

MAY 2012 – APRIL 2013
ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE CONGREGATION

APRIL 2013

NORTHWEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ATLANTA, GA

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April 15, 2013

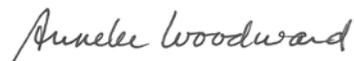
Dear Members of Northwest Presbyterian Church:

The session has prepared this Annual Report to apprise you of the many projects and activities it has carried out on your behalf during the past twelve months. The report shows that your leaders have continued to make every effort to be good stewards of the money and resources that you have contributed to Northwest and that they seek to make it a place that other members of our community would like as their church home.

Not only will this report help you learn more about current activities at the church, but perhaps it will help you find ways in which you can participate in its life and ministries. We need help from all our members to carry out Northwest's many meaningful programs and to maintain a strong community of faith. Please let your leaders on the staff, the session or Presbyterian Women know if there is a way that you are willing to serve.

If you have any questions after reviewing this report, you may contact the appropriate ministry team chair, the moderator of PW or Tim for answers or additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anneke Woodward".

Anneke Woodward
Clerk of Session

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The essential role of the Stewardship Team is to manage the resources of the church. Working with the Session, Finance Committee, Endowment Committee, Property Committee, Human Resources Committee, Design & Standards Committee, pastoral staff, and office staff, the Stewardship ministry team manages the following resources of Northwest: financial resources, physical resources and human resources.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

2012 pledge, non-pledge and plate contributions of \$797,600 were right on budget (\$797,500). Other income, primarily fees and rent, exceeded budget by approximately \$34,000. Pledge collections were 99.8% of budget, which is excellent. But this number was possible due to members who gave more than they pledged. We still had several members who did not complete their pledge.

Expenses were well managed during 2012, but the age of our property creates very challenging maintenance issues. Maintenance expenses exceeded budget, but were more than offset by savings on staff expenses of \$32,500 due to start dates for new hires and other savings. The combination of increased property use fees, utilities savings, and staff savings offset maintenance overages creating net income during 2012 of approximately \$66,000. (Approximately \$50,000 was transferred to the Capital Improvements designated fund at year-end 2012 for use in 2013 for facility repair needs.) Because budgeting for 2013 was difficult, only \$20,000 was allocated to non-routine maintenance. We are already aware of a roofing problem that needs immediate attention and will cost approximately \$42,000. (This repair is being funded out of the Capital Improvements designated account.) Due to the age of our property it is certain that other items will arise during the year. It is our hope that we will be able to cover as many of these as possible in 2013 until a capital campaign can be conducted sometime in early 2014.

George Hauptfuhrer led a very successful stewardship campaign with the assistance of Craig Camp and many others. Some members left the church due to moving either away or above, and some reduced their pledge, but new pledgers and increased pledgers gave us a net increase of about \$7000 above the 2012 pledge level. At year-end, the Endowment Fund balance was \$89,270. Please consider and remember the church in your estate planning.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES

In 2012, we were more prepared to deal with the maintenance needs of the facility than in previous years. There were some items that were built into the 2012 budget that were completed. These include:

- Replacing two HVAC systems in the Children's Building, and installing Nest thermostats to control them.

- Installation of the backflow prevention valve for the fire sprinkler system.

- Campus-wide installation of door sweeps.

Even with the preplanned repairs there were a host of unexpected expenses related to maintenance of the campus. These included:

- HVAC Replacements:

 - Air handling unit for the first floor office

 - Thermostats in the sanctuary

 - Evaporator coil in the bride's room

 - Heater for the Adams Room

- Updating the plumbing on the Family Life Center (FLC) urinals.

- Repairing a ruptured pipe underneath the concrete next to the Youth Lodge.

- Replacing lights on the main entrance sign due to vandalism.

- Maintaining general exterior lighting, which has been an ongoing issue, and will continue to be.

- Replacing the kitchen ice machine control board.

- Repairs and faulty part replacement on the kitchen ovens.

- Installing bird proofing in the Youth Lodge.

- Making a large number of repairs and upgrades to the Manse, including a new range top oven.

Classrooms in the FLC were painted, as some shelving was moved from the Calvin Room to Conference Room B. Extra choir chairs were designated for use in the Adult Sunday School classrooms.

Shaw Construction provided most of the carpentry and repair work completed in 2012.

A larger landscape maintenance company, Land Visions, has been retained to provide the services needed to properly maintain the campus.

Fee-Based Facilities Usage:

Buckhead Preparatory Preschool – BPP uses the Children’s Building and Playpark for its Monday-Friday program.

Buckhead Bridge Club – BBC hosts games in Thorington Hall on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Alcoholics Anonymous – AA uses the Garden Room each Tuesday evening for its meeting.

Education Connection - EC uses the Choir Room for SSAT testing in the spring and fall.

Northside Youth organization – NYO uses the gym for basketball activities.

Various film production companies have utilized Thorington Hall and/or the parking lots.

Several small basketball clubs utilize the gym year-round.

The Manse is currently leased.

Gratis Facilities Usage:

Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troop 232 – The scouts use the Scout Hut year-round, the Sanctuary for awards nights, the Session Room for meetings, the Adams Room for committee meetings and receptions, and Thorington Hall for banquets.

We continue to evaluate uses of the campus which will serve the community and increase the utilization of our physical resources.

HUMAN RESOURCES

During 2012, three staff positions were filled. Laura Jernigan came onboard as Associate Pastor, James “J” Johnson as part-time Youth Minister, and Lara Gaare as Administrative Assistant. With the addition of Laura the interim part-time position of Program Administrator was no longer needed.

The Human Resources Committee spent considerable time and effort completing an Employee Policy Manual, which was approved by the Session. Included in this work was the development of an updated organizational chart and the first formal guidelines for addressing social media conduct for ministers, staff, and volunteers. As an advisory arm to the Stewardship Committee and Session, the committee made recommendations regarding Tim’s Terms of Call and other salary reviews/increases for the Church staff for 2013.

Stewardship Ministry Team

Warren Wick, Chair

Jim Soteres

Karen Taylor, Church Treasurer

At Large Stewardship Support

Stuart Kimble, Insurance

Finance Committee

Henry Collinsworth, Chair

Warren Wick

George Hauptfuhrer

Karen Taylor

Carroll Harris

Endowment Committee

George Hauptfuhrer, Chair

Charlie Hull

Henry Collinsworth

Warren Wick

Harriett Kelly

Deanie Quillian

Design and Standards Committee

Jim Soteres

Harriett Kelly

Susanne Pinkerton

Joan Kimble

Bruce Snyder

Property Committee

Jim Soteres, Chair

Ed Milton

Bob Reed

Warren Wick

Carroll Harris

Human Resources Committee

Bill Matthews, Chair

Martha Greenway

John Sirockman

Anneke Woodward

Tim Boggess, ex officio

NORTHWEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2012 Budget Recap and
2013 Approved Budget

	2012 Approved Budget	2012 Actual	2013 Approved Budget
INCOME			
Pledges (Pledge Cards Received)	720,974	719,640	727,680
Previous Year Pledges	10,026	3,400	0
Non-Pledge Contributions (Non-Pledges, Plate Cash)	66,500	74,561	57,500
PW Benevolence Income	18,000	27,474	18,000
Other (Manse, Gym, Buckhead Prep, GBC, other)	75,500	109,320	90,820
Total Budgeted Income	891,000	934,395	894,000
EXPENSES			
Stewardship Team			
Staff Related	464,000	431,480	478,700
Maintenance - Routine & Non-Routine	80,250	115,844	76,700
Facilities Fund	12,150	12,150	0
Maintenance - Grounds Maintenance	18,000	13,224	18,000
Utilities/Telephone/Insurance	105,500	96,849	102,700
General/Administrative/Office	35,750	33,164	37,450
Stewardship Total	715,650	702,711	715,650
Worship Team	33,000	28,262	32,500
Education Team Adult/Children/Youth	22,750	14,271	22,750
Fellowship Team	6,000	9,364	7,000
Congregational Care Team	3,000	1,188	4,000
Outreach Team	21,500	17,752	24,800
Witness Team	89,100	94,903	89,400
Total Budgeted Expenses	891,000	868,453	894,000

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

We were joined in June by Laura Jernigan, our Associate Pastor, and James Johnson, our Youth Leader.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Summer Children's Program – "Summer in the SON"

Vacation Bible School—Sonrise National Park was a huge success. We had 90 children and 67 volunteers led by director Bart Gilleland to support the fun-filled week.

A new 3 & 4 year old class was started this year to fill the needs of our growing congregation.

Drew & Susan McMillan and the "MAD" (Music, Art and Drama) Children have produced and performed the Christmas Pageant, a special song for Laura's installation service, and a puppet show telling the story of Noah's Ark. Thanks to Lucy Mulkeen, our student director. MAD Kids also will present a special song on Mother's Day.

NORTHWEST CHILDREN

Recruited a good roster of Sunday School Teachers for three classes

Curriculum for the following age groups:

God Loves Me (Published by Faith Alive) for ages 3 and 4

We Believe (published by PCUSA) for Kindergarten - 2nd grade

The Buzz! (published by Group Publishing) for 3rd and 4th grade

Young Children & Worship, held during church services this year, continues to be a strong tool in the education of our young ones.

NORTHWEST YOUTH

May 2012

Graduate Dinner – Lee Miller, Sarah Murphy, Forrester McClatchey, and Jennifer Meier

Summer 2012

Weekly topical Bible study at Caribou called *Caffeine and Christ*

Beach Retreat to Watercolor, FL, 8 participants

Whitewater Rafting Trip down the Ocoee River, 7 participants

Youth Volunteers at VBS

Fall 2012

First parent meeting in August

New Sunday School curriculum started

Sr High: *Claim the Life*

Jr. High: *We Believe*

Sunday Night Fellowship, with games and topical Bible Studies

Sr. High Supper Club, one Tuesday night a month

Diaper Drive for a woman's shelter in downtown Atlanta, led by Piper Clark

Assistance in building a playground at El Nazareno Church

Trip to the Corn Maze for Halloween

Secret Santa Christmas Party on the patio of the Youth Lodge

Spring 2013

Youth Sunday, including two senior sermons – participation and planning by 16 youth

Super Bowl party

Upcoming 2013

Service Day for the Youth Lodge – Sunday, March 24

First Annual Talent Show and Spaghetti Supper

a fundraiser for Mission Trip expenses – Sunday, April 21, 2013

Graduation Dinner – Wednesday, May, 15

Mission Trip – June 16 - 21

NORTHWEST ADULTS

Sunday morning classes offered this year:

Worshipping with Our Children: 3-week course taught by Laura Jernigan

Convergence video/discussion series led by Ellen Carrington and Karen Taylor Topics:

Breaking the Ice: Learning to Share Our Stories

Personal Growth: Learning to Meet Life's Demands

Spiritual Practices: How to Meet God in the Everyday

Frustrations and False Gods: Living in a Fallen World

Heaven: Understanding God's Plan and Our Hope

Marriage: Life After I Do

Advent Series: Anticipate the Christ (based on *Feasting on the Word* lectionary curriculum)

Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? An Introduction to the Bible (an overview of the themes, people, and events of the Old Testament), led by Laura Jernigan

ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS

New Ministry: Mom's Support Group, for women in the phase of raising children, meeting with Laura Jernigan for Bible study, prayer, and sharing. Met in the fall for 8 weeks, and during Lent for 5 weeks.

Advent Vespers: Sunday evenings during Advent. Supper hosted by Fellowship ministry team followed by short vespers and intergenerational activities

Epiphany Experience and Easter Sunday Walk: Intergenerational Sunday school led by Laura Jernigan

Lenten Lunches: Lunches hosted by Fellowship ministry team on Wednesdays at noon.

GENERAL

Christian education this year was kicked off with Barbecue, Bluegrass and Back to Sunday School. About 220 people attended and enjoyed a barbecue lunch with all the fixings while listening to the Sweetwater Creek Bluegrass Band.

MOVING FORWARD

Planning for the 2013 Vacation Bible School is well under way. Mark your calendars for this year's VBS event entitled *Athens Adventure* – July 15 - 19, 2013. The theme for this year's VBS is "Paul's Dangerous Journey to Share the Truth."

Please consider offering your time and talents to mentor and guide our community's young people.

Even if you are not available during the week VBS is held, there is plenty of work to do prior to the arrival of the children. Contact Anne McClatchey or Heather McCloskey.

The Celebration of Sunday School a/k/a Rally Day is scheduled for August 18, 2013. Mark your calendars.

We are grateful for the many volunteers who devote hours to our children, youth, and adult education activities. Their time and devotion is needed and appreciated.

In Christ,

Anne McClatchey (Chair 2013)

Mark Carrington (Session 2013)

Laura Jernigan (Associate Pastor)

James Johnson (Youth Leader)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

OBJECTIVES

- To promote and facilitate church member involvement and interconnectedness.
- To support communication of member information and church activities.
- To assist with funerals and memorial services.
- To provide care, support, and a nurturing response to those in need within our membership.
- To provide special fellowship opportunities and support for senior adults.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- Placed votive candles on the Baptismal Font on All Saints' Day in memory of church members who had died since the previous All Saints' Day.
- Co-hosted (with Outreach Ministry Team) a New Member Luncheon on March 17, 2013.
- Hosted Senior Adult Dinners on November 8, 2012 and March 18, 2013.
- Coordinated the Care Calendar for Susan Metzloff.
- Coordinated or assisted with funeral services for Greene Garner and Susan Metzloff.

ONGOING RESPONSIBILITIES

- Elder-On-Call Program- Overseeing the communication of congregational concerns and needs to elders assigned as elder-on-call.
- Intercessory Prayer Group- Supporting a group of members who meet weekly to pray for cares and concerns of church family.
- Meals for Families in Need- Using *CareCalendar.org* to organize and administer meal delivery for church families in need.
- Funerals- Handling preparations for funerals and receptions for church members.
- Care Cards and Calls- Sending cards and notes and making calls to church members facing illness or crisis.
- Membership Information- Assisting staff in keeping accurate membership information, and revising church directories when needed.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Marianne Broadbear
Pat Davis
Sally Hauptfuhrer

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Fellowship ministry team has the task of “Making Friends on the Journey of Faith”. The team encourages socialization of friends joining together for some sort of social activity whether it be meals or other types of activities.

The following is a synopsis of the events the Fellowship ministry team was involved in this past year:

New Member Dinner – getting new members together for a night of fellowship.

Lenten Lunch Series – preparing lunch for the five-week series during Lent, studying various subjects.

Advent Vespers Dinner – hosting members for dinner during Advent.

Israel Remembered Dinner – having a dinner to reminisce about the wonderful trip some of our members took to the Holy Land.

Maundy Thursday Dinner – a dinner following the Thursday night service.

Tim Boggess Twentieth Ordination Anniversary

Senior Send-off Breakfast – celebrating our seniors as they head off into a new chapter in their lives.

Ice Cream Social*

Trunk or Treating*

*Fellowship ministry team worked with the Outreach ministry team.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

During most of the year, a hot breakfast is served on Sunday mornings, with an average attendance of about 45 people. We continue to seek additional volunteers to help with these breakfasts.

CHURCH NIGHT SUPPERS

We are considering various ideas to generate interest in Church Night Suppers. Maryanne Broadbear has started a Senior Dinner Series that has been a great success.

SUPPERS OF EIGHT

The Suppers of Eight gatherings have continued to be popular with Northwest members. Thank you to Susie Rankin, who continues to organize them.

Bill Mulkeen, Mary Anne Matthews and Medie Crockett all pitched in to insure the success of the various events.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Bill Mulkeen, Chair

Mary Anne Matthews

Medie Crockett

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

OVERVIEW

In 2012-2013, the fifth year for the Outreach ministry team, we focused our efforts on reaching out and building awareness of Northwest Presbyterian Church in the community and creating a warm, welcoming, invitational church community for visitors, guests and members.

2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS

Visitors Program

Our visitors program continues at a steady pace. We have enough participating families to fill more than 30 weeks of Sunday morning greeter slots without a repeat. Congregants also are ready to jump in as greeters at other church events and activities. Our visitor bags on the narthex table each week contain church information, a homemade pound cake, an invitation to visit, and a crushable red tote bag imprinted with church logo and Web address. We are distributing 3 or 4 visitor bags per week (to first-time visitors only.) Outreach ministry team members and other church members are at the table after church to speak with visitors. Typically several people have spoken to visitors before they have left the sanctuary. We appreciate the congregation's help in this regard, and we extend a special thank-you to the team who works behind the scenes providing our visitor pound cakes. Keep up the good, hospitable work!

New Members

Under Anne Snyder's leadership, progress was made in refining and tweaking our new members class to make it even more effective. The Explorer's class is held four times per year. Every week, visitors are invited via bulletin and pulpit announcements to sign up for the class, which includes Sunday morning breakfast, a special Sunday School hour with designated facilitators, and worship time together. Information packets, assembled and distributed for the class, include Christian Education offerings, the Youth calendar, a pledge card, a campus map, a Member Time & Talent survey, and other materials. Eight prospective members attended the Explorer's class in 2012-2013 with 14 new members in all joining the church.

Additionally, this year Outreach joined with the Congregational Care ministry team to host a New Members Luncheon following worship on March 17 in the Adams Room. It was a great time of food, fellowship and fun. Anne Snyder created an attractive photo board of all the new members. The board was displayed in the narthex and received enthusiastically. Outreach is thankful to Anne Snyder for taking the lead on New Members.

Family Specific Activities

Allison Camp took leadership on family-specific activities and events throughout the year, seeking to draw young families to Northwest and into church membership. Here are some highlights:

Vacation Bible School Ice Cream Social—We are grateful to Allison for helping to transform the church environment into a perfect, week-long summer camp for kids. Outreach reached out to Buckhead Prep parents with flyers, invitations and follow-up encouraging all to have their children attend VBS. Additionally, Outreach set up Monday morning coffee for VBS parents. On Wednesday morning, all parents received an NWPC red tote bag with an invitation to join us for Sunday morning worship (including songs by VBS children) and an Ice Cream Social after church. Co-presented with the Fellowship ministry team, the Ice Cream Social drew more than 200 people. It was a great ending to a great week.

Trunk or Treating—Outreach worked diligently to create a fun, family-oriented event on Monday evening, October 29. Flyers/invitations were distributed to all Buckhead Prep parents as well as the Cub Scout troop. Attractive roadside banners drew attention to the event. Allison transformed Fellowship Hall into a "spooktacular" venue. Approximately 200 people attended, including more than 80 children. Additionally, this year we held a Great Pumpkin drawing as a way to capture

names/addresses of those in attendance. Outreach is thankful to a large group of outreach volunteers and Session members who pitched in to make this evening a great success.

Christmas Caroling—As part of Laura Jernigan’s Advent vesper series on Sunday evenings, Outreach arranged a caroling night at two senior residential centers in Buckhead (Piedmont Mid-rise and Calvin Court). About 20 intrepid carolers braved the bad weather, went caroling and had a blast... as did the 75-80 seniors in the audiences. Each guest was given a goody bag of Christmas chocolates with an invitation to join us for worship.

Website

The Outreach team has made slow, but steady progress on the revamping of the church website. After a few false starts in 2011-12, the website team began meeting in spring of 2012 with a professional firm called SLAB that specializes in website development. This company has walked us through the many phases of website development, including wireframe design, home page and interior page design, site map/content, photography placement, site functionality and much more. We are currently gathering a few “missing pieces” and plan to have the new website ready to launch in the weeks ahead. Outreach is particularly grateful to Scott Mize for his constant help and attention to this project. We appreciate everyone’s patience as the process has taken longer than anticipated.

Paid Advertising

Seasonal advertising appeared in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, the *Northside Neighbor* and the *Sandy Springs Reporter* for both the Easter and Christmas services.

Roadside Banners

Roadside banners were created and put in place for several church events throughout the year, including Easter/Lenten Lunch Series, Christmas schedules, New Year’s Day, Trunk-or-Treating and more. Outreach acknowledges the essential help from the church administrative staff in this regard.

Direct Mail

Outreach worked closely with church administrative staff to create a direct mail piece to send to new movers/residents in five surrounding zip codes advertising our Easter services and offering invitation to join us.

Additional Outreach Projects

Sanctuary Entrance Beautification: Working through the Design & Standards committee, and thanks to the generous giving of Anne & Bruce Snyder, Outreach beautified the entrances to the Sanctuary and the Family Life Center. Planted urns now clearly mark the entrances for persons who are visiting the campus for the first time and make a more attractive entrance for all.

Scout Picnic: Eric Mowris identified an Outreach opportunity with our Cub and Scout Troops at the annual Scout picnic on Saturday, May 19 at Chastain Park. We had a banner made (“NWPC is proud of our Scout troops”) and set it up along with a hospitality table promoting church programs, especially VBS. Carabiners with the church logo were given as gifts to every Scout (more than 100 boys); VBS and church materials were given to the parents.

Bulletin Board Revamping: Outreach thanks Eric Mowris for taking the lead on freshening up the bulletin boards and brochure holders on campus, particularly at the main Sanctuary entrance. All outdated materials were removed and replaced with current, appropriate materials.

Church Brochures/Collateral Materials: Outreach acknowledges the excellent efforts of the church administrative team in helping us with any number of projects involving the production of collateral materials, including church brochures, invitations and postcard mailings. Because these materials are being produced in-house, the church is realizing serious cost savings in terms of design, printing, etc.

Toxic Charity/Guest Speaker Bob Lupton: Outreach worked in tandem with Laura, Scott and the Witness ministry team to help spread the word about this event. Banners and invitations were prepared. Contacts were made with the *Northside Neighbor*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the *Reporter* newspapers, resulting in pre-event media publicity. Outreach set up a dessert reception for the event and made sure that greeters were on hand to extend a warm, welcoming hand to all who attended this important community event. Approximately 80 people, including many from the community at large, attended.

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH PROJECTS

Senior Citizens at Mid-rise

Outreach gratefully acknowledges Cheryl and Eric Mowris for connecting us with the senior residential center at Piedmont and Habersham Roads in Buckhead. For our Christmas caroling event, Outreach prepared bags of Christmas goodies with an invitation to join us in worship. We are repeating this effort for Easter. The Mowrises are delivering Easter lilies from the church, along with bags of goodies and invitations to visit Northwest.

Election Day

Outreach set up a hospitality table with refreshments, church brochures, invitations to visit us, etc. in the gathering area of the Family Life Center, where polling takes place. Approximately 200 persons passed through.

Scout Sunday

Outreach prepared gifts of our red tote bags with an invitation to visit us again soon for Scouts and their families at this special Sunday in February.

Craft Day: Outreach prepared visitor bags and invitations to all who participated on October 2 in this fun, family event.

PRIORITIES FOR 2012-13

Website revamping/social media launching

Sanctuary entranceway beautification

Bulletin Board revamping

Church brochure development

Continuing to identify ways to reach out to the community with the message of the warmth and uniqueness of Northwest...a place where God's love is apparent and grace happens.

THANKFULNESS

The Outreach ministry team thanks Tim Boggess for his vision and leadership. We also gratefully acknowledge the support and assistance from the office staff including Debra Cuvar, Bart Gilleland and Scott Mize. We acknowledge and encourage input from the congregation about our Outreach activities. Finally, we thank the elders and Outreach team at-large members for their creativity, energy and support.

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Joan Kimble, Chair

Allison Camp (Elder)

Anne Snyder (Elder)

WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

Jesus said to His disciples, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." – Mark 16:15

The Witness ministry team has continued to provide opportunities for giving. Our church's members graciously give their time, talents and financial support to support children in need, feed those who need physical and spiritual nourishment and build ties that help develop communities. In 2012-13, our members reached out to others in the following ways:

Buckhead Christian Ministry

This coalition of Buckhead churches contributes support to help those in need. Northwest participates in the Joyous Toys drive in early December. In addition, a food drive to help supply BCM's food pantry was held in January and February. Northwest also provides financial support to Buckhead Christian Ministry.

Central Outreach and Advocacy Center

In 2012, Northwest formalized a relationship with the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center (OAC) to provide volunteer and financial support specifically to their program for homeless veterans. OAC works in partnership with individuals and families to assist veterans in avoiding or overcoming homelessness and to advocate on their behalf.

Central Presbyterian Church Night Shelter

This men's night shelter is open from November 1 through March 31. At Christmas, Northwest's Presbyterian Women makes and provides ditty bags for the men at Central Presbyterian. The bags are stuffed with socks, gloves, a hat, and toiletries.

Clifton Night Shelter

Operated by Clifton Sanctuary Ministry and located in Candler Park, this shelter provides a home to 30 men throughout the year. Northwest was honored in 2010 by Clifton Night Shelter and was given the "Church of the Year Award" for its support of this ministry. Northwest is one of 39 churches and organizations supporting the Clifton men's shelter. This year, over 30 Northwest members have participated by cooking and serving an evening meal and providing a communion of fellowship for the men on a monthly basis. Our volunteers also assist with the laundry for the shelter residents. In April 2013, the Witness Team will be coordinating a Spring Cleaning Drive in which donations of men's suits, pants, jacket, and ties will be accepted and taken to Clifton. We also will be accepting donations of travel-size shampoo, conditioner, and soaps.

Common Ground

Operated by the Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network, this organization seeks to enrich the lives of those who are HIV positive by providing nurturing activities, care teams, and educational outreach. Northwest continues to support its mission through financial assistance and member volunteer hours. Cherie Everhart, with assistance of Tinka Massey and other members, provides lunch for about 30 people on the second Monday of each month.

FCS Urban Ministries

A toy drive is conducted through much of December, almost up until Christmas. These donations allow the Family Store to offer high-quality goods to their low income family clients as part of their "Pride for Parents" program. In addition, Northwest provides financial support to FCS Ministries' programs. In February 2013, Northwest hosted a presentation and discussion with Bob Lupton, founder of FCS and author of the book *Toxic Charity*. It was a thought-provoking, important evening centered around compassion, justice and community development.

Habitat for Humanity

Each spring our members work hard to help build a home for a low-income family. We give thanks for the Robert and Polly Dunn foundation for its continued financial support of Northwest's participation in the Habitat for Humanity program. The home that Northwest is partnering to build in 2013 is located at a site where nearly 50 other homes are being constructed as part of an all-Habitat community. Mark Wolff is coordinating this project for 2013. Many of our members consider this to be one of their favorite outreach ministries.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Volunteers helped collect, sort, and deliver 15 baskets of food to elderly residents in the Grant Park/Summerhill Communities. This project is done in conjunction with the FCS Urban Ministries through their Adopt-A-Grandparent program, and the project is co-sponsored by Presbyterian Women. This Northwest tradition is one of the most popular ones each year. We provide heaping baskets of Christian fellowship to families along with staples such as turkey, milk, fresh produce, flour, sugar and peanut butter, all in a reusable storage bin.

Thornwell School and Home for Children

Located in Clinton, SC, this Presbyterian group home provides housing, education, counseling, and planning services to children in need from South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The annual Thornwell Angel Tree is surely one of our church's early signs of the Christmas season. The angels represent the teenage residents at the home for whom our members can provide Christmas gifts. In addition, our church provides financial support to Thornwell as well as a special designated gift in memory of the late Rev. Jim Johnson for its music/drama program.

El Nazareno "Playground to-Playground" Mission

In October 2012, Northwest participated in a very special mission project. A project was organized by the Presbytery New Church Development Commission and supported by several churches, including Northwest, to build a playground for El Nazareno Presbyterian Church in Hapeville, GA. Funds were raised by the children of Northwest through a "noisy offering" and used to help purchase equipment for the playground. Fifteen Northwest volunteers of various ages gave a Saturday to help build a playground, community garden and pavilion for the Hapeville community. The project was a wonderful success and really energized our overall Witness efforts for the year.

WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

Mark Wolff, Chair
Bob Reed, Elder
Deanie Quillian
Catherine Ealick-Anderson
Cherie Everhart

Bob Meier
Carol Meier
Doug Cook
Joan Cook

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The mission of the NWPC Worship Team is to take responsibility for the logistics, mechanics, preparation, set up, and general supervision of each week's worship service. These duties include, but are not limited to, opening and closing the sanctuary, bulletin dissemination, arranging for flowers and other decorations, finding volunteers for and scheduling service for the sound and light team and the usher team, scheduling service by the acolytes, making arrangements for communion and assuring clean and properly stocked pews. The Worship ministry team is also responsible for these duties and more for special events such as weddings and funerals and for seasonal events such as Christmas and Easter. While there are only three members of the Worship ministry team, we rely heavily on church administration and staff and dozens of volunteers for to help fulfill our mission. The Worship ministry team also is responsible for researching and possibly developing alternative forms of and times for worship.

Weekly worship could not be carried out without the assistance of our invaluable NWPC usher teams. We have seven usher teams ideally comprised of six members each, although almost every team currently is a little short-staffed. Worship ministry team members are responsible for recruiting and adding new ushers. Head ushers take the responsibility of training new volunteers. Current head ushers are Henry Quillian, Bruce Hogg, Charlie Davis, Anne Snyder, Harry Ballance, Dave Nelson, and Rick Thompson. Ushers also serve during special events and do much to assist in the set up of the sanctuary every week. Their role in preparing for and conducting worship services should not be undervalued.

The Sound and Light Team of Mark Wolff, Bruce Snyder, Barry Holderread, and Dave Nelson makes sure our service and sermon is seen and heard every Sunday by running our sound and light booth. Two members who served this past year, Dottie Corey and Bryan Dilworth, will be moving on; the Worship ministry team is seeking volunteers to replace them in the booth.

Our very talented musical team, led by Director of Music Drew McMillan and comprised of organist William Fred Scott, four paid vocalists and numerous choir members, operates independently of the worship ministry team and contributes to make each worship service special.

Our acolytes are our most cherished volunteers. They carry the light of the Lord into the sanctuary and light the candles on the communion table. Current acolytes are John Brown, Ben Carrington, Claire Compton, Ben Herschel, Olivia McMillan, Hannah Suggs, Graham Boggess, and William Watson. Worship ministry team member Cheryl Mowris has done most of the work with the acolytes over the past two years, including training them for service. Plans are in motion to honor the ones who have served over the past couple of years.

Winter services would not be complete without a roaring crackling fire in the Narthex.

Communion is served on the first Sunday of every month, Christmas Eve, and Maundy Thursday. Communion is served either by intinction, which requires the assistance of four current or former elders, and allows for the congregation to come forward to be served, or by full communion, which is served by nine elders or former elders and allows for the servers to go out into the sanctuary to serve worship attendees at their seats.

Seasonal services, most specifically Easter and Christmas, require additional set up by the Worship ministry team and volunteers. Dozens of Easter lilies are set out every year to line and decorate the sanctuary during Easter. Dozens of poinsettias are displayed as Christmas decorations. Eric and Cheryl Mowris have started a tradition of taking many of these flowers to a local assisted-living facility in order to reach those not able to participate in church services. The coordination of the raising, decorating and disassembling of the church's Christmas tree is another seasonal duty that falls under the aegis of the Worship ministry team. After taking the tree down this year, Eric Mowris graciously gave the tree and its lights some much needed care and repair and carefully packed it away so that Northwest will be able to enjoy it for many more years to come.

A Christmas tradition started in recent years is the Advent Vespers and the Hanging-of-the-Greens Sunday evenings during December. Many members have enjoyed coming out for a light dinner, decorating the sanctuary, and singing hymns.

The Worship ministry team is small, and our duties are mainly task-oriented, but we have the pleasure of working with and getting to know many other church members who are serving and assisting in various capacities to make our worship services meaningful. Team members realize that we are, however, just assistants ourselves to the real worship ministry team, our pastors and the administrative staff and the members of the congregation.

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Roger Watson, Chair
Cheryl Mowris
Bruce Logue

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

2012-2013 COORDINATING TEAM

Moderator:	Melissa Reed
Vice Moderator:	Leiah Watson
Secretary:	Gayle Mitchell
Treasurer:	Carroll Harris
Christian Community Action:	Catherine Ealick-Anderson
Ditty Bags	Katy Russell
Calvin Court, Grant Park	Carol Ballance and Carol Meier
Historians:	Ann Vining and Peggy Saucier
Social:	Gayle Mitchell and Carol Ballance
Membership:	Marthe Wolff
Communications:	Melissa Reed
Faith and Family Life:	Gail Wick
Birthday Garden:	Carol Rowland
Mission Auction:	Deanie Quillian and Catherine Ealick-Anderson

CIRCLE LEADERS

Circle of Blessing:	Janet Forbes, Peggy Garner, Marianne Broadbear
Circle of Hope:	Carol Rowland, Martha Greenway
WOW Circle:	Carol Meier, Ellen Carrington

This year's annual report for Presbyterian Women must begin with the **2013 Mission Auction**, which netted nearly \$26,000. Chairmen Deanie Quillian and Catherine Ealick-Anderson spearheaded the record-breaking event, which will fuel our ever-growing ministries for the next 12 months. The congregation was extraordinarily involved and supportive, for which PW is most grateful. The auction was the backdrop for two "mission initiatives" whereby members purchased five camp scholarships for the children of Thornwell and "bytes" of a new computer for Georgia Avenue Mission. And, finally, the auction was the occasion for the release of PW's cookbook *Feasts for the Faithful*, a compilation of favorite recipes from over 60 Northwest members. All proceeds from its sale will support PW's ministries.

Our ministries this past year have included:

The Ditty Bag Project

Led by Katy Russell, this year's project was launched with a sewing day in the fall to prepare the drawstring bags. At Christmas we were able to give more than 125 men at Central Presbyterian Shelter the large bags containing toiletries, personal care items, hats, gloves and socks. One grateful recipient told us that "everything he was worried about" was taken care of with our gift.

Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive

A congregation-wide food drive yielded loads of canned goods and staples, which we supplemented with fresh turkeys and produce. Twelve baskets were personally delivered in support of the Adopt-a-Grandparent program.

Angel Tree

Again, the congregation was very responsive to the call for “adoption” of residents at Thornwell Home for children, which provided Christmas morning gifts to over 80 children and youth. The gifts provided by the congregation were organized, supplemented with “stocking stuffers” and put in festive pillow cases which were personally delivered in the days before Christmas. An outpouring of personal thank-you notes was received from the children.

Georgia Avenue Mission (Grant Park)

PW served lunch to approximately 75 needy people on the 5th Wednesday of every month this year. In addition, we sponsored a coat collection this winter to support the men at Grant Park and subsidized the purchase of a much-needed computer for their office.

Central Presbyterian Shelter

We provided a hot dinner to the men at this shelter three times this year, as well as supplementary “breakfast bags” assembled by the children in our K-2 Sunday School class.

FCS Family Store and Buckhead Christian Ministry

In conjunction with the Witness ministry team, we collected toys and gifts for these two ministries at Christmastime. Together, we also held a canned food drive for BCM for the winter months when its inventory is typically low.

AGAPE-to-Go

PW was pleased to support a new initiative at Agape, whereby the children are sent home each Friday with backpacks full of food staples and fresh produce to fill their needs over the weekends. Four times this year, we collected 70 heads of lettuce, 35 pounds of carrots, 35 onions, 70 heads of broccoli, 70 cucumbers and more than 100 pounds of fresh fruit to support this project.

Calvin Court

We anticipate a May visit to Calvin Court, a Buckhead retirement community affiliated with Presbyterian Homes of Georgia, to host a birthday/bingo party and to deliver the proceeds of our single-serving food drive to supplement its emergency pantry.

Thanks again to the successful auction, we anticipate meeting in May to allocate additional monies to the various ministries and agencies we support.

Christian Fellowship was also an integral part of our yearly agenda, beginning with the kick-off coffee in September when we “officially” met our new associate pastor Laura Jernigan. The Christmas Luncheon featured speakers from Thornwell and provided an opportunity to thank our staff for its incomparable support in all our projects.

As this report is being written, we are planning our third Girls Night Out, slated for April 18 at the home of Gail Wick. The evening provides an opportunity for fellowship with the many women who cannot participate in our daytime activities.

Our Annual PW Birthday Luncheon will be held on May 14 at which time the Coordinating Team for 2013-2014 will be installed. Our guest speaker will be Linda Sweeney, a founder of the Amazing Collection Bible Study, and we will collect the annual Birthday Offering, a Presbytery-wide PW offering. The Northwest PW Life Membership Award will be presented as well.

As moderator, I am grateful for the unrelenting support of the Coordinating Team, in all our endeavors, and for your friendship and witness.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Reed