thank you, Nina, for a job well done! Jennifer Kidwell will be picking up those reigns this spring. Thanks also go to Judy Wilson, for her continued ministry as organist extraordinaire and principal accompanist. I would also be remiss if I did not acknowledge Jeanette Chase for her willingness and ability to step in and lead the choir when I am away. Lastly, I would like to thank my wife, Geri, for her leadership, support, and companionship. I simply could not do this without her.

The Faith Choir has continued to sing faithfully each Sunday at the 11:00 worship service. It is truly the cornerstone of our music ministry here at WPC! In December of 2007, we changed the musical style of our 8:30 worship service, going from more of a musically traditional type of service to one led by our praise band Joyful Noyz. When I asked band members if they would mind playing every Sunday, their response was immediate. There is a great amount of unseen work that occurs to make this type of service happen and I would like to thank everybody involved – from band members to A/V guys and gals to the PowerPoint producers. Last year saw the continuation and development of that service as we have also added the use of projection and increased our audio and visual capabilities. Our A/V Team, capably led by Chuck Moede, has provided an invaluable service as it runs and maintain our sound, video, and lighting systems. There have been a few growing pains

but, mostly, it has been a very positive transition. In addition to Faith Choir and Joyful Noyz, our worship services have been enriched by our various other ensembles: Carol Bells, The Carillon Ringers, The Recorder Consort, Youth Choir, Handbells and Praise Band, and our Children's Choral and Bell Choirs. Additionally, many individuals presented special music, both vocal and instrumental to enliven our worship.

Our Maundy Thursday service this past year included the Faith Choir's presentation of Joseph Martin's Colors of Grace. In addition to providing occasional music for services, our children and youth musicians also presented their annual musicals Simon Says: The Rockin' Trial of Simon Peter and Exodus from Egypt County, respectively. They put in a tremendous amount of work with truly rewarding results. One of the musical highlights of the Advent and Christmas season was the Faith Choir's Christmas program The Winter Rose also by Joseph Martin. And we offered our "Blue Christmas" service. Thanks to the musicians who helped with this service. Although lightly attended, the impact of this moving service was profound. I would encourage more people to put this on their calendar in 2009. Lastly, our Christmas Eve Family Services offered a little something for everyone. Our Family Service early in the evening was a little different this year as we retold the Christmas story through a "live" Nativity and a more contemporary experience with the music of Joyful Noyz while our Traditional 11:00 p.m. service, led by organ, choir and handbells provided a more traditional backdrop for our Christmas Eve worship.

The one sad note from 2008 was the passing of our former Interim Director of Music, Mr. George Gray. George was a truly talented individual who always made the room brighter. I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say that we are all better people for having known and loved him. He is a dear friend and is truly missed.

In closing, I would like to thank the entire congregation and staff of WPC for the love, support and encouragement with which you embrace the music ministry of this church. I look forward to continuing our tradition of worshipful, musical excellence.

In His Love,

Glenn E. Foster, Director of Music & Fine Arts

2301

2009 BUDGET (CORRECTED)

Pledged support **\$692,000**
Non-pledged support **\$ 50,000**
Total revenues **\$742,000**

2009 BUDGET ADOPTED BY SESSION 01/17/09			
Mission/Ministry Categories	Expenditures Actual 2008	2009 Budget	Increase or (Decrease)
Worship	\$ 7,949	\$ 8,000	\$ 51
Nurture and Education			
Children	\$ 5,208	\$ 5,400	\$ 192
Youth	\$ 1,032	\$ 1,600	\$ 568
Adult	\$ 4,023	\$ 4,000	\$ (23)
Fellowship	\$ 1,928	\$ 1,800	\$ (128)
Mission and Care			
Care	\$ 1,457	\$ 1,700	\$ 243
Mission	\$ 37,922	\$ 40,400	\$ 2,478
Administration			
Personnel	\$ 404,090	\$ 400,000	\$ (4,090)
Office	\$ 96,865	\$ 93,000	\$ (3,865)
B&G	\$ 116,196	\$ 116,000	\$ (196)
Stewardship & Finance	\$ 66,673	\$ 70,100	\$ 3,427
TOTAL	\$ 743,343	\$ 742,000	\$ (1,343)

January 27, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders John Dewey and Tye Cowan.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the following:

- Called Meeting of the Congregation, December 14, 2008;
- Stated Meeting of Session, December 16, 2008; and,
- Called Meeting of Session, January 17, 2009.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of December 16, 2008	730	405	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 3	+ 2	Middaugh, Kings
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Kennedy
Membership as of January 27, 2009	732	407	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	147		(+4) King, Kidwell, Monk
Total children, youth and adults	879		

Baptisms:

- Keelin Grace Monk, born April 11, 2008, daughter of Courtney & Cody Monk, sister of Alexis Lynn Monk, grandchild of Sandra & Gary Mossman, on December 28, 2008.

- Lauren Elise Kidwell, born August 16, 2007, daughter of Jennifer & Chris Kidwell, granddaughter of James & Deborah Kidwell and Sandy & Bill Dwyer on January 25, 2009.

Death – James Kennedy died on December 16, 2008.

Memorial Service – A memorial service was held for James Kennedy on December 19, 2008.

Ordination and Installation of Officers:

- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on December 14, 2008, were Ordained and installed as Elders, Class of 2011, on January 11, 2009: Shallon Barboza, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden (Youth) and Jimmy Spivey;
- Kathy Braeuer having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on December 14, 2008, and having previously been Ordained, was installed as Elder, Class of 2011, on January 11, 2009.
- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on December 14, 2008, were Ordained and installed as Deacons, Class of 2011, on January 11, 2009: Dave Bolon, Paul Cianchetti, Carole Kloves, Richard Koester, Joann Letson, Elizabeth Noriega (Youth), Katy Rendon, and Jamee Wilson.
- Liz Clifford, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on December 14, 2008, and having previously been Ordained, was installed as Deacon, Class of 2011, on January 11, 2009.
- Tom DiBello having been duly elected at the Congregational meeting on December 14, 2008, was installed as Trustee, Class of 2011, on January 11, 2009.

New Business – The Session voted to:

- **Elect Pat Koester** to serve as Treasurer in 2009
- **Elect Anne Waehner** to serve as Assistant Treasurer in 2009
- **Elect Gene Fisseler** to serve as Clerk of Session in 2009
- **Approve taking action** via telephone and electronic mail (email) during 2009 on matters that may come to its attention between Stated Meetings and that are suitable for such informal action, all of which actions will be ratified at the subsequent Stated Meeting
- **Approve a resolution** establishing various banking signatory authorities
- **Form a Policy & Procedures task force**, chaired and populated by Joan McMillan, update and codify all necessary church policies and procedures
- **Investigate increasing of long-term debt** to cover the cost of roof replacement/repairs, cost of church sign installation along NASA Parkway, balance of corner property acquisition, and Fellowship Hall acoustics improvement by reviewing firm cost estimates of those proposed activities at the next Stated Meeting
- **Table action establishing designated committee meeting nights**

Committee/Team Assignments for 2009 – Prior to the meeting, Mark Cooper announced the committee and team assignments as listed below.

- Administration
 - Buildings & Grounds – Dan Hunter & Jim Magnant
 - Communications – John Jordan
 - Personnel – Kathy Braeuer
 - Stewardship & Finance – Mike Stearns & Randy Moore
- Care – Jeanette Chase
- Christian Nurture
 - Children’s Ministry – Cathy Black
 - Youth Ministry – John Grady

- Adult Ministry – John Dewey
- Fellowship – Joan McMillan
- Mission - James Kinzler, Jimmy Spivey, Jennifer Paden (her initial assignment)
- Outreach – Gene Fisseler
- Vision – Tye Cowan
- Welcoming – Shallon Barboza
- Worship – Dennis Waehner & Mary Lawrence

Committee/Team Reports – Brief reports were received. Communications will focus on church newsletter cost containment. Stewardship & Finance will soon be kicking off an audit of 2007 financials. Fellowship reported that the donations collected at the annual meeting covered the cost of meal preparation. Youth Ministry is looking forward to hosting the Sweetheart Dinner Dance on Valentines' Day. Children's Ministry reminded Session that worship on February 15 will be led by the church children. Mission reiterated the dates of Habitat for Humanity's next WPC workday and Women Build walk-a-thon fundraiser on February 7 and 8, respectively. Welcoming announced that the next Open Door Class is set for February 15. Worship is already working on details for the Lenten Season.

Old Business – Upon the motion of James Kinzler, chair of the 2009 Nominating Committee, the **Session voted to elect Shallon Barboza** to serve as Vice Chair of the 2009 Nominating Committee.

Upcoming meetings and important dates:

- Presbytery of New Covenant Meeting – February 7, 2009, at Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston.
- Session Retreat – February 14, 2009, 9:00 a.m. 'til 2:00 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena.
- Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, February 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:55 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

February 24, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated** Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Reverend Helen P. DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused: Associate Pastor Reverend Caressa Murray and Active Elders John Grady and Jennifer Paden.

Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester and Trustee Jim Ingram.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed four individuals who have expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church. The first were Maureen and Sherwin Bigueras with their baptized three-year old daughter, Aaliyah, and their six-month old, Angelo. Also seeking membership were Sue and Ken Thompson. After learning a bit about the prospective new members, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with their answers, the **Session voted to receive** into the Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church Maureen & Sherwin Bigueras and Sue & Ken Thompson, all by Reaffirmation of Faith. The Session suspended its meeting to greet the new members.

Special Gifts Committee – The Session received the annual report from the Special Gifts Committee as provided by Trustee Jim Ingram.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the following:

- Annual Meeting of the Congregation, January 25, 2009
- Stated Meeting of Session, January 27, 2009

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of January 27, 2009	732	407	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of February 24, 2009	732	407	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	148		(+1) Lane
Total children, youth and adults	880		

Baptism – Matthew Aidan Lane, born September 26, 2008, son of Stephanie Baker Lane & Charles Joseph (Joey) Lane, on February 8, 2009

Birth – Chelsea Anne Hindman, daughter of Kathryn (Kat) and John Hindman, II, sister of John (Trey) Hindman, III, and granddaughter of Deborah and James Kidwell was born February 16, 2009

Funeral – On January 31, 2009, Rev. DeLeon officiated the funeral of Marion Putman, mother of former member, Houston Paul Putman, III, who died January 23, 2009

Transfer of Letter – The **Session voted to approve a Transfer Letter** to Shirley W. Coffman to St Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve communion service for member Ruth Struben** on Monday, February 9, in her daughter's home
- For the remainder of the year, 2009, the **Session voted to approve the service of communion by any of the pastors to members in their homes, in hospitals, in hospices, etc.** when deemed appropriate by that pastor with reporting of such instances at the next subsequent stated meeting.

Team/Committee Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The team continues to consider publication and distribution of the newsletter. Additional bulletin board may be installed to display church officer photos.
 - Personnel – The pastors' terms of call are being updated for 2009.
- Buildings & Grounds – A list of projects for 2009 is being developed and scoped.
- Care of Members
 - Fellowship – Fundraisers for Bouton Hall improvements are under consideration.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – The Special Events Team's Bible Story Telling was well attended, was deemed successful, and is likely to return next year.
 - Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to included the following commendations** in Session minutes;
 - Donation of time and services for the Sweetheart Dinner Dance - Nancy Spivey (organizer), Ross Looney (music), Ed & Anna Mae Boyer (desserts), Pet Tindall (linens), John Grady (dishwasher extraordinaire), Jennifer Carr (dinner), Joan McMillan (decorations), Carol Kloves (decorations), Stephanie Moore, Ralph & Brenda Fixel, Watson Dupont, Carlos & Wendy Noriega, Chuck & Nina Moede, Rev. Caressa Murray, the Junior High Youth and Senior High Youth, and everyone who purchased a ticket, attended the event, and made donations.
 - Donation of time and services for the Super Bowl Sandwiches - James Kinzler (organizer), Kim Kinzler, Carlos Noriega, Chuck & Nina Moede, Nancy Spivey, John Grady, the Senior High Youth and Rev. Caressa Murray, and everyone who purchased a sandwich and made donations.
 - Children's Ministry – VBS is set for June 7-11, 2009. The **Session voted to include the following commendations** in the Session minutes
 - Donation of time and service to the Children-led Worship Service February 15, 2009 - Geri Foster (Associate Music Director), Linda Smith-Gregory (Sunday School Superintendent), Rev. Caressa Murray, Lauren Balletto (accompanist), Cappi McNeil (Children's choir director), Sandy Dwyer (communication & costuming), Karen Rix (costuming), Janet Harreld (props & staging), Jim Magnant (staging), Ross Looney (sound), Jenny Kidwell (Children's Bell Choir Director), Sunday School Shepherds, parents of our children, Elizabeth Noriega and Melanie Moore (youth helpers), and, of course, our WPC children.
- Mission - The **Session voted to approve collection of One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** on Palm Sunday, April 5, 2009.
- Welcoming - The Engaging Team, the Connection Team, and the Host Team are all thriving and busy,

- Worship – Lent worship and event planning is underway and proceeding well.

Old Business

- Report from Presbytery – Commissioners Mike Stearns and John Jordan reported that the Presbytery meeting was an enlightening and good experience. The amendment regarding the ordination of officers was the centerpiece of the day and was handled in a fair and equitable manner.
- The Stewardship & Finance team led discussion regarding the refinancing of the church's long-term debt in April and the potential to increase the amount of the loan to cover the remaining balance from the corner lot, a new church sign along NASA Parkway, roof repairs to the Administration Building and Bouton Hall, and modifications intended to improve the acoustics in the Fellowship Hall. Estimates for the sign installation, the roof repair, and the Fellowship Hall modifications were presented and discussed. The order of the day was amended twice to accommodate continued discussion. The **Session voted to direct the Stewardship & Finance team to continue its investigation** into increasing the loan by up to \$150,000 at the time it is refinanced.

Upcoming meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:45 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

March 24, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a poem and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved. The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the February 24 Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of February 24, 2009	732	407	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 4	+ 2	Bigueras; Thompson
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 1	- 1	S Coffman
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of March 24, 2009	735	408	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	148		
Total children, youth and adults	883		

Births:

- Katie Allison Luedde daughter of Mark and Kim Luedde on February 26, 2009
- Aidan Robert Grady, son of Katie Grady, was born on February 27, 2009
- Logan Kristopher Russell, the son of Mike and Kristy Russell, March 11, 2009

New Business

- The **Session approved transfer letters** for:
 - Ann & Ed Barker to First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, New Mexico;
 - Andrew Kinzler to Westwood Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, California.
- The **Session approved the baptism** of Angelo Hughrben Floresca Bigueras, born August 21, 2008, son of Sherwin & Maureen Bigueras.

Team/Committee Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee is formulating a plan to work with other Session Committees to publish brochures describing their various functions and offerings. Based on feedback from the church staff, installation of bulletin boards featuring photos of church leaders and staff is being considered.
 - Personnel – The Session **approved new Personnel Committee members** Dorothy Kennedy, John Jordan, and Janis Edwards.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The **Session voted to call a special meeting of the Congregation and recommend** that, when the current church loan totaling approximately \$589,500 is refinanced, the Congregation approve borrowing of additional funds in the amount of \$120,500. The new loan balance will not exceed \$710,000. As a part of the motion placed before the Congregation, the following information will be provided:
 - The \$120,500 will be utilized first to cover approximately \$8,000 in closing costs associated with the refinancing, to repay \$12,000 to the WPC designated Building Fund from which funds were temporarily borrowed in 2007 to purchase the lot at the corner of Austin Street and NASA Parkway, and then to cover the cost of the following church physical plant maintenance items and capital improvements listed in the order of their priority:
 1. Roof replacement for the Administration and Bouton Hall buildings,

2. Install a new church sign at the corner of Austin Street and NASA Parkway,
3. Improvements to the acoustics in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Session voted to allow the Treasurer to move all the church accounts to the bank refinancing the loan.**

- Vision – The Session voted to direct Tye Cowan to work with the Special Events Committee to investigate means to bring Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University to WPC.
- Buildings & Grounds – In Bouton Hall, the damaged and discolored acoustic ceiling tiles were replaced and the large ramp into the Gallery was removed. A church volunteer workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 4.
- Care of Members – The Prayer Chain is renamed the Circle of Pray-ers. The Deacons continue their support role for the Spirituality Center during Lent.
- Christian Nurture Ministry – Rally Day 2009 is set for August 23 to better coincide with the beginning of local public school terms.
 - Adult Ministry – The spring term begins April 19 and continues through May 17. Helen DeLeon will lead a series of speakers from different faiths (Bahai, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Christianity). The return of the successful Summer Round Tables series is set for May 31 through July 5.
 - Youth Ministry – The Session approved a youth car wash fundraiser on May 3 to support Youth Trips. The youth will lead morning worship services on April 19.
 - Children's Ministry – VBS planning continues with meetings twice each month. A Mommy & Me Group will begin on Saturday, May 2, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
- Fellowship – There will be a pot luck lunch on May 3.
- Mission – The **Session approved collection of the Pentecost special offering on May 31, the Peacemaking special offering on October 4, and Joy special offering on December 24.**
- Welcoming – The Committee will work with Buildings & Grounds to designate certain parking areas for Guests. The New Member Reception, originally set for March 29, has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 26. A Welcoming Team Retreat is set for June 21, 2009.
- Worship – A Sanctuary Guild workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, at 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:10 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

March 24, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a poem and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the February 24 Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of February 24, 2009	732	407	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 4	+ 2	Bigueras; Thompson
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 1	- 1	S Coffman
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of March 24, 2009	735	408	
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Births

- Katie Allison Luedde daughter of Mark and Kim Luedde on February 26, 2009
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New Business

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 - Andrew Kinzler to Westwood Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, California.
- The **Session approved the baptism** of Angelo Hughrben Floresca Bigueras, born August 21, 2008, son of Sherwin & Maureen Bigueras

Team/Committee Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee is formulating a plan to work with other Session Committees to publish brochures describing their various functions and offerings. Based on feedback from the church staff, installation of bulletin boards featuring photos of church leaders and staff is being considered.

- Personnel – The Session **approved new Personnel Committee members** Dorothy Kennedy, John Jordan, and Janis Edwards.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The **Session voted to call a special meeting of the Congregation and recommend** that, when the current church loan totaling approximately \$589,500 is refinanced, the Congregation approve borrowing of additional funds in the amount of \$120,500. The new loan balance will not exceed \$710,000. As a part of the motion placed before the Congregation, the following information will be provided:
 - The \$120,500 will be utilized first to cover approximately \$8,000 in closing costs associated with the refinancing, to repay \$12,000 to the WPC designated Building Fund from which funds were temporarily borrowed in 2007 to purchase the lot at the corner of Austin Street and NASA Parkway, and then to cover the cost of the following church physical plant maintenance items and capital improvements listed in the order of their priority:
 4. Roof replacement for the Administration and Bouton Hall buildings,
 5. Install a new church sign at the corner of Austin Street and NASA Parkway,
 6. Improvements to the acoustics in the Fellowship Hall.
- The **Session voted to allow the Treasurer to move all the church accounts to the bank refinancing the loan.**
- Vision – The Session voted to direct Tye Cowan to work with the Special Events Committee to investigate means to bring Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University to WPC.
 - Buildings & Grounds – In Bouton Hall, the damaged and discolored acoustic ceiling tiles were replaced and the large ramp into the Gallery was removed. A church volunteer workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 4.
 - Care of Members – The Prayer Chain is renamed the Circle of Pray-ers. The Deacons continue their support role for the Spirituality Center during Lent.
 - Christian Nurture Ministry – Rally Day 2009 is set for August 23 to better coincide with the beginning of local public school terms.
 - Adult Ministry – The spring term begins April 19 and continues through May 17. Helen DeLeon will lead a series of speakers from different faiths (Bahai, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Christianity). The return of the successful Summer Round Tables series is set for May 31 through July 5.
 - Youth Ministry – The Session approved a youth car wash fundraiser on May 3 to support Youth Trips. The youth will lead morning worship services on April 19.
 - Children's Ministry – VBS planning continues with meetings twice each month. A Mommy & Me Group will begin on Saturday, May 2, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
 - Fellowship – There will be a pot luck lunch on May 3.
 - Mission – The **Session approved collection of the Pentecost special offering on May 31, the Peacemaking special offering on October 4, and Joy special offering on December 24.**
 - Welcoming – The Committee will work with Buildings & Grounds to designate certain parking areas for Guests. The New Member Reception, originally set for March 29, has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 26. A Welcoming Team Retreat is set for June 21, 2009.
 - Worship – A Sanctuary Guild workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, at 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:10 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

April 5, 2009
Church Sanctuary

The **Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) convened a Called Meeting** of the Congregation on Sunday, April 5, 2009, in the Church Sanctuary. The Moderator, the Reverend Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:10 p.m. Dennis Waehner was elected Clerk of Session Pro Tem, was appointed Secretary and a quorum was declared present. The Moderator stated the purpose and the agenda for the meeting: to receive a report from the Stewardship & Finance Committee regarding the financing of church debt.

Report from the Stewardship & Finance Committee

As Chair of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Mike Stearns presented a motion to refinance the church loan as well as increase the amount borrowed. The entirety of the motion was presented as follows:

"Session recommends to the Congregation to approve borrowing of additional funds from a local bank lender **in the amount of \$120,500**. The \$120,500 amount that would be borrowed would be added to WPC's current loan balance of approximately \$589,500 that is currently in the process of being refinanced with the same local lender. The new WPC loan balance would be a maximum of \$710,000.

The \$120,500 in additional borrowing would be utilized for the following items in the order of their priority:

1. Pay approximately \$8000 for closing costs associated with refinancing of WPC's existing loan,
2. Repay \$12,000 to the WPC designated Building Fund from which some funds were temporarily used to help purchase the NASA Parkway corner property in 2007,
3. Finance capital improvements and maintenance to WPC facilities including:
 - a. Roof replacement for the Administration and Bouton Hall buildings,
 - b. Purchase a new WPC sign to be placed on the recently acquired corner lot

Mike introduced and thanked his Stewardship and Finance Team: Mike Stearns (Elder and chair), Randy Moore (Elder), Roy Phillips, David McDonald, Carlos Noriega and Mark Cooper.

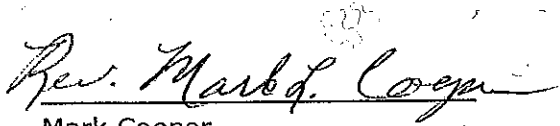
The motion was opened for discussion. Discussion included details such as:

- The usage of a new lender, Amegy Bank
- The expected initial rate for the floating rate loan is 4.75%
- The amortization and cap details
- A line of credit of \$100,000 that would be included with this loan
- Details of the proposed roof repair

- The priority order of the capital improvements and repairs

Having provided responses to all discussion items, a motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed loan arrangement. The Moderator called for a voice vote and the Congregation voted to accept the proposed loan arrangement.

The business of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 12:46 p.m. with prayer.



Mark Cooper
Moderator



Dennis Waehner
Secretary/Clerk of Session Pro Tem

April 28, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a poem and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Active Elder Kathy Braeuer was excused.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved. The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the March 24, 2009, Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

- The Clerk shared correspondence received from Presbytery stating that, as a result of the most recent equalization, Webster Presbyterian Church is entitled to send three Commissioners to the next four Presbytery meetings, effective with the May 2009 meeting.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of March 24, 2009	735	408	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	

2314

Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 3	- 1	Barkers; A Kinzler
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 1</u>	Struben
Membership as of April 28, 2009	731	406	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	149		Murphy
Total children, youth and adults	880		

Baptism – Jaxson Dale Murphy, born September 18, 2007, son of Jessica & Seth Murphy, grandson of Laurie & Jerry Albrigo, George Murphy, and Gloria & Robert Taylor, great-grandson of Alice and Dale Wolfe, was baptized on April 12, 2009.

Wedding – Julie Mead (member) & Ron Middaugh (member) were married on April 18, 2009 with Rev. Helen DeLeon officiating the ceremony.

Deaths:

- Former long-time member (44 years) Betty Ulrich died on April 10, 2009.
- Ruth Struben (member) died on April 26, 2009.

Memorial Service – A memorial service was held for Dix Beeson, a frequent visitor at Webster Presbyterian Church, on April 20, 2009.

New Business

- The **Session approved the baptism** of Chelsea Anne Hindman; born February 16, 2009; daughter of Katherine & John Hindman; sister of two-year old Trey; granddaughter of Debbie & James Kidwell, John & Cheryl Hindman, and Annette Everett.
- The **Session elected the following Elders to serve as Commissioners** on behalf of Webster Presbyterian Church at the Saturday, May 9, Presbytery meeting at Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church, The Woodlands: Shallon Barboza, Mary Lawrence, and Dennis Waehner.
- The Session discussed the importance of working cooperatively with the office staff so that Session Committee business will not impact the smooth operation of the church.

Team/Committee Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee did not meet in April.
 - Personnel – The Committee will work with members of the music staff to update job descriptions as appropriate.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The team reported that the church loan refinancing closes on May 4.
 - Buildings & Grounds – The Session concurred with the Committee's recommendation to engage Carlson Roofing to replace certain portions of the Administration Building roof.
- Care of Members – The **Session authorized the Committee to conduct an "addiction" survey** of church members and form an addiction ministry based on the information obtained from the survey. The **Session approved the request to**

host the Health Yes! Preventive Screening program on Saturday, June 27, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. 'til 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – Response to Helen’s Sunday School interfaith dialogue series has been impressive. The **Session voted to commend Mike Carden** for his “above the call of duty” effort in organizing the Special Events Board event featuring a local noted birder.
 - Youth Ministry – Based on the success and response to our youth’s Lenten season spirituality center, they have been asked by Presbytery to host a spirituality center during FOCUS on October 3, 2009. The youth mission trip to Bridge City will include 25 youth and nine adults.
 - Children’s Ministry – Participation in Children’s offerings during Holy Week was notable and there will be an effort launched by the team to reach out and connect with the families of those who don’t regularly attend. Response regarding the “Mommy & Me” group, which will be meeting May 2, has been very positive.
- Fellowship – The post-worship fellowship, Wholly Grounds, continues to evolve into a coffeehouse environment.
- Mission – Proceeds from the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Palm Sunday at Webster Presbyterian Church exceeded \$2,800. Our next Habitat For Humanity build date is May 30.
- Outreach – Until recently, the team has had good success getting articles published in local newspaper regarding events and offerings at Webster Presbyterian Church. However, with declining advertising due to the current economic environment, papers are including fewer pages, which reduces opportunities to include articles of the type we submit.
- Welcoming – Permanent designation of parking for guests visiting us for worship continues to be evaluated. Bill & Kathy Dixon will serve on the Connection Team beginning in May.
- Worship – At the request of the Care Team, the Worship Team will work with the Buildings & Grounds Team to investigate means of installing handrails on the steps to the chancel. Elements of VBS will be incorporated into the worship services on June 14, 2009, the Sunday following VBS.

Old Business – Mike Stearns stressed the importance of obtaining at least three detailed bids for major purchases and for contract work at the church.

Upcoming meetings and important dates:

- Presbytery of New Covenant is meeting Saturday, May 9, 2009 at the Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church.
- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, May 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:50 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

May 26, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following active Elders were excused: Kathy Braeuer, Tye Cowan, and John Grady.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

Confirmation Class: Members of the Webster Presbyterian Church 2009 confirmation class, Henry Haws and Kellen Gregory, along with their parents, were introduced to the Session. They each read aloud their respective statements of faith. The Confirmands fielded several questions from the Elders and from the pastors. The Moderator wrapped up the discussion by explaining that the two confirmands would be asked questions before the congregation during a Sunday morning worship service and discussed with them the proper answers to the questions and the significance of the service. **The Session voted unanimously to accept Henry Haws and Kellen Gregory in the full membership of Webster Presbyterian Church.**

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report – The Clerk reported that Presbytery of New Covenant advised Webster Presbyterian Church that it may elect three (3) commissioners to each of its stated and called meetings for the next twelve months.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	
Membership as of April 28, 2009	731	406	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Montgomery was a member of Presbytery
Membership as of May 26, 2009	731	406	
Baptized persons who've not made	151		(+2) Hindman; Bigueras

Professions of Faith

Total children, youth and adults 882

Baptisms

- Chelsea Anne Hindman, daughter of Katherine & John Hindman, granddaughter of Deborah & James Kidwell and Cheryl & John Hindman, was baptized on May 3, 2009, by Reverend Caressa Murray.
- Angelo Hughben Floresca Bigueras, son of Maureen & Sherwin Bigueras, was baptized on May 3, 2009, by Reverend Helen DeLeon.

Death – Former parish associate, the Reverend Robert Montgomery passed away on May 6, 2009.

Memorial Services

- A memorial service was held at Webster Presbyterian Church for Reverend Robert Montgomery on May 16, 2009.
- Helen DeLeon officiated at a graveside service for long-time member Ruth Streuben on May 23.

Team/Committee Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee reported that there, in fact, will be a July newsletter published. It will be a brief edition.
 - Personnel – The Committee is working with Linda Smith-Gregory to fill an open child caregiver position.
 - Stewardship & Finance – Member contributions and church expenses are both tracking lower than expected.
- Buildings & Grounds – The **Session voted to direct the Committee to populate a task force** with church members recommended by Personnel, Buildings & Grounds, Stewardship & Finance, and the church staff to investigate the feasibility of hiring a sexton.
- Care of Members – The Deacons will serve as hosts for Health Yes! on June 27 from 8:00 a.m. 'til 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – The Summer Round Tables kick off May 31 and continue through August 16 during the Church School hour each Sunday. Rally Day is set for August 23 to align with the beginning of local public schools' academic year.
 - Youth Ministry – Confirmation Class members Henry Haws and Kellen Gregory will be presented to the congregation during the 8:30 a.m. worship service on May 31. In addition, our high school and college graduates will be recognized on Sunday, May 31. The May 3 car wash netted almost \$700 which will be used to fund the youth mission trips and summer camps.
 - Children's Ministry – Vacation Bible School is just a couple of weeks away. The mission projects being supported by VBS in 2009 are the Heifer Project, Interfaith Caring Ministries, and the Presbyterian Children's Home.
- Fellowship – The **Session voted to approve the Committee's** request to host a church member Arts & Crafts Show & Sale in conjunction with Annual Ice Cream Social from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., August 8.
- Mission – The Committee is exploring opportunities for our church to support Family Promise of Clear Creek by making our campus available as an overnight shelter once every two months.

- Welcoming – The Team is replacing the coffee mugs in its guest bags with WPC-branded plastic water bottles. Designation of guest parking spaces is still being pursued.
- Worship – The Committee is exploring opportunities to use the sanctuary audio/video system for announcements during the 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service. A comprehensive review of purposes and uses to be made of the Narthex is underway as a result of the multiple requests received in recent months – posting photos former pastors, posting photos of elders, posting photos of deacons, displaying long-range plans, etc.

Old Business – The Session received a report from the May Presbytery Meeting.

Pastors' Reports – Helen asked the Session members to mark their calendars to reflect the FOCUS event on Saturday, October 3, at Grace Presbyterian Church. Helen and Caressa are serving on the FOCUS planning team.

Upcoming meetings - The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:10 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

June 13, 2009
Bouton Hall

The **Session of Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) met in a Called Meeting** in Bouton Hall on Saturday, June 13, 2009. Moderator Mark Cooper opened the meeting with prayer at 10:05 a.m.

A quorum of the following members of the Session was present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray;
- Serving Elders: Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Gene Fisseler (clerk), John Grady, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following Serving Elders were excused: Kathy Braeuer, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, and Dan Hunter.

Also attending were Trustee Jim Ingram and former personnel chair Elder Watson Dupont.

The Moderator explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review correspondence recently received by Reverend Murray from a former church employee. After sharing the contents of the communication, several questions were posed by the members of session and each was thoroughly discussed and answered by all three pastors, former personnel

committee chair Watson Dupont, and Trustee Jim Ingram. Should public action be necessary on the part the Session, an appropriate plan was agreed upon:

- Talking points were provided for Reverend Murray for future contact with the former employee, and
- A letter addressing the former employee communication will be drafted.

The business of the called meeting being accomplished, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 11:35 a.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

June 28, 2009
Church Parlor

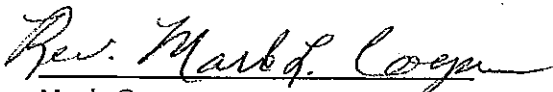
The **Session of Webster Presbyterian Church convened a Called Meeting** on Sunday, June 28, 2009, in the Church Parlor.

In attendance were: Moderator Reverend Mark Cooper, Reverend Helen DeLeon, Jim Magnant, James Kinzler, Shallon Barboza, John Jordan, John Grady, Randy Moore, Mary Lawrence, Jennifer Paden, Joan McMillan, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, Kathy Braeuer, Tye Cowan and Dennis Waehner.

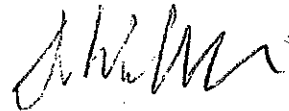
The Moderator, Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:15 p.m. Dennis Waehner was elected Clerk of Session Pro Tem who declared that a quorum was present. The Moderator stated the purpose and the agenda for the meeting: to elect a candidate alternate commissioner to the November 2010 General Assembly meeting in Minnesota.

Discussion ensued as to the responsibility of the alternate commissioner as well as the process that is followed to move from a candidate alternate commissioner to an alternate commissioner. Following the discussion, the floor was opened to nominations and Elder Jennifer Carr was elected as candidate alternate commissioner.

The business of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 12:35 p.m.



Mark Cooper
Moderator



Dennis Waehner
Secretary/Clerk of Session Pro Tem

August 25, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, August 25, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Active Elder Kathy Braeuer was excused.

Church staff members Carolyn Bolon and Shannon King were also present.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Will Powers, who has expressed a desire to become a member of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Mr. Powers, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding his faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with his answers, the **Session voted to receive Will Powers** into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report. The audit of 2008 church financial activity has been completed with no significant findings.

Clerk's Report – The Session ratified its earlier e-mail vote to approve the celebration of Communion at the Youth Retreat in early August.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	
Membership as of June 23, 2009	733	406	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Wolfe
Membership as of August 25, 2009	732	406	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	150		(+1) Luedde
Total children, youth and adults	882		

Baptism – Katie Allison Luedde, born February 24, 2009, daughter of Kimberly Dyanne & Mark Vaughn Luedde, (grandparents Charles Salyer, Candace & Mike Luedde, Allison & Jim Luedde) was baptized July 12, 2009, by Rev. Helen DeLeon.

Wedding – Jennifer Dupont & Jeff Kinzler were married on June 21, 2009, by former Webster Presbyterian Church associate pastor, Rev. Suzan Hawkinson.

Death – long-time member Dale Wolfe died July 15, 2009

Memorial Service – A memorial service was held at Webster Presbyterian Church for Dale Wolfe on July 18, 2009

New Business

- The Session voted to approve the baptism of Logan Kristopher Russell, born March 11, 2009, son of Kristy & Michael Russell (grandparents Rebecca & Joseph Hisle, Mary & Wayne Russell).
- After considerable discussion, the **Session voted to approve a change to the current WPC Use of Facilities Policy**.
 - The following sentence in the General Provisions is deleted – “The Church Administrator will forward the request to the Buildings & Grounds Committee (B&G) for approval and will post the event on the church calendar.”
 - The following sentences are inserted in place of the deleted sentence – “The Church Administrator will post events on the calendar after receiving this written request on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. All fundraisers must be approved by the Session before being posted. Events relating to a “non-profit” or “community public service” nature must be approved by the Buildings & Grounds Committee (B&G) before reservation of any facilities is made.”

Team/Committee Reports

- Worship – The Committee will publish an Advent Devotional incorporating input from Session members.
- Welcoming – Six parking spaces in the large parking lot have been set aside for Guests by new signage. The New Member Reception has been rescheduled from its original date of August 30 to a new date of September 17.
- Outreach – Now that the roof repairs are complete, the Sign Committee will secure current proposals for a new church sign to be installed near the corner of NASA Parkway and Austin Street.
- Mission – The Committee reported that 40 adult Webster Presbyterian Church members volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Caring Ministries and Bay Area Turning Point on the Presbytery of New Covenant Day of Service in August.
- Fellowship – For the October Stewardship event, the Committee will provide chicken using a caterer. Working with the Stewardship Team, the Committee proposed that the other Session committees will be responsible for set up, take down, clean up, and providing other dishes to complete the meal.
- Care of Members – Three automated external defibrillators (AEDs) have been ordered for installation around the church campus. These portable electronic devices will be available to treat potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmia through application of electrical therapy.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – Fall Sunday School offerings include Ed Tobia’s class on the Gnostic Gospels, Helen DeLeon’s class on Discernment, and Tony LeCara’s class based on a book entitled When You’re A Christian, The Whole World Is From Missouri; Living The Life Of Faith In A “Show Me” World.

- Youth Ministry – Due to a conflict of calendars, WPC Youth will stage its CROP Walk a week early again this year.
- Children's Ministry – The **Session voted to approve the following individuals to serve as Sunday School teachers**: Tacy & Darren King, Lauren Balletto, Sarah Frey, Jim Magnant, Karen Rix, Freeman Gregory and Wendy Noriega.
- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee intends to revisit the purpose and mission of the church newsletter. The supply of current pictorial directories is depleted.
 - Personnel – The Committee has reviewed job descriptions associated with the church music program and the Sunday School Superintendent. Changes have or will be made as deemed appropriate to several of the job descriptions.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The **Session voted to approve a Proposed 2010 WPC Budget** of \$814,000, the proposal that will be reflected in the stewardship campaign.
 - Buildings & Grounds – After considerable discussion, the **Session voted to approve** the use of Bouton Hall by the adult fellowship/service organization, New Directions (whose membership includes church member Bambi Fitzgerald), at a cost of \$1.00 per person, weekly on Monday evenings, through the end of 2009, at which time the request will be reviewed again by Session.

Old Business – The Session received the report from the Special Called July Presbytery Meeting.

Pastors' Reports – Helen DeLeon reminded Elders of the upcoming Focus event featuring Rev. LaDonna Saunders.

Upcoming meeting – The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, September 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 10:00 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

August 29, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Session of Webster Presbyterian Church convened a Called Meeting** on Saturday, August 29, 2009, in the Meeting Room.

Moderator, the Reverend Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 1:00 p.m. Dennis Waehner was elected Clerk of Session Pro Tem and a quorum was declared present. The Moderator stated the purpose and the agenda for the meeting being to address conflict between a Session committee and staff as well as other ministries within the church.

In attendance were: Moderator, Pastor Mark Cooper, Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, John Dewey, John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence,

Jim Magnant, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The Personnel Committee was directed to create a team to investigate the situations and recommend a path forward as quickly as possible.

The business of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 1:35 p.m.



Dennis Waehner
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

September 22, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jimmy Spivey, and Mike Stearns.

The following Active Elders were excused: Kathy Braeuer, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Grady, Jennifer Paden, and Dennis Waehner.

Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Approval of Minutes – The **Session voted to approve the minutes** of the Stated Meeting of Session dated August 25, 2009, as amended.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	
Membership as of August 25, 2009	732	406	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Powers
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	

Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Littleton
Membership as of September 25, 2009	732	406	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	153		(+2) Koesters
Total children, youth and adults	885		

Baptisms – Katelyn Marie Koester, born March 31, 2000, and Rebecca Anne Koester, born December 28, 1997, daughters of Leslie & Richard Koester (granddaughters of member Priscilla & Peter Koester), were baptized September 13, 2009, with Rev. Mark Cooper officiating.

Death - Member Brian Littleton died August 23, 2009

Memorial Service – A memorial service was held at Webster Presbyterian Church for Brian Littleton on August 29, 2009, with Rev. Helen P. DeLeon officiating.

New Business

- The Task Force assigned to address the conflict between a Session Committee and other church ministries shared its report in executive session. Action based on the report was tabled until the next Stated Meeting in October.
- The Session voted to elect Donna Magnant, Judy Ota, and Ed Tobia to the 2009 Nominating Committee.
- In order to avoid schedule conflicts with the traditional end of year holiday season, the **Session voted to convene its November Stated Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, and to convene its December Stated Meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2009.** The Clerk was directed to invite the Board of Deacons to the December meeting for its annual review.
- The **Session elected Gene Fisseler, James Kinzler, and Mary Lawrence to serve as Commissioners** at the November 14, 2009, Stated Meeting of Presbytery at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church

Team/Committee Reports

- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – Guest pastor Rev. LaDonna Sanders Nkosi will be in our pulpit on October 4 to introduce her Ubuntu ministry.
 - Youth Ministry – The **Session voted approve the following Youth fundraisers** to raise money for junior high and senior high youth mission trips and faith-based conferences during the school year and summer:
 - Car Wash – November 7 (rain dates – November 8, 14 or 15)
 - November 21 – Christmas Shopping Day for Parents of WPC
 - December 6 through 27 – Christmas Post Office & Gifts
 - February 7 – Submarine Sandwich Sales
 - February 13 – Sweetheart Dinner Dance
 - May 21 & 22 – Youth Musical
 - Children's Ministry – Children's Chapel has replaced GIGL and provides an opportunity for kids 4 years old through the third grade to participate in a worship service specifically designed for them. Thanks to the Senior Highs, the church playground has been revitalized.
- Administration
 - Communication – The committee is investigating brochures highlighting the senior pastoral staff, using updated resume information and photos. In addition,

the committee is considering new brochures highlighting various church functions.

- Personnel – The committee modified its staff salary proposal for 2010 which has been reflected in the adjusted proposed church budget (see next item).
- Stewardship & Finance – Since the last Stated Meeting, the proposed budget for 2010 has been adjusted to \$795,710. This estimate will serve as the basis for the Stewardship presentation to the congregation. The Session voted to table action until the next Stated Meeting regarding prior Session approval of certain expenditure that are expected to exceed \$250.
- Buildings & Grounds – Foundation engineers will look at both the Sanctuary building and the Fellowship Hall to determine if there are problems that should be addressed. Other items that will receive attention are lighting in the Bouton Hall kitchen, repainting of the women's restroom near the church office, and reprogramming of the HVAC system thermostats.
- Fellowship – Bouton Hall improvements, repairs, and upgrades are completed. The Annual Shrimp Boil is set for Saturday, September 26, at the Bay Area Museum (the old WPC Little White Church).
- Worship – The "theme" for this year's advent season is "Celebrate the Story." The Youth-led worship service is scheduled for January 17, 2010, and the Children-led worship service is set for February 28, 2010.
- Mission – The Peacemaking Offering will be collected on October 4 in conjunction with Rev. LaDonna Sanders Nkosi's visit spreading her UBUNTU ministry. CROP Walk is just a few weeks off – October 11.
- Welcoming – The Connection Team is looking for volunteers to serve on the first and fifth (once each quarter) Sundays of the month. A New Member Reception is scheduled for Sunday, September 27 at Rev. Helen DeLeon's home.
- Care of Members – With donated funds, the Deacons have purchased and are installing an AED in each of our three distinct buildings – the Sanctuary building, the Administration & Education building, and the Fellowship Hall.

Pastors' Reports – Caressa announced that her husband, Jonathan, has accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church in Needville, and they have moved their residence to split their respective drives. Helen reminded the Session of the October 3 FOCUS event.

Upcoming meetings:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, October 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.
- The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant is Saturday, November 14, 2009, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:50 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

October 27, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Reverend Helen P. DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Jim Magnant, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Associate Pastor Reverend Caressa Murray and the following Active Elders were excused: Kathy Braeuer, John Dewey, Tye Cowan, Mary Lawrence, Joan McMillan, and Jimmy Spivey.

Treasurer Pat Koester and church member Karl Schaeffer were also present.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

Karl Schaeffer shared with the Session the story of the cross he personally handcrafted to serve as our congregation's contribution to the Presbytery's new "cross wall." Following his presentation, the **Session voted to commission the cross** handcrafted by Karl Schaeffer to represent Webster Presbyterian Church on the "cross wall" being created by Presbytery of New Covenant at its offices.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Approval of Minutes – The **Session voted to approve the minutes** of the Called Meeting of August 29 and of the Stated Meeting of Session dated September 22, 2009, as amended.

Clerk's Report – The Clerk referred several pieces of correspondence received to the appropriate committees.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	
Membership as of September 22, 2009	732	407	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Ferguson
Membership as of October 27, 2009	731	407	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	154		(+1) Russell
Total children, youth and adults	885		

Baptism – Logan Kristopher Russell, born March 11, 2009, son of Kristy & Michael Russell, grandson of Rebecca & Joseph Hisle and Mary & Wayne Russell, was baptized on October 4, 2009, by Rev. Helen DeLeon. Cyndi Sauter served as the sponsor.

Death – Gordon Ferguson died on October 24, 2009

Transfer Letter – The Session **voted to approve the letter of transfer** for Marilyn Puschinsky to Seabrook United Methodist Church.

New Business – The Session spent some time in discussion regarding the timeliness of posting committee reports on the Session page of the church website. Elders were reminded that it is posting their reports three to four days prior to the Stated Session meeting allows other Elders to review their reports and give proper consideration to any motions included in those reports that are to be voted upon during the meeting.

Team/Committee Reports

- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – The Library Team continues to make progress toward reorganizing the church library, meeting each week. Kaylin Dupree, Paula Bray, and Dana Strahan have led this effort.
 - Children’s Ministry – A monthly Children’s newsletter is being developed for families and January is targeted for the first edition.
- Administration
 - Communication – The Committee is exploring alternatives to producing a hardcopy pictorial directory. If no satisfactory alternative is found, a return to past practice, flaws and limitations noted, will be considered.
 - Personnel – Annual employee performance review is underway. Elders were advised that they may be asked to participate in the review process.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The Session congratulated the Committee on its Stewardship luncheon/meeting work. The video produced was a huge hit. The Committee reported that response to the Stewardship campaign is running slightly ahead of the 2009 effort at the same point last year.
 - Buildings & Grounds – The Committee continues to feel that the current janitorial service is performing below par. Efforts to identify a replacement service are underway.
- Fellowship – The Session noted that Elder Joan McMillan resigned as chair of the Fellowship Committee and recognized the appointment of Jennifer Carr as interim chair of the committee.
- Worship – The Committee is evaluating a recent donation of audio/video equipment from Heritage Presbyterian Church and how WPC can reciprocate financially.
- Mission – An emerging ministry in the Clear Lake area is Family Promise. As it develops, WPC is working with other churches to make it a reality. The Session was advised to “stay tuned” as the Committee determines how our church can contribute.
- Welcoming – The new video produced for the Stewardship lunch will be used at the next Open Door meeting for potential new members on November 8.
- Outreach – three bids will be secured for installation of a church sign at the corner of NASA Parkway and Austin Street.
- Care of Members – The September blood drive yielded 14 donations; the December drive wraps up the year’s effort. Now that the AEDs are installed, training for their use is being scheduled.


Old Business – The Session voted to form a new Task Force to review and update all church policies and procedures by January 2010 and to assign Elder Jimmy Spivey to lead and populate the Task Force as he deems necessary to complete the task assigned.

Pastors' Reports – Caressa Murray is on study leave. Helen DeLeon will be serving as Moderator of Session for First Presbyterian of Texas City. Mark Cooper reminded Commissioners of the Presbytery meeting on November 14.

Upcoming meetings:

- Presbytery of New Covenant is convening its next Stated Meeting on November 14, 2009, at St. Paul Presbyterian in Houston.
- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, November 17, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:20 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

November 17, 2009
Meeting Room

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Kathy Braeuer, Cathy Black, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jennifer Paden, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

Associate Pastor Reverend Helen P. DeLeon and the following Active Elders were excused: Shallon Barboza, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Mary Lawrence and Jimmy Spivey.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes – The **Session voted to approve the minutes** of the Stated Meeting of Session dated October 27, 2009.

Clerk's Report – The Clerk referred several pieces of correspondence received to the appropriate committees.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>
Membership as of October 27, 2009	731	407

Gains		
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0
Losses		
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>
Membership as of November 17, 2009	731	407
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	154	
Total children, youth and adults	885	

New Business – The **Session voted to approve the request by Mary Grace Camp** to become an affiliate member of University Presbyterian Church in San Antonio.

Team/Committee Reports

- Care of Members – The Board of Deacons elected its 2010 officers: Moderator, Kim Harano; Vice Moderator, Joann Letson; and, Secretary/Treasurer, Jamee Wilson.
- Outreach – The remainder of November and all of December will be spent getting some local publicity for our special Advent activities. It was reported that the birding event was well attended.
- Fellowship – The **Session voted to approve the motion that proceeds from the Wednesday Night Dinner Thanksgiving event** be contributed to Meals On Wheels. The **Session voted to approve the motion that the proceeds from the Table Top Brigade** in April 2010 be directed to the Women's Retreat Designated Fund.
- Worship – The special member-authored Advent devotional book is completed and ready for distribution. Church Christmas decorations will be hung during the upcoming weekend.
- Mission – The Committee continues to work on development of Family Promise in conjunction with Clear Lake United Methodist Church. A grant writer is working on funding while the budget becomes clearer.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Youth Ministry – The Youth Car Wash resulted in raising \$750 for youth trips. Plans are being made for WPC youth to attend the 2010 Triennium and mission trip destinations will be evaluated in December.
 - Children's Ministry – The Committee will assist with refreshments for the next Intergenerational Sunday School on December 27.
- Administration
 - Stewardship & Finance – The budget report showed that, to date, contributions have exceeded expenditures, a trend all hope will continue. The Stewardship Campaign report indicated that approximately 100 pledges representing two-thirds of the proposed 2010 budget have been received. The Committee presented the audit report and a draft policy for Designated & Exchange Fund Management, both of which presentations led to healthy discussions.
 - Buildings & Grounds – Based on the results of the HVAC manual management pilot this year, the Committee will be looking at some technology upgrades that will allow automatic and remote control of the numerous church campus thermostats. Projects planned for the balance of the year include painting the women's restroom in the

Administration Building, painting the Parlor in the Sanctuary Building, investigating the lighting problem in the hallway adjacent to the Library, and investigating the cause of breaker tripping in the Sanctuary Building.

- o Personnel – Church staff performance evaluations are being completed in preparation for performance review meetings with the Head of Staff.

Old Business

- Upon a motion by the Chair of the Nominating Committee, the **Session voted to call a Special Meeting of the Congregation** for Sunday, December 20 to receive a report from the Nominating Committee and to elect church officers.
- The **Session voted to call a Special Meeting of Session** on Saturday, January 9, 2010, for the purpose of approving a 2010 budget.
- The **Session voted to convene the Annual Meeting of the Congregation** on Sunday, January 31, 2010, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

Pastors' Reports – Caressa Murray is on study leave. Helen DeLeon will be serving as Moderator of Session for First Presbyterian of Texas City. Mark Cooper reminded Commissioners of the Presbytery meeting on November 14.

Upcoming meetings – The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Bouton Hall, which meeting will be a joint meeting with the Board of Deacons.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:30 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

December 15, 2009
Bouton Hall

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, in Bouton Hall. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:10 p.m. The meeting served as the official joint annual meeting of the Session and the Board of Deacons.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen P. DeLeon and Reverend Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Shallon Barboza, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler, John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, James Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, Jimmy Spivey, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following Elders were excused: Kathy Braeuer, Tye Cowan, and Jennifer Paden.

Treasurer Pat Koester and the following members of the Board of Deacons were present: Michael Cooper, Liz Clifford, Elaine Lapka, Joann Letson, Ruth Marcott and Carole Kloves.

Board of Deacons – Rev. Cooper turned over the floor to Michael Cooper, Deacon Board Moderator, who led a lively half-hour long discussion regarding Deacon activities and lessons learned in 2009. She spoke about the role of the Deacons at WPC and the committee structure. Deacons in attendance shared their Board experiences and feelings about service, addressing Communion element preparations, funeral and memorial service reception arrangements, sponsorship of church blood drives, and preparation of baskets of personal items for individuals with family members hospitalized at St. John's. The Board's minutes were reviewed.

The **Session voted to approve** the following meeting minutes:

- The Board of Deacons 2009 meetings
- The November 17, 2009, Stated Meeting of Session

The Session received the Treasurer's report.

The Session received the Clerk's report which included a reminder of the church officer and leader training scheduled for Saturday, January 23, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of November 17, 2009	731	407	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of December 15, 2009	731	407	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	154		
Total children, youth and adults	885		

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve** the Letter of Transfer for Marjorie Warehime Hauge and Eric Warehime to Second Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, Illinois.
- The **Session voted to endorse** Elder Jennifer Paden as the WPC nominee to serve as Youth Advisory Delegate to General Assembly.
- The Session established the following calendar dates:
 - New WPC Officer Training – Wednesday, January 20, 2010
 - Church officer ordination/installation – Sundays, January 17 & January 24, 2010
 - Session Retreat – Saturday, February 20, 2010

Committee/Team Activities and Reports

- Children's Ministry – The **Session voted to approve** the Committee's motion to: invite Janet Allison (daughter of WPC members Jeanne & Bud Allison, Parent Educator, Waldorf Consultant, Family Coach, mother for 22 years, publisher of e-newsletter "The Language of Parents," and author of More Boys Alive! Bring Out

Their Best) to lead a five-hour Parenting Workshop on January 9, 2010; to charge a fee of \$40.00/individual or \$60.00/couple; to direct all proceeds to the Ms. Allison; and, to extend invitations to memberships of neighboring churches.

- Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to approve** the Committee’s proposal to: execute a Youth Mission Trip/Youth Musical Road Trip to Dallas, Fort Worth, and Itasca beginning June 16 and concluding June 26; perform the musical at churches in Dallas and Fort Worth and at the Itasca Presbyterian Children’s Home; collect at those performances a “love offering” in lieu of admission which funds would be used to offset the costs of the trip and other church Youth trips; make a one-day visit to Six Flags Over Texas; and, perform mission work at the Home.
- Fellowship – A pot-luck lunch is scheduled for Sunday, January 3, 2010. The Committee will reduce the recommended donation to offset the costs of the Wednesday Night Dinners to \$4.00 for individuals aged 12 and up and \$1.00 for children aged 6 to 12, with a family cap of \$12.00.
- Mission – The Committee continues to work with area churches to develop a local affiliate of Family Promise, a program serving families temporarily finding themselves without suitable housing.
- Outreach – WPC got good local print coverage of its Advent offerings. Bids for a new outdoor sign along NASA Parkway are being refreshed.
- Personnel – The staff performance evaluation process is drawing to a close.
- Stewardship & Finance – The Committee reported that the Stewardship campaign for 2010 had resulted in 137 pledges out of an expected 200 pledges, totaling \$548,400 against a proposed 2010 budget of \$795,000.
- Worship – The **Session voted to approve** the following calendar for the Celebration of Communion:

January 3, 2010	First Sunday of month	September 5, 2010	First Sunday of month
February 7, 2010	First Sunday of month	October 3, 2010	World Communion Sunday
February 17, 2010	Ash Wednesday	October 10, 2010	The Women’s Retreat
March 7, 2010	First Sunday of month	November 7, 2010	First Sunday of month
April 1, 2010	Maundy Thursday	December 5, 2010	First Sunday of month
May 1, 2010	First Sunday of month	December 2010	Selah Christmas service (date TBD)
June 6, 2010	First Sunday of month		
July 18, 2010	Lunar Communion	December 24, 2010	Christmas Eve
August 1, 2010	First Sunday of month	January 2, 2011	First Sunday of the month

Old Business – The Nominating Committee discussed the agenda for the Called Meeting of the Congregation on December 20, 2009.

Pastors’ Reports

- Mark Cooper recruited “actors” for the Christmas Eve staging of a live nativity.
- Helen DeLeon reported that she has been selected to serve as the Interfaith Caring Ministries President-Elect and will serve as Moderator of Session for the Texas City Presbyterian Church.
- Caressa Murray announced that WPC will serve as the local host for a college student mission team from North Texas, along with some of our own college-aged members, on Galveston Island during the first week of January 2010.

Upcoming Meetings/Important Dates

- Called Meeting of Session (approval of 2010 budget) – Saturday, January 9, 2010
- New Church Officer Training – Wednesday, January 20, 2010

- Ordination/installation of new church officers – Sundays, January 17/24, 2010
- Presbytery church officer/leader training – Saturday, January 23, 2010
- Next Stated Meeting of Session – Tuesday, January 26, 2010
- Annual Meeting of the Congregation – Sunday, January 31, 2010
- Session Retreat – Saturday, February 20, 2010

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:45 p.m.



Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

**Deacon Board Minutes
Webster Presbyterian Church
January 10, 2009**

(Retreat/First Meeting of the Year)

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent; E: Excused)

JANUARY, 2009 DEACON BOARD MEETING / RETREAT								
NEW			CONTINUING			OUTGOING		
Name	Zone	Attd.	Name	Zone	Attd.	Name	Zone	Attd.
Dave Bolon	12		Edna Arnold	18		Freeman Gregory	24	
Paul Cianchetti	24		Wade Barclay	7	E	Laura Grady	6	
Liz Clifford	19		Al Barboza	5	A	Andy Posluszny	12	
Carole Kloves	16	A	Michael Cooper	9		Coco Motley	13	
Richard Koester	21		Roemehl Dewey	23	E	Carol Owens	16	A
Joann Letson	17		Dottie Evans	8		Alberta Rohlfing	17	
Elizabeth Noriega	Y	E	Bambi Fitzgerald	1		Sherry Straight	19	
Katy Rendon	13		Kim Harano	15		Sandra McAfee	21	
Jamee Wilson	6		Jackie Hart	22		Jennifer Paden	Y	E
			Pat Hunter	20				
			Elaine Lapka	10				
			Ruth Marcott	4				
			Judy Ota	14	E			
			Judy Ramsay	2				
			Ed Tobia	11				
			Jim Young	3				

Also in attendance:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon

Elder: Jeanette Chase

Pastor Helen called the meeting to order at 9:20 am, opening with a prayer and an M&M icebreaker to allow all the deacons to introduce themselves.

What it means to be a deacon: Helen shared several scriptures from the Book of Order describing deacons. Additionally, she outlined the following expectations:

To serve as not only caretakers of the community, but also to provide a point of contact for members, each deacon needs to:

- *Write a letter of introduction to each zone member*
- *Follow up with phone calls to each zone member*
- *Encourage sharing of information about church events, zone member needs, etc. by e-mail*
- *Try to meet zone members in church*
- *Offer to refer members in crisis to Helen for possible referral to Stephen Ministers*
- *Try to make hospital visits to zone members*
- *Make opportunities for zone members to help and support each other in community*
- *Prepare Communion and offer Prayers of the People as part of serving at the direction of Session*
- *Respond to requests to support other church services/committees, e.g. Summer Round Tables*

The next opportunity to support other church initiatives will be to arrange hospitality for a Biblical story-telling workshop on February 21, 2009.

*Michael Cooper, the incoming Moderator, then introduced this year's other officers:
Vice Moderator, Ed Tobia
Secretary/Treasurer, Elaine Lapka*

The Moderator explained the various forms, family worksheets, service sign up sheets, zone lists, and handbook revisions provided for the 2009 Deacon Handbooks. She also explained that each deacon will have a mail box in the office.

Action Item: Moderator will decide and report next meeting whether to continue, revise, replace or discontinue the Quarterly Report.

Action Item: As a method for finding consensus regarding maintaining or changing the monthly deacon meeting date, all members will respond to a polling form that will be sent by e-mail. (Those with no e-mail will have a copy of the form in their church office boxes.) In the meantime, the February meeting will remain on the first Thursday of the month.

Action Item: All deacons are to check over their zone lists for any discrepancies and report those to the church office in writing or by e-mail: office@websterpresby.org .

Action Item: All deacons have access to forms, lists, contacts, and information on the Deacon page of the church website: <http://websterpresby.org>; therefore, everyone should check their zone and their personal information for any errors or omissions. Notify the church office (website above) of all changes, and Dennis Waehner (his e-mail is on the deacon list as 'The System') of any personal information changes to the website.

The Moderator reviewed the functions of each deacon committee and allotted time for new members to visit with current committee members to learn more. Everyone then submitted their first three choices for the two committees each deacon will serve this year. Each deacon also completed an information form to share among the deacon membership.

Outgoing deacons arrived to share lunch and zone binders with the new deacons that will replace them.

Outgoing and continuing members were dismissed, and new deacons toured church grounds with the Moderator to learn about funeral receptions and Communion preparation.

The next meeting will be February 5, 2009, at 6:30 pm, and will include a devotional and training offered by Pastor Helen on hospital visits and praying with others.

**Webster Presbyterian Church
Deacon Board Minutes
February 5, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

<i>E</i>	<i>Bambi Fitzgerald (1)</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Judy Ramsay (2)</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Jim Young (3)</i>
	<i>Ruth Marcott (4)</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Al Barboza (5)</i>		<i>Jamee Wilson (6)</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>Wade Barclay (7)</i>		<i>Dottie Evans (8)</i>		<i>Michael Cooper (9)</i>
	<i>Elaine Lapka (10)</i>		<i>Ed Tobia (11)</i>		<i>Dave Bolon (12)</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>Katy Rendon (13)</i>		<i>Judy Ota (14)</i>		<i>Kim Harano (15)</i>
	<i>Carole Kloves (16)</i>		<i>Joann Letson (17)</i>		<i>Edna Arnold (18)</i>
	<i>Liz Clifford (19)</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Pat Hunter (20)</i>		<i>Richard Koester (21)</i>
	<i>Jackie Hart (22)</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>Roemehl Dewey (23)</i>		<i>Paul Cianchetti (24)</i>
	<i>Elizabeth Noriega (Y)</i>				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon

Elder: Jeanette Chase

Moderator Michael Cooper opened the meeting with thanks to Edna Arnold and Liz Clifford for refreshments.

Pastor Helen offered a devotional about the biblical role of deacons and a prayer.

Elder Jeanette Chase shared that the Deacon budget has been slightly increased this year. She will continue to request a quarterly attendance report of zone members for each deacon. She also requested that the deacons expand record-keeping efforts to provide a more complete picture of annual spending for deacon responsibilities.

The Moderator reported on action items:

- *The poll of deacons indicates 1st Thursday each month is still the best meeting time.*
- *She reminded everyone to report zone member list discrepancies to the Church office (Carolyn Bolon).*
- *The quarterly deacon report is discontinued.*
- *She requested 6 hospitality volunteers for the 2/21 Biblical Storytelling event (Edna Arnold, Liz Clifford, Paul Cianchetti responded).*
- *She requested notification whenever supplies are low, and suggested a new monthly agenda item be a communion supply report.*
- *She passed around the committee assignments, and Jeanette Chase requested a representative from Communications to meet with the Session's Communications group.*
-

The Secretary/Treasurer briefly explained the procedure for claiming reimbursement or credit for deacon expenses.

The Pastor offered further orientation/training regarding hospital visits.

- Keep it short: 10-15 minutes
- Offer to pray with the patient
- Ask how you can pray for the patient
- Use the Lord's Prayer; it's familiar and comforting
- Follow up when the patient returns home regarding needs and organize zone members to help
- Rehab centers: afternoon visits are the best time
- Rest homes: longer, friendly visits help with loneliness
- Use the prayer chain to alert others to potential needs

Committees chose (or volunteered) the following Chairs:

- Immediate Care: Jackie Hart (co-chair); no monthly meeting required
- Young at Heart: Ruth Marcott (chair); monthly meeting required
- Communications: Judy Ota (chair); monthly meeting required
- Social: Jamee Wilson (chair); meetings as needed
- Community Service: Kim Harano (chair); monthly meetings until summer
- Blood Drive Coordinator: Dave Bolon
- Transportation: Edna Arnold (co-chair); no meetings required

Jeanette Chase closed the meeting with a prayer.

**Webster Presbyterian Church
Deacon Board Minutes
March 5, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)	E	Jim Young (3)
	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)		Jamee Wilson (6)
	Wade Barclay (7)		Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)		Dave Bolon (12)
E	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)	E	Kim Harano (15)
	Carole Kloves (16)		Joann Letson (17)		Edna Arnold (18)
	Liz Clifford (19)		Pat Hunter (20)		Richard Koester (21)
	Jackie Hart (22)		Roemehl Dewey (23)		Paul Cianchetti (24)
E	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon

Elder: Jeanette Chase (E)

Welcome: The Moderator opened the meeting at 6:45 with thanks to Dave Bolon and Pat Hunter for refreshments.

Devotional: The Moderator offered a devotional based on Matt. 7: 7-8.

Minutes for February meeting were approved.

Future Events:

Special Events Board thanked those deacons who helped with the Story-telling event: Edna Arnold, Paul Cianchetti, Liz Clifford, Michael Cooper, Judy Ota. The Board stated that 1-2 such events are anticipated annually.

Summer Round Tables will begin on May 31 for a six week period. Deacons are requested to notify their zone members and to plan to facilitate discussions the first Sunday.

Communion supplies:

The Moderator stated that Communion supplies are plentiful at present. A new directive from the worship elders asked deacons not to include gluten-free wafers on the bread trays. There was some discussion of serving techniques and quantities. Pastor Helen advised that all suggestions should be directed to the worship elder in charge, Dennis Waehner.

Important Dates:

The Moderator inquired if all deacons had contacted zone members and suggested that the list of upcoming important dates might be a useful excuse to communicate with members again. (See agenda: dates included Easter season activities, Women's Retreat, and Fellowship Hall activities.)

Pastor Helen:

Helen provided an overview of the Spirituality Center created by our youth as a gift to all members and friends. She explained the various centers that offer opportunities to write prayers, read the Bible, and otherwise respond to Lenten contemplations. She also explained the purpose of the central labyrinth and how it should be used. Deacons have been requested to provide a 'Ministry of Presence' as greeters/mentors for visitors to the Center during this season.

Prayer Requests:

The Moderator and the Pastor shared the list of people for whom prayers are requested: Jim Young, Bob Montgomery, Larry Smith, Jim Paden, Jennifer Paden, Ken Jones, Carole Kloves' daughter Judy, Bob Willcott, Joann Mills, Larry Hardy.

Committees:

Community Service report/meeting was postponed. Communications took new pictures for the Deacon bulletin board after the meeting.

Commitments:

Communion: 4/5 Bambi Fitzgerald & Dottie Evans
 4/9 Edna Arnold & Pat Hunter
 Prayers: 3/15 Edna Arnold & Elizabeth Noriega
 ICU Basket: Mar. Edna Arnold
 Apr. Jim Young (Back up: Judy Ota)
 Devotional: 4/2 Edna Arnold
 Refreshment: 4/2 Ruth Marcott & Joann Letson

The meeting closed with a prayer.

**Webster Presbyterian Church
 Deacon Board Meeting
 April 2, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)	E	Jim Young (3)
E	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)	A	Jamee Wilson (6)

	Wade Barclay (7)		Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)		Dave Bolon (12)
A	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)		Kim Harano (15)
	Carole Kloves (16)	E	Joann Letson (17)		Edna Arnold (18)
	Liz Clifford (19)		Pat Hunter (20)	E	Richard Koester (21)
A	Jackie Hart (22)		Roemehl Dewey (23)		Paul Cianchetti (24)
	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon

Elder: Jeanette Chase

Moderator called the meeting to order with thanks to Carole Kloves, Joann Letson, Ruth Marcott, and Michael Cooper for refreshments.

Devotional: Edna Arnold

Elder's Remarks: Jeanette Chase reminded everyone of the congregational meeting after second service April 5. She also promised a new zone attendance report will be available soon.

Moderator:

March minutes were approved.

Summer Roundtables: The program will run from May 31 through July 5; deacons are asked to bring refreshments and to lead discussions on May 31. Sessions on the remaining dates will be self-facilitated by the participants. Pastor Helen will send everyone a brief announcement that deacons can forward to zone members.

Presbytery Training: Rev. Steve Spidell will offer a seminar titled *Disenfranchised Grief* on Tuesday, April 28, 10 am-12:30 pm at our Presbytery's office. Lunch donation is \$7.50. All deacons have received a description in the invitation offered by Pastor Helen and should RSVP to her.

Health Screening: The Moderator and Pastor Helen shared information about a proposal from Health Yes! (www.HealthYes.com) company to conduct non-invasive tests to identify potential artery, heart, and osteoporosis conditions at WPC on Saturday, June 27. The Church would provide a space for the testing and advertise within our community. We would also suggest local papers or other avenues of communication for Health Yes! to pursue. Scheduling, payment, and other details would be the responsibility of the company. Tests: Stroke/Carotid Artery Disease; Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm; Peripheral Artery Disease (these three for \$139). Risk of Heart Disease; Osteoporosis (all five for \$169). Deacons approved a motion by Pat Hunter, seconded by Roemehl Dewey, to request approval of Session to offer this opportunity as part of our commitment to Community Outreach.

Zone Information: Deacons shared updated or new information about specific members and needs in their zones. All of those mentioned are included in the prayer circle.

Committee Reports:

The Transportation committee indicated a need for an updated list of available drivers from the new Time and Talent lists.

Young at Heart's next two events are a visit to Belville Castle and an Astros game.

Communications reported that the new deacon pictures are in the framing process. Judy Ota had requested approval from Building and Grounds to hang the pictures in the hall off the Narthex instead of in the Education building hallway. Pastor Helen advised her that the request first requires approval of the Worship committee.

Community Service reported strong support for the recent blood drive with twenty-three (23) donors.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer offered by Pat Hunter.

**Webster Presbyterian Church
Deacon Board Meeting
May 7, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)		Jim Young (3)
	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)	A	Jamee Wilson (6)
	Wade Barclay (7)		Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)		Dave Bolon (12)
	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)		Kim Harano (15)
A	Carole Kloves (16)		Joann Letson (17)		Edna Arnold (18)
E	Liz Clifford (19)	A	Pat Hunter (20)		Richard Koester (21)
	Jackie Hart (22)		Roemehl Dewey (23)		Paul Cianchetti (24)
	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon (E)

Elder: Jeanette Chase

(Note: There is not a printed agenda.)

The Moderator called the meeting to order with thanks to Jackie Hart and Ed Tobia for refreshments. Jackie Hart offered the devotional and a prayer.

Elder's Remarks:

Jeanette Chase informed the group that Session had approved the health screening event for June 27. The code to use for on-line registration is BH1TX062709. (See April minutes for tests, fees, and website information.)

She also shared that a project is being organized to provide information about substance abuse and ways to find help.

Moderator's Remarks:

Saturday, May 16, at 11 am will be a memorial service and reception for Bob Montgomery. To volunteer, contact Jackie Hart.

Deacons had been requested to check on zone members' need for assistance following the most recent rain storms. K. Dupree was the only member suggested in need; Kim Harano indicated she would check on her.

A storm action group is forming to create a master plan for future preparations and communications among the Church community during a hurricane or similar situation.

Member updates: Ken Jones will be going home on May 16. B.C. Whigham will be at T.I.R.R., 1333 Moursand Drive, Room 32 - Bed 1, Houston, TX 77030.

Training regarding hospice care:

Jill Cooper offered a presentation that included the history, definition, and benefits of hospice care. Since 1967 when Dame Cicely Saunders coined the term "hospice" to mean specialized care for dying patients, the idea has spread across the world. The goals are to help the patient accept death, remain alert and pain-free, while continuing to live a quality life with dignity. The intent is to provide an environment that allows the patient and family to thrive together while neither hastening nor postponing death.

Hospice may be recommended by the primary care physician as appropriate for any end-stage disease (not just cancer) when it is determined that death is likely in six months or less. Most care takes place in the home; although there are also special facilities within hospitals and other care venues. Accredited programs are mostly paid for by Medicare/Medicaid.

The interdisciplinary hospice team can tend to medications, physical care, family counseling, and other needs. The special attention sometimes leads to improvements, so that a patient may go both on and off hospice depending upon regular three month reviews.

Jill suggested a common misconception is that hospice is limited to a very brief period, perhaps a few weeks, before death. It can begin much sooner to the benefit of both patient and family. She recommended that when deacons observe significant changes in a patient, they may wish to initiate a general conversation with the patient's family members to suggest if hospice might be a consideration.

Jill is available for further questions or presentations.

Jeanette Chase closed the meeting with a prayer of thanks.

Reminders:

- ICU Basket: May – Bambi Fitzgerald
June – Jamee Wilson
- Prayers: May 17 - 8:30 am Elizabeth Noriega
11:00 am Richard Koester
- Communion: June 7 - Ruth Marcott and Liz Clifford
- Meeting: June 4
Devotional: Ruth Marcott
Refreshments: Ed Tobia and Judy Ota

**Webster Presbyterian Church
Deacon Board Meeting
June 4, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)	E	Jim Young (3)
	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)		Jamee Wilson (6)
	Wade Barclay (7)	E	Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)	E	Dave Bolon (12)
A	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)		Kim Harano (15)
	Carole Kloves (16)	E	Joann Letson (17)		Edna Arnold (18)
E	Liz Clifford (19)	A	Pat Hunter (20)		Richard Koester (21)
E	Jackie Hart (22)		Roemehl Dewey (23)		Paul Cianchetti (24)
E	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

- Pastor: Helen DeLeon
- Elder: Jeanette Chase

Following thanks to Judy Ota and Ed Tobia for refreshments, Ruth Marcott offered a devotional and opening prayer.

Elder's Remarks: *Jeanette Chase said Children's Ministry has many activities planned for the summer; she will share details in an e-mail. She also highlighted a revamped Ice Cream Social and Craft Fair for August. Church roof repair will begin shortly.*

Moderator's Remarks:

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Round Tables: Pastor Helen reported that 39 participants had signed in for the May 31st kickoff meeting.

Communion: Mary Lawrence has requested that 5-6 gluten-free wafers be placed on a covered plate in the narthex where ushers can retrieve it as requested by communicants. We have also been requested to change the bread for 11 am service from one 3 lb challah loaf to two 1 lb loaves.

Roemehl Dewey conveyed thanks on behalf of Jackie Hart to those who assisted with the Montgomery reception. There was some discussion about the role and responsibility of the deacon board as a whole in these types of events. The Moderator reminded everyone that the Immediate Care committee's function is to coordinate and recruit church-wide assistance.

Hurricane preparedness: Anyone who wishes to contribute to the new mission committee can contact Pastor Helen, Diane Kane, or James Kinzler.

Training: Training recently offered by the Presbytery was well-attended by Webster members. Training suggestions for subsequent board meetings included care of volunteers, how to pray, scriptures for all occasions, listening skills, and grief or family conflict resolution. Pastor Helen also offered that our pastoral staff can endorse the professional quality of Innovative Alternatives (where Jamee Wilson is employed) for counseling and mediation services.

AED Update: The deacon committee is currently evaluating two companies for purchase of two units in the near future.

Health screening offered by HealthYes! on June 27 will require a few deacons in perhaps two hour shifts from 8 am – 5 pm to provide hospitality. Contact Michael Cooper to volunteer.

Betty Ulrich's memorial service is scheduled for Sunday, June 14, at 1 pm. Pastor Helen requested a few deacons stay after the 11 am service to ensure that flowers are properly placed, etc. The Moderator will coordinate with the Immediate Care committee and the Ulrich family to determine if assistance is needed for the reception at the Freeman Library.

Zone updates: Jim Young is ambulatory and gradually regaining strength; Ken Jones has attended church; BC Whigham has returned home, so no members are hospitalized at this moment.

The Moderator recommended that everyone be thinking about a zone gathering/activity during the summer months.

Pastor's Remarks:

Brochures will be available in July for the annual Focus event to be held October 3 from 9 am – 4 pm at Grace Presbyterian. LaDonna Sanders from the emerging church movement will be the special preacher at WPC's October 4 services.

Pastor Helen emphasized the importance of passing along event information, especially family activities, to zone members.

August 1 will be the Presbytery-wide day of mission with many activities and opportunities for congregational participation.

Committee Reports:

Judy Ota reported that the request to display the deacon photo board in the narthex area was denied. Discussion agreed that the original hall site would be the location; it was also agreed that if the board might be moved and displayed on an easel, it could be made available in Bouton hall or Fellowship hall for specific events.

July Meeting:

Moved by Ruth Marcott, seconded by Paul Cianchetti, the board voted unanimously to cancel the July meeting. The next regular meeting will be August 6, 2009.

The meeting closed with a group prayer led by Pastor Helen.

N.B. JULY MEETING WAS CANCELLED.

**Webster Presbyterian Church
Deacon Board Meeting
August 6, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

E	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)		Jim Young (3)
	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)		Jamee Wilson (6)
	Wade Barclay (7)		Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)		Dave Bolon (12)
	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)	E	Kim Harano (15)
E	Carole Kloves (16)		Joann Letson (17)		Edna Arnold (18)
	Liz Clifford (19)	A	Pat Hunter (20)		Richard Koester (21)
	Jackie Hart (22)		Roemehl Dewey (23)		Paul Cianchetti (24)
	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon (E)

Elder: Jeanette Chase (A)

The meeting was called to order with a devotional and prayer offered by Jim Young from the military devotional book of Strength for Service.

June, 2009, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Moderator:

The Moderator suggested members express special gratitude to Alberta & Dennis Rohlfing for producing the entire funeral reception for the Wolfe family.

The Moderator recognized Ruth Marcott, Judy Ota, and Helen DeLeon for assistance with the (Health Yes) medical testing held at the Church recently.

Following evaluation of recent changes to the elements (bread and wafer quantities) for Communion, it was agreed the Moderator would incorporate those changes in the Deacon Handbook.

The Moderator again encouraged everyone to plan a zone social event this summer.

The Moderator reported that Richard Koester will be the Deacon liaison to the Hurricane committee. She provided each Deacon with emergency contact forms submitted thus far; if Deacons receive additional original forms, they should pass them on the Diane Kane for copying and appropriate distribution. Deacons have been designated as first point of contact for zone members.

The Moderator shared that two AED units are in process of being ordered, one to be placed near Bouton Hall and one in the Narthex. She indicated training in their use will be offered.

Committee Reports:

Young at Heart: The group attended a variety of free museums and sites-- sea shells, aquariums, and local industrial history at Lake Jackson. The next trip will explore the Pinball Museum.

Immediate Care: Jackie Hart thanked those who provided assistance for the Wolfe funeral reception and encouraged all Deacons to contribute to future reception needs.

Training:

Jamee Wilson offered specific pointers to help us improve our active listening skills. She also provided us with handouts to use for reference and practice. This is one set of techniques she uses and teaches in her role as a professional counselor.

Liz Clifford offered the closing prayer.

Reminders:

Deacon Meeting:	9/3/09	Devotional: Liz Clifford Refreshments: Carole Kloves Roemehl Dewey
Communion:	9/6/09	Ed Tobia & Dave Bolon
Prayers:	9/20/09	8:30: Roemehl Dewey 11:00: Paul Cianchetti
ICU Basket:	August	Ed Tobia
	September	Richard Koester

Webster Presbyterian Church Deacon Board Meeting September 3, 2009

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)		Jim Young (3)
	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)		Jamee Wilson (6)
E	Wade Barclay (7)		Dottie Evans (8)		Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)		Ed Tobia (11)	E	Dave Bolon (12)
	Katy Rendon (13)	A	Judy Ota (14)		Kim Harano (15)
	Carole Kloves (16)		Joann Letson (17)	E	Edna Arnold (18)
	Liz Clifford (19)	A	Pat Hunter (20)		Richard Koester (21)
	Jackie Hart (22)	E	Roemehl Dewey (23)	E	Paul Cianchetti (24)
A	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)				

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon
 Elder: Jeanette Chase

The Moderator called the meeting to order, and Liz Clifford offered a devotional about service.

With the correction of the spelling of "Wolfe", the August meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Moderator:

Moderator shared thanks on behalf of Jackie Hart to all who helped with the Littleton funeral reception. She informed us the family also made a donation toward other such events.

Old Business:

Zone Gatherings: The Moderator reminded everyone to plan zone gatherings. Joann Letson and Carole Kloves both indicated that they will have gatherings soon at their homes.

Hurricane project: The Moderator reminded everyone to contact zone members to ensure they were aware of the Hurricane Preparedness project collecting contact information. Original forms should be given to Diane Kane who will provide Deacons with a copy of the forms for their respective zone members.

AED project: Due to an unexpected donation, the Church can now order three units.

2010 Deacon Board Officer Nominating Committee: The members were announced as Elaine Lapka, Ruth Marcott, and Jim Young with the Moderator serving ex-officio.

Events: We were reminded about the Focus workshops followed by a multigenerational Sunday School and special Sunday worship speaker October 3-4. Registration details are at www.websterpresby.org.

New Zone Information: Liz Clifford shared that she will have surgery Friday, 9/4.

Pastor Helen:

She requested that we sent announcements to zone members about the October 18 Stewardship lunch and program. She also shared an opportunity from the Worship Team to write Advent devotionals. Guidelines and deadlines are on the handout we received. Additional questions may be sent to Mary Lawrence: jack_mary@comcast.net or 281-334-3187.

The Pastor also offered her home as a meeting place for the Deacons' December meeting/family gathering.

Committee Reports:

Twenty people enjoyed a visit to the Pinball Museum in Hockley last month. The next adventure will be a funeral museum (guaranteed to be neither depressing nor morbid).

The meeting closed with a prayer led by Pastor Helen.

Reminders:

October Meeting Devotional:	Joann Letson
Refreshment:	Paul Cianchetti & Joann Letson
ICU Basket:	September: Richard Koester
	(October: Dottie Evans)
Prayers:	9/20/09: Roemehl Dewey & Paul Cianchetti
Communion:	10/04/09: Richard Koester & Kim Harano

**Deacon Board Meeting
October 1, 2009**

Deacon Roster: (A: Absent E: Excused)

	Bambi Fitzgerald (1)	E	Judy Ramsay (2)	Jim Young (3)
E	Ruth Marcott (4)	E	Al Barboza (5)	Jamee Wilson (6)
A	Wade Barclay (7)	A	Dottie Evans (8)	Michael Cooper (9)
	Elaine Lapka (10)	A	Ed Tobia (11)	Dave Bolon (12)
A	Katy Rendon (13)		Judy Ota (14)	Kim Harano (15)
E	Carole Kloves (16)		Joann Letson (17)	Edna Arnold (18)
	Liz Clifford (19)	E	Pat Hunter (20)	Richard Koester (21)
	Jackie Hart (22)	E	Roemehl Dewey (23)	Paul Cianchetti (24)
	Elizabeth Noriega (Y)			

Also attending:

Pastor: Helen DeLeon

Elder: Jeanette Chase

Joann Letson offered "an old deck of cards" devotional and opening prayer.
Refreshments were provided by Joann Letson and Paul Cianchetti.

Elder's Remarks: Jeanette requested the deacon board to provide desserts serving fifteen people, including some sugar-free desserts, for the Stewardship luncheon on October 18. She also asked deacons to be available at the event to answer questions about their work.

Moderator: Minutes for the September meeting were unanimously approved.

Zone gatherings: Nine members of Joann Letson's zone attended dinner at her home and decided to prepare one of the church's Wednesday dinners in January as a zone project.

AED Project: Three AED's have arrived and will be installed in the Narthex, Bouton Hall entryway, and Fellowship Hall. Training in their use will be offered subsequently.

Church Nominating Committee has requested participation of one deacon; Kim Harano volunteered.

Focus Workshop Event: Interested members can still sign up at the door for sessions offered at the Saturday, October 3 event.

Pastor's Remarks:

Pastor Helen requested that everyone continue to send cards to Alice Wolfe, who is now staying at TIRR.

Virginia Hurgeton requires transportation to doctor's appointments and errands; current needs have been addressed by the Tuesday Bible Study group.

Transportation assistance has also been requested by Jane Hiberts; Pastor Helen will send the particulars to Transportation Committee members Jackie Hart and Pat Hunter.

The Youth will be responsible for Prayers of the People at the January service.

The Session has called a joint Session/Deacon Board meeting for Tuesday, December 15, at 7 pm. All Deacons are invited to attend.

Pastor Helen again offered her home as a meeting place for the Deacon Board's December 3 meeting/Christmas party; the address is 207 Washington St.

Pastor Helen reviewed the many events scheduled for Sunday, October 4 service, including Sunday School lesson and preaching by a visiting pastor, annual peace offering, and baptism of Logan Russell (Ruth Marcott's zone).

Committee Reports:

Hospitality: Jamee Wilson received a request to have an informal social event after the November Board meeting; it was agreed to meet at La Madeleine.

Community Service: Dave Bolon shared that 14 people donated to the September 13 Blood Drive. The last drive of the year will occur in November.

Board members were requested to bring suggestions for a Christmas project/donation to the next meeting.

Pastor Helen closed the meeting in prayer.

December 20, 2009
Church Sanctuary

The **Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church convened a Called Meeting** on Sunday, December 20, 2009, in the Church Sanctuary. The Moderator, the Reverend Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:10 p.m. Clerk of Session Gene Fisseler served as Secretary and a quorum was declared present. The Moderator stated the purpose and agenda for the meeting: to receive a report from the Nominating Committee and to elect Church Officers, Class of 2012.

The Chair of the Nominating Committee, James Kinzler, introduced the members of the committee:

- Shallon Barboza - Vice Chair (selected by and member of the Session);
- Jennifer Carr (selected by the Congregation at large);
- Donna Magnant (selected by the Session from active committee members);
- Rudy Noriega (selected by the Youth);
- Ed Tobia (selected by the Session from active committee members) ;
- Judy Ota (selected by the Session from active committee members);
- Kim Harano (selected by and a member of the Deacons); and,
- Reverend Mark Cooper (ex officio member).

Mr. Kinzler reported on the Committee's work and commended its efforts. The members of the Nominating Committee were acknowledged by the Congregation. Mr. Kinzler placed the following names in nomination for the positions indicated.

- To serve on the Board of Trustees – Sandra Mossman
- To serve on Session – Lonnie Fogle, Chris Kidwell, Nina Moede, Andy Posluszny, Frank Rix, and Kevin Snowden.
- To serve on Session as Youth Elder – Michelle Dupont

- To serve on the Board of Deacons – Michael Bradley, Paula Bray, Caroline Brazzel, Sandy Dwyer, Cookie Liesenring, Joe Schwarz, Jerri Terry, and Julie Yencharis.
- To serve as Youth Deacon – Sarah Fixel

The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There were none for any office. Roy Phillips moved to end nominations and elect the entire slate of nominees by acclamation. The motion was seconded and the Congregation elected the nominees by acclamation.

The business of the meeting having been accomplished and upon a motion made, seconded, and passed, the Moderator adjourned the meeting with prayer at 12:35 p.m.

Rev. Mark D. Cooper
Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper

Gene Fisseler
Secretary, Gene Fisseler
