



**First Presbyterian Church
Union, SC**

2010 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Staff Reports

Pastor's Report	Page 2
Director of Programs Report	Page 3
Director of Music Report	Page 4

Committee Reports

Administration	Page 5
Christian Education	Page 7
Congregational Life	Page 8
Witness and Service	Page 9
Worship	Page 10

Other Reports

Clerk of Session	Page 11
Presbyterian Women	Page 12
Presbyterian Men	Page 14
Treasurer's Report.....	Page 15
2011 Budget	Page 17

Pastor's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Many of you know that my family has South Carolina connections. My father grew up in Spartanburg and my mother grew up in Greenwood. When I would visit my grandparents years ago, sometimes a week at a time, I had no idea that I would some day live here and raise a family here. And when we decided to answer the call to come to Union 6 ½ years ago, I had no idea what the years would bring. I had hopes and dreams, as we all do. Some of those have been realized. Some have not. In all of it, though, I have had a deep awareness of God's presence, grace, and guidance. I would not dare say that I have always been faithful to follow the call of God. We all fail and we all fall and I am thankful to fall into the arms of a loving God and to be walking with a Savior who will help me to learn from my mistakes. God is good in that way – to never abandon us and to always desire what is good and loving in our lives. That is how God desires for us to think about each other as a family of faith.

When I would visit my grandparents in Greenwood years ago, my grandmother would call us in from work and play for lunch. We would sit down together at the table and my grandfather would ask a blessing and give thanks. When I was old enough, I was invited to say a prayer. He helped me, along with my parents, learn the importance of giving thanks. My grandmother helped me learn the importance of showing up. We wouldn't say our prayer or begin our meal until everyone was present.

In ministry, I have often thought of our gatherings, especially worship, as meal times. They are times when we are invited to come together, give thanks, and to be filled with God's goodness as we offer ourselves in grateful praise to God. Many of us in the church work very hard to prepare for that one hour (or more ☺) on Sunday mornings. We work as hard or harder than any person preparing a meal at their home and we have hopes that everyone will come to the table hungry and everyone will get their fill and everyone will enjoy "the meal." Just like in any family, when someone doesn't show up for dinner, they are missed. When members of our church family do not show up for worship and other things, they are missed. Let me own it. When you don't show up, I miss you!!

For much of 2010 I have fretted over our declining numbers...membership, worship attendance, Sunday school attendance, financial offerings. I don't want to be focused on those things and yet I know that each number represents a person in our family of faith. Each person has a heart and a voice and gifts to share. Each person has hopes and dreams. Each person has fears and anxieties. Each person is an important part of this Body of Christ. I hope that now, more than ever, each person will know how important they are to the health of this congregation and to its future.

We have experienced much loss this past year. Four dear members were laid to rest and joined the Church Triumphant. Eight members moved from Union and joined other congregations. Several families left Union for employment or family reasons. Many suffered from illness and surgery and tragedy. Through all of that, the members of this family of faith rose to the occasion and showed great love and concern, as you are so good at doing. In this New Year, 2011, may we each recognize how important we are to the health and vitality of this congregation. May we take the lead from our Savior and continue to reach out in love and compassion to one another and to those who would cross our path out in the world. May we walk by faith and not by sight. Together, our light will shine brighter. To God be the glory!

In Christ's Service,

Robert M. Alexander, *Your Pastor*

Program Director's Report

As I reflect on the programs and activities of 2010, I feel such gratitude to the committed members who always show up, are always willing to give a new idea a try, and who offer encouragement for all areas of the Christian Education program. I wish that there were more of these people!

Sunday School continues to be the largest area of Christian Education for our congregation. In an effort to boost summer attendance, we tried a "flip-flop" schedule. Despite some grumbling, it turned out to be one of the most successful summers as far as attendance is concerned. Not only was summer attendance higher than the average for the past few years, June had the highest attendance for the entire year. With the return to our regular schedule came the same faithful attendees, but total attendance declined. Numbers do not define our programs, but we certainly want all of our members to be actively involved in Bible study and taking part in classes to promote spiritual growth. It saddens me to think that so many of our members place Christian Education so very low on their priority list. My challenge for the coming year is to better communicate the importance of participating in church activities for building up and maintaining our spiritual health. I will also be meeting with parents and other members of our congregation to determine what programs are most beneficial and what areas can be changed, improved, or deleted.

Another area of reflection is our Vacation Bible School program. This past year, our goal was to provide an event for everyone in our congregation. Rather than ask members to teach, we used the Bethelwoods program, "Camp in a Van," to provide the activities for our school aged children. We also had teachers from area preschools for our younger children and a nursery attendant for the babies. Overall, participation from our congregation was lower than ever. It seems that more people are willing to come work when asked than attend when invited. Interesting.

Presbyterian Pals changed nights and Youth Group combined with Grace Methodist to offer more opportunities for the children and youth of our congregation to grow and fellowship in a Christian setting. Presbyterian Pals moved to Wednesdays so that parents could take part in Bible study while the children attend choir, Bible study, and drama. The result was not what I had hoped for as far as adults are concerned, but the children have learned a lot and presented two programs for the congregation. With our largest graduating class, our youth group was a much smaller number and Grace was facing a similar situation. By combining, our leaders share the responsibility of teaching and a larger group of youth to participate. In addition, home meetings have been added to the schedule and our youth are able to meet and fellowship with adults from both churches. Service projects and camps or conferences are available for all ages to offer other ways to demonstrate their faith and to grow with people outside our congregation.

Looking back over the year, there were many other activities, information, and programs that were offered: Older Adult Day, "Souper" Bowl Sunday, Easter Celebration, Bible Knowledge Bowls, Chili Cook-off, Lenten materials, Recognition of Graduates, Bible presentations to grads and rising 4th graders, Rally Day, Teacher meetings, Advent devotions, and family activities. These events provided opportunities for learning, fellowship, and/or fun. Some events were more popular than others, but all were offered in the hopes that our members would benefit spiritually.

Having the opportunity to work with and for this congregation means so much to me. As I look back on the things that we have done this year, I am inspired to look forward to the things that are to come in this new year. I pray that, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our Session, our programs and activities will reflect the mission of our church and God's will for all our lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori F. Todd, *Program Director*

Music Director's Report

Our Mission Statement is "Seeking to be God's faithful people through worship, discipleship, service, and above all else, love!" The music program of the church can encompass and reflect all four areas of this statement. Worship is our joyful expression of praise and adoration. Therefore, the wonderful gift of music is an integral part of our worship services! Children, youth, and adults have an opportunity to express themselves vocally and instrumentally in our worship services.

During the year 2010, the Chancel Choir ranged in size from twelve to sixteen members providing regular musical leadership for our worship services.

The Handbell Choir, with seven members this year, continues to provide inspiration for our worship services with special seasonal music.

Our Youth Choir, with six young ladies this year, enriched our worship services on several occasions during the spring with a beautiful blend of voices. We did not have a Youth Choir for the fall because most of our young ladies graduated from high school in May, however, the group did come back together to sing for the Christmas Eve communion service.

The Children's Choir, with six members this year, continues to study the fundamentals of singing under the leadership of Emily Hill and Sybil Crow assisted by Tommy Bishop and Kathleen Read. The Presbyterian Pals program also continued this year for the elementary children under the leadership of Susan Adams, Lori Todd, and Jenny Alexander assisted by Tommy Bishop. The children presented the Christmas musical "The Christmas Puzzle" for the annual Joy Gift program.

Betty Davis graciously continues to lead the singing and provide bulletins for our monthly worship services at Oakmont Nursing Home. We also continue a similar monthly service of praise and prayer at Ellen Sagar Nursing Home led by Pastor Robert. Pastor Robert also continued with special 5th Sunday Night Praise services this year featuring contemporary music. He was assisted by Susan Adams, vocal solo; Mickey Connolly, piano; Mike Fowler, guitar; and Tony Gregory, drums.

All of the church's musical instruments are in good working condition. The pipe organ and pianos are serviced and tuned twice each year. The handbells are professionally cleaned and serviced every two or three years in Irmo, SC courtesy of Louis Jordan, Sr.. The cleaning, revoicing, and complete tuning of the 1975 Schlicker pipe organ is scheduled to be done in February 2011. As of December 31, 2010, due to some very generous contributions, the organ fund had grown to \$24,713.04 which should be enough to complete this long overdue project.

During the summer months, in absence of the choir, we had several members of the congregation to provide special music for our Sunday morning worship services.

In November, the worship committee, along with the Union Music Club, sponsored the fifth annual Concert of Gratitude in our sanctuary for the community. This program featured musical selections by our children's choir, handbell choir, and music for piano, organ, voice, flute, violin, and trumpet with several members of the congregation and Union Music Club participating. Special guest musician was violinist Allison Gallimore, Union County Schools Strings Instructor, along with some of her violin students.

For Christmas, the Chancel Choir presented special Christmas anthems with sixteen people participating. The Handbell Choir also played during this service.

Our church also hosted the seventh annual community Christmas dinner in the fellowship hall. Several of our members contributed their musical talents for entertainment.

First Presbyterian Church of Union is blessed with many talented people. Many of these are already involved in our music program and there are even more whom we hope to involve during the new year. We also would like to increase the size of the Chancel Choir and Children's Choir. Another goal is to include more instrumental music in our worship services and to host more musical events for our community.

As I begin my twenty-ninth year as organist/director of music at First Presbyterian Church, I look forward to working with the many talented members to accomplish these goals for the new year. As we

seek to be God's faithful people through worship, discipleship, service, and above all else, love, may we continue to work together striving for excellence as we offer our best to Almighty God!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Bishop
Organist/Director of Music

Administration Committee

The Administration Committee reports to the Session of the Church and is responsible for the oversight and management of the finances, property, personnel, and all other administrative affairs of the Church. The committee, including the Minister, meets monthly. The minutes of the meetings are recorded and presented to the Session for approval of recommendations from the committee. The committee is made-up of seven members and six sub-committees: **Finance** - Mike Todd; **Personnel** – currently not filled; **Building and Grounds** - John Carson; **Stewardship** – William Holcombe; **Clerk of Session** - Cynthia Baker; **Elder and Trustee Nominations** – John Carson.

Ray Robbins is the chairman. Betty Davis serves as committee secretary.

It is not required that a committee member be an Elder. The committee will welcome at-large Church members who are willing to serve. We currently have a need for someone to chair the Personnel sub-committee.

Following are the highlights of the committee's work during 2010:

FINANCE – Mike Todd (Treasurer)

Counted and deposited offering each Sunday.

Reviewed all invoices before payment.

Co-signed all checks.

Reviewed monthly payroll information.

Assisted with the preparation of IRS forms W-2 and W-4.

Reviewed and ensured that all quarterly payments were made.

Worked with B&G in review of insurance policies.

Prepared financial statement each month.

Compiled information from committees for 2011 budget .

Prepared budget for 2011.

Worked with the Clerk in preparing the annual report to Presbytery.

Made arrangements for financial audit for FY 2009.

Reviewed all Church funds invested with the Spartanburg County Foundation to insure compliance with the terms of the fund agreements.

STEWARDSHIP – William Holcombe

Established ongoing stewardship emphasis to increase giving and pledges.

Coordinated pledge cards.

PERSONNEL - Mike Todd (acting)

The committee conducted performance reviews of all Staff members, and the Minister.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – John Carson

Ensured the maintenance of the Church buildings and manse, and proper working order of heating, cooling, plumbing, and electrical systems of the Church and manse.

Oversaw the custodian for cleaning of the Church buildings and maintenance of grounds.

Worked with treasurer in reviewing insurance coverage for the Church, manse and van.

Ensured that Mount Vernon Church, grounds and cemetery are maintained.

Ensured that the Unionville Church cemetery is maintained

NOMINATIONS – John Carson

Organized a nominating committee and began work to prepare a slate of nominees for the Trustee and Session Class of 2014.

CLERK of SESSION – Cynthia Baker

Organized a review committee and completed the annual review and up-date of the Church membership rolls.

Worked with the treasurer in preparing the annual report to Presbytery.

SECERATRY – Betty Davis

Recorded and distributed the minutes of committee meetings.

Prepared a Church Use Policy for approval by the committee and Session.

CHAIRMAN – Ray Robbins

Completed a cost analysis of bulk rate vs first class postage for *Tower Talk* mailings.

The committee and Minister completed a review and up-date of the mailing of *Tower Talk*.

The Administrative Committee Planning Calender was revised to add annual reviews of the “*Safe Place Policy*” in October, the Spartanburg County Foundation fund agreements and review of Church membership rolls in November.

In 2011 the Committee will continue to monitor and strive to fulfill the assigned responsibilities and will also seek for improvements that will provide for more efficient and effective use of the resources of the Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Robbins, Committee Chairman

Christian Education

During 2010, the Christian Education Committee once again worked hard to provide plenty of opportunities for spiritual growth.

Sunday School programs encourage all ages to learn more about God's Word and what that Word says to us today. The children's classes use the "We Believe" curriculum; youth are using the "Faith Questions" series as well as many other resources. Both of these are published by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Adult classes vary with classes for men, for women, for those who prefer discussion, and for those prefer lecture.

Our Sunday School program consistently maintains an average attendance of 65 out of a roll of 113, about 58% of the enrollment. This year during the summer months we tried a "flip-flop" program where worship services were held first at 9:30 A.M. and Sunday School followed with a short time for fellowship in between. There was a special class held during this time that focused on Evangelism that was very well attended and actually the summer attendance was better than it had been in the past maintaining the average of 65 for the three months. Actually the summer months were some of the best attended months of the year which is unusual. The other classes maintained their regular schedules throughout the year. The Sunday School offering has been sent to twice to both Thornwell and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. It has also been placed in our church accounts for use in 4th Grade Bible Fund, Vacation Bible School, Just Coffee, Sunday Meals, and to the purchase of the new pew Bibles.

The CE committee teamed up with Bethelwoods this year to bring Camp in a Van to FPC. This year's VBS was led by individuals from Bethelwoods for our attendees still in school and the adults were treated to a comprehensive study of the Bible. The leaders from Bethelwoods were culturally diverse and brought a new spin on our VBS program as well as allowing adults to attend the Bible study.

The Christian Education program also provided informative literature for Lent and an opportunity to participate in creating an Advent booklet that was also shared with the congregation. The Bible Knowledge Bowl was held twice last year and was combined with the Chili Cook-Off for a time of fellowship and fun.

The children's program, "Presbyterian Pals" presented two presentations for the congregation this year and did a great job. Presbyterian Pals (children in grades 1-5) begin with choir and then change to a time of Bible study and drama.

Our Youth Group continues to be highly involved and energetic during the nightly youth meetings. This year they merged with the youth at Grace and have a varied meeting schedule that keeps them fresh as well as moving around town as they have also taken to having meetings at each other homes. This year the group led worship for Souper Bowl (or Youth) Sunday, collecting money for Meals on Wheels and cans for a local food pantry.

Additionally, students attended both the Montreat and the PC conferences for youth and middle school students, provided yard care services to a member of our congregation, and added to worship through their talents of singing or playing instruments. They also had an opportunity to take a ski trip this year that was enjoyed by all. Many of our young people graduated this year so we also had a special event for them: a celebration of their accomplishments and a time for us to remember the good times that we have had with them over the years. We have a great group of young people!

CE also had a special celebration for our Older Adults that included members of the community that presented services and information. Our Older Adults were served lunch and had great fellowship with each other. CE also sponsored a Rally Day celebration that included a presentation of teachers as well as a charge to all teachers. To assist we have had a few meeting with teachers to present resources that might be helpful. Additionally CE had a special Easter Celebration on that most Holy of days.

Programs will continue to grow and change with the needs of our congregation and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, all members will find a place to feel an active part of our church.

Respectively submitted,

Tim Barnado, *Committee Chair*

Congregational Life

This past year, the Congregational Life Committee was very active providing opportunities for our church members to gather and fellowship. We are also involved in helping people learn how to provide care and nurture to one another through our Shepherd ministry and Prayer Partner ministry.

Here is a list of things that were organized in 2010.

1. April 3- Mt. Vernon Easter Egg Hunt
4- Breakfast at church Easter Sunday
23- Family Game Night
2. May 2- Mt. Vernon
16- Luncheon for graduates
20- Leadership Retreat Meeting
3. June 11th & 12th - Leadership Retreat
4. July 18- Bible Bowl
20- Congregational Life Discussion Meeting
5. Aug. 29- Rally Day/ Prayer Partner Kick-off Breakfast
6. Sept. 23- Shepherd's Training Kick-off (Meal provided)
We have met every 3 months for updates
7. Oct. 17- Mt. Vernon
8. Dec. 2- "Magic of Christmas" 7:30pm at Balk Theater in Charlotte
10- Parent's Night Out 5-9 p.m.
19- Joy Gift

Respectively submitted,

Sylvia Carson, *Secretary*

Witness and Service

I. During 2010, the Witness and Service Committee provided educational materials about the following ministries and promoted offerings for each: One Great Hour of Sharing, Mother's Day, Pentecost, Dimes for Hunger ((total of \$2,630.80 in offerings, once again qualifying FPC Union for Provident Presbytery's prestigious Randy McSpadden Award!), Thornwell, and Joy Gift.

II. Coleman Fund grants were provided to the following ministries in the following amounts:

- a. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: \$ 1,500.00
- b. Thornwell: \$ 1,500.00
- c. FPC Community Outreach: \$ 1,000.00
- d. Union Meals on Wheels: \$ 500.00
- e. Providence Presbytery Campus Ministry: \$ 500.00
- f. Mission Partners Tim and Gloria Wheeler \$ 500.00
- g. Mission Partners Mark and Miriam Adams: \$ 500.00
- h. Mission Partners Mike and Nancy Haninger: \$ 500.00
- i. Medical Benevolence Foundation: \$ 500.00

III. Budgeted funds were used to provide support for the Theological Education Fund, the Community Christmas Dinner, Habitat for Humanity in Union, SC, Salvation Army, Union County Cancer Service, Union Meals on Wheels, Union YMCA, and the Wee Kirk Ministry. Additionally, \$3,000.00 was budgeted for miscellaneous mission giving. The majority of these funds helped supplement the Thursday morning community outreach ministry.

IV. A "Celebration Luncheon" was held after worship on October 31st to conclude the 2010 Dimes for Hunger campaign. The luncheon consisted of a representative Central American meal. The children in attendance collected the 2010 Dimes for Hunger collection.

V. The Union Alternative Christmas Market was held on Saturday, October 23 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Donations were collected for worthy organizations such as Union Meals on Wheels, Heifer Project International, Cane Creek Presbyterian Church Haiti Water Project, Thornwell, Medical Benevolence Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, and Union Cancer Service. Fair trade crafts from SERRV were also available for purchase via catalogue. Over \$2,700.00 was donated and collected at this event.

VI. The Community Outreach Ministry continued on Thursday mornings. Rev. Alexander met with people in our community who needed assistance in various forms, while FPC members assisted by filling out applications, offering a listening ear, and providing light refreshments to those who waited for assistance. Members who regularly assisted with this ministry included Jim Vaughn, Brock Dillard, Sylvia Carson, Emily Hill, Sanders Read and others. The Witness and Service Committee will study this ministry in 2011 in an effort to determine if it can be modified so that a greater number of FPC members can participate.

VII. Community Suppers continued to be provided one Saturday in most months. FPC members regularly participating in this ministry included Mike Todd, Thom White, Sylvia Carson, John Carson, Ann White, Mike Fowler, Al Adams, Carol Creach, Mickey Creach, Lori Todd, Trudy White, Carlisle White, Kathleen Read, Sanders Read, Sybil Crow, Emily Hill, Patsy Whitney, Jim Vaughn, Hassie Vaughn, Doug Shields, Vickie Shields, Mae Guess Chamberlain, and others.

VIII. The 7th annual Community Christmas Dinner was held on Monday, December 20, 2010 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. At least 200 of our brothers and sisters of the community were fed a bountiful meal of turkey, dressing, green beans, macaroni and cheese, and homemade desserts. FPC members made desserts, welcomed our community guests, served dinner, performed Christmas music, spread good cheer, and helped with set-up and clean-up. Smiles were abundant. Though it was chilly outside, the fellowship hall was filled with the warmth that only the celebration of the coming of the Christ child can bring!

Respectfully submitted,

Thom White, Chair

Worship

WORSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIONS FOR JANUARY – DECEMBER 2010

YEAR-ROUND RESPONSIBILITIES COVERED:

PROCURED USHERS, ACOLYTES, LAY READERS AND PRAYER CONCERN READERS; PROCURED PULPIT SUPPLY IN MINISTER'S ABSENCE AND ORGANIST/PIANIST IN MUSIC DIRECTOR'S ABSENCE; SCHEDULED AND PREPARED COMMUNION OBSERVANCES; MAINTENANCE OF SANCTUARY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND WORSHIP SUPPLIES (i.e., candles and candle lighters, acolyte and choir robes, paraments, brass objects, communion supplies, bulletins for special seasons, etc.).

SPECIFIC ACTIONS OF COMMITTEE DURING 2010:

- Participated in Leadership Workshop June 11 – 12;
- Coordinated Every Member Canvass plans with Christian Education Committee and participated in the canvass in August;
- Ordered new pew Bibles (New Revised Standard Version) to replace King James Version;
- Ordered and distributed "Usher" and "Elder" pins;
- Worked with CE Committee to secure children's bulletins and worship magazines for children under six years of age;
- Planned and carried out Lenten and Holy Week observances (i.e., ordered and placed lilies and palms, polished brass, prepared flower cross, had paraments cleaned, helped with Maundy Thursday service and vigil, etc.);
- Prepared Tower Talk notices when needed;
- Changed worship helper responsibilities combining jobs of lay reader with prayer concerns announcer;
- Obtained new candle lighters and stand in which to store them;

- Planned and carried out Advent Season observances (i.e., ordered and placed poinsettias and Advent wreath, prepared tree and hurricane lamp arrangements, prepared candles and Communion for Christmas Eve service, contributed to Advent Devotions booklet, etc.);
- Recommended to Session to accept Darwin Shaver's bid for organ cleaning and other maintenance in early 2011. Tommy Bishop will assist Mr. Shaver. Session approved;
- Secured three (4) pulpit supplies and organist/pianist supply as needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Shields, *Committee Chair*

Clerk of Session

The Session approved the following changes to the membership rolls on January 16, 2010:

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE ACTIVE ROLL

Number on Active Roll as of January 1, 2010: 201

Losses in 2010

Deaths	4
Moved to Inactive Roll	0
Transfers	8

Total Losses: 12

Gains in 2010

Re-Affirmation of Faith	1
Confirmation (1 Baptism)	3

Total Gains: 4

Net Loss: 8

Number on Active Roll as of December 31, 2010: 193

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE BAPTIZED ROLL

Number on Baptized Roll as of January 1, 2010: 24

Losses in 2010

Confirmations	3
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Total Losses: 3

Gains in 2010

Baptized	1
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Total Gains: 1

Number on Baptized Roll as of December 31, 2010: 22

Submitted by:

Cynthia Baker, *Clerk of Session*

Details of report can be found on file in church office.

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church of Union, SC counted fifty-seven members during the 2010 year. From our numbers, we released to eternal rest and God's glory:

Jettie Johnson.....February 2010
Sarah Vanderford.....February 2010
Peggy Bettis.....May 2010

Twenty-eight Presbyterian Women comprised two circles which met September through May for Bible Study, service projects, and fellowship. Circle 3 joined Helping Hands, a group of twenty-five women, and did not have formal meetings but participated in the duties handled by the Presbyterian Women. Four ladies who were no longer able to be active in other circles formed the Home Circle.

The duties of the circles of the Presbyterian Women included the following activities:

- Placing flowers in the sanctuary each Sunday.
- Remembering the Home Circle members with cards and visits.
- Taking magazines to Wallace Thomson Hospital.
- Preparing and delivering meals to the bereaved as needed.
- Helping with events at the church as needed.

Additional activities in which members were involved included:

- Collection and sending gifts for the residents of the Presbyterian Home in Clinton, SC during the month of December.
- Remembering college students in the congregation during the year.

Attached to this report is the Financial Statement for the fiscal year: September 2009- August 2010. We begin our year with a Salad Supper and Speaker in August of each year.

Submitted:

Kiki Sanford

Emily Hill

Co-moderators of Presbyterian Women

First Presbyterian Church, Union, SC

Presbyterian Men

Mission: The mission of Presbyterian Men is to lead men into a vital relationship with Christ and to assist them in their spiritual, personal and community development.

Goals: The goals of Presbyterian Men are:

- To lead men into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ
- To develop men's understanding of the mission of the Church
- To assist the congregation in nurturing men of the church to mature discipleship
- To encourage men in the church through their commitment to Christ
- To fulfill the ministry to which men are called in their families, in their daily work, and in their ministry to other people in the community and the world
- To involve men of various racial/ethnic backgrounds and men of different ages.

Objectives: The objectives of Presbyterian Men are:

- To enable men to understand their identity in Christ
- To deepen the spiritual life of men through Christian fellowship which finds expression in mission
- To cultivate participating in programs and projects enabling men to serve Christ in their congregations and communities
- To develop effective leadership skills which men can use to fulfill their ministries where they are
- To equip men to meet the mission needs and social challenges of a world in need of reconciliation.

During 2010, the Presbyterian Men gathered monthly for good food, stimulating conversation, joyful singing, enlightening and challenging presentations, and opportunities for service.

In addition to many wonderful devotionals, the following programs were presented:

January	Epiphany Reflections and Hopes for the New Year
February	Thomas Davis spoke about his ministry with Muslims
March	Jimmy Harris shared one of his favorite Bible Stories
April	Tommy Sinclair talked about his work as County Supervisor
May	Dr. Allan Charles spoke about the history of the Scotch-Irish
September	Reorganizing and Planning for the Future
October	Reorganizing and Planning for the Future
November	How to reach out to younger men
December	Discussions about 2011

We supported several mission projects throughout the year. The following disbursements were made: \$150 for the purchase of coats for our neighbors, \$200 for Community Outreach Ministry, \$300.00 to Thornwell Home for Children, and \$100.00 to T.L. and Haley Berry with Campus Crusade for Christ. Other projects were considered like assisting with maintenance and building at Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center and assistance with home repair to needy families in Union. Plans are underway to accomplish some of those projects in 2011. We continued to provide for the maintenance of the grounds and the collection of aluminum cans for our Sunday Meals Program. Men remained available to provide transportation to members of the congregation. If you have a need that Presbyterian Men can assist with, please contact one of our members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Harold "Woody" Sanford, *Member*

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2010

We had a positive year from a financial standpoint at First Presbyterian in 2010. Our actual contributions exceeded our actual expenditures and we paid-off our mortgage in February of 2010.

This report will discuss four categories: Operating Budget, Special Offerings/Benevolent Giving, Renovation Fund/Mortgage Loan, and Investments.

OPERATING BUDGET RESULTS

The church had a budget of \$250,028.19 for 2010. We had actual income of \$247,150.32 in 2009 (down \$16,826.66 from the \$263,976.98 in contributions in 2009). This included contributions of \$246,933.39 and interest earnings and miscellaneous income of \$156.93. We had actual expenses of \$240,757.70 for 2010 (down \$16,585.91 from 2009 expenses of \$257,343.61, mainly due to the elimination of the mortgage payment). In comparison to our budget, we had income of \$2,877.87 less than budget and expenses of \$9,270.49 less than budget for 2010.

Major expense categories are as follows:

\$143,433.42 for staff salaries, benefits, FICA, Medicare, health ins./retirement, etc.

\$40,354.57 for Operations (utilities, phone, office equipment, postage, etc.).

\$3,000.00 for Mortgage payments on the renovation/addition.

\$10,027.75 for various insurance premiums (building, van, Worker's Comp., etc.).

\$8,974.29 for Education (Sunday School, youth activities, camps, Confirmation Class, elementary choirs, etc.).

\$1,444.05 for Worship (sacraments, flowers, music/anthems, etc.).

\$1,885.02 for Outreach/Congregational activities (Shepherd Committee, tape ministry, Family Night Suppers, Mt. Vernon, etc.).

\$30,828.46 for budgeted benevolences and pledges (Presbytery benevolences, local benevolences, Seminary Fund, assessment).

SPECIAL OFFERINGS/BENEVOLENT GIVING

The church had the following results from Special Offerings and other forms of benevolent giving:

Joy Gift--\$1,237.00

Pentecost Offering--\$590.00

Mother's Day--\$977.76

Dimes for Hunger--\$2,630.80

Souper Bowl--\$584.00

Thornwell--\$885.00

Coleman Trust--\$7,000.00

One Great Hour of Sharing--\$924.57

The Ministers' Discretionary Fund had disbursements of \$12,631.06 and contributions of \$11,808.50 in 2010.

The Congregational Aid Fund had disbursements of \$1,153.47 and contributions of \$920.00 in 2010.

The Community Meal Fund had disbursements of \$1,020.84 and contributions of \$935.00 in 2010.

These total \$29,401.03. When combined with budgeted benevolences, we had a total of \$60,009.49 in benevolent giving from the church in 2010.

RENOVATION FUND/MORTGAGE LOAN

As documented in the final report on our Renovation, we borrowed \$203,000.00 from Arthur State Bank. We began paying back the mortgage loan in February of 2007, and made the final mortgage payment in February of 2010.

INVESTMENTS

First Presbyterian Church currently has a balance of \$280,386.99 invested in the Spartanburg County Foundation. This balance does not include earnings/losses from 2010, because we have not received the year-end results yet. The balances in each account do reflect a 25.3% gain for 2009, which we all know was a pretty good year after a really bad year for almost all investments in 2008. The total is broken down as follows:

Building/Contingency Fund--\$35,009.39	Jeter Trust--\$10,363.36
Coleman Trust--\$99,201.48	Memorial Fund--\$5,025.86
Mt. Vernon Fund--\$9,774.50	Cap. Endowment--\$58,228.42
Sloan Scholarship Fund--\$11,497.33	J.N. Berry Fund--\$51,286.65

In summary, we had a solid but unspectacular year financially. Our contributions to the budget enabled us to operate efficiently, and we were able to pay-off the mortgage in February, 2010.

Mike Todd
Treasurer