



Auburn Presbyterian Church

Passionately loving the Lord Jesus Christ and radiating that love to every individual

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONGREGATION

**July 1, 2006 –
June 30, 2007**

Hebrews 12:1,2a

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith....

PASTOR'S REPORT

By Ken Winter

This has been an amazing year! So many changes—people coming and going, new initiatives, new structures, new leaders. Whew! And the promise these changes offer will ripple out ahead of us for years to come, as we seek to “Love the Lord Jesus Christ, and Radiate that Love to Every Individual”.

Staff: We have a new Office Manager, Ellen del Valle. Ellen has been a great help after Joanne Butterfield retired—and Joanne was terrific! What a relief to have her on board. And Preston Saunders was asked to increase his time with us, and become a Director of Congregational Development, adding more muscle to our ministries, and coordinating our efforts for maximum impact. I am grateful for his help, too.

Structure: The congregation voted to change the Bylaws of the Congregation/Corporation so that we now have 6 Elders instead of 9 on our Session at any one time. We celebrate the ministries of Julie Edwards and Betty Simon, who for several years led Congregational Life and Worship ministries through innovations that have been truly wonderful. Thanks, also, to all those who have supported these ministries, for these gals would be the first to say they could not have accomplished much if they had been asked to do these ministries on their own. Newly elected Elders include Bob Ferber, Craig George, Lynn Hartford, and Silva Stearn, joining Ron Markham and Ken Sherer. Now, since we've shrunk the Session, we are raising up a whole 'nother set of leaders for Ministry Teams. These will be the nuts and bolts leaders, to make our ministry happen. And they will need a lot of support and work from us so that our ministries shine—to God's glory and our success in God's mission. As more of the Ministry Teams and leaders are identified, please consider how you would like to help, and develop your own ministry within and beyond APC.

The lead caregivers in our congregation are our Deacons. Thanks to those who have served, and continue to serve, including Sue Eberle, Dottie Stevenson, Jenny Theobald, Karl Simon, and Bill Garcia. We welcome (back) Ginger Kane and Harriet Schlichting, and welcome anew Chris Hansell. This is a great team, once again at full strength!

And just a few months into this new Mission Year, Preston and I will be gathering our leaders for one of the most important meetings in this church's history, where we set some specific expressions of our four Mission Statements:

- 1) Glorify God by Developing Committee Followers of Jesus Christ Who Will Attract Others to Him
- 2) Increase our Church's Health and Vitality through use of the Natural Church Development Process
- 3) Appoint a Task Force to Investigate what “Full Development” Would Mean for Our Church on this Present Campus—a master plan for ministries, facilities and staff

4) Appoint a Task Force to Investigate How This Congregation Could Plant Other Church(Es) as We Reach Full Development

It's not too early to ask you to be praying for this crucial event. From this will flow the new ministries of our "Act Two" together.

I thank you, as does our Session, for your outstanding financial support in this last year. As you can see from our Treasurer's Report, we were going to end the year with a big deficit—so we thought. But you have stepped up—and increased your estimates of giving for the new Mission Year—so we have even more confidence we can do what God is asking us. I personally am more excited than I have ever been, to be in this ministry with you. And I am grateful. Thank You, Jesus! Thank you, APC!

Blessings in Christ Together,

Ken Winter, Pastor

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

By Preston Saunders

Natural Church Development Surveys were taken the last five years. These surveys were used to tell us our strengths and our weaknesses. With this in mind, the Session enlarged our church staff with a position to develop the congregation, as follows:

- Continued Worship Ministry;
- Annual Calendaring with the Session, Deacons and Ministry Team leaders;
- Coordination of Ministry Teams, concentrating on Visitor follow-up;
- Annual Special Events to help draw newcomers to our campus'
- Implementation of the 301 Gifts class, led by Pastor Ken;
- Discipleship Training.

Each of us uniting behind the church vision for faithfulness will determine our future growth. Knowing that God adds to the church, and we are to multiply His church, here are a few development areas we have in the works now:

- A loving Natural church Development Team that will keep close contact with visitors by follow-up with Cards, Calls (Phone) and Visitation;
- Communicating clearly about our church through Ministry Wall Displays that describe each ministry and identify Elders, Deacons, Ministry Team Heads and Staff with pictures.
- A calendar of events for each ministry with a description of each event;
- Utilizing what we have in each ministry as our church family works together, making each ministry a vital part of our overall vision;
- Keeping the Narthex neat and clean, communicating to visitors that we value order and an attractive environment outside as well as inside. This is what people see for the first time at APC.

We have loving people who desire to serve. We are also a ministry of 30% workers, which means we are 20% ahead of other churches in service alone. We have great ministries that have been developed, where each person can participate. However, there is always room for improvement and creativity. It is my desire to see our church family become better acquainted with the various ministries we have. Sometimes we turn inward to our own ministry and do not have a vision for the whole. Our church is your ministry, and your individual ministry should represent our church's vision of growth and development of the entire church. I look forward to working with you to develop Christ's Ministries among us.

Love in Christ,
Preston Riley Saunders

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ANNUAL REPORT **by Betty Simon**

The Congregational Life Ministry Team has been hard at work again this year but having lots of fun planning the various social occasions throughout the year. My wonderful team for the year was Edna Brockway, Irene Flack, Eileen Ferber, Peggy Fleming, Chris Hansell, Karen Luttinger, Francis MacLeod, Patty Markham and Bernice Olenick.

The CL Team activities for Mission Year 2006-2007 include the following:

Organized the schedule for Sunday morning Fellowship for the Life Groups and Deacons/Parishes who provide "volunteers" to provide refreshments and perform the setup and cleanup activities.

Hosted several special celebrations, including the following:

January 2007 – Church Anniversary Potluck. The CL Team prepared several kinds of luncheon casseroles, including enchiladas, lasagna, and crepes and provided a cake. The congregation brought salads and other desserts.

March 2006 - Lenten Service. We provided refreshments for the Lenten service APC hosted for the community.

April 2006 – Seder Dinner. We took the lead on the Seder Dinner this year with help from the Worship Team and other volunteers in the Congregation. We prepared and served a complete kosher dinner for 100 people with all of the traditional items, including the Seder plate with all of the symbolic condiments. It was such a joy to be able to do it in our new kitchen!

Hosted several memorial services for APC members, including Marv Doescher, Vera Handley and Patti Kay.

Co-hosted several events with other ministry teams, including the following:

November 2006 – "Hanging of the Greens". CL co-hosted this event with the Worship MT. We set up the sanctuary for a "finger food" potluck and provided hot apple cider, eggnog and coffee. In addition, we participated in the decorations by providing quilt panels to decorate the front of the sanctuary and a craft for the children (and adults) to make and decorate the tree.

Christmas Fair

Our third Christmas Fair held on November 11, 2006 was another grand success. The steering committee consisted of Susan Bruce, Irene Flack, Dana George, Lois Laird, Patty Markham and Betty Simon. Activities included: a raffle, bake sale, craft boutique, craft vendors, See's Candy, quality used items (crystal, china, holiday decorations, etc.), food/drinks, holiday pictures (using digital cameras) and special holiday music. The Women's Ministry team did a wonderful job with the raffle prizes. Holiday pictures had an interesting option of having your picture not only with St. Nicholas, but also "The Grinch" aka Roxy, the cat and/or Freckles, the dog. The children did a wonderful job presenting and narrating a live Nativity Scene with new costumes sewn by Dana George. It was another wonderful day in the life of APC and a great fundraiser with

proceeds going to the Women's Ministry Fund, the Kitchen Fund, the Youth Fund, the General Fund and Vacation Bible School.

APC Kitchen

In August, we hosted a "Kitchen Fund Raiser" to raise additional funds to complete the final touches to the APC Kitchen. We had a full dinner, with BBQ Tri-tip, potatoes, salad, and dessert followed by games – Bingo and Bunko. Everyone had a great time and the game winners went home with fabulous prizes.

Special thanks to all of the CL Team members for so cheerfully supporting the wide variety of activities in which we are called upon to participate and all of the other volunteers from our church family who support our Sunday Fellowship time and other special activities. You are all wonderful, faithful servants of the Lord!

Women's Ministries

(Submitted by Linda Thompson)

The Women's Connection was responsible for providing many fellowship opportunities and spiritual growth events throughout the past 12 months. Beginning in July we presented our second Open House activity, **Summer Splash**, at which our honored guests were the '50 something' women of APC. It was hosted in the home of Patti Markham and featured a tropical theme, a personal testimony and much interactive fellowship. Luncheon was served. Each woman who attended brought some personal toiletry as her entrance 'fee', which was later delivered to the Acres of Hope.

Our annual fall luncheon was expanded to a one day 'mini-retreat' held at Mercy Center in Auburn. The theme centered around the story of Joseph, **He Makes All Things Beautiful in His Time** and the guest speaker was Lisa Papraro of W.I.S.E ministries. The day included two messages, an hour of quiet time, small group discussion and special music. Luncheon was provided by Mercy Center.

During the APC **Christmas Fair** the Women's Connection gathered donations and oversaw the **raffle** tables. They included gifts from APC members and friends, as well as local businesses. The Curt Simons donated a dinner for 12, A Queen of Hearts Banquet, which brought in the bulk of the revenue.

The women's ministry of APC held approximately \$1800 in their account at the beginning of 2007, due largely from the proceeds of the Christmas fair. The theme in 2006 was 'Let Us Encourage One Another. In 2007 our theme is 'Living Worthy'.

In February the third Open House, **Hearts and Flowers**, at which we celebrated our '60 something' women, was hosted by Maureen Sherer. It included a presentation and testimony, Secret Sisters were revealed, and a fun ice-breaker induced much mingling and lively fellowship. Refreshments were served.

In April we hosted the annual spring luncheon, **Wherever you Go, There you Are**, here at APC. Round tables (for more conducive conversation) and linens were rented.

Lunch was catered. Decorations were 'won' by someone at each table. The speaker was Linda Thompson. A devotion was also given and special music provided.

And, in June our final Open House honoring the '70-80 something' women of APC was held at the home of Eileen Ferber. Luncheon was served along with a devotion/testimony. Conversation centered around a variety of topics as the special guests were encouraged to share their thoughts and wisdom.

Women's ministry has been greatly blessed with funds which are used to defray the cost of our events which may include special supplies, paper goods, decorative items, flowers, equipment rental, catering, food, postage, speaker fees. Women's Connection works at practicing thrift, but also believes that our presentations should reflect high quality in everything we do. Many events have been offered free of charge and sponsorships are always available for those who are on a limited income. For larger events we do charge a nominal fee, but this fee generally only covers a portion of the expenses. Because God has blessed us, Women's Connection made a gift of a microwave to the church kitchen earlier this year and a \$200 donation to Acres of Hope in December of 2006.

Because of Christ,

Betty Simon

DEACONS

By Frances MacLeod, Moderator

The Deacons continue their on-going ministry of love and compassion. We have spent the past year mostly with only 7 parishes. We have had more in the past and are grateful to Session for now allowing us 9 for the upcoming year. Each Deacon was assigned at least ten people to serve. They strive to develop close relationships with each one of their parish members. They do this by home visits, visiting at church and church activities, telephone calls, sending cards on special occasions, etc.

Through the monthly Deacons' Fund collections we provide our ministry in various ways including 1) financial support to the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet, and the Salvation Army; 2) ministering to those in need such as emergency financial support for members; 3) providing assistance at memorial services; 4) meals for the sick, and 5) spiritual support.

We have made available a set of four short books entitled, "Journeying Through Grief" throughout the first year of loss. These books share information at significant times. Members can request a set to send to family members and friends.

We now have a parish that consists of college age and working young women and men of APC. The goal is to keep in contact with these young people via e-mail and notes to let them know that they are loved and missed.

This year's Board members have been: Frances MacLeod, Moderator, Dottie Stevenson, Vice-Moderator, Harriet Schlichting, Secretary, Karl Simon, Treasurer, Sue Eberle, Jennie Theobald and Bill Garcia. We are grateful for their devoted service.

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM **by Julie Edwards**

Since this is the last Annual Report I will write, I want to review some of the events and accomplishments that have taken place over the last six years. The Music Ministry was our biggest challenge at first. The tragic loss of Shirley Miller, choir director, left our music program in turmoil. Ron Miller, an accomplished musician, took over the music program, but fell ill a year later, and died of cancer. Preston Saunders was surely God's choice for us, as we looked at a number of candidates to lead our Music Program.

Over these past six years, a number of important changes have been made in our Worship Services and in the sanctuary itself. Initially, we mounted two services, emphasizing traditional hymns and ritual in one, and a more relaxed, upbeat approach in the other. Attendance suffered in both, so the decision was made to have one blended service with both Choir and Praise Team participating regularly. The congregation welcomed the opportunity to worship together and attendance has improved.

Items added to the sanctuary, include a pulpit and baptismal font, hand-crafted by former member Rod Wiseman; the bowl for the baptismal font was donated by Rick & Janet Nicholson. A computerized video system was installed, allowing us to project Scripture, hymns and graphics. New banners created two years ago have softened the industrial appearance of our building. We have sponsored two Seder celebrations during Easter week. .

In addition to the changes outlined, we continue to celebrate the usual holidays – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Palm Sunday, Resurrection Sunday, Pentecost, Mother's Day, Father's Day. This year several things should be highlighted as accomplishments this year..

For the first time in a number of years, our own Sunday School children enacted the story of Jesus' birth at "Hanging of the Greens," our celebration of the beginning of Advent. Patty Markham narrated the story and Dana George created the costumes.

"Letters at Christmas was presented a few weeks later to celebrate the way God appears in our lives at this season, including writing a letter to us. The cast and production crew were members of the congregation.

We sponsored a second Seder celebration on Maundy Thursday, conducted again by Rabbi Richard Rubinstein, pastor of Beth Yeshua Messianic congregation in Sacramento. Approximately 100 people attended, including about a dozen from the Auburn community. Many thanks to Congregational Ministry Team for their expert help with the food and set-up.

In cooperation with Building & Grounds Ministry Team, we have been able to add a fabric panel behind the video screen, curtains over the doorways, plus a new video screen. This has greatly improved the sound quality in the Worship services. Additionally, the most obvious enhancement to the sanctuary is a beautiful cross designed and crafted by Rick & Janet Nicholson of the Nicholson Glass Studios. For

several years, some of us have longed for a beautiful cross in the Sanctuary. That dream has now been realized.

In the reorganization of the Session, the Prayer & Healing Service, Thursday prayer group and Prayer Chain have come under the Worship Umbrella. Silva Stearn and Pastor Ken have spearheaded this new program. Although attendance has not been large, the results have been a powerful testimony to God's love and care for us. All in need of spiritual, physical or psychological healing are invited to attend.

Grateful thanks are due to the members of the Worship Ministry Team for their dedicated service: Dana George, Bill Jackson, Max Kane, Lysa Sassman, Silva Stearn, Elizabeth Townsend, Steve Wolf, Preston Saunders and Pastor Ken Winter. Pastor Ken has kept us on track spiritually, his support, positive outlook and gentle hand have been invaluable.

Elder Silva Stearn will oversee the Worship MT in cooperation with Preston Saunders, who continues to oversee the Music Ministry in addition to his other duties.

In His Service,

Julie Edwards, Elder

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

by Ken Sherer

Christian Education/Youth Ministry is not only a critical element of Auburn Presbyterian Church, but is important to the future of our community, nation and world. Never before have we had so much negative influence on our Christian and national values. Stress, anxiety, information advances, the rapid raise in technological knowledge, instantaneous news reporting, etc. is very challenging to our Christian belief structure. Strong Christian values help young people, as well as adults; lead a healthier, more caring, greater productive and contented life. God loves us and wants us to have positive attitudes and behaviors. At times this is difficult to achieve, thus APC must continue to pursue and expand programs which will help a multitude of individuals develop a strong Christian Value System.

We all should be extremely proud of the wonderful foundations our Sunday School Teachers are providing our young people. Theresa Voss has been just outstanding in organizing and overseeing the Pre-school through 8th grade Sunday Youth program. There are so many volunteers providing meaningful life-long Christian Education experiences to our youth it would take a full page just to print their names. Thank you all for making this a better world by preparing youth to be part of our Christian Faith.

The Vacation Bible Study program is extremely well organized and all of the volunteers should be congratulated on providing services to young folks that are laying a strong future Christian Value foundation. Patty Markham has organized the 2007 Avalanche Ranch VBS unbelievably well. The theme is "A Wild Ride Through God's Word". It is not easy to measure long term benefits to individuals, but an intermediate reward is not what Jesus looked for. Years down the line our youth programs may have a strong Christian influence on a person's life.

Our adult bible study class instructors are helping many of our members become more Christ like. The Woman to Woman ladies group; Keenagers; Men's Bible Study; Woman's Bible Study; Alzheimer's Care Group; and WISE are all enrichment activities that help APC and our community members have a positive personal external/internal perspective along with a strong Christian value structure.

We are continuing to work toward our mission statements and are making sure that Act Two is most rewarding to each of you along with our greater Auburn Community.

Ken Sherer

LIFE GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT

By Bev Anderson

Currently, we have nine Life Groups meeting either weekly or twice a month. Some are small and some are quite large. The original concept for Life Groups was to grow a group of 5-9 to 16 or 17 and again become a group of less than 9. It gives more opportunity for new people to get to know people in a small group and to have opportunity to host the group in their home.

Composite groups can form the basis for wider socialization. The Keenagers are a model. It is a basically social group for those who are retired. New people of this age group are invited and encouraged to participate in the church. People who meet these people, recruit them to their Life Groups. The church retention rate for those in this group is rather high. Most Life Groups include Keenagers. They are dispersed through the church but come together for social activities.

The Hands On Life Group also sponsors wider activities for families with children that are basically social but there is only one Life Group. For some of this group, the Life Group is convenient to attend. For others it is not so they are missing the spiritual enrichment and deeper relationship building that the Life Group provides.

A large group of those in Life Groups fall between these two and have no overarching social group that brings them together. Life Groups tend to be extra large and try to cover all bases of social, spiritual enrichment, and relationship building.

To really grow as a church, we need at least three large social groups that bring people together in general age groups and Life Groups of a size that people can get to know each other quite well. The social groups serve as easy entry points for people who can be recruited into Life Groups so they can be disciplined and grow in their Christian faith.

The current Life Groups are these:

- Sunday after church – Hands On led by Theresa Voss
- Sunday Evening – The Travelers led by Ralph & Bernice Olenick
- Monday Noon (part of Women's Bible Study at Noon) –
 - Bible Fed Women – led by Bev Anderson
- Monday Evening - Alpha One led by John & Mary Shug
- Wednesday Evening – The Seekers led by Lynden and Lois Laird
 - Mountain Miracles led by Bev Anderson
 - The Gleaners led by John & Edie Tillema
- Thursday Afternoon - Noah's Crew led by Cotton & Lynn Neufeld
 - God's Goodtimers led by Norman & Frances MacLeod

If you would like to start a Life Group or be in a Life Group, please contact Bev Anderson, Small Groups Coordinator

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
by Bessie Eichorn

About a dozen to fifteen ladies met the second Tuesday afternoon each month from September through June in various homes to study Scripture lessons about prayer. After we offered prayer for those in need we enjoyed refreshments and a wonderful time of fellowship.

The December meeting included a "stone soup" luncheon and the closing event in June featured the annual salad bar.

All ladies of APC and friends are invited to attend. (Sorry, gentlemen, you have your own Bible Study.) We welcome newcomers.

Special thanks go to Dorothy Beason for faithfully phoning reminders to each one every month, to Eunice Roberts for publicity, and to Marian Michaelis for getting study books for all, as well as to those who were leaders and/or hostesses.

With thanks to God for His blessings on our group,

Bessie Eichorn, coordinator

WOMENS' BIBLE STUDY AT NOON
by Bev Anderson

THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT NOON meets at the church the first and third Mondays at noon. In the 2006-2007 ministry year, the group used the book, TOTAL FORGIVENESS, When Everything in You Wants to Hold a Grudge, Point a Finger and Remember the Pain, God Wants You To Lay It All Aside, by R. T. Kendall. Everyone benefited by it and a number said it made a great difference in their life to know that God doesn't just suggest forgiveness, He requires it. You can't say the Lord's Prayer honestly unless you forgive even those who have hurt you.

In 2007-2008, we will study the book of Hebrews. We use basically a verse by verse approach. Any woman who wishes to join this friendly, Bible study loving, group is welcome. Bev Anderson will start the study at noon on September 17. Volunteers will take each study in rotation. Assisting materials are given the one due to lead the next study. Contact Bev Anderson or just come on the day of the study.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT **by Jay Hansell**

Much was accomplished in the mission year ending June 2007. Many helped to keep the building and grounds in great condition. Major projects for the year included:

1. The wall in front of the choir was lowered and a railing was added to the top. The piano was put in front of the wall.
2. A new screen replaced the old cloth screen, and drapes were hung around the screen to soften the sound.
3. Major work was done on the heating and air conditioning system. One thermostat replaced three in the sanctuary. The three HVAC units were tied to the one thermostat and operate as two stage system. The goal is to reduce the cost of running the HVAC system and too make the sanctuary comfortable. It seems to be working.
4. The kitchen is almost complete thanks to hours of work of many in our congregation. All that remains is to build a cabinet for the dishwasher and to add another sink. Anyone want to help?
5. Through a generous donation the carpets were cleaned.
6. The Hands On Life Group cleaned and repaired the classrooms and nursery.
7. The brown crosses on the corner of Bell and New Airport were painted white and planted in concrete. Along with the sign the crosses are lighted at night. This coming year we are going to replace the long extension cord from the office to the crosses with underground cable. Want to help?
8. The irrigation system needs constant repair and tending. Several members helped remove pipes to trees and shrubs in the outer yard that no longer need watering. A more efficient use of water was put in place by resetting the irrigation timing.
9. For fire safety the weeds were mowed this spring. The lower branches of all the trees were removed to prevent a ground fire from leaping into the trees.

For mission year 2008 we want to:

1. Paint the fascia trim on the sanctuary and the office porch railing and patio cover.
2. Finish the kitchen.
3. Bury the wires to the crosses.
4. Continue doing a great job caring for the building and grounds!

To all of you who worked with me and behind the scene to make APC look better than ever I want to say **THANKS** and God Bless.

Jay Hansell
Building and Grounds Ministry.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY
by Pastor Ken Winter

Somewhere between 11 and 24 men gather on Fridays at 7 a.m. in the back room of Denny's (on Highway 49, near the Bel-Air Market) to listen to God together through the Scripture. It took 2 years and 2 months for us to finish Matthew—so you know we take our time! All men are welcome to join us, but please keep your eye peeled for a change of location, for we are at the maximum capacity of our present room.

APC LIBRARY
by Bev Anderson

The APC Library was reviewed and restructured this year with new markings and shelving. Our library has a variety of fiction for men, women, and youth as well as many types of non-fiction that will help develop our Christian life and testimony. We encourage everyone to find a book and get used to using our church library. If you want to help with the library, contact Bev Anderson, Cotton or Lynn Neufeld, or Rusty Rea.

LOCAL MISSION MINISTRY TEAM REPORT

by Bev Anderson

Members: Bev Anderson (Chair), Audrey Butz, Peggy Fleming, and Craig George

The chief focus of the APC Local Mission Ministry Team is the faith-based ministries to those in need, both homeless and low income housed. However, we want to include people helping through volunteering in other agencies as well. For example: Shirley Hartford came to tell us about the Assistance League in which she is active. We'd like to have someone from that group as a regular member of our team.

We are actively involved in the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet and have two members on the Board of Directors: Craig George and Max Kane. Craig has served as Treasurer for two years. Others of our church regularly volunteer either a certain day of the week, for Stuff-a-Bus shifts, staffing the food closet when we take a turn on the last Saturday of the month, and many contribute to the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet by placing canned and packaged food, brown paper shopping bags, and egg cartons in the green hamper under the coat rack.

Salvation Army of Auburn used to have several people from our church volunteering but now it is not as regular. It would be good to have a regular volunteer(s) there again.

The Placer Caring Connection has helped several churches find out about opportunities to serve their community. A team led by Ken & Maureen Sherer fed 400 Placer High School youth lunch several times in a program designed to let Auburn youth know that the people in churches care about them. We hosted The Gathering Inn one time just before Christmas. Everyone participating had a special time. APC is scheduled to host The Gathering Inn two times in early summer 2008

If you are interested in participating in what is happening locally or are volunteering in an organization helping others, this is the group for you. It meets most first Mondays of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the church library. Call Bev at (530)389-2416 for the up to date information.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM
By Lynden Laird, Team Leader

The Membership Ministry team greets people at the front door, welcomes newcomers and provides them with a temporary nametag and a visitor information packet, and introduces them to others in the church. We follow-up with a card and a phone call, thanking them for visiting and inviting them to return. When they do, we make them a permanent nametag.

Information on visitors is given to the Life Group Coordinator so new people can be added to Life Groups.

Weekly attendance is recorded and reported in the Chronicle.

Prospective new members are invited to APC101 classes. Three classes were held during the reporting year, with 21 people attending. The team arranges for facilities, documentation, food, and childcare as needed.

We assist the Clerk of Session and Membership Records Secretary in keeping rolls of active and inactive members.

The Membership Ministry team consists of Lynden Laird (Chair), Lois Laird, Cotton and Lynn Neufeld, Bob and Roberta Westbrook, Dave and Dorothy Shears, Beverly and Larry Bower, Jerry and Silva Stearn, Lynn and Shirley Hartford, Bob and Edna Brockway, Ron and Patty Markham, Peggy Fleming, Ginger Kane, and Debbie Gow. Debbie receives the attendance data, graphs it for Session, and reports it to the Chronicle editor.

CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT
By Patricia Markham

Session Meetings: 12 regular, 3 called or special meetings.

Congregational Meetings: The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on July 16, 2006. The Congregation approved the Pastor's Terms of Call. There were two (2) additional congregational meetings held.

The stated Congregational Election was called on May 5, 2007 to elect Elders, Deacons and four at-large members of the Nominating Committee. The following officers were elected:

Elders

Class of 2008

Craig George
Lynn Hartford

Class of 2009

Bob Ferber

Class of 2010

Silva Stearn
Ken Sherer

Deacons

Class of 2009

Harriet Schlichting

Class of 2010

Chris Hansell
Ginger Kane
Frances MacLeod

Nominating Committee—Class of 2007-2008: At large—Julie Edwards, Katie Garcia, Lynden Laird and Cotton Neufeld

The Session and Member Record Books were not examined by Presbytery.

The General Assembly Statistical Report was prepared and submitted.

Marriages Performed: 0

Baptisms Performed: 3

Members Deaths: 5

Officers of the Corporation—2006-2007

President: Ken Sherer

Secretary: Patricia Markham

Treasurer: Kurt Simon

NOMINATING COMMITTEE **by Julie Edwards**

The Nominating Committee is made up of two Elders, one Deacon and four elected members from the congregation. This year the four congregational representatives were Bev Anderson, Katie Garcia, Cotton Neufeld and Ginger Kane. The Deacon representative was Karl Simon. The Elder co-chairs were Julie Edwards and Ed Rice. Ed resigned from Session and the committee early this year.

Our task was to find Elder and Deacon candidates who could lead the congregation as spiritual leaders. Qualities of Elders and Deacons are described in the New Testament. Each meeting of the Nominating Committee opened and closed with prayer. At each meeting, we spent time in prayer, asking God to reveal to us the people He had chosen to lead this congregation. All vacancies were filled. ...

The congregation approved a change in the number of Elders comprising the Session, reducing the Session from nine to six people, and assigning various ministry teams to each Elder. The Session will choose people to lead the ministry teams under their supervision. The Nominating committee suggested names for the various Ministry Teams to assist them in transforming the organizational structure of the church. You will be hearing more about these changes in the future.

The new Session consists of the following Elders: Ron Markham, the only Elder still on the Session; new Elders are Bob Ferber, Craig George, Lynn Hartford, Silva Stearn and Ken Sherer, who agreed to renew his service with a 3-year term.

The Board of Deacons had four vacancies, and these were filled. New or returning Deacons are Fran MacLeod, Ginger Kane, Chris Hansell and Harriet Schlichting.

The new congregational representatives are: Lyndon Laird, Cotton Neufeld, Katie Garcia and Julie Edwards.

In His Service,

Julie Edwards, Chairman

OUTREACH MINISTRY

By Ron Markham

The Outreach Ministry efforts are directed toward publicizing the various ministries. We try to maximize our church's efforts to reach the public and to bring new people to Christ. We want our church's name to be in the public eye so that when a person reaches for Christ, they will immediately consider Auburn Presbyterian Church.

The Gold Country Media companies have been very helpful. They help with ad preparation and make advertising space cost affordable with space discounts.

Uptown Signs has designed and prepared our vinyl banners for the last three years. They make quality vinyl signs and they also give us a preferential pricing. The owners, the Kopps, are Christians and give us preferential pricing. They help with layout as well as preparation.

We are limiting our Yellow Page display ads to the SBC Telephone Directory. We are now represented in other area telephone books with a free one-line entry under the Church heading.

Family Night Out is an evening sponsored by the City of Auburn to emphasize the family-oriented groups and events in the area. Many groups have booths to entertain families and to promote family and youth events in the area. Our booth emphasizes Vacation Bible School. We provide a craft for the kids and provide information for VBS. This year the Voss-Jackson family, the Berry family and the Garcia family provided an entertaining group to present us to Auburn. Bill Jackson used his computer and audio-visual skill to provide a continuous loop video display of our church's ministry in New Orleans and other Church activities.

Karen Luttinger writes the weekly article for The Auburn Journal to give a preview of weekly services. The rules of engagement for the article have been changed by Gold Country Media so the weekly notices are limited in their advertising information. We will have to use classified ads and news articles to promote our activities in the future. I am sure Karen will use her considerable advertising skills to promote our ministries.

The annual Christmas Fair was again a raving success. Betty Simon and Irene Flack, along with a score of other organizers, made this even better than last year. The crafts were perfect Christmas gifts. We advertised this event in the Auburn Journal, with banners and with door-to-door flyers. We also distributed flyers at the local grocery stores.

The Jim Martinez concert was a huge success. Julie Edwards and Preston Saunders coordinated this event. Again we used Auburn Journal's advertising department to assist us in publicity.

Our Neighborhood Evangelism Program is still in the embryonic stage. With Preston's help we will be stressing the program to make us visible and approachable to our new neighbors. The 2007 retreat will undoubtedly result in some changes in the Outreach

Ministry activities. The question is, how can we be more proactive? How can we bring more people to Christ?

Treasurer's Report
Mission Year 2007
By Kurt Simon

Auburn Presbyterian Church has had a relatively successful year financially in Mission Year 2007, which ended on 30 June 2007. We started the year in June 2006 with a tight expense budget and a challenge to increase our estimated income from \$255,000 to \$268,000 in order to balance the budget.

During the year, we had additional unbudgeted maintenance expenses of almost \$4000. We also expanded Preston Saunders' role to include Director of Ministries as well as Music Director, thus making it possible for Pastor Ken to concentrate on other aspects of the church. This resulted in an almost \$11,000 increase in personnel costs during the second half of the year. Consequently, although the Session managed expenses very well, the total expenses increased from the original budget of \$268,000 to \$273,835.

The Christmas Fair special event resulted in \$5279 of income to the General Fund and \$2484 to other funds. In addition, one-time special contributions added \$9,650 to our income. Consequently, our total income was \$271,362 versus the aggressive original budget of \$268,000, which included a \$13,000 challenge for growth.

The net result is that we will end MY07 with only a \$2473 shortfall in the General and Building Funds, leaving a balance of \$33,503. In addition, we contributed \$7290 to various Mission Funds, \$5002 to the Deacons Fund, \$3657 to the Kitchen Fund, \$3745 to Memorial Funds, \$2147 to Women's Ministries, \$1500 to a new sanctuary computer, and \$1978 to the Youth Fund. These other contributions totaled \$25,319.

In MY08, we have a budget that includes Preston's expanded role for the entire year and allows for needed additions to each mission area of our church. Due to increases in many of the pledges received, our expected income falls short of the needed expenses by only 3.4%, or \$8423. With God's help, we can make up the difference through achievable growth in the congregation over the next year. Hopefully, any special one-time contributions this year can be used to pay down our mortgage, thus reducing a major fixed expense.

There are plenty of reasons for praising God for the financial prospects of Auburn Presbyterian Church over the past year and the coming year.

...let us throw off everything that hinders
and the sin that so easily entangles,
and let us run with perseverance
the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12:1

Ask yourself: is there anything I can throw off?