

2008 Annual Report

First Baptist Church
of Palo Alto



305 North California Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
Tel: 650-327-0561
Fax: 650-327-3254

Pastor's Annual Report 2008

This has been year of significant transition at First Baptist as we have moved to a new form of church governance and seen key changes in staffing with the coming of our full time Church Administrator, Mike McGuire, and the leaving of our Christian Education Coordinator, Erica Quinn. In many ways, the new system of governance is taking hold and serving us well, though there are dimensions of that plan that still need fine tuning. Our Co-Moderators have worked well together; the new Council has labored long and hard, and, in most cases, the task team approach to doing ministry has been effective. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this process of change and to the rest of you who have shown patient support as we live into the new system.

It was sad to say farewell to Amelia Ma'afu, who served us well in the church office on a part-time basis. At the same time, it has been a joy to have Mike McGuire join our staff. His pleasant, easygoing manner, his willingness to take on the work – even when it has not been so pleasant, his understanding of churches and how they function, and his dedication to our congregation have already proved invaluable.

It was also sad to say farewell to Erica Quinn, who was our Christian Education Coordinator for 2 years. We benefited from Erica's creativity and her love for and commitment to our children. She has moved back to Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church where she is in her element, running a program for young adults.

I would be remiss if I did not say a word of thanks to Rosa, Maria and Javier who keep our buildings and grounds in order. We appreciate their good work and the good spirit they bring to caring for our facilities. And, of course, we are blessed to have Jan Gunderson as our Music Director. Her coordination of our music, direction of our dedicated choir, playing of our rapidly aging organ and piano, and generous and cooperative spirit are also invaluable.

Thanks also to all of you for being the First Baptist Church of Palo Alto. Our diverse and interesting community is our greatest asset. To be a community of faith is one of the prime reasons for the existence of a congregation. Many of you have been here for many years. You were baptized here, married here, raised families here, said farewell to loved ones here, worshiped God here, and found opportunities for ministry and mission here. There is no way to underestimate the value of this community as it has been, yes, but also as it is today in all its fragility and wonderment about the future.

You will see other places in this report that we have grown in membership this year, that we finished the year financially "in the black," and that we engaged in some significant ministry and mission. There are certainly challenges that lie ahead. We need to complete the staffing project by hiring the Director of Educational Ministries and Family Life. It has been very difficult to find qualified candidates who feel like a good fit for us. However, I am optimistic that we are about to turn the corner in this area.

Our Church Growth Task Team worked very hard on two outstanding events in 2008, both of which were well done. Though these events helped make us more visible in the larger community, they did not lead to an influx of new members or even participants in the ongoing life of our congregation.

This does not mean we should not continue to explore ways of reaching out to the larger community, but as our own Regional Executive, Marcia Patton, reminds us, congregations that pin their hopes on community outreach leading directly to congregational growth are most likely to be disappointed. It may be that, more and more, our ministry is TO the community without a direct expectation that the beneficiaries of our ministry will become members of the church. At the same time, we should never forget that one, if not THE, key way a congregation grows is when its members personally invite their friends, families, colleagues and neighbors to join us. “Come, see why First Baptist Palo Alto is important to me.”

In the area of partnering, we continued our joint services with Covenant and First Presbyterian Churches, shared Vacation Bible Camp with Covenant and First Christian, continued our support of Senior Chat, joined with Covenant and First Christian on a Habitat work day, and made some promising new friends in Wesley Methodist Church, as they partnered with us in our mission emphasis on Friends Outside in December.

This is a time of great change in the world in which we live. The old order is challenged, standard answers no longer satisfy, traditional expectations do not measure up, and familiar practices do not serve us. It is not an easy time in which to be the church or even to live. This is not a condemnation of the past; it is just a statement of the reality in which we live. The new president of the United States recognized this new reality in his inaugural address. He called the people of the USA, much in the same way that Jesus called his followers, to let go of power and privilege in the cause of a greater good; to recognize that from those who are blessed with much, much is expected; to hold each one accountable for the common welfare of all and to take up those responsibilities and opportunities for service with willing hands and joyful hearts. May it be so for us as well.

In his magnificent hymn, written for his congregation on the dedication of a new building nearly 80 years ago, Harry Emerson Fosdick penned this prayer to the God of grace and glory, “Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.” These words followed his expressed hope that God would pour power on God’s people, that God would bring the church from “bud to glorious flower.” It seems appropriate to recall Fosdick’s prayer as we face our own challenges of being the church today. How can we be faithful servants to the God who made us and calls us still? How can we be a community that loves and sustains one another in the power of God’s promises? How can we live as disciples of the one who gave his whole life to bring God’s reign to reality? How do we “keep on keeping on” when – at least some of the time - we feel “tired and weak and worn”? There is still “kingdom work” to be done, there is much life yet to be lived, there is significant community to be embraced right here at First Baptist Church, Palo Alto.

“Save us from weak resignation,” the preacher prayed. “Set our feet on lofty places, fill our lives that they may be armored with all Christlike graces in the fight to set men [and women] free.” We look to the grace of God, we look to the vision of Jesus, we look to the power of the Holy Spirit to carry us now and in the days to come. There is no way we can be – or were ever meant to be – church on our own. May Fosdick’s timeless prayer be our prayer as well as we look to our past, our present and our future – “God of grace and God of glory...grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.”

Rick

Moderators Report for the 2008 Annual report

This Council came into being on June 29, 2008. We thank the last council for the professional way that things were handed over.

This Council had eight meetings in all in 2008. The first two were preliminary meetings to decide how we should operate with our new structure. Each Council member took inputs from a few members of the congregation to help with the preliminary discussions.

We decided not to change either the Purpose Statement, included in the Constitution amended version dated January 28, 2007 or the Mission Statement from our web page.

We decided that our objectives should remain to be Growth and an examination of Partnering in an uncommitted way. Importantly we will look to promote and support

activities such as Habitat for Humanity, Positive Parenting, Friends Outside, and Senior Chat, which enable us to grow and examine partnering. We will try to deliver the goals through fun activities.

We have had a small task team work on the possibilities of partnering. We had a task team work on Positive Parenting which resulted in a two day presentation from Rod Kennedy on the subject. Dona's Senior chat has also continued to be well received.

We already had a survey (June 2008) which listed where peoples interests were, and based on our old ministry structure. So we decided to base our governance / management style on that ministry backdrop. We also decided to direct the interests of those ministries towards our objectives. Each Council member was assigned a ministry. The idea is that each council member stays aware and supports the respective ministry but doesn't necessarily manage it. They arranged to pull together as many of the people who had indicated interest in that ministry for a meeting to decide how that group would like to operate.

It is obvious that we are very dependent on the many people who quietly and efficiently get so many important things done. We certainly have no desire to interfere where things are operating well.

We continue to hope that everyone will confidently recommend activities and directions for the council to approve and support.

The successful recruitment of our Office Manager is making it easier to operate with this loose management style. We are all beginning to appreciate the impact that this position has. We are still working to fill our Education void.

We thank you all for your support and patience during this transition time.

L Kirton 1/18/2009

Vice Moderator / Communications ~ Annual Report for 2008

As a primary tool of communication, the **Midweek Message** was sent regularly by Pastor Rick Mixon and the Office Administrator to the congregation by email and to a few persons by postal mail with program information, prayer requests, announcements, and the Sunday text.

When Mary Shaffer retired as web master for the **Web Page** (www.firstbaptist-paloalto.org), Rev. Andy Kille was engaged to post material from the Spire until our Church Administrator, Mike McGuire, was able to pick up that task.

The monthly **newsletter, the Spire**, has been edited by the Pastor and Church Administrator. The **Directory** is due to be republished. **In-house Communication** includes posters and flyers as needed and other topics of interest which are posted on bulletin boards and available in the narthex.

Budget: The \$1250 budget for publicity/advertising covered only basic publicity in the *Palo Alto Weekly* (at Easter, and Christmas), *Info Palo Alto* and *Visitor's Guide* as well as *Stanford Directory*, and a stipend for Andy Kille's work.

Thanks to **Mary Shaffer**, creative and able web master. We are very grateful for the professional service which she provided to us as a volunteer over a long period! Thanks to **Amelia Ma'afu** for her conscientious work in producing the Spire and other communications tasks during her employment and to **Mike McGuire** for so quickly picking up those responsibilities, which under the new governance structure fall into his hands. **Thank you to Pastor Rick Mixon** for his ongoing contributions to the Midweek Message and the Spire, and for his oversight and assistance in the area of communications.

Vice Moderator / Other Responsibilities, January-July, 2008

Until new officers were elected at the Quarterly Business Meeting on June 29, 2008, as Vice Moderator I chaired Council meetings in January, March, May, and June, and Quarterly and Special Business Meetings in April and June. On April 27, the Governance Task Group presented a new Governance Structure, a Stewardship Survey, and the role of Task Groups for discussion, including hiring a Church Manager to facilitate much of the work previously done by lay officers.

At a Special Business Meeting on June 1, this Governance Proposal was adopted, and the Council was elected to serve as a Nominating Committee.

At the Quarterly Meeting on June 29, officers making up a Council of 7, a Finance Committee and delegates were elected to serve for the remainder of 2008 through 2009. Members of the Pastoral Relations Committee had been appointed by the Council.

This concluded a very busy half-year before the new Council began its work under the new governance structure, and it also concluded the work of Vice Moderator. The responsibility for communications now rests with the Church Administrator.

Marilyn Hunwick, Vice Moderator

January 10, 2009

First Baptist Church of Palo Alto
Clerk's Membership Report
Annual Report – December 31, 2008

Membership as of December 31, 2007		115
Losses since December 31, 2007		1
	Virginia Lee	March 2008 Deceased
Additions since December 31, 2007		4
	Nicole Thompson	January 2008 Prior Christian experience
	Sarah Ha	March 16, 2008 Prior Christian experience
	Douglas Ha	March 16, 2008 Prior Christian experience
	Cindy Sojourner	April 20, 2008 Prior Christian experience
Membership as of December 31, 2008		118

Hugh Satterlee, Church Clerk

Congregational Care

2008

The Congregational Care activities have continued pretty much as usual since the new Council was formed. Those have been:

Patio Hour after the Sunday morning Worship Service during June, July, and August.

Fellowship and refreshments after worship from September on.

The Senior Chat at Covenant Presbyterian Church on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in July through December.

The All Church Picnic at the Kirton's in Saratoga on Sunday, July 20.

Friday Night Dessert Evening on the last Friday of the month during the summer.

Monthly Friday Evening Potluck from September on with a prepared dinner in December for Friends Outside Project.

Bible Study with Rick on Tuesday morning throughout the year.

Farewell Evening for Bunmi Ashaolu and Jibola on Sunday, August 17.

Caroling followed by chili supper on Sunday, December 14.

Christmas Brunch on Sunday, December 21.

With an increasing number of our members no longer driving we need to develop a more comprehensive plan for regular calling on them, in addition to those made by the pastor. We hope to address that issue early in the year.

Mary Granholm

Educational Ministries 2008

In 2008, our Educational Ministries for children and youth were led, through August, by Erica Quinn, who served as our Christian Education Coordinator. Since Erica's departure these ministries have been covered by volunteers as we have searched for someone to take on a new position of Director of Educational Ministries and Family Life (with an emphasis on growing programs and membership.) To date we have not found the right person for this job, but we are still searching.

We continue to provide a one room Sunday School for children on Sundays, provide a time for children in our worship services, and occasionally incorporate children and youth in leadership roles in our worship. Diane Kirton, Melanie Ramirez and Carolyn Shepard have served as teachers for our children. Thelma Tuttle, who is the Council liaison for Educational Ministries has worked to insure nursery coverage, using a combination of Aimee Kayl, our paid nursery worker, Thelma, herself, and a variety of volunteers. We realize this is a less than ideal situation and hope to change this very soon with the hiring of new staff to administer these programs.

We were able to provide a Spring session of FaithZone with 9-10 children participating and we are currently planning a Spring session of FaithZone for 2009. We also had children and staff involved in this year's Vacation Bible Camp, held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, and Erica planned a puppet project for summer activity. In addition, members of our Educational Ministry/Task Team were instrumental in our two big outreach events, "The Greatest Show on North California Avenue" and the "Positive Parenting Weekend" with Dr. Rod Kennedy.

Betsy Koester continues to do an admirable job arranging for our Adult Forums on Sunday mornings. Topics as diverse as "How Good People Make Tough Choices," corporate ethics, Lamentations (led by ABSW Dean LeAnn Snow Flesher,) Marcus Borg's "The Heart of Christianity," poetry as a spiritual discipline, fables and proverbs and the church at worship were covered.

Stay tuned for exciting adventures in education in the year to come.

Missions 2008

The year started with monthly meetings of the Mission and Outreach Ministry. The ministry consisted of June Lee, Don Ownby, Diane Kirton and the Pastor. The ministry organized the special monthly offerings: making a display for the Narthex, writing Spire articles and where appropriate, inviting speakers for either the Thursday Night Potluck or for Sunday worship presentations. During the month of February, the Rev. Dave Robinson came one Sunday and did a Moment for Mission in which he highlighted the work of the Correctional Institutions Chaplaincy. In the same month, Dave Gonzales from Friends Outside spoke at the Thursday Night Potluck. The \$800 raised was divided between the CIC and Friends Outside.

As the year went by, we worked by e-mail and phone rather than by monthly meetings. Starting in July, Carolyn Shepard became the liaison person on the Council for Mission and Outreach. In August, a large group of church members interested in Mission work met and took on responsibilities large and small. Since that time, Moments for Mission have been presented by both members of the congregation and representatives of the organizations to whom we contributed. In September, Dona Smith Powers invited several people to speak of the work of the Opportunity Center, and we had a speaker from EHP in November. During the month of October, we split our World Mission Offering between the general fund and the Chettis, missionaries working at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Beirut, Lebanon.

We looked at ways of involving the neighboring community in our mission work. In November, we sent about 20 turkeys and groceries, in addition to the special offering, to the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto. Mike McGuire reported that some neighbors did contribute to our food drive, after leaflets had been distributed in the neighborhood by our Sunday School children.

There were two events during the year that must be considered highlights. The first was our annual visit to a Habitat for Humanity site. In the past, we have taken lunch for all working on the project and toured the property. This year, members of our congregation, together with some from First Christian, actually participated in the work party that day. This was a very satisfying experience for all. The other highlight was our effort to help five families (previously we helped just one family) from Friends Outside have a meaningful Christmas. Our friends from Wesley Methodist joined us in this project, and we ended up with not only enough goods for the five families, but enough for about two more families. We had a wonderful evening, attended by over 40 people, starting with dinner, followed by a short presentation from two Friends Outside workers, and then dividing into teams to pack the boxes of groceries and gifts.

As usual our congregation has been extremely generous throughout the year, supporting all our efforts both financially and with hard work and prayer. A special "thank you" has to go to Mary Granholm whose help on many occasions we could not have done without.

Submitted by,
Diane Kirton
Carolyn Shepard

Facilities Report

Under the good and confident leadership of Lucille Towner and Hugh Satterlee the year 2008 saw many important improvements at FBCPA.

1. Two new energy efficient furnaces were installed in the 3rd floor attic to replace the old antiquated furnaces. Special thanks to Bob Griffin, Lionel Kirton, and Hugh Satterlee.
2. The smaller Parlor on the 1st floor was painted, decorated, and outfitted with furniture.
3. A new hot water line, new sink, track lighting, and new counter were installed in the Ladies restroom by Bob Griffin and Javier Hernandez.
4. The Men's restroom was painted and redecorated.

There are numerous projects planned in 2009 as funds allow.

First Baptist Church
Pastoral Relations Committee
2008 Annual Report

The 2008 Pastoral Relations Committee consisted of Kathy Gillam (chair), Jane Chin, Elizabeth Pipkin, and Lois Ville. Moderator Lionel Kirton attended in an *ex officio* capacity.

The purpose of the Pastoral Relations Committee is to foster constructive communication between the congregation and its professional leadership. In addition, the Committee carries out an annual evaluation and performance review of the Pastor and makes a salary recommendation to the Finance Committee for the upcoming year. In 2008, the Committee met monthly with Pastor Mixon and discussed issues brought to it from the congregation as well as issues he brought to the group. We endeavored to encourage clear communication between Pastor Mixon and the congregation as well as a common understanding of his ministry at FBC. In addition, we carried out the annual appraisal of Pastor Mixon's performance and made a 2009 salary recommendation to the Finance Committee. We appreciated the willingness of members of the congregation to make use of our Committee as well as Pastor Mixon's willingness to discuss comments brought to the Committee in a forthright and honest way.

Kathy Gillam, Chair

UNITED CAMPUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY - 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Evergreen Association made its first grant to UCCM this year and reestablished Palo Alto First Baptist as the only American Baptist Church in this area receiving denominational support for its work on the Stanford Campus. This link is important for two reasons: (1) It lets students know that Palo Alto First Baptist is among the welcoming and supportive churches in town and (2), It links our church with the other major denominations encouraging students to seek and develop a progressive, strong, thoughtful, and tolerant Christian faith.

The challenge to the members and friends of First Baptist is to maintain and strengthen this denominational and Stanford link by applying for the Association's annual grant and continuing the strong support for our Campus Ministry that has been a part of our church outreach since its founding.

Our church has been generously served by Stanford students, Professors and Staff through the years and we can only be thankful to have had these co-workers with us in sharing the Good News of Jesus. Thanks Be to God!

Jim Alexander and Lynn Hunwick, delegates and members of the Board of Directors UCCM at Stanford.

From the UCCM Board

Great News: Our Campus Minister is Now Full Time

A year and half ago, when we hired Geoff Browning as our campus minister, the Board of directors decide to engage in a fund-development campaign with the goal of increasing the position to full time. Such an increase had long been desired, but the necessary funds had not been available through our usual fund raising methods.

With the help of an experienced advisor we gained the confidence that our goal was possible and we put together an ambitious plan. In September, at the beginning of this academic year, we decided that the results of the campaign to that date had made it possible to expand Geoff's position to full time through the spring quarter.

The members of the Board have been delighted with what Geoff has been able to accomplish with additional half time. Now, we are seeking the help of all of our supporting donors, congregations, and denominations, so that we can continue this level of ministry in the next year and the years to come.

Rev. Richard Roe
President, UCCM Board of Directors

Task Group for Growth

The "Task Force Group" was formed in order to create new programs that will be of interest to the members of our congregation and as an outreach to new families and to the community . We were able to execute 2 major new events:

1. "The Greatest Show on North California" was held on April 25, 2008, from 6:00p.m. to 8:15p.m. It was a family style event with people of different age groups: young kids to mature adults. The dinner was delicious and the entertainment was excellent. The performers were from "San Francisco Clown Center". The attendance was close to 150 people. The feed-back received was very positive.
2. "Positive Parenting Weekend" was held on September 12th and 13th, 2008. Rev. Dr. Rod Kennedy was the guest speaker. The Friday workshop was titled: "Peaceful Parenting", from 6:00p.m. to 8:30p.m. The Saturday workshop was titled : " Raising Children In faith", from 1:30p.m. to 4:00p.m. Since the workshops were geared towards parents, activities for children were planned by Le Ann Gunter Johns while Amy took care of the nursery. Refreshments were offered to our guests. The number of attendees at each workshop was around 25 including 6 Task group members and six assistants for children's activities.

In both events, many members of the congregation provided the biggest help. We thank you for your support and you know that we count on you.

Members of the Task Force group: Eleanor Satterlee, Mary Granholm, Thelma Tuttle, Rick Mixon, Nana Spiridon.

Finance Committee Annual Report for 2008

Church Finances. Despite the severe economic downturn in 2008, we have good news that the operating budget for the church ended the year with a small net income. Both pledges and tenant income exceeded the budgeted amount by about \$5,000 each so that pledges provided 65% and tenants 27% of our revenues. We needed to use \$15,000 of the funds budgeted from the unrestricted Endowment funds in Special Funds to provide 7% of our revenues in 2008. In contrast, during the past 8 years we have not had to call upon Special funds for the annual budget except once. Our expenditures for the year were about \$2,000 less than budgeted. The tenant income covered over 92% of the cost of the usual building upkeep including \$7,000 budgeted for the church long term maintenance reserve fund in Special Funds. The church now banks at Wells Fargo Bank located at 4540 El Camino in Los Altos, CA 94022. Our previous bank, America California Bank, moved to San Francisco in October, 2008. We are delighted that Mike McGuire joined us in October as full-time Church Administrator. In addition to Office Management he is also in charge of Facilities Management and Rental Relations and he works closely with Finance on the financial aspects of these areas.

Special funds: Unrestricted General Endowment Funds. The General Endowment Funds are unrestricted funds that can be used for our budget and they make up 53% of Special Funds in 2008. They are composed of 2 major funds: the Annex Endowment Funds associated with PACCC payments for the child care center and the Verne Pfaender fund, a \$50,000 gift donated in 2003. The Annex Endowment Funds were created in 1999 and over the years a portion of the principal of the 10 year PACCC mortgage was purposefully added to the funds. The last addition to the funds was in 2006 when the PACCC mortgage was paid off 2 ½ years early. The total added to the Annex funds was \$261,500. For the General Endowment Funds, about 37% is in Money Market Funds and the remainder in mutual funds. At the end of 2007 the investments in mutual funds had increased about \$102,000 above the initial investment but plummeted 32% by the end of 2008. These mutual funds will not be expended unless necessary, to allow time for them to regain some of their value toward the 2007 level. Instead, the Money Market Funds will be used as our source of revenues from the unrestricted funds in 2009. At the Special Business meeting on June 1, 2008 the congregation approved the Governance Task Group proposal which included hiring a Church Administrator and a Director of Education and Family Life. Finance worked out the sources for funding for the two new staff positions needed to support our objectives of growth and some type of partnering. It was proposed that the Annual budget will provide \$20,000 for the Church Administrator and \$13,000 for the Director of Education and Family Life. The remaining funding for the 2 positions will come from Special Funds, specifically from the unrestricted General Endowment Funds (Annex and Pfaender funds).

Lundquist Funds. The congregation approved several projects in 2008 to be funded by earnings of the restricted Lundquist funds which now make up 30% of Special Funds. They were: UCCM, \$1,000; clowns for the “The Greatest Show on North California”, \$950; the special seminar program Positive Parenting up to \$2,000 (actual expenses about \$1,400) and Senior Chat partially supported by Lundquist earnings the previous two years up to \$2,400 per year. The \$1,000 for UCCM was added to the 2008 budget amount.

The Greatest Show event with dinner to the broader community attracted about 170 participants and cost about \$1,800, 20% of which came from the participants as entrance fee or donation, and the remaining from the Lundquist earnings or from the Growth and Outreach Fund. Our investments of the Lundquist Funds at the end of 2008 have unexpectedly dropped about 32% since the end of 2007 so that no earnings from Lundquist funds will be available for use in 2009. The procedure established by Finance to identify the amount of funds available for use from the Lundquist funds for the following year was to use the value of the securities on December 1 above the established base of **\$226,858**. The total value of securities held at the end of November, 2008 was only **\$171,510, \$55,349** below the established base.

Rentals. Renters continue to be an important source of our revenues and provide more than 90% of the amount needed for our facilities upkeep and maintenance in 2008. We have two new renters for 2009. New Mozart School of Music was charged for additional use of electricity for their central Air Conditioning system. Rent from our long-term users has been increased 5% per year since 2005. However the rental schedule for new renters for single use has not been adjusted since 2006. Council has approved that the rental fee for single use renter be increased in 2009 to \$300 for the sanctuary, \$125 for the parlor, \$150 for Fellowship Hall, and \$150 for the kitchen.

AUDITORS. Council has appointed Laura Garcia and Paul Tuan as our auditors for 2008. We are grateful for the dedicated service of Relda Poffenroth who had faithfully been auditing our financial books for many years.

Budget for 2009. The Finance Committee has assisted Council in preparation of a balanced annual budget for 2009 to support the basic work of the previous ministries now done by task groups. The projected expenditures for the year 2009 will be about \$50,000 more than in 2008, due mainly to the hiring of 2 new staff members and the addition of Senior Chat to the budget of Congregational Care. Pledges are expected to provide about 46% of the revenues, tenants 26%, and Special funds 27%. The term transfer from investments will be used in 2009 and will combine the 2 lines of *income from investments* and *Mortgage payment from PACCC* used in previous budgets. A total of \$70,770 is budgeted to be removed from the unrestricted General Endowment Funds for budget use.

Report of Special Maintenance Expenses. The Treasurer's report includes a list of major expenses for maintenance with their sources of funding. The major items are 2 furnaces for the upstairs educational wing, rain gutters and a concrete walkway that was replaced after it was cracked from overgrown tree roots near the patio area. Women are enjoying hot water in their remodeled restroom with new sink, lights and mirrors. The men's restroom has also been upgraded. The total cost of these items was about \$17,400, paid mainly from two sources: 72% from the church Long term maintenance fund in Special Funds and 27% from the operating budget.

Many thanks to Laura Garcia in charge of Stewardship, Financial Secretaries Paul and Sachiko Berry, Treasurer Jin Chin, and Special Funds Treasurer Ron Tuttle for their support and continuous dedication as we have worked together to manage the financial activities of the church.

Jane Chin, Chair

First Baptist Church
Quarterly Business Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2008

Lionel Kirton opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes of the last meetings were approved unanimously. The Treasurer's Report by Jin Chin was followed by Ron Tuttle's report on the effect of the stock market on Special Funds.

Lionel reported on Council meetings, reviewing the adoption of the FBC Purpose and Mission statements, which remain unchanged and are adopted. Objectives emerging from the discernment process (growth and partnering) also remain unchanged, with an added emphasis on events which promote the main objectives of the church (i.e., Habitat for Humanity, Senior Chat, Friends Outside activities, and the Ecumenical Hunger Program). These will be undertaken in the future.

The Ministry structure will provide the model for the operation of the new governance plan. A Council member has been assigned to each area. Meetings will be convened for those who indicated in the survey an interest in participating in events which may be sponsored to support the church objectives. Ideas from the congregation will be sought, examined and possibly adopted. Ongoing activities which have been successful in the past will continue to be supported (i.e., Adult Forum, flower arrangement, annual dinners and gatherings.) Lionel recognized some of those congregation members who have been devoted to making these possible. The Council expects the operation of the new governance process to improve with the arrival of the new Church Administrator.

For the Good of the Church: Kathy Gillam thanked the Council for their work. Diane Kirton described a proposed Friends Outside project in which the community would be invited to participate. The project is an example of events envisioned by the Council as supportive of our objectives.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mixon reported on potlucks planned for the first Friday of each month, on his attendance at the regional conference in Seattle, and on the hiring of a new Church Administrator. Kathy Gillam explained the hiring process followed in the selection of the new position and described the candidate's background. Mike Maguire's hiring and his contract is contingent on the approval of the Council at their Oct. 13 meeting.

The meeting, attended by 30 people, adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Jo Ford

Acting Clerk