

**MAY 2007 – APRIL 2008  
ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE CONGREGATION**

**APRIL 2008**

**NORTHWEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ATLANTA, GA**

4300 Northside Drive, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30327  
404-237-5539  
404-266-1858-fax  
[www.nwpcatlanta.org](http://www.nwpcatlanta.org)

April 20, 2008

Dear Members of Northwest Presbyterian Church:

We hope you will take the time to read the material contained in this Annual Report. The session believes it is important that the congregation be kept informed about the work of the church, especially during this transition time and as we anticipate a new senior pastor. You will see from this report that the church is in good shape and that many exciting things are happening here. We have been especially blessed to have the Reverend Mary Jane Cornell as our interim pastor to keep us moving forward this past year.

We hope that you will not only learn more about the church from these reports, but that you will also find many ways you can participate in its life. We need everyone's help to make Northwest a meaningful place to worship, a supportive environment for our members, and a generous source of aid for our neighbors in need in our community and around the world.

If you have any questions after reviewing these reports, please contact the appropriate team chair, Presbyterian Women moderator, or me.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Wilbanks*

Karen C. Wilbanks  
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, Insurance Committee, Treasurer, Pastoral Staff, and Office Staff, the Stewardship Team manages the following resources of Northwest:

❖ **Financial Resources**

❖ **Physical Resources**

❖ **Human Resources**

## Financial Resources

Although in a transition year, your outstanding support of our **Commit to the Future** campaign, led by Charlie Gregory, as well as your response to other appeals, resulted in pledges for 2008 totaling \$643,500, a 9.2% increase over the prior year. Our congregation responds when a need is presented, and 2007 was no exception. Please remember that your timely pledge payments are critical to the financial health of our church.

Northwest's endowment fund is invested in three New Covenant Trust balanced growth mutual funds. As of December 31, 2007, the total value of the funds was \$129,276. George Hauptfuhrer would be happy to talk with you about how you can support our church and reduce your taxes through gift annuities, charitable trusts, and other options.

## Physical Resources

Our physical plant, while of inestimable value, presents ongoing maintenance challenges. Hardly a month goes by that we don't have to call a plumber, electrician, or other tradesperson to help us with an issue. When allocating funds for maintenance in the budget, we never know what repair will become critical and require immediate action. With the help of Office Manager Susie Boartfield, we are making all repairs with an eye to being good stewards.

In 2007, we purchased a new computer system to increase office efficiency and enable us to begin printing "in-house" items previously printed by professionals, resulting in substantial savings.

Our Remembrance Garden, which was completed in 2006, is now an integral part of our facility, where memorial services for several beloved church members have been conducted. In 2008, we had our Easter Sunrise Service in this beautiful location.

We finished the repairs at the manse and have it rented, contributing to our income stream. Additionally, we share our facilities with various community organizations on a rental basis, including the *Galloway School*, the *Montessori School*, and *Applause for Kids*. We are also home to the *Buckhead Youth Orchestra*, *Boy Scout Troop 232* and *Cub Scout Pack 232*.

We remain frustrated in trying to upgrade the lighting in our sanctuary. Although we continue to reserve the money allocated for that purpose during the **Raise the Roof** campaign, the proposals presented by various lighting contractors have not met our criteria, and we continue to search for a solution.

Our parking lots have many areas that need attention. While we had hoped to use some of the **Raise the Roof** funds for this purpose, until we can resolve our lighting issues, those funds are not available. The parking lot problems are now at the point that they present safety issues and must be addressed.

## Human Resources

2007 brought several staff changes to Northwest. Interim Pastor Mary Jane Cornell has been a fantastic leader, keeping the staff focused on our mission and preparing the way for a new minister. Susie Boartfield has assumed the role of facilities manager as well as office manager and works long hours to maximize the efficiency of every process that she oversees. Scott Mize, long a familiar face in the choir, is now an indispensable member of the staff whose computer expertise has enabled us to expand what we can produce in the office. James Day joined our staff as our part-time facilities caretaker. All of these employees, as well as our enthusiastic volunteers, have kept the office running smoothly and efficiently. Many thanks to the entire staff for their outstanding efforts during this year of transition.

**2008 OPERATING BUDGET**  
 Approved by Session February 10, 2008

**Income:**

Pledges	\$ 643,500
Non-Pledge Income (Non-pledged, Plate Donations)	81,000
PW Benevolence Income	18,000
Other Income (Interest Income, Manse, Gym, Montessori, Applause, Other)	<u>56,000</u>

**Total Budgeted Income** **\$798,500**

**Expenses:**

**Stewardship Team**

Staff Related	\$441,500
Maintenance - Routine & Non-Routine	55,000
Maintenance - Grounds Maintenance	24,000
Utilities/Telephone/Insurance	89,000
General Administrative/Office	38,125
Search Committee Expenses	<u>8,000</u>
Stewardship Total	<u>\$655,625</u>

**Worship Team** 26,450

**Education Team**

Adult/Children	14,950
Youth	<u>10,600</u>
Education Total	25,500

**Fellowship Team** 11,700

**Congregational Care** 2,675

**Witness Team**

Presbyterian Per Capita (based on # confirmed members)	6,500
PC-USA Benevolences	17,000
Northwest Benevolences (including PW)	<u>53,000</u>
Witness Total	76,500

**Total Budgeted Expenses** **\$798.500**

**Stewardship Team**

Sally Hauptfuhrer, Chair  
 Spencer Bomar  
 Bill Matthews  
 Charlie Gregory, Campaign Chair  
 Karen Taylor, Church Treasurer

**Finance Committee**

Henry Collinsworth, Chair  
 Warren Wick  
 George Hauptfuhrer  
 Karen Taylor  
 Carroll Harris  
 Sally Hauptfuhrer  
 Charlie Gregory

**Endowment Committee**

George Hauptfuhrer, Chair  
 Charlie Hull  
 Henry Collinsworth  
 Warren Wick  
 Catherine Ealick-Anderson  
 Sally Hauptfuhrer

**At Large Stewardship Support**

Bryan Dilworth, Facilities  
 Susan Metzloff & Gail Wick, Personnel  
 Stuart Kimble, Insurance

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

*Our mission is to provide Christian Education for persons of all ages in the Northwest Presbyterian Church congregation. In addition, we will strive to extend Christian Education opportunities for our community.*

Bible study for persons of all ages is offered in our Sunday School each Sunday morning, September through May, with an average attendance of 80 people. We have three adult classes: Basic Christianity, Faith Today, and the Tapestry Class. As their names indicate, the Basic Christianity class offers studies in basic scripture and theological topics; the Faith Today class seeks to explore current events through the lens of a Christian perspective; and the Tapestry class tackles topics such as spirituality, marriage, and parenting issues. Highlights of this past year's studies include a study of the gospel according to John using one of the new short-term *Disciple* studies, led by Lynne Miller; studying Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline*; viewing and discussing *Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage* utilizing video clips of Mark Gungor, both led by Ellen Carrington; and current event issues such as *Caring for Our Children*, *Health Care in America*, and *Ministry with the Homeless*. Adults were also delighted by several guest teachers. Brandi Diamond led a three-week series *Off with their Heads! Henry, Anne, and A Long Line of Others*. Emory Professor Dr. Carl Holladay presented *Cradle of Christianity: Jewish and Christian Treasures for the Holy Land*. The Reverend Dr. David Ahern challenged us to think about issues of health care in America. The Reverend Larry Owens led a three-week series exploring children at risk.

Sunday School for senior high and middle school students offers a variety of Bible studies that seek to connect the Christian faith to the life of teens. Teachers are Kaye Mulkeen, Rebecca Holderread, Sandra Thorington, Ezra Jones, and Jaime Brewington. *Know Your Bible* is the curriculum for our fifth graders. This Bible survey course gives fifth graders the opportunity to connect all the Biblical events in a chronological order as they prepare to leave the elementary division of Sunday School. Lynn Dudley and Anne McClatchey taught this class. Grades 1-4 utilize the Workshop Rotation model of Sunday School whereby a particular Bible story or theme is studied for 2-3 weeks using specific multi-media workshops such as drama, storytelling, cooking, games, computer, theater, puppets, science, or art. Our preschool class, faithfully taught by Nancy Hyte and Sandy Simonds, engage in creative, hands-on activities such as music, art, games, and storytelling to learn the key stories of the Old and New Testament. Infants, toddlers, and two year old children are cared for by our faithful and loving staff caregivers, Ellen Wright, Janet Sonkarly, Audrey Fitzgerald, and Rebecca Hyte. The Sunday School teaching faculty consists of more than 20 faithful and very able members of our congregation who generously give of their time and gifts of teaching to make the Sunday School happen each week.

October 2007 saw the formation of our 2008 Confirmation Class. Six eighth and ninth graders began their eight-month journey toward confirmation as they promised to complete the following requirements of the class and explore the meaning of church membership: two overnight retreats, 15 classes, a service project, reading the Gospel according to Luke, memory work, writing a Statement of Faith and cultivating a relationship with an adult mentor. Barry Holderread, Bill Mulkeen, Carol Rowland, and Gil Simonds served as this year's mentors.

The *Great Bible Reef* was our theme for Vacation Bible School held half days during the week of July 18-23, 2007. Average attendance was 35 preschool and elementary children plus a GREAT team of youth and adult volunteer leaders. Highlights of the week included two off-site mission trips by our older elementary children (a bingo party for the residents of Calvin Court and making and serving lunch at Clifton Men's Shelter), making "bejeweled" VBS theme T-shirts, storytellers and awesome games, crafts and music. It was truly an energetic and vigorous week for children, youth and adults!

The *Young Children and Worship* continues to be another vibrant piece of our Christian Education ministry. Each Sunday following the "Worshipping with our Children" time in the eleven o'clock worship hour, four to seven year old children are dismissed to the Worship Center where they experience activities developed around the Reformed order of worship. The program was enhanced this year with the training of five youth to serve as greeters and assistants to the seven storytellers: Alexandra Greenway, Hannah Miller, Elizabeth Bogue, Audrey Milton, and Colin Meier.

The year 2007 also saw some notable Christian Education special events. *Bring a Friend to Sunday School* highlighted the month of February. *Rally Day "Round-up"* highlighted August with the annual cook-out lunch for everyone and the waterslide for the kids as we kicked-off a new year of Sunday School. Occasionally throughout the year, Sunday School has met intergenerationally as we explored topics of the faith as a church family.

The *Faith and Film* series was our new ongoing program implemented during 2007. Age-specific groups were invited to meet together and either view a film together or view it beforehand and then discuss faith issues raised by the film. Among the age-specific small groups that met were young adults, college students, and adults. Some of the groups also shared a meal together as they viewed and discussed the film. More small groups are being planned for 2008 as the program was well received by participants.

Youth ministry continues to grow and provide our youth with many avenues for spiritual nourishment, awesome recreational outings, great mission opportunities, and meaningful relationships. Core meeting time is every Sunday evening with a variety of activities—study, worship, service both within our church community and the community at large, recreation, and a special emphasis on building relationships. Average weekly attendance is 15-20 middle and high school students and 2-3 adults. *Wild Wild Northwest* was the fall kick-off theme. The High School Supper Club meets once a month. Awesome off-site recreational events have taken place—Corn Maze, Wherley Ball, Tree Climbing, Rock Wall, Girls Game Night, Bike Hike. A variety of service projects have happened—stocking the food bank, serving breakfast at the shelter, leadership at Northwest Vacation Bible School and the Fall Festival.

The 2007 annual summer senior high mission trip took place in Jamaica last June. During the week-long trip, 10 youth and 3 adults created and led a Vacation Bible School, took supplies to an orphanage and built bunk beds for a training facility. Experiencing the Jamaican culture and living with a family who were part of the mission leadership in Jamaica was a very rich experience for everyone.

*Peace from Pieces* was the theme for our annual Youth Sunday. This Northwest worship service was planned and implemented entirely by our youth. The service was highlighted by three special speakers—Hannah Miller, Andrew Clark, and Colin Meier.

Once again, the major fund raising project by our youth was the annual Christmas Tree Recycling. Not only does this event raise several thousand dollars that goes toward youth mission trips, it also promotes caring for God's creation in a responsible way. *The 52 Club* also provides financial support for our youth mission trips.

Although some names have been given in this report, it would be impossible to name the many adults who support the teaching ministry of our church. Without their willingness to serve and utilize their gifts in the ministry of Christian Education and Youth, the programs and events could not have taken place during 2007. We are thankful for these teachers and leaders and honor them during the year with a special appreciation dinner usually in someone's home. Thanks be to God for the many resources present in our congregation.

#### **Christian Education and Youth Ministry Team**

Kaye Mulkeen, Elder and Chairperson

Rich Clark, Elder

Robbie Rankin, Elder

#### **Children's Ministries Committee**

Rebecca Holderread, Chairperson

Lynn Dudley

Susan Brown

#### **Adult Planning Committee**

Rich Clark, Chairman

Lynne Miller

Karen Taylor

Jaime Brewington, Director of Youth Ministries

Sallie McDaniel, Director of Christian Education and Children's Ministries

## WITNESS MINISTRY TEAM

*What good is it my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If any of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

*But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show my faith by what I do..."*  
*James 2:14-18*

The Witness Team has followed in our church's rich tradition of giving to others through various outreach ministries. Many times our members lovingly give of their time as well in support of community activities, while in some circumstances, our support is more of a financial nature. Listed below is a sampling of the hands-on opportunities:

- ❖ **Buckhead Community Ministries:** A coalition of Buckhead churches contribute support to help those in need. Northwest provides financial support, food drive items and toys at Christmas time. In February 2008, Bob Meier's inspiring challenge to our members made our food drive a great success. Boy Scout Troop 262 joined in our efforts to deliver a van load of groceries for those in need.
- ❖ **Central Presbyterian Church Night Shelter:** This men's night shelter is open from November 1 through March 31. Volunteers are needed to serve as evening hosts, to prepare and service dinner, and to prepare sack lunches for the men to take with them as they leave the shelter in the morning. At Christmas Presbyterian Women provides ditty bags to these men which are stuffed with socks, gloves, a hat, and toiletries.
- ❖ **Common Ground:** Operating 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. Volunteers are also needed to provide lunch to 30 people. Currently Northwest does this on the second Monday of each month.
- ❖ **Habitat for Humanity:** Our members are hard at work this spring to build a home for a low income family. Doug Cook coordinates this project for us and many of our members consider it to be one of their favorite outreach ministries.
- ❖ **Clifton Night Shelter:** Operated by Clifton Sanctuary Ministries and located in Candler Park, this shelter provides a home to 36 men throughout the year. Our members have provided an evening meal and a communion of fellowship for the men on a monthly basis.
- ❖ **Fall Festival:** Witness and Fellowship Teams work together to host the annual Fall Festival as an opportunity to showcase our church to our neighbors as well as for our members to gather and have fun with one another. Pony rides, inflatables, magic shows, and clowns are just a few reasons why this event is so much fun. Laura West, Tina Gutierrez, and Rebecca Holderread are essential ingredients in this event's recipe for success.
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Baskets:** Volunteers helped collect, sort, and deliver 14 baskets of food to elderly residents in the Grant Park/Summerhill Communities. This is done in conjunction with the FCS Urban Ministries and the project is co-sponsored by Presbyterian Women.
- ❖ **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. Our church provides Christmas gifts to the teen-age residents, and Presbyterian Women sponsors the Bryan-Mac Cottage. Our church also provides a financial gift each year in memory of the late Reverend Jim Johnson to sponsor the school's spring musical.

- ❖ **Voter Hospitality:** In this exciting election year, our church serves as voter precinct. Witness offers coffee, tea, bottled water, treats, and brochures about our church to our neighbors as they come to vote. Needless to say, this very local outreach ministry is greatly appreciated.
- ❖ **Christian Education:** This year, the Christian Education Division generously allowed Witness the opportunity to showcase some of our outreach ministries. During the month of February, adult Sunday School classes features speakers from Central, Clifton, and First Presbyterian Women's Shelter.

Witness is always looking for opportunities for greater service. Ellen Carrington has agreed to chair a committee to explore opportunities for an adult or family mission trip. Please let her know of your interest. The church budget also will let you know of those missions that we support through our witness dollars locally, nationally, and internationally, including Rivers of the World and Reverend Robert Gamble's missionary work in the Ukraine.

Witness would also like to express our deep appreciation for the always cheerful and generous support of our church staff, the Reverend Mary Jane Cornell, Sallie McDaniel, Jaime Brewington, and Susie Boartfield. Everything we have done has been made easier and better by these wonderful members of our church family.

The Witness Team is grateful for your continued support of these and other programs.

**Witness Team**

Catherine Ealick-Anderson, Chair

Bob Meier

Jim Caldwell

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

## Goals:

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

## Summary of Activities

### Summary of Activities:

- ❖ Hosted Sunday Lunch Together in May 2007, with "Southern Luau" theme. The event was catered by Williamson Brothers Barbecue and also served as a welcome event for our new interim pastor, Reverend Mary Jane Cornell.
- ❖ Distributed new NWPC Pictorial Directories which had been compiled during previous winter months.
- ❖ Prepared Rally Day presentation table to communicate the team mission and to recruit volunteers to participate in our ministry.
- ❖ Provided a cake for the October Sunday Lunch Together in celebration of Pastor Appreciation Month.
- ❖ Placed votive candles on the Baptismal Font on All Saints' Day in memory of each church member who had died during the year since the previous All Saints' Day.
- ❖ Hosted Senior Adult Luncheon on Veterans' Day with "Saluting the Greatest Generation" theme.
- ❖ Completed the annual membership report for Presbytery.
- ❖ Sent "care packages" to all college students in our membership/family the early part of December, during exam weeks.
- ❖ Hosted Valentine's Luncheon at Horseradish Grill for all windows in our membership. Each lady was presented with a personalized Valentine card and a red rose.
- ❖ Hosted Senior Adult Luncheon in April with a "Celebrating Spring" theme.
- ❖ Will host May 2008 Sunday Lunch Together. This event will celebrate and welcome our new pastor, the Reverend Tim Boggess and his family.

### Ongoing Responsibilities:

- ❖ Elder-on-Call Program – Communicated congregational concerns and needs to elders assigned as elder-on-call.
- ❖ Transportation Ministry – Administered program for transportation of non-driving church members to church for worship on the first and third Sundays of each month.
- ❖ Meals for Families in Need – Organized and administered a schedule of meal delivery for church families in need due to illness or injury.
- ❖ Funerals – Handled receptions and funeral preparations for several church members who died during the year.
- ❖ Care Cards and Calls – Sent cards and called church members facing illness or family crisis.
- ❖ New Member Sponsors – Assigned sponsors from the church membership to new members to assist with orientation in to the church family.
- ❖ Newsletter Articles – Submitted articles to the monthly church newsletter regarding team-sponsored activities and events as needed throughout the year.

### Congregational Care Team

Carol Ballance, Chair  
Karen Gregory  
John Sirockman

## FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Fellowship Team is charged with creating programs and activities designed to facilitate the interaction of church members with each other and with our community.

The following organized activities helped us to accomplish this goal:

- ❖ Sunday lunches
- ❖ Sunday breakfasts
- ❖ Wednesday night suppers
- ❖ Drama programs
- ❖ Suppers for eight
- ❖ Special events

During the past year your church fellowship team has arranged and organized many events to foster an atmosphere of togetherness and fun among our congregation of all ages. Included among these events are the following:

- ❖ **Wednesday Night Suppers and Programs.** This year we generally used a variety of caterers to provide a delicious variety of food at a reasonable price. On many evenings we also provided or supported programs designed to entertain or enhance our religious experiences. An example being the Stone Mt. Chorus.
- ❖ **Sunday Breakfast.** This past summer we tried something new and set up breakfast outside with a simpler menu. This turned out to be very popular with breakfast volunteers and members.
- ❖ **Special Events.** last year included Halloween and Christmas programs for children as well as an Easter egg hunt. We also participated in the fall festival event with the Witness team. An especially popular event last year was the annual chili and caroling event that was enhanced this year by the use of a “trolley.”
- ❖ **Suppers of Eight.** As usual this was very popular and often turned into much larger events. Thanks to all of the folks who opened their homes to their fellow church members for a time of good food and fellowship.
- ❖ **Sunday Lunches Together.** Fellowship worked with the other session teams in organizing monthly Sunday after church lunches.
- ❖ **Drama Programs.** This year we were proud to present two drama programs, a children’s in October and “Christmas comes to Detroit Louie” in December.

### Fellowship Team

Dick Wilbanks, Chair

Sandra Thorington

Jennie Bogue

Tina Gutierrez, non-session member

Lee Turner, non-session member

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## 2007-2008 OFFICERS

Moderator – Lynn Dudley  
Vice Moderator - Jamie Milton  
Secretary – Carol Ballance  
Treasurer – Pat Davis  
Christian Community Action – Catherine Ealick-Anderson, Katy Russell  
Historian – Ingrid Carmines  
Membership – Joan Kimble, Deanie Quillian  
Social –Carol Meier  
Personal Faith and Family Life – Gail Wick  
Birthday Garden – Carol Rowland  
Circle Leaders:  
    Blessings (Tuesday) – Susanne Pinkerton, Celia Patrick  
    WOW (Wednesday) – Lynn Dudley, Ellen Carrington  
    Hope (Thursday evenings) – Laura West, Martha Greenway  
Advisor – Lynne Miller

- ❖ Presbyterian Women elect officers in May to serve for one-year terms.
- ❖ During 2007-2008, the coordinating team met monthly (with the exception of July).
- ❖ The Fall Coffee (September), the Christmas Luncheon (December) and the May Luncheon are daytime events for all ladies of the church.
- ❖ The annual PW Mission Auction, which was February 3, is a church-wide event following the worship service.
- ❖ There was a joint evening PW event this year in April.
- ❖ Many outreach projects of Northwest overlap with Witness Team and the Christian Community Action committee of PW. This strengthens the impact of our giving and outreach and also connects Presbyterian Women to the session. The following is a recap of our activities this year:

## AUGUST 2007

- ❖ Rally Day - PW put together a display board for Rally Day. Women could pick up the proposed calendar of events for the year, a copy of the proposed benevolence spending and budget for the coming year, and information about circles and other outreach opportunities. Sign-up forms were available for ditty bag sewing day in September, as well as for the three circles and the fall coffee in September.

## SEPTEMBER 2007

- ❖ Pledge letters went to all women of Northwest Presbyterian on September 5th.
- ❖ Fall Coffee was September 11th. Mary Jane Cornell was our speaker. Approximately 50 women attended. The PW budget, which includes benevolence spending, was approved.
- ❖ Birthday Garden - Carol Rowland researched and oversaw the installation of a sprinkler system in the Birthday Garden. There was also a Birthday Garden workday on September 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Ditty Bag Sewing Day – Katy Russell supervised the sewing of ditty bags and Christmas gift bags on September 19. Sewing machines and ironing boards were set up in the Adams Room for a day to complete the bags used for toiletries at Central Presbyterian Shelter and for Christmas gifts to students at Thornwell. This event is well organized and well attended.

## OCTOBER 2007

- ❖ Grant Park on October 31<sup>st</sup>. PW prepares and delivers a hot meal to the Georgia Avenue Church on months that have a fifth Wednesday. Members of Northwest helped prepare and serve the meal to a grateful crowd.

## NOVEMBER 2007

- ❖ Thanksgiving Baskets - In coordination with the Witness Team, PW purchased the baskets used to deliver food at Thanksgiving. Witness runs the food drive for the church and organizes the distribution of food through the Adopt a Grandparent program at FCS Urban Ministries.
- ❖ Angel Tree – PW helps contact, collect, wrap and deliver Christmas gifts for children at Thornwell.

## **DECEMBER 2006**

- ❖ Toy Drives – in coordination with the Witness Team, PW conducts a toy drive to coincide with our Christmas Luncheon. Toys collected early went to Buckhead Christian Ministries. Toys collected later went to the Family Store, a division of FCS Urban Ministries.
- ❖ Christmas Luncheon – December 11. Brandi Diamond spoke about *A Small Piece of Christmas Peace*. Each table had a hostess and everybody attending was assigned to a table. Each table provided their decorations and the food was served from a buffet. Children from the Montessori School housed at Northwest sang Christmas songs. Approximately 80 ladies attended.
- ❖ Ditty Bags were delivered. 85 ditty bags filled with toiletries, socks, gloves and hats were taken to the night shelter at Central Presbyterian Church. PW coordinated the collection of items from members of the congregation and purchased many of the items with donations. PW also contributes funds (around \$500) for dinners at Central Pres.

## **JANUARY 2008**

- ❖ Grant Park Meal on January 30. PW delivers a hot meal to the Georgia Avenue Church on months which have a fifth Wednesday. Members and friends of Northwest helped prepare and serve the meal in January.

## **FEBRUARY 2008**

- ❖ Mission Auction on February 3 – “*Souper*” Bowl Sunday. Lynne Miller and Lynn Dudley co-chaired the auction this year, which raised over \$9,000 to go toward missions and benevolences.

## **MARCH 2008**

- ❖ Circle of Blessing – The Tuesday morning Circle of Blessing held their monthly meeting as a luncheon at the home of Susanne Pinkerton. It was a well attended event.
- ❖ Single Serving Food Drive – PW conducts an annual food drive to fill the emergency pantry at Calvin Court, a retirement community in Buckhead which is affiliated with Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. The pantry provides emergency canned goods to residents in need. The members of Northwest church generously donate fruits, vegetables, canned meats and other single-serving items which PW delivers in April.
- ❖ Habitat for Humanity – PW has agreed to handle any monetary donations that are made by the church members specifically for the Habitat House

## **APRIL 2008**

- ❖ Joint Circle Meeting – There was an evening event on Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Laura West’s home. It included dessert and a dramatic recitation of the Book of Ruth by Cheryl Vaughn from Columbia Theological Seminary. It was hosted by the Thursday evening circle.
- ❖ Tuesday Circle at Lenbrook Square – April 8. The Tuesday Circle, the Circle of Blessings, meets regularly on the second Tuesday morning of each month in the church parlor. Four members of the circle live at Lenbrook and find it difficult to attend church and church events. For the third time in the past four years, the Circle of Blessings held its April meeting in the conference room at Lenbrook. Three residents were able to attend circle.
- ❖ WOW Circle – WOW held their April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting off-site. They walked the Prayer Labyrinth at St. Phillip’s Cathedral and had lunch together afterwards.
- ❖ Calvin Court Birthday Party – April 16. Each spring PW hosts a birthday party for the residents of Calvin Court. Birthday cake, punch, cookies, chips and dip, cheese trays, and fruit are on the menu. Approximately 50 residents attend with five women from Northwest serving the treats.

## **MAY 2007**

- ❖ Birthday Luncheon, May 13. This annual luncheon is for all ladies of the church. Mary Miller-Brueggemann will be our speaker this year. PW Life Members will be named at the luncheon. The luncheon will be 11:30am to 1:00pm with Life Members announced first, followed by lunch, a brief meeting, and our speaker.

## **BUDGET NOTES**

Through March 2007, PW received pledges from 51 women totaling \$7,810. The 2008 auction proceeds were \$9,682, before expenses of just over \$300. The coordinating team will meet this spring to allocate benevolences. Traditionally, PW contributes around \$1,500 to the Reynoldstown Civic Association and about the same amount to the NWPC youth mission trip fund, with the remaining funds distributed to local and worldwide missions. The budget will go before the membership of PW at the Fall Coffee for approval.

## WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Northwest Presbyterian Church Manual of Operations charges the Worship Ministry Team with the responsibility of general supervision over preparation for worship, including bulletins, lighting, flowers and decorations, sound system, Communion arrangements and ushers. The Team is also responsible for developing programs for special/alternative forms of worship, ministers and the director of music. Finally, the division is tasked to conduct an annual evaluation to determine if the worship needs of the congregation are being met. The Worship Team draws upon a host of staff and volunteer persons to carry out these functions.

### ❖ **Weekly Worship**

The ushers are an essential and integral part of every worship service. This includes greeting members and visitors, assisting people to their seats, gathering attendance information and collecting the offering. Head ushers and their staff are selected for monthly terms. The Team has effectively integrated our youth into the usher teams. Our thanks go out to the approximately 50 members of the congregation who served as ushers.

The sound and light booth is a vital aspect of worship on a weekly basis with a small cadre of volunteers providing general sound control, assistance for the hearing impaired, taping services for the shut-ins and lighting control through the course of the service. We thank our sound technician volunteers: Dottie Corey, Bill Lucas, Bruce Snyder, Dave Nelson and Barry Holderread.

The musical aspect of our worship has been truly blessed with the talents of our choir members under the dynamic leadership of Music Director, Drew McMillan.

### ❖ **Special Activities**

In accordance with Session policy, Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month, Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday. In keeping with past tradition, the Team utilized inactive elders to serve along with active elders. As a result, we have 24 active and 119 inactive elders who serve Communion throughout the year.

The seasonal greenery, poinsettias and lilies are an important aspect of the worship service each week. As such, it takes a tremendous amount of time and talent to coordinate the delivery and decoration of the sanctuary for each season. A very special debt of gratitude is extended to Nita Williams, Member at Large, for her dedication to this critical element of our weekly worship experience.

Other activities the Worship Team oversees are: Acolytes, Children's Sermons, and Wedding Coordination. We thank the many volunteers who serve as acolytes and those who deliver children's sermons each Sunday. Your weekly contributions enhance each of our worship services.

While the Worship Ministry Team coordinates a number of activities to facilitate worship, clearly the leadership of the actual worship service is done by the ministerial staff.

### ❖ **Conclusion**

Though the Worship Ministry Team is one of the smaller divisions of the Session, its oversight responsibilities encompass activities which affect the largest number of church members. Clearly these functions require the efforts of many volunteers in numerous areas. We wish to express our gratitude to the many individuals who served in so many capacities to glorify God through worship.

### **Worship Team**

Bruce Snyder, Chair

Jim Soteres

Penn McClatchey

Nita Williams, Member at Large