

Growing Our Community of Faith



Kenilworth Union Church
Annual Report
2010-2011

KENILWORTH UNION CHURCH

is a non-denominational Christian community of faith dedicated to the worship and service of God through spiritual nurturing of individual and family, education of youth and adult, and outreach to others within and beyond the congregation.

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*

Matthew XXII: 35-40



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Report from the Senior Minister

I want to express my thanks to you and to our incredibly gracious God for the blessings of this past year. The Chaney family-Luke, Caroline, Anderson, Christine and I, consider ourselves privileged to be a part of the Kenilworth Union Church tradition. By all accounts, this was another very good year in the life and ministry of this remarkable congregation. I am deeply grateful for all the hard work done on behalf of the church by its many members and friends. We are indeed blessed with dedicated, imaginative, and strong leaders.

This past year we met our budget for the first time in three years. This achievement is about a lot more than money. It is about our joint efforts to support our vibrant ministry. It is about coming together as a family of faith that cares for each other and the world. Being a caring family is one of the most important elements of our life together as a community of faith.

We had some big milestones in this past year. Our summer worship attendance doubled due to a new outdoor worship service. The Outreach Committee's new approach to agencies will provide renewed accountability and fresh opportunities for members to participate more actively alongside them in ministry. Whether it was Easter, Christmas, or the "Tables for Eight," we hit record numbers.

There is a strong pulse in our church. The evidence is clear. And there is also an engine humming behind the scenes that keeps this church moving forward. Have you ever been lifted up by: the altar guild preparing our sanctuary each Sunday with precise devotion; the weekly weeders keeping our flowers looking terrific around the church; the Sunday School teachers patiently preparing and presenting the lesson of the day; the Stephen Ministers program doing God's work with diligent compassion and strict confidentiality; the agency liaisons who encourage participation with our congregants; each member who prayerfully writes a check in support of our ministry; the chaperone that gave up a weekend to help shepherd our youth; the First Wednesday volunteer team making creative décor and serving delicious food; the work of those who opened their homes to a "Tables for Eight" gathering; the amazing inspiration our choir has been providing in worship; the ongoing reception and embrace that this congregation has had for new fellowship programs; the parents who teach Sunday School, and our dedicated high school helpers; the group from Presbyterian Homes arriving on a bus to worship; the clatter of pots and pans and cheerful laughter in the kitchen during the "Zest for Life"



cooking classes; new members joining in increasing numbers and bringing their wisdom and energy to our communal journey; the vitality with which this church has engaged interfaith dialogue; the mission initiatives pursued in Chicago, Haiti, Cuba, and Guatemala; all the well-functioning, hard-working committees being run by our Board of Trustees; the constant love and care our members share in this church.

The trait that really has my attention as we remember another grace-filled year is the quality, length and depth of the relationships that weave our community into the interesting and varied fabric of faith that we are. I can't say this enough – we are, through God's blessing and grace, a healthy community of faith in Christ. Through those deep friendships of respect and love we challenge and support each other. The energy and imagination of our leaders and staff provide a creative and Spirit-filled life together. The intention to the interior life, and the commitment to be a servant community in the world, bring about transformation and hope. Thank you, dear friends in Christ, for a remarkable, exhilarating year of serving the Lord in the heart and with your hands. May God's Spirit bless us with wisdom, faithfulness, hope, and love as we head into another year together.

Dr. Andrew D. Chaney

Report from the President

KUC's goal is to continue to build our community of faith, in order to give each of us ways to enhance our personal faith journey, wherever we might be on that journey, and to find the inner strength and satisfaction that come from sharing with and supporting others in their life and on their journey. In the past year, we made notable advances in "Growing our Community of Faith". It was a remarkable, gratifying year.



Life of the Church

This was a year of coming together as we continued the transition to Andrew Chaney's leadership as our senior minister and welcomed several new faces to the senior staff. The staff made real progress in melding as a team and developing professionally. Andrew and his family settled into their manse home and got to know many more of us. A survey conducted this spring confirmed the many strengths of KUC and identified programmatic areas, such as Public Affairs speakers, that members would like emphasized more. The Board and staff are responding to this guidance.

KUC truly has become a seven-day-a-week church. Overall participation is increasing as members become more involved in KUC activities and connect with one another. "Tables for Eight" and "First Wednesdays" have been very successful. A new series of empty-nester fellowship dinners is off to a great start. Adult mission trips are transforming lives. Our Outreach programs provide not only major financial support but also increasing opportunities for active involvement by members. Our Outreach Benefit and Rummage Sale are great examples of fellowship and selfless service to support our Outreach mission.

Sunday school and youth programs are thriving. This year we had 125 Sunday school teachers and 75 high school helpers. There were 56 confirmands. Our Middle School Youth Group is growing. Sixty-one high school students and chaperones went on a mission trip to Puerto Rico.

KUC's music programs are superb. This year we had 52 Rejoice Singers (grades 2-5) and 50 Youth Choir members (grades 6-12). We had 12 Junior and 16 Adult Bell Ringers. Our 42-voice Chancel Choir, our magnificent organ music, and a variety of special music performances delighted and inspired us at worship services.

One area where participation is down is at Sunday worship services. Attendance this past year averaged about 10 percent less than in the peak years before Gil Bowen's

retirement. Our ministers are working to improve their message and delivery in response to membership survey feedback. On a bright note, Easter Sunday set an attendance record, with more than 2,400 people attending worship services or Sunday school.

This year we also expanded our summer programs to become more of a year-round church. Rev. Chaney preached regularly throughout the summer, and we started an informal, outdoor family worship service that attracted 50-75 people weekly.

The coming year is KUC's 120th anniversary. Various fellowship activities will commemorate our history as the oldest non-denominational church in the nation while we plan for a more extensive celebration of our 125th year.

Financial Health

Thanks to our members' generous support and prudent fiscal management, KUC remains financially strong. The operations of the church are funded predominantly by our annual Stewardship campaigns. This past year's campaign raised an amount almost identical to what was raised in each of the prior two years. With continued financial discipline we were able to achieve a balanced budget for the year. And our balance sheet remains solid.

During this past year, we received five planned gifts from long-time members. In an effort to comply with their wishes, we are creating a fund for those who would like to direct a gift towards the upkeep and maintenance of our facilities. Our goal is to ensure that KUC's facilities are preserved for the next 120 years.

Facilities

We are moving forward with a two-phased plan to improve our use of the Warwick Road facility. Phase One is the nearly completed build out of the second floor as an apartment for Youth and Family Minister housing. This will give that minister nearby affordable housing and enhance facility security. Sarah Garcia and her husband are excited about leasing the apartment. Phase Two will focus on how we can use the first floor better to support our Youth and Family Ministries programs while continuing to use the space for Sunday school and our annual Rummage Sale. We expect to complete a plan by early next year.

We indeed have made significant progress in this past year and look forward to much more in the years ahead. I want to thank the Board, the staff, and our members for all they have done to help grow our community of faith. So many have done so much.

Kenilworth Union Church... a family... a community of faith... a place to grow, a place to share, a place to explore and question, a place to learn, a place to support others and be supported. What a wonderful place!

Robert L. Underwood

Report from the Associate Minister

This past year at Kenilworth Union has been one where we have stretched our minds, deepened our faith and worked at growing our community through caring for one another.

Here at KUC we work to care for one another in every facet of our lives – from the meals we deliver, to our prayers for one another, to the companionship we give to one another through the difficult changes we experience in our lives. In Romans 12:15 Paul wrote “rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” He instructs us to be a Christian community that practices empathy with one another at all times, and this year has been one where this challenge has been taken up and lived out over and over again.

The church is also a place where we are given opportunities to grow in our faith. Adult Education, worship and service all give us those opportunities. This year the Adult Education Committee provided a variety of experiences, of Bible study, retreats, movie reviews, and public affairs speakers, for the congregation. Small groups like Soul Sisters and the The Knitting Ministry have continued to be places where people come together in community to learn from one another and participate in service to others. All new members are encouraged to find a place in the church where they can both feel at home and contribute their gifts.

In new members’ classes, which take place twice a year, we have welcomed people into our community as we grow our community of faith. With a new power point presentation and a New Member Notebook we tell the story of KUC and its foundation as a non-denominational church open to accepting anyone who wants to be part of this community of faith, regardless of religious background or belief.

My hope is that here at KUC, “in a world that ‘couldn’t care less,’ we would be a people who couldn’t care more.” (Our Daily Bread, September 1993). Thank you for the joy of this journey together as we live out this motto together in every aspect of our lives.

Rev. Jane Lionberger



Report from the Associate Minister

I am blessed to report that last year was a very busy year for Youth and Family Ministries. We had two intergenerational trips to Haiti where we built a school in a tent camp, and now 400 students are receiving free classes there. The high school Impact service group served at The Night Ministry, Bethel New Life, The Cornerstone Shelter and many more local projects. The year culminated in a trip to Puerto Rico where 50 youth and 10 leaders accomplished an amazing amount of work on 5 different houses. The summer ended with a young adult trip to Cuba in August. Couple all of that with monthly family events like Foodpacking, Carols and Cookies, Winter Warm Up Supper, and you can see how busy we were. In March, we confirmed 54 more freshmen. Each week we also had youth group meetings for 5th and 6th graders, 7th and 8th graders, and the highschoolers met twice a month. Youth and Family Ministries at KUC are thriving and I can’t wait to see what this year will bring.



*Blessings,
Rev. Sarah Garcia*

Report from the Director of Music

The mission of the Music Ministry Program at Kenilworth Union Church is to inspire and enhance meaningful worship of God through fellowship and the performance / study of outstanding sacred music. Here at Kenilworth Union Church we are very blessed to have **eight** musical ensembles: Rejoice Singers, KUC Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Junior Bell Choir, Adult Bell Choir, Apostle Alumni Choir, KUC Chamber Ensemble and our new group, KUC A Cappella. These multi-age ensembles prepare music and communicate God's word throughout the church year. These groups have continued to develop their musical skills and have demonstrated steady musical improvement. I thank them for their hard work, dedication and inspiration. In addition, thank you to all the congregants, trustees, parents, KUC staff and music staff members who have contributed to our music ministry. Our program would not be successful without your support. Let us continue to worship through the power and glory of God's music.

Lisa Bond



Report from the Director of Children's Ministries

Thanks to all our teachers, high school helpers, the Children's Ministries Committee and the parents for making this past year a wonderful experience for our children. The dedication, faithful attendance and enthusiastic participation are what make our programs a success. Currently, there are close to 700 children registered in Crib through 8th grade. We have over 125 teachers and approximately 40 high school helpers. During the year our children learn the stories of the Bible through chapel worship, songs, prayers and classroom activities. In addition, our 5th and 6th graders built a Bible habitat of Jesus' time and they hosted habitat visits for the younger children during Sunday school. *A Joyful Noise*, our Christian-based preschool, continues to offer a wonderful ministry reaching out to our KUC families with young children.

Anne Faurot

Children's Ministries Staff

Anne Faurot, Director of Children's Ministries
Chris Johnson, Associate Director of Children's Ministries
Jill Witt, Director of AJN



Adult Education/Public Affairs Committee

The Adult Education & Public Affairs programs at KUC continue to thrive. Programs included under this committee's umbrella are Weekly Bible Study series, Soul Sisters group, Men's Group, Women's Retreat, Movie Nights, and Guest Speakers. All programs are supported by a solid group of church members.

The Adult Education/Public Affairs Committee's primary responsibility is identifying and scheduling guest speakers, films for movie night, as well as organizing the Women's Retreat. The remainder of the programs offered are organized by the clergy and the church staff.

Each year the committee determines a theme within which they will frame the religious component of the educational offerings. This past year the focus was "Living in an Inter-Faith World". We secured speakers from different faiths as well as Christians who shared their stories of struggle and success and their understanding of what it is to live in inter-faith communities. In addition to our religious-themed programs, we also try to secure Public Affairs programs that would be of interest to our congregants. These offerings do not follow any particular theme; they are simply a selection of speakers, available and affordable, and identified by the committee as appealing to our members.

We are always looking for members of the Adult Education/Public Affairs Committee and welcome leads for programs.

Bev Pinaire

Trustee

Bev Pinaire

Members-at-Large

Jackie Berry

Laree Bobo

Mary Collins

Elizabeth Forbes

Kate Van Dyke

Staff

Rev. Jane Lionberger

Buildings and Grounds Committee

The committee members worked cohesively to properly care for our facilities in a financial and purposeful manner. After extensive review of the Warwick's usage, and with board approval, the Warwick is currently under construction to adapt the majority of the second floor to full time living space for our youth minister. Youth classes, pro-

grams and Rummage will maintain their same schedule. The record storm on July 23 brought unexpected flooding in the church and Warwick facility. Proper professional remediation, waterproofing and restoration have been completed in the lower level of the church. Damaged materials were removed and remediation was completed in the Warwick basement. All repairs and future finishes have been chosen to accommodate occasional water seepage. Our insurance policy covered all costs after a \$2,000 deductible. Ongoing improvements and repairs included a new security system, area rugs in the Warwick; tuck-pointing to eliminate water leaks; replacement of water heaters, plumbing repairs, removal of storm-damaged trees and sanctuary painting. Through 2011-2012, we will continue to enhance and improve the Warwick, with a goal to have a plan for the Main floor in place during early 2012.

Carol Hunt

Trustees

Carol Hunt, Chair

Kevin Gazley,

Vice Chair

John Hart

Members-at-Large

Karin Balsbaugh

Jane Dearborn

Jeff Gooden

Paul Konstant

Barbara Padgitt

Staff

Beverly Lang

Kitchen Inventory Guild

Have you ever passed through our church kitchen on any given day? Most likely you would find it a hub of activity and fellowship, like many of our kitchens at home. The Kitchen Guild makes sure that the church's kitchen (drawers, cupboards, closets, etc.) is maintained and stocked so that the many groups who use it can readily find what they need. No cooking skills are required.

Denise Wilkinson

Weekly Weeders

The Bowen Memorial Garden is a beautiful, quiet garden, a place for reflection and memory of loved ones. Volunteer church members maintain the memorial garden as well as the perennial garden at the front of the church.

Sigrid Sola

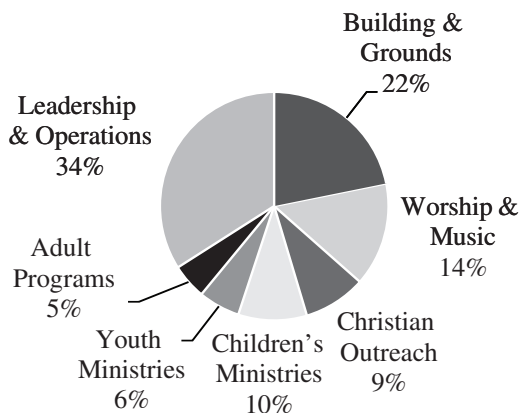
Business Committee

Overview

The great news is that the church's financial situation has stabilized and that KUC remains in a solid financial position. After several years of experiencing transitional issues, tightening of operating efficiencies, and a challenging economy; the church operations achieved a positive cash flow for the first time in five years. We are fortunate that the previous Boards recognized the potential for the revenue downturn and thoughtfully built up our Operating Reserve to handle this transitional period.

While many people have contributed to our operational repositioning, the operational efficiencies have primarily been achieved thanks to the great work of the church staff. Every department and employee has carefully reviewed their costs and looked for savings and potential efficiencies. We will continue to make this a priority in future years.

2011-2012 Budget



Fiscal Year 2010-2011

We achieved an operating surplus of \$65,177 on total receipts of \$2,048,500 against a budgeted profit of \$13,744 on revenues of \$2,006,700. While we continue to do well in Pledge Receipts we are experiencing declines in Other Receipts; such as Bulletin Contributions. These changes reflect the changing technological world and the transitions the church has experienced.

Total Expenses were \$9,633 less than our budget and were \$199,479 less than the previous year. We believe we are close to a bare bones operation and that expenses will be increasing in future years.

Capital Reserve

The Capital Reserve Fund is well funded, and the church will be making some capital improvements in the next fiscal year.

The church is in good financial shape. We have a strong cash position, appropriate unrestricted reserves, and a strong tradition of family giving. If you have any questions regarding the finances, please contact the Treasurer, Director of Business Operations, or President.

Trustees

J Stanley, Chair
Christine Cole
John Hart
Catherine King
Glenn Trout
Keith Yamada
Bob Underwood

Members-at-Large

John Berry
Mark Fuller
Marion Hanold
Geoff Murphy
John Roselli,
Vice Chair
Jon Van Gorp
Katie White

Staff

Dr. Andrew Chaney
Lori Flignor
Beverly Lang

Children's Ministries Committee

The Children's Ministries Committee acts as advocates for and ambassadors to this important mission of the church. Each of our committee members gives time and talent to enhance the efforts of Children's Ministries. Thank you to a wonderful team of volunteers! This year Children's Ministries welcomed new talent and a new chapter in the life of our church. Anne Faurot served as our new Director of Children's Ministries. Anne and her husband Rob are long-time members of our congregation and join us with daughters Caroline and Courtney. In addition, AJN's Jill Witt started her first year as Director of AJN. With over 15 years teaching experience with AJN, Jill brings an historical understanding and passion to her new position. In addition to new leadership, Children's Ministries launched a new initiative through our WIN (Worship in Nature) services over the summer. Casually intended, this new service targeted families, providing an outdoor worship opportunity in the Robinson Garden. With strong attendance we plan to continue this new tradition. It has been a great privilege to work with this inspiring group.

Caroline Degenaaars

Trustees

Caroline Degenaaars,
Chair
Liz Chandler
Dee Fortson
Laura McColl
Meg Revord
Glenn Trout

Members-at-Large

Elizabeth Dugan
Kim Fitzgerald
Maria Fowkes
Nancy Henry
Leslie Holling
Maureen Kebo
Katie Nahrwold
Tina Rice
Debbie Shepherd
Ginger Stambaugh
Jon Van Gorp
Angie Veber

Staff

Anne Faurot, Director of Children's Ministries
Chris Johnson, Assoc. Director of Children's Ministries
Natasha Mah, Associate Director of Children's Ministries
Jill Witt, Director of *A Joyful Noise*

A Joyful Noise

In it's 17th year AJN began the year with a new director, Jill Witt, and a team of 13 teachers dedicated to continuing the tradition of having the finest Christian Preschool

on the North Shore. Our community of AJN for our young families and children is a critical place to nurture faith and involvement in our church. We welcomed 104 families including 26 new families to AJN for 2011-2012. From our youngest Beginnings and Tots programs to our Junior Kindergarten – learning, singing and living the values of our Christian Faith help to keep our church alive with the voices of children every day of the week. Our volunteer parent Board is comprised of 26 women who support the Director and her team as well as run the operations of the preschool. Our registration for the 2011-2012 year was quite low, as the economy and real estate market adversely impacted our enrollment. The Board and Staff have worked hard to continue to bring new families to the Preschool to ensure a strong future for our Preschool and Church.

Dee Fortson

Executive Committee of the Board of Directors

Jill Witt, Director
Dee Fortson, Chair
Julie Ruck, Vice Chair
Angela Veber, Past Chair
Katherine Sprenger, Secretary
Katie White, Treasurer
Kris Whisner, Registrar
Nancy Henry, Communications
Anne Faurot, Director of Childrens' Ministries

Board of Directors

Donna Calk	Laura McColl
Heather Davey	Nancy O'Donnell
Liz Dischner	Deb Ponko
Danielle Dold	Anna Pressman
Kendra Drozd	Lisanne Rogers
Amy Hague	Alison Schoenfeld
Stephanie Henry	Sarah Stuart
Sarah Hepner	Adrienne Weisenberger
Julie Kalainov	

Christian Outreach Committee

"In sharing our material gifts and human resources, KUC congregants have the opportunity to engage in growing our community of faith through helping others."

The Outreach Committee seeks to involve the entire congregation in the church's outreach efforts. KUC supports forty-three social service agencies, and each has a member of our congregation serving as the liaison. In the fiscal

year 2011 KUC granted \$295,002 to agencies in the Emergency, Health, Residential, Multi-Service, Community and Education categories.

We are heavily dependent on the contributions and volunteer services provided by the congregation. The Outreach Committee is especially grateful for the work of those who make our rummage sale, holiday ministries, outreach benefit and Day-by-Day so successful.

Thank you to each of you for your financial and personal service contributions to share our many gifts with those in need.

Jan Wishart

Trustees

Jan Wishart, Chair
Laura McColl
Vice Chair
Ron Balsbaugh
Mark Brand
Liz Chandler
Caroline Degenaaars

Members-at-Large

John Berry
Stephen Cole
Richard Day
Laura DeWitt
Theresa Gernand
Mike Petersen
Kathy Piepgras
Kathy Ragnar
Susan Resko
Jennifer Willson

Staff

Dr. Chaney
Kathy McCabe

Rummage Sale

The mission of rummage at KUC has 3 parts: fellowship, reaching out to those in need and recycling. Every summer approximately 300 volunteers come together to put on a fashion show and silent auction, a premium presale and a Saturday rummage sale. All proceeds from the sale go to help fund the numerous outreach agencies supported by KUC. Goods are collected for about 5 weeks, they are sorted, priced and arranged for the 23 departments at the sale. Higher value items are chosen for the silent auction and fashion show. During the summer items can be sold to rummage volunteers. The public is invited to a premium presale the Thursday before the sale where a 50% markup is charged. This year the gross sales from all of the rummage events exceeded \$100,000. Advertising on-line and through handouts at other sales brought us many new customers. Please read more about rummage sales on the North Shore at northshorerummage.org, or the KUC.org site under outreach, or visit us on facebook.

The Rummage Steering Committee:

Karin Balsbaugh, Sallie Smith, and Gail Steinmetz

Outreach Benefit

On Friday, April 15, 2011, KUC hosted our annual Outreach Benefit, "Looking Up and Reaching Out", at Michigan Shores Club to raise money for our church's Outreach Program. KUC currently supports nearly 50 agencies, primarily in the greater Chicagoland area, 4 of which were highlighted at the benefit, including Holy Trinity High School, Holy Family School, Merit School of Music, and UMOJA Student Development Corporation. These agencies participated in Minute for Mission in the weeks leading up to the benefit, speaking to the congregation about their agencies, who they help, and how. These highlighted agencies were also able to provide "wish lists" of items that guests could purchase at the benefit to directly benefit those agencies' needs. Merit School of Music provided wonderful background music during the cocktail reception, and Tim Bopp, President of Holy Trinity, presided over the dinner and conducted the Live Auction portion of the evening. Guests were also treated to an engaging Keynote Speaker Kishon Perse and his personal account of his time at Holy Trinity. In addition to cocktails and dinner, guests participated in an abundant Silent Auction, a raffle for several Neiman Marcus Gift Certificates, and a bountiful Wine Auction hosted by Schaefer's own Mick Ter Haar. More than 200 people attended the event, and the successful evening raised more than \$53,000 for the church's Outreach Program.

Members of the 2011 Outreach Committee: Theresa Gernand (Co-Chair), Jiffy Willson (Co-Chair), Christine Chaney, Gina Gooden, Sarah Hepner, Beth Kaufmann, Jessica LeFebvre, Amy Maher, Katherine McMaster, and Jeannie Murphy.

Jiffy Willson

Day-by-Day

An over 30-year tradition, the Day-by-Day calendar continues to provide a daily moment of spiritual support and/or inspiration to readers around the nation and the world. Each year's calendar is comprised of 365 different quotes chosen from a library of 10,000. After the calendars are printed, a dedicated committee and team of volunteers give their time to assemble, pack/mail, and sell them throughout the fall and winter holiday season. In 2011, more than 2,400 calendars were sold, raising \$16,000 for church benevolences. The 2011 Day-by-Day committee members are Mei

Aden, Alyssa Bennett, Laree Bobo, Jo Ann Collins, Cathy Durning, Anne Gezon, Stephanie Hodge, Hannah McInnis, Nancy Mead, Laurie Petersen, and Christie Savage. Heartfelt thanks to Co-Chairs Cathy Durning and Stephanie Hodge for a wonderfully successful last 10 years! If you would like to join Day-by-Day, or assist in the process in any way, please contact Alyssa Bennett at (847) 269-5155.

Alyssa Bennett

Soup Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen consists of volunteers who supply and serve food at "A Just Harvest" Soup Kitchen on the second Monday of each month. Church members can sign up as an individual or a family. The menu is predetermined; the food is easily acquired, and requires very little preparation. This is a very gratifying volunteer opportunity.

Margaret Werd

Adopt-a-Family

The Adopt-a-Family Program continues to provide holiday assistance to families in need. Coordinated through Christopher House, this program matches low-income families with church members desiring to brighten the holiday and make a positive impact on others. Participants receive a description, photo, and "wish list" for their adopted family. Participants are also asked to provide each family member with a new gift and food gift cards for a week. This year sixty-four Kenilworth Union Members adopted sixty families in need.

Holly Smirl

Congregational Care Committee

We had a wonderful and productive year, thanks to the dedicated committee and volunteers. A new Stephen Ministers class was selected and begins training in September 2011, giving a total of twenty-six Stephen Ministers guided by six Stephen Leaders. Our first Stephen Ministry Sunday in November was warmly received. The Care Guild with over 70 volunteers continues to do a wonderful job of providing meals and services for those in need in the congregation. The Prayer Circle meets a half hour before scheduled services and welcomes new participants. The Knitting Ministry provides prayer shawls and other knitted items for comfort and love. Our first Congregational Care Sunday was held in May, highlighting the many facets of our mission and featuring a congregant of the church speaking at the services about how she and her family have benefited from one of these ministries. Welcome Back Sunday was again a big success, and we thank the Fellowship Committee for their help, as we will be participating together in various events in the future. Thanks to all who are a part of this wonderful committee and those volunteers under our umbrella.

Scott Walker

Trustees

Scott Walker, Chair
Sallie Smith

Members-at-Large

Mike Harper
Martha Hoza
Bonnie McColl
Simon McMaster,
Vice Chair
Amy Rogers
Eva Sorock
Jack Vandeveld

Staff

Rev. Jane Lionberger

Stephen Ministry– A One-to-One Caring Ministry

The KUC Stephen Ministry program is a lay ministry that supports the mission of the Church by reaching out to those in need with trained and supervised lay caregivers who provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to the bereaved, hospitalized, terminally ill, separated, divorced, unemployed, relocated, and others facing a crisis or life challenge. We had seventeen Stephen Ministers at fiscal year end and expect ten new Stephen Ministers to finish

training in 2012. Our Stephen Ministry program complements the work of our ministers and helps them and other programs provide quality caring ministry for as long as people need it.

We look forward to another year of caring for members of the Church and our community.

Rev. Jane Lionberger

Stephen Ministers

Jeanne Ashmore
Julie Asplund
Carol Berry
Melanie Flynn
Kevin Flynn
Patty Flentye
Cindy Fuller
Stephen Hoffman
Taylor Lindstrom
Jack Mills
Steve Pinaire
Amy Rogers
Bill Steinmetz
Stephanie Sullivan
Debbie Van Solkema
Laurie Walker
Scott Walker

Stephen Leaders

Kris Fishman
Margaret Ann Fowler
Becky Knight
Jane Lionberger
Bill Steinmetz
Jack Vandeveld

Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle meets the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:15 am from September through May in the library. In June, July and August we will also meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month but at 9:30 am. At each meeting, the Prayer Circle members share, confidentially with one another, the names of church members and/or friends and family who are in need of prayer. The group is committed to praying daily for those in need throughout the following month.

If interested in joining the group or if you have a prayer request, please call Rev. Jane Lionberger (847) 853-2009 or Martha Hoza (847) 446-3050.

Rev. Jane Lionberger

Care Guild

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good....”

I Corinthians 12:4-7

The Kenilworth Union Church Care Guild this year consisted of over 75 women who offered their many gifts of love and service to members of the congregation in need. The Guild is active year round, with one or two coordinators per month. Teams of four to six people, who take responsibility for each month's work, support these coordinators. Crucial to this effort is a loyal cooking corps, who prepare frozen casseroles, soups, and desserts for Care Guild members to deliver. In addition, volunteers provide rides to medical appointments, visit homebound church members during the holidays, and keep in touch with phone calls and support. Members of the congregation may use the Care Guild phone line (847-853-3534) or email (careguild@kuc.org) to leave confidential messages for the pastoral staff.

Thank you to everyone on the Care Guild team who worked so hard and cared so deeply for the members of our congregation this past year.

*Katie Nahrwold, Susie Rammelt,
Julie Ruck and Eva Sorock
Care Guild Chair Women*

The Knitting Ministry

The Knitting Ministry knits prayer shawls for people who are suffering from illness or loss of any kind. We also knit lap robes for American soldiers hospitalized in Germany and VA hospitals in the U.S. The Knitting Ministry meets the first and third Wednesday of the month from 2-3:30 pm in the Culbertson Room. We are a group of about 15 people and in the last 3 years we have given away approximately 100 shawls and lap robes. Call Rev. Jane Lionberger for more information at 847-853-2009.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee helps facilitate open dialogue with the members of Kenilworth Union Church, collaborating with the Board of Trustees and church staff to keep the congregation informed about the life of the church. We also work to raise the profile of the church in the community by publicizing activities and events in the local media and through our website, www.kuc.org.

During the past year we have focused on improving the cost efficiency and effectiveness of the weekly bulletin and are in the process of revising the website to be more engaging and user-friendly as well as provide information that is both comprehensive and current.

Christine Cole

Trustees

Christine Cole, Chair
Sallie Smith
Glenn Trout

Members-at-Large

Linda Frothingham
Jim Graham,
Vice Chair
Henrietta Saunders

Staff

Dr. Andrew Chaney
Beverly Lang
Kate Robinson

Church Library

The library at Kenilworth Union Church is a lending library that was established to enrich, inspire and educate church members. The library contains a rich selection of over 1,600 books which are available for all members to check-out. In general the library is a well-used resource. The children's collection, which represents only a fraction of the total material, is by far the most widely utilized.

This past year we have culled and cataloged the entire collection. A hard copy of the entire inventory is now available for members to search by author, subject and keyword. This information is contained in a couple of notebooks in the library. Sometime in the next few months, this information will also be available at www.kuc.org.

It has been my pleasure to serve as librarian this year, and I strongly encourage all members to spend some time browsing the shelves. If you have suggestions for additions to the library, please feel free to let me know.

Bev Pinaire

Fellowship Committee

At Kenilworth Union Church, fellowship opportunities are provided for people of all ages within the congregation. Some activities are recurring or meet regularly while others are once a year or one-time events. The purpose of fellowship within our church is to help longtime and newer members feel part of their church community as they come to know each other better through social activities. Events for all ages include "Tables for Eight" dinners, A KUC Talent Show, The Annual Summer Rummage Sale and "Meet at 5 in the Loop." Seniors enjoy a monthly First Wednesday Luncheon and program at the church. The "Empty Nesters Gatherings" are for adults whose youngest child has left home. A new event will be informal potluck dinners held in homes with parents who have children in the same Sunday School classes. Young adults 21+ join each other for dinner and faith conversations every six weeks at "Theology on Tap." Activities for women include Name Parties, KUC Artists and a group of Southern Women called "Southern Ladies Celebrate." Men meet at the church each Wednesday morning for coffee and conversation. In addition, members may meet for fellowship through "Zest for Life" cooking classes in the church kitchen, as well as twice a month Intermediate Bridge.

Sallie Smith

Trustees

Sallie Smith, Chair
Ron Balsbaugh
Dee Fortson
John Hart
Susan Noyes
Scott Walker
Jan Wishart

Members-at-Large

Mei Aden
Jennifer Burch
Mark Fuller
Linda Huntington
Simon McMaster
Kevin Mitchell
Tammy Mitchell, Vice Chair
LaDona O'Donnell

Staff

Rev. Sarah Garcia
Rev. Jane Lionberger

Christmas Lunch

Early in December, the ladies of Kenilworth Union Church welcomed the Christmas season with the annual luncheon held in the Culbertson Room. Entertaining the capacity crowd was The North Shore Harmonizers. A local non-professional group of women who practice once each week, they presented a lively selection of songs which inspired moments of sing-along by the audience ... complete with

bells and tambourines! Lunch was prepared by Jeannie B's Festive Catering who included Christmas colors and flavors in her creative menu, always delicious and filling. A faithful church committee assists with set-up, waitressing, decorating and clean-up each year. Special thanks to Sallie Smith for helping recruit the volunteers who make this event both fun and festive and a welcoming way to begin the holiday season. Please join us in 2011!

Suzanne Leech

Investment Committee

This committee is responsible for investment oversight of the following seven funds. The total, \$9,289,324 of capital funds shown on the church's balance sheet as of June 30, 2011, at market value, is allocated to seven funds. Each fund has an investment strategy tailored to the objective of the fund.

The Committee meets quarterly to review investment objectives of each fund, the allocation of assets to meet those objectives, and the investment returns on capital funds. William Blair & Company provides advice on the majority of these funds.

The Committee is composed of both trustees and at-large members of the congregation. The church is blessed to have volunteers with backgrounds in finance and investment management who work on the committee to provide strong stewardship and fiduciary oversight for the funds maintained for the benefit of the church.

1. Centennial Scholarship Funds (\$908,462)

This fund provides annual scholarships for seminarians who are committed to urban ministries.

2. Pension Fund (\$1,057,036)

An actuarial study is obtained periodically to determine the sufficiency of funds to meet current and projected retirement benefits for eligible employees and retirees. The fund is adequate for projected obligations.

3. Capital Reserve Fund (\$1,043,988)

This fund was established to support major capital and building needs, and is augmented by transfers from budgetary funds.

4. Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund (\$451,785)

This fund supports programs for the education of our junior high and senior high students, as well as their parents.

5. Endowment Fund (\$3,301,690)

The church distributes 5 percent of the average value of this fund annually to the operating or capital reserve as determined by the Trustees. The Endowment Fund includes the Memorial Garden Fund. In 2011 the church made an investment in real estate with a portion of the endowment fund.

6. Lisa Louise Mowry Fund (\$203,387)

This fund is used to promote a better understanding of mental illness, especially bipolar/manic depressive illness.

7. Gil and Marlene Bowen Christian Outreach Fund (\$2,589,324)

This special fund was established upon the retirement of Dr. Bowen in 2007 to recognize Gil and Marlene's many contributions to the ministry and life of Kenilworth Union Church.

Tom Lillard, III

Trustees

Tom Lillard III, Chair
Keith Yamada

Members-at-Large

Stewart Hudnut
Jim Kyle
Gail Russell
Mark Toledo

Advisor

Mark Fuller, William Blair & Company

Staff

Lori Flignor
Beverly Lang

Membership Committee

Since last October we have welcomed a total of 18 new members, including 18 children. In addition we will be hosting another New Member Class in late October where we expect to welcome another 20 or more members.

This past year the Membership Committee focused their efforts on improving our membership classes with the goals of streamlining the process and encouraging active participation in our church upon membership. Material is presented in two consecutive Sunday sessions followed by a third Sunday where new members are welcomed as a part of the 10:30 service. The first two Sunday sessions include visits from the various activity centers and ministries of our church. A celebratory reception follows the 10:30 service on Membership Sunday. We have developed a more user friendly Membership Manual as a “take away” that allows new members on-going access to information that will help them become active members of Kenilworth Union Church. Response to our improved Membership Process and materials has been positive. Membership classes are offered twice per year in the fall and in the spring.

We look forward to continuing the trend of welcoming so many active and involved new members. If you would like to join our committee, please contact the church office.

Catherine King

Trustees

Catherine King,
Chair
Dee Fortson

Members-at-Large

Kitty Bliss-James
Simon McMaster

Staff

Anne Fautot
Rev. Jane Lionberger

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for the development of financial support for the operational, benevolence, and capital programs of the church. The committee is principally engaged in overseeing the annual Stewardship Sunday campaign, which provides funding for the operations and certain benevolences of the church, as well as the planned giving program and special capital campaigns that are required from time to time.

Keith Yamada

Trustees

Keith Yamada, Chair
Ron Balsbaugh
Mark Brand
John Hart
Tom Lillard
Susan Noyes

Stewardship Sunday

Ann Carey
Roger Winship

Planned Giving

Tom Lillard
Mark Toledo

Staff

Dr. Andrew Chaney
Lori Flignor
Beverly Lang

Members-at-Large

Ann Carey, Vice Chair
Mark Fuller
Dave Gezon
Dick Hughey
Bob Keith
Bruce Linger
Kathy Ragnar
Ted Seweloh
Steve Shepherd
John Stiffler
Mark Toledo
Jon Van Gorp
Roger Winship

Stewardship Campaign

The Stewardship Sunday campaign is the official annual pledge drive for Kenilworth Union Church. The money raised through pledges from our members is by far the most important source of funding for the operating budget of the Church as well as our special programs and Christian Outreach efforts. The campaign would not be successful without the dedication and energy of the Stewardship Committee, staff and more than 135 volunteer members of the congregation.

This year, our campaign, “Helping God’s Love,” successfully raised over \$1.8 million for KUC. Although we did not achieve our goal of \$1.9 million, we celebrated the 826 pledges that we received from our members at an average gift of over \$2,200, the highest level in recent years.

Susan Noyes and Keith Yamada

Staff

Dr. Andrew Chaney
Lori Flignor
Beverly Lang

Worship and Music Committee

The Committee oversees the worship services of the church, giving attention to the spiritual needs of the congregation. It is responsible for the direction of usher teams, the Memorial, Wedding and Altar Guilds and for oversight of the music ministry for church services.

Our music programs included special music Sundays. Special music Sunday in December included a *Lessons and Carols Worship Sunday* celebrating Advent, and February brought Vernon Clark and the Heirs of Joy to Gospel Sunday to worship with the congregation, chancel choir and youth choir in song. Along with the chancel choir, music groups that perform at worship services are the Rejoice children's choir, junior bell choir, adult bell choir, and chamber orchestra ensemble. Nearly one hundred young people are involved in the music ministry at our church. Also, an all youth music retreat was held last September at Lake Geneva to prepare for the coming year.

This year we said our good-byes to organist Maggie Kemper as she retired from KUC after ten years of service. We welcomed Anne Faurot as Director of Childrens' Ministries, Bob Emerson and Robert Cannon, new Altar Guild Co-Chairs, Barb Gooden, head of the Wedding Guild and Tina Roselli to our Worship and Music Committee. Each facet of the Worship and Music Committee is successful due to the hard work of all our volunteers. We give thanks to all who make worship at KUC special.

Kris Fishman

Trustees

Kris Fishman, Chair
Dee Fortson
Jan Wishart

Staff

Lisa Bond
Dr. Andrew Chaney
Anne Faurot
Maggie Kemper
Rev. Jane Lionberger

Members-at-Large

Bob Emerson,
Altar Guild
Robert Cannon,
Altar Guild
Bill Walsh, Ushers
Gail Danielson,
Memorial Guild
Barb Gooden,
Wedding Guild
Mei Aden
Hope Poor
Tina Roselli

Altar Guild

During 2011 the Altar Guild transitioned from the successful, long term leadership of Joyce Bottum through the

offices of Kris Fishman to the co-chairmanship of Robert Emerson and Robert Cannon. The co-chairs were able to obtain the continuing services of a number of the currently serving members, and are seeking new participation. Buck Services has assisted in new candle installation, and the ministers have ably cooperated with a new offering, communion by intinction. We hope that Joyce Bottum will continue to serve, as available.

*Bob Cannon, Co-Chair
Bob Emerson, Co-Chair*

Wedding Guild

This wedding season was a busy one with over 20 guild volunteers helping to ensure that every KUC wedding creates a wonderful experience for the bride and groom and their guests. We are grateful for the time given by our volunteers as they attend both the rehearsal and the wedding, assisting in a variety of ways.

Barbara Gooden

Memorial Guild

The Memorial Guild at the Kenilworth Union Church offers a reception for families planning a memorial service at the church. The reception in the Culbertson Room includes sandwiches and light refreshment immediately following the service. This past year the Guild hosted twelve receptions.

Gail Danielson

Usher Corps

Approximately 110 members of the church, both men and women, assist at worship services, distributing bulletins, assisting with seating and collecting the offering. Ushers serve in assigned teams at either the 9:00 or 10:30 am services, and teams serve on a rotating basis, with each team serving once every six to eight weeks. Ushering is a very good, undemanding way to meet new people and to feel a greater sense of participation. You are invited to join the program, either as a regular team member or as an occasional substitute. Please feel free to contact Bill Walsh (312-609-7730) (wfwalsh@sbcglobal.net) or Kate Robinson in the church office (847-251-4272) (krobinson@kuc.org) if you would like to serve as an usher or if you have any questions about ushering.

Bill Walsh

Bus Attendants

Bus attendants are volunteers of KUC who ride with residents residing at Presbyterian Homes in Evanston. Volunteers meet the riders at The Highlands/Geneva Place in time for the 10:30 am service in fall, winter and spring and the 10:00 am service in summer. The volunteers help the riders get settled on the bus and make sure their seat belts are fastened before the bus moves, new this year. We welcome new volunteers. For more information call Kitsy Bryant at 847-559-8816.

Kitsy Bryant

Youth and Family Ministries Committee

Thanks to our Youth and Family Ministries staff, we have had another successful church year. Sarah Garcia, our Youth and Family Minister, organized and supervised a variety of activities including mission trips, service projects, fund raisers, fellowship opportunities and religious education programs for our youth, young adults and church families. Sarah has been with us for four and a half years, and during this time she and her staff have created strong momentum in these programs.

Be looking for ways in which you can get involved in the schedule of events that Sarah and her staff have planned for this upcoming year. There really is something for everyone.

Liz Chandler

Trustees

Liz Chandler, Chair
Kris Fishman,
ATS Committee
Co-Chair
Kevin Gazley
Catherine King
Laura McColl
Meg Revord

Members-at-Large

Laura Dewitt
Elza Garnett, ATS
Committee Co-Chair
Gina Gooden
Jeff Gooden
Bev Kirk
Mimi Rodman

Staff

Anne Faurot
Rev. Sarah Garcia
Silvi Vahtra
Chris Johnson

Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund

Mission Statement

The Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund was established in February 1986. Its initial objective was to provide programs promoting the spiritual, educational, and emotional well-being of our adolescents and their families. Original programming focused on problems common to some high school students such as substance abuse, self-destructive behavior and depression. The goals have grown to include issues such as self-worth, decision-making, problem solving, service and communication.

Over the years, the Fund's activities and its intended audience have grown. Today, the Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund seeks to continue its original objectives with adolescents, and where appropriate, serve a broader audience including young parents and families and inter-generational groups.

Last year our programs included:

- *Current Trends ... Making the Connection ... Sex, Sexuality and Spirituality: An Honest Discussion FOR Parents ABOUT Teenagers* – On October 19, Rev. Sarah Garcia and KUC member Melanie Flynn led the discussion. Melanie is Links' Community Education Presenter and Coordinator. She is a columnist for the Tribune's Trib Local and a parent of five kids. Sarah is KUC's Assoc. Minister for Youth and Families. The program was very well received and participants appreciated a follow-up discussion.
- *Annie Burnside presentation/workshop: Parent, Educator, Professional Soul Nurturer*. Her book is *Soul to Soul Parenting: A Guide to Raising a Spiritually Conscious Family*. Annie helped parents think and question connections to teens.
- *Madeline Levine, Ph. D., Denise Pope, Ph. D – Guest Speakers at New Trier H.S.* Monday, March 14, 2011 – Family Awareness Network presented a program with Madeline Levine, Ph.D. and Denise Pope, Ph.D. Silvi Vahtra was the connector who made it possible for the ATS Committee to be a part of this presentation. ATS was a part of break-out discussion sessions "Walking the Talk: Aligning Actions and Values for Youth Well-Being". The program focused on a broader definition of success that is practical and far healthier than grades, test scores, GPA and salaries.

- *Youth Sunday Brunch for Seniors*, May 15, 2011. Dr. Andrew Chaney and Reverend Sarah Garcia had brunch with high school seniors and their parents following Youth Sunday to discuss the challenges facing them as they go off to college.
- The Smart Fund provided all KUC college freshmen with a “care package” from our senior high students.
- The Smart Fund provided assistance to Youth Programs and Music Scholarships.

This year we say good-bye to Board member Donna Calk, and welcome Jennifer Burch, Marion Hanold, Bev Kirk, Glenn Trout and Kris Whisner to the board, along with Kim Fitzgerald and Marion Hanold as new Co-Chairs.

The Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Fund thanks those whose contributions make this work possible and wishes to acknowledge the continuing support of the ministers and staff of Kenilworth Union Church.

Kris Fishman and Elza Garnett, Co-Chairs

Trustees

Kris Fishman
Glenn Trout

Members-at-Large

Jennifer Burch
Bob Dold
Kim Fitzgerald
Elza Garnett
Marion Hanold

Staff

Rev. Sarah Garcia
Chris Johnson
Kathy McCabe
Silvi Vahtra

Bev Kirk
Hope Poor
Gay Weber
Kris Whisner
Sue Smart, Lifetime Member



Through Worship, Service, Fellowship, and Love



WiN Service

Kenilworth Union Church
211 Kenilworth Avenue
Kenilworth, Illinois 60043