

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church 2007 Annual Report

The Rector's Report

2007: A Grace Odyssey

The Christian Church is the community of those who by baptism, faith, and Eucharistic communion share in the ministry and death of Jesus Christ and thereupon live in the hope for the new life of the Resurrection.

Wolfhart Pannenberg
An Introduction to Systematic Theology

Every year is similar in that it makes the annual journey through the liturgical calendar observing and celebrating the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. However, every year also has its own character, i.e. events which give it a special flavor. This was especially true of 2007 because - in addition to everything else - it was a Jubilee year during which fifty years of parish life would be celebrated. What follows will be my attempt to recap the year and highlight those happenings in our parish church which made the year just past so memorable.

At the annual meeting held on January 28, 2007, those present (85) would elect Terri Denicke, Mike Dobbs, and Diana Howarth to serve three year vestry terms. The retiring members were Jim Howe, Debbie Palmer, and Carrie Weisgerber. Due to reapportionment in the diocese, St. Barnabas' would now be represented by three convention delegates instead of five. Those who would serve in 2007 would be Karen Birr, Harry, Goff, and David Sinclair. Another important piece of business was the adoption of the 2007 balanced budget in the amount of \$184,526. During the previous year, the books were closed on December 31 with a deficit of \$57. Early on, 2007 promised to be an interesting financial year for St. Barnabas' because of several factors which will be discussed shortly.

Ash Wednesday fell on February 21 and opened to door to the penitential Season of Lent. As has become our custom, we joined with the people of Living Christ Lutheran Church (ELCA) for Wednesday evening dinners and worship. Offering from the three services at St. Barnabas' were sent to Episcopal Relief & Development. Also during Lent, members of the Youth Group participated in a 30 hour famine overnight sponsored by the Diocese of Missouri.

The Men's Club hosted the annual St. Patrick's Day dinner on March 17th. Early in the year, the "Croppettes" (women from St. Barnabas' who do scrap booking) began work on memory albums for the upcoming 50th Anniversary celebration. They began by soliciting pictures from every decade of the existence of the parish. The fruits of their work remain on display in the parish hall.

Confirmation was held at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, May 12. The Rector presented Ethan Grames, Andrea Lair, Andrew Lair, and Kimberley Boyd to the bishop to receive the sacrament of confirmation. Kimberley Boyd was also honored during the year by the American Red Cross and other groups for her quick action when her father suffered a serious asthma attack at their home. Kimberley called 911 and administered CPR until the paramedics arrived.

In June the lease for the U.S. Cellular tower was signed and the parish began receiving monthly income on June 28. On July 11, a crane lifted the pieces of a 11 foot cellular tower into place and St. Barnabas entered the high tech age. This activity was the culmination of a more than year long process of lease negotiation between U.S. Cellular and St. Barnabas'. Members

of the team who represented St. Barnabas' were William Ross, Terri Denicke, and the Rector. The Chancellor of the diocese, Mr. Harold Burroughs, worked very hard to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion.

On another front, planning for the installation of a columbarium continued. The project chairman was and remains Wayne Robbins assisted by Jay Burnham.

St. Barnabas' celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the parish as a worshipping community on the weekend of April 28-29. On Saturday, an open house was held in the parish hall from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Mayor Robert Lowery and his wife attended and he presented the Rector with a key to the city. The Rector read letters of congratulations from Bishop William Jones, Bishop Hays H. Rockwell, and the first Vicar, the Rev. Albert Nelius. The Rev. John Good who served as Rector from 1976 to 1987 was in attendance with his wife Norma. On Sunday, during the festive Service, the Rev. Mr. Good read a narration during the performance of a special musical piece composed by Bruce Vantine for the occasion of the 25th anniversary celebration. It was a great weekend and illustrated the fact of how important the existence of this parish is in the lives of many people. The 50th Anniversary committee which planned the weekend was chaired by Debbie Palmer, Cindy Vantine, and Terri Denicke. Thank you very much, ladies!

Katie Garnett had submitted her resignation as parish secretary prior to the annual meeting in January. She would leave her employment at St. Barnabas' at the end of May. Before she left, the Rector hired Amy Walling to replace her. Katie and her girls, Ariel and Amber (the Rector's little buddy) moved to Fort Carson, Colorado in early June to join Katie's husband who is stationed there.

In July, 2007, the parish paid off the mortgage on the building addition. This was a major accomplishment! St. Barnabas' never missed a mortgage payment and never failed to pay its full diocesan assessment on time during the 15 years of the mortgage period. Way to go, St. Barnabas'!!

On Sunday, July 29, Jim Hollenberg, President of the St. Barnabas' Men's Club presented Paige Burnham and Katie Kibler each with a check for \$500 to be used for their education. Both of these girls are excellent students!

On November 3, the parish once again held its annual Holiday Dinner and ECW Bake Sale. Diana Howarth chaired this event for the second straight year.

During the Season of Advent, the parish joined together with the people of Living Christ Lutheran Church for three Advent Wednesday evening sessions of dinner and worship. St. Barnabas sent the offering, \$325, to Episcopal Relief & Development.

It should be noted that the parish did well financially during 2007. St. Barnabas' ended up the year with a budget surplus in excess of \$10,000. Amazing! This unexpected windfall happened for a number of reasons not the least of which were the addition to the budget of the cell tower income and the disappearance of the monthly mortgage payment. All in all, it was an interesting year financially!

This then has been a quick look at some of the highlights of the year 2007. Much more could be written about this landmark twelve months in the life of this parish. Thanks to the congregation for making it memorable.

St. Barnabas' is blessed with an excellent music program! I think that the choir is stronger today than it ever has been during my eighteen years here. The numbers are certainly up. Thanks to Leah Bruehl, Music Director; and Cindy Vantine, Organist for another great year! Special thanks to Cindy for her work with the children's choir!

Worship

A former bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Richard Emrich of Michigan, once wrote that "the central and most important mark of a healthy parish church is worship." St. Barnabas' continues to offer two services on Sunday with the exception of the three summer months. In 2007, there were a total of 88 Sunday services: 81 services of Holy Communion and 7 services of Morning Prayer. Additionally, there were 16 weekday celebrations of the Eucharist and 16 weekday celebrations of Morning & Evening Prayer. There were 35 private services of Holy Communion in nursing homes, hospitals, etc. There were also 19 weekday services of Morning & Evening Prayer.

During the year, the Rector read the Burial Office for long time member Cora Lee Walters. She was 92. A downside in the area of worship during 2007 was the fact that the average Sunday attendance (ASA) declined from 103 in 2006 to 95 in 2007. This was due to a great number of factors too numerous to mention.

St. Barnabas' has earned a reputation in the Diocese of Missouri of being a parish that does liturgy well! This is due to the fact that we have the active and committed involvement of a great number of parishioners in the worship. My thanks to all the altar guild members, our talented choir, the liturgists, lectors, ushers, acolytes, Sunday School teachers and Sunday Bursars without whose participation, meaningful worship experiences would not be possible.

Conclusion

Thanks to everyone for an exciting and deeply meaningful year. We will - I hope - remember for a long time the year 2007 as the year when we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the parish. What we in reality were celebrating was not the fact that there has been a church building here for about fifty years, but the great number of committed people whose lives of Christian service over the span of those fifty years have created a great tradition and have made this parish the wonderful place that it is. I salute you all!

Senior Warden's Report

Serving as senior warden for two years has been a privilege, and this certainly has been an eventful year in the life of the parish. The 50th Anniversary events were splendid and the high note of the year, I think. On a slightly less positive note, we explored going to one service on Sundays due to declining attendance. The parish responded to the committee's survey with thoughtful feedback and concerns and ultimately decided that it wasn't ready for this step.

Financially, St. Barnabas' finds itself in reasonably good shape thanks to the dual windfalls of paying off the mortgage and the cell tower income. While we're not really that much further ahead, at least the wolf has been beaten back from the door for now. The finance committee continues to work hard at keeping the parish afloat and to plan for the future. A more detailed budget analysis is elsewhere in this report, so I will move on to what has been near and dear to me in the last two years: outreach.

St. Barnabas' has continued to reach beyond our walls to feed Christ's sheep. Under Ron Grames' leadership, monetary contributions to TEAM are significantly above budget and we had several successful initiatives for food collection. The children's competition in the Sunday School netted 80+ cans of food and the special Thanksgiving drive exceeded the goal of 50 paper bags (a bigger measure than we usually use). Thank you to Lynn Grames and Liz Heckman for organizing the kids and to Roy Schaefer for bringing all that food down to TEAM. I'm sure it was all much appreciated by those who received the groceries.

We also fed pizza and cake to the children in detention last year as we hosted the birthday parties. I'm very excited to see Mike Dobbs raising money with the planners to further support this ministry.

We continue to meet and exceed the goal of dedicating .07% of our budget to the Millennium Development Goals with the collections from the Wednesday night Lent and Advent services. This year we had the honor of contributing to the nutrition center Jonathan Burton spoke so eloquently about in April as well as to the education of the children of Lui, Sudan. I noted recently that the diocese has recognized our contributions to the companion diocese program in the online version of *iSeek*.

One of my initiatives is as of yet incomplete. I'm still working with Harry Goff and Holly Garrett on new vestments for the Liturgists and Acolytes; many thanks to all who have contributed to the fundraising through the Thanksgiving Bake Sale – especially the ECW, which has stepped up and thrown itself into this project with such enthusiasm. Their contribution of \$500 is a significant chunk of the money we need. I hope to get this wrapped up early in 2008.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve St. Barnabas'.

Rita Chapman
Senior Warden

Scrip

At present, we maintain **SCRIP** on-hand for immediate purchase each Sunday for Shop 'N Save and Dierberg's; Shell Oil, Mobil and BP; Imo's, Applebee's, Panera's (St. Louis Bread), Bob Evans, Starbucks; Barnes & Noble, Walgreen's, Lowe's, Kohl's, K-Mart and Office Max. Gift Certificates make fantastic birthday, anniversary, Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduation, or just because I like you gifts. In 2006, Schnucks terminated their participation in Scrip program and began offering E-scrip. Many of our members have signed up for this program. If you have not picked up your E-Scrip card for Schnucks, please do so and began swiping that card every time you shop at Schnucks.

There are numerous other Merchants from which to choose, so please consider using **SCRIP** to fill your gift shopping needs. Whether you purchase **SCRIP** to give as a gift certificate, or take it to a Merchant to purchase a gift, let the dollars you spend on gifts this coming year provide two gifts – one to your friend or loved one and the second to St. Barnabas' - your Church.

Terri Denicke

Hunger Fund

The Hunger Fund is an important part of St. Barnabas' out-reach ministry, a fact reflected in its status as a separate pledge category. Donations exceeded pledged amount this year by a huge fifty-two percent with a total of \$4363.22 given and disbursed. That is a fifty percent increase over last year's giving.

Funds received are generally split evenly between North County TEAM and The Diocesan Task Force for the Hungry, with a small amount – approximately \$250 – held in the fund at any time for discretionary use by Father Tudor for the assistance of parishioners or to address special needs. Some of the money was also a special fund collected for and given to a local family in need at Christmas.

As most of you must be aware, given the frequent reminders and appeals at the late service, collecting food items for North County TEAM is the other significant part of our hunger ministry. Donations have varied from month to month, but have always been enough to make the appearance of Roy Shaffer an appreciated sight at TEAM each month after Hunger Sunday. The outpouring of generosity in response to Rita Chapman's challenge to fill bags with groceries at Thanksgiving was particularly gratifying, with fifty-seven bags of groceries given. By the way, here is a special "thank you" to Debbie Haefner for her help with that project. And the Sunday School collection challenge, before Advent, brought in 86 items. The winners were the K-6 class. Thanks to Rita for the idea and to Liz Heckman and Lynn Grames for making it happen.

Altogether, according to Roy's accounting, there were 293 bags and fifteen cases of food delivered to North County TEAM. This great record gives us a lot of momentum going into the new year. As I suggested last year, a goal which would nice to reach in 2008 would be an average of one bag of donated food from each family each week. That would help significantly to alleviate the chronic shortage of items to distribute experienced by North County TEAM.

So, "thanks" to all parishioners who donate food and funds. Let's keep up the good work and see if we can't build on it!

Ronald Grames
Hunger Fund Vestry Liaison

Room At The Inn

We wish to thank those people who volunteered this past year:

Prepared the meals - Mary and John Anselmo, Rob Tudor, Kathy Smith, Diana Howarth, Dave Palmer, the Birr's.

Drivers - Teri Burnham, Clark Burton, Roland Dickhans, and Bill Wardle.

Chaperones - {Stayed over night} –Terri Denicke, David Sinclair, LaWanda and Aaron Armstong.

Hosts - Mary and John Anselmo, Nichole, Jim and Karen Birr, Elizabeth, and Chris Heckman, Staci Bryant and Kathy Smith.

Laundry - Karen Birr

You will notice the same people volunteered throughout the year. This program would not be a success if it weren't for the volunteers.

The purpose of the "Room at the Inn" ministry outreach program is to provide a safe, warm (or cool) place and an evening of fellowship for homeless families. The participants and their families are trying to reestablish themselves in a permanent home while looking for employment and sending their children to school. St. Barnabas' opened their doors in 2007 for up to ten people each time when we hosted – March 24, June 23, August 25 and September 22.

St. Barnabas' provides an evening meal, a place to sleep, a place to socialize and a morning breakfast, using the parish hall and undercroft. Two or more volunteers drive the guests from and to Room at the Inn Headquarters near DePaul Hospital. Volunteers prepare an evening meal while others (Hosts) socialize with the children and adult guests. Two chaperones (male and female) stay the night and wake the guests the next morning to a wonderful breakfast that is usually prepared by other volunteers.

Remember what Jesus said in Matthew 25:35-40

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Truly I say to you, as you did it to the least of my brethren, you did it to me."

Jim and Karen Birr Stepped down as coordinators of this outreach program the last time we hosted. The Birr's took the responsibility of coordinating this outreach program when Mike Dobbs stepped down in 2004. Karen, however, has been a participant for many years. It was their hope someone would come forward and take over this program. To this date, no one has come forward. Sister Stephanie, who heads the shelter, was very disappointed when Karen had to tell her St. Barnabas' no longer wishes to participate.

Episcopal City Mission

The Episcopal City Mission provides an outreach ministry to youths incarcerated in two juvenile facilities in St. Louis County and one in the city of St. Louis. ECM provides, religious services, counseling, social programs and a monthly birthday party for these residents. St. Barnabas has and continues to serve as one of four hosts for these parties.

St. Barnabas hosted three parties in 2007 and one in January 2008. The parties are held at the Family Courts facility in Clayton. We served an average of 40/50 residents per party, both male and female. Our parties were held in February, May, and September. The church provided soda, pizza, and ice cream. These items were bought with donations made by members of the parish.

A big thank you is extended to the parish for its continued support both in money and the many articles for personal hygiene. Thanks to Rich and Liz, Rita Chapman, Terri Denicke, Karen Birr, Sheron Howe, Bob & Carrie Weisgeber, David Sinclair, David Daniels, and Mike Dobbs for serving as hosts at the parties.

A special mention and thanks to Mike Dobbs for his contribution of the proceeds from sales of the daily prayer and purpose calendars/planners to this ministry.

We anticipate hosting two additional parties this year and additional help is always welcome. It has been and continues to be a very satisfying and rewarding ministry.

Faithfully, Harry B. Goff

United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering is a long standing tradition in the Episcopal Church. It began as a part of mission efforts of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Mission in 1889! Every coin from our blue envelopes is given away in grants. We, at St. Barnabas', have shared in these grants.

Our Spring and Fall ingathering in 2007 totaled \$619.62. Sharing our monetary gifts will help someone, somewhere. It is a part of our heritage and an important part of our Church history. Thanks be to God!

Sara Henry, U.T.O coordinator

Lectors

The persons serving as lectors at all services are responsible for Old and New Testament readings. These readings often contain words that are difficult to pronounce and sometimes hard to discern placement of emphasis. The group of persons serving as lectors have done a masterful job in handling this sometimes difficult task. The enthusiastic and upbeat tone set by the lectors serves as a meter for the service.

In 2007 an outstanding group of persons served as lectors, they included, Eldon Beran, Ruth Eggers, Sarah Henry, Carolyn Stout and Bill Wardle at the 8AM service and at 10:45, Dottie Bertolino, Brenda Bobo-Fisher, Paige Burnham, Teri Burnham, Summer Birr, Jonathan Burton, Teri Denicke, Mary Dobbs, Holly Garrett, Harry Goff, Lynn Grames, Ronald Grames, Sharon Love, Cam Murphy, Joy Nwanganga, Samuel Nwaobasi, and Harry Ragland.

Thanks to you all for making our services so rich and meaningful. Voices are always needed, if you wish to add your voice, contact Harry Goff or the parish secretary.

Faithfully, Harry B. Goff

Liturgists

The position of liturgists has been and is becoming a more important part of our services. Persons performing as liturgists are responsible for assisting the Rector in carrying out the service. At the early service the liturgists is responsible for lighting the altar candles, reading of the Psalm, prayers of The People, leading the Creed, insuring that bells are rung at the specified time and assisting with communion, and delivering the dismissal. Duties at the later service do not include lighting of candles or ringing of bells but do include carrying the book for reading of the Gospel. In the absence of the Rector or visiting Priest the liturgist leads the congregation in Morning Prayer and delivering an appropriate message. This year we saw an increase in the times Morning Prayer was read and sung.

The persons serving this year have done a superb job and are to be thanked for their participation in this ministry. The St. Barnabas Liturgists are, Millie Beran, Karen Birr, Teri Burnham, Clark Burton, Michael Dobbs, Holly Garrett, Harry Goff, Lynn Grames, Ronald Grames, Liz Heckman, Sheron Howe, Sharon Love, Lana Maggart, David Sinclair, Carolyn Stout, and Terry Toolen.

If you are interested in joining this distinguished group, contact Father Tudor, Harry Goff or leave your name with the secretary.

Thank You for all you have done!

Faithfully,
Harry Goff

Children's Liturgists

It is the job of the Children's Chapel Liturgists to lead the younger children of our parish in worship, in the undercroft chapel, during Rich's sermon. On most Sundays this year there were either no preschoolers and kindergarteners in the nursery or the one or two kids were just not very interested in leaving the nursery to attend. The two parishioners scheduled to lead these services are ready each week, and during the fall, when we did have children in the nursery, we told stories, asked questions, read books, played games centered around Bible stories, and try to keep the young ones engaged. After a summer of reflection, we decided to suspend the services until our nursery kids got a bit older, or we got some more of them.

Still, a warm "thank you" to the liturgists who served during 2007: Andria Sinclair, Dave Palmer, Debbie Haefner, John Palmer, Lynn Grames, Mike Dobbs, Rita Chapman, Ronald Grames, and Teri Burnham. The problem certainly wasn't any lack of enthusiasm or skill on their part.

If you know any more young families with Chapel-aged kids, drag them to church. They are the future of our parish. And if you would like to be a part of this ministry to them, when we resume, please see Rich Tudor or Ron Grames.

Ronald Grames
Children's Liturgy Coordinator

Acolyte Master's Report

Young people aged 11 and above are encouraged to offer their services to our worship in the Acolyte program. During the regular program year, three acolytes serve on the altar at the 10:45 service. During the summer, only one acolyte serves and does the work of all three acolytes. If anyone is interested in joining this rewarding ministry, please contact Father Tudor or me.

Thank you to all the acolytes who have dedicated their time and talent this past year: Brittany Ashby, Nichole Birr, Summer Birr, Brian Boyd, Kimberly Boyd, Ana Chapman, Chelsea Garbs, Ethan Grames, Meri Grames, Ryden Grames, Abby Haefner, Katie Kibler, Alaina Lair, Andrea Lair, and Rosie Nwanganga

Holly Garrett
Acolyte Warden

Babysitters

We are also very appreciative of the youth who baby-sit on Sunday mornings. They are given a nominal compensation for this service. The youth volunteers are assigned by Holly Garrett and they are coordinated with the acolyte schedule. Babysitters must be 12 years of age or older. See Holly if you are interested in being added to the list of youth babysitters. The volunteers for 2007 were: Brittany Ashby, Summer Birr, Kimberly Boyd, Paige Burnham, Christopher Heckman, Alan Lair, Kelly Snider, Chelsea Garbs, and Rosie Nwanganga.

We were once again fortunate this year to have several volunteers who help the youth babysitters on Sunday mornings. Thanks to all of you for your help in 2007: Teri Burnham, Terri Denicke, Geneva Cather, Arbie Hollenberg, Pat Hoppe, Rick Lair, Julie Manton, John Palmer, and Liz Tudor. Since there are not many small children currently attending Sunday services, we have suspended the adult volunteer program. If attendance of small children increase, we will then start the adult babysitters to assist the youth.

Debbie Palmer

St. Barnabas' Children's Choir

The Barnabas Children's Choir continues to be the musical arm of Christian education and provides a musical offering for Sunday worship once a month. We enjoy using our tone bells on occasional anthems.

Our favorite pieces this year: the musical version of the Books of the New Testament; a "stomp-style" piece "Make a Joyful Noise" performed with kitchen instruments; and the Christmas musical "The Unfriendly Beasts" assisted by narrators Chris Heckman and Luke Burnham from the high school Sunday School class.

In February, the choir hosted the 9th annual St. Barnabas ice-skating party at the Eagan Center.

Choir participants: Kimberly and Brian Boyd, Ana Chapman, Ethan and Meri Grames, Alaina, Andrea and Andrew Lair, Nicole Nwanganga, Kelsey Sinclair, and occasional visitors who are always welcome.

Thank you to all the parents for helping your children to be faithful choir members. It makes a big difference as we prepare our musical offerings.

Cindy Vantine
Director

Adult Christian Education

During 2007, the adult class under the leadership of Clark Burton which meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am did two New Testament Bible studies: 1 John and the Gospel of Mark.

In September, the Rector began a Wednesday study on the 27 books of the New Testament using taped lectures by Professor Bart Ehrman, a well known NT scholar whose particular specialty is the question of the historical Jesus. The class begins with Evening Prayer and then moves to the lecture and subsequent questions and discussion.

Christian Education

The Sunday School Classes are organized into two groups; the Middle/High school students and the Elementary school students. Our Middle/High school students are under the guidance of Lynn Grames, and have wrapped up their discussions of Christian themes in the Harry Potter book series with the publication of the seventh and final book. They have conducted a Bible overview and reviewed the Church calendar/seasons. They were also involved in a competition with the younger class in "building" a food pyramid of T.E.A.M. donations. The Elementary school class achieved a last minute victory in the race with an assist from the congregation. Over 80 food items were collected.

The Elementary school age class utilizes a combination of the Godly Play and Good Shepherd curriculums. The schedule for this year has a group of Old Testament stories in the Fall, followed by the Advent Stories. The Winter story schedule will be parables from the New Testament and the story series for Lent and Easter. Both classes participated in the Christmas Pageant. This year's presentation was the story of Jesus' birth as told in Luke, with the addition of versus from Isaiah and Micah that foretold the events or people involved with the coming of Christ.

The 2007 Saturday Vacation Bible School (VBS) explored the power of faith and trust in the Lord with a program titled "Footprints", based on the poem by Margaret Powers. Our activities had a sand and water theme and included a treasure hunt for shells, sand art, and decorating a picture frame to show off our Footprints poem. Lana Maggart, Sheron Howe and I had a great time leading the children through the day.

Elizabeth Heckman
Christian Educator Coordinator

St. Barnabas' Adult Choir

This year has been a highly successful year for the St. Barnabas Adult Choir!! We received numerous compliments about our performance at Lessons and Carols, and we have also received much praise about our newly purchased choral anthems. We were fortunate enough to purchase four new songs this year; three have already been performed. Along with purchasing new pieces for our Choral Library, we have also been purchasing additional copies of previously owned music so that each member has an original copy of music. Adding new pieces to our Choral Library and replenishing existing pieces is important to the success of the choir, however, it can be an expensive endeavor. Therefore, our financial goal for the upcoming year is to raise more money so that we will be able to continue purchasing music for the Choral Library.

Members of the 2006-2007 St. Barnabas' Choir:

Accompanist: Cindy Vantine **Sopranos:** Diana Howarth, Lynn Grames, Patti Rauh, Sharon Love, Dottie Bertolino **Altos:** Cam Murphy, Deb Palmer, Sheron Howe, Mary Dobbs, Andrea Sinclair **Tenors:** Carrie Weisgerber, Dave Palmer, Lou Murphy **Basses:** Clark Burton, Jim Howe, Dusty Hassler, Ron Grames, Ryden Grames, Bob Weisgerber, Tony Bertolino.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leah Rachelle Milton, Director

St. Barnabas Altar Guild

The St. Barnabas' Altar Guild consists of a small group of dedicated women who do their job quietly and unobtrusively.

Present Membership includes: Teri Burnham, Diana Howarth, Faith Miller, Judy Skinker, Connie Stewart, Liz Tudor, and Janet Smith.

Janet Smith
Director

Gourmet Group

Gourmet Group is a perfect opportunity to make wonderful, supportive friends. The group usually gathers on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Each month the host for that month provides the meeting place, entrée, tea and coffee. The other participants provide the support dishes. The dinner will often have a theme. If there is any month not signed for, we enjoy going out to a local eatery. No need to miss a party opportunity! Remember guests are always welcome anytime. Just contact one of the group. 2007 hosts are, Mary and John Anselmo, Donna and Gary Clark, Holly Garrett, Sue and Bruce Morhaus, Linda and Tom Ley, Karen and Matt Matuszewski, Phylis Peluso and Joe Pessamenti, Sylvia and Wayne Robbins, Donna and Rich Robertson and last but not least, Roy Schaefer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anselmo

Parish Outings

There were four organized parish outings during 2007. They included:

- February 23 – Eagle watching on the Great River Road and lunch at the Whitmore Hotel in Brussels, Illinois. What a lunch!
- May 24 – A visit to the Crown Valley Winery in Clarksville, Missouri.
- July 27 – A night at the Fairmount Race Track in Cahokia, Illinois.
- September 13 – A trip by bus to Kimmswick, Missouri for lunch at the Blue Owl restaurant (famous for its deserts) and then a return to the arch in downtown St. Louis on a riverboat.

Thanks to Bill Wardle for organizing the Crown Valley Winery and Kimmswick trips! We are looking forward to more fun in 2008!

Friday Lunches

The lunches held on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the nine program months continues to be very popular in 2007. The purpose of these parish meals is to offer a mealtime fellowship opportunity to those who might otherwise be eating alone. The cooks who make all of this possible are Mary Anselmo, Millie Beran, Sara Henry, Judy Skinker, and Terri Toolen, the dessert lady. During the summer months, the Rector and Eldon Beran occasionally barbeque hamburgers and brats on our parish grill on the patio.

Youth Group

The goal of the St. Barnabas Youth Group is to focus on fellowship, faith, fun while finding a way to give back to the community through projects like our Adopt-A-Highway road pick up. Membership is open to students in grades 7 – 12. Activities in 2007 were varied and ranged from the action-packed all night lock in at the Chesterfield Athletic Club/Doubletree Inn to the edge of your seat performance of *Dracula* at the Repertory Theatre. Fundraising events included the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Apple Picking, and the sale of “fabulous merchandise” at the Fourth of July festivities.

Members included Brittany Ashby, Nichole Birr, Summer Birr, Kim Boyd, Luke Burnham, Max Burnham, Paige Burnham, Ethan Grames, Ryden Grames, Chris Heckman, Alaina Lair, Allen Lair, Andrea Lair and Andrew Lair. Officers for the 2007-2008 school year are President: Luke Burnham, Vice President: Max Burnham; Secretary: Alaina Lair; Treasurer: Ryden Grames. Adult sponsors include Teri Burnham, Jim and Karen Birr and Liz Heckman.

Bridge Group

The St. Barnabas Bridge Group meets the third Saturday of each month in the Parish Hall from 1:30 to 4:30. This is strictly "Party Bridge" (no blood-letting) with a range of abilities from beginner to proficient. We always have at least two tables of Bridge and often three. It's an enjoyable get-together which we all look forward to once a month. You are welcome to give us a try. If interested, call either Yvonne Jones or Sheron Howe.

Beautification Committee

Design and planting of shrubs and perennials in three major locations – the gazebo, Parish Hall entrance area, and west parking area, were initiated this past spring. The hose was constantly moved to keep all watered during the extremely dry summer with only a few losses. We also installed a hard surface around the announcement sign and shrubs at the east side of the patio.

Our projects for this year will be the design of the meditation garden, enhancement of these three areas, and installing additional trees and shrubs on the front and west lots.

Your committee is Jim Hoefener, Mary Anselmo, and Sheron Howe, with assistance from Jim Howe, Roland Dickhans, Bill Wardle, Lou Murphy and John Anselmo. Please notify us if we can add you to our Dirty Hands Group!

Jim Hoefener

Pledge Registrar and Bursars

We are fortunate to have Tony Bertolino as pledge registrar to tally up all the contributions to the church and provide statements to the members of the parish. We also have a dedicated group of bursars who record the contributions and prepare the deposits each week. This year the bursars were Eldon Beran, Dusty Hassler, Jim Hollenberg, John Palmer, Dave Sinclair, Liz Tudor, Carrie Weisgerber and Bob Weisgerber.

Web Team

Just a reminder that the St. Barnabas' Parish Web site is a 24-7 outreach to the community. Supported by a continuing gift from Jim and Karen Birr, it is developed and maintained by Ron Grames with support and encouragement from Jim Birr and Ryden Grames. We have worship, activity and service schedules which are kept updated, as well as pictures, maps, directions, biographies of staff, an introduction to our Christian Education program and links to other sites of interest. Also included are an online version of the *Salter* and a year's worth of Rich's sermons and other writings.

This year we added a special page giving a brief history of the parish in celebration of our 50th anniversary. We also added a page for the adult choir, which includes information for perspective members and a schedule of music to be performed for our current members. There are also downloadable music files of many of the pieces we perform for those who want to practice at home. These are produced for the Web by Dave Palmer. And we had a special Christmas at St. Barnabas' page, with pictures of the greening of the church and an invitation for the reader to join us in all our activities. The worship schedule page had pictures of the altar area and the organ with Christmas decorations. A page will also be added for Easter festivities.

We are always looking for new material. We have an idea to create a "what I love about St. Barnabas'" page which we will be exploring. And if you have other ideas for the site, please let the "Web team" know. As we've said before: we have lots of "cyberspace." Let's let the world know why St. Barnabas'-Florissant is special.

St. Barnabas' Website: www.stbarnabas-stl.org

Ron Grames
Jim Birr

Episcopal Church Women

Seeking

Sharing

Serving

All Episcopal women are E.C.W. members at St. Barnabas'. E.C.W. meets September through May on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We are blessed with a small but mighty group of women. Attending members: Mary Anselmo is president, Sylvia Robbins is Treasurer, Terri Toolen is Secretary, Andrea Bogue leads us in prayer at the start and conclusion of our meetings and collects U.T.O. and C.P.C. money. Sara Henry coordinates the Quiet Circle and U.T.O., Karen Birr sends cards to the youth, especially on their birthdays, Betty Callies joins us when her health permits, Lana Maggart helps us where ever and when ever we ask her. Linda Brinkman and Lorraine Horton are our shining stars as cashiers at our fund raisers. Priscilla Bauer has been with us in spirit. Art needs her now. Bless you Priscilla.

Much effort was put into the Parish 50th Anniversary weekend on April 28th-29th. So many women helped make this a big celebration. Thank you Sylvia for spearheading the purchase of the St. Barnabas' cups and pencils. Each family received a beautiful foil bag containing these items. E.C.W. also gave a beautiful Washington Cathedral Rose window umbrella and tote. We also provided and served the punch on the 29th. Among the memory books Lana and Mary provided the E.C.W. journey and photo's celebrating many fun activities our women have participated in.

There have been many turkey dinners, bake sales, spring and fall bazaars, Shrove Tuesday pancake dinners, St. Patrick's Day dinners, Quiet Circle meals, Cornerstone Chorale lunches, Diocesan lunches, Pastoral lunches and too many projects to count.

Our E.C.W. members, Karen and Sylvia participated at Province V, May 4th-6th. Karen also represented Missouri Diocesan Board as President and Sylvia and Lana as members at large. U.T.O. has ingatherings May and October for the Parish, plus we collect each month at our meetings. C.P.C. also is collected at our monthly meetings. These monies provide scholarships through the Diocesan Board to deserving women. Fall and Spring we collect good clothing for under priviledged women entering the work force through connections for Success. June, July, and August, E.C.W. tidied the old E.C.W. storage area. September, we started plans to donate money to replace robes for the acolytes, readers, liturgists and crucifers. This was accomplished with proceeds from the November bake sale. November is a busy month. E.C.W. also sponsors the Grace Hill Mitten Tree and we fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Banners for the altar are an ongoing project. As always we remember all our good works are able to be completed through the kindness and generosity of our friends and Parish family.

On behalf of active E.C.W. members, I invite all of you to join us anytime. Our meetings begin with a short service at 9:30 a.m. and ends with a lovely lunch. Maybe you could join us when we eat out in May or December. Just always know how welcome you are.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anselmo

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church Women
Financial Report 2007

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	Projected 2008 Budget
Administration			
Hospitality, Luncheon Guests	\$ 60.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 60.00
UTO Envelopes	25.00	0.00	25.00
President's Discretionary Fund	40.00	30.00	40.00
ECW Postage/Office Supplies/Cards	25.00	0.00	25.00
SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 150.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 150.00
Fair Share			
ECW Diocesan Budget	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
SUBTOTAL FAIR SHARE	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
ECW Project	\$ 300.00	\$ 139.62	\$ 300.00
SUBTOTAL ECW PROJECT	\$ 300.00	\$ 139.62	\$ 300.00
Whole Program Of The Church			
In The Parish			
Pledge to St. Barnabas Church	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Helping Hand / Quiet Circle	150.00	78.00	150.00
SUBTOTAL IN THE PARISH	\$ 750.00	\$ 678.00	\$ 750.00
In The Community			
Meals On Wheels – North County	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Florissant Valley Industries	25.00	25.00	25.00
T.E.A.M.	150.00	150.00	150.00
Room at the Inn	50.00	50.00	50.00
SUBTOTAL IN THE COMMUNITY	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00
In The Diocese			
Episcopal City Mission	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
ENS. Consolidated Neighborhood Services/Grace Hill	25.00	25.00	25.00
Hunger Task Force	100.00	100.00	100.00
Cathedral Flower Festival	50.00	0.00	50.00
SUBTOTAL IN THE DIOCESE	\$ 225.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 225.00
Samaritan's Purse	56.00	0.00	35.00
SUBTOTAL IN THE NATION & THE WORLD	\$ 131.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 115.00
BUDGET TOTAL	\$1,931.00	\$1,492.62	\$1,915.00

Treasurer's Report 2007

December 31, 2007

BALANCE SHEET

	31-Dec-07	31-Dec-06
Assets		
Cash		
Checking account	30,877.34	13,553.89
Money market account	8,515.65	8,491.71
Petty cash	20.00	20.00
	39,412.99	22,065.60
Endowment fund investments	128,281.21	123,224.80
	128,281.21	123,224.80
Fixed assets		
Land	22,500.00	22,500.00
Church building	176,379.51	176,379.51
Church addition	392,554.45	392,554.45
Furnishings	24,919.67	24,919.67
Furnishings addition	11,547.50	11,547.50
Landscaping	657.83	657.83
New sign & flag pole	3,641.80	3,641.80
	632,200.76	632,200.76
Total assets	799,894.96	777,491.16
Liabilities		
Mortgage	0.00	9,595.31
	0.00	9,595.31
Net Worth	799,894.96	767,895.85
Liabilities & Net Worth	799,894.96	777,491.16

CASH DETAIL

	31-Dec-07	31-Dec-06
Funds		
Operating	20,111.68	7,926.33
Capital	5,387.85	6,005.69
Endowment	1,648.95	928.95
Hunger	1,407.90	1,376.50
Memorial	933.86	1,316.79
Youth group	1,765.35	1,502.23
Men's club	279.83	1,079.90
Altar guild	2,780.92	2,938.92
Choir fund	244.44	1,392.84
Kitchen	1,010.65	925.05
50th anniversary fund	4,833.20	0.00
Columbarium fund	900.00	0.00
Scrip	(2,700.50)	(4,508.47)
In/Out	808.86	297.56
Total Cash	<u>39,412.99</u>	<u>21,182.29</u>

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
December 31, 2007

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT	2007	2007	2008
	Actual	Budget	Budget
RECEIPTS			
Pledge payments	148,802.10	156,478.00	155,456.00
Plate offerings	2,994.97	2,400.00	2,400.00
Non-pledge payments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Seasonal offerings	1,836.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Church group contributions	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Outside group contributions	1,555.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
Tower lease income	8,100.00	0.00	12,000.00
Endowment fund income	2,805.74	3,400.00	3,400.00
Script commission	3,359.70	2,000.00	2,000.00
Interest income	23.94	50.00	50.00
Other income	2,476.35	2,500.00	2,500.00
Total Operating Receipts	173,153.80	171,628.00	182,606.00
Debt reduction	9,716.00	9,716.00	0.00
Capital fund	3,950.00	0.00	3,260.00
Endowment fund	720.00	810.00	695.00
Hunger fund	4,363.22	2,862.00	3,226.00
Memorial fund	787.00	0.00	0.00
Youth group fund	263.12	0.00	0.00
Men's club fund	2,521.26	0.00	0.00
Altar guild fund	1,400.00	0.00	0.00
Choir fund	75.00	0.00	0.00
Kitchen fund	391.50	0.00	0.00
50th anniversary fund	7,298.00	0.00	0.00
Columbarium fund	900.00	0.00	0.00
Script receipts	67,613.00	0.00	0.00
In/out receipts	6,273.28	0.00	0.00
Total Non-Operating Receipts	106,271.38	13,388.00	7,181.00
Total Receipts	279,425.18	185,016.00	189,787.00

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
December 31, 2007

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT	2007	2007	2008
DISBURSEMENTS	Actual	Budget	Budget
Operating Expenses			
Stipend	43,039.08	43,039.00	44,330.00
Housing allowance	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,600.00
Auto allowance	5,925.96	5,926.00	6,104.00
Health, life etc	1,681.85	1,000.00	1,400.00
Pension premium	12,477.24	11,347.00	12,800.00
403(b)	(600.00)	0.00	0.00
Continuing education	0.00	500.00	500.00
Discretionary fund	0.00	200.00	200.00
Total Rector	82,524.13	82,012.00	85,934.00
Secretary	10,111.68	9,883.00	10,415.00
Organist	5,414.08	5,168.00	5,576.00
Organist replacement	150.00	300.00	300.00
Choir director	3,467.07	3,320.00	3,571.00
Parish nurse	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth babysitter	85.00	100.00	100.00
Salary taxes	1,515.63	1,605.00	1,519.00
Payroll fees	421.99		400.00
Workmen's comp	662.00	950.00	700.00
Total Other Personnel	21,827.45	21,326.00	22,581.00
Adult education	0.00	100.00	100.00
Church school	0.00	500.00	500.00
Total Christian Education	0.00	600.00	600.00

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
December 31, 2007

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT	2007 Actual	2007 Budget	2008 Budget
Advertising	120.00	100.00	100.00
Copier	3,064.93	3,100.00	3,100.00
Office supplies	1,766.40	1,600.00	1,800.00
Postage	838.00	1,000.00	800.00
Published music	285.45	300.00	300.00
Total Administration	<u>6,074.78</u>	<u>6,100.00</u>	<u>6,100.00</u>
Electric	4,252.60	5,000.00	5,000.00
Gas	4,305.94	5,500.00	5,500.00
Hauling	595.35	550.00	550.00
Telephone	1,613.00	2,000.00	1,800.00
Water & sewer	764.64	650.00	800.00
Total Utilities	<u>11,531.53</u>	<u>13,700.00</u>	<u>13,650.00</u>
Church insurance	8,565.01	11,600.00	8,959.00
Custodial services	3,525.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Grounds maintenance	2,698.28	5,000.00	5,000.00
Repairs & maintenance	2,085.90	4,000.00	4,000.00
Total Building Maintenance	<u>16,874.19</u>	<u>25,100.00</u>	<u>22,459.00</u>
Diocesan fair share	20,196.00	20,200.00	19,730.00
Convocation delegate	425.90	500.00	500.00
Outreach	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Outside Parish	<u>20,621.90</u>	<u>20,700.00</u>	<u>21,230.00</u>
Other	1,514.47	1,600.00	1,200.00
Total Other	<u>1,514.47</u>	<u>1,600.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Total Operating Expense	<u>160,968.45</u>	<u>171,138.00</u>	<u>173,754.00</u>

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TREASURER'S REPORT
December 31, 2007

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT	2007 Actual	2007 Budget	2008 Budget
Non-Operating Expense			
Mortgage	9,716.00	9,716.00	0.00
Capital fund	4,567.84	0.00	3,260.00
Endowment fund	0.00	810.00	695.00
Hunger fund	4,331.82	2,862.00	3,226.00
Memorial fund	1,169.93	0.00	0.00
Youth Group Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Men's club fund	3,321.33	0.00	0.00
Altar guild fund	1,558.00	0.00	0.00
Choir fund	1,223.40	0.00	0.00
Kitchen Fund	305.90	0.00	0.00
50th anniversary fund	2,464.80	0.00	0.00
Columbarium fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Script disbursements	65,805.03	0.00	0.00
In/out disbursements	5,761.98	0.00	0.00
Total Non-Operating Expense	100,226.03	13,388.00	7,181.00
 Total Expenses	 261,194.48	 184,526.00	 180,935.00
 SURPLUS (DEFICIT)			
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	12,185.35	490.00	8,852.00
Total Surplus (Deficit)	18,230.70	490.00	8,852.00

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT
 December 31, 2007

BALANCE SHEET

	31-Dec-07	31-Dec-06
Assets		
Cash		
A G Edwards	441.72	421.51
Dividend Growth		
Fund	0.00	0.00
Intermediate Term		
Bond Fund	0.00	0.00
	441.72	421.51
Mutual Funds		
Vanguard Dividend		
Growth	84,630.87	80,121.62
Vanguard		
Intermediate Bond	9,652.63	9,422.80
	94,283.50	89,544.42
Stocks		
Ameren UE	33,555.99	33,258.87
	33,555.99	33,258.87
Diocesan Investment		
Trust		
Cash Equivalents	0.00	0.00
Bond Fund	0.00	0.00
Equity Fund	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	128,281.21	123,224.80

ST. BARNABAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT
December 31, 2007

FINANCIAL CHANGE

Beginning balance	123,224.80
Purchases	549.91
Earnings	3,598.47
Withdrawals	(3,578.26)
Market adjustment	4,486.29
<hr/>	
Ending balance	<u><u>128,281.21</u></u>