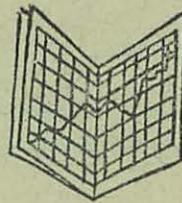


David W. Ross

1973

ANNUAL
REPORTS



ANNUAL REPORT

Congregational Church of Austin



AGENDA

ANNUAL MEETING

January 20, 1974

Devotions-The Pastor

Election of Moderator

Minutes of the Previous Annual Meeting and any other minutes of Church meetings.

Review of the Annual Reports (Any questions, corrections, differing opinions, statements etc.?)

Any reports from organizations or committees not included in printed reports?

Old Business-(Any business from 1972 Annual Meeting of meeting held during the past year that has not yet been completed?)

New Business

1. Election of Officers, Board Members, and Committee Members .
2. 1974 Budget. What action does the church wish to take. Actual deficit is aprox. \$4,500.00. What about OCWM Budget? Any action on it?
3. Any suggestions for use of \$15,000.00 in cash from the sale of the parsonage. (See minister's report for suggestions.)
4. Other? (Make plans for ordination of J. Mark Thomas next Sunday at 7 p.m.)
5. Adjourn

REPORT FROM THE DEACONS

1973 WAS A GOOD YEAR:

**We welcomed into our fellowship, 7 new members including Gary and Judy Cole, Sarah and Don Reed, Dennis and Kazuko Schneider, and Marilyn Stephens. Moreover, we initiated an inquirers class for several of our young people. We look forward to their presence in our community as members in 1974.

**Many of us, including Bob German, Dr. Johnson, Doyal Pinkard, Alfred Wupperman, Steven ~~xxxx~~, Dr. Perkins, Russ Mueller, Byron Wells, and Rich Wilson shared our thoughts from the pulpit.

**A new telephone committee to alert members of important church business was formed and has been a big success. Thank you Cathy Hubbs, Susan Antoniewicz, Caroline Chial, Judy Cole, Pat Oakes, and Joan Wilson.

**In the area of fellowship and worship we benefited from a Faith Exploration Experience in the fall, two picnics in the summer, well accepted summer Sunday services in the new wing, meaningful Maundy Thursday and Christmas services, and one series of area meetings.

**Thank you David Blackstock and Tommy Johnson for taking care of Sunday ushering.

1973 WAS NOT SUCH A GOOD YEAR

**We had only a 67% attendance average in our 10 deacons meetings. This CANNOT keep up without deleterious effects on our life as a community. ALL elected officials must commit themselves to full participation.

**We tried weekly newsletters in April and May. They failed--lack of volunteers.

1974 WILL BE A BETTER YEAR

**We will be coming forth with suggestions for making our areas into more effective "little churches" and interacting communities.

**Rizer and Steven may do some work this year experimenting with the positions of the pews in the sanctuary. Can we better arrange our physical worship space for more effective worship experiences?

Steven M. Neuse (all Kudos and Criticisms are directed at this chairman too)

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The committee did meet once during the year and decided to try to have summarization of articles from "engage/social action" and/or other articles in the newsletter each month. Ms. Billie Saustrup did get articles in one month, but no further articles have appeared. Some discussion of the possibility of having a member or interested person present a concern each month at Sunday worship service was held, but no actions have as yet resulted. Committee members have been receiving a letter from Washington, and they have been reading "engage/social action" which does have informative articles about current social issues.

Committee members have been interested, and it is hoped that more time will be available for members of the committee, perhaps some members will help them.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The main areas of concern for the trustees in 1973 have been building maintenance and repairs, our relationships with other groups using the church, and, most important, the state of our finances.

We were fortunate that no major maintenance costs were incurred. Stained glass windows in the Fellowship Room and sanctuary were excellently repaired by Mr. Adolph Klundt at a modest cost. The courtyard was enclosed by means of a gate and concrete planters at the request of the Child Development Board. Two workdays were held, resulting in the repair of guard rails on the North and East sides of the older building, repair of wiring in the sanctuary, and the painting of several rooms in the new wing. Air conditioners in the new wing were repaired several times.

A number of groups are using the church. The Child Development Center has maintained a full program and a nearly full enrollment. Mars Hill, an Assembly of God church, has held regular services in our sanctuary or used the second floor of the new wing. The People's Free Clinic has extended its hours and services and hired a full-time doctor. The church (somewhat reluctantly) allowed the street vendors to use the sidewalk in front of the church during the Christmas season. The Metropolitan Community Church changed its name to Church of the Resurrection but has not been using our facilities since September. With so many groups with different goals and outlooks sharing a small space some conflicts have inevitably arisen which the trustees have tried to resolve to everyone's satisfaction. Our desire has been to serve the community by granting all reasonable requests for the use of our space. The University Y will be using the Fellowship Room for classes in the evening for six weeks beginning Jan. 24th.

The budget for 1973 was underpledged, as it has been most recent years. However, giving by unpledged members and friends has kept us "in the black" most of the year. We have also gratefully received regular contributions from the Child Development Center and Mars Hill. This has not been a crisis year like some in recent memory. Nevertheless, there is cause for concern for 1974. The expectation of rising costs, reflected in the proposed budget, and the loss of some members have combined to increase the expected deficit in the local budget (amount needed minus amount pledged) to \$4,783.36. For comparison, unpledged giving in 1973 was \$3,006.64 and will probably be less in 1974 because some members who have given in previous years without pledging have pledged this year for 1974.

The most important item affecting the budget at the beginning of 1974 is the approval of the congregation of the sale of the parsonage to the Towerys. The appraised value of the house is \$27,350.00. The sale price of \$22,000.00 reflects a division of the accrued equity between the congregation and the Towerys. This transfer, which has now been completed, has two effects: First, in the 1974 budget a pastor's housing allowance replaces three items, namely parsonage utilities and telephone, parsonage improvements, and parsonage mortgage payments. Second, the congregation will have \$15,129.28 for which an appropriate use or investment must be found. Since this money represents liquidation of our equity in the parsonage and not "new money" it does not relieve the concern expressed in the preceding paragraph.

I wish to thank the members of the board for their service--Sue Blackstock, Nancy Brown, Jean Cassel, Stella Morrison, Sarah Reed, Mathis Blackstock, Rizer Everett, Robert German, Doyal Pinkard, Arne Saustrop, and David Tillotson. We were sorry to lose David Tillotson as financial secretary, but he was ably replaced by Sarah Reed. John Towery, although not a member, did much of the actual work of the board. I enjoyed working with the budget committee--Judy Cole, Stella Morrison, Pat Oakes, Rizer Everett, and Steve Neuse. Finally I want to thank Mel Oakes who organized Building and Grounds maintenance, and all who helped during work days and did repair work, especially John Camden, Don Reed, Rizer Everett, Tom Johnson, and John Towery. (ed. and Dave and Sara Ross)

-David Ross, Chairman, Jan. 5, 1974

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 1, 1973 Balance in Bank		\$ 915.81	
Operating Fund			
Gifts, Pledges, Loose Plate and Payments			
from Houston St. Property		29,225.49	
			<u>\$30,141.30</u>
Pastoral Leadership.....	\$11,469.90		
Local Programs.....	4,261.67		
Payments on New Wing.....	9,745.62		
Transferred to Memorial.....	414.00		
			<u>\$25,891.19</u>
Responsibilities in Cooperative Work.....	\$ 119.36		
One Great Hour of Sharing.....	165.55		
Neighbors in Need.....	44.00		
Veterans of the Cross.....	5.00		
American Indians.....	43.00		
			<u>\$ 376.91</u>
O.C.W.M. (Undesignated).....	\$ 2,234.55		
Eden Home Operating Fund.....	356.00		
Crisis in the Nation.....	133.40		
			<u>\$ 2,723.95</u>
902 Houston Street Property			
Insurance.....	\$ 45.00		
Taxes Co. and Sta.	22.86		
School.....	111.28		
City.....	82.17		
			<u>\$ 261.31</u>
			<u>\$29,253.36</u>
			<u>- \$29,253.36</u>
Balance in the Bank on January 1, 1974.....			<u>\$ 887.94</u>

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Pastor's Salary.....	\$ 7,900.00
Annuity.....	1,137.60
Disability & Health Insurance.....	252.00
Car Expense.....	540.00
Telephone.....	87.74
Water, Light and Power.....	446.74
Gas (utility).....	103.46
Parsonage Payments.....	1,002.36
	<u>\$11,469.90</u>

LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS

Music.....	\$ 567.00
Christian Education.....	37.42
Office Supplies and Postage.....	465.09
Publicity.....	0.00
Utilities (water, light, and power).....	1,086.03
Gas.....	367.43
Telephone.....	327.45
Maintenance.....	412.05
Janitor Supplies.....	0.00
Insurance (Psnj. and Liab.)	235.00
Expenses Delegate to Convention.....	199.25

4.

LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS (cont'd.)

Nursery Attendants.....	\$ 176.00	
Camps, Institutions, etc.	0.00	
United Church Herald.....	0.00	
Safe Deposit Box.....	17.00	
Treasurers' Bonds.....	92.00	
Miscellaneous.....	6.50	
Appraisal Report on Parsonage.....	75.00	
Flower Boxes.....	98.45	
Faith Exploration.....	100.00	
	<u>\$ 4,261.67</u>	

RESPONSIBILITIES IN COOPERATIVE WORK

Brazos Association Dues.....	\$ 61.20	
Austin Council of Churches.....	20.00	
Texas Conference of Churches.....	8.16	
National Council of Churches.....	10.00	
World Council of Churches.....	5.00	
Regional Seminary Support.....	15.00	
	<u>\$ 119.36</u>	

ASSETS

Franklin Federal Savings Account		
January 1, 1973 in Pass Book Account.....	\$ 2,970.03	
April 5, 1973 Withdrew \$2,000.00 to		
buy two #1,000.00 CD's.....	<u>-2,000.00</u>	
	\$ 970.00	
Interest Earned in 1973.....	76.51	
Balance January 1, 1974.....	<u>\$ 1,046.51</u>	\$ 1,046.51
Two \$1,000.00 Certificates of Deposit....	\$ 2,000.00	
Interest Earned.....	88.14	
	<u>\$ 2,088.14</u>	\$ 2,088.14
		<u>\$ 3,134.65</u>

Memorial Fund (Austin National Bank Savings Department)

Balance January 1, 1973.....	413.34
Deposits.....	414.00
Interest Earned.....	22.97
	<u>\$ 855.31</u>

Houston Street Property

Balance Due on Note Receivable	
January 15, 1973.....	\$ 3,421.17

Blackburn paid a total of.....	\$ 1,770.00 of which	
	(380.00) into Escrow	
	(168.61) interest paid	
	<u>\$ 1,221.39</u> applied to	\$ 1,221.39
	principal	<u>\$ 2,199.73</u>
Interest from December 15 to December 31.....		5.50
Balance on Note as of January 1, 1974.....		<u>\$ 2,205.23</u>

5.

LIABILITIES

Franklin Federal Savings & Loan Association (loan on new wing)

January 1, 1973 Balance.....	\$92,314.62
Applied to Principle.....	<u>2,984.80</u>
	\$89,329.82

Total of Payments	\$9,745.62
Paid into Escrow	620.82
Interest	6,140.00
Applied to Principle	<u>2,984.80</u>

Austin Savings & Loan (Note on Parsonage)

Balance January 1, 1973.....	\$ 7,533.56
	<u>603.07</u>
Balance January 1, 1974.....	\$ 6,930.49

Total of Payments	\$1,002.36
Interest	<u>399.29</u>
Applied to Principle	\$ 603.07

-Stella Morrison, Treasurer

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Total Receipts January 1, 1973-December 31, 1973..... \$ 29,336.09

Composition:

General Purposes-

1973 Pledges.....	\$18,300.87
1972 Pledges.....	120.00
Congregational Child Development Center...	2,040.00
Raymond Blackburn.....	1,770.00
Loose Plate.....	539.51
Sunday School.....	97.57
Reimbursement Telephone Expense.....	66.00
Other Contributions for General Purposes.....	<u>3,006.64</u>
Total Regular Contributions.....	\$ 25,940.59

Other Contributions for Specific Purposes-

OCWM.....	\$ 2,723.95
One Great Hour of Sharing.....	165.55
Neighbors In Need.....	44.00
American Indian.....	43.00
Veterans of the Cross.....	5.00
General Memorial.....	75.00
Robertson Memorial.....	5.00
Roberta Winkler Memorial.....	135.00
Chester Lay Memorial.....	60.00
Erna Seeliger Memorial.....	64.00
Frances Wooldridge Memorial.....	<u>75.00</u>
Total Special Contributions.....	\$ 3,395.50

Total Contributions..... \$ 29,336.09

difference between this and treas report is John's reimbursement for Tel., etc. This does not show on Treas. report

6.

1974 Pledges-

Regular - Needed.....	\$23,592.30	
Pledged.....	18,309.04	19,009.04
Short.....	5,283.26	4,483.26
OCWii - Needed.....	3,050.00	
Pledged.....	2,690.00	
Short.....	360.00	

Pledges 1973.....	\$19,837.64
Received 1972.....	450.00
Received 1973.....	18,300.87
Short.....	1,086.77

-Sarah Reed, Financial Secretary

ENLISTMENT

"Soft-sell" is the word which perhaps best describes the recent "drive" for funds to keep plant and program going yet another year.

Our pastor occasionally nudges us into contemplating our values, and through the newsletter, he has kept us informed about money needs as determined by the Trustees.

My formal note of gentle persuasion went out about the middle of November accompanied by a pamphlet, pledge-card, stamped addressed envelope and the appeal to say something.

In addition, we've had reminders, "Have you turned in your pledge?"

Let's hope that at least some kind of subsistence level has been attained.

-Weldon Scheel, Enlistment Director

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Women's Association met the second Monday of each month for devotionals and programs, except for the summer months, at members' homes. We started the year with 15 members, 11 active members and 4 inactive. We lost 3 members by death and one member by transfer. The group gave \$12.00 to the Leprosy Fund, paid our church pledge of \$50.00, bought the tablecloth and cream and sugar set for the fellowship room, gave \$15.00 to the memorial fund, spent \$10.00 for postage and cards. We started the year with \$68.11, collected \$72.91 and spent \$92.93. We now have a balance of \$47.00 in the bank, and \$1.09 toward the Leprosy Fund.

Marie Clark, President
-Eleanor Towery, ~~President~~
Secretary

CLERK'S REPORT

Membership at the beginning of 1973 was 123. During the year, five members were lost by death and three by transfer. Six new members were added by transfer and one by statement of faith. Therefore, the membership of the church as of December 31, 1973 was 122.

The average attendance at church services for the ten months of highest attendance was 54.8.

-Rizer Everett, Clerk

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Balance January 1, 1973.....	\$ 925.15
Correction for 1972 Tuition Deposited	
During 1973.....	129.30
Correction for Payment of December 1972	
FICA Deposits During 1973.....	<u>-238.30</u>
Corrected Balance.....	\$ 816.15
Net Gain During 1973.....	<u>830.18</u>
Balance January 1, 1974.....	\$ 1,646.33

Comparison of 1973 Budget with Actual Income and Expense:

	1973 Budget	Actual
Income:	\$21,840.00	\$22,018.77
Expenses:	<u>21,840.00</u>	<u>21,188.59</u>
Net Gain:	\$ 0.00	\$ 830.18
I. Staff and Fringe Benefits		
A. Director.....	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
B. Morning Teacher.....	3,120.00	3,045.00
C. Afternoon Teacher.....	2,520.00	2,303.81
D. Afternoon Teacher.....	2,400.00	2,267.20
E. Cook-Housekeeper.....	2,400.00	2,406.35
F. Vacation Substitutes.....	408.00	105.00
Emergency Substitutes.....	420.00	508.00
G. Social Security.....	840.00	881.12
Total for Section I.....	<u>\$16,908.00</u>	<u>\$16,316.48</u>
II. Equipment		
A. Permanent.....	\$ 300.00	\$ 405.02
B. Temporary.....	300.00	157.21
Total for Section II.....	<u>\$ 600.00</u>	<u>\$ 526.23</u>
III. Food, Milk, Cleaning Supplies		
A. Food and Cleaning.....	\$	\$ 1,690.63
B. Milk.....		450.28
Total for Section III.....	<u>\$ 2,160.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,140.91</u>
IV. Space and Utilities		
A. Allowance to defray expense		
for space.....	\$ 1,200.00	\$
B. Telephone.....	240.00	
C. Utilities.....	600.00	
Total for Section IV.....	<u>\$ 2,040.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,040.00</u>
V. Other Expenses		
A. Insurance.....	\$ 84.00	\$
B. Misc. Permits & Red Cross		
for Teachers.....	48.00	65.00
C. Advertising.....	0.00	17.52
D. Repairs.....	0.00	46.45
Total for Section V.....	<u>\$ 132.00</u>	<u>\$ 128.97</u>

-Sara Rpps. Treasurer.

1973 was a stable year for the Child Development Center:

- a. For the first time in three years we met expenditures established by a proposed budget for the year. (Note CDC Treasurer's report.)
- b. Staff continuity has been good. The director, morning teacher, and one afternoon teacher are teaching for the second year. Personnel in one afternoon position and the cook-housekeeper positions have varied.
- c. Enrollment fluctuated between 24 and 32 for the majority of the year with a temporary drop to 21 at the beginning of the summer.
- d. Equipment needed to enhance our program was purchased. Puzzles, manipulative toys, vehicles, etc. were added to our equipment inventory.
- e. Cooperation between school staff, board members, parents, and church members increased to a point where from a first work day in March when about nine people helped to a December work day when approximately sixteen assisted in cleaning, repairing, and making equipment.
- f. Improvement in facilities included the expansion of the play yard, hanging of bulletin boards, and sewing of cot sheets.
- g. Parental involvement has increased: they are sharing in the laundering of cot sheets; assisting with field trips, attending board meetings, and participating in parent-teacher conferences.

1974 is expected to be a challenging and time consuming year for the CDC Board. Board attendance at meetings and assistance from the church membership will be needed to continue a successful program for children in this community. There will be some frustrating moments--personnel changes are anticipated, service appliances are beginning to show their age, storage becomes a problem. The services we offer in providing an environment where children explore relationships; question nature; and receive love, attention and proper care demands the interest of a faithful group of Board members plus the support and assistance from other church members.

We thank those of you who have assisted us in 1973.

Jeanine Neuse, Chairman

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee has been inactive with the hoped for resumption of having a person provide Moments of Concern which we once had monthly being given perhaps once during the year at the morning worship service. Dr. Robert Keller will be with us on Jan. 20, 1974 to speak about Our Christian World Mission having spent eleven years in Turkey as an educational missionary. Arrangements were made by the Conference Office for this program.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Youth leaders for the year have been Tom and Sally Johnson, Jim McIlroy, and Claudia Tarvin. Meetings have been irregular because of the many interests of the group. We do plan on having another rummage sale in the spring of 74.

Last February we had a bake sale in which members of the church participated by giving baked items. The group made about fifty dollars (\$50.00).

We had a camp-out near Bastrop in October with a good response and an excellent time. We have not participated in any of the Association meetings because of conflicts for time by our young people.

We were very proud of our young people in again hosting a party for ten young people from Austin State School. Presents were purchased and prepared, and candy was wrapped and given by the visiting Santa. (Same Santa as last year). Games were played, and an enjoyable time was had by all. -Sally Johnson.

PILGRIM GUILD is no longer meeting. Its usefulness may well have passed, but its good deeds such as money support for Community Development Corporation of Austin will be missed. The Guild also did a lot of other good things through the years, and we are thankful that they were able to do as much as they did.

PEOPLE'S FREE CLINIC

The Free Clinic is no longer a small volunteer operation. It has a full time doctor, a director, and several other paid employees. Its annual budget is approaching \$100,000, and over 100 patients a week receive various kinds of treatment. The Clinic is now open as follows:

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
9 A.M. to NOON			(Both morning and afternoon) 1) M.D. visits-by previously	
1 P.M. to 4 P.M.	Both afternoons and evening 1) M.D. visits-by previously made appoint-	Family Planning only	made appointment only. 2) Pregnancy Tests 3) Counseling	General Medicine & Pregnancy tests.
7 P.M. to 9 P.M.	ments only. 2) Pregnancy tests. 3) refills.	General Medicine & Pregnancy tests. (First come first served)	4) Refills.	Family Planning only. (First come first served)

The clinic now has its own telephone, and you can call them at 478-1746 for appointments, information etc. They have no set fees, but they do seek donations for the amounts that services cost them.

CHURCH SCHOOL

We started this year with five classes 1) Nursery-Kindergarten. This class was led by Carolyn Chial and Nancy Camden. Mrs. Chial continued to lead the class after Camdens left. (2) Primary (Grades 1,2, 3) is led by Mrs. Susan Antoniewicz and Mrs. Marilyn Stephens. From Jan. to Sept. some of this class was combined with the Kindergarten and some with the class which was lead by Mrs. Carrie Coleman. (3) Upper Primary (Grades 4, 5, 6) This class was led by by Mrs. Carrie Coleman from January to June. In September Mrs. Stella Morrison and Dave Ross took over. (4) Juniors (Grades 6,7,8) This class is led by Mrs. Pat Oakes and the Victor Appels. The first half of the year Mrs. Susan Antoniewicz and Mrs. Pat Oakes led the class. (5) High School class is being led by Sally and Tommy Johnson, Claudia Tarvin, and Jim McIlroy. The first half of the year the group was led by the Johnsons and Linda and Ronald Dildine.

The Church School had its Annual Spring Picnic at the Saustrups. Thanks again Saustrups. We always enjoy this outing.

We also had two Easter parties in the spring. The Nursery-Kindergarten class held their party at the Camdens home. It was a delightful Easter Egg Hunt and family picnic. The Upper Primary and Lower Juniors held their Easter Egg Hunt and Hamburger Supper in the Ross' home. We had to stay inside because of the rain. Poor Sara cooked in the rain! Thanks again Rosses.

Our Christmas Pot Luck Supper with Clark Hubbs in charge of the entertainment was a great success. The children strung cranberries and pop corn before the supper, and after supper they decorated the tree with strings of pop corn and cranberries plus the ornaments which they had made in Sunday School, each class contributing something. The Senior class had spent an evening decorating Christmas cookies which were then hung on the tree. (I hope the children got to eat them the following Sunday.) Several members brought their musical instruments and entertained us with Christmas music and carols. It was a very delightful evening. Thanks to Clark Hubbs.

I want to thank all who have helped out in the Church School this past year. We could not do without any of you, and we could use more help. I want you to know that I really appreciated your help and co-operation. I hope the parents will show their appreciation by having their children attend regularly and by arriving on time. Sunday School starts at 9:50 A.M. Not once this year were we able to start on time. Let's turn over a new leaf and All be on time, PLEASE!

-Hildegard Everett, Superintendent.

PASTOR'S REPORT

This year we will divide our report into four sections: local church, the larger church, community, and personal. We are uncertain about which one should really occupy top priority, but we will deal with them in the order that we have given them to you.

Our church life as a local institution continues its puzzling ways. We have had several persons move, some others step participating, and we have failed to gain new members to any significant degree. Response to "The Sleeping Giant" discussions indicated a lack of interest for most members, and Faith Exploration found few pioneers in that area of life. Two regular groups stopped meeting, and few questions were raised about Pilgrim Guild and Couple's Club (Forum?) not meeting this past fall. (We have some indications of a desire to start a forum-discussion evening group again.) Area meetings did not really become the meaningful, regular gathering of us in areas as an "enlarged family", but we did note that our lack of "organized" mutual support did find some examples of members inviting other members on holidays for meals and helping in other ways. Church school attendance has been poor and tardy for both parents and children, and hints that we might prefer other modes of religious education have not met with response. Some sort of ministry might have developed a meaningful contact with the vendors and customers, but we were mostly concerned about the church property even when generously sharing it. We have, on the other hand, met all of our bills this past year without falling behind as we had in other years when we had more people around. We came closer to meeting a rather high OCWM goal in spite of some key support departing or not giving as much as in the past, and our pledging in that area of concern was encouraging and surprising. We responded very well this year to white gifts appeal for Child and Family and provided food for three families plus giving enough cash (\$43.) to pay rent for one mother facing eviction until welfare could be arranged. Our guest speaker each month comes more frequently from our own membership providing a dialogue within our group. Most presentations were stimulating and enlightening. Our pastor's class has started and maintained interest among the four young people. We come to 1974 desperately needing to find ways to evangelize that we and the participants we seek can find meaningful and fulfilling for us both. Our life as an institution is not about to stop this coming year, but we need to secure more people and develop some new means of ministry.

Our good OCWM giving indicated our continued interest in what we do through the church in our area, our nation, and the world. We supported Seminaries, Eden Home, Austin Conference of Churches, Texas Conference of Churches, National Coun-

cil of Churches, and World Council of Churches via money gifts in varying amounts. We gave our dues to the Brazos Association, and we led in seeking five hundred (\$500.) from their surplus funds for Huston-Tillotson College. We will soon be a participant in ordaining one of our members into the ministry, and another member may be ordained in Conn. in February. We still have another member, out of contact with us at present, who is in seminary preparing for the ministry. We have failed to participate in the Sholom Conference, Youth activities in the Association, camps at Slumber Falls, and the fall Brazos Association meeting in 1973. We have never supported the local jail chaplain program. The minister represents the larger church on Back Bay Administration Board, and Mrs. Doyal (Tommie) Pinkard is a representative of South Central Conference to Texas Conference of Churches which has its Assembly next month. Dr. Victor Appel is one of South Central Conference's representatives on United Campus Christian Life Committee. At last inquiry we were the only church in our Conference participating in Crisis in the Nation giving and among the minority supporting both Neighbors in Need and American Indian Sunday. It might be possible for us to sell items in front of the church from overseas, from Indian groups, from Koininia Farms in Georgia, and other places after investigation if we could find volunteers or else hire someone who needed the work. We need to find ways to educate ourselves about what is happening in the larger church in interesting and educational fashion.

Most of us probably see Christianity and/or humanism as a means to make life more livable for us and for others in our community as well as a means to heaven. Our church seems to have an ability to listen to almost anything but lacks something which leads us to real and consistent involvement. We perform a real service to our community by furnishing a place for the People's Free Clinic to minister to health needs of many people who might not otherwise receive care, and we have a member who has been instrumental in working in and leading a clinic in South Austin. Our Child Development Center provides good child care with education development, and we have a racial mixture in staff and clients. We pay better salaries and provide better food than many of the child care operations but have not raised salaries to meet inflation. We may wonder if we are doing a service in having Metropolitan Community Church (later Church of the Resurrection) which has now faded away, Ruhani Satyani (also vanished), Mars Hill, one yoga group (now replaced by a body movement group), and other groups a place to meet, but it did indicate to some of them that a group could respond to their need without endorsing or approving their particular beliefs or practices. We have not developed task forces or persons who seek information about our city, the school board, the state, the nation, and challenge us to respond by letters, organizing etc. We have had some petitions presented at various times, but mostly we still act as individuals and are uncertain about what role a church can fulfill. We know about and support the minister in problem pregnancy counseling, and the Trustees have given an approval for a Human Sexuality Resource Center with books and counseling to use the Fellowship Room during the week. They will, hopefully, work with the Free Clinic.

When it comes to the personal part of this report I feel like Abner Dean's cartoon characters in "What Am I Doing Here?" They were naked and wondering. My seminary training was a rural minister who then hoped to become a religious journalist. I suspect that a lack of nerve and self-doubt has kept me from seriously trying the latter after some endeavors after first coming here. Not only a lack of training for this kind of ministry but the financial uneasiness of recent years, a sense of personal and group failure in knowing how to reach people without making false claims, ignorance of what to do with or about university students, and a sense of loneliness in sermon preparation and other areas cause me to question the appropriateness of my ministry here. When one potential member who teaches at the Univ. of Texas left for six months overseas, he commented on his need to recharge himself to face a classroom again. It was only too easy to understand what he meant, but no opportunity has come to accomplish that. Finances may force us to go to a part-time or cooperative ministry which we have

not tried and lack successful models to follow. When I came to Austin in Sept. of 1959, I did not dream that I would still be here, and I would have said then that no one should stay in one pastorate that long. I suspect that I was correct. We have felt so much at home here, and our family is now so much a part of Austin that I suspect that we will not wish to leave this city; however, it seems unwise to me for me to be minister of the church until my retirement and perhaps even this time next year. Would not the best plan be for us to look carefully at what we can do which is in our mutual best interest? (and hopefully of the larger church too!)

In summary we face problems as a local church in deciding what we ought to be doing and finding ways to recruit others to enable us to do them. We are doing a great deal in mission giving etc. in the larger church, but we need to work to make Association, Conference, co-operative church work, and the world church more a part of our involvement. We need to continue what we are doing with and for the community but educate ourselves more fully and find ways to work for a better community. We can recognize that individually and collectively we can be and are sometimes mistaken or wrong but by forgiveness and mercy, we can strive to walk in the footsteps of the Master.

Some concrete proposals:

1. Reduce pastor's salary to \$7,200, annuity to \$950, and Housing Allowance to \$2,400. That reduces the deficit anticipated to to \$3,068. That is still too high a figure but perhaps we can overcome that deficit.
2. Pay \$1,538.75 to the Board of Homeland Ministries to reduce our grant mortgage to \$10,000. (Our original grant was \$5,800 supplemented by specials of \$500 and the transfer of interest and principal on the loa to grants in the amount of \$4,463.75. In addition, there is principal of \$875 secured by the original loan mortgage which was converted to grant by an extension agreement.) \$12,000 should be place in long term certificate of deposits, and the interest used to help on the budget.
3. The church should form itself into three areas with a "pastor" or "overseer" in each area responsible for monthly meetings in that area and visitation of prespective members.
4. We need to develop "interest" groups which come into being for six to nine months for prayer, Bible study, play or movie going, dancing, and other purposes which do not come to mind.
5. We need to investigate buying co-ops, feasibility of a truck to help one another move, and increase our support of each other in real ways.
6. Start having Committees and some new Task Forces meet for one hour after worship service to really present us with some alternatives for action.
7. Have someone responsible for car pooling and for checking on which of our older members can use transportation help.

(My thanks to Mrs. Ronald (Linda) Dildine for typing pages 2 through 7 for this report. Miss Linda Norelli volunteered to help and has done much to get the Visitor to you. Many of the rest have helped in too many ways to enumerate here, but it is appreciated.)

-John C. Towery, Pastor.

Van suggests joint meeting of Deacons and Trustees to discuss these issues. Billie Bess suggests lay church services. Motion by Clark Hubbs passed.

1 9 7 4 Ballot

* = Incumbents (1973)

Write In

ONE YEAR TERMS

Moderator Weldon Scheel _____

Clerk Rizer Everett* _____

Treasurer Stella Morrison* _____

Financial Secretary Sarah Reed _____

Church School Superintendent Hildegarde Everett* _____

Director of Enlistment _____

Committee Chairmen:

Music: Marie Scheel _____

Publicity: Tommie Pinkard _____

Youth Members:

Board of Trustees: George Coleman, Ann Hubbs _____

Board of Deacons and Deaconesses: Mary Towery* Neils Saustrup _____

Lay Representatives:

Church Women United of Austin: Gail Swallow* _____

Austin Area Conference of Churches: Dr. James Perkins* _____
Effie Wiley* _____

Advisory Council: Gertrude Andl, Betty Tarvin, Mazie Bickler*,
Steven Neuse
Weldon Scheel (automatically) _____

THREE YEAR TERMS

Historian and Archivist: Hildegarde Everett* _____

Board of Trustees: (1972-4) David Ross* Mathis Blackstock*
(6 members, 2 new (1973-5) Doyal Pinkard*, Jean Cassel*
per year) (1974-6) Ron Dildine, Marilyn Stephens _____

Board of Deacons and Deaconesses: (1972-4) Richard Swallow*, Tommie Pinkard*
(6, 2 per year) (1973-5) Mike Chial*, Cathy Hubbs*
(1974-6) Dennis Schneider, Pat Oakes _____

Nominating Committee: (1972-4) Beth Placek*
(3, one per year) (1973-5) Clark Hubbs*
(1974-6) Nancy Brown _____

Religious Education Committee: (1972-4) Tommy Johnson*
(3, one per year) (1973-5) Jean Appel*
(1974-6) Joan Wilson _____

Social Action Committee: (1972-4) Roger Bennett*
(3, one per year) (1973-5) Carolyn Chial*
(1974-6) Vic Appel _____

Board of Directors, Child Development Center: (1972-4) Jeanine Neuse*
(3, one per year) (1973-5) Sally Johnson*
(1974-6) Linda Dildine
Sarah Ross, Treasurer* _____

Missions and Stewardship Committee: (1972-4) Dorothy Lay*
(1973-5) Van Walton* _____

1964 Ballot

For 1 year terms:

Moderator Dr. T. R. McNeely _____
 Clerk Mr. Van C. Walton _____
 Treasurer Mr. William Warren _____
 Church School Supt. Mrs. Mary Leiden _____
 Director of Enlistment Mr. Francis Barrow _____
 Advisory Council (Elect four members at large)
 Mrs. Ralph Bickler Mrs. Mary Cassel Mr. Ralph Bickler Mr. Randolph Warren
 Committee Chairman _____
 Building and Grounds Mr. Van C. Walton _____
 Music Mrs. C. E. Mick _____
 Publicity Mrs. Roberta Winkler _____
 Ushers Mr. Ray Burgin _____
 Lay Representatives _____
 Austin Council of Churches Mr. Van C. Walton _____
 Austin Council of Church Women _____
 United Student Fellowship (2 needed) Dr. Mathis Blackstock Mrs. Ruth Rideout _____

3 year terms (Must retire for one year after completion of term for a period of one year)

Board of Trustees Dr. Mathis Blackstock Mrs. Herbert Ash _____
 (Incumbents-2 yrs. Mr. Richard Swallow, Mrs. Laurene Melchar; 1 yr. Mr. Francis Barrow,
 Mr. Chester Lay; retiring and ineligible-Mrs. Marie Clark, Mr. Weldon Scheel)
 Board of Deacons & Deaconess Dr. James Perkins Mrs. Francis Barrow _____
 2 year term Dr. Clark Hubbs _____ (Incumbents-2 yrs. Mrs. Gerturde Andl.
 1 year term-Mr. Ray Burgin, Mrs. Erna Seeliger; retiring and ineligible Dr. Mathis
 Blackstock, Mrs. Richard Swallow)
 Nominating Committee Mrs. Weldon Scheel _____
 (Incumbents-2 years-Mrs. Billie Bess Saustrup. 1 yr. Mrs. Faye Arbingast
 retiring and ineligible-Mrs. Frances McNeely)
 Religious Education Mrs. John Towery _____
 (Incumbents-2 yrs. Mrs. Harriet Williams. 1 yr. Mrs. James Brown. retiring and
 ineligible-Mrs. Walter Brown.)
 Mission and Stewardship Mrs. John B. Morrison _____
 (Incumbent-2 yrs. Miss Jean Cassel, 1 yr.-Mrs. Chester Lay. retiring and ineligible-
 Mr. John B. Morrison.)
 Social Action Mrs. Clark Hubbs _____
 2 year term Rev. Edwin Kloppe _____
 (Incumbent 1 yr. Mrs. Frances Wooldridge. retiring and ineligible Mrs. J. B. Morrison)

not
for
adults
only



1974 BUDGET

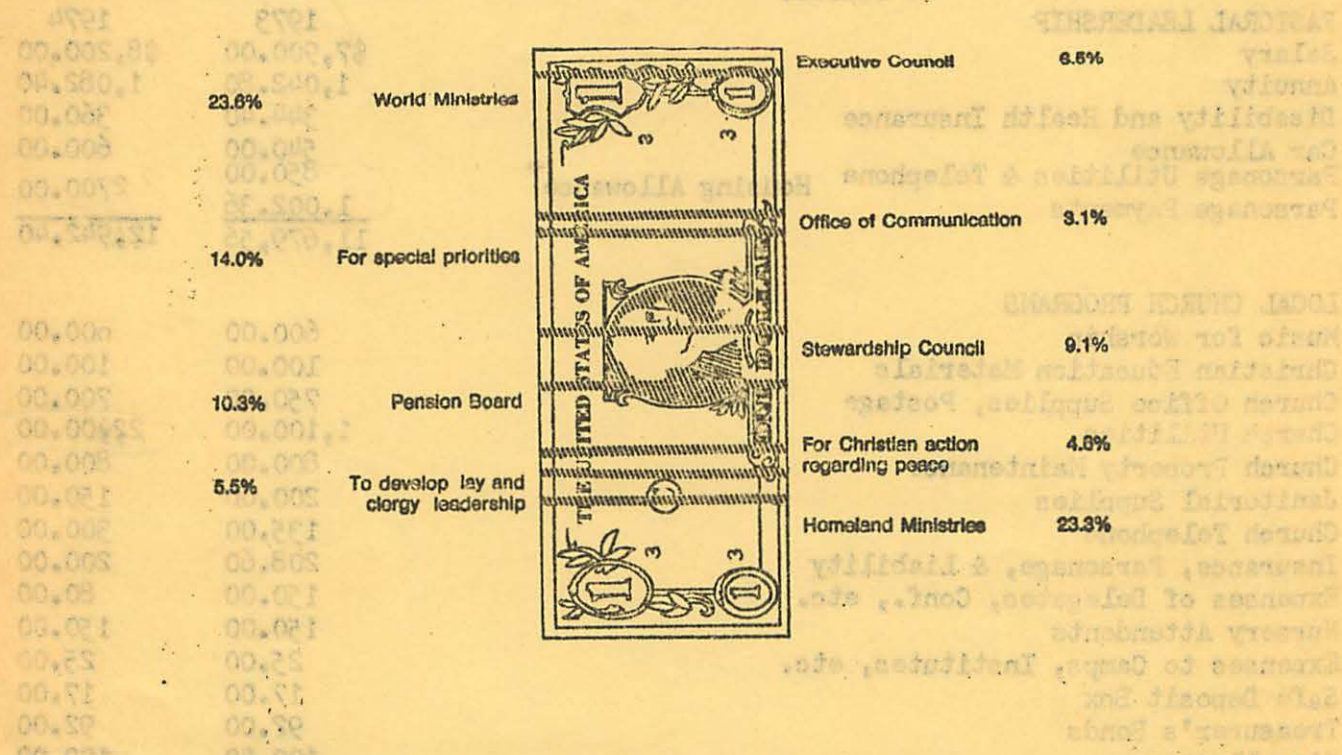
Our Budgets are always "tentative". First we do not finally "approve" them until the Annual Meeting in January. Secondly we are always somewhat uncertain as to how much use our facilities will have and what will need repair. We are meeting our 1973 Budget because of gifts which were not pledged and because our repair bills have been less than we feared.

	1973	1974
PASTORAL LEADERSHIP		
Salary	\$7,900.00	\$8,200.00
Annuity	1,042.80	1,082.40
Disability and Health Insurance	344.40	360.00
Car Allowance	540.00	600.00
Parsonage Utilities & Telephone	850.00	2700.00
Parsonage Payments	1,002.36	
Housing Allowance +	11,679.56	12,942.40
LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS		
Music for Worship	600.00	600.00
Christian Education Materials	100.00	100.00
Church Office Supplies, Postage	750.00	700.00
Church Utilities	1,100.00	2200.00 <i>\$1800.00</i>
Church Property Maintenance	800.00	800.00
Janitorial Supplies	200.00	150.00
Church Telephone	135.00	300.00
Insurance, Parsonage, & Liability	208.60	200.00
Expenses of Delegates, Conf., etc.	150.00	80.00
Nursery Attendants	150.00	150.00
Expenses to Camps, Institutes, etc.	25.00	25.00
Safe Deposit Box	17.00	17.00
Treasurer's Bonds	92.00	92.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00
	4,437.60	5,314.00
RESPONSIBILITIES IN COOPERATIVE WORK		
Brazos Association Dues	60.75	61.65
Austin Council of Churches	20.00	20.00
Texas Conference of Churches	8.16	8.25
National Council of Churches	10.00	10.00
World Council of Churches	5.00	5.00
Regional Seminary Support	15.00	15.00
	118.91	119.90
PAYMENTS ON NEW WING		
	9,782.16	9,636.00
TOTAL BUDGET	25,908.23	27,607.30
OTHER INCOME		
Sale of 902 Houston St.	780.00	780.00
Child Dev. Denter	2,040.00	2,040.00
Loose Plate	600.00	600.00
Clinic	---	600.00
Other Churches	---	200.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	3,420.00	4,220.00
NEEDED IN PLEDGES	22,488.23	23,387.30
OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION		
OCWM (Undesignated)	2,500.00	2,600.00
Eden Home (perating exp.)	400.00	300.00
Crisis in the Nation	150.00	150.00
TOTAL OCWM	3,050.00	3,050.00

1. You really can't use averages, but if our 100 members each pledged, we would receive \$233.87 on a local pledge and \$30.50 on an OCWM pledge. We actually only got some 50 pledges which means an average of \$467.64 for local and \$61. for O. C. Wm M.
2. This year we hope that you will turn in a pledge at our Pot-Luck Dinner on Nov. 9th, at church on Nov. 11th, when you are visited if you haven't been heard from by the 11th, or mail it to Mrs. Donald (Sarah) Reed, 2807 St. Edward's Circle, Austin, Texas 78704. Pledges from non-members are joyfully welcomed, and we would have gone broke long ago without them.
3. Almost all of the changes above are in line with experience. We are quite uncertain about utility bills. We know that they will be higher but do not know how much higher they will be. If the Clinic installs air conditioning, it would be more, but we would receive more from them. If you have questions, write them down and be sure to ask!

Our Christian World Mission

In the Congregational Church of Austin, you are asked to make two pledges. One pledge is for local expenditures which include such items as Seminary Regional Support, Brazos Association dues, National Council of Churches, World Council of Churches, and Texas Conference of Churches which are obviously not local items. Mostly our outward concern is shown in giving to Our Christian World Mission and our three special offerings.



Hopefully you know about our local expenditures, but Our Christian World Mission giving may confuse you a bit. We have set a goal of \$3,050.00. If we receive that amount we give \$2,600 to what we call undesignated OCWM. What happens to that? Well we send it to the South Central Conference Office on Rio Grande St. where 53% of it stays in our area. Our Conference hopes to receive \$101,765.00 from the UCC churches in our region. We need to receive 10% more from each of our churches to reach that figure. That money will be spent as follows:

Aided Fields (New Churches, Campus Ministry, Church & Community)	\$28,200.00
Conference Administration	14,000.00
Conference Office (salaries etc.)	59,165.00
	<u>\$101,765.00</u>

The drawing of the dollar bill above shows you graphically what happens to the remaining \$1,222.00 which we hope to give. It is divided by the national treasurer. Only \$281.06 of our money will go to World Ministries which includes universities, schools, medical work, agricultural missions etc. more than what we might think of as street corner preaching. What we do shows that we care, but it witnesses in a different way as in Turkey where we cannot by law seek to make converts but witness by a type and kind of medical care and training exemplify a deep Christian concern.

We hope to send \$300 to Eden Home which is located in New Braunfels and is possibly the best place for the elderly in the state. It has cottages, room care for the ambulatory, hospital care, and a rehabilitation center. Because it cares for some who cost more than payments from all sources, it needs our help. Some day one of our members (maybe you or I) may want to go there.

Our last \$150 goes to support Crisis in the Nation which is just another name for our Commission on Racial Justice. Our denomination guaranteed them a certain amount of money hoping that churches would underwrite it by this special giving plus the Neighbors in Need offering. The response has not been too good nationally. For example our church was the only church in the South Central Conference giving to Crisis in the Nation one year, and few gave to Neighbors in Need.

We offer three opportunities to give to others concerns during the year. The first goes to relief and rehabilitation for the many people in the world needing emergency or sustaining relief. It is called Share Our Substance and comes in the spring with a general title of One Great Hour of Sharing. In the fall we lump Neighbors in Need and American Indian Sunday together and give half to each. One supports mostly black programs, and the latter Indian programs. At Christmas we can give to Veterans of the Cross to assist retired and active ministers with emergency medical needs and retired persons with other financial emergencies.