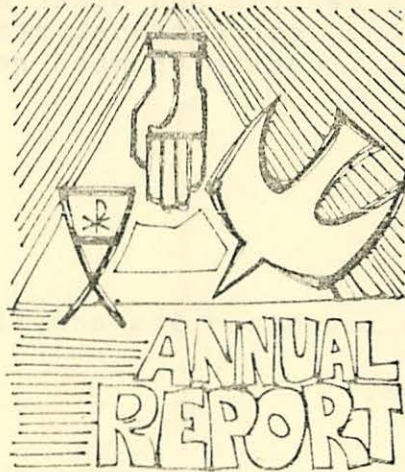
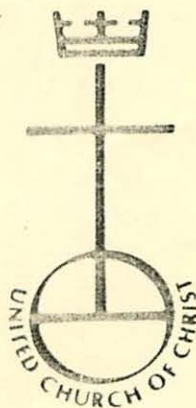


1984



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF AUSTIN

408 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET



## AGENDA .

Meeting Called to Order

Devotions

Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting and other church meetings.  
Review of Reports (questions, corrections, statements.)  
Reports from committees etc. not in printed reports?

Old Business-

1. Any left from minutes?
2. Revision of Constitution

Routine:

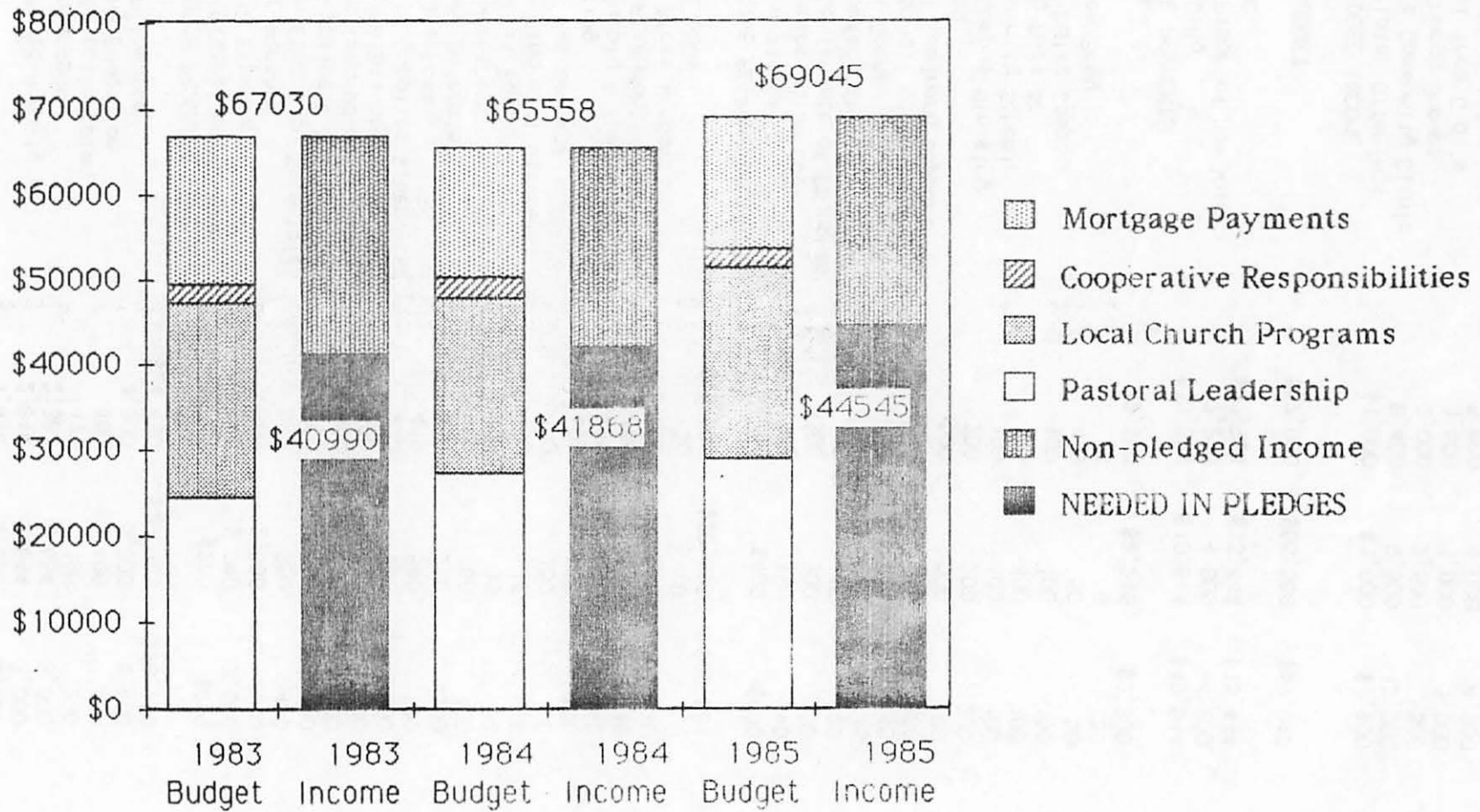
1. Election of Officers.
2. 1985 Budget. Trustees recommend its adoption.
3. OCWM GOAL. How much?
4. Other Action on Reports.

New Business:

1. Mission Statement
2. Five or more new folding tables. Deacons will make recommendation.
3. Need Mission Alive person to go to training next week-end.
4. The church has Slumber Falls Camp reserved for March 22, 23, 24.  
The pastor will be in the Holy Land at that time. A contact person will be needed.
5. Anything else?

	1983	1984	1985
<b>PASTORAL LEADERSHIP</b>			
Salary	\$12,000	\$12,500	\$13,000
Annuity	1,848	2,590	2,720
Tax Sheltered Annuity	2,844	2,844	3,000
Health Insurance	2,381	2,664	3,000
Family Protection plan	177	185	200
Continuing Education	400	400	400
Housing Allowance	4,800	6,000	6,400
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,450</b>	<b>\$27,183</b>	<b>\$28,720</b>
<b>LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS</b>			
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$0	\$200	\$200
Automobile Expense	2,040	2,040	2,040
Music for Worship	2,500	2,500	2500
Christian Education Materials	350	350	400
Office Supplies & Postage	1,100	1,100	1100
Utilities (including clinic)	9,400	9,000	11000
Property Maintenance	2,500	2,500	2500
Janitorial Supplies & Services	900	900	900
Church Telephone	415	540	500
Conference Delegates	250	250	250
Camps & Workshops	60	60	100
Safe Deposit Box	35	35	35
Bond for Financial Officers	0	15	0
Youth or New Members	100	150	0
Advertizing	600	600	600
Pulpit Supply & Speakers	240	240	240
Nursery Attendants	156	216	216
Stained Glass Windows	2,000	0	0
Miscellaneous	50	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,696</b>	<b>\$20,696</b>	<b>\$22,581</b>
<b>COOPERATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES</b>			
Metro-Ministries	\$400	\$400	\$400
Brazos Association Dues	115	150	140
Austin Conference of Churches	300	300	300
Texas Conference of Churches	15	15	30
National Council of Churches	15	15	15
World Council of Churches	15	15	15
Regional Seminary Support	300	300	300
Eden Home	500	500	500
United Campus Ministry	200	200	200
Yale Divinity School	100	100	100
Back Bay Mission	100	100	100
Slumber Falls Camp	100	100	100
Salvation Army	0	50	50
Caritas	0	0	50
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,160</b>	<b>\$2,245</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>
<b>MORTGAGE PAYMENTS</b>			
on New Wing	\$10,524	\$10,644	\$10,644
on Top Floor of New Wing	7,200	4,800	4,800
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,724</b>	<b>\$15,444</b>	<b>\$15,444</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$67,030</b>	<b>\$65,568</b>	<b>\$69,045</b>
<b>NON-PLEDGED INCOME</b>			
Loose Plate Offerings	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,400
People's Community Clinic	8,400	9,600	12,000
Other Church Groups	2,000	2,500	500
Interest from C.d.'s	1,600	1,000	1,000
Non-pledged giving	5,000	4,000	4,000
United Campus Ministry (top floor)	7,200	4,800	4,800
United Campus Ministry (utilities)	840	800	800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,040</b>	<b>\$23,700</b>	<b>\$24,500</b>
<b>NEEDED IN PLEDGES -- LOCAL</b>	<b>\$40,990</b>	<b>\$41,868</b>	<b>\$44,545</b>
Total pledged -- local	\$32,682	\$37,397	?

## Annual Budget



## 1985 PLEDGES AND EXPECTED PLEDGES, JAN 6, 1985

	GENERAL	OCWM	WITNESS	
TOTAL PLEDGED	36990.00	7152.00	1833.00	
1	0.00	480.00	0.00	
2	728.00	156.00		
3	5200.00	1300.00	520.00	
4	250.00	25.00	25.00	
5	0.00	480.00	20.00	
6	240.00	60.00		
7	1440.00	180.00		
8	720.00	120.00		
9	840.00	240.00	120.00	
10	416.00	104.00		
11	400.00			
12	1500.00	125.00	10.00	
13	1248.00	260.00	52.00	
14	300.00	60.00	60.00	
15	500.00			
16	3600.00	600.00	120.00	
17	120.00			
18	25.00			
19	1380.00	120.00		
20	2400.00			
21	720.00	660.00	60.00	
22	420.00			
23	600.00	60.00	24.00	
24	400.00			
25	480.00	120.00		
26	900.00			
27	<i>pd</i> 3100.00	700.00	300.00	<i>pd</i>
28	125.00			
29	180.00	60.00		
30	1320.00	360.00	360.00	
31	3588.00	832.00	132.00	
34	1000.00			
32	<i>pd</i> 2600.00			<i>pd</i>
33	250.00	50.00	30.00	
ESTIMATED TOTAL	39878.00	7188.00	1869.00	48935.00
REMAINING 1984	2888.00	36.00	36.00	2960.00
-6	288.00	36.00	36.00	
-9	2600.00			

## FINANCIAL REPORT DECEMBER 31, 1984

Income Sources	GENERAL	OCWM	OTHER
Loose Plate	1321.74	0.00	147.35
Interest from Savings	1119.81	0.00	0.00
Metropolitan Community Church	2280.00	0.00	0.00
People's Community Clinic	9446.00	0.00	0.00
United Campus Ministry(a)	0.00	0.00	4800.00
Miscellaneous Income	977.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Deposits	94.18	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total	15238.73	0.00	4947.35
Pledged Income(b)	45502.83	6422.00	9242.90
Non-Pledged Income(c)	6457.00	150.00	1225.00
Total by Columns(d)	67198.56	6572.00	15415.25
Total Deposits	89165.81		
Number of Weeks in Report	52	witness(e):	2091.00
	GENERAL	OCWM	WITNESS
1984 Pledged Income(f)	37397.00	5821.00	1806.00
1984 Pledges, pro-rated(g)	37397.00	5821.00	1806.00
Diff. Gen:(b-g)OCWM:(d-g)Wit:(e-g)	8105.83	751.00	285.00
	GENERAL		UCM
1984 Budget(h)	59450.00		4800.00
1984 Budget, pro-rated(i)	59450.00		4800.00
Difference Gen:(d-i) UCM:(a-i)	7748.56		0.00

## 1984 TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Balance, Dec. 31, 1983  
1984 Deposits

\$1,792.58  
89,185.81

90,978.39

## DISBURSEMENTS

Pastoral Leadership

Salary	12,500.00
Annuity	3,237.50
Tax Sheltered Annuity	3,555.00
Health Insurance	3,151.50
Dental Insurance	306.00
Family Protection Plan	227.00
Housing and Utility Allowance	6,000.00
Continuing Education	<u>400.00</u>

29,377.00

Local Programs

Music	2,330.00
Christian Education	265.53
Office and Postage	474.64
Utilities	9,515.01
Property Maintenance	3,188.24
Janitor and Supplies	756.49
Telephone	439.60
Conference Delegates' Expense	498.51
Car Expense	2,414.06
Safe Deposit Box and Bonds	65.00
Magazines	59.40
Advertising	114.00
Pulpit Speakers	120.00
Nursery Attendants	160.00
<u>Mortgages and Interest Payments</u>	<u>15,444.00</u>
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	200.00
University Presbyterian Church (for mimeograph)	<u>200.00</u>

36,244.48

Co-Operative Responsibilities

Metro Ministries	400.00
Brazos-Association Dues	152.00
Austin Conference of Churches	300.00
Texas Conference of Churches	15.00
National Council of Churches	15.00
World Council of Churches	15.00
Regional Seminary Support	300.00
Eden Home	500.00
United Campus Ministry of Austin	200.00
Yale Divinity School	100.00
Back Bay Mission	100.00
Slumber Falls Camp	100.00
Salvation Army	<u>50.00</u>

2,247.00

Designated Income Dispersed

Our Christian World Mission	<u>6,572.00</u>
Witness Shares (New Church Starts)	2,091.00
Memorial Fund	1,593.00
Faith Food Pantry	350.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	159.00
Neighbors In Need	274.00
Veterans of the Cross	233.65
One Great Hour of Sharing	1,260.00
United Church Board for World Ministries	731.70
Guido Riley	80.00

\$ 67,868.48  
15,444.00

Copier	2,620.00	
Peace Fund	82.00	
Slumber Falls Camp	20.00	
Cassette Copier (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)	300.00	
Window Blinds for 2nd Floor	707.00	
David Bartholomew's Books	83.90	
Christian Rural Overseas Program	12.40	
	<u>17,169.65</u>	
Balance December 31, 1984		5,940.26
<u>Certificates of Deposits at Franklin Savings</u>		
#2201069-01 Accruing Interest		1,576.61
#2000183-03 Paying Interest to General Fund		10,000.00
#1600396-03 Accruing Interest		12,345.47
		<u>1,200.00</u>
<u>Certificate of Deposit at First Federal Savings</u>		
#1003-03877 Paying Interest into General Fund		1,200.00
<u>Interfirst Savings Account #687-554-6</u>		
Balance Dec. 31, 1983	3,197.86	
Deposits	1,440.00	
Interest Accrued	203.21	
Balance December 31, 1984	<u>4,841.07</u>	
<u>Memorial Fund</u>		
Balance December 31, 1983	437.81	
Deposits	1,593.00	
Interest Accrued	46.24	
Balance December 31, 1984	<u>2,077.05</u>	
<u>New Wing Loan at Franklin Savings #340001.01</u>		
Balance December 31, 1984 <sup>3</sup>	45,296.75	
Principal Payments	6,258.55	} 10,644
Interest Payments	2,866.25	
Escrow	1,519.20	
Balance Owing December 31, 1984	<u>39,038.20</u>	
<u>Third Floor Loan at Franklin Savings #5002696.01</u>		
Balance December 31, 1983	13,313.87	
Principal Payments	3,587.77*	
Interest Payments	1,212.23	
	<u>4,800.00</u>	
	9,726.10	
CD #2201634-01 Matured & Paid Against Mortgage	3,030.15	
	<u>6,695.95</u>	

*includes mortgage*

*They all predate John McPeel's death.*

*None of these CDs correspond to later McPeel Fund notes DWR*

4,841.07

2,077.05

15,444

*10,644*

*10,644*

*total*

-Judith Cole.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES -- 1984

Members serving on the board this year were Susan Ashton, David Bartholomew, John Camden, Heather Cole, Judy Cole, Laverne Johnston, Dorothy Lay, Tommie Pinkard, David Ross, and Sara Ross. Susan Ashton and Dorothy Lay served as the board's Secretary and representative to the Futures Committee, respectively. John Towery carried out much of the board's work and kept us informed of issues to be considered.

Judy Cole and Sara Ross did a major share of the board's work by keeping careful records of the church's income and expenditures. I want especially to thank Judy for her faithful service as Treasurer, and to welcome Cindy Anderson as the new Treasurer.

7. In 1984, the issues of the 23rd Street closing and the street people receded somewhat, and the board devoted most of its attention to financial matters and building use and maintenance. Our total expenditures of \$63,052 were about \$2,500 less than budgeted, and we ended the year with a bank balance of \$5,940, about \$4,000 ahead of last year. This gives us considerable confidence as we present the budget for 1985. I want to thank Ruth Case, Judy Cole, Doyal Pinkard, Sara Ross, John Towery, and Ben White who assisted me in its preparation. (A cautionary note -- about \$6,000 pledged for 1985 was received and counted as income in 1984.)

Little has happened with regard to 23rd Street. The City Council took no official action either to close the street or to declare it permanently open. We have apparently reverted to the status quo prior to 1982, with temporary closings during the holiday season. Meanwhile, the Renaissance Market has continued to decline, and the Students for Closure and other such groups have remained quiet. This issue is dormant but still not completely resolved. We must remain alert for further developments. One hopeful sign is that our relationship with the Save University Neighborhood Association has improved, and they no longer favor the street closing. Hildegard Everett, Cathy Hubbs, Sara and David Ross, and John Towery have each attended a number of their meetings.

Following the installation of gates on the front porch in January, we removed the graffiti and other evidence of unwanted guests. David Ashton also installed 24-hour lighting in the area, and he and Rizer Everett repaired and repainted two of the signs. (Victor Appel has recently taken the remaining sign to be redone.) Since then, the street people, while still with us, have done little physical damage. Another project, which has greatly improved the

appearance and usefulness of the 2nd floor of the education wing, was the installation of mini-blinds on the front window. This was arranged by Roger Paine.

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of a piano by the Swallow family. It was delivered to the church by David Ashton and Weldon Scheel on a very warm day. (I was fortunate to arrive late for the final unloading.) This piano will be tried out in the sanctuary, as a possible replacement for the one belonging to the Metropolitan Community Church. Weldon and Laverne Johnston are acting as an informal piano advisory committee.

In other actions the board voted to raise the building use fee from \$10 to \$15, to prohibit the use of the outdoor property for non-church-sponsored activities such as dances or concerts, and to retain possession of stained glass windows now in storage rather than donate them to another church.

In the coming year, much maintenance work remains to be accomplished. Roof repairs have been pending for many months, awaiting the procurement of replacement tiles, and plastering, painting and refinishing need to be done. Because our members have so many outside commitments, arranging work days is increasingly difficult, and there have been small turnouts for the ones we have had.

Both the Metropolitan Church and the People's Community Clinic are planning to move to other locations, the Metropolitan quite soon. We will need to consider carefully how these moves will affect our programs and building use and maintenance. Can we generate more enthusiasm for restoring and maintaining the appearance of our property, and, at the same time serve the community by providing space for otherwise homeless groups and programs?

David W. Ross,  
Chairman

## **Report of the committee to study the future of the Congregational Church of Austin**

Committee members: Dorothy Lay, Fran Briggs, Tommie Pinkard, John Towery, Ruth Case, Mathis Blackstock, Dennis Murphy, and Rizer Everett, chairman.

In the early meetings of the year the options of staying at the present location or moving to another location in Austin were reviewed. If we stay at the present location, should major changes in the physical plant (air conditioning the sanctuary, for example) be made? Should we share our church facilities with other church congregations? Should we share our minister with another congregation? If we move to another location, should we merge with another congregation? Should we establish our church at another location in Austin? Should we join the new church start planned for the Round Rock area? Should the property be sold and the members of the congregation disperse to other established churches in Austin? These questions were not resolved by the committee. However, three of the committee members felt that we should leave the present location and establish our church in another part of Austin.

During the committee meetings the obtaining of property appraisals by real estate professionals was discussed. However, most of the committee members believe that no appraisals should be obtained until a congregational decision has been made to move from the present location.

9. At a meeting of the trustees on 1 April, Donna Kristaponis stated her belief that there will be real estate changes in the vicinity of our church that may affect the welfare of the church. She stated that there will probably be fewer single family dwellings and more condominiums, apartments, and office buildings. These changes will not permit the Church's problems of inadequate parking facilities and low visibility to improve.

In an effort to determine how the active church members feel about our church the committee made a telephone survey of members living in the Austin area. The following questions were asked:

1. What things do you like about our church?
2. Why do you attend church?
3. If you could do so, what two changes would you make at the Congregational Church of Austin?
4. To what denomination did you belong before joining the Congregational Church of Austin?
5. How would you rank the following purposes of the Church?

Fellowship  
Worship  
Social action  
Political action  
Evangelism

The replies to the survey show that members generally feel positively toward the church. They like the close-knit-family feeling of the fellowship. They affirm the strong social and political action stance of the church. The small size of the church contributes to a sense of commitment and feeling of ownership. Some members feel that the absence of an organized program is a negative factor. Some members would like to see a growing church able to support itself and its programs with more families with Sunday School-age children. More programs of education and fellowship for the whole church would be desirable.

As the committee discussed the various aspects of the future of the church, it became apparent that a decision about moving from or staying at the present location could be made only after church members had made a statement of what the church should be in five or ten years. At one of the committee meetings, Reverend James Tomasek raised the question of what the vision of the church is. He suggested that a day-long meeting be held to develop a mission statement for the church.

On 30 September with the leadership of Reverend Tomasek and Mrs. Sue Garmon members of the church composed the following mission statement:

"And if God should reveal any thing to us by any other instrument of his, to be as ready to receive it, as ever we were to receive any truth by his Ministry: For he was very confident the Lord had more truth and light yet to break forth out of his holy Word."---A portion of Pastor John Robinson's sermon to the Pilgrims before their departure from England to America. Quoted in Edward Winslowe's *Hypocrisie Unmasked* [1646].

**It is the mission of the Congregational Church of Austin:**

**To gather as a Christian community (a Pilgrim Church) to worship God individually and collectively in freedom and tolerance;**

**To strive to know the will of God by providing for spiritual growth through education, fellowship,**

**and compassionate support;**

**To proclaim to all who would join with us in a seeking, concerned community the good news that God the creator and sustainer is the God that loves and redeems;**

**To witness for Christ in loving service and the thoughtful use of personal and group talents and resources.**

**Because the gospel of reconciliation is at the center of the good news in Christ, we wish to be a community reconciled not only within itself but also reaching out to all Christian churches and in cooperation with all those of good will.**

The future committee recommends that this mission statement be reviewed at the annual congregational meeting with the goal of adopting a statement acceptable to the majority of members present at the meeting.

## BOARD OF DEACONS AND DEACONESSES

The Board met 9 times during the year. The Board served communion 10 times; arranged for the following Special Services: Maundy Thursday, Laity Sunday, Candle Light Service, and Christmas Day Service; and ushered every 5th Sunday. We also tried to perform all the other "maintenance" things the Deacons do by either custom or charge to help maintain and support the on-goings of the church.

Besides the above the Deacons did the following:

1. Dennis Murphy was appointed as the Deacons' representative to the Futures Committee. Dennis was later replaced (at his request) by Doyle Pinkard.

2. A committee of the Deacons worked on a "Minister Evaluation" form which could be used by the committee which is called for in the new Constitution. At the same time Rev. Towery worked on a what he conceived his duties to be as the minister of this church. From these two reports the Deacons hope to formulate a viable Evaluation document.

"Evaluation is a process for helping the pastor improve the effectiveness of his or her ministry, along with providing assistance in his or her career development. The ultimate aim of an evaluation is to facilitate the best performance in the ministry of the church, and at the same time, provide a sense of fulfillment for the pastor." Quoted from U.C.C. Conference office.

3. We were also busy writing the description of the duties of the Deacons and Deaconesses. A copy of which is to be sent to the Clerk and to the Archivist

4. We also tried to have a supper meeting of U.C.C. Students and Young Adults- Only three showed up. We will try again.

5. We continued the "Keep-in-touch Telephone" program.

6. We also continued writing notes to Visitors.

The Board consisted of: Hildegard Everett, Chairman; Vic Appel, Dennis Murphy, Doyle Pinkard, Mary Masters, Lana Harris, Frances Halliday [replaced by Cathy Hubbs when Frances remarried and joined another church], Jonathan Briggs [replaced by Seth Murphy when Jon went off to college], Tommie Pinkard and John Towery, ex-officio members.

In closing I wish to thank the whole board for all their co-operation and patience.

Resptfully submitted by Hildegard Everett

## CLERK'S REPORT

Our church shows a net loss of five members during 1984.

January 1, 1984	153
Lost by death	2
Lost by Transfer of Membership	5
Received from another church	2
Membership Total on Dec. 31, 1984	<u>148</u>

Average attendance at worship services was 56.6 compared to 59 for the top nine months of 1983 and 64 in 1982.

-Tommie Pinkard, Clerk

## PASTOR'S REPORT

As a church we could be feeling somewhat like Elijah sitting alone in the wilderness waiting on word from the Lord. In spite of the hours of meetings, some excellent help from our Conference leadership, and consultations with experts, we still have no clear sense of what we as a church will do. One answer is rather clear as we look at the response to our fall enlistment. With fewer pledges than last year we have a higher pledge for local and mission giving. It is a record amount for our work primarily in Austin with some co-operative gives going elsewhere. It may not be clear as to whether we ought to stay in our present location or move to greener pastures, but it is clear that we have some members who are committed to our continuing our mission.

We trust that you have read the excellent report from our Future Committee written by Rizer Everett. We are hopeful that this semester we may have a better idea of the value of our property. A class at the university has indicated that they might assume us as a project. We are also checking on the price of land in the Southwest area of the city which promises rapid growth. These endeavors are not trying to say that should leave our location, but it is trying to secure good data for our decision making.

We will be examining the mission statement adopting, amending, or rejecting it. As it now reads it does not give any clarity as to our location. We could fulfill that statement in the suburbs as well as here in the inner city. The real question is where can we best fulfill that statement.

Lest the reader think that we are stacking our future in favor of relocation, we will be meeting at a pot-luck dinner with the chairman of our Neighborhood Association this coming month. It will give us a better idea of what is going on in our area and what we could be doing to relate to it better. It could be that we focus too much on the street people partying in front of our premises. We are checking on the cost of airconditioning the Fellowship Room and the sanctuary. We also hope to find a contractor who could plaster and paint both the sanctuary and Fellowship Room at a price that we can afford.

The accomplishment of this past year financially is not only the increase from \$1792.58 to a \$5,940.26 balance, but we paid off over \$2,000. of debt from 1983. We would have ended 1983 with a deficit amount in our bank balance if we had received all of our bills. We now may have the funds on hand to enable us to do some of our needed repairs. Special gifts during the year provided a plain paper copier, a cassette copier, books for David Bartholomew, shades for the second floor of the new wing, and the pastor's Reformation Tour in Europe, England, and Scotland.

The pastor has not acted as initiator for the committees of the church, and we have not had meetings for most of the committees. We should have a study of Central America issues, other foreign areas, and the hunger problems of the world. The work on our Constitution could provide us with the means to be more effective in the future.

A word needs to be said about our response to the tragedies of our day. One Great Hour of Sharing with \$1,260.00, our special Christmas Day gift for the starving of African, and our gifts to the CROP walk demonstrate our concern. Some of our members hurried to send money to agencies aiding the hungry, and we will not have figures revealing how much members of this church have given. OCWM increased from \$5,594 in 1983 to \$6,572 in 1984 with an indication that 1985 will have even greater support. We sense in our response the spirit of Christ in striving to feed the hungry of our world.

No clear answer has come to me personally as to what I should do. No other church has sought your pastor, but he has not had his name listed as seeking another position. A meeting in February on pre-retirement planning could provide more information. It may be possible and desirable for retirement at 62 which is only slightly more than three years away. The personal decision also awaits a clearer vision of the future of this church and its leadership needs.

We had a net loss of membership during this past year, and we will lose some valued members who move out of Austin this coming year. We do have prospective members, and we have faced even more dismal and difficult times in the past. We will pay the debt off on the top floor of the new wing in two years. We should be entirely out of debt by the end of the decade. Our members are involved in serving in many ways in this city, our Conference, and even overseas. It has always been a personal privilege to work with and for this church. Let us hope that the Spirit of Christ which has given us opportunities of service in the past will guide us to a good decision and action in coming years.

- John C. Towery

#### Report of United Campus Ministry - 1984

This was a year of change! Highest on the change list was the departure of Pat Russell and Claudia Highbaugh from our staff. Both report that their new jobs are going well, but we really miss them here.

For the time being, their places were taken by two seminarians, Anne Clifton and Jim Ward. And this has provided a new dimension to our life. The enthusiasm of seminarians and the supervision they require are interesting and growth-producing for them and for us.

The programmatic highlights of the year included a speakers series on politics and religion, two visits by Soviet guests, a teaching methods course, and a number of introductions to the world-wide church and the international mission of the church. Although attendance has been small, the luncheons for Faculty/Staff have gone very well. And the training workshop to help faculty and staff be aware of students' problems which lead to drop-out, was especially good.

- L. Wayne Bryan.