

Solid Rock



EPPC's Foundation in Christ

- We stand on God's Word
- We see God's "Big Picture" of Provision
- We sow generously

2010 Annual Report

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Dear Friends,

At the very back of our coat closet at home is a bookshelf where our family's oldest books are found. It takes some effort to even get to the books; the closet is packed with jackets, snow gear, boots and shoes, the ironing board, a stepladder, sleeping bags, and clothes we keep because we "might just wear them again."

It's an effort to make my way to the bookshelf, but it's worth it because some of my favorites are there, like Brenda's and my high school yearbooks, and best of all, our family photo albums. Recently I grabbed an album from the earliest days of our marriage and family life. What a treat it was to see our two oldest children in their infancy again and to see where we were in life (in this album we had just arrived at Princeton Seminary). The album was a snapshot of one year of our life. And because Brenda and I have had 32 plus years together now, it is too easy to forget the earlier years, not because of failing memory (at least not this time!) but because there are so many memories, too many to keep in mind. Looking at the photo album brought back to my memory some very precious moments and reminded me of all the things we have done in our life together.

This annual report is a snapshot of one year of the life of EPPC, and like a family photo album, it helps remind us of the precious moments of our church's life together and shows us the many things God has accomplished through us in just one year. Both the amount of ministry and the quality of ministry is something we don't want to forget!

Enjoy reading through the "snapshots" of the EPPC family in 2010. Though there are no pictures in this report, reading through it you'll see what God has done, and you'll get a glimpse of things to come as well. You have Team Leaders and Staff (the people who write these reports) who are excited about EPPC's future and can't help but add a little of what they're looking forward to accomplishing in 2011!

For me, reading through the annual report brings back some of the more touching parts of my ministry. I am reminded of the funerals, weddings, baptisms, and the hospital visits—the pastoral nature of my work; I am reminded of the "Solid Rock" Stewardship Sermon Series; I am reminded of our 50 men who sang in worship on Mother's Day. As you read through the report, I'll be interested in hearing what memories it brings to mind for you.

Let's not move forward into 2011 without remembering the momentum we bring to this new year from what we did last year. 2010 was a year to remember, a year of God's blessing, and a year of EPPC's faithfulness in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Happy reading,

John

The Clerk's Report

The Session of Eden Prairie Presbyterian Church (EPPC) had 12 Stated Session Meetings, 1 Leadership Summit, 1 Annual Meeting of the Congregation, 2 Special Meetings of the Congregation, and was represented at meetings of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area (PTCA) throughout 2010.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on 17 occasions during Sunday morning worship and at special events. The congregation witnessed 2 infant baptisms officiated by Pastor John Ward. Pastor Ward also officiated for 1 Celebration of Life service and 3 weddings.

Our 2010 rolls show 31 new members received by the Session, including 18 from the Youth Confirmation Youth Alpha Class, 4 baptized children welcomed into our faith community, and 2 members moved from inactive to active status. Other changes to the church rolls included 3 transfers, 1 death, 18 members moved from active to inactive status, 12 members moved from active to special (college/armed forces) inactive, and 3 active and 7 inactive individuals removed from the church rolls. The EPPC year-end statistical report will reflect a current active membership of 256 members. The average Sunday worship attendance in 2010 was 196.

In addition to the regular business of the church, the 2010 Session also dealt with these items:

- The ordination and installation of Don Anderson, Dave Limberg, and Pam von Gohren, who form Elder Class of 2012, and installation of Elders Bobbie Sawyer and Gary Van Schooneveld to fill the Elder Class of 2010
- Heard monthly reports from leadership of the EPPC Ministry Teams and members of the EPPC staff at the Stated Session Meetings
- Formed the IRC (Invite, Receive, Connect) Task Force which, after completing a charter, became a ministry team, with Liz Van Schooneveld as Team Lead
- Modified the Sunday morning schedule beginning in the fall: Children, Youth, and Adult Education from 9:00 - 10:00 and Worship at 10:15, with fellowship following
- Formed a General Assembly Task Force to draft a response to the comments and positions taken at General Assembly 2010
- The Articles of Incorporation Task Force proposed modifications to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, which were approved by the congregation
- Several elders, staff, ministry leaders, and Pastor Ward, attended the annual *Global Leadership Summit* hosted by Willow Creek Association for leadership development and training held on August 5-6, 2010
- Maintained the EPPC Family Fund, providing for discretionary distribution of cash to EPPC families in financial need
- In another year filled with economic challenges for many, EPPC managed the church's expenses under budget, but dealt with a larger offset to income. We were blessed in prior years with a surplus which allowed us to maintain planned programs. We set future direction to minimize budget deficits
- The 2010 Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Annual Renewal form was filed with the Minnesota Secretary of State's office
- Gave continuing thanks to God for the ministry and mission teams of EPPC who faithfully serve and partner in the work that we do

Looking ahead to 2011, God willing, Session will direct its attention to:

- Continuing to develop our ministry teams, raising up new leaders and members where needed.
- Managing our 2011 budget with anticipated revenues of \$504,000 and planned expenditures of \$507,430, and continuing to praise God for His faithfulness
- Nurturing and developing increased volunteer leadership and participation in the ministry teams of EPPC
- Continuing to seek God's will for ways to actively reach out to (invite, receive, and connect) those whom He brings into our ministry circle
- Leadership retreat planned for February
- Supporting and encouraging the development of new small groups
- Supporting all staff reviewing and updating job descriptions and a healthy balance of the work day
- Growing as a leadership team with Pastor John to minister to our church community
- Working to lead, plan, live and invite people into a biblical community to become transformed followers of Jesus Christ

As your Session, we thank you for your continued prayers for the leadership of EPPC. We are humbled by and grateful for your confidence in us as we seek the Lord's will for EPPC today and in the coming year. We celebrate His life and work within this church community.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hanson, Clerk of Session (2010)

Building and Grounds Ministry Team

Another year has passed and God continues to be faithful to EPPC. The EPPC building continues to be in good working order and a place where we want to come and worship.

This year with Paul Twedten, Jeff Maenke and a new B & G leader-in-training, Trevor Erlandsen, the staff was able to relax and let them do the tasks that they volunteered to do. We thank God for their willingness to lead and serve along with the B & G team.

We started the spring off with a big leak in the Summit Room downstairs. It was quite comical with Paul, Julie and I trying to stay ahead of the rain as it poured into the room through a leak in an exhaust pipe. As fast as Paul could vacuum water up, we were pouring it out the back door. Voson Plumbing came to my urgent plea for help. We also had a couple of new leaks in our roof again this year and in October we found a broken window in the sanctuary that we had replaced. In December, the inside fire sprinkler system was compromised. If you have been in the worship services on Sunday you might have heard the mighty roar of the compressor. With a building the age of EPPC we will continue to have repairs, but because of the superior service that we receive from our vendors, it is not a hardship to take care of the paperwork. That is the extent of the larger repairs for 2010.

Our Building and Grounds Team continues to take care of the smaller, behind-the-scenes repairs that occur on a weekly basis.

All contracts regarding the Building and Grounds have been reviewed, updated or extended as needed into 2011. Not one vendor raised their prices for 2011.

Our annual spring and fall workdays again were a success due to the turnout of the Rey de Reyes congregation. For the last couple of years, EPPC members have not been participating in the workdays with the exception of very few people, so B & G team has decided to try a different strategy in 2011 to get the EPPC family involved again. Stay tuned.

I want to thank each Building and Grounds team member for their hard work and sharing their time and talents again so generously in 2010. We look forward to 2011 and what God has in store for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Potter, Finance and Facilities Director

Building and Grounds Team: Paul Twedten, Jeff Maenke, Trevor Erlandsen, Tim Clare, Ralph Jackson, John Liepke, Don Miller, Glenn Peterson, Curt Shaner, Dave Wagner, and Dave Limberg—Session Liaison

Caregivers Ministry Team

The Caregivers Ministry Team ministers to those facing challenges or situations that keep them from being part of the day-to-day fellowship of EPPC.

The Team accomplishes this ministry by:

- Sending cards to the sick and bereaved
- Keeping in touch with elderly members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Visiting hospitalized EPPC members
- Sending a series of Grief Booklets throughout the first year after a bereavement
- Reading and studying materials and attending training that enhances team members' skills
- Assisting with funerals and memorial services, serving refreshments for lunches and receptions

In 2010 the Caregivers team:

- Made many visits to shut-ins or hospitalized members of EPPC
- Mailed over 140 cards of condolence, get well, and encouragement, as well as honoring members' milestone birthdays (age 70+) and anniversaries of couples (for 5th, 10th, 15th anniversaries, etc.)
- Mailed the series *Journeying Through Grief* to EPPC members who have suffered the death of a parent, spouse or child. Also, mailed on the death of a second family member either *Grieving with the Hope: Leaning on Jesus* or *How can I live with my Loss*. To children that have suffered a loss, mailed *When Someone Special Dies*
- Delivered fourteen baskets of Christmas goodies to shut-in and other members of the congregation
- Hosted two coffee fellowships

The Caregivers try to actively pursue education to better their ministry. Examples include the book the group is reading this year, *Christian Caregiving, a Way of Life*, by Kenneth C. Haugk, and team members attending a Stephen Ministry Workshop in April. Team members have also volunteered to read books in the EPPC library or purchase books and write a review so that other members may have a brief description of the book. We also have a Caregivers group luncheon at the end of summer for team building.

Friendship lunches occur ten times a year generally on the first Wednesday of the month. While focused towards those in retirement, anyone is welcome. Most of the lunches are "pot-blessing" type meals. The April gathering is a brunch preceding the Good Friday noon service. However, in conjunction with Eden Prairie' May honoring of senior members of the community, Caregivers provides the

Christian Education

meal and decorations in the month of May or June. This year we did the luncheon on June 13 and had a record attendance of over 30 people. The Christmas luncheon this year featured caroling and a small gift for the seniors of a Christmas CD and devotional.

Current team members: Julie Carlson, Jan Curielli, Jody Kaye, Fran Kenady, Ruth Otis, Sherry Ryken, Gail Toatley, Pam von Gohren, Lori Hulstein—Team Lead, and Bobbie Sawyer—Session Liaison. Phyllis Peterson and LaVonna Aulwes resigned this year.

Christian Education

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner most being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3: 16-19

This past year we have had ministry opportunities that have grown, encouraged, and disciplined all ages. We have discovered the amazing truth in the scripture above and have experienced how wide, deep, and high is God's love for us. We have experienced God's strength through his Spirit and have been filled to the measure of the fullness of God through many ministries here at EPPC.

The Adult Education classes met on Sunday mornings to encourage, support and disciple people. Higher Ground Children's Ministry continued to provide experiences where kids could come and be a part of the body of believers here at EPPC. They were welcomed, and mentored by a great group of adults and youth who shared from their hearts what it means to be a believer in Jesus and to live it out in their own lives. Check out each ministry report for Christian Education to see how God has been faithful to the EPPC community.

God Bless

Jeanette Twedten, Christian Education Director

Adult Education

Adult Education

Tom McPherson continued to be the team leader of Adult Education through the summer of 2010, helping to set the fall schedule. Tom resigned as Adult Ed. team lead to go back to school at Bethel Seminary. We thank Tom for all of his help with Adult Education over the years. We are now in the process of visioning what Adult Education at EPPC will look like in 2011. Our hope is to re-form the ministry team and continue to follow where God leads Adult Education at EPPC.

We had another great year of teaching, discipleship, and growing with classes including *Hope Lives: A Compassion International Study*, *No Perfect People Allowed* book study, and Max Lucado's *3:16* study in the spring of 2010. In the fall of 2010, we began the program year with two classes, *Journey with Jesus* and *Crazy Love* with great response in attendance. We finished the year with Bernie & Pat Johnson teaching an Advent study called *What are you Waiting For?*, which was paired with an all-church survey of advent practices. We're looking forward to God's leading Adult Education in the future and are prayerfully raising this ministry up to Him.

Tom McPherson, Jeanette Twedten (staff)

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry

God is good! He has proven himself faithful again in 2010. Faith has taken root in young lives, students are growing, and families, students, and leaders are walking together in a strengthening community of faith. Here are some of 2010's highlights.

- 30 Hour Famine
- Youth Leader Day Retreat
- Jr. High Spring Retreat
- Jr. High week at Camp Ojibway
- Mexico Mission Trip
- Wilderness Adventure Trip (Boundary Waters trip with H.S. seniors and college students)
- Successful new SMYG program structure
- Continued development of Youth Praise Band
- Sr. High Fall Retreat
- Continuing to offer OBP (One Big Party Events, collaborative effort amongst Eden Prairie Churches)
- Planet Wisdom Conference for Sr. Highers
- Several service projects

Through these events and through the small moments made more frequent by growing relationships, students, parents, and leaders have been inspired and equipped. We have worshipped, served, grown, and loved Christ together.

In 2011, our goals will allow us to continue to pursue our invitation to follow Christ. We desire to continue building community with each other, deepening our relationship with God, and loving and serving our neighbor. We will work to create a growing and thriving

ministry, filled with growing and thriving teenagers. We'll continue to look for ways to empower teens who are hungry for their leadership to develop. We'll continue doing the things that have worked well as a means to those ends, and we'll try a few new things too. These include:

- Youth Mission Trip to Chicago in June
- New opportunities for Jr. Highers (retreat/weekend events)
- Training for our leaders through some new events and opportunities
- An increased effort for all youth leaders to connect with students

We will remain prayerful and faithful to God as he leads us in leading Youth Ministry at EPPC.

Submitted by: Darrin Geier, Director of Youth Ministries

Higher Ground Children's Ministry

Higher Ground

The mission of Higher Ground is to invite children into a fun, biblical community of small groups, guided by an adult, that fosters supportive friendships, discovery and life application of biblical truth. Higher Ground is committed to supplement families in their efforts to lay a spiritual foundation that will lead their children into a dynamic relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Sunday Mornings: (Birth to 6th Grade) As adult and youth volunteers, we continue to love Sunday mornings, spending time with the kids of EPPC. We could not do ministry without all the volunteers who teach preschool to 4th Grade, the 5th & 6th Graders, and Children's Church—Rocks & Ropes and Solid Rock. During the Gathering time (9:00 am), we have an average of 25 kids (Birth -6th Grade) that come to the early education time. They continue to be challenged to grow in their faith through Bible teaching and life application. In the fall of 2010 we changed the schedule to a 9:00 am Gathering Time (from 8:45) and a 10:15 worship (from 10:00) and also made some changes in our children's programs. We have moved to a "Kids Own Worship" curriculum for Preschool-4th Grade. All the leaders have loved the worship/small group time together.

During the 10:00 worship, we have an average of 30 kids coming downstairs for our two children's church options, Rocks & Ropes (Preschool to 2nd Grade) and Solid Rock (3rd to 6th Grade). Unlike last year, we have maintained both options for kids so that kids through 6th Grade always have a children's church option on Sunday mornings. The option for 3rd—6th Graders is a discipleship group that worked through themes, learning about their Bibles, Service, and Communion in the 2010 program year.

We finished out our program year in May with a joint class with the youth and all our families called Family Faith Sundays. Darrin Geier and Jeanette Twedten lead our families in four weeks of exploring their faith and love for God by helping families find ways to grow their faith at home with their kids and youth.

Kids Praise Team: Under the leadership of Kristy Limberg and Stacy McNeil, many Higher Ground kids have joined in leading worship as praise team singers. We feel it is important to help kids take ownership of parts of the worship service, allowing them to take leadership roles in worship and ministry here at church. We hope to continue to raise up these kids in worship so that they will know what it means to contribute to the community of believers.

Christmas Program: We had an amazing program this year under the leadership of Kristy Limberg and Judy Schalow. We did a joint worship service called *Star of Wonder* which combined the children, youth and adult choirs musical and theatrical talents and was a wonderful service for all who attended.

Summer Events: In summer 2010, we returned to our evening VBS schedule and did the Group curriculum called *High Seas*. We shared dinner together before the start of VBS each day and had great participation with 40 kids attending. We also had an amazing day with Bobbie Sawyer as she spent time with the kids for "Art in the Park" at Staring Lake, sharing her knowledge of painting with all of us. We had our own (very popular) mini Art Show on the following Sunday.

We also continued to send kids to Camp Ojibway with 6 kids attending this past summer. We hope to continue to grow this program for the kids of Higher Ground and look forward to a partnership with Camp Ojibway.

Service Projects/Outreach: Higher Ground continued to support Tigist Guluma, our Compassion Child from Ethiopia, for the 12th year with offering money. Tigist is now 17 years old and has become a young women. She has graduated from the compassion program now. We continue to look for ways to add service projects. We collected Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes again with EPPC turning in 55 boxes this year! We also continued to partner with Susan Marais, EPPC member who is from South Africa, sending curriculum to Centurion West Presbyterian Church in Pretoria. We are so thankful that we can help ministries around the world in our small way by reusing our curriculum.

In October 2010, we joined with four area churches in the communitywide Kids Fall Fest at EPHS. We had carnival games, door prizes, food and a puppet show. This event has been going on for almost 10 years, and we were excited to be a part of the planning, volunteering, and outreach for our church. This event drew about 600 people, 300 of which were kids. It gives people an opportunity to meet people from all these churches, be exposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and have fun with their families in a safe environment.

We look forward to many events in 2011. Thank you for your help and support!

Higher Ground Leadership Team: Kristy Limberg, Stacy McNeil, Karen van Rooyen, Kristi Peterson, Susan Marais, Mary Lindell, Julie Erlandsen, Bobbie Sawyer—Session liason, Jeanette Twedten—Staff

Fellowship Team

Fellowship Ministry Team

In April 2010 the Fellowship Team underwent a leadership change from Karen Kuklenz to Mary Ann Chicoine. The team has a few faithful members in addition to some equally faithful helpers. However, more team members would be welcomed with enthusiasm and greatly appreciated!!

2010 Activities included:

- Easter morning breakfast
- Potluck lunches after church in May & July
- Twins Outing in August (co-sponsored with Children & Youth Ministries)
- Fall Church Picnic with Rey de Reyes in September
- Progressive Dinner in early November
- Hanging of the Greens potluck in late November

In 2011 we are adding an EPPC Family Camp weekend at Camp Ojibway, July 15-17 and several more after church potluck lunches in addition to our usual activities. We are also open to new events. Please contact me if you have any ideas.

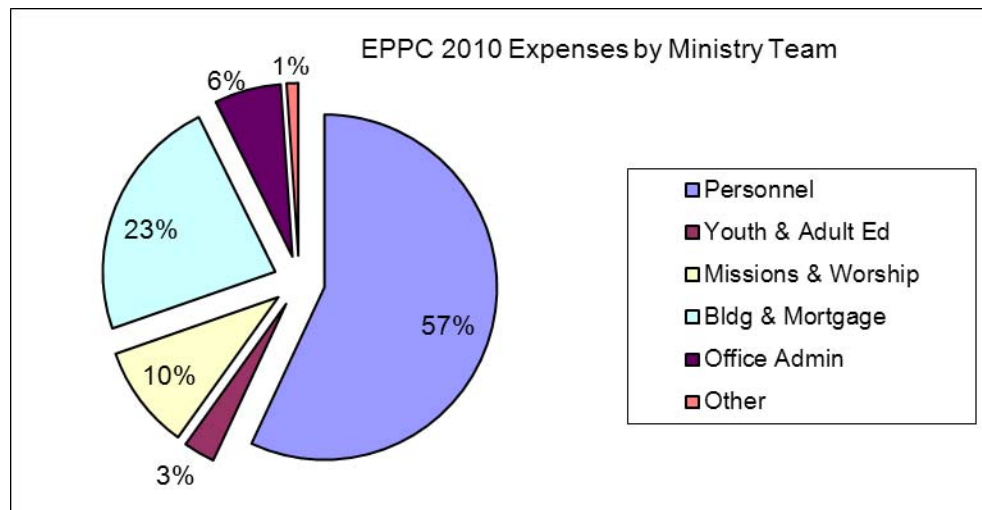
Your sister in Christ,
Mary Ann Chicoine, Fellowship Team Leader

Finance Team

Finance Ministry Team

The effects of the continued economic slowdown impacted EPPC's financial position in 2010. However, because we entered into 2010 in a fairly strong cash position and were able to utilize cash reserves to supplement our 2010 operating expenses, we were able to maintain our programs at the level we desired throughout the year.

Our 2010 contributions were \$501,000. This is a 7.6% decrease from 2009 and is (\$20,500) or 4% less than budget. Total cash expenses for 2010 were approximately \$532,000, resulting in a net decrease in general fund cash and savings of (\$31,000). This follows a general fund cash decrease of (\$26,000) in 2009. Our cash and savings balances are \$228,000 (including cash designated for specific uses of \$173,000 and general reserves of \$55,000). We have continued to reduce our debt and our outstanding mortgage is \$76,800 and is scheduled to be paid off in December 2112. The following chart summarizes the church's expenses for 2010:



Our 2011 stewardship campaign resulted in projected 2011 income of \$504,000. Projected expenses are \$507,400, which resulted in a deficit budget of (\$3,400) for the year. EPPC's expense structure was reduced in the 2011 budget which meant that expense reductions in personnel and team expenses were made. While these actions were difficult to put in place, they do position EPPC to be financially stable at our current income level. Cash reserves will continue to be utilized during the down economy, but the amount of reserves used in 2011 will be minimized so as to ensure the reserves are available for several years to come. We feel fortunate to be able to rely on our cash reserves to help fund the ministry of EPPC as we continue through this difficult economy.

The 2009 review of the financial records and audit was completed by Jerry Hulstein, Mark Johns, and Burdell Wessels. The 2009 financial records of the church were found to be in excellent financial condition and no accounting irregularities were discovered.

During 2011, specific projects that the Finance Team would like to accomplish include a stewardship drive which would encompass all ministries of the church, begin a program of educating participants of the opportunities and benefits of "remembering the church" in their wills and trusts, perform the review of the 2010 financial records as required.

In 2011, the Finance Team will continue our efforts to:

- We will be challenged to provide oversight based on God's calling and direction rather than reacting based on our human nature.
- We will communicate the status of the church's financial resources on a timely basis. In light of economic conditions and our deficit budget, we will monitor our income and expenses very closely and recommend any adjustments that may be necessary.
- We will also inform givers of opportunities to support the various ministries of EPPC and/or the Eden Prairie and surrounding community.
- Most importantly, we want to work with the other ministry teams in meeting their goals and opportunities as they relate to finances, and yet allow us to be good stewards of what God has provided. We are reminded that God is in control and ask Him to have His way with us!

The Finance Team: Jerry Hulstein (Session Liaison), Mark Johns (Team Leader,) Don Anderson, Diane Hanson, Connie Potter, Doug Schluter, Ron Swain, Gerry Vande Garde, Fran Warner and Burdell Wessels

2011 Stewardship Campaign

Our "Rock Solid: EPPC's Foundation in Christ" stewardship campaign began on October 10, 2010 with a Minute for Ministry by Ron Swain. Pastor John gave his first of 4 stewardship sermons. Personal testimonies were given by Doug Schluter and David Ocar. We completed the campaign on October 31 with a dedication of the giving cards with the following results:

- 100 people pledged
- Pledges totaled \$435,696.00
- 21 new pledges were received for 2011
- 35% of our members increased their pledge for 2011

Thanks to everyone mentioned above for the contribution to this successful campaign. A special thanks to Ron Swain, Stewardship Chairman, and Mark Johns, Finance Team Leader, for making the drive run with much ease.

Joy in the Lord,

Connie Potter, Finance and Facilities Director

Invite, Receive, Connect Ministry Team

The Invite, Receive, Connect Ministry Team was formed in September 2010 as a result of a year-long task force study on the best method of expanding the outreach and in-reach ministry at EPPC. Current members of the team include Liz Van Schooneveld, Gary Van Schooneveld, Doug Schluter, Lisa Weir, Michele Cohen, Walt Cohen, Dave Spaulding and Lou Anderson.

According to the team charter, *"the purpose of this team is to provide leadership, direction and support for the Eden Prairie Presbyterian Church community as it seeks to reach and serve our local community as Christ's body in this world."*

There are some ongoing ministries/activities at EPPC that will now fall under the IRC Team's responsibilities. These include:

- Alpha Programs
- Coffee Fellowship
- Visitor Tracking and Communications
- Greeters

Other direct responsibilities will be added to this list in 2011 as the ministry expands.

In September – December of 2010, the new IRC team focused on defining our areas of responsibility and concern, visioning for 2011 and re-examining the mission statement of EPPC. In addition, we focused on our first task of re-framing the coffee fellowship time to make it more visitor-friendly and efficiently managed. Starting in 2011, there will be a new coffee system, with an updated quality of coffee, along with a focus on providing better tea service and other possible beverages for those non-coffee drinkers. A new system for soliciting volunteers for bringing treats for fellowship time will be introduced. In addition, the team is considering forming a Hospitality Team that would operate as a sub group of IRC and would provide ongoing supervision of the coffee fellowship time.

In 2011, the team will focus on the following areas, along with the appropriate supporting ministries and teams:

- Expanded Alpha offerings
- The invitation process
- Enhancing our visitor experience
- Newcomer mentoring
- New member assimilation

Respectfully submitted,
Liz and Gary Van Schooneveld

*Stewardship
Campaign*

*Invite,
Receive,
Connect*

Men's Ministry (E=MC³)

The year 2010 was another great year for the Men's Ministry at EPPC. Our primary events this year included the annual Bowling Extravaganza in January, the 6th Annual Men's Connection Golf Outing in August and our 3rd Annual Men's Retreat at Camp Ojibway in October.

January always seems to be the perfect time for the humbling experience of bowling. About 20 men gathered at Brunswick Lanes in Eden Prairie for some food and fun on a cold and snowy Monday evening. Great fun and fellowship are staples for this event and thankfully the only injuries were a couple of bruised egos.

On Mother's Day, 50 men of EPPC performed the song "The Family Prayer Song" in worship. It seems as if God reserves a beautiful Saturday every August for us to gather in fellowship again for EPPC men to enjoy a little golf in Belle Plaine; a great time for fellowship mixed with some friendly competition. This year had a smaller group of golfers but a great time nonetheless.

The first weekend in October, ten men from EPPC and forty other men from Faith and Hope Presbyterian churches joined together for an amazing weekend of prayer, worship, and fellowship. An absolutely spectacular weekend provided many opportunities for men to spend time out in nature praising and worshipping with other men. This year's retreat had a different focus with most time spent in small groups. We spent the weekend talking about creating a "Band of Brothers" and a network of accountability partners. As usual, testimonials presented were powerful. These groups provided many opportunities to share concerns, praises and other prayer needs. The Camp Ojibway retreat has steadily become the big event for E=MC³ and we are excited for our participation in 2011.

The end of the retreat presented EPPC men the chance to get together and discuss the coming year of Men's Ministry at our church. We put some thought into 2011 and discussed the timing of our next events, the first of which is in January, the Bowling Extravaganza.

The Men's Ministry leadership eagerly anticipates God's plan for us in 2011. We head into 2011 with excitement as we prayerfully navigate the direction of the E=MC³. We thank God for the structure and leadership of E=MC³ and pray for many new eager men to join us at our events and even our leadership team. As always, we move forward helping men of EPPC get better connected with each other and with Christ. Keep your eyes open for opportunities for involvement in the coming year!

Ian McNeil, Men's Ministry Team Leader

Mission and Compassion Team

Highlights of 2010 include:

- Praising God for His faithfulness and the generosity of the people of EPPC. We know these are difficult economic times for everyone, but EPPC has been more than faithful in making and exceeding commitments to the ministries we serve. We thank God for giving us the resources as we are "Blessed to be a Blessing." Among the praises in 2010: strengthened and renewed connections with ABD House, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, New Life Family Services, Hospitality House and Prayer Ventures; and a new door open to the Somali community through a partnership with Sherry Mohamed (World Relief MN).
- Evaluated the success of last year's Faith in Action Projects and how that fostered a deeper commitment to the ministries we serve. As an example, Michele Cohen's heart for the girls at A Brighter Day House was increased exponentially with Bible Studies and other activities. We are looking into bringing FIA back in 2011 as God leads.
- Sponsored a team from EPPC and St. Andrews in painting a house as part of the annual Metro Paint-a-Thon.
- Al Norby, Southern MN area director for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, led members in worship. This year Al was given additional responsibilities for the Metro colleges, which include Normandale and the University of Minnesota.
- Continued to support and encourage the Rey de Reyes community. They continue to teach and lead us in showing hospitality! We had a remarkable time as the two congregations joined together for our annual "All-Church Picnic".
- Sent Dave and Ruth Bowman to a "Finishers Conference" to look at ways in which EPPC members who are looking for vocational changes or retirement might open a door into Christian Missions. It could be considered an "Urbana for Adults".
- The Christmas Eve offering raised \$7,771.00 to support two ministries serving those in need: 50% will help support the Pankratz's new ministry, supporting Down's Syndrome children and their parents, and 50% will help replenish the local food shelves administered by PROP.
- Our relationship with Sherry Mohamed continues to grow as we look at ways we can network with other churches such as Grace and Wooddale, as we strive to reach the Somali community with the hope and love of Jesus Christ.
- Continued support of Hospitality House in North Minneapolis as through our Christmas gifts and others; another "Christmas with Dignity" was a success in serving over 600 families. Again, this year our "Team of Ten" provided the mopping and clean-up crew to put the building back in order after their massive event. This year HHYD celebrated their 50th anniversary in being a source of light, encouragement, and the love of Christ in challenging part of the city.
- We were honored to be the sending church for Kelsey Moss on her trip to Kenya with Adventures in Missions during June and July.
- Our semi-annual trip through Amor Ministries had 45 members and their families travel to Tijuana, Mexico to build two houses in June. It was a tremendous blessing for both those that gave of their time, building skills, and financial resources, as well as the Mexican families we served.

Financial support provided from budget:

Make Old Things New	\$2,400
Jonas and Beth Menezes	\$7,200
New Life Family Services	\$3,600
EPPC Family Fund	\$1,500
Hospitality House Youth Directions	\$6,000
Tracy Groves	\$4,500
John Haspels	\$3,000
Steve and Tanya Pankratz	\$4,500
Zambian Villages (World Vision)	\$2,400
Deo Mwamba (International Christian Ministries)	\$3,600
Mexico Mission Trip (2010)	\$3,000
Alpha Northland	\$2,400
Michelle Turner & Tommy Scott (URBANA 2009)	\$950
Prayer Ventures	\$1,700
Feed My Starving Children	\$1,200
PROP	\$1,200
Eden Prairie ABC	\$1,200
Al Norby (InterVarsity Christian Fellowship)	\$2,400
Youth Mission Trip Leadership	\$500
Mark Turner mission trip support	\$250
Other Expenses (Faith in Action, etc.)	\$1,317
Sherry Mohamed, World Relief	\$1,500
Pastor International Mission Trip Fund	\$1,075
Total:	\$57,392

Goals for 2011:

- Continue to keep meaningful service projects in front of the congregation for an ongoing Faith in Action presence in the community and follow up with those served in 2009.
- Continue to find ways to engage the congregation in mission, partnering with other teams and Rey de Reyes.
- Develop and equip new leadership in mission for EPPC, recruiting new people to serve on the team and as liaisons to supported ministries. To facilitate this process we are now inviting the liaisons for each ministry to be present and report at the Mission Team meeting the month before their ministry is featured. This way we can support, pray, encourage, and open better communication with each contact.
- Help in the preparation in sending a youth team on a mission project.
- Continue to explore new ways to come alongside and encourage and support the missionaries already within our care as God leads.
- Be intentional in helping members find opportunities to reach out to the Somali community through partnership with Sherry Mohamed and her ministry.
- Discern adding new ministries and missionaries to those we support.

A sincere thanks to members of the M&C team (Dave Bowman, Mike Gladhill, Steve Chicoine, Tim Clare and our remarkable, hard-working Session liaison, Michele Cohen) and to those serving as ministry liaisons, Diane Hanson, Jerry Hulstein, Roger Turner, Renae Froemming, Shelly Maenke, Gary Van Schooneveld David Ocar, Jeff Maenke,) to supported ministries. Thanks, too, to the Rey de Reyes Hospitality Team (Anita Gibson, Norm Scott).

Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (NC) began meeting in July to begin the prayerful consideration of the EPPC nominating process. The primary tasks of the Nominating Committee are: 1) to nominate members for the next Session Class (3 new members each year), and 2) to nominate members for the Nominating Committee (2-3 new members each year).

The EPPC Session is made up of nine elders, with one-third elected by the congregation annually. The pastor serves as moderator of the Session. The NC's role was to nominate three candidates to fill the Session class of 2013. As we met through the summer and fall, the NC prayed, discussed the process and potential candidates, and listened for the leading of the Holy Spirit. We reviewed our procedures and updated the bulletin inserts with new "Blessing Statements" from previous elders regarding their time on Session.

We received names from the congregation and prayerfully considered those individuals along with others. We held fast to God's leading as He clearly brought names forward. The NC invited Dustin Kuklenz, Debbie Scott and Laura Yoshitani to serve, and upon accepting, all three were nominated and approved by EPPC members at the Congregational Meeting, September 26, 2010. Pastor John Ward and Clerk Paul Hanson led training for the elders-elect who were ordained and installed on January 9, 2011.

The Nominating Committee is made up of seven members elected by the congregation, two Session elders (one serving as moderator, the second serving as vice-moderator), and the pastor (ex-officio). Committee members are elected for one-year terms and are encouraged, but not required, to serve a maximum three-year term. The NC was responsible for nominating candidates to fill two vacancies on the 2011 Nominating Committee.

After much prayer, discussion, and discernment the NC invited Julie Erlandsen and Leo Lewis to prayerfully consider joining this vital and Spirit-led team. Following the prompting of their hearts, they accepted, and both were approved at the Congregational Meeting of December 5, 2010. They join Kelly Artz, Bob Froemming, Sheila Gordon, Vic Potter and Richard Smith, with Elders Justin Tucker and Pam von Gohren, as EPPC's 2011 Nominating Committee.

Praise God for the process, the prayer and the faithful and obedient service of the 2010 Nominating Committee: Kelly Artz, Bob Froemming, Sheila Gordon, Lori Hulstein, Don Miller, Vic Potter, Richard Smith, Justin Tucker (vice-moderator).

Submitted by: Sherry Knapp, Moderator

Personnel Committee

Personnel Committee

EPPC continues to be blessed with an outstanding staff, committed to serving our congregation and Christ. We encountered a few challenges this past year and made progress toward future goals.

Our highlights are as follows:

- Anita Gibson concluded her many devoted years of service as head of the committee and Cheryl Legan agreed to take over that position for the next two years.
- Jerry Hulstein, Don Anderson and Renee Sandquist joined the team.
- In the fall, office staff members, Connie Potter & Cathy Pavelka, requested to reduce their work week to 24 hours. Their requests were approved and the staff was able to make the necessary changes.
- The committee surveyed the staff regarding the existing annual review process. After reviewing their comments, the committee determined that staffing reviews would now be completed by Pastor John along with the staff liaison which would replace the existing process. In October it was further agreed that the staffing reviews & goal setting would be moved from the late fall to January to allow adequate time and not conflict with the busy holiday schedule.
- Our major challenge was reviewing and making recommendations to the Finance committee for a reduced staffing budget for 2011. We compiled three options and the Session made their final changes and the budget was made with a 1.5% decrease in the staff budget and a 3% decrease for Pastor John's portion of the budget.
- Cathy Pavelka submitted her resignation, which became effective on December 31, 2010. The committee spent December reviewing options to cover her job and in January will have further discussions and review of how best to complete reassignment and to discuss how the Communications Director position may change to best serve EPPC.

In His Service

Cheryl Legan, Personnel Committee Chair

Prayer Ministry Team

Our Mission: To grow the individual and communal prayer life of EPPC.

Members of the Prayer Team meet for prayer every Sunday morning before the service to focus on seeking God's guidance and protection on all the Sunday activities at EPPC, including all aspects of the worship service, Higher Ground, Youth Ministry and Adult Education. During this time we also intercede for all the EPPC staff and volunteers for their efforts and tasks during the week that lead to Sunday's worship. God continues to bless many individuals who come forward for individual prayer intercession on the first Sunday of each month.

Thank you to all who contribute to the regular "Prayer Corner" articles in the *By The Way*, sharing resources and offering encouragement and share praises. Special thanks to Bobbie Sawyer for coordinating the articles, and all her contributions.

The Prayer Team facilitated a morning of focused prayer for the ALPHA ministry as they began preparations for the 2010 outreach on Saturday morning, April 17.

On Sunday evening November 14, the team assisted the Worship team in preparations for a special evening service of prayer and worship.

The team is prayerfully considering how best to offer prayer training opportunities and facilitate special prayer times during the year, as well as hosting another prayer workshop during 2011.

The Prayer Ministry Team: Bobbie Sawyer, Marcia Turner, Jan van Rooyen, and Pam von Gohren—Session Liaison

Small Group Ministry

The 2010 year began with Dave and Cheryl Spaulding stepping down from their many faithful years of leadership, and David and Cheryl Royer assuming the role of Small Group Ministry Leaders.

The first several months of 2010 were spent becoming familiar with the objectives of the Small Group Ministry as defined by Pastor John, Session, and the Small Group Leaders themselves.

There were no all-church studies in 2010, giving each small group the freedom and flexibility to choose spiritual studies that make the most sense for their unique needs.

The Small Group Ministry focus is shifting slightly, in conjunction with the Invite, Receive, Connect Ministry (IRC), toward a more intentional method of connecting interested church members with an appropriate small group. Natural segue opportunities that have been identified are as follows:

- New Members Classes
- Alpha
- Fall Ministry Fair
- Personal Invitation
- Social Time at Worship

The Small Group Ministry objectives for 2011 are as follows:

- Continue to support existing small group leadership initiatives
- Work in conjunction with the IRC Ministry to connect interested members with appropriate small groups
- Create a functional resource library of existing small group materials

David and Cheryl Royer

Women's Ministry 2010

The women of EPPC continue to have two Bible studies on Wednesdays. One in the morning and one in the evening with women joining in from outside our church family. We feel blessed to be ministering to women in this community.

The Women's Morning Bible Study group of 15 women completed 3 *Women of Faith* studies this year - *Managing Your Moods*, *Trusting That God Will Provide: A Study on Ruth*, and *Living a Life of Balance*. We also enjoyed an outing to the *Dead Sea Scrolls* exhibit at the Science Museum of MN.

The Women's Evening Bible Study studies since last January included: *Discerning the Voice of God* by Priscilla Shirer; in the spring: *Anointed, Transformed and Redeemed* by Kay Arthur, Priscilla Shirer and Beth Moore; in the fall: *One in a Million* by Priscilla Shirer. Our next study beginning January 12, 2011 is *Here and Now, There and Then, a study of Revelation* by Beth Moore. Our attendance has varied from 16 to 34 women. To accommodate our larger groups, we viewed the video portion of the study together as a large group, breaking into two discussion groups. Mary Ann Chicoine and Brenda Ward co-led these two groups. We've had the pleasure to welcome many women come that haven't visited our church prior to the study. Thanks to the EPPC website, we average 4 "new women" with every new study! And the interest within the church has brought different women seeking different studies. Each new

study has been a delight, and watching all of us grow closer to the Lord is a privilege!

In 2010, EPPC's women's ministry joined Hope Church and Christ Presbyterian Church for our first joint women's retreat the first weekend in March. We were blessed with close to 90 women attending from all three churches. It was a weekend of worship, growing in Christ and building relationships with other women outside of EPPC. We also ventured out with the women of EPPC on some Antiquing days of shopping and lunch in the spring and summer. We hope to continue to offer more opportunities for women to meet, fellowship and grow in Jesus in 2011.

Jeanette Twedten—Staff, Michele Cohen—Session Liason

Cindy Prins—Morning Bible Study Leader, Brenda Ward—Evening Bible Study Leader

Worship Ministry Team

Worship Team

As we look back on 2010, the Worship Team would agree that we feel honored to be a part of what God is doing at EPPC. God is always up to something, and when our desire is to be a part of what He is doing, it is exciting and fulfilling. We had the privilege of seeing God move through many different services and special events as well as in our own hearts throughout the past year. Following a somewhat traumatic end to 2009—my parents almost lost their lives from carbon monoxide poisoning due to a faulty boiler—2010 began with a miracle; my parents made a miraculous recovery. Praise God!

We kicked off the 2010 Lenten season with an intimate time of worship at our Ash Wednesday service. We had multiple prayer stations, including a foot-washing station. This was a powerful and very humbling way to start the season, as we walked with Jesus on His journey through our Lenten Series: *Step-by-Step: the Journey to Easter*. During Holy Week, we had a special communion service on Maundy Thursday with prayer stations and some wonderful music provided by the choir (under direction of Dustin Kuklenz) and some friends of Ben, followed by our noon service on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday we had two services which included the EPPC orchestra, choir and praise band leading us together in worship.

During 2010 there were a few other instances where I had the opportunity to bring in some of my talented friends to assist in the worship. The most notable dates were on August 8 and November 14 when we had special Sunday evening services geared a little more for the younger members of our congregation. For lack of a better name, these services were dubbed *Ben and Friends*. These were special times of worship that allowed people time and space to meet with God. We worshipped through music, prayer, personal reflections and poetry from attendees and different stations. We look forward to more times like these in 2010. Jamie Miller, another friend of Ben, preached on April 11 and was very well received. He will be coming back in February of 2011.

The Advent season was another success this year at EPPC. The theme was *Find Your Way this Christmas*. On December 5, we had a fun service with jazzy arrangements on Christmas carols led by some more friends of Ben. December 12, was the Christmas Program, *Star of Wonder*, which was great, despite of the lack of rehearsals due to the weather. Finally, we again had the orchestra (with a few more members), choir (under Judy Schalow's guided direction), and praise band working together for our Dec. 19 service as well as our two Christmas Eve services, in which we saw a great turnout.

In the mission statement of our church, we see the words: "Live the Invitation to Follow Christ." In light of this vision, as we look to 2011, we as the worship team feel that having consistent, meaningful worship is essential to those who desire to follow Christ. Thus, we look forward to seeing a continued depth and purpose in our worship experience. I would love to see us continue to be intentional about the way we structure our services, making every effort to allow for God to move. Personally, I would love to see more personal faith stories and testimonies worked into our services as we continue to strive to make our services impactful. I also think we can continue to improve upon the application ("so now what?") piece at the end of our services, which Pastor John and I continue to work on prayerfully .

I have some plans to regroup and revamp the worship team as we start 2011. I have some ideas that require some assistance—tasks like scheduling, advertising, and communicating different events—as well as brainstorming about personal testimonies, dramas, sound engineering, and ways to give the sanctuary a fresh look. Also, I look forward to continued progress with our relationship with the Rey de Reyes' worship team, as I have had a few meetings with them about sharing the space.

Praise God for an awesome 2010, and here's to His continued blessing in 2011!

To Him be all the glory.

In Christ,

Ben Nordeen, Director of Worship Ministries and your Worship Team: Kelly Artz, Sherry Knapp, Kristy Limberg, Judy Schalow, Jan van Rooyen, & John Ward

STAFF

John Ward	<i>Pastor</i>
Ben Nordeen	<i>Director of Worship</i>
Jeanette Twedten	<i>Christian Education Director</i>
Darrin Geier	<i>Director of Youth Ministries</i>
Connie Wegner	<i>Nursery Coordinator</i>
Connie Potter	<i>Finance & Facilities Director</i>
Julie Carlson	<i>Office Manager</i>

TEAMS & TEAM LEADERS

Adult Education	Jeanette Twedten
Buildings and Grounds	Paul Twedten, Jeff Maenke
Caregivers	Lori Hulstein
Fellowship	Mary Anne Chicoine
Finance	Mark Johns
Higher Ground Children's Ministry	Jeanette Twedten
Invite, Receive, Connect	Liz Van Schooneveld
Men's Ministry	Ian McNeil
Missions and Compassion	Norm Scott
Prayer	Jan van Rooyen
Small Group Ministry	Dave & Cheryl Royer
Women's Ministry	Jeanette Twedten
Worship	Ben Nordeen

2011 SESSION

Don Anderson	Jerry Hulstein
Sherry Knapp	Dustin Kuklenz
Dave Limberg	Debbie Scott
Justin Tucker	Pam von Gohren
Laura Yoshitani	Pastor John Ward, Moderator
Paul Hanson, Clerk	Fran Warner, Treasurer



Eden Prairie Presbyterian Church
Live the Invitation to Follow Christ!