

*Gaithersburg
Church of the Nazarene*



Annual Report 2008 – 2009

Pastor Ben Spitler Annual Report for 2009

Wasn't it just yesterday we were stockpiling for Y2K? It's 2009! And once again God has sustained us and seen us through and blessed us big time. For all that I'm thankful. My biggest blessing this past year has been the same as for the past 23 and 20 years respectively—my wife Kelly and girls Becks and Abby. I love them and enjoy time with them at this stage of life as much as ever! Whether it's a family vacation, our evening meal together or a game of wiffle ball in the back yard, I'm as happy as I get when I'm with them! I want to thank them for their love for and patience with me.

Thanks again this year to a hard working, supportive staff. Kelly, Terry, Sally, Michelle, and Arnold all work hard, do what needs to be done no matter what, and always do it with a positive attitude and a servant's heart. I'm going to continue to look at our individual roles and what we're doing and make sure our time and energy is being invested in the ministry that most strengthens our church. Thanks this past year to Dan Watkins who has served our teenagers in what has been a transition time for GCN in Youth Ministry. We appreciate his contribution to our teens and the program that seeks to bring them together and to God.

Our Leadership Team has been tremendous. Some of their best work happened in their last meeting of the year on the 10th of February when after months of conversations, planning and prayer they approved an operational budget for 2009 that reflects both the careful attention they give to being good stewards as well as their strong faith that God is blessing and will provide our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus! These leaders volunteer their time to lead on top of other ministry involvement, their employment and responsibilities at home. We owe them sincere thanks!

Finally, thanks to all of you who in unseen and unsung ways make a difference in people's lives by the service you render. It really is mind-boggling to think of all that is accomplished on a weekly basis in the life and ministry of this one local church. I hope and pray that God Himself is encouraging you these days and that along the line, when you need it the most, that He sends someone along the way to encourage you, too.

We took on quite a bit last year as a church. On top of the week to week services and ministry that have become a regular part of GCN we sent teams off to Manila *and* Honduras, launched a Capital Fundraising Campaign, and put together a half dozen events in the summer that put us out into the community. I remember looking into last year and thinking, 'how are we going to do all that?' "All that" takes a significant investment of time and money. But we did it! And in the process our ministry needs have been met through your faithful giving of tithes and offerings. We met our Faith Promise goal last year. We received a healthy pledge towards new building with payment coming in ahead of schedule. For all of that I'm thanking God!

This year? The mission and compassionate ministry and efforts outside the walls will continue. Lord willing, we'll be adding a F/T youth pastor back to our staff and may be breaking ground on expanded facilities. More on all of that in our Sunday morning services the next two weeks as well as at our congregational meeting on the 22nd of February.

What's our challenge for the coming year? Continue to trust God, live by faith and seek His face. God will guide and provide! Let's follow the lead of our Leadership Team and *believe* God will. Let's give our time and money to the work of Christ's church and kingdom!

Thanks for the privilege of being your pastor. I'm looking forward to our shared life and ministry in the coming year!

Sincerely,

Ben Spitler



Leadership Team Secretary Annual Report 2008 – 2009

It was a blessing to serve this year as GCN's Leadership Team Secretary. The Team Members work hard to see that they represent the membership well. They seek the Lord's guidance in the decisions of His Church, both through prayer and God's Word, and are always willing to freely give advice as they feel led. It was again a blessing to work with such wonderful servants of the Lord who give of their time and efforts in His service!

As in past years, the Team addressed a variety of topics including:

- Ministry focus
- Missions
- Finances/Budgets
- Facility upkeep and repair
- Facility expansion
- Leasing of the parsonage and church facilities
- Achieving the goals established at the Leadership Team Annual Meeting
- Staffing needs
- GCN Policies and Procedures
- Recommending renewal of Local Ministers Licenses, District Licenses & Church Staff

One of the highlights for the Team included discussion on how to balance and allocate our financial resources among many ministries, building maintenance, building expansion, staffing, and pastoral uses. Many members sought direction through prayer and His word to not only seek to represent the church membership, but also seeking God's direction in all decisions.

A goal for the upcoming year will be to manage many ministries, staff responsibilities, and new building in difficult financial times. Another goal is to find ways to more effectively lead ministries with more membership involvement - without too much burden on anyone.

God was faithful in bringing new folks to GCN, while leading some to other places of ministry. Average attendance for the first 11 months of the Church Year (March 2008 – January 2009) was 294 total at the two Sunday morning services, and 284 total in Kids Sunday School/Adult Focus Groups.

Dave Dailey

Kelly C. Spitler
Associate Pastor
2/10/2009

God has been so faithful to us this year! He has provided us with everything we have needed and more. I am so grateful for His Holy Spirit who leads me each and every day and gives me wisdom when I'm humble enough to ask for it!

This past year we began a Nursing Home Ministry. I have loved it! God has called a great team of loving folks together to go to Montgomery Village Nursing Home the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month and lead a service there. The residents have really become a part of our church family. They look forward to the service and fellowship we provide and even love my singing. (Better check those hearing aids!) Our ministry team—Josephina Wisor, Darlene Owen, Darrin Cave, Jo Burrows, Cathy Young, the Hatten family, Pastor Ben and myself meet for dinner, laughs and practice before going over to the nursing home. We were able to purchase a sound system with existing memorial funds and use it also for our Live Nativity. All was going great until I forgot poor Jo one Sunday afternoon and left her stranded at the nursing home. Sorry Jo!

In an effort to reach our young couples I started teaching a Young Couples Focus Group on Sunday mornings. I was so happy to have Matthew Faraci agree to co-teach. He is proving himself to be much smarter than I am, so I will have to be more selective next time! We are going through CS Lewis' book, Mere Christianity and really loving it. We have opened up the class to others as well as young couples. It has been wonderful having several generations in the same class!

Dee Neff and I continue to lead a Women's Recovery Group every Wednesday night. What a blessing that has been! Unfortunately, our Men's Support Group quit meeting for lack of support.

Luwana Cameron and our WINGS team took our WINGS Christmas party to the Nursing Home this year. What fun it was to share that party with the residents there.

I have a great group working in the Gaithersburg HELP pantry each month. In fact, the group outgrew the pantry and so Karen Scott has agreed to head up a second night in the pantry. Praise the Lord for so many who have the desire to help those in need.

I continue to work with our young adults. Blake Dunlevy and his leadership team did a great job of heading up that ministry. We performed five weddings last year—sign of a great young adult ministry!

I have also ministered with the other awesome pastors to provide pastoral care. May the Lord bless His church as we are obedient to Him.

Kelly C. Spitler



*Associate Pastor
Terry Sweeney*

“Follow me,” Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.”
Luke 5:27b-28)

Following Jesus certainly is a blessing and an adventure! As I have followed Jesus this past year, I have seen Him at work in my life and the lives of others. In my own life, I was overwhelmed with His love and blessing as I was ordained as an Elder in the Church of the Nazarene. What a humbling experience and a blessing to be called and affirmed as a shepherd of God’s flock. This year I have had an opportunity to serve as His shepherd both within and outside the walls of GCN. Inside the walls, I have had the opportunity to partner in ministry with a number of overseers and a staff that loves Christ and longs to share Him with others. I am grateful to Sherrie Bayman, Prayer Ministry Overseer, Chris Harrell, Children’s Ministry Overseer, Molly VanBronkhorst, LIFE Groups Overseer, Jim Garrett, Church Fellowship Overseer and Lorraine Loy, Bertie Lambert and Barbara Burr, our Prime Timers Overseers for their faithfulness in serving God and others. What a joy it has been to see their hearts for God played out in their service to Him and His church. I have also been blessed to work with the Children’s Ministry Team, who continues to provide quality ministry for all our children through fifth grade. It has also been a joy to team with Pastor Ben, Pastor Kelly, Dan, Michelle and Sally as we work together in one Spirit and one purpose to advance His Kingdom here at GCN and outside the walls.

My shepherding outside the walls continues to be a joy in my life. On Thursday afternoons, I teach a Good News Club at Clearspring Elementary School. This year the Lord has blessed me with a team of 5 to minister to 27 children. It has been a blessing as we have seen God lead children to make decisions to follow Christ and to then to have the opportunity to disciple them as they begin their journey as believers. In addition, the Neighborhood Women’s Group, which meets weekly in my home, has grown to 15 women. Each week we come together to hear God’s Word, pray for one another and offer encouragement and support to one another. Another ministry outside the walls that was truly a blessing this past summer was the Neighborhood Bible Club held at Moyer Park, right next to Clearspring Elementary School. I had a great team of people, some from within GCN as well as some neighbors, come together for a week to share Christ with children in my neighborhood. God certainly touched hearts and lives through this dedicated team. In addition, a great joy in my life is what I call divine appointments, opportunities to share the reason for the hope within me to as I “meet people where they are and invite them to follow Jesus.” One experience that stands out happened in the dentist’s office as I shared an update of my medical history with the dentist and hygienist. I shared the word from His Word that has held me strong as I continue with this challenge. “For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.” (Isaiah 40:13) As the two of them wept, I realized that God was working in their hearts right there in the dentist’s office! What a joy and an adventure to realize that God can use us each day wherever we go as we avail ourselves to Him.

As I close this report, I want to thank each of you for your love, prayers and support this year. You bless me! I also want to thank God especially for my husband, Frank, who continues to be God’s special blessing to me. I also thank Him for Brian, Allison, Dietrich, Hadley, and Stella and Kevin and Ann, the wonderful, supportive family He has blessed me with. This coming year my hope and prayer is that I will daily hear His voice and follow Him, doing what he calls me to do through His power. My prayer is that it will be so for you as well. I look forward to the year ahead to see what God will do in His church here at GCN as we share life and ministry together.

God’s blessings,
Pastor Terry ☺

Building and Grounds 2008 Annual Report

I am pleased to report that the facilities we are blessed with are in good shape. We are working hard to keep up with the current maintenance and continue to implement a series of repairs and upgrades that will allow us to continue to utilize the facilities God has provided to serve both our congregation and the surrounding community.

In addition to the general maintenance needed for HVAC systems, electrical repairs, carpet cleaning and plumbing repairs we have completed a number of projects in 2008 with both contracted and volunteer labor to improve the existing facilities.

We have;

- repaired the stucco panels on the MPR
- repainted the exterior stucco panels on the MPR and the Preschool wing to match the sanctuary building.
- washed the siding of the parsonage, and repaired damaged trim before it was all painted to coordinate with the existing buildings.
- Painted a number of classrooms and the downstairs hallway
- removed many tons of debris that had built up over the course of many years in various storage areas around the church grounds.

Facility improvements planned in the in the coming year that will be more visible will include;

- Painting of the sanctuary
- Replacement of the water treatment system
- Painting of more classrooms and hallways

I hope that others share my joy at the opportunities that the gift of GCN facilities is being used to serve the Kingdom with a great place to worship, provide outreach and support for groups inside and outside the body of GCN. The Resource Team would like to thank all of those people who volunteer to keep GCN open and available to all of us. It is important to realize that our resources are limited and the stewardship of volunteers is a huge part of the success of our ministries- not the property, but the real ministerial work of the church.

We have continued to address issues that were not prioritized in prior years due to funds availability. This new year will allow us to continue that process without undue pressure on the budget by utilizing the property reserve fund which was implemented last year. Last year the leadership team set up a reserve fund to address the needs of the facilities outside of budgeted funds. The property reserve is funded through use fees generated by facility rentals. (less a contribution to the budget for expenses- \$10,000 for 09-10) As we look forward to expanded facilities and the increased usage that is anticipated, it will be important to maintain a long term solution to maintenance and replacement funds for property upkeep which impacts the budget as little as possible. This year should bring further clarity to Gods plan for GCN's new building and with that information a plan for improvement of the existing structures can be continued.

In His Humble Service,

Steve VanBronkhorst

Capital Campaign Annual Report

It was a pleasure to be part of the Building to Serve Together capital fundraising campaign this year. I was personally very humbled to see how God put His church body together to serve in this capacity (1 Corinthians 12:12 “The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form on body. So it is with Christ”). I want to thank everyone who served on this team. During the campaign planning period (October 2007 through April 2008) we had over 60 GCN volunteers who worked with the utmost integrity and have my deepest respect. There were also untold numbers of outside volunteers such as the Outback Steakhouse and many other individuals. On a side note, wasn't it great to see how the Outback crew served us!!! All for no charge and with a servant's heart. I want to also thank each of you for your prayers, faithfulness and sacrificial giving. His spirit in us is contagious. We saw that throughout the campaign, from the meetings to materials, from the dinner event to the pledging and we can now see His spirit in our giving.

Giving in these trying economic times is challenging for most people and churches. I have heard it said that many churches are in need of a “bailout” themselves. Yet, GCN is fairing quite well despite one of the worst financial collapses our country has seen in decades. Let me explain; our annual tithes & offerings are estimated to be at \$643k by the end of this fiscal year (2/28/2009), which is an increase of more than 6% from last year's tithes & offerings of \$606k. This is exceptional considering it came not only in a deep economic recession, but in a year when we also pledged \$748k towards a new building project (3 year period), kept our 2008 Faith Promise giving at about 80k, and gave significantly towards the missions trip to Honduras.

Dr. Steve McSwain, author of a book called *The Giving Myths* explains, “The difference is intentionality. History has taught us that churches and church leaders who make decisions motivated by faith always fair better than those who make decisions motivated by fear. If ever there was a time to teach giving, to encourage generosity, to step out in faith, now is the time.” These are good words and I believe that it will be our faith and our prayers that will lead us to His purpose for our Church in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Nick Prestipino

Office & Communications

Steven Kibby

It has been a joy and a privilege to serve as Office and Communications Overseer this past year. As in previous years, it is clear your pastors and staff care deeply for all of you and strive to reach out to those in the community. Thanks to the many volunteers that assist on a regular basis.

The office copier was replaced this year which was a welcome improvement and provided a stable machine for carrying out the weekly task of copying and printing in the church office. In addition, two new computers were installed replacing equipment that had exceeded its reasonable lifetime.

This coming year will see the replacement of several more computers so the office staff have reliable and sufficient hardware for them to do their daily work.

It is a blessing to work with the church staff on a regular basis and always see their positive attitude and emulating Christ in all they do.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Kibby

Romans 8:28

Finance

Brad Chaney

This year showed an increase in tithes and offerings, while at the same time people have been supporting the capital campaign and the Honduras trips. You would never guess that a recession has been going on at the same time. GCN continues to be one of the most generous churches in our district! Many obviously already know this lesson, but I hope we all will learn (and relearn) that in giving we receive.

I continue to be thankful for the help given by the finance team, who not only provide sound advice but do substantial work to keep everything running smoothly. The counters also are very helpful, taking time each month to make sure that our money is handled accurately and that we have the information we need for tax reports.

This coming year will present continuing financial challenges as we seek to hire a full-time youth pastor, save money for the building campaign, and maintain our ministries. Please pray for wisdom in all of the choices we make.

Brad Chaney

Financial Summary — 2008–2009

Total funds of all types at end of year	\$408,942
New Building Capital Campaign	264,270
Designated funds (total)	24,226
Camp Scholarships	373
Kitchen Upgrade	3,745
Stephens Ministry	3,670
Worship Team	41
NMI	3,669
Other bypass funds	12,728
Operating expenses (total)	120,446
Six Week Reserve	77,628
Property Reserve	39,135
 Available undesignated funds	 3,683

Budget Income	Actual income	Planned income for year	Year-end shortfall or surplus
Tithes and offerings	587,173	667,773	-80,600
Total income	592,361	672,773	-80,412

	Actual expenditures	Budget	Year-end deficit or surplus
Church budget (operating funds) total	588,805	672,773	83,968
Ministries (total)	37,550	59,575	22,025
Adult Christian education	2,195	2,500	305
Children's ministry	10,275	12,000	1,725
Church fellowship	2,630	3,000	370
Compassion/evangelism	1,181	1,000	-181
Men's ministry	0	500	500
Ministries Team	6,496	14,050	7,554
Youth ministry (NYI)	3,865	7,500	3,635
Pastoral ministry	6,801	9,000	2,199
Prayer ministry	145	500	355
Primetimers (sr. adults)	477	700	223
Women's ministry	1,076	1,200	124
Worship—music	1,418	2,775	1,357
Worship—sanctuary	1,049	3,850	2,801
Young adults	-58	1,000	1,058
Denominational expenses and gifts to organizations	94,148	94,129	-19
Property			
Buildings	53,045	54,800	1,755
Grounds & transportation	7,065	12,550	5,485
Office/communications	30,515	36,600	6,085
Capital expenses	13,978	27,000	13,022
Mortgage reserve	79,970	87,240	7,270
Salaries/benefits/taxes	272,534	300,880	28,346

Brad Chaney, Sarah Fuller

Proposed Budget 2009 - 2010

Budget categories	2009 - 10 Proposed Budget
Church budget (operating funds) total	653,197
Ministries (total)	37,265
Adult Christian education	
Children's ministry	
Church fellowship	
Compassion/evangelism	
Men's ministry	
Ministries Team	
Youth ministry (NYI)	
Pastoral ministry	
Prayer ministry	
Primetimers (sr. adults)	
Women's ministry	
Worship—music	
Worship—sanctuary	
Young adults	
Denominational expenses and gifts to organizations	96,965
Office/communications	32,600
Property (total)	160,240
Buildings	58,000
Grounds & transportation	10,000
Capital expenses	5,000
Mortgage reserve	87,240
Salaries/benefits/taxes	326,126
Anticipated reduction in tithes and offerings	0%
Total anticipated T&O (based on \$643,197 in 2008-09)	643,197
Budget income from rentals	10,000
Budget target	653,197
Amount remaining (or deficit)	0
Building as percentage of budget target (excludes office)	24.5%
Denomination	14.8%
Salaries	49.9%
Ministries (includes office/communications)	10.7%

2008 Annual Membership Report

February 11, 2009

Active Members 2/22/08		182
New Members		
By Confession	+	13
By Transfer	+	2
From Inactive	+	1
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP		198
Deceased	-	1
Lettered Out	-	0
Transferred to Inactive Resident/Non-Resident	-	19
TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS		178
Inactive Members 2/22/08		90
Deceased	-	0
Transferred out	-	2
Dropped By Board Action	-	2
Transferred to Active	-	1
Transferred to Inactive By Board Action	+	19
TOTAL INACTIVE MEMBERS		104
50 Non-Resident		
54 Resident		
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP		282 (ACTIVE & INACTIVE)
BAPTISMS		6
BABY DEDICATION		2

Respectively submitted,

Lynn Stepler
Membership Secretary

GCN Active Membership

02/11/2009

Lisa Ashley
Greg Baharoff
Sharon Baharoff
Fiona Baldrige
Lisa Baldrige
Jane Ball
Ron Ball
Barbie Barwell
David Barwell
Sherrie Bayman
David Beall
Marie Bercaw
Adam Berg
Debbie Berg
Michael Berg
Cindy Blackmon
Harry Blackmon
Belinda Bradshaw
Mike Bradshaw
Tom Bratton
Martha Bratton
Hazel Britton
Hilda Brooke
Annie Brown
David Brown
Michelle Brown
Sarah Brown
Amanda Bunting
Eric Bunting
Hank Bunting
Jenine Bunting
Barbara Burr
Jo Burrows
Luwanna Cameron
Duane Caneva
Tina Caneva
Darrin Cave
Brad Chaney
Heidi Chaney
Jim Clay
Linda Clay
Laurilee Clugston
Greg Clugston
Jean Dunlevy Culpepper
Eleanor Cunningham
Floyd Cunningham
Dave Dailey
Jennifer Dailey
Matt Devan
Teah Devan
Christine DiMambro
Richard DiMambro

Angie Dunlevy
Blake Dunlevy
Dave Dunlevy
Bridget Faraci
Matthew Faraci
Pam Ferinde
Katherine Fiore
Frank Fish, Jr.
Pam Fish
Jean Fitzgerald
Patti Fitzgibbon
Diane Fitzpatrick
Mike Fitzpatrick
Traci Fitzpatrick
Cathy Frame
Dean Frame
Bob Francis
Nancy Francis
Billie Frazier
Don Frazier
Barbara Frey
Sarah Fuller
Bunnie Galladora
Vic Galladora
Donna Gallagher
Rick Gallagher
Amy VanGilder Garrett
Gary Gillette
Paula Gillette
Brian Gruber
Lisa Gruber
Bruce Hadley
Cindy Hadley
Chris Harrell
Sandy Harrell
Rick Hepner
Willie Hosie
Barbara Insley
Gail Jacobs
Karen Jones
Pat Kane
Janet Kenly
Richard Kenly
Bertie Lambert
Benjamin Leach
Lynetta Leach
Mark Leach
Diane Moore Leaman
Gary Leaman
Lorraine Loy
Robin Loy
Silas Loy, Jr

**Jan Maloney
Bob Mathis
Julie Mathis
Ruth McCrory
Debbie Mikus
Mike Mikus
Patti Mills
Ken Mills
Suzy Misfeldt
Dee Neff
Bill Neil
Kendra Neil
Patricia Norris
Ashlee Prestipino
Kim Prestipino
Nick Prestipino
Sophia Proctor
Debbie Rivera
Rod Rivera
Kelsey Rosario
Allen Ross
Kathleen Ross
Jennifer Sekhar
David Sharp
Jennifer Sharp
Laura Sharp
Lisa Sharp
Ben Spitler
Kelly Spitler
Rebekah Spitler
Christy Stein
Eric Stein
Mary Stephen
Fred Stepler
Lynn Stepler
Dudley Strickland**

**Jacque Strickland
Frank Sweeney
Terry Sweeney
Paul Taylor
Jenny Blackmon Teixeira
Milton Terry
Wilma Terry
Abigail Ukwuani
Festus Ukwuani
Tim Ukwuani
Bob Utter
Joyce Utter
Anne VanBronkhorst
David VanBronkhorst
Molly VanBronkhorst
Steve VanBronkhorst
David Van Gilder
Ruthella Van Gilder
Karen Van Gilder
Dan Van Gilder
Debbie Van Gilder
David Vicino
Debby Vicino
Michele Vicino
Bill Watkins
Rhonda Watkins
Jerry Way
Ann Weems
John Weems
Traci Weems
David West
Dawn West
Oliver Whipp
Rita Wigle
Kathryn Wilder
Kim Yost
Sheila Zahm
Steve Zahm**

GCN Inactive Resident Membership

02/11/2009

Chris Allen	12/16/08
Lissa Allen	12/16/08
Amy Anders	02/15/01
Jim Anders	02/15/01
Mavis Anderson	04/08/03
Tim Arcano	04/08/03
Faith Antizzo	02/07/07
Jeanine Bonilla	06/03/05
Tony Bonilla	06/03/05
Claire Bucklin	01/10/06
David Bucklin	01/10/06
Maureen Burton	01/10/06
John Campbell	02/11/03
Lani Campbell	02/11/03
Ed Diaz	02/15/01
Brian Hagberg	02/06/00
Karen Hagberg	02/06/00
Kent Hill	12/16/08
Jan Hill	12/16/08
Jennifer Hill	12/16/08
John Hosie	06/03/05
Nancy Ide	06/03/05
Eddie Irons	12/16/08
Lorelei Irons	12/16/08
Kathy Johnson	12/16/08
Larry Johnson	12/16/08
Nathan Jones	01/10/06
Cheryl Kenly	06/15/04
Eunice Kimbrough	04/08/03
David Krawetski	01/10/06
Patty Kusmisskus	02/15/01
Joshua Loucks	02/07/07
Glenn McPhee	12/16/08
Lisa McPhee	12/16/08
Jennifer Miller	02/07/07
Kathy Mongold	06/03/05
David Mongold	06/03/05
Amanda Mosedale	06/03/05
Laura Mosedale	12/16/08
Mark Naylor	02/15/02
Russell Nickolson	12/16/08
Paula Patty	02/07/07
Tim Perry	12/16/08
Darcy Quinn	12/16/08
Mark Schilling	02/07/07
Norma Suarez	01/31/98
Sherry Blackmon Tomaski	12/16/08
Jeff Wigle	
A. J. Wise	02/15/02
Lynn Wise	02/15/02

GCN Inactive Non-Resident Membership

02/11/2009

Maria Austin	12/16/08	Terry Cox Merriman	01/11/05
Ben Barnhart	02/07/07	Diana Mosedale	06/03/05
Shirley Barnhart	02/07/07	Shannon Nishimura	02/11/03
Nancy Berzins	04/08/03	Michelle Peluso	
Valdi Berzins	04/08/03	Rich Peluso	
Marla Blady	01/11/05	Bob Polley	02/15/02
Charles Blake	01/31/99	Karen Polley	02/15/02
Marge Blake	01/31/99	Jody Price	02/15/01
Lisa Brooks	04/08/03	Matt Price	02/15/01
Stanley Brooks	04/08/03	Natalie Price	02/15/01
Steve Burrows	02/15/02	Robert Price	02/15/01
Diane Bratton Byers	02/11/03	Claire Robinson	05/01/98
Denise Cutler	02/15/02	Sam Shoff	04/08/03
Chris Dooley	02/11/03	Derek Sisterhen	06/03/05
Kevin Dooley	01/31/98	Heather Spaulding	06/03/05
Jeannie Dunlevy	02/10/04	James Stafford	02/15/02
Dan Ertel	02/15/02	Lisa Stafford	02/15/02
Samantha Figueroa	07/07/07	Ann Sweeney	01/31/98
Danny Fitzgibbon	01/10/06	Mark Sweeney	06/03/05
Carla Harper	02/15/02	Myrna Thomas	01/11/05
Ashley Isaac	01/10/06	Robert VanGilder	07/07/07
Christina Isaac	01/10/06	Thelma VanGilder	07/07/07
Angie Jackson	07/07/07	Alyssa Van Veldhuizen	01/11/05
David Jackson	07/07/07	Eric Van Veldhuizen	02/11/03
Natalie Khalatbari	02/15/02	Melissa Vass	12/16/08
Judy Kibby	12/16/08	Bob Walz	02/11/03
Steve Kibby	12/16/08	Linna Walz	02/11/03

Worship Ministry 2008 Annual Report

This ministry creates and performs audio-visual elements for Sunday morning worship services. It is our purpose to prompt an atmosphere of genuine worship through music and various forms of media.

Looking back at 2008: The Lord has blessed us with a group of talented musicians and audio-visual technicians who spend hours every week preparing for two Sunday morning worship services. Studies say that creative “types” often are difficult to work with but our team is truly blessed by camaraderie and unity. It is an honor and joy to serve the Lord with the following people:

SOUND – David Dailey and Julie Mathis

MUSIC – Christy Stein, James Stephenson, Mike Cavaliere, Abigail Spitler, Belinda Bradshaw, Bob Francis, Sandy Harrell, Dave VanBronkhorst, Jenine Bunting, Bob Mathis

VIDEO – Jennifer Dailey, Greg Clugston, Brad Chaney, Matt and Teah Devan

SACRAMENTS – Dee Neff and Pat Kane

BAPTISM – Ruthella Van Gilder

DECOR – Belinda Bradshaw

We purchased a new keyboard and (after the old computer died) upgraded to a newer computer for Sanctuary services – giving us a greater ability to incorporate video and other media presentations.

Looking ahead to 2009: We anticipate no new “big” equipment purchases this coming year. However, the sanctuary is in need of a multi-media overhaul. The stage lighting is inconsistent and should be improved. The video projectors are aging and need to be replaced. Video screens would increase and improve visibility. A video camera would allow us to create our own clips as well as project baptisms and other events.

More importantly, the worship team will continue to “perfect our craft” so that we will never hinder the Holy Spirit on Sunday morning. We will also try to develop new Worship Teams by adding new worship leaders, musicians and technicians. It is my hope that every person who attends a worship service at GCN has a heart open to worship God and an opportunity to feel His presence.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurilee Clugston
Worship Overseer

Youth Ministry 2008-2009

This past year in Youth Ministry has been a great one. I've really enjoyed continuing my involvement with our teens and having the opportunity to be a key leader this past year along with our pastors and youth ministry intern. I want to start by thanking those who have been a part of youth ministry over the last year. Pastors Ben and Kelly, Dan Watkins, our Deep Impact leadership team and support teams and our Sunday School teachers. I hope you all know what an important role you have in our teen's lives. They are watching and learning from you each time we are together. Thank you for your continuing support and passion to youth ministry and the growth of our teens.

As a group we have had some great times, one of which was a mission trip to Honduras in July '08. There was a group of over 30 people from our church who went on this trip and over a third of that group was made up of teenagers! We not only had a powerful experience on the trip but also in events leading up to it. Our teens were involved in service projects like the 30 hour famine, car washes and canned food drives to prepare for a mission minded experience.

In the coming year I hope that we will continue to have more parent involvement and adult leadership. Ultimately, my prayer would be for our church family to decide to hire a youth pastor. It's been challenging and rewarding to lead our teens, but I feel they will extremely benefit from someone who is committed full-time to this ministry and the growth of our teens.

I would encourage parents to continue being involved in your teenager's lives and especially in the part where they are making big decisions about their faith that will put them on a path for a great future.

The teens in our church family never cease to amaze me in their passion and quest for growth in Jesus, this year was no different. Thank you again to all of our leaders and parents and especially the teens who have made this past year amazing! Keep it up!!

Amy Garrett
NYI President 2008-2009

Young Adult Ministry

To My Brothers and Sisters,

The past two and a half years have been an incredible testament to the goodness and faithfulness of our Lord as he has guided us through a full cycle of young adult ministry. He showed up time after time, providing for all that we needed. This version of the GCN Young Adult Ministry began to meet in April of 2006. I feel personally blessed to have witnessed the Lord's hand at work starting, growing, and maturing this incredible group of young people.

Our leadership team did a truly fantastic job of blazing a new ministry trail. I appreciate so much the time, energy, and brain power that the Young Adult Leaders put into figuring out the best ways to reach this generation. I believe that we have seen the Lord honor their service.

As it stands now, the Young Adult Ministry at GCN is at a critical transition point. The "inaugural class" has stepped aside to make way for the next group of young adults. Karen VanGilder has agreed to take a position of leadership for this group and I am praying that God will help her to raise up the next core group of folks. This new group will be charged with the task of carrying the banner for their peers. It will not be an easy task but I believe it to be of the utmost importance.

Our little experiment in this ministry area has proven to be educational and the lessons learned should not be forgotten. First, closing the "young adult gap" that seems so prevalent in churches today is possible. Second, the relationships created prove to be of the deepest variety. And finally, Young Adults need a place to talk out their faith and test the merits of their beliefs, if they do not find that forum in church they will find it elsewhere. When this happens the results are much less likely to be a deepened faith in God and closer walk with Christ.

I would ask our church body to once again hear the call for the Young Adults of our church and find out how to help. I would challenge you to offer your home to host an event, lead a small group, and help teach a class, or just have a meaningful conversation with one of our young people. It is such a challenging phase of life and adult support can mean more than you might imagine. We as a church are blessed to have such a wonderful group of young followers of Christ and the task of mentoring should be shared by us all. We should all set as our baseline a dedication to pray for this new group of young adults as they test their "ministry wings". Please also pray for Pastor Kelly and Karen VanGilder as they form a leadership team.

All the glory should be given to God for his guidance and direction for our group to this point. I know that He will continue to guide and direct in the year to come. Also, a great deal of thanks should be given to the people who answered His call and faithfully served the young adults of our church over the past two and a half years. Thank you to Brian and Rebecca VanGilder, Kim Yost, Patti Fitzgibbon, Traci Weems, Amy VanGilder, Peter Hatten, James and Jillian Stephenson, Kim Prestipino, Katrina Martin, Natalie Bradley, Sean Carr, Lisa West, and Pastor Kelly for being ministry trailblazers. We look forward with the great hope that the Lord will continue to bless the young adults of the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene.

Blake Dunlevy

Prayer Ministry 2009 Report

Highlight

- ABF Class: Prayer, Does it Make a Difference? (Yancey)
- We supported the National Day of Prayer, including an all-Church prayer night.
- Focused prayer for mission trips
- The e-mail prayer chain process continues to go smoothly thanks to the office staff.
- Periodically there is extended prayer time in church services and in various meetings.

Goal

- Increase awareness of the impact and importance of prayer.

Need: none

Recommendations

- Revitalize the Mighty Pray-ers, encouraging enrollment
- Encourage corporate prayer
- Reintroduce the ACTS “guideline” for prayer in groups and individually.
- Offer another ABF class on prayer

Personal Testimony

I’ll admit to some discouragement in this area as it relates to GCN. I believe that people pray for one another in their homes and cover church events in prayer. I would love to see an increase in well-attended worshipful corporate prayer events in 2009.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Sherrie Bayman
Overseer

Primetimers Annual Report 2008/2009

Barbara Burr, Lorraine Loy, Bertie Lambert, co-leaders

Our planning team of three met with Pastor Terry on a quarterly basis to explore fun, educational, and spiritual monthly activities for the senior adults (55 and older). We scheduled activities during the day from 11:30 am to about 3:00 pm. We always included lunch and provided \$5.00 per person to apply toward their lunch from our budget. This was very helpful for those with limited income.

A specific highlight of activities was when Karen Scott provided us with Tropical Tickers at the beginning of the year. We had a lot of laughter over the tropical costumes and the Hula dance. We got adventuresome this year by planning events farther away such as traveling to Lancaster, PA for a performance at the Living Waters Theater, a tour of the new museum at Gettysburg, PA, and a tour of Oakwood Mansion in Leasburg, VA.

This year we plan to explore new restaurant experiences and find some out of the way museums and enjoy a picnic at Quentin's while weather is good, and during the winter months stay close to home and play games, tell stories, watch movies, etc. We found that the longer trips were too difficult for some of the seniors so we will stay closer to home this year so more folks can enjoy the fun and fellowship. Please consider joining us throughout the year.

The three of us have deepened our friendship with each other and truly enjoyed the fellowship that we have with this group of very active folks. I think they have ministered to us more than we ministered to them. We are a blessed group.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Burr

Nazarene Missions International

Ruthella Van Gilder, NMI President

Highlights:

- *Inspiring **missionary visits** by Christian and Flavia Ventura in March, Philip and Denise Anderson in November and Barry Carney in February.
- ***Mission teams:** Less than 6 months after a GCN Work and Witness team went to the **Philippines (APNTS)**, a team of more than 40 teens, young adults and adults went to **Honduras**. Angie Dunlevy and her leadership team did a fine job of planning and involving GCN in their preparations. During the trip, a simple house was constructed, visits were made to 2 orphanages, and medical team members worked in a local hospital and provided fluoride treatments. Toys and clothing were given to needy families and a generator was purchased for Nazarene Pastor Maximo. Trips like these open your heart and change your life as you see the spiritual and physical needs experienced by precious people in other cultures.
- *Teens held a **30 Hour Famine** in April, fasting to raise money and awareness for missions and world hunger.
- *4 **Child sponsorships** are paid for children in Pakistan, Kenya, Guatemala and India.
- * In the spring and fall, **clothing and Crisis Care Kits** were collected for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries. The NCM warehouse in Fawn Grove, PA ships our donations to needy areas of the world as requests come to them.
- * A donation to **Missionary Health Care** was given in memory of Jean Frey and Sandy Taylor.
- *Campbell Soup labels were sent to the **Sun Valley Indian School** in Arizona. These will help them to buy a van to use at their school.
- ***Alabaster** offerings are taken twice a year to build new churches, schools and pastor's homes.
- *154 **mission books** (and counting) have been read this year.
- *Letters and gifts were sent to our **LINKS** missionaries, the Crows, serving in Sri Lanka.

Goal for next year: Greater involvement by children and teens in hands-on mission projects

Need or concern:

- *Educating our church about Nazarene missions, so we can pray for, give to and participate in sending the Good News of Christ around the world.
- *Mentoring children, teens and adults who have a call to missions.
- *Steady and healthy mission giving. This year our Faith Promise giving through mid-January has been \$66,345 of the \$80,000 needed by February 28. Those who don't participate in Faith Promise can give in mission offerings at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Recommendations:

Increase prayer reminders for missionaries and needs around the world
Teen or young adult member of NMI Council

I want to thank those who have served on the NMI Council this year: Jim Clay, Vice President, Gail Jacobs, Secretary, Sally Fuller, Treasurer, Cindy Blackmon, Laura Coombs, Barbara Burr, Fred Stepler, Kendra Neil, Mino Hatten, Jean Dunlevy-Culpeper and Martha Bratton.

Seeing many needs worldwide and learning about the sacrifices missionaries make to spread the love of Christ, I am reminded that our (my) lifestyles should allow us to give and support missions in other countries. Through the Nazarene church, we can combine our efforts and make a deeper impact on needs around the world. We must be willing to give wisely and liberally to make disciples for Christ in the nations. We can never out give God. He gave his only Son! I am thankful that Christ is my Savior and I want to continue to live for him every day.

Ruthella Van Gilder

Karen Van Gilder Ordained Minister

The year began with deputation – traveling to other Nazarene churches to share the story of missions. I had the opportunity to travel to various Nazarene districts in the Eastern half of the US. Some were time with old friends, others meeting new ones. In all of them, I was able to tell the story of Poland and the face of missions there. I preached 47 times and traveled in 11 states, all in the first three months of the year. No wonder I was tired.

After an intense five years of ministry in Poland, I took my time readjusting to life and ministry in the United States, stepping back from full time ministry. It's funny, though, how you never really leave it. In the mean time, I've been working at the US Capitol with the Guide Service. I enjoy my work there and the people I interact with each day. I have also been serving as a member of our district NMI council, specializing in the areas of Prayer and Fasting, as well as Youth. I will also have the opportunity to represent our district at the General NMI Convention in Orlando this June.

As the year has come to a close, I am delving back into ministry again. I'm excited about working with the Young Adults at our church. Pray for us as we accept the challenge to restart the group and endeavor to know Christ. Please pray for us as we do this. May He daily be our guide.

Karen Van Gilder

Local Pastor's Report

Lisa Sharp

2 Peter 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.

I look back on another year of ministry and service at GCN with my local pastor's license in complete amazement at the faithfulness of God who really does give us everything we need for life and godliness, as we respond to His call and seek to really know Him. I celebrate that it is His power and His call that directs and empowers us to serve Him.

This past year God has really "shaken up" my ministry involvement and direction. He granted my life-long desire to be used in overseas mission work by allowing me to be part of the GCN mission team that served in Honduras in July of 2008. On that trip I was privileged to serve as the team's "spiritual leader" and to coordinate the medical aspects of the ministry to the people we served there. After returning from that trip, I felt led to make myself available to whatever else God had in mind for me to do in missions, by surrendering every other area of service and ministry in which I was already involved.

It was painful and scary to step away from ministry roles and relationships that I love and that have become very comfortable and supportive to me. But I was certain that God had some specific plans for me and that I needed to make room for them. I was happy that God led me to "pick back up" my role as Ladies' Sunday School class teacher- which is a huge blessing to me. But the rest of my ministry "hats" are now being worn by others, except for planning special events such as the Easter Egg Hunt and the Fall Retreat.

My primary area of ministry involvement and activities this past year and my goals for the coming year are mostly related to the Honduras mission trip. It seemed most of this past year was the planning and preparing for the July trip, and then the actual service there. Since my return I have attended the mission track training at TEAM Day as well as a District meeting on partnerships in missions. I have returned to Honduras in October to attend the Conference on Honduras, to learn from and connect with people in a wide range of ministry roles and services in Honduras. I have remained active with the Honduras Leadership planning team and have continued to meet with a prayer group focusing on covering our mission plans with prayer. I am excited to be privileged to serve on the 09 mission team and to already be involved in that planning and team building process.

I am so grateful for all the support and encouragement I have received from the GCN pastors and Board, and from all of you, as you have allowed me to continue to pursue the calling to service that I believe the Lord has placed on my heart. Please keep praying that God would lead me and use me however He wants to, and that I will become the person (and especially the mother and friend) that God created me to be. And I am praying Romans 15: 5-7 for us at GCN: for **"... endurance and encouragement ... and a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God"**.

Lisa Sharp

Local Pastor's Report

Tim Ukwuani

This past year has been a memorable year. So much has happened. Being involved in the youth ministry has also been very rewarding for me. I have been able to interact with more teens and have got to know some other teens better. I have also learned how to be a better leader. It seems like I am learning new things every day. I have been really involved with the teen band lately. I still love worship and love playing with all the members of the band. I have been going to bible study a lot these past couple of months. It has been helpful to me in my life. I learn a lot from what Dan has to tell us each Wednesday. I love the way he gets us really thinking about each topic. It is a lot of fun.

Outside of GCN, I am very involved in our school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). I am also involved in our school's new club called project change. Project change is a club where we plan things we can do so that kids in our school can get involved in our community with different service projects, fundraisers, and different drives. It is fun but at the same time hard work.

My spiritual life is constantly being tested. I'm hanging in there and doing well. I have been reading my bible and talking to God every moment I get. I still am striving to be a youth pastor. I am very excited for what God has planed for me. At the same time, I want to know so much.

I really want the youth group to grow more spiritually and I think the presence of more and older young adults would be a good presence for not just the youth group, but for the older teens. We really need older young adults to look up to so that we have a good model on how to live our lives. One thing that still has me concerned is on the subject of a youth pastor. I am wondering if GCN is searching for one, and if we are searching, about how long will it take before we have one again?

Thank you for taking your time to read this. God bless you all.

Tim C. Ukwuani