



CHRIST CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
FOUNDED 1672

Annual Report 2007



Annual Parish Meeting
18 February 2008

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Monday, February 18, 2008

Martin Luther, 1546

CHRIST CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

The meeting begins with refreshments at 6:00 PM and dinner at 6:30 PM.

7:30 PM Annual Meeting

Hymn 525 – The Church's one foundation

Opening Prayer

Minutes of the February 2007 Annual Meeting

Appointment of the Teller/Registrar – *the Chair*

Report of the Nominating Committee – *Christopher Whyman*

Parish Elections:

Junior and Senior Warden

Members of the Vestry

Delegates and Alternates to the 2008 Diocesan Convention

Comments from the Senior Warden – *Christopher Whyman*

Recognition of those completing vestry terms – *Christopher Whyman*

Annual Stewardship Campaign Report – *Carl Widell*

Finance Reports for 2007 – *Ed Sipe*

Budget for 2008 – *Bob Holden*

Ministry Focus Reports:

Outreach & Wider Mission: Habitat for Humanity: Partners in Faith – *John Hunnicutt*

Pastoral Care: Stephen Ministry – *Jessie Weddle & Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt*

Comments from the Associate Rector – *Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt*

Comments from the Rector – *Mark Nestlehutt*

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Hymn 657 – Love divine, all loves excelling

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CHRIST CHURCH

St. Michael's Parish

Senior Warden's Report to the Parish

This past year has been an excellent one for our church. As a community we have put our mission statement into action (“We are a vibrant faith community grounded in history and open to the future. We are inclusive, caring, active and engaged”). Our Vestry has been focused on many issues but these are highlighted by (a) efforts at spiritual development with an opening worship at the start of each meeting, the order of Compline at the end, and prayer for each other between meetings, and (b) programmatic ministries. The two major and most visible successes have been the development of the Stephen Ministers program and the Dental Mission at El Hogar. Both of these ministries have required significant effort and leadership from clergy, laity and the Vestry and they are an indication of the commitment and excellent working relationships within Christ Church that these ministries have progressed as rapidly and as successfully as they have. Now we need to work to nurture and further develop these ministries during the coming year. Other successful programs include the ‘Back to School’ project, Disciples Of Christ in Community, the knitting group, and bible study groups.

We have a remarkably wonderful staff for which we should continue to thank God. Mark, Abigail, and Paul are exceptionally gifted clergy and we are very blessed to have them as our priests. Bill Thomas is a very talented musician and an empathetic choir director who has the gift and ability of getting the very best from our choirs, special soloists and from our organ. The ‘Year of Bill’ has proved to be a fitting tribute to his dedication and love for our church. Carolyn Finch has run our church office with efficiency and Robert Thompson has continued to witness to his Lord as he takes care of our premises.

Our Worship has been enhanced with the addition of the beautiful Evensong service on the first Sunday of each month and the ‘Enriching Our Worship’ liturgy during the summer months at the 9:30 AM worship.

Our Diocese- the Diocese of Easton- adopted a policy of Sabbatical Leave to promote or develop ways to support our clergy in the enhancing of their gifts, self-care, health and wholeness.

As intended by this policy, a sabbatical is not a leave of absence for simple rest, relaxation or a change of routine. Such is already provided for as annual vacation time. Nor is sabbatical leave necessarily or simply an extended, continuing education program. The Biblical concept of sabbath time is for the opening of one’s self to the working of the Holy Spirit and for the renewal of one’s sense of vocation. Sabbatical leave is intended to offer the opportunity for a more extended period of reflection and learning than is possible in a brief workshop or short-term educational leave. It is unlikely that ordained clergy can avoid “burnout” or becoming “stale and going to seed” without taking some extended periods of time away from parish duties for refreshment and spiritual rejuvenation.

Sabbatical leave is not a gift but a normal and expected part of spiritual and professional development for clergy. Mark and Abigail are eligible for sabbatical leave of one month for each year of service after having completed five years. Although this anniversary occurs during this coming year they have decided to take their Sabbatical leave next year (2009) and they are working on exciting work plans in Australia during this time.

I am delighted to report to you that Paul (The Rev. Paul Winters) has agreed to work full time in the temporary role of priest-in-charge while Mark and Abigail are away, and the Vestry will be considering additional clergy help for him during this period.

The parish continues to run smoothly and there is a sense of energy and spiritual growth that is exciting and encouraging. Thank you to all of our communicants for making our parish such a caring and supportive family.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Whyman, Senior Warden

Rector's Report to the Parish – 2008

An early fall visit from our Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Katherine Jefferts Schori, and a yearlong 20th anniversary celebration of Bill Thomas as our Organist and Director of Music were the obvious highlights of 2007. The spirit is strong and our Parish is thriving.

During our past four years together, Christ Church has continually operated from a posture and attitude of abundance as opposed to one of scarcity and 2007 was no different. Our annual stewardship campaign drew heavily on the work of the March 2006 vestry retreat and identified outreach and wider mission as the defining ministry of our Parish. Helping those in need in the local community through Habitat for Humanity and through the Community Center and other local organizations, as well as our international involvement in Honduras generated a tremendous level of parishioner support and involvement. The Stewardship Committee set a goal of \$430,000 in annual pledge income for 2007—an increase of \$25,000 over 2006—and the campaign generated \$460,000 in actual pledges, far exceeding our goal. These funds, in addition to our separate mini-campaign to fund, build and operate a dental clinic on the campus of El Hogar, meant that we had an even greater impact and ability to live out our baptismal promises of seeking to serve Christ in all persons and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

At our March 2007 vestry retreat held at the Osprey Point Conference Center we spent much time in common worship and prayer and reviewed the goals of the parish, the needs of the community, and the state of the National Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion. Feeling confident that we were heeding God's call to help the neediest in our midst, the vestry continued to set its focus upon outreach and wider mission for the new year.

In March 2007, Christ Church—through the leadership of dentist Dr. James Campi—sent its first dental mission team to Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Less than a year after promising the boys and girls, as well as the staff, that we help out with their pressing need for dental care, we were up and running having raised over \$40,000 towards the new clinic.

Another strong area of ministry that emerged in 2007 and has already come to fruition is the Stephen Ministry program. Lead by the Reverend Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt, Aly Valentine, Joan Boggess and Jessie Weddle, the first class of Stephen Ministry caregivers was trained at Christ Church during 2007. This is an important and dynamic aspect of our parish's ministry that augments and expands the parish's attentiveness to those in need in our community.

The spirit of Christ Church is witnessed week-in and week-out in how we worship together. We are a joyous community of faithful Christians and Sunday morning provides a palpable example of our love for Jesus Christ and the God who created us. A special pleasure this past year has been the success and

growing congregation for our monthly service of Evensong, led by Bill Thomas and the Chancel Choir.

Our new Parish House continues to be a blessing, as well as to present challenges. In excess of fifty community organizations met throughout the year in our facility and the expense of operating the building has been greater than anticipated, or budgeted. Yet, offering our building and spaces to the broader community is as offer of hospitality and part of our ministry. At the end of 2007, we met with a consultant from Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light to explore ways in which we can reduce our total energy cost in both the church and parish house facilities.

At the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting, we will say thank you and goodbye to our Junior Warden, Martha Austin, and vestry members Jim Campi, Doris Fink, and Chloe Pitard. I want to thank each of these parishioners for their ongoing support, dedication and spirit-filled candor in helping to govern and lead our parish, with a special thanks to Martha Austin for her service as a warden for the past two years.

The Holy Spirit is indeed strong at Christ Church and we and the community around us continue to benefit and to be stronger because of it!

The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt, *Rector*

Associate's Report to the Parish

My main responsibilities fall under the areas of Pastoral Care and Community Life. You may read more about each of these in the various reports included in this document. I will highlight two new 2007 programs.

Stephen Ministry was launched in January, 2007. Stephen Ministry is a comprehensive program that equips lay people to respond to Jesus' commandment to love one another. I led a team of four Stephen Leaders as we were trained at a week long conference in Florida and then returned to begin the program in our parish. Over the course of four months we trained a group of ten Stephen Ministers who were commissioned in September. Those Stephen Ministers are now offering caring ministry to members of our parish and beyond as well as participating in ongoing supervision.

Launched at the end of 2007 is our Final Fridays program. I have worked together with volunteers to offer an opportunity for fellowship and fun on the final Friday of each month, October-April. Worship and outreach are vital components of our life together but fellowship is important as well. Through it we get to know one another and care for each other more deeply. We have enjoyed a wine and cheese gathering, a coffee house, Christmas caroling and a movie night. More is planned for 2008!

Starting in the fall of 2007 I took over responsibility for the church school. Prior to that time Mark, our rector, had oversight of this area. We started the church school year with our first ever Fun Fair—a huge success thanks to parishioner Louisa Parkinson and also the help of all of our church school teachers. We have three classes in our church school: 3 years-kindergarten, 1st-3rd grades, 4th-7th grade. Our first two classes use the Living the Good News Curriculum while the older children use the Witness curriculum as they focus on outreach. I have promised to be more present with the older children and have assisted in teaching their twice monthly class.

In the area of continuing education or professional development I formed a clergy support group made up of five clergy women who serve parishes along the East Coast. We began meeting in the spring of 2007 and have pledged to meet twice a year on retreat. This group is quickly becoming a wonderful source of support and inspiration.

It remains a pleasure and privilege to serve at Christ Church. As I stand before you on Sunday mornings my heart is full of admiration and love.

The Reverend Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt – *Associate for Pastoral & Community Ministries*

Report of the Nominating Committee

Monday, February 18, 2008

According to the by-laws of Christ Church, the Nominating Committee for 2008 consists of the following individuals:

Martha Austin	Jim Campi
Doris Fink	Mark Nestlehutt
Chloe Pitard	Christopher Whyman

The following persons have been nominated by the Committee for election at the 2008 Annual Meeting:

To serve as senior warden (1 year term): **Chris Whyman**

To serve as junior warden (1 year term): **Alison Sanford**

To serve as vestry members (3 year term): **Joan Boggess**
Bob Burger
Jim McCloud
Sal Simoncini

To serve as Delegates and Alternates for the Year 2009 Diocesan Convention:

<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Linda Norris	Martha Austin
Mary Ellen Olcese	John Hunnicutt
John Scofield	Alison Sanford

Christopher Whyman, for the Committee

MINISTRY AREAS OF CHRIST CHURCH:

CHRISTIAN FORMATION; OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION; PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE; PASTORAL CARE; STEWARDSHIP; and WORSHIP & MUSIC

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Christian Formation Committee

I. The Mission Statement

The mission of the Adult Christian Formation is to provide Sunday morning forums for parishioners that deepen an understanding and commitment to their faith so that they may proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ; to seek and to serve Christ in all persons, loving their neighbors as themselves; to strive for justice and peace among all people; and to respect the dignity of every human being.

II. Weekly Topics

The topics for Adult Christian Formation focus on Holy Scripture, Church History, Christian Theology, Studies in Contemporary Society, Christian Ethics and Moral Theology and Ministry. *(See Appendix A)*

III. Goals

This year the forum continued to emphasize a focus on outreach as demonstrated by our on-going commitment to El Hogar and the dental clinic that we established for all the children. We further established a priority to respond to the needs of our own community of the Bay Hundred Area.

We continue to revisit the UN Millennium Development Goals and the work of Episcopalians for Reconciliation. Our parish demonstrated a commitment to continue to learn how we can make a difference in eradicating poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality and combating AIDS/HIV and other diseases contained in the MDG's.

IV. Library Enrichment

We have expanded our library resources to include DVD's that will enable parishioners to have unique learning experiences both individually in groups on such subjects as Church History, Christian Theology, and Holy Scripture.

Submitted by Doris G. Fink, *Adult Christian Formation Committee Coordinator*

Adult Inquirers Class

The adult inquirers class is for those adults who are new to Christ Church, the Episcopal Church or Christianity in general. The scope of the class encompasses what it means to be a Christian and how the Episcopal Church understands this question, as well as our own specific style of worship and denominational history. The class met four times during March and April 2007. The primary text for the class is Christopher Webber's book, *Welcome to the Episcopal Church* and our principle text for worship, *The Book of Common Prayer (1979)*. Eight individuals attended the course and Bishop Shand confirmed five of these individuals during his May visitation.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt

Church School

We continue to offer three age appropriate classes for our children. Church School is held from 9:15 – 10:00 AM every Sunday for our Preschool/Kindergarten class and Primary class (grades 1-3). Our Intermediate class (grades 4-7) meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 9:15 – 10:00 AM in the clergy lounge, outside of their offices.

We have a strong team of teachers: Jessica Morris, Gena Newberg, Michelle Clark and , Annette English led the Preschool/Kindergarten class. For family reasons Annette is no longer teaching and her role will be filled by Philip Parkinson. Carol Fegan and Alison Sanford lead our Primary class. Our Intermediate class is led by Reverend Abigail Nestlehutt, Kim Kerrigan, and Kim Weller.

The Kindergarten and Primary classes continue to use the curriculum, *Living the Good News*. Our Intermediate class has embarked on a year of learning and service with a curriculum centered on the problem of hunger. They are focusing on the needs of our local community and beyond.

We are excited to have these programs thriving at Christ Church for our children. We are continually looking for, and welcome, newcomers and visitors as part of the classes. We are also looking for eager and enthusiastic volunteers to help lead these classes. Many hands make little work and lots of happy, healthy children.

Submitted by Ann Roe

OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION

Back to School Project

At the beginning of June 2007 ten needy children at St. Michaels Elementary School were presented with their first ever Year Books. These children were both delighted and surprised to receive their books, thanks to the generosity of our congregation.

On a visit to Tilghman Elementary School it was discovered that there was no similar program in place to help their needy children. We had already started our appeal at Christ Church and we wondered if we could extend the Back to School Project to those needy children. Elizabeth Simoncini gave memorial money in memory of her mother Cherry Thomas and this donation together with the novel idea of one of our parishioners to have guests at a birthday party bring school supplies ensured that we were able to include Tilghman. On the day before the children returned to school in September we delivered backpacks and boxes of school supplies to St. Michaels Elementary School and backpacks

and school supplies to Tilghman Elementary School. Both schools received a check for \$300 for periodicals for children whose families cannot afford the subscription. St. Michaels Elementary School also received \$1500 to cover the cost of field trips for needy children.

2007 we can truly say was the year that all children in the Elementary Schools in the Bay Hundred area who needed help received it through the Back to School Project.

With your support we can ensure that all those children who need help with supplies, money for field trips and periodicals in the Bay Hundred area are provided for.

At the start of the Year we refill the empty school supplies closets at the schools, and we have already started on this. We have agreed to purchase Year Books again this year, but it will not be as many as last year.

To everyone who supports this campaign- "Thank You". You make a difference in the lives of so many children in our community.

Balance brought forward from 2006	\$1904.46
Funds raised during 2007 campaign	\$5105.00
Funds spent to 12/31/07	\$3741.60
Balance taken forward to 2008	\$3267.00

Submitted by Gillian Whyman

Children's Home Foundation (CHF)

The Children's Home Foundation is an outreach mission of the Diocese of Easton. It provides scholarships for needy children to attend summer camp and for needy high school graduates to attend two or three year technical schools. This past summer, 74 elementary students were able to attend Camp Wright and other area camps with \$6,000 worth of scholarship money. Currently, 112 high school graduates are receiving \$214,000 for technical training to earn a marketable skill and become a contributing member of society. All students are from the nine counties of Maryland's Eastern Shore. Episcopal congregations and charitable foundations donate to our annual Thanksgiving Appeal either by the loose plate offering or by mailed check.

Submitted by Nance duPont and Dianne Shaw

Community Grants

The Community Grants Committee is composed of eight parish members. A budget is provided by the vestry each year. The committee considers needs and dispenses grants to charitable organizations as deemed appropriate. While the committee's focus is on local needs, any recognized charitable group with an identifiable need is considered. In 2007 the committee was also tasked with determining recipients for Parish Millennium Goal funds.

In 2007, the following grants were made:

1	CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)	\$2000.00
2	Easton Day Care (St. Michael's Site)	\$4000.00

3	Channel Marker	\$1000.00
4	For All Seasons	\$1000.00
5	St. Michaels Community Center	\$1000.00
6	Boy Scout Troop 741	\$500.00
7	Girl Scout Troop 799	\$500.00
8	St. Michaels Volunteer Fire Department	\$1000.00
9	Children's Home Foundation	\$1000.00
10	Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza	\$1000.00
11	American Red Cross	\$1000.00
12	Habitat for Humanity	\$2000.00
	MDG's Global Aids Interfaith Alliance	\$1500.00
	MDG's Heifer Project	\$2500.00
Total		\$20,000.00

Submitted by Paul D'Zmura - *Community Grants Committee Chairman*

Community Youth Initiative/Wednesday "Teen Night"

The Community Youth Initiative is a joint venture of Christ Church and the St. Michaels Community Center and is held on Wednesday evenings in Etherton Hall during the academic calendar year. The program is an enrichment program for middle school age young people from the Bay Hundred area. In addition to safe space and age-appropriate programming, a warm meal is provided. During the summer months the program is held at the Bay Hundred Pool with weekly Splash Parties. The program is funded from a line item under the Outreach and Wider Mission area of our annual operating budget.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt

El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza (The Home of Love and Hope)

Beginning in October 2004 Christ Church became involved in the lives of the boys of El Hogar in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The Parish sent its first parishioner work team in May of 2005, with subsequent teams traveling to El Hogar in May 2006 and March 2007. To raise money for the orphanage and school a *Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta* was held in March 2007, which raised \$4,000 for the project. In November of 2007 a new group of parishioners began meeting to plan a 2008 work trip. Major changes at El Hogar during 2007 include the continued building of its new technical school campus in the Ameriteca Valley, a pilot program to begin admitting girls and a dental mission (spearheaded by the leadership of Christ Church) which became operational in April 2007.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt *for Margie Steffens*

El Hogar Dental Mission

Through the generous donations of so many people here at Christ Church, we raised over \$45,000 for the installation of a dental clinic at El Hogar, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Hundreds of children received

dental treatment. First in March and then in October 2007, dental teams treated many of the children at El Hogar. For most, it was their first exposure to dental treatment and hygiene.

The children were extremely cooperative, loving and appreciative.

We have plans to return this March as well as in the fall. Other teams are being recruited to continue the work. Much interest has been generated nationally through the El Hogar news letter, interested professionals, and those whose hearts go out to the children of El Hogar.

We are faced with one last equipment challenge. To treat the children with the best possible care, we need to find funds to purchase X-Ray equipment. We are actively researching this challenge with supply companies as well as other interested congregations.

Your prayers and support are critical to the continued success of this amazing dream for the children of El Hogar. We have and are making a huge difference in the lives of these kids. All of the congregation here at Christ Church deserve a round of applause. Well done good and faithful servants!!!!

Submitted by Dr. James R. Campi, *El Hogar Dental Chair*

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)

The parish and ECW continued their support to ERD during 2007. The parish representative collaborated with the diocesan representative for an Adult Forum presentation on the work of ERD, how it is funded and how monies are spent. In 2006, it worked in 32 countries serving over 1.1 million people. ERD continues to be an efficient organization that uses 92% of all donated monies for programs. ERD is a major supporter of Camp Coast Care in Mississippi and the diocesan effort to help rebuild the Gulf Coast. The church school continues to use ERD materials in its programs and the church and parish hall are stocked with ERD materials.

Submitted by Pamela McCloud

PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

Coffee Hour

The coffee hour after the 8 AM service is a very smooth operation. Currently there are 16 teams serving. This means that no one team has too great a burden, or has to serve very often. When a team is assigned, it is their responsibility to prepare the coffee and provide “goodies” for the coffee hour. Each team has done their service very well and we thank them for their service.

After the coffee hour the team assigned is responsible for washing the dishes and cleaning the kitchen. An interesting bit of cooperation has been taking place. Even though there are usually two people in charge of the clean-up, several other members of the congregation step in to help. Needless to say this speeds up the process and makes light work for all.

To all those who volunteer as coffee hour hosts and to the unsung “clean-up helpers” we give thanks!

Submitted by Fritz Riedlin, *Coffee Hour Team Coordinator*

Covenant Church Fund

This past year we had one tent service in the spring and then in the fall we had an Iman, Yahya Hendi, speak to us in the St. Michael’s Library meeting room. Both activities were well attended.

We started the year with \$773.87 in the bank, received \$1050.50 at the tent service, spent \$1461.50, leaving us with a \$362.07 bank balance.

Submitted by Oscar Carlson

Docent’s Guild

Over the years we have had more than 50 parishioners volunteer their time to give tours of our Church and act as hosts to visitors from around the world. These volunteers are our docents. Their number is dwindling, we cannot let this important mission falter. If you can spare just 2 hours each month from May thru October please consider helping. WE NEED YOU!

In 2007 our docents hosted many visitors. the records for the year show 2,050 guests signed into our guest book. We welcomed 1,927 visitors from the USA and 123 from 23 foreign countries.

Carol Kilborn took over treasurer duties from Alice Cohee in 2007. Carol's report will be available at a later date.

Please consider sharing your time and talents with our guild.

Call Susan Kilmon @ 410-745-3141 or Faye Shannahan @ 410-745-9373

Submitted by Betty Mitchell, *Chair*

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

This has been a busy year for ECW. We had three very successful fundraisers, our Spring and Fall Rummage Sales and our annual Christmas Bazaar. The fundraisers netted over \$18,500 for our

Outreach Missions and they continue to get better with everyone's efforts. Our Outreach programs include Bay Hundred Youth Task Force, Camp Wright, Episcopal Relief and Development Fund, El Hogar, Habitat for Humanity, Hospice of Talbot County, St. Michael's Community Center, St. Michael's Fire Department and more.

Our Outreach Missions budget allows for gifts for other local needs, such as, the traditional giving of Christmas goody-bags, this year to our fourteen shut-ins. The Angel Tree again filled a list of special wish gifts for 43 of our local children who would not have had gifts at Christmas. The gifts were gathered and presented to the children at a Christmas Party at the St. Michaels Community Center.

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:30, our "bring a sandwich to share meetings" have been informative, inspirational, and fun. We began 2007 with our own talented Robert Barrett sharing his experiences from his career with the National Security Agency. The February meeting was cancelled due to snow. Our February speaker, Superintendent of Talbot County Schools, John Masone graciously joined us on an afternoon in March for a social time and presented a timely and informative media presentation on "Constructing for the Future of Education in Talbot County Schools". Aly Valentine, our March meeting speaker, acquainted the ladies with the "Stephen Ministries". In April, Ann Ramsay Campbell, a nurse who travels to third world countries to correct facial defects for children introduced us to the international program, "SMILE". In May we were on the road. Our annual bus trip this year, was to Ladew Gardens, a catered luncheon by Manor Tavern, and a bus tour of Sherwood Gardens on the way home. In June our annual picnic was held at the home of Nancy Hunter where we enjoyed each other in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. This fall our speakers have included: Bob and Lynn Barrett on a "Tour of the Church Library." They are responsible for providing us with a well organized and carefully selected collection. The Reverend Paul Winters on "Hymn Song and Hymn Poet" using our favorite hymns and a brief look at hymnody; and The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt presenting "ECW Pathfinders: An exploration of how women have used the gospel to shape and press for needed changes to help the poor.

The year ended with our traditional holiday program, "Listen to the Music of the Season with the Easton High School Chamber Singers, William R. Thomas, Director". The St. Luke's Methodist Church ladies were invited to join us. Twenty-three attended an informal social hour, a shared luncheon, and desert followed by the musical program in the Church. Friendships continue to grow with our neighbors. In April we attended a luncheon and spiritual program at St. Luke's Methodist Church.

ECW sponsored the first Parish Bingo Party on April 20th inviting our parish and the surrounding church parishes. It was well attended by all ages and was a success.

All women of Christ Church are members of ECW and are encouraged and welcomed to join the monthly programs and activities. We will continue to strive to get to know each other better, share fun and work times together, as we continue to expand our outreach programs. We also will strive to bring the new women in our congregation into ECW and to make them feel welcome

Submitted by Dawn Ganss, *President of the Episcopal Church Women*

Kitchen Committee

The Kitchen Committee is composed of ten devoted members who make up five teams, with two people in each team. Each group is assigned duty for one week. The names of the members, in teams:

Nancy Sipe/ Joan Boguess
Nancy Masone, Elizabeth Simoncini
Louise Woods/Mary Riedlin

Anne Keiser/Margie Steffens
Lynn Barrett/Martha Austin

It is the responsibility of each team to meet with a member of the group using the kitchen facility to be sure that the correct procedures are being followed. The step is a crucial part in maintaining a clean and orderly kitchen. The team member, along with the member of the “user group” is responsible for putting the kitchen back in order. The cooperation of the “user groups”, for the most part, has been excellent. Our biggest concern, besides the sanitation of the kitchen itself, is that the dishwasher is used correctly. It is a bit complicated and can easily be put out of commission if not used properly.

The kitchen is cleaned thoroughly four times a year by the Hard Hatters Cleaning company. This has been extremely helpful and is an important part of keeping the kitchen in good running order, clean and sanitary. The quarterly cleaning is in the early fall, December, sometime after the fish fry, and early June. These are key times for outsiders, as well as in house groups, to use the kitchen.

The labeling of all cupboards has been very helpful. It is easy for a newcomer to see where items are located and should be returned. The kitchen is well stocked with cooking materials and, often, paper products are available, left over from one group or another. We continue to as that NO FOOD be left in the kitchen, including the refrigerator and the freezer, after an event takes place. We also encourage recycling and have containers to accommodate this.

We have had very good cooperation from the Vestry when we need additional or replacement items. For instance, the ice maker was damaged while being defrosted and unable to be repaired. A replacement was found in quick order.

The team members are very quiet about their work in the kitchen and need a large thank you from all those who use the kitchen. Their responsibility does not include cleaning up after daily use of dishes for coffee, drinking, etc. (That is the responsibility of the individuals who used the dishes) Their job is to facilitate the use of the kitchen for groups who have signed up with Carolyn.

Submitted by Nancy Sipe and Mary Riedlin, *Co-Chairs*

Lea Library

The Lea Library has purchased 40 books and processing supplies at a cost of \$727.84. We also continue to acquire books and tapes donated by parishioners. In response to interest in female authors we have acquired eight very popular titles. These and other recent accessions are temporarily displayed on two special shelves to the right on entering the library. During the year 11 books were reviewed in the Tidings. Circulation of books continues to increase. Doris Fink purchased DVD's from the Christian Formation budget. The AV materials are shelved in the cabinets under the book shelves along with the VHS videos and audio tapes.

Submitted by Lynn and Robert Barrett

Men's Club

The Men's Club unites members in brotherhood and prayer and strengthens knowledge of local, national and world issues. Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month (except June-August) at 8 AM at Christ Church, Etherton Hall. Breakfast is served followed by a short prayer and

the guest speakers include local politicians, law enforcement, a military chaplain, a Chesapeake Bay pilot and a local Skipjack Captain. Maintaining a level of intellectual interest to our members is an on-going challenge.

The contribution for breakfast is \$10.00 paid in advance - \$40 in September, \$50 in January. From this, \$4 per person is contributed to the Scholarship Fund. Should a person not attend, his total payment becomes a Fund contribution. During the previous three years, our cash flow barely exceeded \$300. Using this new formula, our usable income increased to \$2300 in one year. True to the intent of this program, we were able to donate \$1,032 to El Hogar for sorely needed dental equipment. The Group also organizes an annual Pancake Supper to benefit the Boy Scout Troop.

Over the years, there has been a steady decline in the membership due to departing the area for one reason or another. We should encourage new membership beyond the 25-30 supporting loyalists. For more information, contact Leo H. Foulds, 410-745-6153.

Submitted by Leonard H. Foulds, III, *Chairman, Men's Club*

Welcoming Committee

PURPOSE:

The Welcoming Committee serves to ensure visitors are welcomed and given the opportunity to learn more about Christ Church.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2007:

- 1) In January & October 2007, we held welcoming events at the Nestlehutt's home. We have been holding these events since February 2004 and they continue to be both important and successful. We intend to continue them on an annual or semi-annual basis, depending on the number of local newcomers able to attend.
- 2) Gift bags continue to be handed out to interested visitors. These bags have been imprinted with our Christ Church crown logo and contain information regarding worship schedules, community events, a Christ Church bookmark, a current issue of the TIDINGS newsletter, and a small folder containing history and information about Christ Church and its ministry. The welcome bags are picked up by visitors at the conclusion of Sunday services or delivered by a clergy person during a home visit.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE:

- 1) There will likely be another welcoming event in Spring 2008.
- 2) In the coming year, the welcoming committee would like to recruit new members to serve in this vital ministry. And, as always, remember that all Christ Church parishioners are unofficial members of the Welcoming Committee and everyone can do his/her part by personally welcoming new faces on Sunday mornings.

Submitted by Alison Sanford, *Committee Chair*

PASTORAL CARE

Care Circle

There are many ways in which we can respond to Jesus command to love one another. The Care Circle is a very tangible response. Members of the Care Circle stand ready when someone needs a ride to an appointment or a meal provided during a time of illness or at the arrival of a new baby. In 2007 Gillian Whyman took over organizing this ministry and is eager to know of needs in the community as well as volunteers who wish to offer this kind of tangible care.

Submitted by Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt

Eucharistic Visitors

Following the 8 AM and the 10:15 AM Eucharist Services on Sunday mornings, one or more of our six dedicated Eucharistic Ministers are available to take communion to anyone in need, whether at home, in the hospital, a nursing home, or wherever required. In preparation for these visits, communion kits containing wine and wafers are placed on the altar prior to the church service and blessed with the sacraments during the Great Thanksgiving. During the year 2007 the Eucharistic Visitors made 69 visits and served 169 communions. A very special thanks goes to Peggy Rogers, Mary Len Trippe, Hank Spire, Jessie Weddle and Morris Osborn for their contributions to this ministry and their willingness to serve whenever the need arises.

Submitted by Jessie Weddle

Knitting Group

The Christ Church Knitting Group has continued to meet twice monthly throughout it's second year. Our original group has remained constant and we have attracted several new, very productive members. We continue to knit prayer shawls, baby blankets, infant caps and ECW Bazaar items, but we have added warm hats and sweaters for the Seaman's Institute and Teddy Bears for the Mother Bear Project for orphans of AIDS. This is a very special group and we welcome newcomers anytime.

Submitted by Linda Spire

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is a group of caring people who have responded to Jesus' call of "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Gathered together on a monthly basis, a group of twelve people from our church lift up the concerns of our congregation in prayer

remembering those who are sick, hospitalized, grieving, home-bound and actively serving in the armed services. We rejoice for those who are preparing for baptism, marriage or other special occasions. We pray for those who are living in poverty and hunger who reside in our immediate community of St. Michaels as well as throughout the world. The names of people for whom supplications are requested are updated at our monthly meetings and remain confidential. New names for prayer are directed through the church office. New members are always welcome.

Submitted by Doris G. Fink

STEWARDSHIP

Annual Campaign

In 2007, we as a Parish, continued our focus on Outreach as we began our 2008 stewardship campaign. Stewardship is only one part of time, talent and treasure devoted to our Outreach programs, and several programs, such as the Dental Mission to Honduras, and the help to hurricane victims in Mississippi raise considerable funds themselves. In the Annual Campaign for 2008, we received 210 pledges totaling \$467,956, of which 16 were new pledges, somewhat short of our goal of \$500,000. These monies will of course go to the operation of the physical plant of the Church, to the salaries of the clergy and staff, and to local Outreach programs, especially Camp Wright and Habitat for Humanity. Bob Holden and Ed Sipe were able to adjust the budget to our changing forecasts, and as usual, Carolyn Finch virtually ran the stewardship statistics. Many thanks to Mark Nestlehutt for his vision and direction and to our committee members Chloe Pitard and Martha Austin.

Carl Widell, *Stewardship Chair*

Finance Report

Christ Church was blessed with another good year financially. Income exceeded expenses, leaving us with an operating surplus of \$14,065. Our general operating funds remain healthy at \$151,774. Despite the onset of financial market turbulence in the 4th quarter of 2007, the market value of our Permanent Endowment Fund increased from \$796,059 to \$880,387. The market value of our General Investment Fund also increased in value from \$249,466 to \$274,478.

We drew from our substantial operating reserves this year to fund several capital improvements. These included painting the outside wooden trim of the church, installing chair rail and wainscoting in Etherton Hall and upgrading audio-visual systems in Etherton Hall to provide a retractable screen, recording and reproduction capabilities.

Operating budget highlights for 2007 and 2008 are:

2007

- Income was \$538,866 (105% of budget), an increase of \$47,651 (almost 10%) over 2006.
- Expenses were \$524,801 (103% of budget), an increase of \$77,726 (17.4%) over 2006. Significant budget misses were in unanticipated operating costs for the Parish House, and

general insurance premiums. Discretionary program increases in Pastoral Care and Worship and Music were largely offset by savings in other programs.

- The operating surplus for the year was \$14,065, versus \$44,140 in 2006 and \$46,103 in 2005.

2008

- Income is budgeted at \$544,500, an increase of \$32,500 (10.6%) over 2007. In order to reach this target, the Vestry has voted to accept a payout of \$25,000, as approved by the trustees, from the Permanent Endowment Fund. The payout is a portion (72.5%) of the allowable distribution for 2008. The remainder will be reinvested in the protected principal of the fund.
- Expenses are budgeted at \$544,259, an increase of \$35,227 (6.9%) over 2007. This increase fully funds salary increases for the clergy and staff, a modest expansion in Outreach and Wider Mission programs and provides for projected increases in the costs of utilities, maintenance services, insurance and other programs inadvertently “missed” in the 2007 budget.

This year’s budget process began last September with an unconstrained “straw budget” based on a continuing stable and growing economy. It reflected the goals of this year’s Annual Campaign and desired growth in all ministry areas. The final budget presented in this report has been trimmed from its optimistic beginning to take into account the potential impact on income of projected uncertainties and slower economic growth. It achieves the goals of the annual campaign, sustains most current programs at the same or slightly reduced levels and allows some modest growth in some ministry areas.

Submitted by Bob Holden

Permanent Endowment Fund

The Permanent Endowment Fund (PEF) was established in May 2001 when the Parish became the beneficiary of a Charitable Remainder Trust which made provisions for a yearly payout to Christ Church St. Michaels Parish for 30 years. In 2007 that payout was \$25,407.25.

The funds of the Permanent Endowment Fund have been managed by Westwood Trust of Dallas, Texas since November of 2006. The funds are invested in a target mix of 70% Equities and 30% Fixed Income. The investments result for the PEF in 2007 was 7.4% versus a benchmark of 70% S&P 500/30% Lehman Brothers Bond Index which was 6.1%

The Parish has the ability to withdraw funds annually up to 5% of the average of the past three year’s market value upon recommendation of the PEF Trustees. The PEF Trustees authorized a distribution to Christ Church for 2006 of \$16,000 which the Vestry voted to retain in the PEF. The \$16,000 becomes part of the Historic Principal of the PEF.

Under Maryland law, we do not have the right to invade the Historic Principal that was at year end \$763,176.33.

The PEF Trustees have authorized a distribution of \$25,000 (3.6%) for 2007 payable in 2008.

	2007	<u>To Date</u>
Contributions (Historic Principal)	\$41,407.25	\$763,176.33

Market Value 12/31/2007	\$880,387.21
Investment gain in 2007	\$58,922.21

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees
Richard C. Granville
Alfred Taylor
William L. Wilson

Finance Report

Appendix B – Income & Expense Statement

Appendix C – Consolidated Balance Sheet

Appendix D – Description of Funds

Building and Grounds

Just a quick update of some of the items we were able to address this past year.

We painted the exterior wood trim and doors of the church building.

With the help of Bob Holden and Mark Nestlehutt we were able to have Etherton Hall painted and wainscoting installed. We also re-set the pavers at the front of the Parish House in order to eliminate tripping hazard. There were many other small things in order to keep our church and parish house beautiful.

At this time I would like to thank you for letting me help.

Submitted by Salvatore P. Simoncini, *Co Chair with Craig English*

Tellers

There are 12 parishioners who count the weekly offering and deposit the funds in the PNC Shore bank. The tellers fill out a report which credits each parishioner for his/her weekly offering. This report and the deposit slip is then given to the Parish Secretary who enters the information recorded by the tellers into the computer system.

Submitted by Ed Sipe, *Treasurer*

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Acolyte Report

In 2007 there were eight acolytes serving at Christ Church St. Michaels. Two of the eight serve as crucifer and the remaining six acolytes serve as torch bearer and five of the six serve as sub-deacon. In addition to the family Sunday Eucharist, the acolytes served at the Easter Vigil service, two Easter Sunday services, and two Christmas Eve services. In the Spring, a trip was taken to Six Flags America to show our appreciation for the good work our acolytes do for the church.

Members of the Acolyte Guild:

Caroline Bennett, Sarah Fegan, April Hall, Lee Hamilton, Ashleigh Kerrigan, Mason Roe, Riley Weller and Katya Widell

Patrick Weller served as thurifer for Easter and Christmas Eve services.

John Scofield helped during Christmas Eve services and has volunteered to serve as crucifer on a regular basis.

Submitted by Lee Hamilton, *Acolyte director*

Altar Guild Report

During the church year, Advent 1, 2006 to Advent 1, 2007, St. Mary's Altar Guild prepared for 191 services. This number includes Sunday Services, with Evensong, Combined services Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend, Wednesday Healing services, Easter and Christmas services as well as six(6) Baptisms, nine(9) Weddings, and fifteen(15) funeral/memorial services.

There are twenty-six(26) current members serving on the Altar Guild.

Submitted by Helen Bower and Judy Hause, *Co-Directresses*

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

Our roster of active participants has grown over the last year to now number over 30. We serve at all morning services as well as evensong. We had a training session and breakfast in the spring that was useful and enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who participate in this important part of church life. We are always happy for new recruits. Call Chloe Pitard at 410-819-6931 or chloe@pitard if you wish to know more. This is a rewarding and satisfying ministry that we all enjoy.

Submitted by Chloe Pitard

Usher Report

The basic duties of an usher serving at Christ Church include (1) distributing service programs/announcements; (2) collecting contributions and pledges of those attending a service; and (3) coordinating the row-by-row release of parishioners and guests who wish to participate in

Communion. During the past year, 36 members of our parish family volunteered to be ushers – the great majority of whom have served for many years. The group is nearly equally divided between those who usher at the first service and those who attend the second service.

Ushers are prepared for their service through written guidelines, mentoring by experienced ushers, and instructional updates. The publication of quarterly schedules that take into account personal preferences and needs helps to ensure that ushers are available for all services without placing a burden on any one ushering team. If you would like to learn more about serving as an usher, please call Bob Burger at (410) 745-5685.

Submitted by Bob Burger, *Usher Chair*

PARISH STATISTICS 2007

Baptisms

Wyatt Henry Booth
Paige Leigh Brown

Gavin Richard Kemp
Brandon Michael Kerrigan
Rowan James Larkin
Lucy Marie Morris
Walter Vendell Morris
Nicole Elizabeth Norman
Finnegan Marshall O'Neill
Piper Grace Stevenson

Confirmations/Receptions

Willoughby Buxton
Adolph Philip Dinkel
Diane Bellows Williams Dinkel
Abner Kingman
Diana Davis Kingman
Kathryn Page Waugh
Svetlana Danielle Widell

Funerals

Robert Douglas Fletcher
Sarah Foster
Albert Goetze, Jr.
Rebecca Jones
Ellen Gordon Lally
Jane Bradley Lowe
Virgil Maxwell
William Newnam
Lincoln Peck
Jane Rhine
Jane Smith
Thomas A. Smith
James H. Wilson

Transfers In & New Members

Ralph Alexander
Brooke Alexander
Donna Barker
Angela Cason
Bethany Fileger
Susan Kendall

Transfers In & New Members (cont'd)

Abner Kingman
Diana Kingman
Marie Martin
James McKay

Elizabeth McKay
Jackson McKay
Thomas Orem
Karen Orem
David Phipps
Cheri Phipps
Dillion Phipps
Cocobella Phipps
Jim Montague
Linda Stedman
Philip Parkinson
Louisa Parkinson
Mariana Parkinson
James Parkinson
Ali Soulati
Zuleika Ghodsi
Hanna Soulati
Heleah Soulati
Anya Soulati
Richard J. Tanczos
Judith C. Tanczos
Raymond Wasdyke
Carolyn Wasdyke
Sally Whittington

Transfers Out

Wileen Deinish
Virginia Gooch
David Ashley Nobles
Catherine Nobles
Stephen Ozyjowski
Jean Ozyjowski
Paul William Parsons
Mary Margaret Parsons

Weddings

Kathryn Page Waugh & Barry Michael Jenson
Kerri Anne Rowe & Thomas Donahue Albright
Christine Elizabeth Shuart & Peter Cavan Saunders
Kristen Marie Hooker & Phillip Spencer Stovall
Virginia Estelle Stone & David William Badanes
Angela Lorene Doolin & Alan Lee Faulkner
Eleanor Parker Baker & Benjamin Read Cadwalader
Emily Ellen Sunderland & William Howard Cathell
Cynthia Michele Tomasi & Thomas Burgess Hamilton III

Attachments

Adult Christian Formation Brochure **A**

Income and Expense Statement **B**

Consolidated Balance Sheet **C**

Description of Funds **D**

Minutes of the February 2007 Annual Meeting **E**

Christ Church, St Michaels
Income and Expense by Ministry Area
2007-2008

	Budget 07	Actual 07	Budget 08
Income			
Pledge	440,000	460,603	440,000
Plate	18,000	23,946	24,000
Friends	44,000	38,669	38,000
Other	10,000	15,648	42,500
Total Income	512,000	538,866	544,500
Expenses by Ministry			
Clergy	187,593	185,655	196,748
Compensation	135,850	135,805	142,666
Benefits	51,743	49,850	54,082
Worship and Music	34,727	41,097	41,191
Worship	2,800	3,385	3,800
Music	31,927	37,712	37,391
Christian Formation	7,200	7,778	7,200
Parish and Community Life	11,975	11,723	9,750
Outreach and Wider Mission	91,400	89,270	100,141
Pastoral Care	500	930	1,100
Stewardship	175,637	189,678	188,129
Property	108,885	119,243	117,682
Personnel	43,399	43,190	45,209
Utilities	32,395	36,417	40,275
Maintenance, Equipment and			
Supplies	23,735	30,036	21,960
Insurance	9,356	9,600	10,238
Annual Stewardship			
Campaign	3,800	2,727	3,000
Administration	55,652	54,922	55,197
Personnel	36,982	37,267	38,897
Office Functions	18,670	17,655	16,300
Governance	7,300	12,786	12,250
Insurance	3,000	6,633	7,350
Convention, Vestry, Clergy			
Misc	4,300	6,153	4,900
Operating Expense	509,032	524,801	544,259
Operating Income	512,000	538,866	544,500
Surplus	2,968	14,065	241

**Christ Church, St Michaels
Consolidated Balance Sheet
December 31, 2007**

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	151,774	Payroll Taxes	7,158
Receivables	7,932	Special Projects	8,171
		Prepaid Pledges	<u>54,577</u>
Total Current Assets	161,706	Total Current Liabilities	69,906
Westwood Trust Investments	1,141,930	Vestry Designated Funds	<u>289,641</u>
		Total Liabilities	358,547
		Restricted Funds	
		Acolyte	2,219
Land, Buildings & Equipment, Net		Walk-in Ministry	56,931
of Depreciation	<u>3,131,343</u>	Permanent Endowment	<u>877,002</u>
		Total Restricted Funds	936,152
		Funds Principal	<u>3,220,956</u>
Total Assets	<u>4,434,079</u>	Total Liabilities, Restricted Funds and Funds Principal	<u>4,434,079</u>

**Christ Church, St Michaels
Consolidated Balance Sheet
December 31, 2007**

**Christ Church Financial Funds
Description**

Restricted Funds (principal restricted)

Permanent Endowment Fund (PEF) Balance as of 12/31/2007 \$877,002

In accordance with Maryland law, the principal (total of contributions directed to the PEF) is permanently restricted from invasion. The PEF is managed by trustees appointed by the Vestry for staggered three year terms. Monies in excess of the principal can be distributed for use by Christ Church based on the distribution policy recommended by the PEF Trustees and approved by the Vestry. The current maximum payout for a year is 5% of the average market value of the past 3 years.

The PEF was established in 2002 in conjunction with Christ Church becoming the beneficiary of an income stream of a charitable remainder trust over a 30 year period. The Vestry transferred \$50,000 from general funds at inception and the fund received a substantial bequest in 2005. The PEF is currently managed by Westwood Trust of Dallas, Texas in a diversified mix targeted at 70% equity and 30% fixed income investments.

Walk in Ministries Fund Balance as of 12/31/2007 \$56,931

This fund was established with a restricted gift of \$50,000. The excess above the principal may be used by the clergy of Christ Church to assist in Christ Church's ministry to members of the community in need of short term financial assistance. This fund is managed as part of Christ Church's general investment portfolio.

Acolyte Fund Balance as of 12/31/2007 \$2,219

This Fund was established with a restricted gift of \$2000. The excess over the principal may be used in support of acolyte programs. This fund is managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Designated Use Funds (principal not restricted)

Church Yard (Columbarium) Fund Balance as of 12/31/2006 \$2,524

A Fund was established to account for income and expenses associated with the Columbarium and Churchyard. Income is primarily from the sale of niches, and contributions received from time-to-time. The fund is managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Altar Guild Fund Balance as of 12/31, 2007 \$1,883

This is a new fund was established in 2006 with a bequest. Monies from this fund are available to the Altar Guild for special expenses and managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

**Christ Church, St Michaels
Consolidated Balance Sheet
December 31, 2007**

**Christ Church Financial Funds
Description (continued)**

Deacon's Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$5,897**

A fund established to support the ministry of Deacon, Jim Lea. It is managed as a part of the general investment portfolio.

Education and Sabbatical Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$10,512**

A fund established to provide for ongoing professional development of the Clergy of Christ Church and managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Men's Club Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$1,902**

A fund established to support the operations of the Men's Club. Income and expenses are associated with the activities of the Men's Club. The fund is managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Outreach Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$72,074**

This fund was established in 2005 with a bequest from an estate and designated by the Vestry for the purpose of supporting Christ Church's outreach ministry. The fund is currently managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Memorial Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$8,302**

This fund was established as a repository for unrestricted bequests and memorial gifts to Christ Church. These funds may be used for purposes as determined and approved by the Clergy and Vestry. This fund is managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Music and Choir Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$4,209**

This fund was established to fund special music activity beyond the scope of the yearly budgeted support of music and choir activities. Use is recommended by the Worship and Music Committee and approved by the Vestry. The fund is managed as part of the general investment portfolio.

Operating Reserve Fund **Balance as of 12/31/2007** **\$126,627**

These are funds available for unforeseen or extraordinary operational expenses of Christ Church. They are the sum of monies in the general investment portfolio minus the balance in designated use funds, the Walk-in Ministry Fund and the Acolyte Fund.

General Investment Portfolio

Funds in the general investment portfolio are managed by the Treasurer with direction from the Finance Committee. The general portfolio was invested at year end as follows:

• Operating Funds	PNC Bank	\$151,773
• Investment Funds	Westwood Trust	<u>\$272,466</u>
	Total	\$424,239