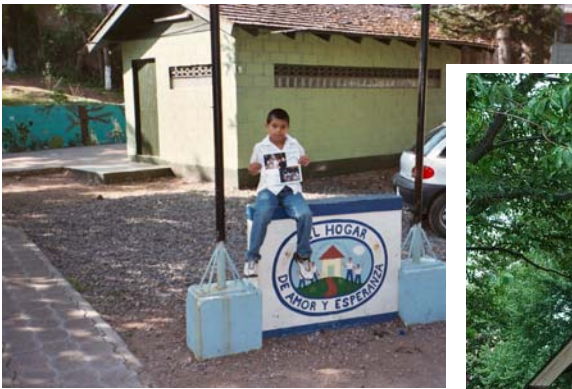


CHRIST CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

334th Annual Parish Meeting

FEBRUARY 5, 2007



One of the children at El Hogar in Honduras



John and Katie Hunnicutt and Mary Riedlin at Camp Coast Care in Mississippi

CHRIST CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
FOUNDED 1672

103 WILLOW STREET
P.O. BOX S ✻ ST. MICHAELS, MD 21663
410.745.9076 ✻ Fax 410.745.5760
info@christstmichaels.org

Monday, February 5, 2007
The Martyrs of Japan, 1597

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 2006 Annual Meeting

Appointment of the Teller/Registrar – *the Chair*

Report of the Nominating Committee – *Jim Maffitt*

Parish Elections:

Junior and Senior Warden

Members of the Vestry

Delegates and Alternates to the 2008 Diocesan Convention

Comments from the Senior Warden – *Jim Maffitt*

Recognition of those completing vestry terms – *Jim Maffitt*

Annual Stewardship Campaign Report – *Carl Widell*

Finance Reports for 2006 – *Ed Sipe*

Budget for 2007 – *Bob Holden*

Ministry Focus Reports:

Outreach & Wider Mission: Honduran Dental Mission – *Jim Campi*

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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Minutes for the February 2006 Annual Meeting

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CHRIST CHURCH

St. Michael's Parish

Senior Warden's Report to the Parish

Early in 2006 your Vestry met in retreat to celebrate the successes of our Parish, particularly in connection with the reopening of the renovated Parish House, and to determine how to build on those successes. The Vestry wanted to plant the seeds of outreach and wider mission with the hope that over several years there would be significant increase in Parish activities related to outreach and wider mission. Oh boy! How those seeds have grown and bloomed in just one year!

As you have read in the *Tidings* and will read at other places in this annual report, the Parish has, with direction from the Vestry and the Clergy, thrown itself energetically into new, recently revised, and previously existing programs for Outreach and Wider Mission. Our already existing programs for Pastoral Care continue and are being reinvigorated as we enter 2007. These efforts are directed to the needs of the people in our community. Abigail and other members of our Parish have recently returned from Orlando and training in the Stephen Ministry Program that Abigail will be leading this Spring.

In needs outside of our immediate community, the Vestry with the help and support of Dr. Jim Campi has approved and is supporting not only the continuation of our El Hogar spring visits, but also the founding of a dental clinic at El Hogar. A number of our parishioners have spontaneously stepped forth and provided to date approximately eighty-five percent (85%) of the capital budget for the dental project. The 2007 budget recently approved by the Vestry includes the needed operating funds for two trips to the dental project in 2007. You can see that as a Parish, we have stepped forward enthusiastically and energetically to address not only the needs of our own members but also the members of our community and the members of the world community.

As a further indication of the health of our Parish, the Stewardship Committee for the 2007 campaign had purposefully decided to present the campaign without the emphasis and push of the preceding campaign when the completion of the Parish House was in the front of all of our minds. However, as the annual stewardship campaign concludes, the pledging needed to support the 2007 budget exceeds that number, the number of pledges increased substantially and there were more than 17 new first time pledges received. In listening to the comments of the Parish during this campaign, I heard repeatedly that the Vestry's approval of increases in the Outreach and Wider Mission program excited our Parish members to make generous increases in their own annual contributions. This to me is a wonderful example of Vestry leadership and enthusiastic Parish response to that leadership.

Needless to say, all of the accomplishments and good feeling for 2006 would not have been possible without the leadership of our clergy. We are lucky to have Mark and Abigail with us, providing both leadership and spiritual care to us all. Their energy and leadership are clearly demonstrated by the increases in attendance at services, in the Sunday School and for all of our Parish programs. Each of us is fortunate to be part of such a caring and supporting Parish family. It has been a terrific experience for me to be part of it all.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Maffitt, Senior Warden

Rector's Report to the Parish

Christ Church continues to be a place of surprises. Last year—after four years of our capital campaign and a yearlong building project—we celebrated our first annual meeting in Etherton Hall in the newly built parish house. I spoke of how I hoped that our new building would be a place of open doors offering hospitality to all people. Indeed, that has been the case. In addition to our own use of the new facility, many groups and organizations in the Bay Hundred community have found a home in our parish house. Every day it seems that a different group is using Etherton Hall, the Lea Library or conference room. In effect, what we envisioned has become the reality at Christ Church. Of course, raising that amount of money and building the parish house required so much of our parish's energy and time. With this mammoth project behind us, the clergy, wardens and vestry felt unburdened and energized to shift the parish's focus. Yes, we would continue to provide a ministry that is attractive to the population of the community with family-friendly services and active programs for children and youth. And yes, we would continue responding to community needs by expanding parish activities to include cultural and social events. But what more could we do for those outside the parish?

At the March 2006 vestry retreat we worked with George Merrill to envision "What's Next?" for Christ Church. The overriding passion and theme that emerged from the retreat—and subsequent work—was strengthening our commitment and involvement in outreach and wider mission. There was a palpable concern with living out our baptismal vows—especially the ones of seeking and serving Christ in all persons and loving our neighbor as our self; and striving for justice and peace among all people and respecting the dignity of every human being. What could we do in the local community? What could we do in Talbot County? What could we do nationally? And what could we do internationally? From these questions we decided to renew our commitment to partnering with other local organizations to work on behalf of the poor and neglected in our midst. Obvious partners are the St. Michaels Community Center, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, and the Annual St. Michaels Food and Wine Festival (which contributes substantially to the Community Food Bank). We also sought to balance this with concern for the poorest of the poor and those in need around the globe. Parishioners traveled to Mississippi to continue the relief and rebuilding after the hurricanes of 2004. Another work team traveled to El Hogar in Honduras and identified a new need about which we could do something. Thus, the idea of a dental mission emerged under the leadership of parishioner Jim Campi. The dental mission was first presented to the congregation at the Fall Harvest Dinner in September. Immediately, a donation of \$10,000 was received to support this project. In the following months additional contributions were received. Coupled with the Christmas loose-plate offering, receipts to date exceed \$30,000 towards the \$36,000 needed to build a two-room dental clinic on the campus of the school. Our annual stewardship campaign conveyed the vestry's desire to shift more of our resources into outreach and wider mission and pledges for 2007 are up significantly.

Going into this 2007 annual meeting, we will elect new men and women to serve as wardens and vestry members and say goodbye and thank you to those whose terms are ending. First and foremost, I want to thank our Senior Warden, Jim Maffitt, who is stepping down after two years of leadership as senior warden and an additional year as a vestry member. Jim led the vestry through the building project and the first year in the new building with all of its small annoyances and challenges. And he did so with diplomacy, tact and thoughtfulness. I so appreciate Jim's years of dedication and service. In addition, we say goodbye to four vestry members—Debbie Etherton Keller, Alison Sanford, Jessie Weddle and Pamela Heyne Widell—each of who contributed immensely to the life and leadership of our parish. Fortunately, three of them will continue on in either new or existing roles of leadership at Christ Church. Jessie Weddle will continue to serve for another term as Registrar of the Vestry. Alison Sanford will remain editor of the *Tidings* newsletter. And Pamela Widell will oversee our Parish's

participation as a member of the Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light, a program that helps churches and other religious institutions in the area to work for a more just, sustainable and healthier creation by reducing the threat of global warming.

Of course, the success of any faith community is in how it worships God and brings people together to share and participate in communal worship. We continue to grow at Christ Church, with attendance on the rise and membership on the increase as well. Our new monthly service of Evensong (sung evening prayer) has been well attended and well received. The spirit on Sunday morning is joyous and our parishioners' energy continues to spill out into community involvement. The Holy Spirit is alive and well at Christ Church and we continue to be stronger because of it.

The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt, *Rector*

Associate's Report to the Parish

The life of a parish priest is rich with opportunity to engage in a variety of projects and serve with many of God's people. 2006 has been a fine example of this.

The pastoral programs of the parish are running smoothly. The Prayer Chain continues to meet regularly and there has been an initial effort to expand this ministry with a different group of people who are interested in meeting for quiet meditation and conversation. The members of The Care Circle faithfully provide transportation and meals as needed though we could always use more volunteers in that area.

It was a delight to begin visiting William Hill and Londonderry for dinner. Throughout the summer and fall and into the winter the clergy joined parishioners for dinner—alternating each month. Breaking bread together is so important to our community life.

I have made a definite change in our pastoral visiting program. For much of 2006 the Lay Pastoral Visitors were on hiatus. During that time I completed research on the Stephen Ministry program and began the work to put it in place in this parish. My goal is to have a team of trained Stephen Ministers who offer pastoral care in somewhat challenging situations and also a team of Friendly Visitors who minister with parishioners in less difficult times. I am excited about Stephen Ministry and feel it will be an important and significant program for our parish.

This year it was my privilege to lead the work team to El Hogar. I traveled with ten others to Honduras in May for a week of living, playing and worshipping with the boys of El Hogar while we worked on projects to improve the school.

You will read of the many offerings in the area of Community Life in the pages of this report. In 2006 we had our traditional Pancake Supper and also a Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta to raise money for El Hogar. Under the leadership of parishioner Linda Norris we joined together for an Agape Meal immediately before the Maundy Thursday service. In January several parishioners gathered for a quiet morning.

I know Christ Church, St. Michaels to be a thriving parish of active, faithful and caring people. It is my privilege to serve here.

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

Report of the Nominating Committee

Monday, February 5, 2007

According to the by-laws of Christ Church, the Nominating Committee for 2007 consists of the following individuals:

Martha Austin	Lynn Barrett
Jim Maffitt	Nancy Masone
Larry Sanford	Mark Nestlehutt

The following persons have been nominated by the Committee for election at the 2007 Annual Meeting:

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

To serve as junior warden (1 year term): **Martha Austin**

To serve as vestry members (3 year term): **Michael Clark**
Clyde Sisk
Sheila Vaughan
Carl Widell

To serve as Delegates and Alternates for the Year 2008 Diocesan Convention:

<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Fritz Riedlin	Linda Norris
Mary Riedlin	Mary Ellen Olcese
Chloe Pitard	John Scofield

Jim Maffitt, 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

Our topics focus on Holy Scripture, Church History, Christian Theology, Studies in Contemporary Society, Christian Ethics and Moral Theology, and Ministry.

This year the forum had an emphasis on outreach and wider mission as practiced by the Episcopal Church and our own parish. We examined the UN Millennium Development Goals and the work of Episcopalians for Global 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.

We expanded our partnership in Honduras at El Hogar by establishing a dental clinic for all the children at this school. At the end of this month there will be a forum explaining the Stephen's Ministry Program, a pastoral care program that will be introduced to this parish. As a parish, we are undertaking this work as people of faith striving to be God's hands in this world.

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 two classes met four times during March 2006 and four times in October 2006. 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)*. Thirteen individuals attended the course and Bishop Shand confirmed eleven of these individuals during a special Saturday afternoon service on October 28th.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt

Church School

We offer three age appropriate classes for our children. In 2006, we added an intermediate class for children in grades 4 and up. The classes are held Sundays from 9:15 – 10:00 AM in the Parish House, 2nd floor, September through May. We continue with the same curriculum, Living the Good News, which continues to be educational, challenging and fun.

Preschool/Kindergarten class is led by Gena Newberg and Michelle Clark, with 12 children enrolled. Primary class (grades 1-3) is led by Alison Sanford and Kim Kerrigan with 9 children enrolled. Our new intermediate class is led by Kim Weller and Ann Roe with 7 youth enrolled.

In 2006 our church school children held two bake sale fundraising events. The children donated the proceeds to the El Hogar Project and to help pay for a Community Center Christmas party for the Angel Tree. (Over \$600 in all was donated!) They are extremely excited to be part of our Parish's outreach programs. Church school is fun and educational, and we have all become friends. Regular attendance would benefit all our children.

Submitted by Ann Roe

Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC)

Disciples of Christ in Community, often referred to as DOCC, is a program designed to build community while also encouraging individual spiritual growth. The DOCC course is a twenty week program and each session includes a 20-30 minute presentation by one of the clergy followed by an hour-long conversation in a small group facilitated by fellow parishioners trained in the program. We introduced the course at Christ Church in October 2006, with three trained presenters, four facilitators and two small groups of six participants. The DOCC course will be offered annually.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt *for Christopher Whyman*

OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION

Back to School Project

During January 2006 the supply closet at St. Michaels Elementary School was completely re-stocked. Money was provided for school photos for some children who had never had the opportunity of taking home their class photo.

This summer 23 backpacks were filled with grade appropriate supplies- Kindergarten through 6th Grade, 3 for each grade and 2 for pre-K.

Boxes of supplies were delivered along with the backpacks just before the children returned to school.

Money was given to the School to cover field trips and periodicals for those families who could not afford them.

An approach was made from the School regarding 6th Grade Yearbooks. There are children in 6th Grade who will be graduating in June 2007 who never have been able to have a Yearbook. We have ordered 10 Yearbooks and each will be inscribed with the child's name and Christ Church as the donor.

The program depends on the love and generosity of our congregation. Many summer visitors donate and tell us how much they value the campaign and Christ Church for sponsoring and supporting it. Peggy Parsons is now moving to Enterprise, Alabama, and will no longer be able to assist in running the program. I do thank her for all her help and support over the years. It was Peggy who encouraged me to bring the idea to Christ Church.

To everyone who supports the campaign, and my faithful band of family volunteers- thank you!

Balance brought forward from 2005	\$2395.13
Funds raised during Campaign	\$4417.35
Balance taken forward to 2007	\$1904.46

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, \$23,000 sent 71 children to Camp Wright and other camps. Currently, 118 high school graduates are receiving \$214,000 for technical training to earn a marketable skill. Congregations on Maryland's Eastern Shore donate to our annual Thanksgiving appeal either by loose plate offering or check.

Submitted by Nance duPont and Dianne Shaw

Community Food Bank

The year 2006 was a banner year for the food bank. We were able to supply more food to the community in greater quantities which in turn was much appreciated.

We wish to thank the members of Christ Church and St. Luke's Church for their splendid cooperation in supplying food and monetary gifts. Other organizations should also be recognized, such as the ECW, the annual St. Michaels Food & Wine Festival, the Cub Scouts and especially the Boy Scouts of Troop #741. In fact, the Boy Scout troop delivered to the church over 300 bags of food, in increase of more than 20% over the previous year. As a result of this food drive, we have enough food in the pantry in certain categories for well into the spring months.

During this past year, 343 bags, amply full, were given out to the needy who came to the Parish House for food. This was approximately an increase of 100 bags over the previous year. In July of 2006, we increased the allotment of bags to two per person. We had more than enough food to do this.

Many new people were involved in the administration, sorting, and filling 70 plus boxes of food for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Many thanks for those from Christ Church, our secretary Carolyn Finch, our sexton Robert Thompson, his assistant Corinthian Thompson, Paul and Pat Janson, Linda Tompkins and her daughter Marge, and Sid and Barbara Smith. St. Luke's Church was well represented by Ted and Jo Clark, and her sister, Bill Dunton, our liaison with St. Luke's, Tuti and Rubin Dungin, and Mike Gates. Thanks are also due to Oscar Carlson for serving as treasurer during the year.

We are looking forward to continued growth this year. We know there is a definite need for this ministry in this area.

We started with \$9609.93 in the bank and received \$13,545.41. We spent \$8963.51 and bought a \$5000.00 Certificate of Deposit – due on 8/11/2007. Our ending bank balance is \$9091.61

Submitted by Fred L. Tompkins, *Director Community Food Pantry*
Oscar Carlson, *Treasurer Community Food Pantry*

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 2006, the following grants were made:

1	United Service Organization (USO)	\$1,000.00
2	St. Michaels High School Band	\$1,000.00
	<i>for the uniform fund</i>	
3	St. Michaels Girl Scout Troop 799	\$500.00
4	Easton Day Care Center (St. Michaels)	\$1,000.00
5	El Hogar	\$714.00
6	Court Appointed Special Advocates	\$2,000.00
	<i>for abused and neglected children</i>	
7	St. Michaels Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$1,000.00
8	St. Michaels Community Center	\$2,000.00
9	Channel Marker	\$1,000.00
	<i>for family and individual psychiatric counseling</i>	
10	Tilghman Island Playground Fund	\$1,000.00
11	St. Michaels Boy Scout Troop 741	\$750.00
12	American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (for Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza)	\$1,000.00
13	American Red Cross	\$1,036.00
	<hr/> Total	<hr/> \$14,000.00

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 a second team of twelve parishioners traveling to El Hogar in May 2006. To raise money for the orphanage and school a *Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta* was held in March 2006, which raised \$4,000 for the project. In November of 2006 a new group of parishioners began meeting to plan a 2007 work trip. Major changes at El Hogar during 2006 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).

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt *for Margie Steffens*

El Hogar Dental Mission

The dental mission is now in the final stages of equipment delivery. The dental supply company will have the equipment at the Indianapolis warehouse facility on the 23rd of January. At that point a mission program that works with medical needs in Honduras, "FAME" will pick up the equipment, ship it to Honduras, and deliver it to the El Hogar compound. Two executives of the dental supply company have volunteered to join me to assist with the treatment of these children. As the months and years pass, we will be visiting Honduras as needed (at least once a year), and treat the kids on a regular basis. It has been gratifying to see the response financially that has occurred within the congregation. Over \$31,000 of the initial \$36,000 installation cost has been donated so far. But we still need about \$5,000 to cover the cost of this beginning. Details of the progress will be placed in the *Tidings* in the coming months. Please keep us and the program in your prayers.

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

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)

Pamela McCloud assumed responsibility for the Episcopal Relief and Development ministry in early fall. The main activities to date are: ordering new materials to be placed in the Church and Parish Hall; reintroducing the ERD to the parish through an article in *Tidings*; through Mark, providing ERD materials on the Millenium Development Goals to the church school; doing a presentation on the ERD achievements to the ECW who are contributing \$1,000 this coming year; through the vestry, allocating money for the coming year. Planned activities in the new year include scheduling a special offering, promoting the Gifts of Life Catalogue, determining the potential for sale of Bishops Blend coffee and identifying any other fund raising opportunities.

Submitted by Pamela McCloud

Habitat for Humanity of Talbot County - Apostles Build

Let Your Light Shine

On June 24, 2006, Virginia Whittington and her family finally moved into her home in Unionville. A prayer dedication was held at her front door and keys were exchanged, very exciting. The house suffered the usual delays in construction but it made the end result no less special.

In all, 19 churches contributed prayers, labor and funds to the project. We at Christ Church exceeded our call in the areas of labor and funding. A follow up/trouble shooting meeting was held, Sal Simoncini attended. Discussion for a possible 2007 project has begun but nothing definite is known as of this date.

A Faith Relations Board has been formed within HFHTC. Mr. Kim Cassidy chairs this committee. He will be communicating with the Talbot Faith community regarding future Habitat projects.

Submitted by Martha B. Austin

PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

Coffee Hour

Christ Church worshipers continue to enjoy hot coffee and a snack just before Christian Formation each Sunday in Etherton Hall. We are privileged to have 19 teams serving on a rotating basis. Each Sunday a single team prepares the coffee and provides the snacks for the parishioners. The two major Sundays, where more than one team is needed are the Ministry Fair and the Sunday of the Bishop's visit. Clean-up is easy and is the responsibility of the assigned team, but when you look in the kitchen after Adult Forum, there are many helping hands. We are very grateful to all who help!

Submitted by Fritz Riedlin, *Coffee Hour Team Coordinator*

Covenant Church Fund

The Covenant Church Fund is used to pay for the expense of the semi-annual "Tent" services, i.e. Spring and Fall. The expenses are tent rental and portable toilet rental. The fund had an opening balance of \$924.62 on January 1, 2006. It received \$570.00 from the Spring Service and \$171.00 from the Fall Service which was held inside because of bad weather. Costs for the Spring Service included tent rental of \$800.00 and toilet rental of \$91.75. The closing bank balance was \$773.87.

Submitted by Oscar Carlson

Docent's Guild

For many years more than 50 parishioners have given their time to welcome visitors to Christ Church. Whether acting as tour guides, or just inviting people to come in for a quiet prayer, these volunteers are important ambassadors of the church.

While the church is always open during the day, docents are on duty from 2 to 4PM commencing on May 1 and continuing through October. Docents are vitally interested in preserving the history of the church and have published a short history which is available to visitors. Brochures, post cards and a "Cross for your Pocket" are also available. New volunteers are always welcome to the two meetings that are held each year.

In 2006 docents hosted more than 2,000 people from St. Michaels, almost every state in the union and 19 foreign countries including, Australia, England, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Wales.

Accounting for 2006:

Checking Account Opening Balance			\$4,626.58
Expenses:			
Cross in my Pocket	\$296.00		
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.64		
Stamps	\$ 39.00		
Instruction Booklets	<u>\$ 40.16</u>		
	\$425.80	\$4,200.78	
Income :			
Interest	\$ 19.08		
Donations	<u>\$1442.89</u>		
	\$1461.97	\$5,662.75	checking 12/31/06
Savings Account		\$ 230.15	\$5,892.90
Amount owed to Economy Printing for brochures:		\$ 827.00	

Submitted by Mary Thomas, *Chair*
 Alice Cohee, *Treasurer*

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

As I look back over the year we have been a busy group. Even with the many surgeries and illnesses our ladies continue to come through. We had three very successful fundraisers, our Spring and Fall Rummage Sales and our annual Christmas Bazaar. They netted over \$17,000 for our Outreach Missions and they continue to get better with everyone’s efforts.

Our budget plans gifts for many needy organizations including delivering specially made Christmas goody-bags for our eighteen shut-ins. The Angel Tree response was very generous. Gifts were gathered and presented to 61 children at a Christmas Party; and over \$300.00 from ECW and over \$200.00 from our Youth group’s bake sales were donated for the After-school program. Our outreach budget now includes donations for the girl’s school in El Hogar and the Seamen’s Institute. We have had great programs and have added several evening meetings to include the women who work or can’t make daytime meetings. A Potluck supper, a picnic and this fall our October meeting included “Learning Crafts with Ann Sheehan.

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:30, our “bring a sandwich to share meetings” have been informative, inspirational, and fun. In March we enjoyed a fashion show arranged by Peg Orem and a delicious luncheon catered by Ellen Lally. In May we had our annual bus trip. We visited Christ Church in Greenville, Delaware and on to Winterthur. In June our annual picnic helped to forge new friendships, get to know each other better, and have fun while doing it. Speakers have included The Reverend George Merrill (Aging and Spirituality), Lynn Freeburger (Gardening), Mr. Thomas Byrne

(Local Historian Renovations), Abigail Nestlehutt (Travel to El Hogar with Abigail), and Marnie Stockman (Frivolous Fibers). The year ended with a special program, "Listen to the Music of the Season with the Easton High School Chamber Singers, William R. Thomas, Director". St. Luke's Methodist Church ladies were invited, eighteen attended, an informal social hour, a shared luncheon, and desert were served, followed by the musical program in the Church enjoyed by all.

This year a group from ECW attended the "30th Anniversary Celebration of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood" where we honored the Reverend Abigail Nestlehutt. It was wonderful to learn that the ECW of Christ Episcopal Church in St. Michaels is the most active and productive of all the ECW's in the region -something to be proud of and for us to continue. Please take time to look at the budget for the past year to see all the outreach programs we support and the amounts we give. All women of Christ Church are members of ECW and are encouraged and welcome 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. You all should be proud of the contributions of time, spirit, effort, and donations you give. I am very proud of the ECW. 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*

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 8:00 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 and a Chesapeake Bay pilot. Future planned appearance of a local Fire Chief and his Katrina experience, and Dr. Karen Salmon, Talbot County Superintendent of Schools is also scheduled to appear in the forthcoming session. 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. The Group organizes an annual Pancake Supper to benefit the Boy Scout Troop. In addition, there is a target of over \$1000 to be awarded each year either as an individual scholarship for a local student or for some other charitable purpose. There are currently 55 members of which 25-40 typically attend meetings. An objective for our on-going success is to encourage active new members in joining. For more information, please contact Leo H. Foulds at 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 2006:

- 1) In January & June 2006, we held welcoming events. The January event was the most successful of any such event, as we welcomed more than 20 newcomers. As these continue to be successful, we intend to continue them on an annual or semi-annual basis, depending on the number of local newcomers.
- 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 clergyperson during a home visit.
- 3) In October 2006, we held our second “Bring a Friend” Sunday. As part of the celebration, we enjoyed a ministries fair showcasing many of the ministries at Christ Church and held a special coffee & refreshments hour. This was less well-attended than last year’s event.
- 4) Something new this year is the shepherding program. This largely lay-led program pairs up newcomers with Christ Church parishioners and allows the visitors to get to know Christ Church and its many offerings on a more personal basis.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE:

- 1) The next welcoming event is scheduled for January 28, 2007.
- 2) In the coming year, it would be great to restructure the welcoming committee and 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

The Care Circle is a group of people who have volunteered to be available to provide assistance when a parishioner is in need. In 2006 the care circle provided many meals to families and individuals who were recovering from illness or accident or adjusting to life with a new baby. Additionally, from time to time the care circle provides rides to those who are unable to drive to appointments. We are grateful to all who serve in this way and welcome others to join this ministry of extending ourselves in Christian love in a tangible way.

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 2006 the Eucharistic Visitors made 76 visits and served 187 communions. A very special thanks goes to Peggy Rogers, Mary Len Trippe, V. J. Lehrkinder, 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, *Vestry Liaison*

Knitting Group

The Christ Church Knitting Group has met twice monthly throughout the year. With a group varying from six to twelve members, we have shared fellowship, creativity and prayers. Prayer shawls have been made for those who need a little extra comfort, baby blankets for new members of the parish, and many different items for other charities and the ECW Christmas Bazaar. It is a very special group and we invite anyone who is interested to attend.

Submitted by Linda Spire

Prayer Chain

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.* Book of Common Prayer page 395

The Prayer Chain is a group of twelve people who pray regularly for a list of people in various circumstances. The Prayer Chain prays for the people on the regular prayer list as well as those on the silent prayer list, the shut-ins, those serving in active duty, those grieving, those preparing for marriage and baptism. Since its reinvigoration in 2004 the prayer chain has been meeting monthly for updates as well as fellowship and support along the journey. This year, we explored ways to create different opportunities to gather for prayer, under the leadership of Tanya Edwards. As always, we welcome new members and encourage all people to add petitions as they wish. Believing strongly in the power of prayer we are grateful for the ministry of the prayer chain.

Submitted by Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt

STEWARDSHIP

Annual Campaign

In 2006, we as a Parish, strongly endorsed the decision to focus on outreach set by Jim Maffit and the Vestry early in the year. We received pledges of \$438,000 topping our goal of \$430,000. Accurate forecasts from Bob Holden's sharp pencil and superb, genial administration from Carolyn Finch made

this effort proceed very smoothly. All was overseen by our excellent clergy, Abigail and Mark Nestlehutt, who pretended this was all our own idea. Thank you for your generosity!

Carl Widell, *Stewardship Chair*

Finance Report

Appendix C – Income & Expense Statement

Appendix D – Consolidated Balance Sheet

Appendix E – Description of Funds

Christ Church was blessed with another good year financially. Income exceeded expenses, leaving us with an operating surplus of \$44,140. Our general operating funds remain healthy at \$249,233. We paid the final bills for Parish House renovation and retired the debt. As the result of a generous bequest and productive investments, the market value of our Permanent Endowment Fund assets has increased from \$391,673 to \$796,059.

Operating budget highlights for 2006 and 2007 are:

2006

- Income was \$491,215 (106% of budget), an increase of \$36,394 (6%) over 2005.
- Expenses were \$447,075 (96.5% of budget), an increase of \$38,357 (9.4%) over 2005. The only significant budget misses were in operating costs for the Parish House and Church. Higher than anticipated costs to operate and maintain the Parish House, however, were largely offset by lower than anticipated costs to operate and maintain the Church.
- The operating surplus for the year was \$44,140, versus \$46,103 in 2005 and \$2135 in 2004.

2007

- Income is budgeted at \$512,000, an increase of \$ (10.5%) over 2006. We are well on our way to raising these funds with pledges already exceeding our annual campaign target of \$430,000.
- Expenses are budgeted at \$509,032, an increase of \$ (11.5%) over 2006. Much of this increase will fund new and expanded Outreach and Wider Mission programs, provide for periodic professional cleaning of the Parish House and account for expected increases in some utilities, supplies and services.
- The budgeted operating surplus is \$2,968, which reflects confidence in our ability to achieve our income targets and manage programs within budget estimates.

With a year's experience in operating the new Parish House and thoughtful planning for new programs, we believe there are no significant unknowns in the 2007 budget. We have substantial operating reserves to cover unexpected short-term contingencies and cost increases. In consideration of longer term needs of the Parish, a payout from the Permanent Endowment Fund will be available annually for use or reinvestment at the Vestry's discretion.

Submitted by Bob Holden, *Finance Committee chair*

Permanent Endowment Fund

The Permanent Endowment Fund was started in May 2001 when the Parish became the recipient of a share of a charitable remainder trust which made provisions for a yearly payout to Christ Church, St. Michaels Parish for 30 years. In 2006 that payout was \$23,604.97. We also received a bequest of \$325,000 in October from an estate for total contributions in 2006 of \$348,604.97.

The funds of the Permanent Endowment Fund were consolidated under the management of Westwood Trust of Dallas, Texas at the beginning of November.

The Parish may withdraw funds annually, up to 5% of the average of the past three year's market value, upon recommendation of the trustees. We do not under Maryland law have the right to invade the historic principal that was, at year end, \$721,768.88. In 2005, \$20,000 was transferred to the Parish hall Capital Campaign. No distributions were made during 2006. The trustee's recommended distribution for the year 2006, payable in 2007, is \$16,000.

	<u>2006</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Contributions	\$348,604.97	\$721,768.88
Market Value 12/31/2006		\$796,058.56
Investment gain after 2005 capital transfers		\$74,289.68

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

Building and Grounds

I had the pleasure of taking over the duties from Richard (Dick) Crompton in 2006. I am delighted with being able to help my church.

I started my duties by walking the grounds with Mark and he told me some of the issues that he would like to address. One was lighting the front of the church building, in order to show off our beautiful church. This was accomplished and completed at cost. Thanks to Robert Thompson and myself. We had the trees in the front of the church trimmed so that the building can be seen from the street. With the added light, grass might actually be able to grow in front of the church. We have contracted to have a quarterly and annual cleaning of the Parish House, which will start in March of 2007. In all, I feel we are in pretty good shape.

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

Tellers

There are 7 teams comprised of 12 parishioners who count the weekly offering and deposit the funds in the Mercantile Eastern 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 into the computer system.

Submitted by Carolyn Finch, *Parish Secretary*

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Acolyte Report

In January 2006 there were eight acolytes serving at Christ Church St. Michaels and by July one had graduated from high school and five had resigned. Currently there are eight active participants. Six new acolytes were trained as torch bearer and four were subsequently trained as sub-deacon. There is a particular need for older acolytes to serve as crucifer. In addition to the family Sunday Eucharist, the acolytes served at the Easter Vigil service, two Easter Sunday services, and two Christmas Eve services.

Members of the Acolyte Guild

Lee Hamilton

Bill Parsons (relocated)

Peggy Parsons (relocated)

Camper Newnam (resigned)

Megan McCall (graduated)

Lily Sanford (resigned)

Patrick Weller (resigned)

April Hall

Mason Roe

Sarah Fegan

Riley Weller

Katya Widell

Ashleigh Kerrigan

Caroline Bennett

Eddie McCall (Franklin & Marshall student) has graciously helped during his summer and Christmas breaks.

Patrick Weller was recruited to train as thurifer for the 11:00 Christmas Eve service.

Submitted by Lee Hamilton, *Acolyte director*

Altar Guild Report

During the church year, Advent 1, 2005 to Advent 1, 2006, St. Mary's Altar Guild prepared for 193 services. This number includes Sunday Services, with Evensong service added as of September 24, 2006, Wednesday Healing services, Easter and Christmas services as well as eight (8) Baptisms, eight (8) weddings and 11 funeral/memorial services.

There are 28 current members serving on the Altar Guild, with Carolyn Finch as our new member.

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

Oblation Committee

The Oblation Bearers group is a small but faithful one. There are 6 couples that bring the oblations to the Altar for the early service and just 3 couples for the late service. Thank you for your dedication. We need people! This is a very spiritually rewarding job to do and extremely important. We welcome anyone. Training will be provided if you wish.

Submitted by Carolyn Finch, *Secretary*

Readers & Chalicists

Thank you to everyone for all the hard work that you do serving for Christ Church. It is nice to have such an active and vibrant group of people. Chloe Pitard has taken over the scheduling of Readers and Chalicists. I can't thank her enough for taking on this task. We are always looking for new people to serve in the various duties. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the group, please have them contact Chloe Pitard at 410-819-6931. We will provide training or tutoring to anyone that is interested.

Submitted by Carolyn Finch, *Secretary*

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*