

The Church of the Atonement
Tenafly, NJ



Annual Meeting of the Parish

The Second Sunday of Easter
May 1, 2011

The Annual Meeting of the Parish

May 1, 2011, 11:30 AM – Auditorium

The 1st Sunday of Easter

AGENDA

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Determination of Quorum

Minutes of 2010 Annual Meeting

Rector's Welcome

Nominating Committee Report
Nominations from the Floor (*if any*)
Election

Finance Committee Report

Open Doors, Open Hearts Report

Open Discussion – Q & A

Resolutions of Greetings

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

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The Church of the Atonement Annual Meeting - April 25, 2010

1. Meeting held in the Reception Room. Called to order at 11:45 AM by the Rev. Lynne Bleich Weber with an opening prayer.
2. The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.
3. Mike Murphy was appointed Acting Secretary for the meeting.
4. Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting (May 3, 2009) were reviewed. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and carried.

5. Rector's Report. Lynne referred to her report in the annual meeting package.

She noted that the date of the Annual Meeting is set in accordance with our by-laws and that this is an important part of our congregational life together. She also reviewed our involvement as a congregation in the wider Diocesan life through our participation in District 9 activities.

Lynne expressed her thanks to all who have contributed to the vitality of our parish, as reflected in the annual report booklet. She thanked Angie Rispoli and Mark Schlegel for their service on the Vestry as they complete their terms and step down.

6. Nominating Committee - proposed the following slates of candidates:

For Vestry:

- Gloria Layne - 3 year term (second)
- Walton Clark - 3 year term
- Gregory Howard - 3 year term
- Laura Johnston - remaining 2 years of a 3 year term
- Lynne Wiley - remaining 2 years of a 3 year term

For Deputies to Diocesan Convention and District 9 Meetings

- Mike Murphy - Deputy (Warden)
- Lynne Wiley - Deputy (Vestry)
- Mollie Frederick - Deputy (non-Vestry)
- Carol Petrovich - Alternate
- Roberta Roshong - Alternate
- Alan Lauderdale - Alternate

A motion was made, seconded, and carried authorizing the Clerk to cast a ballot for each slate.

Lynne asked Shari Caloz to comment on the work of the Ad hoc Leadership Committee, which she chaired. Shari provided an overview of the Committee's report to the Vestry and how that had informed the work of the Nominating Committee.

7. Treasurer's Report

Alan Lauderdale reviewed the Report of the Finance Committee and addressed a number of questions:

- Is it appropriate to include the reference to the selection of Runnymede Capital as financial advisors, as this occurred in 2010 and this report is for 2009? Answer: yes, as a current update that is of particular interest to all in the congregation.
- What is the Runnymede fee? Answer: 0.08125%

- Should not the 2010 budget have been included in this report? Answer: Yes; it should have been included. The 2010 budget has been approved by the Vestry and a copy is available to anyone who would like to have it.
- Explanations of several budget line items were given in response to questions asked.

8. Open Doors/Open Hearts

Mike Murphy reviewed 2009 activities per the report in the annual meeting package.

Bryon Roshong recommended that we should retain a clerk of the works to oversee the construction process and noted that he felt this was a very important position and one necessary for the Vestry to meet its fiduciary responsibilities. Bill Smith stated that he agreed.

Andrea Pieper emphasized the value of the input from the congregation thus far and the importance of continuing to provide opportunities for such input as the project progresses.

Lynne Weber noted that an update on the Capital Campaign would be provided later this year.

9. Other Reports

Brief reports were offered by:

- Jim Millar, for the music program, thanking all for support over the past year.
- Maryann Silver, for the Opportunity Shop, with thanks to all the volunteers and noting that there is always room for more volunteers. Lynne thanked Maryann for her leadership, noting that the Opportunity Shop ministry is over 50 years old.
- Laura Johnson, who noted that the first electronic version of The Chronicle would be forthcoming shortly and reminding everyone to be on the lookout for it in their e-mail.

Joanne O'Neill commented on her Deacon's Report, noting in particular the work of the Sabbath Team and the theme of "letting go" during the upcoming sabbatical period.

John Marcantonio commented on his time with us as a seminarian, thanking Lynne for being a wonderful mentor and the congregation for being so supporting. He stated that his time at Atonement had been a great experience for him.

Angie Rispoli expanded on her Christian Formation/Children's Music report, noting that we are all growing together in this rich ministry. She mentioned also our involvement and collaboration in ecumenical interfaith initiatives and the active interest from attendees in our adult forums.

Resolutions of greetings to Bishop Beckwith and his wife Marilyn, Jack and Marilyn Croneberger, and Charlie and Jeanne Lochner were made, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote.

10. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer at 12:35PM.

Respectively submitted,
Michael Murphy
Acting Secretary

Rector's Report

"I want to see Jesus, maybe in the clouds" – *Mary Oliver*

In the midst of another wonderful year at Atonement, I was able to take my Sabbatical from May through July 2010. This coincided with my 10th anniversary as rector of Atonement in July.

Throughout the proposal to secure the Lilly Clergy Renewal grant, I inserted quotes from poems that seemed to fit the theme and purpose of my sabbatical. And so I'll use a few of them in this report.

"And friends, being kind as friends can be..." – *Mary Oliver*

Due to the support of the Wardens, Vestry and congregation, and the generous financial assistance from the Lilly Endowment, Dean and I were able to travel through Wales, Scotland, England and France. We visited places of pilgrimage and beauty, met friends and relatives, and I sketched and photographed landscapes -- and lots of clouds! The sabbatical reflected my passions for art, creativity, Celtic Christianity and the environment ó which I have shared with the congregation and which I believe in part shape our life together. It strengthened my ability to live more fully into God's loving expectation for me to live a life of joy and to invite others to do the same.

While I was away a gifted and experienced priest was present to celebrate and preach -- I'm thankful for the Rev'd Richard Andersen's ministry at Atonement. I'm also grateful for Deacon Joanne O'Neill, Christian Formation Coordinator Angie Rispoli, Music Director Jim Millar, Parish Administrator Lorraine Hoover, and the Wardens ó Mike Murphy and Alan Lauderdale - and of the entire Vestry ó for their leadership, not only during the sabbatical but throughout the year.

**"The river dawdles to hold a mirror for you
where you may see yourself as you are, a traveler"** – *R.S. Thomas*

In 2009-2010 our Sabbath Team chaired by Joanne O'Neill invited our congregation into the "Year of Favor." Throughout the year, too, others have helped us all to travel on our spiritual journeys, refreshed by the Holy Spirit. Choir members and musicians, Church School and Confirmation teachers, Ushers, Acolytes, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, and members of the Altar Guild enabled us all to worship and learn in "the beauty of holiness" - with much joy! Others inspired us to reach beyond our walls, especially our dedicated Outreach Committee chaired by Deedy Clark and our Open Doors, Open Hearts Team, chaired by Andrea Pieper ó along with Mike Murphy who has managed the first phases of the renovations that are making our church more inviting, welcoming and accessible for visitors and longtime members alike.

**"what do I know except what everyone knows –
If there when Grace happens, I should dance."** – *W.H. Auden*

Atonement is one place where Grace definitely happens. Together we face challenges every day to claim and share the Good News in our own lives, in our community and in our world ó and, thanks be to God, we continue to receive what we need to meet those challenges. Sometimes it takes hard work by a small group of people, other times it takes all of us together, but each time we are invited into the dance of faith, love and service. I'm glad to have you all as my partners!

Faithfully, Lynne+

Christian Education & Spiritual Growth for Adults

In 2010 Atonement continued to offer a number of opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation for adults.

The Prayer Shawl Group continues to meet on the first Monday of each month, knitting prayerfully and distributing prayer shawls to people who are ill, grieving or in other need. This ministry is now co-chaired by Janet Bliss and Roberta Roshong. The shawls were blessed and healing prayers offered at the St. Luke's Service in October.

Discovery Nights continue on the second Tuesday of each month. The nights provide an opportunity for newcomers as well as long-time members to discuss their spiritual journeys, learn the basics of the Christian faith, and also of the Anglican tradition and The Episcopal Church.

Bible Study met throughout the year on the first and third Thursdays of the month. In 2010 the group continued its study of *The Gospel According to Matthew*.

The Book Group meets on Friday mornings to discuss novels, non-fiction and occasionally, poetry or music.

Mini-Quiet Days were held on Saturday mornings four times in 2010. Three were led by Lynne and Dean Weber. One, during the rector's sabbatical, was led by Angie Rispoli and Molly Frederick.

Adult Forums were offered after the 10 a.m. service one or two Sundays in most months, except during the rector's sabbatical.

Taize Services were held seven times on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. in the candlelit chapel (normally the first Sunday of the month). The services include one lectionary reading, prayers and songs appropriate to the season -- as well as ten minutes of silent prayer. In fall 2010, Shawn Condon became the service planner and pianist for the Taize services and Alan Lauderdale continued as the flutist.

A Dream Workshop was offered by Seminarian John Marcantonio on a Saturday morning in May 2010.

An interfaith Women's Group began in the fall of 2010, following the tradition over the past several years of an interfaith women's team at the Rectory. Jewish, Muslim and Christian women gather every other month to learn and discuss the stories of sacred women of each tradition. The rector hosted the Christian presentation in January 2011.

Arts and Music Report

2010 a great year for the music and arts at Atonement thanks to Jim Millar our Music/choir director for the adult choir and Angelina Rispoli our Music/Faith Formation Director. Both the Advent and Lenten special services were outstanding thanks to the hard work of Jim ; our talented soloists Rebecca Tarantino, GERALYN Keely, Max DeFrancesco and Clyde Crewsey along with the dedicated senior choir. Our 5th annual Music and Arts Festival started with an outstanding concert given by Jim Millar and ended with Pasta and Pops devoted to music from the world of opera. The festival continues to grow [we had to turn down last minute art for lack of space] Looking ahead for the coming year, we are excited about the new audio and visual equipment being installed in the church which will allow many more visual enhancements to our services. Many thanks to the committee members Molly Frederick, Lynne Wiley and Jim Millar. A very special thank you to John Hancock for his gorgeous voice at the festival and to Alan Lane cook supreme.

Respectfully,

Wilson Reimers, Chairman

BUILDING UTILIZATION

We continue to have our building used by outside groups that provide Atonement with income. These groups include:

Scottish Country Dancers
Palisades Folk dancers
Shushi Dancers

All groups have one year contracts. Gymboree was bought by another group and no longer allow their franchise owners to use non-commercial space. We are now advertising for interested parties to use our space. The loss of Gymboree has helped to cause us to have a deficit budget this year. If you know of any interested parties please call the church office at 201-568-1763.

The Logos Korean Church shares our worship space and various rooms in the Church. They have a two year contract.

We would love to reduce our dependence on building utilization income (although the income necessary), since it puts a great deal of wear and tear on our building and grounds.

Christian Formation Coordinator/Children's Music Director

My role as Christian Formation Coordinator and Children's Music Director provides the richness and challenge of a varied ministry to and with children and adults here at Atonement and beyond the parish. It includes prayerful planning, practicing, occasional preaching, *and* playing. Collaboration continues to be an essential element of this ministry; collaboration with:

Shari Caloz and the Church School teachers and parents
Vanessa Roshong and the Vacation Bible School
Lynne Wiley and the Environment Team
Children and Church School teachers during the Proclamation of the Word with children
(Aka Chapel Service)
Children at ensemble rehearsals
Jim Millar in music for worship
Lynne and the newly formed Worship Team
Members of the Tenafly Interfaith Association and Interfaith Women's Initiative

Highlights of this past year's ministry have been prayer and facilitating the Proclamation of the Word. I value Centering Prayer and believe it's worth introducing children to it at an early age. While I wasn't able to participate fully in last year's Vacation Bible Camp I was able to offer the first few minutes of each day as a "journey to the heart". For six minutes each morning the children were invited to journey to the deepest part of their heart in that secret place in the soul where Jesus lives and loves; the place where God prays within you. The way to arrive there is by using a secret word which is a key to unlock the center of your heart. Suggested words were Creator, Father, Savior, God, and Love. This prayer can be practiced anytime, anywhere, no matter how we're feeling. It's a simple way to turn to God - - the God in whom we live and move and have our being.

The other highlight is preparing and facilitating the weekly Proclamation of the Word. We've changed the timing on when we have this "chapel service". It takes place between the end of the class time and gathering with the congregation for Communion. One of the things that delights me about the change is the way it seems to have fostered an evolving spirit of ownership and leadership among the children. The youngest children sound the singing bowl as the call to worship. Others carry the cross and assist in leading the prayers. Most recently children have taken the initiative in setting up chairs! Teachers and children have the opportunity to share their response to the "wondering" questions that flow from the Lesson or Gospel. These are all signs to me that the words of the hymn "All Are Welcome" aren't just words on a page. They come to life each week as we continue the mission of the Risen Christ.

*Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and song of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome. All are welcome, All are welcome in this place.*

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Rispoli

**The Church of the Atonement
Annual Report –2010 Church School
Submitted by Shari Caloz**

Activities:

In 2010 the Church school had 25 children who regularly attended classes. Activities included 2 rotation model program activities (one in the fall and 1 in the spring), which were group activities in which classes moved weekly over 1 month period from one activity to another (Godly Play, Music/Theater, Outreach, Art activity) focusing on one lesson. The purpose of this kind of activity is to offer the lesson from many perspectives; this allows all children who learn in different ways to experience the lesson from their comfort zone. And besides, it's fun. We also learned new music, which was shared with the congregation at various times of the year in the big Church. During Advent, children prepared Jesse Tree ornaments and decorated the Jesse Tree, collected clothing for the Paterson Men's shelter and wrapped them, and of course, presented the Christmas Pageant, which was beautiful. In the winter months, children learned about Candlemas and decorated candles that were blessed in the Church. The classes also participated in outreach by providing the ingredients for a meal for the Paterson Men's shelter. The original plan was for the children to actually cook the ingredients during Church School, but as you recall, last year we endured a horrific wind and rain storm that resulted in loss of electricity in the facility, causing us to have one teacher prepare the food at home. Later, children prepared for Easter, worked in the garden planting seeds and even participated in the Music and Arts Festival by creating designs on tiles that were collected and made into a tabletop that was displayed. When the table is finished, it will probably reside in the Chapel. Summer brought the Worship and Wonder outdoor program, which took place during the worship service, and focused on environmental and other outdoor earth stewardship activities. August brought Vacation Bible School. While it was not huge in participation, it was a huge success for those who do participate and we are happy to be able to offer this kind of program.

Outreach:

In addition, children collected food each week for the Center for Food Action, and money which was earmarked for the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund, for use in the hurricane relief efforts in Haiti. We continue to stress our Christian responsibility to reach out to those in need.

Teachers:

We are blessed to have a core group of dedicated teachers guided by our faith formation coordinator, Angie Rispoli. Teachers met regularly to discuss program enhancements, outreach projects and communication with parents. We also emailed a survey to parents at the end of the school year requesting information/observations about our programs and how to improve them. Unfortunately, we had a lackluster response, but we definitely used the feedback from the few families who responded to create and implement important changes in the 2010-2011 program. Also in 2010, the teachers completed online sexual harassment and sexual abuse prevention training, per the request of the Diocese of Newark.

Parent Involvement:

In 2010 we started an Atonement Church School Newsletter, which was taken over later by Laura Johnston who has published several editions (also posted on the website) and emailed to the congregation. Other parents have stepped in to substitute teach and to help lead/train children in music. The teachers greatly appreciate and thank all parents who provided help to us throughout the year.

Faith Formation:

We continue to provide guidance and education to the children at Atonement, enlisting the help of their parents. We will be focusing in 2011 on worship and continue to guide our children in their spiritual journey and relationship with God through Jesus.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Chronicle

In the spring of 2010, we went from a paper-printed Chronicle to an electronic version. Doing so saved money on paper, toner and postage. Four e-Chronicles were distributed last year in May for Pentecost, August for Welcome Back, October for Creation, and November for Advent.

Public Relations

In 2010, twenty press releases were sent to the local newspapers (Northern Valley Press, Suburbanite and Twin-Boro). Topics included:

- Candlemas Celebration
- Opportunity Shop Half-Price Sale
- Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday
- Outreach Sunday
- Calling All Artists
- Lenten Mini-Quiet Day
- Lenten Meditations with the Mozart Requiem
- Arts & Music Festival
- Dream Workshop
- Summer Theatre Program
- Vacation Bible School Registration
- Opportunity Shop Clearance
- Pentecost Mini-Quiet Day
- Vacation Bible School Registration (Repeat)
- ODOH Project Goals and Construction Update
- Church School Registration
- Opportunity Shop Reopening
- Fall Spiritual Growth Opportunities
- Blessing of the Animals and Creation
- Country Fair

Advertising

I did not start handling advertising until 2011, so I have nothing to report on this topic.



Respectfully submitted,
Laura Johnston

Confirmation

The Church of Atonement had no confirmands confirmed last year. We are now engaged in a three year program, so the confirmands become confirmed when they are in the ninth grade. This year Zoe Bliss, Anthony Eskin and John Schultz will make confirmation on May 7th at the Cathedral in Newark.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Petrovich

Evangelism and Newcomers

A visitor to Atonement commented to a parishioner, "You welcome people in just the right way." Many visitors do comment on the friendliness and welcoming smiles of our congregants. To all of you, thank you for extending yourselves to the new faces who are among us. It means a great deal to the visitors. We are all shepherds and should invite new people, our friends, neighbors, co-workers and even strangers to share with our Atonement Community, the many opportunities to worship, learn and share our gifts. This year we welcome: Fran and Jim Regun and their daughter Kim, Timothy Keller and The Balay Family.

Our worship team is made up of our ushers, greeters, shepherds readers, Eucharistic ministers (chalice bearers), Altar Guild, Acolytes, coffee hour hosts, signer's, instrumentalists, teachers and lectors. Do any of these activities appeal to you? If yes, please call Roberta Roshong at 201-501-0424 or the church office at 201-568-1763.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Petrovich

ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 2010 was the International Year of Biodiversity. The Environmental Team (Carol Avery, Birgitta Karlen, Ellen Kuhn, Judy Massey, Carol Schults Mikesh, Angie Rispoli, Alison Weber and Guy Weber) called the Parish's attention to this through *The Chronicle*. In October, there was a one day "Global Work Party" to celebrate climate solutions at the local level and encourage political participation. The Church of the Atonement participated in the Apple Growing Workshop and Potluck in Haworth hosted by Leigh Merinoff of AgroLiving.

As we began to finalize the plans for Open Doors Open Hearts, Ellen Kuhn prepared a statement to be included in the Vestry minutes and sent to the architect specifying that sustainable materials, materials with recycled content, low VOC paint, energy efficient fixtures be used and to direct the contractor to recycle construction and demolition waste.

The children's garden proved quite a challenge. There proved to be a conflict between various of God's gifts. There was a plentitude of rain and an overabundance of small critters eager to partake of the sustainable food which the children were attempting to grow. In spite of that there was a harvest of flowers, tomatoes and beans. It was somewhat disappointing that there were not enough volunteers to really care for the garden.

When children came to summer services, a member of the Environmental Team would take them into Angie's "outdoor cathedral" for scripture reading, songs, prayers and a gardening activity.

Fall was active. Creation Season begins with the Blessing of the Animals early in October and ends with Thanksgiving Day. During this time we celebrate with hymns and pray a Collect each Sunday that references our gratitude for and stewardship of creation.

Also in October Lynne Weber, Alan Lauderdale, Angie Rispoli and Lynne Wiley attended GreenFaith's fifth annual awards dinner at Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, NJ. After indulging in a delicious dinner of sustainable foods grown locally, attendees were inspired by the program to again consider pursuing GreenFaith certification.

Each year the Environmental Team works to educate and introduce ways to care for God's creation at home and in the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Wiley,
Vestry Chair for Environmental Ministry

Annual Audit Report

Edward Jaxel
50 South First Street, Apt. 8A
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Date: September 16, 2010

To: Rector, Wardens, and Vestry
Treasurer
Chief Financial Officer, The Diocese of Newark

From: Edward Jaxel

Subject: Review of the Financial Records of The Church of Atonement
Tenafly, New Jersey for the year 2009

I have inspected the Statement of Assets and Liabilities arising from transactions of The Church of the Atonement and the related Statement of Income and Expenses as of December 31, 2009. My inspection was made in accordance with the guidelines found in the "Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs". Tests of the accounting documents indicate that the Assets, Liabilities, and Operating Accounts fairly represent the financial status of The Church of the Atonement for the year end 2009, with exceptions noted under "General Comments".

My inspection is not meant to be construed as an audit and opinion rendered by a Certified Public Accountant. This report is intended solely for the use of The Church of the Atonement, Inc. and The Diocese of Newark.

General Comments:

- 1) The posting of cash receipts and the bank reconciliations are done by the same person, the Treasurer. As the bank reconciliation is thoroughly reviewed by the Finance committee each month, the committee feels that this can be allowed.
- 2) The most recent Diocesan Clergy Discretionary Funds policy on file is from 1997. There is a more recent Discretionary Funds policy issued by Bishop Croneberger in 2001 which was received and reviewed at that time, and we believe our current practice is in line with that policy. The office could not locate a copy of that policy on file at Atonement. Obtaining a copy from the Diocesan offices in Newark and a review of the policy is suggested at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Jaxel

Nominating Committee

The Committee is pleased to nominate the following members of the congregation to serve as Wardens:

Alan Lauderdale ó Senior Warden, 2-year term
Shari Caloz ó Junior Warden, 2-year term

The Committee is pleased to nominate the following members of the congregation to serve on the Vestry:

John Hancock ó 3 year term
Roberta Roshong ó 3 year term
Carol Petrovich ó 3 year term
Seiji Konno ó remaining 2 years of a 3 year term

The Committee is pleased to nominate the following members of the congregation to serve as Delegates and alternates to the 2012 Diocesan Convention:

Warden	Alan Lauderdale	Alternate: Shari Caloz
Vestry Member	Ed Jaxel	Alternate: Roberta Roshong
Parishioner	Olivia Savell	Alternate: Jeff Pieper

We thank all who have agreed to be placed in nomination for their willingness to serve in these important positions.

The Nominating Committee
Wilson Reimers, Janice Smith, Tracy Preolo, Mike Murphy

Open Doors Open Hearts - 2010

Our Vision: To make The Church of the Atonement a community that welcomes people of all ages and abilities to experience the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ through our worship and ministry.

2010 was a great year for Open Doors Open Hearts, with the completion of 2 major phases:

- The new Engle Street entrance was finished in August 2010. This phase made the entrance both accessible and beautiful, with new walkways, landscaping, railings, doors, and vestibule lighting.
- Then, hardly pausing for breath, we completed the new bathrooms on the entrance level. The project went smoothly, starting in mid-November and ending with a formal dedication on Sunday, January 30.

It was truly wonderful to see these major components come into being, after over 4+ years of planning, fund raising, and architectural design.

Encouraged by this progress we are now looking to move forward with the new elevator phase.

- The detailed design and construction drawings have been completed by our architect, Tom Fenniman, and a team of engineering consultants (mechanical, structural, electrical, and elevator).
- The contractor for the bathroom project, Signature Construction, has been retained, following a competitive bid process, for the construction part of the project.
- Tom Fenniman and our elevator engineering consultant are advising on selection of the elevator company, who will build the elevator cab and install the mechanical system.
- We are reviewing the needed funding to make sure we have enough to proceed.

An update on this work-in-progress will be provided at the Annual Meeting.

We are also moving forward with installation of a new audio/visual system in the Church. The system will allow us to enhance special worship services, concerts, and programs to make them more accessible, informative, and inspiring. We'll be able, for example, to project artwork, photos, or text, or use YouTube or other video clips, as visual aids for sermons or youth events. The components will be virtually invisible when not being used.

Finally, we have not lost track of other components of the overall Open Doors Open Hearts program.

- A group from the Altar Guild has visited several churches to develop ideas on how our Sacristy should be redesigned. We will then proceed to develop plans and costs for this part of the project.
- We hope to be able to upgrade the office furnishings and systems in due course.
- And, in the longer run, we'll move on to planning the work for the central entrance area.

Most importantly, thanks to all of you who have made this possible through your pledges and financial support. Thanks to you we are making our Open Door Open Hearts vision a reality. 2010 was a year of real progress with, we are confident, more to come.

The Open Doors Open Hearts Team

Andrea Pieper, Mike Murphy, Wilson Reimers, Walton Clark, Carol Petrovich

OPPORTUNITY SHOP

“Opp Shop”

The Opportunity Shop continues to thrive, thanks to your support. We welcome your participation in purchasing items as well as donating usable goods to sell.

Our revenues are increasing, but our volunteer staff is dwindling. In order for this profitable ministry to continue thriving, we need many more volunteers. You are welcome to join us for any period of time during our shop hours on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Opp Shop contributed \$11,789.00 from January 2010 through December 2010. We think this is quite spectacular, do you?

Remember our **“Closing for the Summer”** bag sale, as always, is the first weekend in June.
Spread the word!

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryann Silver

Church of the Atonement Outreach Team Annual Report 2010

We believe that outreach is critical to the mission of our church. The vestry has made this real by giving a percentage of our budget, and increasing it each year. The outreach team worked hard to insure our funds and talents were well used.

In the summer of 2010, we sent out grant applications to local organizations. These applications were returned to us and the committee reviewed them. We assigned committee members to various organizations to contact and have a personal conversation with the directors. We are looking to make sure that if the organization is selected, it fits with our mission statement, and we are all comfortable with the project that they are proposing.

After much review we decided that we would send grants to the following organizations in the following amounts. These checks went out at the end of 2010.

Bright Side Manori í \$1200.00
Center for Food Actioní ..\$1200.00
Family Promise of Bergen County (formerly IRF) í í \$1200.00
Meals on Wheelsí í í \$1200.00
North Porchí í í ..\$1200.00
Rebuilding Togetherí ..\$675.00
St. Paulø Developmentí ..\$1200.00
Shelter Our Sisters í \$1200.00
Table to Tableí í \$675.00
Teaneck Family Assistance Centerí ..\$250.00

Total \$10,000.00

We continued to have food collections for The Center for Food Action and Teaneck Armory Family Assistance Center. Food is delivered to the Englewood/Teaneck location every few weeks. We urge our congregation to drop off food at any time in the barrels in the Chapel or bring their donation to Sunday Services. This is an important outreach for our church.

About 4 volunteers worked on a home in Lodi in April of 2010 with Rebuilding Together Bergen County. The organization only needs a few skilled volunteers this year but we will participate in 2011.

We had our outreach projects going during the summer. The backpack program was again successful. We supplied St. Peterø Haven with over 20 full backpacks for different age groups. This was a summer outreach program so it is important that we have a way for our members give to others during this time. We also continued to collect food for Center for Food Action. We should continue these projects for the summer of 2011.

We continue to support the St Paul's Paterson Men's shelter. Each month we have a wonderful meal prepaid for 30-40 men. We have groups within our church taking care of each month.

We plan to have an Outreach Sunday in late 2011.

Thank you to the following committee members for their time and talent in serving on the Outreach Team in 2010. Gloria Layne, Carol Petrovich, Wilson Reimers, and Mary Elizabeth Smith. We welcome new committee members anytime.

Respectfully Submitted
Deedy H. Clark
Outreach Chair

Parish Life

During this past year, we have enjoyed many Parish Life events. We started by ending the church year with an ice cream social in June. In September we marked a regathering of the congregation at the rectory with the End of Summer Picnic. This brought us to the Welcome Back Brunch, Blessing of the Animals, Commitment Sunday, and The Atonement's major fundraiser of the year- The Annual Fair and Preview Dinner.

The first event of this year was the Newcomers' Brunch held at the rectory. In March, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper ushered in the Lenten season. The Soup Supper in April was a well attended event enjoyed by all.

I would like to encourage everyone to participate in and enjoy all the wonderful Parish Life events that we have at The Atonement.

A big "Thank You" to all the wonderful parishioners who helped with setting up, bringing food, cooking, serving, and cleaning up for all of these events. Through your generous help, these events were made possible,

Respectfully,

Roberta C. Hennig-Roshong

**The Church of the Atonement
Annual Report – 2010 Personnel
Submitted by Shari Caloz**

The Church of the Atonement continues to strive to be a good employer, providing a safe workspace and fair wages to those employed by us. The Personnel Committee meets about 2 times per year, and more often depending on circumstances. Its primary function is to make recommendations to and advise the Rector, Wardens and Vestry when matters of employment or employee related issues arise. It does so based on the specific expertise and experience of its various members and state/federal guidelines for employment best practices. It does not provide any day-to-day oversight of personnel employed by Atonement.

At the end of 2010, the Rector terminated the Parish Administrator, Lorraine Hoover, and we entered into an agreement for a temporary Administrator, Pat DøAnna, with hours reduced to 20 hours/week. Later in the spring (2011), the committee will work with the Rector to decide whether to offer a regular employment situation to Pat. Also at the end of 2010, the Personnel Committee reviewed and prepared the new engagement contract for the Rector, Lynne Weber, extending the contract term to 5 years instead of the previous contract's 3 years. Additional changes at the end of 2010 include termination of our Sexton, Leonard Clark, and the engagement of an outside vendor for janitorial services.

Stewardship

I claim the Church of the Atonement as my own yearly pledge, acknowledges my responsibility for its future and affirms my support for its ministry of faith, hope and love.

Commitment Sunday and the Every Member Visitation were held in November. Our Annual Commitment Sunday and Every Member Canvas were held in November. Thankfully many our parishioners responded and made a pledge to help in the support of our community of faith, even though it is an anxious time for all of us due to the economy, job losses and other factors. We received pledges totaling \$159,680. We lost a number of pledges through relocations and death.

In spite of the loyal support we are operating in a deficit budget at this time. This is also do to the loss of Gymboree who contributed \$2,600 per month. We are looking ahead to the coming year ready to try to balance the budget by tightening our belts in several areas and hoping to gain a new tenant. We are ready to try to meet our goals and ready to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

Thank you for your commitment to God's work at Atonement. You cannot make a contribution to anywhere else for which your dollar will be used more wisely for a higher purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Petrovich

Wardens' Report for 2011 Annual Meeting

A home where people of all ages, abilities, and diverse backgrounds grow and serve together through hearing and living the Word of God revealed in Jesus Christ

The past year has been one of continued excitement and vitality at our Church, as is testified most directly by all that is included in this annual report.

It has been our honor, and our pleasure, to serve as Wardens this past year. With Lynne on sabbatical for half of 2010, we all experienced new ways of working together, maintaining and indeed expanding the vitality of our parish life. And, as reported elsewhere, we made important progress in our Open Doors Open Hearts program.

The past year has been one of continual decision-making regarding our worship services, programs, and ministries, our personnel and facilities, and our finances and long range plans. The Vestry and our many committees, working closely with Lynne, make ALL decisions after careful deliberation and thoughtful consideration. Some are easy, others evoke strong feelings and differences of opinion. But through open dialogue, a sense that we want to move forward but can take the time to get it right, and a commitment to collegiality and common sense, we are confident that we are doing the things that need to be done now and are also right for our future.

We thank all who have made this past year possible. In particular, we thank Lynne for her vision and leadership and we give thanks for the enriching sabbatical that she and Dean experienced. We also want to recognize and thank all those who are serving on the Vestry, in particular Wilson Reimers, who is completing a 2nd Vestry term, and Gregory Howard, for his service over the past year. Serving on the Vestry is an honor, but it is also a lot of hard work, and we appreciate those who make the commitment and time to do so.

We, along with the Rector and Vestry, want and need YOUR input. As you attend services and events, and as you look at our web site, read the e-Chronicle, and keep up with our e-mail communications, please do not hesitate to speak to any of us with any thoughts or criticisms. It is all of us, together and with God's help, who make Atonement the special place it is.

Respectively submitted,
Michael Murphy, Senior Warden
Alan Lauderdale, Junior Warden

**The Church of the Atonement
Annual Report – 2010 Website
Submitted by Shari Caloz**

Atonement's website (www.atonement-tenafly.org) continues to be developed and updated weekly (and sometimes, daily!). In 2010 we added an events link or "page" in order to include Church Fair news and updates. Further, we are investigating the addition of a Facebook link, based on research that indicates that younger people use Facebook to communicate and get information more often than websites.

We added a section to the homepage of the website to include press releases (at a glance) and posted the electronic Chronicle on the homepage as well. We continue to encourage the Rector to begin a blog, which would be linked to the homepage of the website, where weekly posts would include the Sermon. We even have photos of parish activities, including some showing some of the facility improvements made over the last summer.

A website still remains the first controlled online "face" of an organization. We are dedicated to maintaining our website to provide accurate and timely information to both the congregation and to visitors who are seeking a welcoming place to worship, Christian education for their children (and themselves), and interesting programs and activities in which to participate.

Please visit the website at www.atonement-tenafly.org.