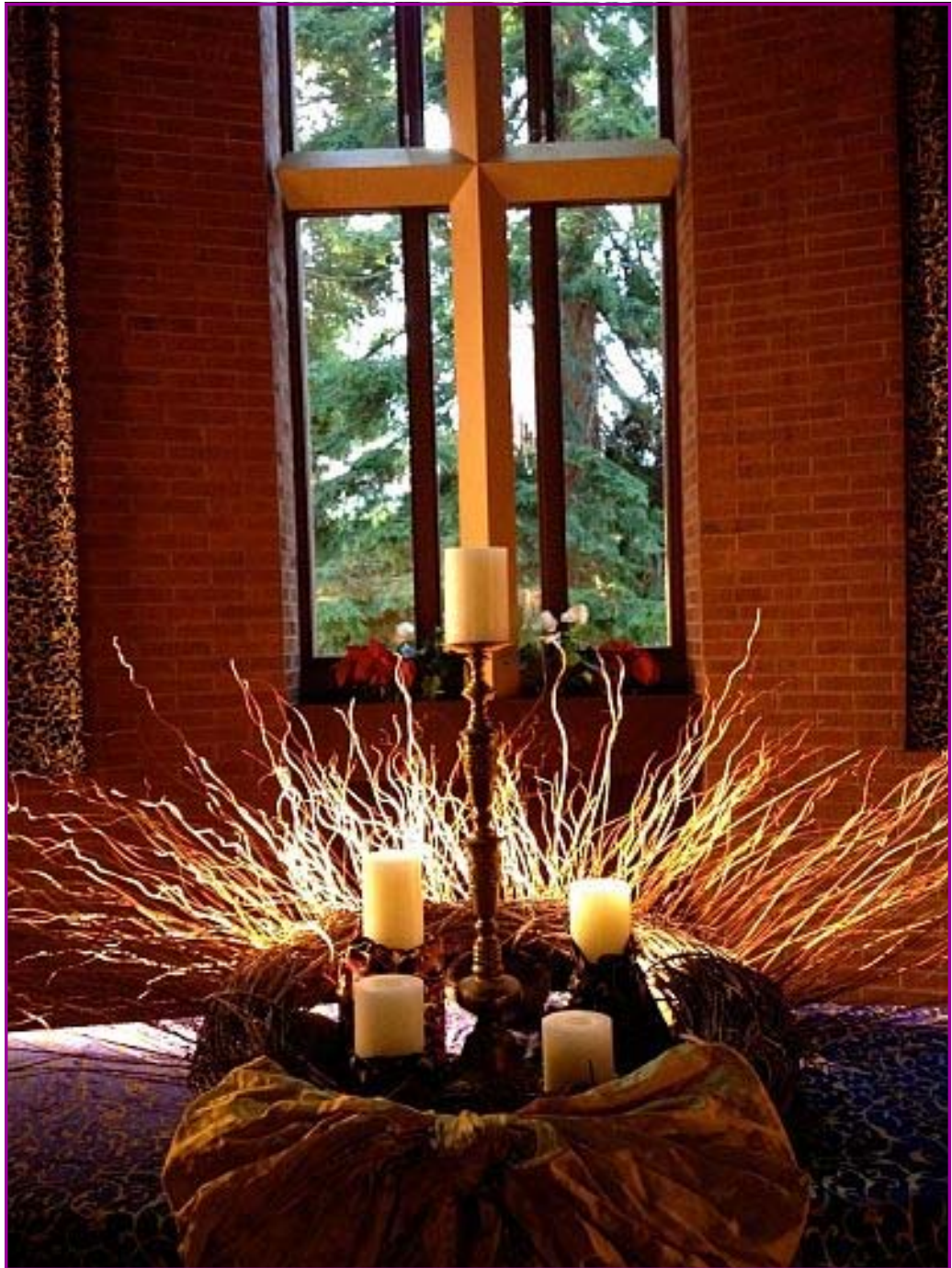


2011 ANNUAL REPORT



First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto
1140 Cowper Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301
Phone (650) 325-5659 Fax (650) 325-7991
www.fprespa.org



Church Sexton Javier Hernandez

Staff of First Presbyterian Church

		<u>Extension</u>	<u>Email</u>
Pastor:	W. Robert Martin, III	102	rmartin@fprespa.org
Youth & Family Ministry Intern:	Rus Kosits	104	rkosits@fprespa.org
Church Administrator:	Sarah Clementson	100	sclementson@fprespa.org
Church Sexton:	Javier Hernandez	100	jhernandez@fprespa.org
Pledge Accountant:	Julie Barney	105	jbarney@fprespa.org
Church Bookkeeper:	Kaela Fine	109	kfine@fprespa.org
Parish Associate:	Geoff Browning		
Associate Pastor Emeritus:	Nan Crawford Swanson		

Phone: (650) 325-5659
www.fprespa.org

Many thanks to Holly Brady for the cover photo.

CLERK OF SESSION REPORT	4
<i>PASTOR'S REPORT:</i>	
W. Robert Martin, III	5-7
BOARD OF DEACONS	8
<i>MINISTRY REPORTS:</i>	
Children, Youth & Family Ministry	9-10
Worship Ministry	11-12
Teaching Ministry / Robert MacAfee Brown Lectureship	13-16
Stewardship Ministry	17
Facilities Ministry	18
Ministry of Invitation	19
Community Building Ministry	20
Staff Relations	21
Planned Giving Ministry	22-23
Christmas For Others	24
Food Donation Outreach	25
Ministry to Long-Term Non-Profit Organizations	26-30
FINANCIAL REPORT	See addendum

~ Clerk of Council • Helene Butler ~

Active Members as of 12/31/2010: 252
Inactive Members as of 12/31/2010: 35
Baptized Children and Youth as of 12/31/2010: 46
Total Adherents as of 12/31/2010: 333
Friends of the Church as of 12/31/2010: 50
Total Participants as of 12/31/2010: 381

Members Added To Church Rolls by Transfer of Membership: 0

Members Added by Reaffirmation of Faith: 1
Marcia Gordon

Members Added by Confirmation: 8
Colin Patterson, Chloe Patterson, Tommy Evans Barton, Mathew Keller, Drew Keller,
Morgan Keller, Alex Iyer, Nicky Ravishankar

Total New Active Members: 9

Baptized Members Added: 0
Total New Baptized Members: 0

Members Removed From Church Rolls by Transfer of Membership: 7
Pamela Reed, Mike Batek, Sara Kole, Norma Grench, Marcia Adams, Jack Eft,
Darlene Eft,

Members Removed from Rolls by Request: 2
Craig McCreight, Elaine McCreight

Deaths of Members: 4
Barbara Gray, Sally Dixon Stoner, Peter Wong, Joan Johnston

Deaths of Friends: 0

Total Losses of Active Members: 13
Total Losses of Inactive Members: 0
Total Losses of Friends: 0

Weddings: 2

Active Members as of 12/31/2011: 248
Inactive Members as of 12/31/2011: 35
Baptized Children and Youth as of 12/31/2011: 35
Total Adherents as of 12/31/2011: 318
Friends of the Church as of 12/31/2011: 53
Total Participants as of 12/31/2011: 371

Dear Ones,

One of the books that I re-read during my sabbatical this year was Henri Nouwen's Creative Ministry. In it, Nouwen gets at the whole notion of celebration and spirituality coexisting and co-mingling in the life of a community of faith. And as you read through the celebrations and the reports that follow, I would urge you to hold his words close to heart. Nouwen writes:

Celebration is only possible through the deep realization that life and death are never found completely separate. Celebration can only really come about where fear and love, joy and sorrow, tears and smiles can exist together. Celebration is the acceptance of life in a constantly increasing awareness of its preciousness. And life is precious not only because it can be seen, touched, and tasted, but because it will be gone one day. When we celebrate a wedding, we celebrate a union as well as a departure; when we celebrate a death, we celebrate a loss of friendship as well as gained liberty. There can be tears after weddings and laughter after funerals. We can indeed make our sorrows, just as much our joys, part of our celebration of life in the deep realization that life and death are not opponents but do, in fact, kiss each other at every moment of our existence.

Nouwen concludes his thoughts with this insight:

We are only a very small part of history and have only one short life to live, but when we take the fruits of our labor in our hands and stretch our arms to God in the deep belief that God hears us and accepts our gifts, then we know that all of our life is given, and given to celebrate!"

Our labors this year have been many—and we lift our accomplishments up before God over the following pages. But these are much more than accomplishments! What follows are acts of ministry—acts of serving in Christ's name to and with the world around us! Here are but a few of the acts of service in which the community participated. We:

- Served a total of 4,542 meals on Wednesday nights this year to those in need.
- Hosted Hotel de Zink (\$15,000 in-kind donation) for the month of July providing shelter / dinner / breakfast for 12-15 adults.
- Provided \$15,000 to the General missions of the P.C.(U.S.A.).
- Hosted Larry Rasmussen for the RMB Lectureship.
- Co-sponsored day-long conference on Israeli / Palestinian conflict
- Provided 35 cots, an abundance of toiletries, and on-going food for the East Palo Alto Warming Shelter.
- Served as the "seed-bed" for the children's book "Operation Marriage."
- Provided care packages and monthly bus passes for East Palo Alto Women coming out of the Correctional System.
- 13 youth went through the Confirmation process.

(Continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

~ Pastor/Head of Staff • W. Robert Martin, III ~

- Held summer cluster-group dialogues on important church issues.
- Provided below-cost rental opportunities on our campus to the following non-profits:
 - KARA
 - Peninsula Bridge Foundation
 - The Learning Center
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
 - El Camino Youth Symphony
 - Tai Chi Classes
 - Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous
 - Peninsula Peace & Justice
 - Stanford Hospital Chaplaincy Program
 - Eden Council
 - Before the After
 - Hope of the Lord Korean Presbyterian Church
 - Garden Club of Palo Alto
 - Finlandia Foundation
 - InnVision
- Faithfully supported four Denominational Offerings—The Christmas Joy Offering, Peacemaking Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, and the Pentecost Offering.
- Received a bountiful and blessed gift from the estate of Barbara Gray.
- Participated in the CROP Walk.
- Helped to pass Amendment 10-A in our Presbytery and on the National Denominational level.
- Held a Cool Planet Earth Day Service and celebrated our recognition as an Earth Care Congregation from the Environmental Ministries of the Presbyterian Church USA.
- Supported and celebrated the opening of the permanent ‘Day Worker Center’ in Mountain View.
- Supported our pastor during his 4 month sabbatical and welcomed Bob Butziger as our Sabbatical Support Pastor during Rob’s absence.
- Organized and participated in a week long Youth Mission Trip to “The Center for Student Missions” in Oakland, California.
- Provided monthly Prime-Timers gatherings and financially supported the Senior Chat Program.
- Hosted and celebrated Victor Floyd’s Ordination / Installation Service to his position as Pastor of Liturgy for the MCC Church of San Francisco.
- Provided two worship services—The Early Service and the Community Worship Service—all on Sunday mornings.
- Gave \$4,700 to support United Campus Ministry at Stanford University.
- Offered care and support to congregational members through the Deacon Neighborhood System.

(continued on page 7)

~ Pastor/Head of Staff • W. Robert Martin, III ~

- Offered care and support to congregational members through the Deacon Neighborhood System.
- Hosted / Supported the Social Justice Fair.
- Offered 160 hours of Adult Education Classes.
- Participated in two F.L.O.W. (Faith Lived Out in the World) Sundays: Worshipped and worked with St. Samuel's Church in East Palo Alto for Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend and worshipped with, and helped renovate, the Bread of Life Church in East Palo Alto.
- Offered a Just Faith and Just Spirituality Group.
- Said good-bye to Marissa Myers and welcomed Rus Kosits as our Seminary Intern for Children, youth, Family Ministry.
- Supported 15 families through "Christmas for Others" with gifts and store / food cards.
- Provided approximately 1,100 hours of Pastoral Care and 300 hours of hospital visitation.
- Offered 17 Small Group Activities—Base Christian Community, Faith Issues in Film, Men's Support Group, Parenting Kids & Pre-Teens, Cool Planet Working Group, InnVision Meals, SACRED Meals, Adult Choir, Prayer Group, Healing Group, Just Faith, Just Spirituality, First Pres. Hikers, Prime Timers, MicahsCall, More Light Team, and Christmas for Others.
- Offered leadership in the Presbytery of San Jose.
- Provided the Palo Alto Food Closet with thousands of pounds of food.

I am ever-grateful that God has heard us this year and has accepted our gifts as a community of faith. And because of this truth we can fully know that all of our life is given in service, and given to celebrate!

Much peace to you and yours,

The Rev. W. Robert (Rob) Martin, III

~ Board of Deacons • Mary Alice Thornton & Margaret Tompkins ~

Co-Moderators for 2011: Mary Alice Thornton and Margaret Tompkins
Staff Liaison: Rob Martin
Members: Hwaja Choi, Trish Hallenbeck, Jim Hewlett, Pat Kinney, Pat Levin, Val and Ian Mallace, Ellen Perry, Margaret Tompkins, Mary Alice Thornton

Meetings: Third Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in Classroom # 1.

The Board of Deacons continued the ministry of nurturing our church family during 2011. We restructured the 15 neighborhoods down to 9 to reflect the number of serving deacons. We are indebted to the hours of work provided by Pat Kinney to achieve this goal.

In February we welcomed new Deacons Hwaja Choi, Pat Levin and Ellen Perry. Bob Butziger led us in an all-day retreat emphasizing the importance of getting to know everyone in our neighborhoods. He also stressed the importance of checking in with each other and supporting each other. We assigned Deacon partners to mentor the new deacons, even going with the new deacon to meet shut-ins in their neighborhood. During Rob Martin's sabbatical we worked with Bob Butziger to keep him informed about special needs of our members.

We organized meals and other support for households where a member was ill or in mourning. After Easter and Christmas we delivered flowers to those who had been experiencing difficulties, and before Christmas we delivered delightful cards made by the children of the church. We are thankful for the energy, creativity and leadership of Rus Kosits in guiding the children in this project.

Ellen Perry served as our secretary, Jim Hewlett managed the Home Health Aid closet and served as the Deacon Rep to Nominating. Trish Hallenbeck beautifully managed the sanctuary flowers all year, as well as Easter and Christmas Memorial flowers. Hotel de Zink during the month of July involved all of the deacons under the direction of Pat Kinney. Her many spreadsheets kept the entire congregation organized around the ministry of providing 31 breakfasts and 31 dinners. Ingathering this past year returned to Neighborhood Tables, allowing us the opportunity to visit and talk with our neighborhood residents. Margaret Tompkins, Ian and Val Mallace headed up this effort. The Deacons organized and served receptions following the memorial service for Barbara Gray and Peter Wong.

Mary Alice Thornton, Co-Moderator

~ Youth and Family Ministry • Rus Kosits ~

Family Ministry

Staff, August-present: Rus Kosits – Seminary Intern for Children & Youth Ministry

Staff, January-August: Marissa Meyers – Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Elder: Karen Peterson-Iyer – Elder, Family Ministry

Family ministry has gone through some changes this year, but we are going strong, addressing the needs of our current children and youth and even expanding a bit in numbers. Marissa Meyers' departure mid-year was sad for many, but seminary intern Rus Kosits has brought new energy, vitality, and creativity to worship and to children and youth programming and leadership. A short summary of the various aspects of family ministry follows:

Sunday Morning:

- Explorations were done as to whether Godly Play could be expanded to be used as a curriculum for our elementary-aged children. Several members of the congregation visited other churches that do this and met with a local Godly Play organizer for training. However, there was no consensus that this would be a good model for our church, and, especially in light of Marissa's departure, it has not been pursued.
- Godly Play for preschool-aged children should continue in principle, but currently no one from the congregation has stepped up to lead it. (Heather Titterton and Pat Kinney did this for years and years, even when no children attended...Many thanks for their tireless commitment to this program!)
- Rus has regularized the Sunday morning children/youth worship schedule. Children and youth up through middle school leave church just after the Time for the Child in Us All for Children's Worship and Youth Roundtable. (High-school aged youth can come if they wish, too.) Again, we have a need for more adult volunteers than we currently have.
- Rus believes that there is energy and need for an additional children's program at 9:30 Sunday morning, to run concurrently with Adult Study. This could be an area we think about adding as we move forward.

Youth Group:

- Sunday evening youth group attendance grew this year. Marissa conducted youth group every two weeks (corresponding to Family Covenant Group meetings). Rus began meeting with the youth group every week and reports that this has worked well. In general, there is a big unmet need for additional adult volunteers who can come on Sunday evenings (no prep) with some regularity to help with youth group.

Confirmation:

- Confirmation took place in May, with twelve kids participating in weekly sessions using the "This I Believe" curriculum. Confirmation Sunday was celebrated on May 15, with eight kids deciding to join the church as members, three kids becoming "friends," and one kid deciding upon no formal relationship with the church.

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9)

~ Youth and Family Ministry • Rus Kosits ~

Mission Trip:

- Marissa and Rus co-led a week-long summer mission trip to Oakland/San Francisco. Fifteen youth and five adult chaperones participated. Youth worked in diverse settings with issues of homelessness/hunger in San Francisco and Oakland, staying in Oakland each night. Under Rus's organization, youth led worship on August 21 (also Marissa's last day), based upon this mission trip.
- Rus has been investigating possible sites for a 2012 mission trip.

Looking ahead, family ministry's biggest need is more adult volunteers—especially in order to get programs up and running for preschoolers on Sunday mornings, as well as for more adequate programming for youth group and children's worship/youth roundtable.

~ Worship Ministry • Dave Thornton ~

Chair: Dave Thornton
Staff Liaison: Rob Martin
Members: Beth Keller, Marion MacGillivray, Judy Zlatnik, Mitzi Henderson, and Lela Noble

Here's the update for the Worship Committee for 2011, in bullet point format:

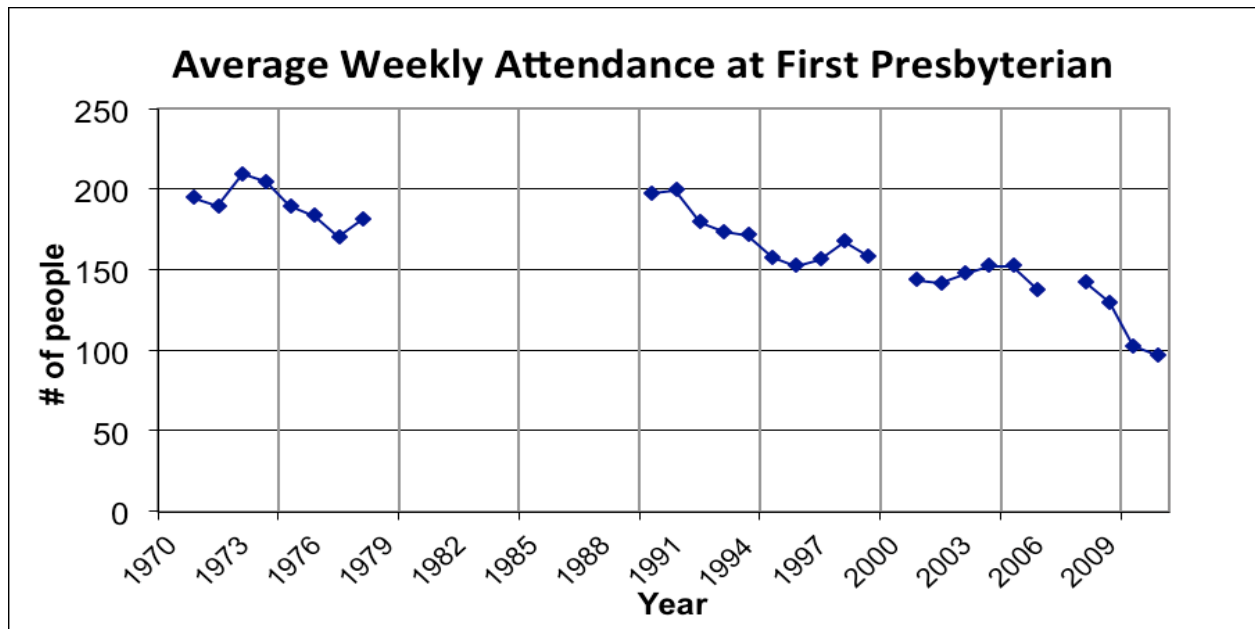
- A special Music Task Force was formed and sought the input of the congregation on the future of our music program. It reported its results and preliminary recommendations to Session in May.
- Lara continued to provide music leadership including occasional choir involvement, but also with many outside musicians and singers.
- During much of the year the third Sunday was organized by teams or covenant groups in the church, including a Flow Sunday in March, a Cool Planet Sunday in April, Confirmands Sunday in May, El Salvador Sunday in July, a UCCM Sunday in July, Youth Mission Trip in August, RMB Lectureship Sunday in November, and the "Occupy Bethlehem" Youth service in December.
- During Rob's sabbatical our interim Bob Butziger worked closely with the Worship Committee to plan services during Rob's absence. Bob also invited Nan Swanson to assist him with communion and preach when he (Bob) was gone. Byron Bland also preached on a Sunday when Bob was absent.
- Union Services with First Baptist and Covenant were held in August.
- The "Circle" was reinstated for communion as an experiment in the summer, and will continue from time to time in the school year due to positive feedback from the congregation.
- Rus Kosits has made a valuable addition to the worship experience both through his "time for the children and youth," his leadership of the special December youth service, his musical contributions, and his preaching.
- The worship committee sought to work with the Early Service folks to resolve their need for consistent musical leadership. Lara filled in for some of their services, and Rus Kosits has been providing music leadership in the fall.
- Worship and Facilities committee have been collaborating on an effort to refurbish and update the chapel.
- The need for new banners to hang in the sanctuary was noted and Do Martin was asked to work on creating some. (Do does this on a voluntary basis.)

(continued on page 12)

(continued from page 11)

~ Worship Ministry • Dave Thornton ~

- Worship Attendance Summary
 - ◇ Average attendance for 2011, including Early Service, Regular Sunday Service, and special services (e.g. Christmas Eve) was 97. This was a slight drop from 2010 and continues a two decade decline. (See graph on next page)



~ Teaching Ministry • John Zlatnik ~

Chairperson : John Zlatnik

Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

Members: Melissa Kirven-Brooks, Ellen Forbes, Ann Teegardin, Trish Hallenbeck, Margaret Tompkins, Marion MacGillivray, John Zlatnik

In 2011 the Adult Education program continued to provide a balance of excellent learning opportunities.

We were guided by these principles:

It has been our goal to balance a variety of themes, including spiritual growth opportunities, understanding social and religious issues of our time, learning about our own community and how to function more effectively, Ecological issues, youth in the church, the arts and music

Because we are a community with varied interests we often provided 2 parallel learning opportunities to better meet the needs of all.

1. 1/9: Adult Ed speaker: Patsy Character: St. Samuel's EPA (in advance of our visit to St. Samuel)
2. 1/16 MLK Sunday – join with St. Samuel's EPA: (FLOW Sunday): No adult Education planned
3. 1/23 – 2/27 (6 week Winter series): Understanding Islam - Dr. Mohammad Rajabally
 - Basic Islam
 - Who is Muhammad?
 - Islam and previous prophets and books
 - Status of woman in Islam
 - Current issues terrorism, middle east,
 - American Muslims response to current challenges

Suggested Reading: "The Muslim Next Door" - if you have had time to examine it. - Positive responses

4. March 6: Rob Martin – Explaining goals of his Sabbatical
5. March 13 - April 17 (5 weeks) – Mohan Iyer: Lenten Series A Study of *“Original Blessing”* by Matthew Fox - Exploring together a creative and transformative spirituality

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

~ Teaching Ministry • John Zlatnik ~

- Session 1 (March 13th): An intro to creation spirituality and its 4 paths
- Session 2 (March 20th): Path 1 – Via Positiva
- Session 3 (March 27th): Path 2 – Via Negativa
- Session 4 (April 3rd): Path 3 – Via Creativa
- Session 5 (April 10th): Path 4 – Via Transformativa

6. March 13 - April 17 (parallel Lenten Series) - Vicky Greenbaum (Bible study): "The Resurrection and the Life"

- Resurrection: centuries of thought
- Resurrection as triumph over death
- Resurrection and creation: vitally connected
- Resurrection and transformation
- The heart of resurrection

7. Easter: April 24 – No Adult Ed

8. May 1-29 Four Sunday series: "How to Disagree and Stay in Community" - Moderated by Bob Butziger - will not be based on a book

9. Summer Break: June and July 3 and 10

10. Summer Cluster Groups: July 17-August 7

- Strengthen our listening and conflict management skills through engagement in conversations around issues of importance for our church.
- We can build a stronger sense of community among members and friends through personal connection in small group settings.
- Groups of no more than 12 people were established – each with 2 group leaders. Group leaders met and developed plans.

11. Sept 11 – Ingathering (no adult ed.)

12. Sept 18 - October 16 (5 weeks): Geoff Browning: the Israel Palestine conflict, based on the "Steadfast Hope" and the "Kairos Palestine" project

October 23 - Nov 13: Pre-lecture, Lecture, Post Lecture

Evan Hughes agreed to lead the pre and post lectureship discussions (representing the "Cool Planet" group)

13. November 20 - December 11 (4 weeks) Discussion of lectionary readings... Rev. Rob Martin

Dec 11 and Jan 8: Two Adult Sunday slots were required for discussion of the new restructuring proposal

(continued on page 15)

(continued from page 14)

~ Teaching Ministry • John Zlatnik ~

December 18: Christmas for Others

December 25: Christmas Day

January 1: New Years Day

14. January 8 - January 29 (3 week series) Rus will lead a three week series on the mission, vision and values of Youth and Children's ministry at First Pres. PA.

Report submitted by (Elder) John Zlatnik

.

~ RMB Lectureship Report • Judy Zlatnik ~

LARRY RASMUSSEN: 2011 ROBERT MCAFEE BROWN LECTURESHIP

Over three days, November 4-6, Larry Rasmussen led First Pres and members of the wider community on a fascinating exploration of the emerging field of eco-theology and how intentional Christian stewardship is essential. Recognizing that the world we were born into isn't the world we inhabit today, Larry addressed themes of soil, water, sustainability, overconsumption and where the faith community fits into the big picture. The weekend was an incredible educational experience. We appreciated Larry's leadership and his easy open style that made the planning process easy and efficient. We were very pleased that his wife Nyla joined us. Judy Zlatnik led the Lectureship Committee. The Cool Planet Working Group facilitated Adult Study, outreach to other churches, hospitality, and publicity led by Pat Kinney and Shirley Eglington who did a great job of publicity. Adult Study discussed the topic one Sunday before the Lectureship weekend and another the following weekend.

A dinner was held prior to the Friday program and leaders from Environmental groups in other churches were invited to attend. This contributed to the highest attendance of the weekend being Friday evening where over 88 individuals attended, of which 33 were not associated with First Presbyterian. The Saturday presentations saw an attendance of 49 and Sunday worship, 77.

The budgeted amount for the Lectureship was \$6500. Larry's fee was \$4000; travel expenses were \$650 and lodging \$450. A final accounting of expenses, income and balance to be carried forward to the next lectureship are contained in a Lectureship notebook kept in the office where our office manager can make it available. Complete information regarding publicity, etc. is filed in the notebook.

Final Thoughts on the Lectureship:

It was indeed a blessing to have as speaker someone who was so undemanding and accessible as Larry Rasmussen. While he is a well known Christian environmental ethicist and is involved with several ongoing projects, he was easily available and responsive to emails. It was clear that communications would be on an informal, first name basis.

The Lectureship committee decided on an environmental theme in large part because of the active Cool Planet group who we felt would want to be a part of planning and implementation of the weekend. In retrospect this was a brilliant decision because it was very difficult to put together a Host Committee and without the leadership of Pat Kinney and Shirley Eglington in publicity and many other organizational items handled by the Cool Planet group, the Lectureship chair would not have been able to come close to the successful weekend we experienced.

The notebook established last year by Ellen Forbes proved extremely helpful in this years planning. It is our hope that the material we provide this year will make it an even more valuable tool.

~ Stewardship Ministry • Gordon Craig ~

Chairperson: Gordon Craig

Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

Committee: Ellen Forbes, Margaret Ann Fidler, Don Fidler, David Thornton

The Annual Stewardship Sunday was held on November 13, 2010 with a lunch and program in Fellowship Hall following worship. Mohan Iyer and Don Hildebrand spoke about what the church means to them, and how that relates to their giving to the church. Their talks built on similar statements given by Greer Ellison and Peter Engar, which were provided during worship on the Sundays leading up to Stewardship Sunday. At the gathering on Stewardship Sunday, a graphic representation of the preliminary 2011 budget was distributed showing the expense allocations according to the various ministries of the church. Also included was a long list of the activities of our various ministries this past year. A stewardship letter and pledge cards were given to all in attendance with the request that they consider, if possible, an increase in their giving for the coming year. Those not in attendance received the same materials through the mail the following week.

Pledge Sunday was on November 20. All members and friends were encouraged to bring their pledges for 2011 to that worship service. Many pledges were turned in at that time. In the following weeks the Stewardship Committee followed up with personal contacts with outstanding pledging units.

As of January 19, 2012 the campaign results are as follows: 94 pledging units have indicated they collectively will be giving \$394,767 to the church in 2012. This compares to \$435,007 in pledges for 2011 from 106 pledging units. The numbers of pledging units from last year who have not responded, as yet, are six. 32% of our giving units increased their pledges this year, while 14% decreased them. There are five new pledging units this year.

Thanks to our Stewardship Committee for their work, and gratitude to all members and friends who continue to support the church with generosity and commitment.

~ Facilities Ministry • Paul Jones ~

Chairperson: Paul Jones

Staff Liaison: Sarah Clementson

Members: Andy Anderson, Scott Brenneman, John Hackmann, Bob McDonald, Margaret Okuzumi, and Paul Jones

The Facilities Ministry is the steward of the Church's buildings and grounds, with the exception of the spaces occupied by the Church's long term tenants, The Learning Center, and the tenants using Westminster House. During 2011, the Facilities Ministry focused on meeting emergencies as they arose and planning for future improvements. Due to the Church's continued financial stress, fiscal conservatism was exercised.

Reflecting the Church's desire to minimize global warming, the Ministry monitored the new recycling program, improved the weather stripping, replaced some windows with thermo-pane, continued the replacement of incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs, and provided closer control of the heating system. The Ministry cooperated with the Cool Planet Group to secure registration as an Earth Care Congregation.

Emergencies met through the course of the year included replacing the water back flow valves, repairing a kitchen stove, and lesser emergencies.

Future planning projects included redecorating and upgrading the two bathrooms adjacent to Fellowship Hall and redecorating the Chapel. We hope that both of these can be initiated in 2012.

With Session approval, a contractor was hired to maintain our two native gardens and the other gardens around the Sanctuary. Margaret Rosenbloom and Anne Steinle have been monitoring this work.

A standard rental schedule for short term users of our property was adopted and approved by Session to regularize fees for the use of our different spaces. New users include the Palo Alto Garden Club and Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous. The Hope of the Lord Korean Presbyterian Church is worshipping in the Chapel Sunday afternoons.

We wish to recognize the immense contributions from Javier Hernandez and Sarah Clementson.

Respectfully submitted,

Facilities Ministry

Andy Anderson, Scott Brenneman, John Hackmann, Bob McDonald, Margaret Okuzumi, and Paul Jones

~ Ministry of Invitation • Sukgi Choi and Ellen Forbes ~

Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

Sukgi and Ellen took over the helm in February from predecessors Holly Brady and John Zlatnik, who had masterfully laid the groundwork for the ministry and who provided excellent transition support.

Each Sunday, an enthusiastic team of greeters has welcomed newcomers, loyal attendees, and returning visitors. Our greeters are: Hwaja Choi, Sukgi Choi, Peter Engar, Ellen Forbes, Mitzi Henderson, Evan Hughes, Marion MacGillivray, Margaret Tompkins, Don Zulch, and for much of the year, Ellen Perry. Greeters wear bright blue “Welcome to First Pres!” badges—which you too can sport by joining the group! Just tell Sukgi or Ellen if you would like to serve the church in this way. We look forward to hearing from you.

The greeters meet bi-monthly for catch-up and brainstorming sessions.

Thanks to Sarah Clementson, we now have redesigned guest cards that allow newcomers to tell us who they are, what drew them to us, and what areas of church life especially interest them. During 2011, at least eight adults and four children began attending First Pres on a regular basis.

Thanks also to Joy Sleizer, who gently and efficiently prepared the Ministry of Invitation to take over her role as coordinator of Sunday treats for fellowship time. That’s another opportunity for you to help: let Ellen or Sukgi know if you can provide snacks once in awhile. They are so much appreciated by everyone who chats with friends and visitors in Fellowship Hall after worship!

Finally, the Ministry of Invitation placed ads this year in the following publications by the Palo Alto Weekly:

Special Easter ad in the Weekly

Visitors' Guide – Produced in Spring and Fall, the Guide is distributed to over 200 locations from Redwood Shores to Mountain View, including all area hotels/motels, many Stanford departments, libraries, major employers, bookstores and more.

**INFO Palo Alto
Inspirations 2011**

Note to MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Pease wear your name tag—it particularly helps newcomers to meet us as individuals!

~ Community Building Ministry • Joy Sleizer ~

Chairperson: Joy Sleizer

Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

Members: Joy Sleizer and Julie Barney with moral support from others. Thanks to those in the congregation who helped on the various activities listed below.

Community Building, with several willing bakers, provided Sunday A.M. treats at 9:30 and 11:30 A.M. throughout the year.

Events included:

- Easter Breakfast served to the community
- Breakfast prepared for Confirmation Sunday
- Picnic at Foothills Park with worship, BBQ lunch
- SACRED Meal groups formed in fall & continue to meet
- Christmas tree decorated in Fellowship Hall with thanks to Pat Kinney
- Christmas Eve reception (with special thanks to Marilyn McDonald)

Other:

- Juice supplied for after-church treats
- Paper supplies inventoried & stocked

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy Sleizer

~ Staff Relations • Karen Wentzel ~

Current Committee Members

- Karen Wentzel, Session Member and Chair
- Greer Ellison
- Cindy Jose
- Don Fidler
- Scott Brenneman

Committee Member Resignation

- Evelyn Wong (We give thanks for her years of service on this committee!)

Staff Members Resigning

- Marissa Myers, Children, Family & Youth (August)

Intern Hired

- Rus Kosits, Children, Family & Youth (August)

Activities 2011

- Conducted reviews for Rob Martin, Javier Hernandez, Sarah Clementson.
- Preparation for Rob Martin's sabbatical
- Support for Rev. Dr. Bob Butziger during Rob Martin's sabbatical
- Coordination with Music Task Force
- Hiring and integration of Rus Kosits
- Instigate and lead Summer "Listening Groups"
- Debriefing of Marissa Myers
- Instigate and create Long-Term Staffing Model for consideration by Council

~ Planned Giving Ministry • David Thornton ~

- Chairperson:** David Thornton
- Staff Liaison:** Rob Martin
- Session Liaison:** Alec Henderson
- Members:** Don Hildenbrand, Freya Owen, and Joan Roy

Overview of Work of Planned Giving Committee

The only major effort of the Planned Giving Committee this past year was to hold the annual Legacy Circle event in September at the Nordlund's home.

There are currently 39 households who are members of the Legacy Circle. This represents more than a third of our total giving units. These are individuals or families who have made provisions in their estate planning for some level of legacy gift to the First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto or who have made a direct gift to the Fund. Each has submitted a confidential form stating their intention. All forms are filed in a locked drawer in the church office.

The church is committed to honoring all donor intentions for gifts that are made with restrictions and/or designations. Unrestricted and/or undesignated gifts to the church will be allocated according to the needs and highest priorities of the church as determined by its elected leadership.

In September the seventh Annual Legacy Circle Event was held to recognize and celebrate members of the Legacy Circle. On Thursday evening, September 22, thirty-two members of our church's Legacy Circle gathered at the beautiful home of Sally and Craig Nordlund for a time of recognition and fellowship. The good food, wine and great conversation in a relaxed setting made for a delightful evening together. During the brief program Cynthia Chin Lee and Gordon Craig each spoke about the importance of our church in their own lives and their reasons for including the church in their planned giving.

A major bequest from the estate of Barbara Gray in an amount of nearly \$500,000 was received in 2011.

Names of Legacy Circle Members

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Anonymous (2) | Jean Drummond |
| Jean Barker | Judy Dunbar |
| Julie Barney | Ruth English (d) |
| Margery Brandt (d) | Margaret Ann and Don Fidler |
| Geoff Browning | Ellen and Dean Forbes |
| Linda Busek | Barbara Gray (d) |
| Helene Butler and Connie Nelson | Shirley Eglington and Jeff Grinnell |
| Cynthia Chin-Lee and Peter Ching | Patricia Hallenbeck |
| Martha Clayton | Mitzi and Tom (d) Henderson |
| Joan Roy and Gordon Craig | Mary and Alec Henderson |

(Continued on page 23)

continued from page 22)

~Planned Giving Ministry • David Thornton ~

Sandra Hopkins	Hope Raymond
Karen Peterson-Iyer and Mohan Iyer	Arlene and Jack Schaupp
Pat Irish	Bob Soderman (d)
Patricia Levin	Joy Sleizer and Ozzie Osborne (d)
Polly (d) and Tony (d) Lidgate	Anne Steinle
Marion MacGillivray	Ann Teegardin
Martha Maris	Mary Alice and Dave Thornton
Kathy and Lee Merkle-Raymond	Bob Topor (d)
Marian and Stewart Nixon	Sharon Wagner (d)
Lela Noble	Patsy and Charles (d) Weiss
Sally and Craig Nordlund	Theresa Wells (d)
Freya Owen	Annabelle Woodard

We plan to hold our eighth Annual Legacy Circle Event late summer or early fall in 2012. All members and friends of the church are encouraged to consider remembering the church in their planned giving. Committee members are happy to discuss the Legacy Circle and answer questions about planned giving. Thanks to the hard work of all of our committee members.

~ Christmas for Others • Holly Brady & Sally Nordlund ~

CFO Coordinators: Holly Brady & Sally Nordlund

Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

Christmas For Others Serves 8 Families, 15 Children

Once again, First Pres folks joined together to support Christmas for Others, the community outreach program where we partner with Ecumenical Hunger Project (EHP) of East Palo Alto, so that we may offer extra support to families-in-need during the Holiday Season.

During the month of December, the CFO Wishing Trees were available for viewing both before and after the Main Worship service. From these Trees, people selected items to fulfill some of the expressed wishes of families and children. Our program culminated on the last Sunday before Christmas, when we held our annual Wrapping Party. At that time, we gathered together to wrap and collect the gifts and then place them on the EHP truck for delivery. Gifts were consecrated during Worship that Sunday.

Thanks to the generosity of many, we were able to provide food, clothing, gift cards and modestly priced toys for 8 families, including 15 children:

- Each child received 3-4 gifts to open on Christmas morning.
- Each family received Safeway gift cards totaling \$300-\$500, based upon family size.
- Each family with children received a \$100 Target gift card.

In addition, we were able to donate a box of gently used or new items for EHP to distribute as they wished.

It goes without saying that the Wrapping Party would not happen without the assistance of many people. So, at this time, we wish to thank:

- The Merkle-Raymond family for all of their pre-party help.
- Christmas Cookies Bakers: Joy Sleizer, Pat Kinney, Holly Brady, and Kathy Durham.
- Pianist Derrick Kikuchi and his Singers.
- Shopper: Joy Sleizer.
- Wrapping Party Volunteers: Caity Brady, Lucas and Al Brooks, Melissa Kirven-Brooks, Adrienne Losch, Laurie Nordlund, and Joy Sleizer.
- Javier for helping us with the set-up.
- Rob for your ever-present support and guidance.

Thanks to all!

Note: Christmas for Others is supported solely by monetary and gift donations from the congregation. The annual church operating budget provides no funds to support this ministry. At the end of the program, any surplus funds are donated directly to EHP. First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto has worked with EHP each advent season for over 30 years.

CFO Coordinators--Holly Brady & Sally Nordlund
Dec. 2011

~ Food Donation Outreach • Holly Brady & Ellen Forbes ~

First Pres continues to feed the hungry and homeless in Palo Alto.

In 2011, you gave 1,749 pounds of food and other needed supplies to the Palo Alto Downtown Food Closet. That's an average of 146 pounds every month, or 33.6 pounds a week.

With today's high food prices, your help to the homeless in our community is a mighty blessing...and we hope you are as proud of this accomplishment as we are.

How does that compare to years past? Here's a summary:

<u>2006</u> - 1878 lbs	monthly average 157
<u>2007</u> - 1717 lbs	monthly average 143
<u>2008</u> - 1432 lbs	monthly average 113
<u>2009</u> - 2653 lbs	monthly average 221
<u>2010</u> - 1935 lbs	monthly average 161
<u>2011</u> - 1749 lbs	monthly average 146

In 2012 we've set a goal to increase the current amount by 250 pounds. So...when you see the little red wagon rolling up the aisle during the Offering next Sunday, we hope you'll make a mental note to bring a can of food next week to add to the pile.

Remember: "A can a week is all we ask!"

– Margaret Ann Fidler, Peter Giamalis, Ellen Forbes, Holly Brady

**"Lord, to those who hunger, give bread.
And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice."**

– Latin American prayer

~ Ministry to Long-Term Tenants: • Craig Nordlund ~
~ First Pres. Ministry to Non-Profit Organizations ~

Chairperson: Craig Nordlund
Project Coordinators: Sandra Hopkins
Other Team Members: John Hackmann and Bob McDonald
Staff Liaison: Rob Martin

The Tenant's Ministry had another busy year. Many thanks to all the committee members who dedicated so much time to overseeing and helping complete this year's projects. The major accomplishments for 2011 were:

1. Completed the re-modeling of the 1st floor Westminster House bathroom.
2. Approved and have obtained building permits for plans to add a ramp and handicap accessible door mechanism for the front of Westminster House. This will also require modifications to the front porch and stairs as well as adjustments to and a resurfacing of the parking lot to add handicap parking spaces. We are coordinating with the tenants and contractor on the timing for this improvement.
3. Approved plans and have obtained building permits, pending historic review, to remove brick from existing WH chimneys from top of exterior to 2nd level fireplaces in order to make them earthquake safe. The chimney chases will be rebuilt with wood framing and finished with a brick veneer to match the existing historic look.
4. Corrected a serious drainage problem near the TLC office by adding pavers and additional drainage.
5. TLC has begun to remodel two classrooms at their expense.

As we move forward into 2012, we are looking at opportunities to insulate the Westminster House attic. We will continue to prioritize projects based on need and available revenue.

I would like to add a special thank you to Sandra Hopkins for all of her help in organizing and overseeing these projects! More detail on the tenants' activity can be found on their organizational web sites.

Peace,
Craig

(Continued on page 27)

(continued from page 26)

~ First Pres. Ministry to Non-Profit Organizations ~



2011 Outcomes

Peninsula Bridge is in its third decade of providing rigorous and enriched academic tuition-free five week summer programs to motivated middle school students from under-resourced communities on independent school campuses. Our over-arching goal is to enable our students to access the college track in high school and a life of increased choice and opportunity. The majority of Bridge students will be the first in their family to complete high school; those who go on to college will largely be the first generation to do so. A study of our Class of 2006, high school class of 2011, indicates that 95% graduated on time, and the majority went on to post-secondary education. In 2011 we grew 19% to serve 356 students on seven independent school campuses in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. In 2012 we are adding two new program sites in Santa Clara County and hope to serve 420 students.

2011 Student Demographics

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
African American	23	6.46%
Asian	17	4.78%
Bi/Multi-Ethnic	12	3.37%
Latino	271	76.12%
Pacific Islander	21	5.90%
White/European	9	2.53%
Other	3	.84%
Total	356	100%

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	171	48.03%
Female	185	51.97%
Total	356	100%

2011 Highlights

Students enjoyed more than 51,000 program hours. Student attendance rate exceeded 98%. 86% of students maintained or showed improvement in math. 51% completed Algebra I in eighth grade as compared to 20% of economically disadvantaged youth in the counties where they attend school. More than 95% of students reported improvement in measures of self-efficacy.

(Continued on page 28)

continued from page 27)

~ First Pres. Ministry to Non-Profit Organizations ~



The Learning Center

459 Kingsley Ave. Palo Alto, CA 94301

Phone: (650) 325-6683 www.tlcpaloalto.org

January 20, 2012

The Learning Center Annual Report for 2011:

The Learning Center is proud to say that we have completed another successful year with full enrollment and maintained a committed staff of Educators.

Our Educators have been leading some of the large programmatic movement we expect to see next year. This involves a shift in curriculum, maintaining a homelike environment and making professional development a foundation for our vision. We had a world-renowned consultant work with our staff, which involved reflecting children's thinking and basing the children's learning on theories. This experience brought unity to our staff and opened up many opportunities for future learning possibilities.

In 2011, The Board completed a strategic plan that outlined a five-year vision for the school; which included a thoughtful strategy about our physical environment, the curriculum, and our Educator roles. We are proud of this plan and feel it is the foundation for a vibrant program that emphasizes and supports our children's love of learning.

In addition, The Learning Center has completed the third stage in our Capitol Improvement Plan by remodeling classroom 5 with new flooring, paint, and cabinetry and the making a larger bathroom that involved moving toilets and adding sinks.

(Continued on page 29)

(continued from page 28)



In the past year Kara has served over 3,300 children, youth and adults throughout the greater Bay Area. Expanding our group support options with a partner loss group and a drop-in group in East Palo Alto, we have served a record number of individuals through peer support. Camp Erin experienced another successful year, with the highest number of participants ever! Children and teens found valuable community in their grief. We have made significant strides towards serving East Palo Alto in a deeper way, as you will read below. With over 100 program volunteers donating thousands of hours of service, we continue to be there for our community when loss occurs.

In addition to a year of accomplishments, it was a year of transitions. We have said farewell and good luck to many long-time staff members and hello to new faces.

Former Executive Director, Cyndy Ainsworth moved to Italy (yes we are all a bit jealous) and Jim Bronson, former CORE Program Director, retired to Ashland, Oregon. We said farewell and good luck to Liz Powell, former Youth and Family Program Director, as she opens her own therapy practice. These farewells have created new opportunities for some fantastic staff members. Leading the agency as Executive Director is Michael Donohue, who brings a wealth of nonprofit and business experience to take Kara to new heights. We welcome Jonathan Frecceri as the new CORE Program Director. Jonathan has been a therapy intern at Kara since 2009 and brings tremendous energy and organization to the CORE program. Already he has revamped program evaluation and intake processes and has overseen a significant expansion of services to East Palo Alto (30% of CORE clients were from East Palo Alto last year, a 600% increase over the prior year). We congratulate Beth Keller, previously the Youth and Family Program Assistant Director and Director of Camp Erin, who has been promoted to Program Director. Beth joined the staff in 2005 after serving as a volunteer for seven years in a variety of peer support roles. We also welcome Deb Gitlin, joining our staff as the Youth and Family Assistant Director after over three years as a Kara volunteer and bringing 20 years of experience working with children in education.

In addition, we are excited about a new direction for our therapy intern program, which serves Kara clients who experience complicated grief. Our therapy interns will now be working with each program within Kara for six month periods to learn the ins-and-outs of grief therapy to targeted populations – children and families, adults, and communities experiencing crises. Not only will this provide invaluable training and experience to the interns, but will allow our peer support services and therapy services to inform one another and will provide additional staff support to each of the programs.

(Continued on page 30)

(continued from page 29)



Program Outcomes FY2011

Individual Client Outcomes

Our goal was to achieve at least 80% in each objective.

- 81% of clients reported improved physical health since receiving Kara's services.
- 87% of clients reported improved emotional health since receiving Kara's services.
- 89% of clients reported improved mental health since receiving Kara's services.
- 76% of clients reported that their ability to relate to others was recovered since receiving Kara's services.
- 94% of clients receiving five or more psychotherapy sessions increased their level of functioning.

Crisis Response and Grief Education Client Outcomes

The goal for the CORE Program was that as a result of services, 80% of clients would meet the following objectives. We are happy to report that we have far exceeded our objectives.

- 100% of clients who received crisis intervention and responded to our survey (35%) reported that their organization was well prepared or extremely well prepared for dealing with the immediate impact of their recent loss.
- 100% of clients who received grief education and responded to our survey (56%) reported that their organization was well prepared or extremely well prepared for dealing with future grief or loss.

Clients Served – 3,322
Service Hours – 18,226
Volunteer Hours – 9,698

Peer Counseling
225
Support Groups
491
Family Support
85
Camp Erin
78
Crisis Response
1,305
Grief Education
533
Therapy
85
Community Events
520



2011 confirmand Anita Silver with her mentor, Anne Irons



2011 Confirmation Participants (L-R) Anita Silver, Morgan Keller, Katelyn Simmons, Chloe Patterson, & Claire Jensenrose



2011 Confirmation Participants (L-R) Alex Iyer, Tommy Evans-Barton, Colin Patterson, Nicky Ravishankar, Matthew Keller, & Drew Keller