

## ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending December 31, 2008

1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10025

## AGENDA

The sixteenth annual meeting of the Congregation of St. Saviour  
at The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City.

Cathedral House  
February 1, 2009

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Determination of Quorum
4. Designation of Secretary
5. Election of Officers:
  - a. Review of Election Procedure
  - b. Introduction of Candidates
  - c. Nominations from the floor
  - d. Appointment of Electors
  - e. Opening of the Polls and Voting - polls open for 10 minutes
  - f. Closing of the Polls and collection of Ballots
6. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes
7. Budget & Finance Report
8. Vicar's Address
9. Wardens' Address
10. Reception of Committee Reports
11. New Business and other presentations
12. Report of Elections
13. Call to Adjourn
14. Blessings and Dismissal

Minutes of the FY2007 Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

Cathedral House

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The regular annual meeting of the Congregation of Saint Saviour was scheduled for Sunday, February 3rd, 2008 in Cathedral House conference room, for the purpose of electing officers of the Congregation, to report to the Congregation on events of the year 2007, and to transact other business deemed appropriate.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Canon Victoria Sirota, Vicar of the Congregation of Saint Saviour at 1:05PM, and began with a prayer by her. Canon Sirota asked the attendees of the Annual Meeting to introduce themselves and to inform the audience how long they have been a member of the congregation and/or attending the Cathedral.

Quorum

Canon Sirota informed the audience that quorum was met.

Appointment of Clerk for Meeting

Canon Sirota called for the appointment of a Clerk for the meeting and nominated Lisa Chin, the current Clerk of the Vestry. The nomination was seconded. A voice vote was called and Lisa was appointed Clerk for the meeting.

Election of Officers

Warden Chris Johnson reviewed the election procedure. Chris informed the congregation that Canon Kris Lee will be overseeing the counting of the ballots along with exiting Vestry member Marsha Ra and former Warden Sandy Schubert.

Canon Sirota introduced the candidates for office:

Warden: Bob Carey

Vestry: Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh, David Mcgee, Catherine Scott, Rachel Wildman,

Canon Sirota invited nominations from the floor. Vestryman Harry Johnson nominated Lanice France. The nomination was accepted by 10% of the audience. However, Lanice was not present to accept the nomination nor had she agreed to the nomination prior. As such, her name was removed from the floor for consideration. Canon Sirota declared the slate closed and to proceed with the election.

Congregation member Bob Sirota proposed that since number of candidates equal to the number of vacancies, the candidates to be elected by acclamation. Canon Sirota made the motion for the candidates to be elected by acclamation. The motion was second and approved. A voice vote was called and the slate of candidates was elected.

2007 Annual Report

Canon Sirota proposed that the reading of the minutes of 2007 Annual Report to be read out loud to be waived. The motion was second and approved.

Canon Sirota proposed that the minutes of the 2007 Annual Report to be accepted and approved. The motion was second. The minutes was accepted and approved.

#### Treasurer's Report/2008 Budget

Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh presented the Treasurer's Report, which was included in the 2007 Annual Report.

Cecilia publicly acknowledged her thanks to Chris Johnson for his help with the transition to the ACS system.

Chris Johnson reviewed the 2008 Congregation budget. Chris also publicly acknowledged his thanks to Cecilia for her work in the Congregation financial reporting. The key points are:

- Net pledge income for the past 6 years has been \$200K; proposed income for the 2008 budget will be \$200K
- Increase our cost-sharing to Cathedral to \$140K to address rising costs
- Approximately \$43K will be spent on congregation programs

A discussion was raised among the meeting attendees on how to improve congregation pledging. An issue that was raised is letting Congregation members know that contributing to the Cathedral and contributing to the Congregation are mutually exclusive. A related issue was how to better incorporate the Spanish-speaking congregation into the Congregation of Saint Saviour. A proposed suggestion to help Congregation members better understand our relationship with the Cathedral is to provide information about the history of Congregation in the service program.

The 2007 Financial Statement and 2008 Budget were accepted.

#### Vicar's Report

Canon Sirota's address was included in the Annual Report. She informed us that she was impressed with the Congregation in terms our level of work, time, and level of commitment to community. She recognizes that the Congregation is the beating heart of the Cathedral and we are still moving forward despite significant transitions. She is awed and feels called to be here, as well as proud to be working with Dean Kowalski with the transition. The transition is making the Cathedral a holy temple of God and while it is unfinished structurally, we should allow the Holy Spirit to finish us. She encouraged us to work on relationship with God by stepping out on faith by pledging. She thanked the Congregation and looks toward moving forward with us.

#### Wardens' Report

Warden Bob Carey asked us to look at our Mission Statement, located on page 7 of the Annual Report. He commented that the shaping and building of our community is done through the committees. Also, that while our flat budget is not impressive, the positive is that we have real numbers which is critical for our work.

#### Canon Luce's Comments

Canon Sirota asked Canon Luce, the clergy who works closely with the Spanish-speaking congregation to say a few words. He suggested that we be all thing to everyone so to save some and for us to understand the mentality and orientation which is not our own. He also reminded us that church is people and a lot people need us.

#### Committee Reports

Canon Sirota asked for the Congregation Committee reports to be accepted. The motion was seconded. A voice vote was called and the Committee reports were accepted. Canon Sirota introduced the co-chairs of the Committees, which was listed in the Annual Report.

New Business

Canon Sirota provided parting gifts to Vestry members leaving office:

Harry Johnson

Marsha Ra

Elizabeth Salzer

Canon Sirota asked the newly elected Warden and Vestry members to stand.

Congregation member Catherine Skopic proposed a committee on environment and Christian ethics to be formed.

Chris Johnson expressed his thanks to Reverend Canon Kris Lee for offering his time and service in the election process of the new officers.

Being no further business, Canon Sirota ended the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40PM.

Respectively submitted,

Lisa Judy Chin, Clerk

## LETTER FROM THE CANON PASTOR AND VICAR

*“When hunger and war shall vanish, when hope shall replace all fear,  
When people shall work together, when Love shall dry every tear,  
Then we will be the New Jerusalem, Holy City adorned as a bride,  
And we will sing with the saints and martyrs at the throne,  
‘Hallelujah! We are God’s own!’”*

*Victoria R. Sirota The New Jerusalem*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a wondrous year this has been, my first full year as your Vicar. Thank you for all you have done as members of the Body of Christ in the Congregation of Saint Saviour here at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine. You have been faithful in your ministries. You have given of yourselves-your time, talents and resources-for Christ’s mission in this place. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I am most grateful to the members of the Vestry and to the Officers-our Wardens Robert Carey and Christopher Johnson, our secretary Lisa Chin and our treasurer Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh-for the countless hours they have spent on your behalf praying over and helping to guide the vision and programming of the Congregation, as well as keeping watch over the finances. Meetings with committee chairs have been part of an overall effort to keep better tabs on our budget in order to be more fiscally responsible.

As members of the search committee for the Director of Cathedral Music, Bob Carey and I were involved in a lengthy process that involved screening applicants from all over the United States and Europe. It was a difficult and time-consuming task, but also a wonderful opportunity to pray about God’s ministry in this place and to get to know our colleagues better. We were delighted that the talented Bruce Neswick accepted the position and began his ministry here in July. The music this fall, thanks to Bruce, Tim Brumfield and our wonderful choir, has blessed our worship and inspired us all.

As you can see from the reports attached, many exciting things are happening here. Mission and Outreach, under the leadership of Carole Wilkins, has begun to look at ways to support Cathedral Community Cares, the social justice wing of the Cathedral that provides services to those who are in need. Our new Clown Ministry did such a wonderful and professional job of making people laugh at a CCC Christmas Party for the families of those who are incarcerated that I didn’t even realize until later that all four clowns are members of our congregation! We also have a new subcommittee on the Environment chaired by Catherine Skopic.

The Carpenter’s Kids Program connects us with Christ’s ministry in the world by supporting children with HIV/Aids in Tanzania. Thank you to all who contribute and support the purchase of school equipment for these wonderful children. Our own member Elizabeth Boe moved there in August and ministers powerfully in the Diocese of Tanganyika. Please continue to support Elizabeth with your prayers, letters and emails. What a wonderful witness she is on Christ’s behalf. And thanks especially to Matthew Pritchard who leads our program and who has added the sale of 2009 Carpenter’s Kids calendars and African jewelry to support of the program (contact Matthew if you still need a 2009 Calendar!).

I am very pleased with the new pastoral ministry of our five licensed Lay Eucharistic Visitors who bring communion to those who are ill or homebound, and with the strong response to starting a chapter of

the Order of Urban Missioners in NYC, a spiritual support group for lay or ordained people who do any kind of ministry in the city. The Order brings together people from different congregations and provides a gentle reminder of the importance of good spiritual sustenance. Let me know if you wish to learn more.

Joan Ogden and Luis Rivera have faithfully manned the Hospitality Table even as it has moved from one end of the Cathedral to the other. We are grateful to the Welcoming Committee, to Edna Cales and her family who provide refreshments after the 11 a.m. service, and to all who extend our hospitality to newcomers, tourists and visitors on Sunday mornings. Please join us in this expression of Christ's love.

Thanks to David McGee and the Education Committee for some terrific programs, including The Rev'd Nancy Roth's movement and meditation workshop in October, Bruce Neswick's Introduction to Church Music as well as retreats, our Exploration for Ministry program, Bible Study, creative writing (Wild Angels), and other events.

The 20s/30s Connection has provided some wonderful and joyful fellowship throughout the year. Thanks to Rachel Wildman and others for their leadership and hard work. We are delighted to note that this group has not been limited by its name.

This fall we made the decision to discontinue mailing out a monthly newsletter due to the increasing costs. **We hope we have not lost you because of this!** Please check out our Congregation Web Page ([www.saintsaviour.org](http://www.saintsaviour.org)) and subscribe to our "e-News", which will keep you updated. If you don't have a computer, please let us know so that we can mail or fax you periodic notices of calendar events, etc. Thanks to Chris Johnson, Sandy Schubert and Brian Nelson for the hours they spend updating our information, as well as The Rev'd Canon Kris Lee and Jim Wroten who are helping us with our web page.

Our new Administrative Assistant, Christian DeRuiter, began in November. He has quickly become a valuable asset to this community. Please welcome him if you have not done so already.

Donna Devlin does a great job with the Children's Abbey (our Sunday School) and is also teaching a terrific group of Confirmation students. We are hopeful they will be confirmed by the Bishop on 30 May 2009.

Thanks to Hal Weiner who keeps us connected with the Manhattan North Inter-Parish Council and to Lisa Chin who has done a superb job of chairing the Events Committee. We are grateful to all who offer their gifts of service and hospitality in feeding everyone, and in so doing remind us again and again that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are also grateful to everyone who volunteers as ushers, acolytes, vergers and lay readers. Thank you for the gift of your presence in this holy space. We can always use more ushers and acolytes. Please let us know if you are interested in these powerful ministries of hospitality and service.

Thanks to all of you who made a financial commitment to the Congregation in 2008. We are so grateful for your trust and support of Christ's ministry here and are delighted to report that we ended 2008 with a surplus of \$15,524. Thank you! As of now, we have received 58 pledges for 2009 totaling \$82,620 towards our adjusted budget of \$175,106 (adjusted down from \$200,000 because of lowered

giving in the final quarter of 2008). If you have not yet made a pledge for 2009, please feel free to do so. Providing us with that information helps us to plan better for the year.

Our 13th Annual Crafts Fair really was the best ever. We benefited from excellent publicity in connection with the Rededication, but we also from the hard work and great gifts of Barbara Hohol, Brian Nelson and Marsha Ra and a whole host of volunteers who insist that this event be excellent. And the end of the year support for our budget (this year you raised \$22,000!) is truly wonderful.

It is a sign of spiritual health when a congregation raises up people for the ordination process. We are so proud of Diane Reiners, who is now in her 2nd semester at General Theological Seminary. Please keep her in your prayers.

For eleven months we found ourselves in one half of the Cathedral or the other, struggling with limited space. We got used to dust, plastic drop clothes and an organ with no pipes. Liturgical configurations changed as sections of the Cathedral were cleaned and renovated. Chaos became commonplace.

Then finally on Sunday, November 30th the entire space of the Cathedral was opened and reclaimed. Somehow the whole seems far huger than each of the halves we had gotten used to. Light now pours in through the stained glass windows in ways that had been forgotten—as if each day the Holy One creates a new and exquisite work of art. Our beloved organ has been returned to us, one pipe at a time, restored and refitted to sing God's praises. And everyone showed up to take part—our Presiding Bishop and our Bishops, senators, government officials and dignitaries, friends and neighbors, clergy and lay people from near and far, people with Cathedral connections from years past and those for whom this is their first experience. A new day has begun.

We have much work to do if we take our calling seriously to become the New Jerusalem. Please join us as we open our hearts and minds to Christ in this place. God only knows what might happen!

Faithfully,

Vicki+  
The Rev'd Canon Victoria R. Sirota  
Canon Pastor and Vicar

## The Congregation of St. Saviour at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine

The Congregation of Saint Saviour at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine offers events, classes and programs that benefit the spiritual growth and formation of the community at the Cathedral and neighborhood. We are a family of Christians, drawn together by a common mission: *“to build and nurture an active Christian community; to support the mission of the Cathedral; to offer opportunities for exploration and expressing spirituality; affirming the diversities that exist among us; above all, through worship, service and example; to witness to Christ’s healing and reconciling love to neighbors, pilgrims and visitors.”*

Congregation Mission Statement  
Adopted by the Vestry  
April 24, 1993

### CONGREGATION PROGRAMS

As an active Christian community, the Congregation is an integral part of the worldwide Body of Christ. While the Cathedral attracts people with its impressive architectural structure, the beauty of the weekly worship services and its affiliation with the Episcopal Church, the Congregation provides practicing Christians with a visible, accessible and available community of fellow believers.

The Congregation gives Christians the opportunity to “walk the faith” through membership in a local body. Members regularly gather to explore, learn, form and share their beliefs and to express themselves through worship, prayer and good works (including supporting the Cathedral). The Congregation provides access to the Cathedral on a human scale. To facilitate intimate experiences within the context of the massive Cathedral complex, the Congregation has many opportunities for people to participate in small group activities and programs. These programs allow members to develop meaningful, often life-long, relationships with other Christians. What follows are the 2008 year end Program Reports by each program committee showing the depth and breadth of a full Christian life, lived in community.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The education committee had a very active year in 2008. Our events have tended to fall into two broad categories: open events providing opportunities for intellectual broadening, spiritual growth, and interpersonal connection that are open to all and that require little preparation or prior knowledge; and events like the retreat, book club, Education for Ministry, and Wild Angels providing opportunities for deeper, more focused exploration that require greater commitment.

In the first category, we sponsored several special events, including a well-attended Lenten series on Faith and Adversity, a wonderful retreat day with Rev. Nancy Roth, a fascinating two-part Introduction to Church Music led by Bruce Neswick, and a conversation with author and pastor Brett Webb-Mitchell on being a gay parent. We also offered many informal Bible study sessions between the two morning services led by Terry Shields, Jon Aceto, and Michael Nixon.

Our offerings involving deeper exploration included several successful programs continuing from previous years: Marsha Ra organized two restful, fully-subscribed retreats at Holy Cross Monastery; Sandra Schubert shepherded the Wild Angels group through a productive spring; Education for Ministry completed its first year and began its second, led by Donna Devlin. Joan Ogden also organized a monthly book club this year that has discussed a broad range of selections. We offer a big thank you to all these leaders and welcome input and help from others in the coming year.

David McGee  
Chair, Education Committee

## CHILDREN'S ABBEY

The Children's Abbey Tzdekah fund, which started last year, topped out at \$180.00 to be given to Carpenter's Kids. We have continued to talk about how we do stewardship first with caring for creation and our own close environments. We are now ready to take the next step and talk about stewardship that involves promising to do certain things. The children will be given an opportunity to make a promise to do a particular task on a continuing basis and/or give a certain amount of money on a regular schedule. They will be given their very own special children's envelopes in which to put their pennies and nickels and dimes and the envelopes will be placed in the offering baskets.

The confirmation class this year consists of eight students in 7th grade at the Cathedral School. Requirements for confirmation include twenty service hours, five of which need to be done helping in the Children's Abbey. This has been a win-win experience – both younger and older students benefit from the time spent together and learning is accomplished on all levels. Confirmation will be May 30, 2009.

Children's Abbey is an exciting place to be – we have a strong core of faithful participants and new faces are a joy to add to our group.

Donna Devlin  
Director Christian Education/Formation for Children's Ministries

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

The members of the Mission & Outreach Committee extended their heartfelt thanks to Diane Reiners for her leadership of the Committee over the past more than four years, and wish her all of God's blessings in her studies in seminary towards ordination.

### Service

*Red Cross* This year Diane championed many avenues to manifest our Christian commitment to service to include arranging for an initial orientation with the Red Cross for St. John to serve as a disaster site as well as a center for training and certifying disaster workers. Diane laid the foundation for future dialogue and coordination by establishing contacts across the Red Cross, the Cathedral and St. Saviour through her work as Chair of the Mission & Outreach Committee.

*Carpenters Kids* Under Matthew Pritchard's passionate and dedicated coordination, the Congregation met its annual commitment to sponsor fifty children orphaned by AIDS through primary school in Central Tanganyika, Tanzania. The funds purchased uniforms, shoes, school supplies and a daily meal for each of the students. Forty-four Congregants sponsored the equivalent of fifty-seven students.

To further the program, the Committee sponsored publication of a glorious four-color Anglican display calendar which Matthew created of photos he took during his pilgrimage last year to Central Tanganyika. The photos depicted his journey and the life of our kids. Matthew also created honor/gift cards of some of these same photos to communicate Congregants' donations in the recipient(s)' name which generated additional funds to the program. He also oversaw sales of jewelry crafted by his friend who he met on pilgrimage last year to Tanzania. Sales were made at the Diocese's annual convention, the Congregation's Crafts Fair, and at other venues.

The additional funds generated by the sale of calendars and jewelry after printing costs came to \$674. These additional funds will serve to balance our on-going commitment to the program.

*Clown Ministry* The Committee initiated Clown Ministry this fall under the leadership of Floyd Johnson. Clown Ministry was founded in the 1960's by Floyd Shaffer who decided that clowning could play a significant role in the Christian ministry in terms of community outreach specifically to orphanages, nursing homes and homeless shelters. An apparent

justification for clowning as a legitimate religious expression is 1 Corinthians 4:10: "We are fools for Christ." Clowns engaged in Clown Ministry are encouraged to bring joy and "build people up" rather than have fun at others.

The Clown Ministry's first event was a "plunge" at Amsterdam House to try out the routines and skits of clowns Floyd, Laura Hernandez, Richard Johnson and Luis Rivera assisted by Carole Wilkins. The second event and the Ministry's first full performance was at Cathedral Community Care's (CCC's) Wings Holiday Party on December 13th where the clowns entertained approximately thirty-five children and their care-givers to everyone's delight. The clowns performed skits, lead dancing and singing, and distributed candy and balloons throughout the entire afternoon. The Clowns' exponential and enduring energy was extraordinary in their performance and oversight of the children.

*Wings Holiday Party* The Committee further assisted CCC's Wings Holiday Party by Catherine Skopic's leading the children in drawing colorful holiday cards for their family members, and decorating them with sparkles and stickers - certain favorites of children. Catherine also created tissue paper flowers which provided color to the tables and adorned the hair of several women. The Committee also arranged for a raffle and Doris Wilkins manned the table of gifts to party participants - both children and adults. The raffle gifts included a four-foot stuffed Dalmatian donated directly to CCC which a boy selected whose dog recently passed, and a blender that found a home with a ten-year old budding baker as characterized by her mother.

*Prison Ministry* Two male prisoners sent letters to the Vicar requesting information and contact. The Committee facilitated responses to each which have resulted in further correspondence with at least one of the prisoners by the gracious efforts of one who is knowledgeable and skilled in this ministry but will remain anonymous.

*Habitat for Humanity* This program was not active this year due to the relocation and resignation of the program's coordinator, Richard Whaley. The Chair of the Committee had discussions regarding possible future involvement of the Congregation with our contact with Habitat.

#### Financial

*Absalom Jones Initiative* The Cathedral School acknowledged the Congregation's 2008 gift of \$2,000 towards fostering the participation of children from a range of racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds in the transformative primary education of The Cathedral School of St. John the Divine.

*Seminarian Support* The Committee was grateful to be able to support the Congregation's sponsored seminarian and our former Chair, Diane Reiners, in her studies with a semester contribution of \$500 towards her texts and supplies.

*Free Trade* The Committee continued to sell Fair Trade coffee and chocolate at the weekly Congregation table and at the Crafts Fair under Joan Ogden's coordination. Sales from the Congregation's table were over \$1,000 this year and the sales from this year's Crafts Fair were \$216.

Carole Wilkins  
Chair, Mission and Outreach

### COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Committee continues to help foster Christian community. Through various means and media, we carry out the Congregation & Cathedral's shared mission and ministry by spreading news, ideas and events relevant to the ongoing life of our Congregation.

As with so many organizations, we have found that printed media was too expensive to maintain for little result. Therefore, with some sadness, we elected to discontinue publishing our newsletter, "Crossings", with September as the final issue. The total cost of printing and mailing "Crossings" had started to approach \$15,000, and we believe we can use electronic media more effectively and remain more timely. **The Congregation Web Page - [www.saintsaviour.org](http://www.saintsaviour.org)** - is managed by Sandy

Schubert and Chris Johnson. We continue to maintain an up-to-date Events Calendar, online articles and important Congregation information such as the candidate statements for the election of officers.

“e-News” is our email congregation announcement system. Over 300 of you are registered for “e-News”, giving us a fast way to reach the congregation with last minute schedule changes, and any other important news of interest. During 2008, fifty “e-News” messages were sent out. To join the list, just email the following address;

[e-news-subscribe@stsaviour.diocesenyn.org](mailto:e-news-subscribe@stsaviour.diocesenyn.org)

During 2008, we began discussions with the Rev. Canon Kris Lee and Jim Wroten on a re-design of the web site and a more pro-active email announcement system. This redevelopment project will continue into 2009 and the Communications budget includes the cost estimates for this transition.

We also have expanded our media through cooperation with the Cathedral. Sandy Schubert has taken on the weekly task of preparing our event detail for the **Sunday bulletin**, which the Cathedral prints, and the **Cathedral’s quarterly newsletter**. This is a positive outcome of the growing coordination between the Congregation and the Cathedral.

Chris Johnson and Sandy Schubert  
Co-Chairs, Communication Committee

### EVENTS COMMITTEE

The role of the Events Committee is to provide the experience of community for congregation members and non-members through social gathering. These social gatherings are aimed to bring together women and men of diverse backgrounds and cultures to promote fellowship and understanding. Our social gatherings are targeted for key dates involving the practice of faith throughout the calendar year – Epiphany (North Manhattan Inter-Parish Council Epiphany Party), Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Supper), Easter Vigil (reception) and Christmas (Congregation Christmas Party). In addition, the Events Committee has overseen a Homecoming reception as a means to welcome back congregation members to the cycle of Congregation activities at the Cathedral, as well as invite non-members to explore what the Congregation and Cathedral has to offer as a place of worship and to explore the mystery and presence of God. This past November, the Events Committee planned the luncheon reception for Bishop Don Taylor as part of his visitation. For the upcoming year, the Events Committee will continue on with its work to promote community by encouraging more attendance by congregation members and non-members.

Lisa Chin  
Chair, Events Committee

### WELCOMING COMMITTEE

In the past year the Welcoming Committee has maintained a floating Congregation table. It moves from place to place in the Cathedral as Maintenance decrees, and we set it up wherever we find it, storing our supplies in a closet newly dedicated to our use. We continue to provide information to visitors and encouragement to those considering joining St. Saviour. Wherever possible, new members receive a follow-up welcoming call from us.

This year, in addition, we published a new guide to membership, “Are You Looking For a Spiritual Home?” with graphic design by Camille Trentacoste.

Our members are Luis Rivera and Joan Ogden, co-chairs; and Camille Ryan, Laura Hernandez, Donna Doyle, and Lisa Chin.

Joan Ogden  
Chair, Welcoming Committee

## THE 20/30 CONNECTION

This year has been a year of transition and evolution. Last year at this time, the group had a consistent membership of approximately 10 individuals. Over the next 6 months, we lost 5 committed members to out-of-state moves, considerably weakening the group. We continued to attempt to recruit individuals in their 20s/30s to the group, but rarely encountered individuals with consistent interest in or time to devote to the group. During this time, a number of individuals outside the 20s/30s age range expressed interest in the group's events. The remaining active members of the group appeared excited by the infusion of interest and, therefore, we began advertising the group to adults of all ages.

Since that time, the group's membership has grown and now includes adults ranging in age from approximately 25 years to 70 years, in general proportion to the congregation's membership. Each of the group's events in the past 6 months has drawn at least 10 participants, with many events drawing 20+ participants. 20s/30s Connection events over this past year included Sunday brunches, a pot-luck dinner, a games and dessert night, picnics in various parks, including during an evening performance of opera in the park, a trip to the Dia:Beacon museum, and a Spring day-hike. As the group appears to continue to be called to minister to adults of all ages, we will be consulting with the Vestry and Canon Sirota in the near future regarding a name change for the group away from the 20s/30s focus. Should the needs of the congregation shift, the group can return to its 20s/30s roots, or an additional group focused specifically on the spiritual and community needs of those in their 20s and 30s can be formed.

Rachel Wildman  
Convener of the 20s/30s Connection

## MANHATTAN NORTH INTER-PARISH COUNCIL

The Congregation is the southern outpost of the Manhattan North InterParish Council area, from just north of the George Washington Bridge south to Cathedral Parkway. It consists of All Souls' Church, Church of the Crucifixion, Church of the Intercession, Holyhood Church, St. Ambrose Church, St. Andrew's Church, St. Martin's Church, St. Mary's Manhattanville, St. Philip's Church, and The Congregation of St. Saviour. InterParish councils were abolished by the reorganization of the Diocese a few years ago. MNIPC refused to acknowledge that, and continues to flourish. This should be a clue as to its "attitude". Almost all of the MNIPC churches are active in the Episcopal Urban Caucus, which we will be discussing later on this year and which you are urged to join. Its website is [www.episcopalurbancaucus.org](http://www.episcopalurbancaucus.org)

The MNIPC concerns itself with the life and well being of the Episcopal community in northern Manhattan. We are the youngest "Parish" in it. These churches form a vibrant part of the Harlem/Inwood/Morningside Heights scene and in fact the venerable St. Philips is celebrating its Bicentennial year and has events all throughout 2009. The Rev. Earl Kooperkamp, Rector of St. Mary's Manhattanville is currently the President of the MNIPC and Hal Weiner has been our senior delegate to the MNIPC for the past six years. We need an additional Delegate to be appointed by the Vestry to serve for an indeterminate time. All of the other churches/parishes' delegates have served for many years, some for decades. Enthusiasm is the only prerequisite.

The MNIPC is unique. Among its many rewarding activities is a Lenten series of Evening Prayer, followed by a light soup/sandwich supper, which has been a series of religious services and fellowship for the past six years. This year's tentative schedule will put us back as one of the five locations during Lent, on March 25th, 2009. On Saturday, January 10th this year, we hosted the monthly meeting at an Epiphany party in Cathedral House, with a great food spread and fun and games of the season which was well attended by the delegates and a handful of Congregation members... All MNIPC meetings are open to the members of any parish or congregation and we urge you to come and check them out; they are usually the second Saturday of the month, with prayer study at 1:30 and then the meeting and a light supper.

Hal Weiner  
IPC representative

## VIA MEDIA

During Lent 2008, we were blessed to have a strong class of eager pilgrims seeking to find out more about Christianity and the Episcopal Church. On six Sunday afternoons, twenty adults took a course utilizing Episcopal Church materials entitled "Via Media" which presents different theological viewpoints and encourages deep conversations about faith. From Maundy Thursday to Good Friday, the class, in addition to other congregation members, kept vigil with the Reserved Sacrament in the Baptistry. At the Easter Vigil Service, class members were baptized (Kristin Bergfeld and Tasha Taylor), and confirmed (Michael Bickford, Carmen Border, Richard Johnson, Sharon Lawlor, Michael Nixon, Eugene Singleton), received (Laurel Massé, Grant Neely, Luis Rivera, Frederick Tampe), and reaffirmed (Tiffany Parker, Roger Peters, Lorraine Simmons, Anne Wroten, Jim Wroten) in the Episcopal Church. Congratulations to all!

The Rev'd Canon Victoria R. Sirota  
Canon Pastor and Vicar

## PASTORAL CARE

Our Stephen Ministries Program, beautifully led by Elizabeth Salzer, completed its two-year commitment in June 2008. Two of our caregivers, Rich Whaley and Diane Reiners, had served a number of care receivers over the entire two and a half year period. The one-on-one attention of this program was much appreciated by those who received care. We are grateful for the level of commitment and the faithful ministry of our Stephen Ministers. Thank you!

In September, under the capable guidance of our Deacon The Rev'd Robert Jacobs, we began a program of instruction for Lay Eucharistic Visitors—lay members who carry communion after Sunday services to those who are unable to attend. Over the course of five sessions, ministers were trained and applications to the Bishop were filled out. On Sunday, November 16, Luis Rivera, Camille Ryan, Catherine Scott, Catherine Skopic and Nathaniel Queen received their licenses from the Diocese of New York and were commissioned as Lay Eucharistic Visitors for the Congregation of Saint Saviour. They have performed their ministry faithfully over the past few months, visiting those who are homebound, in hospitals or nursing homes. We will begin training a second group of Lay Eucharistic Visitors in the spring. If you know someone who would appreciate a visit from a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Canon Sirota.

Under the auspices of Bishop Mark Sisk, Canon Sirota and The Rev'd Earl Kooperkamp (Rector, Saint Mary's in Manhattanville) have begun a discernment process for the formation of a New York Chapter of the Order of Urban Missioners. Founded in Baltimore in 2000, the Order is for lay and ordained people ministering in the city who desire a spiritual support group. A group of interested people met at the Cathedral in

October and December for discussion, prayer, silent meditation, a meal and the Eucharist. The group has decided to meet monthly in 2009. A number of different congregations from the Diocese are represented. Those from Saint Saviour include: Lanice France, Laurel Massé, Catherine Skopic, Bowie Snodgrass, Hal Weiner and Nathaniel Queen. Hopefully the new chapter will begin next year with a service of Covenanting in the fall. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Canon Sirota.

On December 17th, The Rev. Dr. John Bauman (Director of the Center for Pastoral Psychotherapy at the Cathedral) and Canon Sirota offered a program entitled Navigating Uncertain Waters: a Pastoral Conversation for those Affected by the Economic Crisis. The response by those who attended was good, and the decision was made to offer another session in January.

The Rev'd Canon Victoria R. Sirota  
Canon Pastor and Vicar

## STEWARDSHIP AND FUND RAISING

2008 saw an administrative change, with Stewardship becoming a task run by the Wardens and Vestry, rather than as a separate committee. As fund raising is part of our central function, as fiduciaries, we felt this change was appropriate. One central function of this committee is to solicit pledges for the general work of the Cathedral and Congregation. As of this writing, we have received 58 written pledges for 2009 totaling \$82,620, which is less than we have received at this same moment in any of the last five years. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2009, please feel free to do so.

During what can at best be described as a difficult year, we were able to maintain overall giving for 2009, for which we greatly thank our membership! However, the trend was down toward the end of the year, and the actual giving during the final quarter of 2008 slowed tremendously, with December showing a 29% drop from December 2007. Given the general state of the economy, and the consensus that it will take at least a year to turn around, your leadership felt it prudent to plan a reduced budget, which as you will see printed at the end of this report, projects a 20% reduction in pledge and plate giving.

Warden Bob Carey took over our planning process for the budget preparation during the Fall of 2008, which included committee presentations to the Vestry on their planning ideas for the coming year. It was an open and transparent process, involving many fruitful discussions and allowed us to set priorities on our congregation programs, which is the Vestry's principle function. Since Congregation programs only represent only about 16%-20% of the monies we raise (the rest going to the Cathedral or Diocese), even a tiny reduction in pledge receipts can easily wipe out our programs unless we also share the reduction with the Cathedral cost share, which we have done. As always, when we have had to do this in the past, should we have a better year than forecast, we will restore as much as possible our cost share commitments.

We introduced a new computer system for our accounting, using ACS Technologies, the industry-leading church management software company which is a Web-based church management solution to more than 50,000 churches in the US and Canada. This new system has upgraded our cash control procedure, and given us remote access via the internet, which is so important, since we are a separate corporation from the Cathedral with no designated computers on the Close. We found it to be an ideal solution to provide our volunteers with the ability to work outside the office, yet increase data security with automatic backups, and reduce IT maintenance with seamless upgrades and updates. First championed by former Warden Sandy Schubert, this change has been implemented by Chris Johnson, Cecilia Nwufoh and Marsha Ra. And our thanks to Marsha Ra, who has continued to work weekly on the pledge and giving data entry.

Bob Carey & Chris Johnson  
Co-Wardens

### 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CRAFTS FAIR

*(Crafts at the Cathedral is the Congregation's primary fundraiser.)*

It seems we always say that this was the best one ever but...this really was the best one ever! The level of congregation support and participation was high (over 40 people volunteered to make it happen). Cathedral staff support was tremendous and attendance was at an all time high. All told we raised \$22,000 for the congregation. The event was linked to the Cathedral restoration festivities which brought in a lot of people. Security and Maintenance staff were wonderful. Cathedral Development cooperated with mailing lists. Cathedral Community Cares provided men to help with the heavy lifting and Jose Torres included the event in his own mailings.

Thanks to the committee that organized the event, including Barbara Hohol who specialized in exhibitor recruitment and relations; Brian Nelson who did all of the advertising graphics and the website, and Marsha Ra who specialized in overall administration. Lisa Chin and Will and Susan Baldwin ran the café. Jim and Anne Wroten were on the scene throughout the weekend, beginning with set-up on Thursday and through Sunday evening when the exhibitors were breaking down. Congregation volunteers including the following (and please forgive us if we have misspelled any names): Nita Benson, Richard Brooks, Bob Carey, Madeline Cruz, Ruth Curtis, Graham and Tracy Duglinson, Joyce Edwards, Keat Foong, Lou

& Jane Gropp, Esther Hassell, Fred Imbimbo and his friend Steve, Mary Jacobs, Chris Johnson, Lorenda Johnson, Margaret Karle, Pam & Aaron Koch, Pam Leeming, Rachel Makleff, Ruth Mueller-Maerki, Sonia Omulepu, Nat queen, Greg Rice, Luis Rivera, Barbara Roca, John Rumely, Douglas Schoettle, Rebekah Schrecengost, Paulina Sue, Lorraine Simmons, Sally & Susan Soboleski, Jose Torres (Director of the Cathedral ACT program), Camille Trentacoste, Hubert Watson, Grace Williams, Ron Williams, and Marjorie Witherspoon.

Barbara Hohol, Brian Nelson and Marsha Ra  
Co-Chairs, Crafts Fair

## **FY 2008 TREASURER'S NOTES**

As of 12/31/08

**Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh, Treasurer**

The congregation's 2008 annual report reflects a surplus of \$17,906.70 less pending invoices of about \$2382.48 not presented at the time this report was prepared. Actual surplus will be \$15,524.22.

The net surplus resulted from two major sources: This years' exceptional Revenue from the CRAFTS FAIR and the savings derived from the phasing out of the "Crossings" newsletter. It is worth mentioning that the Carpenter's Kid program through donations and the sale of Calendars and other materials was able to raise more funds than the Congregation's annual contribution to the Diocese.

### Expenses

As a result of the current recession, there are noticed increases in expense on: Office Supplies and Cost of Events. Also Mission & Outreach's sale of Coffee & Chocolate candies bars are less than purchases.

Crafts fair expenses decreased because less expenses was incurred on advertising. Communication expenses also decreased because the Initial investment in ACS software and other related payments towards the conversion of our Membership Plus has been paid up.

### Income

Pledges compared to prior years.

Other income increased over last year; including Development- Craft Fair, Carpenter's Kids and Vicar's Discretionary Fund.

Each year, our Congregation contracts for an independent audit of our finances, a copy of each year's audit is available to any member through inquiry at the Congregation Office. Our independent Auditing firm is: ROGOFF & Co, PC, and 275 Madison Avenue, Suite 1400, New York, NY 10016.

Great efforts have been made by the Executive Committee as well all other committees to make all these changes possible.

Cecilia C. Andrini-Nwufoh  
Treasurer

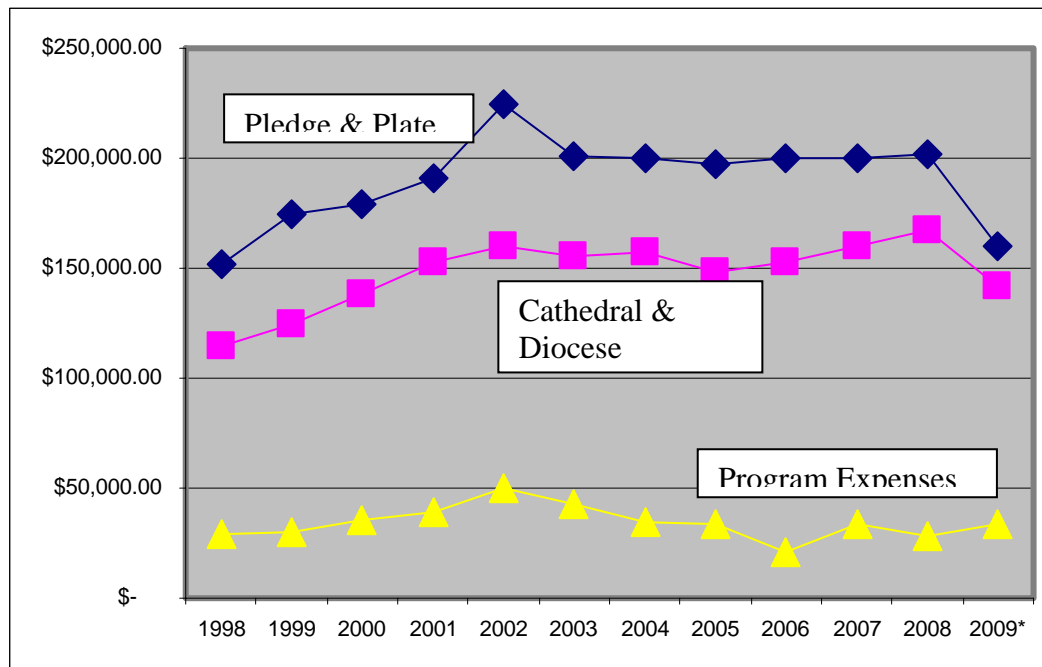
2007/8 Annual Income/Expense Report

	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
<b>Cathedral &amp; Diocesan Payments</b>		
Cathedral Cost Sharing	135,000.00	140,004.00
Diocesan Assessment	24,888.99	26,818.00
Clergy--Stipends & Allowances	0.00	0.00
<b>Cathedral &amp; Diocesan Payments Total</b>	<b>\$159,888.99</b>	<b>\$166,822.00</b>
<b>Congregation Programs</b>		
Education	20,323.72	11,532.32
20/30 Connection	1,830.54	478.84
Christian Formation (Via Media)	201.10	155.05
Communications	10,235.09	4,475.65
Development	8,920.95	13,790.63
Events	4,233.83	8,566.56
Mission & Outreach	6,427.45	9,336.67
Pastoral Care	0.00	354.96
Stewardship	392.00	2,213.02
Welcoming	1,665.88	1,221.18
Vicar's Disc Fund	1,080.00	622.64
Vestry	1,463.00	1,445.20
Seminarians	0.00	0.00
<b>Congregation Programs Total</b>	<b>\$56,773.56</b>	<b>\$54,192.72</b>
<b>Congregation Administration</b>		
Office	7,000.66	12,929.59
Others	3,265.00	0.00
Nominating	153.21	300.90
<b>Congregation Administration Total</b>	<b>\$10,418.87</b>	<b>\$13,230.49</b>
<b>EXPENSE GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$227,081.42</b>	<b>\$234,245.21</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Pledges & Plate	199,689.75	201,636.35
Interest Income	1,112.00	1,468.43
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,801.75</b>	<b>\$203,104.78</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Development	30,238.39	37,248.50
Education	7,803.82	5,765.00
20/30 Connection	0.00	0.00
Christian Formation (Via Media)	0.00	0.00
Events	5.00	0.00
Office	0.00	0.00
Mission & Outreach Income	6,540.00	5,222.00
Pastoral Care	0.00	33.00
Vicar's Disc Fund	65.00	1,030.00
Vestry	(167.50)	0.00
Welcoming	69.00	0.00
<b>OTHER INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,553.71</b>	<b>\$49,298.50</b>
<b>INCOME GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$245,355.46</b>	<b>\$252,403.28</b>
<b>NET INCOME- EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$18,274.04</b>	<b>\$18,158.07</b>

**2008 Net Worth Statement**  
**(Includes Unrealized Gains)**  
**As of 12/31/2008**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
CD-Commerce Bank	27,964.23
Checking              Commerce Bank	<u>86,349.58</u>
TOTAL Cash and Bank Balance	<u>\$114,313.81</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 114,313.81</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Other Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL Other Liabilities</b>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u><b>\$0.00</b></u>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<u><b>\$114,313.81</b></u>

Major Income and Expense Categories since 1997



**2009 CONGREGATION BUDGET**  
(approved at Vestry Meeting 12/9/08)

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Pledge & Plate Revenue	\$ 160,106.00
Net Crafts Fair Revenue	\$ 15,000.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 175,106.00</i>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Cathedral Cost Sharing	\$ 100,000.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 27,406.00
Administration/Office	\$ 14,000.00
Programs	\$ 33,200.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 175,106.00</i>
Surplus (deficit)	

The following table shows net money spent on Program after individual program revenue was subtracted

<b>PROGRAM DETAILS (net)</b>	
Education	\$ 4,000.00
Children's Abbey	\$ 2,000.00
Mission & Outreach	\$ 6,600.00
Communications	\$ 6,600.00
Events	\$ 6,000.00
Pastoral Care	\$ 500.00
Stewardship	\$ 1,500.00
20/30s Connection	\$ 2,000.00
Welcoming	\$ 2,000.00
Vestry	\$ 1,000.00
Vicar/Pastoral Care	\$ 1,500.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 33,200.00</i>

Notes;

(for programs that collect revenue)

- Net of retreat deposits
- Net pledges to Carpenter's Kids program
- Includes one time web pages expenses

## VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

The Congregation and this Cathedral greatly depend on the support of volunteers in both time and money. The following persons are only a partial list of those who contributed their time to very specific activities. Congregation members support the ongoing Christian Community at the Cathedral, and live out their faith, through participation in Congregation Programs, assisting in the worship services (ushers, lay readers, vergers and acolytes), singing in the choir, leading morning and evening prayer, participating in healing ministries and serving as greeters with visitor services.

### Wardens and Vestry during 2008

#### Class of 2009

Chris Johnson, Warden  
Vaughan Folkert  
Brian Nelson  
Carole Wilkins  
Wayne Yankus

#### Class of 2010

Bob Carey, Warden  
Lisa Chin, Clerk  
Charles Jamison, Jr.  
Matthew Pritchard  
Nathaniel Queen

#### Class of 2011

Cecilia Andrini-Nwufoh, Treasurer  
David McGee  
Catherine Scott  
Rachel Wildman

#### IPC Representatives

Hal Weiner

Rose Davis

### Congregation Committee Chairs during 2008

Stewardship: Co-Chairs;	Bob Carey and Chris Johnson
Pastoral Care:	The Rev'd Canon Victoria R. Sirota
Education:	David McGee
Mission & Outreach:	Carole Wilkins
Crafts Fair:	Barbara Hohol, Brian Nelson and Marsha Ra
Events:	Lisa Chin,
Welcoming:	Joan Ogden
Prayer Tree:	Elizabeth Salzer
20-30s Connection	Rachel Wildman
Election Committee:	The Rev. Canon Kris Lee
Communications; Co-Chairs;	Chris Johnson and Sandra Schubert
"Crossings" Co Editors:	Chris Johnson and Brian Nelson