

# STANWICH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT

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May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010



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## ANNUAL REPORTS – 2009-2010

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**Report of Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Chuck Davis**

God's plan for the advance of the gospel of the Kingdom, which Jesus announced so clearly, was firmly placed in the church. We see that God is a risk taker as the church historical and universal has an interesting and checkered existence. Yet God continues to use His church to bring redemption and restoration to our broken world. Stanwich is part of that movement.

Recently, I was reflecting on how the Letter to the Ephesians is one of the most compelling New Testament books toward a theology of church. I will focus my report on three passages from Ephesians.

1) Ephesians 4:11-12

“It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for the work of the ministry . . .”

As I look back in remembrance for the past year, I see so many Stanwich faces. The ministry of the church does not hang on the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors or teachers. The body of Christ at Stanwich steps up often and with quality of engagement to keep our church a vibrant faith community. Thank you to every one of you!

2) Ephesians 3:20-21

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.”

God has certainly done immeasurably more again this year. For me, the part that gives me the greatest joy is the work within us. I have watched many of you take great steps toward transformation in life – all areas of your life. That is a great reward for a pastor as my service is most validated in your growth and advancement. Know that I am cheering you on!

3) Ephesians 6:10

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.”

As we look to the future, I am confident that we have all that we need to live out this stage of Stanwich's history well. It will not be easy. Paul reminds us that it is spiritual struggle, even using warfare language. There is a lot at stake and so the enemy of our souls and the enemy of the church, the kingdom of darkness, is not pleased that Stanwich is such a vibrant community. The Apostle goes on to tell us that we will tap into God's reserve by standing strong and taking up our spiritual weapons. The most powerful of those weapons is prayer. More than ever we need a prayer movement – the people of God gathered and united in agreement prayer for the advance of His Kingdom.

At the last congregational meeting, I shared with you my vision for the future of Stanwich. I reiterate those points once again:

- Guard historical values of friendliness, welcome, healing, pastoral care, as we grow in number
- Equip every Stanwich attendee with a personalized, self-initiated, growth program
- Discovery and leverage of gift-base of every attendee for maximum impact within and outside the church

- Reach as many people for Christ as possible in the Fairfield County/Metro New York area where we have influence through a church planting network
- Become a full fledged reproduction center through development of a *teaching-church* model
- Change an area of the world (international impact) significantly through Kingdom initiatives

There is nothing really profound about these statements. They could be boiled down to a few concepts – care, growth and maximized influence. Interestingly, these are the same things that you overwhelmingly desired in the SIMA survey. My desire is that everyone who walks through the doors at Stanwich receives exactly what they need for their own life journey at this stage. Then collectively together, that we could bring our gifts and growth together in a unified effort to impact our world for greater redemption and restoration.

We are blessed! May we have more opportunities than we ever thought or imagined to invite others into the Stanwich experience over the next year!

Chuck

**Report of The Senior Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Joan T. Osgood**

There's something about the hour between 3 and 4 am where sleep seems to elude me. Rather than dwell on things that worry me, I find that it helps to play a song through my head. Sometimes it's an old hymn or a praise song I've learned at Stanwich. Recently the song that has been my wee hour of the morning theme has been:

There is no rock, there is no god like our God,  
No other Name worthy of all our praise.  
The Rock of Salvation that cannot be moved  
He's proven Himself to be faithful and true.  
There is no rock, there is no god like ours.

I learned this song at our Vacation Bible School a few years ago and it stuck in my head. There's something so reassuring about the truth of God's character and his steadfast faithfulness. It gives me comfort and peace. In an eventful year, as this one has been at Stanwich, it helps to align myself with God's perspective, and to see the events that unfold as part of His plan.

This is one of those years where there has been a lot of change. We have welcomed into the Stanwich family about a dozen new babies, I have officiated at several weddings and presided over several funerals. I've made trips to four hospitals and nursing homes, visiting members and friends, as well as home visits with those who find it hard to attend on Sunday. Many people have come for prayer for concerns and problems in their lives. I thank the Lord that the Prayer Chapel was one of the important elements included in the design of the building. It's a holy space that gets frequent use. Personally, it is a privilege to be part of these significant events in the life of the congregation, a constant reminder to me of how God intersects with each one of us at differing stages in our lives, and how important it is to live our lives together as part of a community of faith, nurturing, encouraging and walking along side one another, just doing life together.

I particularly enjoyed our Lenten study on *The Prodigal God*, which I used both for my Thursday morning group and for a group that gathered just for Lent. All of us that explored the parable found depths of meaning and challenge that we'd never experienced before. I thought it was one of the best studies we've done in recent years. Now my Thursday group is using *Counterfeit Gods*, also by Tim Keller for an in-depth study that we find very rewarding. One of my favorite things is exploring God's word in a group setting, which brings nuance and enrichment to the text. In addition to the Stanwich groups I lead, I also participate in teaching Greenwich Bible Study, an ecumenical group that is celebrating 25 years of meeting together. Members of this group over the years have migrated to start many of the Bible Studies meeting in Greenwich which didn't exist 25 years ago. At Stanwich, I believe that the growth of our small groups, studying and discussing God's word and applying it to real life has strengthened not only the faith of the people who come, but also our witness in the community. Stanwich is known for our Biblical stance on eternal truths, our vibrancy and our commitment to the Gospel.

The vision and purpose of those farmers who birthed Stanwich over 279 years ago has filtered down to us. We are the ones who are entrusted to keeping *The Light in the Back Country* shining bright, reaching out not only to our immediate neighbors, but reaching beyond, to the ends of the earth. Our witness is world-wide, and our mandate is to keep spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ locally and globally. It is my joy to be among you, serving you and our God together. May we all share in the joy of being God's faithful and obedient servants.

Joan

### **Report from the Director of Youth Ministries** **Lee Fletcher**

**Overview:** Each year we ask the Confirmation students who are graduating to write a "Statement of Faith." Here is an excerpt from Sloane Clarke who finished Confirmation last spring:

I have come to understand through what (my youth leaders) have taught me that God is all loving and if you seek forgiveness and truly mean it then you will be forgiven. If you seek to be in a relationship with God and Jesus they will reach out to you and guide you along. All it takes is a conscious effort to seek religion and you will find results. Through confirmation I've learned how God can help others and I've also learned the joys of God helping me.

We consider it a privilege to be able to serve the youth at Stanwich and offer them a chance to understand God in a simple and real but true way.

#### **Discipleship**

**Tuesday Nights (Alethia):** Tuesday nights continue to be a time when high school students in Greenwich are able to explore their faith in God in an open and accepting environment. This year's topics have included "service & missions", "substance abuse" and "how do you love" as well as a recent four-week exploration of the topic of "sex and dating: a God-centered view" that has turned around the typical drop in attendance that occurs each spring.

**Wednesday Nights:** The change in the demographic of the middle school aged students at Stanwich meant that we were not expecting to see as many participants in this year's Wednesday night group as last year. The exciting part is that there are 5-6 kids who consistently come every week and a few more who have regularly attended when their seasonal extra-curricular activities do not interfere. Our hope is that the kids who are with us on Wednesday nights come to a fuller

understanding of how God wants to be a part of their everyday lives. This year we talked about friendship and peer pressure, but we also looked at how God wants us to care for the Earth he created as well as a series of lessons entitled “Wizards, Witches, Werewolves and Vampires – What God Has to Say About Harry Potter and the Twilight series”.

**Confirmation:** This year’s Confirmation class consists of 28 total students – 9 graduating this year and 19 first year students. We had a great retreat last fall where the students heard the Gospel, and have been enjoying spending time together on Sunday evenings – including a night with Joan and Don who taught the “History of Stanwich Church” class in April. At the end of this year we will have completed the development of a 2-year custom curriculum but we expect to make some minor changes for next year to adapt to the change in the group’s size. One of the best things to come out of this year’s experience has been the way the mentors have stepped into their roles and begun spending quality time with the students. We love hearing reports of squash matches between mentors and mentees as well as shared meals and conversations. Some of the pairs have begun to meet at the church before Evensong on Sundays and it is a real blessing to catch a glimpse of them meeting and praying together.

**Personal Discipleship and Mentoring:** Often the moments when we are able to spend quality one-on-one time with the youth are the ones that make the work of planning events and activities (and writing annual reports) worthwhile. It may look like a Saturday lunch, a trip to the mall or a cup of coffee at Starbucks but so much more is going on. Of course the time spent is “all about the kids”, but we often walk away feeling honored to be trusted when kids share their lives with us.

### Outreach

**Semi-Monthly Events:** We continue to bring kids together with events that allow students to be themselves in a welcoming environment. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Turkey Bowl was another great success, the girls enjoyed a Valentine’s Day movie night, and we added a Wii Night to our list of fun times in fellowship.

**Community at Large:** Many of the high school students who attend on Sunday and Tuesday nights show up because of the outside of church relationships they have with the leaders and students in the youth program. Our leaders continue to be available to the public and independent schools and other youth programs (e.g., Young Life & FOCUS) as a conduit for the teens in town to see welcoming faces at Stanwich.

**Website & Text-messaging:** It has taken a while and there are still some kinks to work out, but the Stanwich youth now have their very own website – stanwichyouth.org. We hope that by keeping an updated site, kids and their parents will have accurate, up-to-the-minute information about what we are doing. The text-messaging program furthers our ability to communicate by giving us another way of making sure kids are involved. You can find us on Facebook, too!

### Service / Missions

**Spring Break Service Trip:** With the word out about the fun and enriching experiences of last year’s New Orleans trip, we saw a spike in the number of kids interested in going with us. When all was said and done 28 kids joined in one of the two trips and we even had a few more on a waiting list for March. As an added bonus to this year’s trip, we joined other youth groups at a local housing project to play games and share the Gospel with some elementary aged kids. It was an amazing experience for us to watch as many of our kids dropped all of their inhibitions, fears and “coolness” to show a few 6-, 7- and 8-year olds that they were the most important person in the world for 45 minutes that day.

**Summer Service Trip:** Last July 15 youth and adult leaders travelled to Guatemala for a week of service with Rafi Agrit and Last Call Ministries. Our work included installing 3 water tanks that now provide clean drinking water for children at an orphanage and a local public school. Since our

trip we have begun to hear from Rafi that our work along with the efforts of the adults who went down in February have begun to inspire the parents of the community to be more involved in their children's education at the public school. It is a tremendous lesson to learn that seemingly small blessings can have a lasting impact.

In writing this I have come to realize that I am blessed, honored and thankful to be a part of a vibrant and faith-filled church. I am also grateful to have Danielle as a wonderful partner in ministry. She and her husband, Jeff, have become two of my best friends as we have grown closer working together these past 2 years. Without their consistent gifts of their time and talents much of the work mentioned above would falter and many of the hopes, dreams, visions and plans we have for next year wouldn't get off the ground. I thank my God daily for them and for you.

Blessings,  
Lee Fletcher

**Report from the Director of Children's Ministry**  
**Anitta Tilly**

"Where do I begin, to tell the story of how great ..." are the lyrics that keep humming in my mind as I think about the past year at Stanwich Children's Ministry. It is a "Love Story" in countless ways.

Many of our current 7<sup>th</sup> graders have been helping out in Sunday School and Children's Choir this year. I have known most of these children since they were 4 years old, when I first became involved with Stanwich Children's Ministry. What has blessed me the most about this "Love Story" is seeing these 7<sup>th</sup> graders' faith in God grow. Many of them have truly turned into "doers of the Word" (James 1:22). There is no better "Love Story" than being in love with God and helping the younger children in our Sunday School grasp that love.



In the picture above a seventh grader is praying  
with the Children's Choir before performance.

## Highlights During The Year 2009/2010

- **Vacation Bible School**

We had a record number of children and volunteers in “Crocodile Dock” VBS 2009. There were 30 teenagers and 50 adults involved in addition to 145 children who attended.

- **Christmas Eve Family Service**

This was our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of having a Family Christmas Eve service with the children leading parts of the worship. This service was eagerly attended and there was double row standing room only upstairs and many visitors and members of Stanwich got seats in the (cold) entrance. What a wonderful problem to have! A special thank you to Anne Crozier for giving hours of her time to rehearse with the children’s choir by playing piano.

- **Vermont Camps**

Summer 2009 marked the second summer of our Vermont Camps. We had two girls’ camps. The first one was for those girls who were leaving the Children’s Ministry and entering Youth Ministry. Thank you to Danielle Kohlberger for being there during this camp. Our theme was “Live To Win”. This may at first sound “unbiblical”. Our prayer is that these girls will “succeed” in their faith and as Jesus’ disciples and will never give up on the “race”.

The second girls’ camp was for the rising 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We studied “Nehemiah Rebuilding the Wall”. We had an awesome time, hiking, swimming, making crafts and cooking on an open fire. We are blessed to have children who love worshipping and praising God and who have put their trust in Him.

- **Thanksgiving Eve Service**

Our Children’s Choir sang in the Thanksgiving Eve Service. The congregation was truly blessed by the many prayers of thanksgiving that the children said out loud during the prayer time. We are nurturing thankful children who know that everything they have and everything they have become is from God.

- **First ever “Easter Pageant”**

“To See A Miracle” was one of the most anointed musicals we have ever had at Stanwich Children’s Ministry. The children prayed and rehearsed and in the end gave their best to glorify God. After seeing them practice for almost 3 months, they still got me. I could not avoid the welling up of tears during the children’s beautiful worship to God. Stanwich children were such a blessing as they led the adults to the Holy Week.

## Changes During The Year 2009/2010

- Evensong Bible Study for 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders instead of Sunday School created and led by Justin Barsanti and Karol Matkins.
- Morning 10:45 am first and second grade Sunday School class grew to 20 children and was divided into 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes.
- In addition to Vacation Bible School, we ran a week long Sports Camp. This coming summer we will continue having a day camp. This year it will be a performing arts camp.
- A special section on the “Power of Prayer” during 10 weeks of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School. This curriculum was created by Lorraine Hufnagel.

## Programs and Numbers

- **Sunday School**
  - 250 children registered
  - 110 average Sunday School Attendance
  - 14 classes and 3 nurseries every Sunday
  - 25 teachers and helpers
  
- **Worship Arts**
  - 10 children participated in dance led by Julie Kast
  - 40-55 children attended Children’s Choir
  - 2 musical productions: “Hark, The Herald Angel” and “To See A Miracle”
  - Children’s Choir also sang with the Evensong band, Thanksgiving Eve Service, Christmas Eve and during morning services.

### List of the children’s ministers in Sunday School (formerly known as volunteers)

<p><b>9 am</b>  <b>Nursery:</b> Magda Castro, Christine Rathbun, Emily Gustin, Alissa Tilly, April Culver, Valerie Shaw and Kirsten Wagner  <b>3 year olds:</b> Saskia Craddock and Krista Tilly  <b>PreK-K:</b> Marsha McLaughlin and Chris McLaughlin  <b>1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade:</b> Charline Shaw, Natalie Gustin and Annika Tilly  <b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade:</b> Kay Elliott, Sue Greenlee, and Kyle Gifford  <b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade:</b> Bob Moss, Melodie Moss, Susan Oliver, and Carl Oliver</p>	<p><b>10:45 am</b>  <b>Nursery:</b> Magda Castro, Christine Rathbun, Emily Gustin, Alissa Tilly, April Culver, and Kirsten Wagner  <b>3 year olds:</b> Krista Tilly  <b>PreK-K:</b> Linnea Davis and Jane Palmer  <b>1<sup>st</sup> grade:</b> Marion Loizeaux  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> grade:</b> Gary Palmer and Ron Culver  <b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade:</b> Christian Davis  <b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade:</b> Dan Walker, Leslea Walker and Eric Malishew  <b>Substitute Teachers:</b> Beth Bergman and Tracy Agro</p>	<p><b>Evensong</b>  <b>Nursery:</b> Christine Rathbun and Vilma Castro  <b>Younger Group</b> (3 year olds-1<sup>st</sup> grade): Ellen Morrison whenever possible. Clay, Erin and Tyler Morrison helped.  <b>Older Group</b> (1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> grade): Janet Tibberts and Bruin Schafrath  <b>Bible Study</b> (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade): Justin Barsanti and Karol Matkins  <b>Substitute Teachers:</b> Steve Gilbert and Shalaine McLaughlin</p>
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Before I close, I need to mention one of the most blessed highlights of the year. With a thankful and grateful heart I want to introduce Lorraine Hufnagel, who has become a part-time administrative assistant for Children’s Ministry. I truly believe God sent her to work with the children at Stanwich Church.

**May God continue to bless the children of Stanwich Church and all who minister to them.**

Anitta Tilly  
 Director of Children’s Ministries





## **Evensong Administrator- Mary Beth Gilbert**

I am so glad to represent Evensong in the annual report. Steve and I have been involved with the service since its beginning in winter 2003. Changes have taken place this past year with the departure of Chris Sorensen, one of the Evensong founding pastors, but the service still reflects an *Ancient – Future* style. There is a liturgical connection to the past alongside a worship orientation toward our contemporary times which is provided by the music of the Evensong Band. The service is both spiritually reflective and celebratory.

Originally Evensong was conceived to reach out to a younger generation represented by teens and young professionals; however, after almost eight years the service is representative of young and old, married, divorced, and single, and families of all ages. It has grown to be the largest of the three services at Stanwich.

I would like to highlight the various elements of the service that make up of Evensong.

**The Evensong Band:** When Chris Sorensen left to start a church in Chattanooga he took with him the majority of the band known as Evensong Rising; however, there was great thought and effort to insure that the musical essence that is Evensong would stay intact. The new musical director is Paul Stivitts who has 25 years of professional music experience. He is also currently the musical director for Grace Church in NYC and is the drummer in the band Braddigan. He plays alongside Tyler Bussey on guitar, Garnett Walters on keyboard, both from Evensong Rising, Hugh Wilson leading worship and playing acoustic guitar, Tiago Machado on bass, and his wife Deise Machado on vocals. These gifted musicians represent years of musical experience both in the sacred and the secular and have brought their own uniqueness to Evensong while maintaining the essence of worship that has been Evensong.

**Hospitality:** Evensong is more than a worship service; it is also a gathering for a meal. Each week an average of 125 people are served dinner with the support of 22 people who rotate on 5 hospitality teams preparing and cooking the meal. Mary Beth Gilbert has served as Hospitality Coordinator since the beginning of Evensong. The following members stepped out of service after many years: Tracy Agro, Cindy Conarroe, Patricia Lee, and Margaret Devlin. Wayne and Rona Bennett, Karen Currey, Jan Allardt, Kathy West and Maria Rainford have been added as new members of the team.

**Prayer Teams:** Each week during communion prayer teams are available for those wishing prayer in their lives. Katie Avery was the coordinator for this past year working with 14 team members who have all been trained to be conduits of the Holy Spirit in prayer, intercession, and healing. This year the teams have begun praying 15 minutes before the service in the upper room in the back of the sanctuary.

**Connect Team:** The Connect Table is set up each week in the Rotunda and is a new addition to Evensong. The table provides general information and opportunities. It is a place to sign up for courses and ministry activities that exist in the life of Stanwich. 8 people rotate this responsibility and are coordinated by Jesse Silver.

**Growth Team:** This team coordinated by Steve Gilbert was commissioned by Chris Sorenson to make Christian growth and discipleship a value among Evensong congregants. It resulted in the creation of

Soma and the team has grown to include congregants from all three services. There is more to be learned of their efforts in the Report on Soma; the Body at Stanwich Church, within this annual report.

**Administration Communication and Technical Support:** Mary Beth Gilbert is in her 7<sup>th</sup> year on staff as Administrator for Evensong. She works behind the scenes to make sure people are informed and connected to the events and life of the Church. She sends out a weekly Evensong Update to more than 350 people, coordinates scripture readers, acolytes, and announcements, and has recently begun putting together the order of worship each week. Mike Cirrito is in charge of mixing the sound for the band and recording the service and sermon. Sasha Walters runs the computer for lyrics, videos, and slides, is in charge of setting up the sanctuary for worship, and is known to sing backup vocals from the back of the church.

**Pastoral Support:** Chuck Davis, Lee Fletcher, and Steve Gilbert provide pastoral roles and support for Evensong. All three have been known to preach at Evensong, but Chuck continues to be the primary preacher of the Word. All three administer prayer, communion, and liturgical worship. As Director of Youth Ministries, Lee directs confirmation during Evensong and prays with teens in the balcony during the service. Steve was recently brought on staff in September to provide pastoral support in the absence of Chris Sorenson and is the interim Director of Discipleship.

Evensong has entered a new chapter in its history now that both founding pastors have moved on to new callings. It is exciting to see the service continue to inspire and move those attending to worship Jesus Christ and equip and challenge them to be His followers.

Grace and Peace to Stanwich in Christ,  
Mary Beth Gilbert

## **Report of the Clerk**

### **Regular Worship**

During most of this past fiscal year, we have continued to have three regular Sunday worship services, 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. (Evensong). Both communion and full Sunday Schools have been offered at all three services. The Confirmation Class (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders) has met during the Evensong worship time. During the summer, we held one morning service at 10:00 a.m. from June 14 through September 6. Evensong continued at its regular time through the summer.

### **Special Services**

This year, we went back to having three Christmas Eve Services which was a reduction from five in 2008. All had candlelight and traditional carols. The 4 pm service was family-oriented, with the children's choir singing. The 6 pm and 8 pm services involved our adult choir, soloists, and string quartet. Instead of an Evensong Christmas Eve service, Evensong had a special Christmas Service the Sunday before Christmas. In addition to Christmas Eve, we also had a service on Thanksgiving Eve. For Lent, we had our traditional Ash Wednesday service. During Holy Week, we held the Maundy Thursday Dinner (with communion) in Emmaus Hall. On Good Friday, there were two services: one at 12:30 pm and Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm. On Easter Sunday, there was an Evensong-style sunrise service at 6:30 am and two services at 9:00 and 10:45 in the Sanctuary. There was no evening Evensong service.

### **New Members**

Forty-four (44) new members covenanted with us this past year. On May 10, 2009, we welcomed: Katherine Alampi, Joanna Balda, Sally Carter, Ingrid Davis, Tina Duryea, Erika Farese, Philip Farese, David Frechette, Mika Frechette, Denise Harness, Jeff Hires, Carmen Honeycomb,

Lorraine Hufnagel, Carolyn McArdle, James McArdle, Jr., Carl Mezoff, Gretchen Mezoff, Dave Novak, Kristine Novak, Lynn E. Owens, Sharon Reekstin, Ernst Schirmer, Grace Schiro, Lynn Schiro, Tom Schiro, Linda Shirley, Chris Sueling, Melissa Sueling, and Beverly Sutherland. On May 17, 2009, we welcomed Jodie Emery and Michiel McCarty. On November 8, 2009, we welcomed Katha Diddel-Warren, Richard Farrell, Jaclin Farrell, Mary Jo Giunta, Thomas Gregorio, Heather Gregorio, Elliott (Buzz) Harris, Jane Harris, Edward Lee, Paulette Lee, Aaron Lofaro, Ralf Roth, and Carmina Roth.

As of April 30, 2010, our total active membership is 419. Last year, our membership was 402, which is a difference of 17, even though we have 44 new members. The reason for this discrepancy is partly due to deaths and moves within the congregation. We have also gone through our member roster and moved those members to inactive status who have not worshipped with us for two years or more.

### **Funerals/Memorial Services**

We held six funerals/memorial services at Stanwich Church during this past year. The services were for: George Richard Sivy, Gordon John Forsyth, Marjorie Stewart, Joseph W. Wells, Jr. (Tom), Christine Henrikson Detmer, and a combined service for Howard Alfred Ritch and Sophie Arvay Ritch. In addition, two graveside services were held. One was for David Seabury Henkel and the other for Claudia Wright.

### **Baptisms**

During this past year there were fifteen baptisms/dedications: Peter Carmine Farese, Katerina Olivia Vincent, William George Sueling, Katherine Grace Sueling, Erik Axel Swenson, David Joseph Tu, David Bishop Holton, Alexis Marie Mosher, Cecelia Pilar Belhumer, Zacharias Anton Roth, Lucas Benjamin Morgan, Shelby Murphy Bretscheger, Colin Scott Butler, and Hailey Grace Samuels. We also had one adult baptism: Courtney Belhumer. In addition, nine children, teens and adults were baptized or rededicated by immersion: Victoria Love Hoff, Ashley Grace Linsz, Laura Chapman, Nancy Harris, Hal Knox, Ann Richardson Knox, Marny Spearman, Elizabeth Stepton, and Lisley Da Silva.

### **Weddings**

There were two weddings officiated by our pastors here at Stanwich Church: Kristen Marshall and Chad Thompson, Beth Ann Adams and Robert Alan Bull. Six weddings were held at Stanwich Church and officiated by non-Stanwich Pastors: Elizabeth Badia and Chip DeWalt, Allison Lenci and Jonathan Bryan, Avery Lovejoy and Richard Garland, Laura Eaton and Rob Curcio, Christine Waychowfky and Mark Brookfield, Barbara Oram and Phil Peters. Two weddings officiated by Stanwich pastors took place at the Stanwich Chapel: Heather Parkinson-Webb and Mark Wright, Amanda Spurlin and Rory Callahan. One wedding officiated by a non-Stanwich Pastor was held at the Stanwich Chapel: Debra Waters and James Roome. One wedding officiated by a Stanwich pastor was held off-site: Catherine Birchell and Charles Gardner.

### **Meetings**

Three meetings were held this past year beginning with the Annual Meeting on May 18, 2009. An All-Church Meeting was held on November 16, 2009, at which a proposal for Support of Mission Chattanooga was presented and voted on. On March 22, 2010 another All-Church meeting was held to review the results of the SIMA Survey and Budget Planning Issues for the next fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted in His love,  
Genie Wells and Betsy Parkinson

## **Report of the Deacons**

At a time when so much of the world seems to be uncertain, it is a true blessing to serve our Lord in this body of Christ that we call Stanwich Church. Despite continued transition over this last year, God's hand is clearly on our church, and He remains faithful to us. On the Deacon board it is an exciting and a challenging time to be serving, as we explore how to retain the caring character of our church amidst growth and transition.

We are blessed to be led in worship by Chuck Davis and Joan Osgood, who complement each other with their own unique gifts. Chuck's outstanding preaching and teaching from the Word continues to inspire and challenge us. And Joan's caring nature and her devotion to the congregation is always a constant. Likewise, the dedication and faithful work of our primary staff members including Steve Gilbert, Lee Fletcher, Danielle Kohlberger, Anitta Tilly, Genie Wells, Sheila Hyland, Randall Atcheson, along with several others, has been key to Stanwich's success. We are thankful to our pastors and staff as well as to their spouses and families for their dedicated service.

Our attendance remains very strong, with an average of 410 adults attending worship services on a typical Sunday, up slightly from last year. Of those, approximately 250 attend morning services, and 160 attend the Evensong service. Attendance at our Christmas Eve services reached 900, and at our Easter services over 750 people attended. Twice a year we have had new member services, and this past fiscal year we had 44 new members join Stanwich with another 28 becoming members this May.

Stanwich currently has over 50 active ministries, (partial list is attached) through which hundreds of Stanwich members serve our church and community. In addition to the ministries, we also have congregants serving in other ways such as mission trips, choir, scripture reading, Sunday school teachers and helpers, bible study leaders, confirmand mentors, SOMA series hospitality volunteers, marriage course hospitality volunteers, and the list goes on and on. Over 76% of those who responded to our recent SIMA survey said that they are involved in some ministry or activity of the church beyond attending worship services. That is quite an amazing statistic, but also a wonderful testament to who we are as a body of Christ.

Some additional highlights over this past year include:

- We saw the departure of Chris Sorensen in August as he felt called to start up Mission Chattanooga. Chris was just ordained as an Anglican minister this month.
- Joshua Kim and his family moved to the Washington D.C. area where Joshua is serving at a Korean-American church there.
- We received the results of the SIMA survey in February, which helped us understand our staffing needs as well as helping us understand our strengths and weaknesses as a church. The Deacons will continue to focus on strengthening any areas that are calling for improvement. Overall, the body at Stanwich ranks very high on member satisfaction.
- Pastor Chuck presented a vision for our future at an All Church Meeting in March.
- The Deacons are finalizing the details of the Local Outreach Fund (announced last year), which will focus on assisting those in need in our local community.

In December, one of our dearest members and fellow Deacons, Tom Wells, went to be with our Lord. The celebration of his life at the memorial service in January was a gift and a testament to the presence of the Holy Spirit pouring out strength and unity among us.

It has been a privilege serving Stanwich as a Deacon for the past three years. God has clearly used this opportunity to hone me and grow me, and I'm thankful for that. I am also thankful for the dedicated service and commitment of my fellow servants on the Deacons and Trustees, as well as being able to witness the servant hearts of all who make up this body of Christ that we call Stanwich.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21

Blessing in your service to Him,

Laurie Curtis  
Senior Deacon

### **Stanwich Ministries**

The Deacons are generally concerned with the spiritual aspects of the church. Each Deacon has an assigned group or "pod" that they serve. The Deacons provide support and prayer to the staff and over 40 Heads of Ministries. In addition, the Deacons are involved in worship services, special events, task forces & sub-committees, communion, and work closely with the Missions Committee and the Trustees.

#### CONNECTIONS – MORNING SERVICES

Membership Chairpersons  
Bread Ministry  
Coffee Hour Coordinators  
Greeter Coordinators  
Welcome Center Coordinator  
Website Editor  
Weekly Update Editor

#### CONNECTIONS – EVENSONG

Membership Chairpersons  
Graphic Design Volunteer  
Greeters  
Evensong Hospitality Coordinator  
Weekly Update Editor Evensong

#### CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nursery  
Sunday School  
Vacation Bible School  
Youth and College Ministries

#### WORSHIP – EVENSONG

Altar Ministry  
Band Coordinator  
Communion Server Coordinator  
Tech Support  
Usher Coordinator

#### OUTREACH

Alegria  
Center for Hope & Renewal

Kairos Prison Ministry  
Midnight Run  
New Covenant House  
Pivot Sunday  
Prison Ministry  
Community Outreach Fund  
Food Pantry

#### CARE & PRAYER – ALL SERVICES

ASK (Always Someone Kares)  
Healing Prayer Team  
Prayer Chain Coordinator  
Morning Worship Prayer Team Coordinator  
Evensong Prayer Team Coordinator

#### ADULT MINISTRIES

Small Groups  
SOMA Series  
Alpha  
Bookstore  
Stanwich Singles  
Marriage Course  
Soul Sisters  
Tres Dias  
Vocational Next Steps

#### MISSIONS

#### WORSHIP – MORNING SERVICES

Head Usher Coordinator  
Altar Ministry  
Communion Server Coordinator  
Music Coordinator  
Organ/Choir Director

## Report of the Trustees

*“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? ... For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”* Matthew 6

Stanwich has been blessed once again by God’s faithfulness. As Trustees, we are charged with the financial stewardship of the church’s resources. Again, the countdown to year-end was potentially very stressful. With \$500,000 to raise in a matter of weeks, Pastor Chuck exhorted us to be faithful in communicating the need and to pray. He reminded us that we don’t need to worry. And reflecting on Jesus’ words in Matthew 6, we are struck by how much grace God has granted us through our faithful congregation. Is it any coincidence that the previous verse to Jesus words on worry highlighted storing up treasures in heaven? Jesus punctuated the point with verse 24, *“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.”*

The Trustees' call to the congregation was not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. The Stanwich family once again heard God’s call and gave approximately \$455,000 in April for a total giving of \$1,829,128.13 to operations. While this was \$45,000 short of our targeted budgeted revenue goal, we were able to realize savings in the budget through strict cost control in the buildings and grounds expense in addition to the decrease in staff expense due to transitions of Chris and Joshua. The net result is a surplus of approximately \$45,000. Many thanks to Sheila for actively monitoring our utility expenses for a savings of \$35,000. Tim Hanna, Bob Caie, and all the volunteers also deserve an enormous thank you for participating in workdays at the church. Stanwich saved approximately \$10,000 due to their sacrifice of multiple Saturdays in the fall. Finally, the capital campaign balance was reduced throughout the year from \$643,000 to \$488,000, which has saved the church \$10,000 in interest costs to the bank. In the coming year, the Trustees are excited to promote the paying down of this balance so that our offerings will flow to ministry instead of the bank.

In addition to managing the revenues and expenses of the church, the Trustees are pleased to re-port the following accomplishments this year:

- A new loan agreement with the bank
- Renting of Adams’ House as we await future staff plans
- Working with the clergy and Deacons to swiftly address the staff transitions
- Participating on the SIMA taskforce with the Deacons and other members of the congregation
- Refurbishing the windows and flooring in the parsonage
- Conducting a Compensation Survey
- Organizing six budget forums to meet congregants and solicit feedback

The staff, Trustees, and Deacons have worked together to review our budget for the upcoming year. We realize the financial recovery is fragile and many are still feeling the pain wrought over the last two years. We also recognize that God has blessed Stanwich through the amazing work of our clergy, staff, and attendees. In forming the budget, we’ve attempted to give God room to work and balance the current economic realities. We are hoping and praying that God’s grace will continue to shower our congregation.

The Trustees are sincerely grateful to Sheila Hyland and Bud Sinclair for their tireless service to the Trustees. Their institutional knowledge, keeping of the records and minutes, involvement in committees, etc. is invaluable to the Trustees and the church. We thank them for their years of devotion

to Stanwich Church.

A final thank you goes to our retiring Trustees: Charles Caviola, Erik Johnson, and Carol Lyvers, who through a combination of talents and gifts have given leadership and guidance at our many meetings and projects. A special thank you to Carol Lyvers who is finishing her second term on the board and has endured countless hours of meetings, editing, and spreadsheets.

Stanwich is on solid ground with a good financial base, spiritually mature and gifted clergy, a dedicated and faithful staff, over twenty-six uniquely talented part-time ministry and support staff, and over a hundred devoted volunteers serving through many ministries of ushering, teaching, hospitality, small groups, choir, leadership, communion, prayer support, hospitality, outreach, and many others. With this strong base, the Trustees are looking forward to eliminating the capital campaign debt, stewarding our finances, maintaining and refurbishing our buildings and grounds, continually improving our communication with the congregation, and supporting our staff through appropriate compensation, good working conditions, and time to rest.

During the coming months we will come to the congregation for input on distributing the excess funds from recent budget cycles. These are very exciting times as we each use our talents and resources to continue to nourish the historical values of a welcoming environment where God's glory is made known through worship, teaching, loving, and nurturing.

God Bless

Joan Gyesky and Erik Johnson,  
Senior Trustees

### **Altar Ministry**

The Altar Table is a sacred place that brings us into worship. With the lighting of the candles, the flowers and the Communion Elements we are invited into a Holy experience.

The flowers are beautifully done by McArdle's Florist. The candles are refillable and get filled after each service, including the candles in the Prayer Chapel. (Both sets of candlesticks were gifts to the "new church" from individuals.) The Communion linen is wonderfully cared for by Marilena Voges. The Communion cups and plates are used every Sunday, for all three services, and on other special occasions.

There are special items used for certain Holy Days:

Advent  
Christmas  
Ash Wednesday  
Maundy Thursday  
Good Friday  
Palm Sunday  
Easter

It is a privilege to serve in this position.

Blessings,  
Patricia Hallenbeck

**Alegria**  
**(ESL – English as a Second Language Program)**

Both the students and instructors truly appreciate the continuing support from the pastors, administrative staff and the Trustees as we enter into our fourth year of this ministry.

Fifteen new students registered for classes this year (Fall 2009 and Spring 2010) in addition to returning students. However, some of the students had to leave the program because of the current economy. Jobs were lost which forced some to seek employment out of our area; others took on extra work, and lack of transportation was also a factor.

Alegria ESL offers three levels of instruction – beginning, intermediate and advanced. At this point, I would like to thank the instructors for their dedication, hard work and enthusiasm. Not only are the students learning the English language, but the warmth and empathy of the teachers make the students feel comfortable in their new surroundings. It is a joy for all of us to share with each other our distinct cultures.

My sincere thanks to those who responded to the need for extra instructors. It is reassuring to know that the Stanwich family is always ready to help.

We in Alegria feel blessed to be part of this Stanwich ministry, and we ask for your prayers through the power of the Holy Spirit for enlightenment and guidance.

Respectfully,

Helen Ravera

**Alpha**

This year there were two women's and two men's Alpha courses offered. In the Fall, the women's was in collaboration with Christ Church, with about nine members of their congregation, including the rector's wife taking it. We had ten additional guests from First Presbyterian, Trinity and Stanwich. The team was composed of Christ Church, Trinity and Stanwich members. The Stanwich team was Cynthia Kim, Ellen Kaufmann, and Bebbie Chickering.

The Fall men's course was held at the Bechtel's, and led by Dave Bechtel and Perry Robinson, assisted by Howard Chickering. The 24 guests came from Stanwich, Christ Church, and Trinity. Two graduates of that course, Will Schenck and Bobby Greenhill, then went on to lead the Spring men's course, assisted by Richard Jackson, David Polak, Rick Woolworth and Howard Chickering, with 21 guests also from Stanwich, Christ Church, and Trinity.

The Spring women's course had about 13 members, including a team from Stanwich which included Rebecca George, Carol Lyvers, Janice Gardner and Bebbie Chickering with guests coming from Resurrection Catholic Church in Rye, Christ Church, Trinity and Stanwich.

Best of all, both Fall courses have stayed together as small groups in the Spring with most guests staying on!

**ASK**  
**Always Someone Kares**

Always Someone Kares (ASK) is a group of Stanwich members that came together in 2008 to form a care-based ministry.

The purpose of ASK is two-fold. The first is to minister to congregants spiritually by providing fellowship and prayer through phone calls and home visits. The second is to minister to congregants by providing meals to those who, for example, are sick or have had a baby.

ASK focuses on ministering to fellow congregants who may not be actively involved with a small group or are new to the congregation. Generally a clergy member notifies Genie Wells of a need and Genie contacts Tracy Agro or Marcy Hanna. Tracy has been organizing the volunteers for the fellowship/prayer portion of ASK, while Marcy Hanna has been organizing the volunteers that have offered to prepare and deliver meals. Currently the ASK ministry has about 30 volunteers.

In our second full year of operation, ASK has served a number of families with multiple meals. This year the ASK ministry will look to increase its volunteer base, continue to build awareness among the Stanwich congregation, and serve more people.

Marcy Hanna  
Tracy Agro

**Bread Ministry**

The purpose of the bread ministry is to welcome each new visitor to Stanwich Church with a loaf of freshly baked bread. During the past year, I have coordinated this ministry, which anonymously delivers loaves of bread to new visitors to the church. Our visitors were from Greenwich, Rye, New Canaan, Ridgefield, Norwalk, Wilton, Darien, Stamford and beyond. I was blessed to work with a very enthusiastic group of bread bakers and bread deliverers. Joe Profaci, Roger Mitchell, Jane Stout, Mary Heist, and I baked loaves of bread and Margaret Devlin, Genie Wells, Brigitte Hahn, Mary Gravengaard, Karol Matkins, Lenore Schneider, Marsha McLaughlin, Charline Shaw, and I faithfully delivered the loaves for this ministry.

By His grace,  
Nancy Harris

## Cemetery

The following interment took place at the Stanwich Congregational Church Cemetery during the fiscal year May 1, 2009, through April 30, 2010:

12/22/2009 Joseph W. (Tom) Wells, Jr. (cremains) Sarge's Garden #8

The iron fence surrounding the cemetery on three sides was removed previously. A plan is being developed to replace that fence with one built with modern materials which will have a long life and require less maintenance.

The roots of the river birches surrounding the elliptical pathway in Sarge's Garden continue to emerge in the north and south sections of the cinder path. This will be corrected and additional surface materials added and rolled.

We are using the same landscape maintenance company who is servicing the other Church properties. This has resulted in a reduction of our expenses. The Ferris Farm Cemetery requires removal of compacted leaves along the neighbor's right of way, allowing her landscape trucks to use the road. We had agreed that we would transport leaves and other debris away from the Ferris Cemetery property for disposal. This removal has proved to be very expensive. We will attempt to negotiate an arrangement with the neighbor to use a portion of her property for composting or disposal.

Three sites in Sarge's Garden were sold, plus two in the main Cemetery. The "Gate Fund", now in honor of Jean Ferris Anderson, totals an estimated \$3,850 net after expenses and includes several gifts over the years from Anderson family members. The Cemetery account balance will be available at the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Mitchell  
Cemetery Superintendent

## Coffee Hour Ambassador

It has been my privilege to once again serve as the Coffee Hour Ambassador for the fellowship hour following the 9:00 AM Sunday Worship Service.

Clearly, this program has facilitated our recognition of fellow parishioners by first name, rather than an awkward nameless greeting. This time of Christian fellowship has been greatly enriched since the commencement of the program several years ago. The congregation's acceptance has made Coffee Hour Ambassador an easy role to fulfill.

Bill Dolyak, who serves as my counterpart following the 10:45 service echoes these sentiments and joins me in gratitude for your continuing support of this ministry.

In His Name,



## **Coffee Hour Coordinators**

Stanwich Church is known in our community as a place where God's love shines through His people. Coffee Hour is a long standing tradition at Stanwich which offers a time of fellowship for our congregation as well as a warm welcome to visitors at our church, and a time of blessing to those who provide it.

As our church has grown, we no longer offer just one Coffee Hour between services, but rather a combination of fruit, snacks and sweets after each service. We depend on the volunteer service of a Coffee Hour Host, an individual or group (family, friends or small group) to provide and prepare the food for the 9:00 service and another for the 10:45. A third person, the Heavenly Host or Hostess, is required to prepare and clean up the coffee and juice for both services. Instruction and training are provided and expenses may be reimbursed.

In the past we depended solely on volunteers to sign up for the role of Coffee Hour Host and Heavenly Host/Hostess. As volunteers have dropped off in recent years, we have resorted to assigning dates to those who have volunteered in the past or have indicated a willingness to help with this ministry. An email schedule is sent out in the fall and weekly reminders are sent to those on the schedule. We have attempted to recruit additional volunteers with only limited success.

We are very grateful for the small, faithful contingent of loyal volunteers who serve in this ministry regularly, but WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS. If this responsibility is shared by many, we will be able to continue to provide the kind of Coffee Hour we all love at Stanwich.

Respectfully submitted,

Coffee Hour Coordinators  
Ron & Cindy Conarroe - 9:00  
Anne McCormick Hubbard - 10:45

## **Communications Ministry** **Update, Banner, Media Relations Ministry**

Following are the key achievements of the Ministry for the 2009-10 fiscal year:

- Distributed 52 weekly issues of the Update e-mail newsletter.
- Produced four issues of The Banner, Stanwich's quarterly print newsletter.
- Placed numerous Stanwich articles in the local news media. Most were photo features of various events.
- Assisted Chuck Davis with a religion-page article requested by the Greenwich Time newspaper.
- For Missions Committee, produced the following:
  - A 12-page catalog outlining Stanwich Missions initiatives.
  - Created a permanent display to highlight various Missions projects. The display is positioned outside Emmaus Hall.
  - Wrote numerous Missions-focused articles for Update and The Banner.

Tom Elliott

## **Greeter Coordinators**

### **9 AM Service**

40 pairs of people agreed to be greeters for the early service this past year. A calendar was made for the year and greeters were asked to exchange with other greeters or to find their own substitutes from a provided list of last minute greeters. After doing this they were to let Genie know of the change. The office sent out the reminders. This worked amazingly well and I'd like to thank all the people who gave their time to this important ministry.

I'm always delighted to have new names of people willing to greet.

With thanks to all these willing volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Reynolds

### **10:45 AM Service**

It has indeed been a pleasure and a challenge (as a new member) to coordinate greeters for the 10:45 Service. My job entailed sending a request to members who can be blessed to serve as an individual or with a friend or as a family, to smile and shake hands as a welcoming gesture. This is a positive and uplifting way to begin Worship Service. I have been blessed to have Bev Sutherland who is always willing and able to fill in. My heartfelt thanks to all who have volunteered. God is so good; He supplies all our needs. May this wonderful gesture continue in the future.

Sharon Reekstin

## **Healing Prayer Ministry**

The Stanwich Healing Prayer Ministry continues the long-standing ministry at Stanwich of offering prayer for physical and/or inner healing to individuals who make appointments to receive prayer at the church. We are blessed to have a team of trained prayer ministers who are available to meet with individuals and couples who would like to receive prayer for any reason, big or small. It may be a physical illness or injury, a challenging life situation, a feeling of failure or powerlessness, a need for direction, a spiritual obstacle, or an emotional wound or memory from the past that is impacting present life/behavior, but all of us, at different times in our lives, need healing from the Lord. Healing prayer is focused on bringing the person, the problem and Jesus together in the same room so that Jesus can do the healing. All are encouraged to avail themselves of this wonderful resource!

This past year, we have also sponsored a weekend seminar in November and a ten-week course on healing prayer from January through March. Through these offerings here at Stanwich, we have also helped to launch a new healing prayer ministry at Trinity Church in Greenwich. In June, we are encouraging people to join us for the Christian Healing Ministries Conference in Vermont entitled: "Healing and Restoring Our Families," with speakers Francis and Judith MacNutt.

## **Midnight Run**

The Midnight Run has continued to focus on including the total Stanwich Church Community of adults and teenagers as participants. Since the last annual report, there were three runs whereby approximately 36 people went into New York City. Certain small groups took ownership of organizing and going on one of the runs: November (Stanwich Youth), January (SOMA), April (Evensong). It's amazing to see how non-Stanwich people are hearing about what we're doing and they want to get involved: Grace Evangelical Free Church in Stanwich, St. John's Episcopal Church in Stamford and friends of participants. My encouragement always is for them to start their own run and continue to serve the poor when God presents opportunities.

Midnight Run involves more than the 12 participants who go into the city to distribute food and clothes to the homeless. There are so many people from Stanwich who are involved behind the scenes. For instance, parishioners donate different kinds of sandwich meats, loaves of bread, brownies, hard-boiled eggs, bananas, juice boxes, sandwich condiments for 120 bag lunches along with 3 gallons of homemade chicken, vegetable soup. New and used blue jeans, hooded sweatshirts, t-shirts, boxers, white sport socks, sneakers and shoes along with all sorts of toiletries are donated. People use their contacts and are able to supply boxes of toothbrushes, soap, sneakers, jeans or soft-covered NIV Bibles in English and Spanish.

I can't say enough for the people who donate their time to make sandwiches and bag lunches from 6-8PM on the day of the run. Usually 10-15 people sign up or just come to help out in the effort. At the same time the run participants are loading the 4 SUV/vans that we take into New York City. Half way through the process we come together to make introductions and let people become familiar with each other especially since everyone attends different services or different churches. This opportunity gives everyone a sense of being on a team that will be a blessing to the homeless on the streets of New York City. We end the time together with several people praying for the team, meeting the needs of 70-110 people in New York from 10:15PM until 2:00AM. Typically the team arrives back at Stanwich by 3:00AM, unloads and stores all the remaining clothes downstairs in the church basement, cleans up the soup, coffee and hot chocolate containers and finally leaves for home at 3:30AM on Sunday morning.

Many thanks for this church-wide effort in supplying food and clothing for our three Midnight Runs this fiscal year, to those folks preparing bag lunches and who actually went on the runs. "It is more blessed to give than to receive" seems to ring true in getting involved with the Midnight Run. May you continue to be sensitive to the Lord's beckoning for our church to be involved with the poor. God wants to use our time, talent and financial resources to be a blessing to the world!

Bob Caie  
Midnight Run Coordinator

## **Music**

What a joy and blessing it has been to serve as organist and director of music at Stanwich Congregational Church these past four years. This past year has witnessed the adult choir outgrowing the choir loft, getting new members, presenting its fourth performance of Handel's MESSIAH, Part I (Christmas Portion) to a packed house and being aired on television. Also this year the choir has grown musically as they have learned and prepared Handel's MESSIAH, Parts II and III (Lent and Easter

Portion) to be performed in May, 2010. The choir has also grown spiritually and is blessed with much talent and a bonded gift for serving both our church as well as an outreach to the community through various concerts.

Other musical high points were the children's choir presentations of "Hark, the Herald Angel" and "To See a Miracle". We were truly blessed as we witnessed the fruits of their preparation and dedication.

Whether you are inspired by the adult choir, children's choir, Evensong band, or one of our many gifted vocal or instrumental soloists, God has richly blessed our church with wonderful music. Another added blessing this year was working with Pastor Chuck Davis as a musical and worship mentor. We have worked together towards the goal of finding God's will as we lead in worship.

Music is alive and well at Stanwich!

Respectfully submitted,

Randall Atcheson  
Organist and Director of Music

### **New Covenant House**

Stanwich Church has served the homeless and poor of Stamford and environs for many years. This ministry has been carried out through the New Covenant House of Stamford. This outreach touches thousands of lives who might not otherwise enjoy the hot meals provided twice daily 6 days a week and once at Sunday Noon.

The love of our Lord fills the kitchen as these meals are prepared and then served to our most appreciative guests. It is noteworthy that attendance remains high and often exceeds 150 persons of all ages per meal. The ravages of our great recession remain strong among the daily guests of New Covenant House.

This ministry will now be administered by Ron Culver here at Stanwich. I know you will join me in supporting Ron as he continues our outreach to God's less fortunate children.

In His Name,  
Larry Littig

**Operation Christmas Child**  
A Project of Samaritan's Purse  
([www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org))

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the good news of God's love. In 2009 this worldwide mission delivered over 8.2 million shoeboxes to children in 108 countries and the pamphlet "The Greatest Gift of

All” was interpreted in 70 languages! This program provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands - on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas – Jesus Christ.

Stanwich families and friends packed 918 boxes in 2009! The boxes were filled to the brim with age appropriate school supplies, toys, t-shirts, hats, and toiletries. We were blessed by everyone who shopped, brought donations, stored items, played, packed, unpacked, set up, cleaned up, decorated, stacked, counted, and delivered boxes to the relay distribution center. The Stanwich family has a great time working on this fun project! We are truly blessed! Sometimes we think we are enhancing a life overseas but we see some transformation right in Emmaus Hall!

The OCC team works year round. We would like to invite the entire congregation to join us in this mission. Miracles multiply as more boxes are filled and more families get involved. You may volunteer anywhere from one hour to one year for this mission. We promise your family will love it!

If you wish to be involved, don’t hesitate to ask any of us for information. The OCC team is always glad to discuss a mission that is close to our hearts!

We continue to ask for God’s blessing on each child we reach! The next packing party is scheduled for November 13, 2010. Will you please join us?

Respectfully submitted,  
The Gustin, Jayes and Sharp Families

### **Pew, Coffee Hour, and Welcome Center Shepherds**

Stanwich has a program of shepherding which means intentionally exhibiting the ministry of hospitality and creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for visitors, while also remembering to create this warm loving atmosphere for all.

We have three types of shepherds; parishioners who have made it their ministry on Sunday morning to provide this welcome to all who come to worship with us. They are:

**PEW SHEPHERDS:** These are people who attend church regularly and are ready to introduce themselves and reach out with a welcome to newcomers. Some sit in the same area each Sunday and easily recognize someone new to the area. Many prefer to be "floating shepherds" who sit in various pews and extend that welcome wherever they sit. They engage a newcomer in conversation, invite or escort them to the coffee hour and introduce them to others during that time. Stanwich parishioners are known for their hospitality and welcoming nature and most do this automatically.

**COFFEE HOUR SHEPHERDS:** These shepherds are especially focused on visitors or recent attendees and engage them in a conversation during the coffee hour. They ask if they have seen the Welcome Center, which is staffed by another shepherd so the person meets another member and has the opportunity to sign the guest book. They are on the lookout for anyone who is not engaged in conversation and seems to be new or alone.

**WELCOME CENTER SHEPHERDS:** Stanwich has two Welcome Centers. One is a table in the narthex for those not staying for coffee, which has a guest book, materials about Stanwich and a Shepherd to answer any questions a new person might have or to be a contact person for them to get to know. They are at the center after the service and ready to meet those who leave immediately not going to the coffee hour. When the visitors have left the shepherd moves to the second center during the coffee hour.

The second Welcome Center is in Emmaus Hall and consists of a table with a large felt board with pictures of various activities from the church and again materials and a guest book for them to sign in. The Welcome Center Shepherd is available to answer questions about the church or to direct a question to a pastor or someone for more information.

A monthly schedule is made for Welcome Center Shepherds. Persons volunteer when they are able with some committing to once a month for this ministry. There is a Shepherd at each Welcome Center each Sunday. The names of people who sign one of the guest books or the visitor cards in the pews are collected by Genie who passes the names on to others who see that they are delivered a loaf of bread and receive a welcoming note from the church.

It is a joyous occasion to see someone new return feeling welcomed and comfortable or to hear the words of what a welcoming and friendly church we are, and I invite each of you to consider joining this team of intentional welcoming shepherds.

Blessings,  
Mary Gravengaard



### **Soma; the Body at Stanwich Church**

**What is Soma?** Soma is a ministry of teaching and discipleship with the purpose of equipping the Body at Stanwich to grow as followers of Jesus Christ. The name comes from the Greek word for *body*. It was a creation in the winter of 2009 by a small group of Evensong congregants who desired to see Christian growth and discipleship embraced as a value within the Evensong community, but Soma ended up having a church wide impact.

**Soma's Beginnings:** On the tails of a church wide Alpha Course in the winter of 2009 Soma was birthed with its first biblical series entitled *Pasta and Philippians?* The Evensong Growth Team led by Steve Gilbert decided that people were hungry for sound biblical teaching and felt that the proven format of Alpha would be ideal to achieve the goal of equipping and teaching the *Body* at Stanwich. For six weeks starting in May a group of 50 people met for dinner, teaching by Steve Gilbert, and small group discussion. It was a huge success and members of the team began to realize that this was going to be bigger than just Evensong; participants from all three services were involved.

It was decided that another series should be offered in the middle of the summer and should be focused once again on an individual book of the Bible. *Colossians and Casseroles* was offered for six weeks with the same format and more than 100 people participated! Soma had become a movement of growth and fellowship at Stanwich.

**The Soma Series:** Since Soma's beginnings a total of 5 series have been offered and many, many people have worked to make them happen. Every week at a Wednesday night series, a full scale buffet is served. Initially Mary Beth Gilbert was the food coordinator working with more than 20 different helpers to

prepare, serve and cleanup the meal. Audra Pollack is the current food coordinator and the meals are delicious.

**The Soma Growth Team and Facilitators:** The team is made up of Steve Gilbert, Mary Beth Gilbert, Buzz Harris, Hope Jayes, Jeff Kohlberger, George and Linda Siburn, and Chuck Davis. They also serve as facilitators who make the small group time an effective part of learning and growing together. There have been others who have facilitated with Ingrid Davis, Quinton Friesen, John Hummel, and Bill Rainford serving as current facilitators for Soma. Starting in the fall of 2009 both Chuck and Steve shared in teaching duties with occasional help from Ingrid Davis and Beth Bull, Stanwich Intern from Yale Divinity School. Scott Greenlee designed the logo and provided his artistic talent in a visual presentation and teaching of Colossians.

**Soma Spirit Saturday:** The first Soma Retreat was called *Soma Spirit Saturday; Living on the Vine* and was attended by 86 people. It took place in the sanctuary on Saturday March 13, 2010 and was accompanied by a catered breakfast and lunch. The focus of the retreat was on the Holy Spirit; who and what is the Spirit, and how is the Spirit released in our lives. The day was a mixture of teaching, worship, fellowship, and Holy Spirit encounter.

Below are some statistics of the Soma program.

<b>Series</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b># of Sessions</b>	<b>Avg/Total</b>	<b>#Meals</b>
1. <u>Philippians.</u>	5/ 6/09 – 6/10/09	6	35/50	210
2. <u>Colossians.</u>	7/1/09 – 7/29/09	5	78/105	390
3. <u>Acts 1 – 6.</u>	9/9/09 -10/14/09	6	73/110	438
4. <u>Lifestyle Evangelism.</u>	10/28/09 – 11/18/009	4	52/79	208
5. <u>Acts 7 – 13.</u>	1/13/10 – 2/24/10	6	54/85	324
6. <u>Soma Spirit Saturday.</u>	3/13/10	1	86	155
7. <u>Soma Prodigal God.</u>	2/21/10 – 3/28/10	6	28/40	0

**Summary:**

**Total Different Participants: 246**  
**Average Participants/Evening: 60**  
**Total Meals Served: More than 1700**  
**Total Wed. Nights 27**  
**Lenten Series 6 Sunday's at 4:00**

**Upcoming Series:**

1. May 5 – 26, 2010	4 sessions	<u>Missions; Why, Where, and How.</u>
2. June 30 – July 28, 2010	5	<u>Micah.</u>
3. Sep. 8 – Oct. 13, 2010	6	TBD
4. Oct. 27 – Nov. 17, 2010	4	TBD
5. Jan. 8, 2011	1	<u>Soma Retreat.</u>
6. Jan. 12 – Feb. 23, 2011	6	TBD
7. Mar. 13 – Apr. 17, 2011	6	<u>Soma Lenten Group, 4:00 Sundays.</u>
8. May 4 – 25, 2011	4	TBD

Steve Gilbert

**Soul Sisters Ministry**

Soul Sisters is the name of the women's ministry at Stanwich Church, which includes women of all ages, who attend any of the services. Many thanks to all the people both on staff and volunteers who help make our Soul Sisters events so wonderful. This year we had 4 Soul Sisters potluck dinners held in

someone's home, with various speakers giving testimony. There are usually at least 50 women in attendance. There is food, fun, laughter, singing and prayer. These are spirit-filled evenings with fellowship, and the chance to get to know, on a deeper level, some of the amazing women of our church. We also encourage our Stanwich Soul Sisters to bring their friends - as all are welcome at these gatherings.

Soul Sisters also plans an Annual Retreat. Our most recent retreat was this past April. The Retreat is a 3-day weekend at the Trinity Conference Center in West Cornwall, CT. We invite a speaker and have several sessions on a topic the speaker and our Soul Sisters organizers have chosen prior to the Retreat. Each speaking session concludes with a small group discussion on what the speaker has just talked about. We have prayer teams available for those who wish individual prayer. The Retreat concludes on Sunday with a Communion Service. We also have many worship music sessions during the course of the three days. Trinity Conference Center is a beautiful, tranquil setting along the Housatonic River - the perfect spot for a spirit-lifting, prayerful and worship-filled weekend.

Laura Cunningham  
Judy Schedler  
Katie Avery

### **Tres Dias**

Tres Dias is an Ecumenical organization where people from various denominations support each other in their Christian walk.

The purpose of the three-day retreat is to bring people to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. It is also helpful in developing leaders for the local church.

During the weekend, participants are encouraged to reflect on their walk with Christ. They listen to twelve speakers who share their personal stories on topics like God's Grace, Christian Community, and Christian Action. The talks are discussed in a small group format that helps develop bonds that go beyond the weekend retreat.

The weekend is cloistered which allows for an opportunity to move away from the distractions of the world around us. No cell phones, laptops, or Blackberries! You might say it is a bit of a test! Can you walk with Jesus for 72 hours?

The retreat time is filled with the mentioned talks, discussion, chapel time and lots of music and food! When the time is up, many wish they could stay another day!

The weekends are held at the Nazareth Spiritual Life Center in Monroe, CT. All available spots are paid forward by previous attendees or benefactors, so finances should never be an issue. Candidates are sponsored by previous attendees that will support them and their families before, during, and after the weekend with prayer and material support such as meals, rides, and companionship.

Stanwich Congregational Church has been a supporter of Tres Dias for many years with Joan Osgood and Neely Towe being very active in Clergy and leadership roles for the larger community. Many of those in leader roles at the church have been a part of Tres Dias at one time and continue to support the ministry with their prayers. Not many retreats go by without a representative from Stanwich as a candidate or a team member. And to date there have been 184 retreats!

This ministry provides a time to reflect on your walk with the Lord on your candidate weekend. Subsequent retreats call on the community to build ecumenical teams to serve those on retreat which help provide additional opportunities to relive your experience and create an ongoing ministry that helps straddle denominational boundaries across Fairfield County, the United States, and the world.

Michael Sikora

## Usher Ministry

With increased attendance at both the 9:00 and 10:45 morning services, we now have a full complement of 12 usher teams with over 70 (!) fellow worshipers serving as ushers on a rotational basis once every 6 weeks. There are 2 additional teams of 12 people serving as substitutes when needed.

The mission of your Ushers is to help provide a worshipful, orderly, and supportive atmosphere for our Sunday morning services. This means more than just handing out programs. Here are some examples of what we also do:

- Ring the bell (the same one from the old church) two times
- Handle the collection process quietly and rapidly
- Have available assisted-hearing headsets
- Count and record the number of worshipers at each service
- Monitor the sanctuary for any medical needs (or crying babies!)
- Provide cough drops for those who need them
- Guide congregants to the taking of Communion
- Clean up the pews afterwards so they are ready for the next service

Although we are fully staffed now, we have occasional needs for new ushers. If you are interested in joining the Usher team for either service, please contact me at [gcmack@optonline.net](mailto:gcmack@optonline.net).

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Mackenzie  
Usher Coordinator

## Vocational-nextSteps (VnS)

Started in September, 2008, during the week of the collapse of several global financial firms, VnS set out to reach out and support, in prayerful and encouraging ways, those experiencing career transition and difficulties including: employment loss, career questions, uncertainties surrounding vocation, or spiritual discernment. Since its beginning, VnS held monthly meeting forums, always trying to best address the pressing “needs” and “priorities” of those in the VnS network. Over the course of the past annual cycle, our programs/events included:

- *Starting your (website) business from your home \**
- *Electronic career/job networking (focus: Linked-in)*
- *Summer Barbecue – Fun Event*
- *Using Helper/Advocates in Job Search Networking*
- *State Government Update: CT State Senator Scott Frantz \**
- *Workshop: Where to go from here? Doug Campbell (National Speaker) \**
- *Dealing with Change (Teaching Video)*
- *Develop your own personal Marketing Plan for your job search*
- *Vocational’s “got Talent (and Skills)” – Fun Christmas Event*
- *Market yourself with Confidence! Ruth Sherman (Marketing Expert) \**
- *Market yourself with Confidence, part 2! Ruth Sherman \**
- *Only for Ministry Leaders: 8 churches held a Career Action/Jobs Ministry “Summit” gathering (hosted and led by VnS Stanwich) \**
- *The “New” Job Market 2010 and Linked-in*
- *Special Info Event: Vocation - preparing to climb Mt. Everest in 2011 (D. Ruppen) \**

- *Advertise, at no cost, your job/career need on “WGCH AM 1490” business talk radio Westchester/Fairfield counties: Elizabeth Kopycinski \**

\*denotes that an experienced or professional volunteer speaker/topical leader was recruited by the VnS Leadership team; all other events were moderated and executed by the VnS Leadership team, of which all are volunteers and regular Stanwich Church attendees: typically across all three Sunday worship services to offer personal and confidential availability to VnS participants or possible newcomers.

### **Attendance:**

Peak attendance for any one event was 68, lowest was 9; over the course of 22 monthly evening events, since September 2008, aggregate attendance is over 530, for an average per event of 24. (All monthly meetings start with prayer and brief sharing of blessings).

### **Impact/Growth:**

In addition to “being there” and supporting those in need, VnS offered multiple growth opportunities and achievements:

- *since its start-up, God blessed us with 38 “success stories” (job found, business started), i.e. in a most unfavorable employment/business market, with the exception of November 2009, at least one success was reported every month*
- *from the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2009 on, VnS opened itself up and accepted participants from beyond the Stanwich/Evensong community – many of those have engaged into other activities, e.g. worship service attendance at Stanwich/Evensong*
- *to have stronger and more personal impact, VnS Leadership team offered and held “personal time” with individuals or in specially organized “small group” settings*
- *during all VnS events, VnS consistently supported promotion of other current programs or events at our church, e.g. Spiritual Gifts course, Personal/Healing Prayer, SOMA series, Mission Trips, special events and occasions: concerts, etc.*
- *VnS leadership and leadership-support have an ongoing opportunity to sharpen their spiritual, relational and professional skill-sets; each monthly forum meeting is subject to formal planning preparation and de-briefing after the event; VnS leadership also supported the “start-up” of similar ministries at 2 other local churches.*
- *targeted coordination and cooperation with 8 “career action/job networking” ministries at other local churches has led to a frequent dialogue and helpful interaction: in particular sharing of leads for open job positions or successful hires who are able to support continuous networking – as “His kingdom expansion” and personal benefit for those “in-transition” mode. VnS organized and hosted a first “Fairfield/Westchester” career ministry summit meeting in early March 2010.*
- *VnS also draws from further (volunteer) resources: professional and church contacts within the U.S. (Washington D.C., Tennessee, Silicone Valley/California areas) and beyond (overseas, e.g. Europe, Middle East, and APAC).*

### **Volunteers/Budget Costs:**

100% volunteer-effort. VnS has no financial budget. As a matter of principle, all events are held at the current church facilities embedded within our regular infrastructure, i.e. using Emmaus Hall or other Meeting Rooms or Church Office for basic supplies, e.g. Xerox copies of teaching materials and information updates for the “Jobs Board”.

### **Outlook 2011/2012:**

- *VnS’s focus will continue to be on “quality”, rather than “quantity”: current expectation is that VnS “attendance” is likely to drop in the coming quarters (that is good economic and career news!). Such a shift will provide new and great opportunities for VnS to evolve further, yet to always remain “audience-centric”.*
- *Future targets and our prayers, beyond the current format attending mostly to those “professionals-in-transition”, are to also develop a currently much needed capability to assist those in the initial career search or in the early professional work force experience (i.e. an opportunity for*

*“coaching/mentoring” volunteers); a further future VnS pillar could be for “legacy development”, i.e. those wishing to un-retire or to engage in philanthropic activities.*

**Acknowledgements:**

VnS Leadership (Heather Knapp/co-founder, Peter Jayes, Shalaine McLaughlin) wishes to express its gratitude to: our Lord (for providing abundantly and enabling many opportunities and program events); Stanwich Pastoral Leadership (sponsorship, ongoing encouragement, promotional support); Deacons (in particular, our prayer coaches John Hummel and Laurie Curtis); the Editorial and Newsletter Teams, including Website support; Stanwich Office and Facility Infrastructure for always perfect and timely logistical support. And, importantly: we are most grateful for but now miss the support and personal counsel of Tom Wells, as VnS strongly partnered with the Spiritual Gifts course program.

On behalf of VnS  
Ernst Schirmer

**Website**

The Stanwich website, [www.stanwichchurch.org](http://www.stanwichchurch.org), is designed to provide information to visitors and members alike about the many activities and opportunities for worship, service, fellowship and spiritual growth that are available at our church. Sermons are posted weekly so visitors can hear for themselves the great preaching at Stanwich, and members can hear sermons they may have missed. Other popular pages that are updated frequently include News & Events, Calendar, Mission Trips, Seminars and Bible Studies, and Volunteer Opportunities.

Most people who are looking for a new place to worship research churches on the internet and decide whether or not to visit based on what they find online. Therefore, our goal is to provide not only facts and information, but also a welcoming first impression that encourages potential visitors to come and see for themselves all that is happening at Stanwich. We pray that the grace and love of our Lord will shine through our website, and that it will be a portal which leads people to our church and to a deeper relationship with Him.

New this year is [www.stanwichyouth.org](http://www.stanwichyouth.org) which Lee Fletcher and Danielle Kohlberger have designed for our middle/high school youth ministry. It features a calendar of upcoming events as well as blogs and photos from student mission trips and past events. For our children’s ministry Anitta Tilly maintains [www.stanwichrocks.org](http://www.stanwichrocks.org) to provide details about the many programs and opportunities for children offered at Stanwich. Maintaining these websites is time consuming, and I thank the staff for their dedication to providing these additional tools to enhance their ministry, connect with parents and youth, and portray our vibrant children and youth programs to prospective new members, visitors, and students.

Just as our church is active and dynamic, so our websites need to be. We want to continue to update them with current information, and also to add new features and other improvements. I encourage the entire congregation to visit our websites on a regular basis, and to let me know your ideas for how to make them even better. If you have technical expertise that could help us, please consider volunteering your time and talent to help support this ministry.

In His service,  
Carol Lyvers

## World Missions

### Missions Committee Report for 2009-10

#### Goals and achievements for 2009-10

1. **Separate Missions funding from the general budget** – The purpose for this was to maximize the opportunity for our congregation to support missions and to promote excellence at stewarding the missions program by the Committee. We did not know what to expect, but we were blessed by the congregation giving very close to the vision budget set for the fiscal year. The process required educating the congregation about the new process and communicating it frequently and clearly throughout the year. By year-end, we received \$148,500 of our \$150,000 goal. And because we did not have to use our initial seed funding carried over from 2008-09, we expect to make “extra blessing” payments to many of our supportees totaling about \$44,000 over the next few weeks. Thank you to all who supported Stanwich World Missions this year!
2. **Promote our Vision for Missions among the congregation** – We did this by reviving the monthly “Moment for Missions”, producing a full-color brochure of all our missions and missionaries, highlighting missions events in the weekly Update, upgrading the missions pages on the church website, running missions stories in the local newspapers, highlighting missions in various issues of The Banner, making better use of the Missions Bulletin Board, and purchasing a movable display board to highlight and distribute missions information. We hope you enjoyed it all!
3. **Strengthen our relationships with supported missionaries and partners** – We did this by establishing ministry liaisons on the Committee for each supportee. That person contacted and connected with ministry representatives, invited them to participate in our Moment for Missions, communicated special needs and opportunities to the Committee and congregation, and sometimes visited or participated in their ministry. We hope you feel a closer connection to our ministry partners and missionaries through this process!
4. **Provide a range of opportunities for hands-on participation in missions** – This year we offered short term missions and ministry opportunities in Guatemala, India, Mali, New Orleans, Galveston, West Virginia, New York City and at various local ministries. We hope you can join us soon!
5. **Offer missions-oriented learning opportunities** – In addition to the many hands-on learning opportunities we offered, many of us enjoyed or are in the process of reading *The Hole in our Gospel* by Richard Stearns, the Wednesday evening Soma ministry is now doing a series on Theology of Missions, and Pastor Chuck has just begun a preaching series on the book of Jonah which has a strong missions component. We think informed followers of Jesus are Missions’ best supporters!

#### Personal Remarks

After six years of serving on the Missions Committee and two years as its chairperson, I feel confident and optimistic that Stanwich World Missions is poised to go to new and exciting levels of ministry in the years ahead. The separate funding, clear vision, and strategic partners will provide a strong base for our congregation to learn about, engage in and facilitate the sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ and the growth of His kingdom both locally and globally. It has been my privilege to serve Stanwich Church in this way and I look forward to seeing further progress under future Committees.

Respectfully,  
Rick Watson

**Stanwich World Missions  
2010-11 Proposed Budget**

	<b>Proposed 2009/10 Missionaries, Partners and Initiatives</b>	<b>Type of Relationship with this Ministry</b>	<b>Stanwich Contact and/or Mission Committee Liaison</b>	<b>Partner Champion/ Contact</b>	<b>Partner Since</b>	<b>Actual Support 2008/09</b>	<b>Regular Support 2009/10</b>	<b>Proposed support 2010/11</b>	<b>Pay- ment Fre- quency</b>	<b>Stanwich relationship and Ministry Description</b>	<b>Comments &amp; Areas for follow up</b>
1	<b>Heather Parkinson-Webb</b>	<b>Missionary to elderly and invalids through Greenwich Chaplaincy</b>	Parkinson family/ Tom Elliott	n/a	pre-2000	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	1/4 ly	Heather is a Stanwich member and a Chaplain serving the elderly and sick at Greenwich hospitals and convalescent homes. Heather's brother and parents attend Stanwich.	Heather Preached at Stanwich this year
2	<b>Raffi Agrait</b>	<b>Missionary to Guatemala through Last Call Ministries</b>	Lee Fletcher/ Bob Caie	n/a	2008	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,000	1/4 ly	Raffi is a church planter and community development worker in Guatemala. Raffi attends Stanwich when working as a painter in the US to support his ministry.	Raffi and his wife live most of the year in Guatemala
3	<b>Co Holby</b>	<b>Missionary to troubled youth at Children's Village</b>	Bob Caie/ Lydee Hummel	n/a	pre-2000	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 8,000	1/4 ly	Co is a Stanwich Member and Chaplain at Children's Village in Dobbs Ferry, NY - a home for troubled youth. We support Co's ministry directly, not Children's Village.	Stanwich members are involved in visiting resident youth at CV
4	<b>Bill Morin</b>	<b>Missionary to hidden and hurting people through Global Hope Network International</b>	Rudy & Betty Morin/ Rob Bull	n/a	pre-2000	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000	1/4 ly	Bill mobilizes people and resources to support GHNI development projects worldwide. Bill grew up in Greenwich and was married at Stanwich. His parents still attend Stanwich	Bill and his family live in France
5	<b>Carolyn Crawford</b>	<b>Missionary to young adults through World Race</b>	Rob Bull	n/a	2009	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	1/4ly	Carolyn was an Evensong attender when she joined World Race in 2009	Carolyn is leading a team on an extensive world-wide mission excursion in 2010
6	<b>Andrew Hathaway</b>	<b>Missionary to college students through Campus Outreach</b>	Rob Bull	n/a	2009	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	1/4ly	Andrew was an Evensong attender and is now a Campus Director at UNC Charlotte	
7	<b>Arthur Sciver</b>	<b>Missionary to college students through Campus Outreach</b>	Rob Bull	n/a	2009	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	1/4ly	Arther was an Evensong attender and is now leading college outreach ministry at UNC Charlotte	Art spoke at Evensong in April 2010

**Stanwich World Missions  
2010-11 Proposed Budget**

	Proposed 2009/10 Missionaries, Partners and Initiatives	Type of Relationship with this Ministry	Stanwich Contact and/or Mission Committee Liaison	Partner Champion/ Contact	Partner Since	Actual Support 2008/09	Regular Support 2009/10	Proposed support 2010/11	Payment Frequency	Stanwich relationship and Ministry Description	Comments & Areas for follow up
8	Emery Silva	Missionary to college students through InterVarsity	Rob Bull	n/a	pre-2000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,000	1/4ly	Emery was a Stanwich attender when she joined InterVarsity in 1998	Emery is married with 2 young children
9	Bridgeport Rescue Mission	Ministry Partner	Pam Klien	Terry Wilcox, Linda Casey	2009	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,500	1/4 ly	BRM is a multi-faceted Christian rescue mission in Bridgeport. Food programs, Shelter for homeless, recovery programs, more.	A BRM rep will speak at Stanwich in May 2010
10	FOCUS	Ministry Partner	Dan Walker/ Pam Klien	Dan Walker	pre-2000	\$ 8,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	1/4 ly	FOCUS evangelizes and disciples students at private schools in the Northeast. 4 Stanwich members work on FOCUS Staff	Some Stanwich youth are involved in the ministry
11	Global Hope Network International - Jharkhand, India Project	Ministry Partner	Rick Watson/ Rob Bull	Sushil Marandi (India), Mike Parks (US)	2009	n/a	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	1/4ly	Global Hope is pioneering an Unreached People Group through community development among the Santhal people in Jharkhand, India.	4 Stanwich members joined a visiting team in 2009. Another visit is being planned for late 2010
12	India Outreach Missions - Nireekshaha AIDS ministry	Ministry Partner	Lydee Hummel	Bob Nelson	2009	\$ -	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	1/4ly	Nireekshaha AIDS ministry in Hyderabad in South India provide hope through clinic outreaches	Bob Nelson will give a Moment for Missions in spring 2010
13	Jesus for Muslims	Ministry Partner	Rob Bull	Fred Farrokh	2008	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	1/4ly	Evangelism and discipleship among Muslims living in New York area.	Fred Farrokh was our 2010 Missions Week speaker
14	Kairos Prison Ministry	Ministry Partner	Gail Friesen	E. Laird Mortimer	pre-2000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	1/4ly	Evangelism and discipleship among prison inmates in CT. Stanwich members are involved.	A Moment for Missions was done in March 2010
15	Last Call Ministries - Community development projects in Guatemala	Ministry Partner	Lee Fletcher/ Bob Caie	Raffi Agrait	2006	\$ 8,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,500	1/4ly	Christian Community Development projects in Guatemala run by Raffi Agrait. Short term teams participate annually	2 Stanwich teams plan to visit in 2010
16	Midnight Run NYC	Ministry Partner	Bob Caie	n/a	pre-2000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500	as needed	Food and clothes given directly to the Homeless on short runs into Manhattan.	Separate Fund is nearly depleted. 3 Stanwich runs are planned for 2010

**Stanwich World Missions  
2010-11 Proposed Budget**

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17	<b>New Covenant House</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	Ron Culver	Brian Jenkins, Director	pre-2000?	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	as needed	Christain Soup Kitchen in Stamford. Stanwich sends teams to cook and serve 2-4x annually. Larry is involved weekly.	Stanwich Volunteers provide food and help serve it quarterly.
18	<b>Operation Christmas Child</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	Gustins, Sharps, Jayes/ Tom Elliott	n/a	2003?	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	as needed	Stanwich members fill Christmas boxes of useful items for children in developing nations	2010 box packing is planned
19	<b>Pivot Ministries</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	Andy O'Connell	Rev. David Smith	pre-2000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	1/4 ly	Christian residential substance abuse recovery program in Norwalk and Bridgeport. Annual food drive and banquet. Annual visit by the men to Stanwich.	The annual Pivot Sunday is a strong tradition at Stanwich
20	<b>Tyndale Theological Seminary</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	John Hummel/ Lydee Hummel	Jeff Seume	2008	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	1/4ly	Leadership Development for Christian workers from developing nations. Based in Netherlands.	We will be sponsoring a new student this year as Henry will graduate in May
21	<b>World Vision - Kid Reach educational enrichment project in West Virginia</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	Femi O/ Tom Elliott	Johnny Whithair	2005	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	1/4ly	Christian kids' educational enrichment program among West Virginia poor.	If Stanwich involvement in the West Virginia project fades, we may phase out our support of this project
22	<b>Young Life: Greenwich YL, Greenwich WyldLife, FC Young Lives, Stamford/ Norwalk Latino YL</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>	John Hummel/ Lydee Hummel	Mark Schull	pre-2000	\$ 11,300	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	1/4 ly	Multi-faceted youth & young adult evangelism in Greenwich and Lower FC	Some Stanwich youth are involved in the ministry
23	<b>New Muslim-focused ministry based in "10/40 window" - TBD</b>	<b>Ministry Partner</b>			2010	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	1/4ly	TBD	A visit to a Muslim neighborhood in NYC is being planned for later this year to help inform our decision here
24	<b>Alegria ESL</b>	<b>Stanwich Initiative</b>	Helen Ravera	n/a	2007	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 500	as needed	ESL program primarily for Spanish speakers. Takes place at Stanwich Church.	Program is nearly self-sustaining through tuition. weekly program in progress

**Stanwich World Missions  
2010-11 Proposed Budget**

	<b>Proposed 2009/10 Missionaries, Partners and Initiatives</b>	<b>Type of Relationship with this Ministry</b>	<b>Stanwich Contact and/or Mission Committee Liaison</b>	<b>Partner Champion/ Contact</b>	<b>Partner Since</b>	<b>Actual Support 2008/09</b>	<b>Regular Support 2009/10</b>	<b>Proposed support 2010/11</b>	<b>Pay- ment Fre- quency</b>	<b>Stanwich relationship and Ministry Description</b>	<b>Comments &amp; Areas for follow up</b>
25	<b>Short Term Missions / Disaster Relief assistance</b>	<b>Stanwich Initiative</b>	Mission Committee	Trip leaders	pre-2000	\$ 22,500	\$ 24,000	\$ 22,500	as needed	Funds to assist Stanwich members' short term missions based on need and for Stanwich mission trip leader expenses (including those for Pastor). Includes disaster relief trips and aid also.	2010 trips planned: Guatemala, New Orleans, Galveston, Haiti, others
26	<b>Stanwich Missions Committee - Promotional &amp; Event expenses</b>	<b>Stanwich Initiative</b>	Mission Committee	n/a	pre-2000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	as needed	Promotional and other expenses of the mission committee to further our Vision	We plan to purchase A/V equipment for our missions teams this year
		<b>Total</b>					<b>\$ 136,000</b>	<b>\$ 165,000</b>			