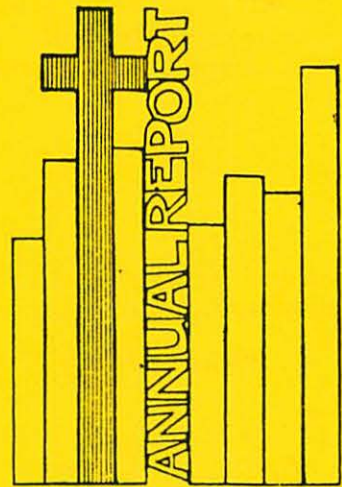


Ross

1988



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF AUSTIN

408 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET



Jan. 15, 1989

AGENDA

- ✓ Meeting called to order by the Moderator
- ✓ Devotions
- ✓ Minutes from last year's meeting and other church meetings of the year.
- ✓ Review of Printed Reports. ^{*} Verbal reports from organization not having a written report? Additional information or questions about any report

Old Business?

New Business.

- ✓ 1. Election of Officers, Board members, Committee chairs, and representatives to other organizations. *State accepted by acclimation*
- ✓ 2. 1989 Proposed Budget, OCWM goal for 89, Witness Shares goal for 89. *Approved.*
- ✓ 3. No date at Slumber Falls for Retreat. Does the church wish to seek a date? *April date sought.*
- ✓ 4. The federal judge decided in favor of the city. Our attorney, Mr. Les King, is appealing to the District Court. *Discretionary powers of judge approved abused?*
- ✓ 5. Major meeting of World Council in San Antonio in May. Does the church wish to secure a speaker? *Host for weekend.*
- ✓ 6. United Church Board for Homeland Ministries is having 1989 as the time for a Campaign Against Homelessness. Our input is desired. *Motion for approval & support - M. Adams*
- ✓ 7. Vince Maggio would like to meet with 3 members of our church on Soundings. Who will volunteer? *Board of homeland ministries.*

Other?

relative to what whole church is doing, 2 hr. session.

Doyal, Michael A., Rambie, Pam, Chuck, Pat Oakes, Mary Tomasek, Chester Lay volunteered.

Trustees send letter of appreciation to Les King.

8. * Board of Trustees: verbal report by Midori Campbell. ~~written report to be available Jan. 22.~~ *written report now attached.* Further discussion by Gary Cole: Clinic — "leased" space distinguished from "shared" space. New committee to be formed — 3 from church + 3 from clinic. \$1400/mo for ≈ \$4000 value. Difference to be considered a grant from church.

Congregational Church of Austin
Nominations-1989

<u>One Year Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
Clerk	Cathy Hubbs	Cathy Hubbs
Financial Secretary	Sara Ross	Sara Ross
Treasurer	David Ashton	David Ashton
Coordinating Council	Mathis Blackstock	Dennis Murphy
Church School Supt.	Marilyn Pickens	Michael Adams
Director of Enlistment	David Ross	Fran Briggs
Historian and Archivist	Hildegard Everett	Hildegard Everett
Historian and Archivist, Associate	Pat Oakes	Pat Oakes
Music Committee, Chair.	Marie Scheel	Nodie Murphy
Publicity Committee, Chair	Kay Finch	Susan Ashton
Mission and Stewardship	David Ross	Rambie Briggs
Austin Metropolitan Ministries (need 2)		Fran Briggs
Austin Interfaith Sponsoring Committee (need 5)	Flo Chiles	Pam Aurand
	Allan Case	Flo Chiles
	Mary Charles Williams	Lillie Webb
	Kathy Strong	Mary Charles Williams
	Magaret Taylor	Kathy Strong
Brazos Association	Carol Barrett	Cathy Hubbs
		Carol Barrett

Three Year Terms

Board of Trustees

1986-1988	Marilyn Gaddis
	Donald Small
1987-1989	Janice (Terri) Ocean
	Gary Cole
1988-1990	Victor Appel
	Midori Campbell
1989-1991	Mary Tomasek
	David Ross

Board of Deacons

1986-1988	Dennis Isenberg
	Hildegard Everett(1-year term)
1987-1989	Michael Adams
	Carol Barrett
1988-1990	Nancy Brown
	Frederic Burchsted
1989-1991	Hildegard Everett
	Mathis Blackstock

Nominating Committee

1987-1989	Mathis Blackstock
1988-1990	Rambie Briggs
1989-1991	Jean Appel

Delegate to South Central Conference

1988-1990	Fran Briggs
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Moderator

1987-1989	Clark Hubbs
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Annual Report of the Board of Trustees

Congregational Church of Austin, 1988

The members serving on the Board of Trustees in 1988 were: Garry Cole and Rey Salas (Chairpersons; Garry replaced Rey in September), Vic Appel (Coordinating Council Delegate), Midori Campbell (Secretary), Sara Ross (Financial Secretary), David Ashton (Treasurer), John Towery (minister), Marilyn Gaddis, Cathy Hubbs, Terri Ocean, and Don Small.

Throughout 1988, members of the Board carried out the responsibilities for the care and custody of all of the property of the church. While the congregation continued to enjoy the landscaping completed in 1987, the Board received donation pledges for the acquisition of a sprinkler timer system to maintain the plants and lawn. A special workday was held to repair the fence surrounding the playyard. Another workday was held to clean the Fellowship room rug and refinish the wood floors.

The Board also approved the purchase of a loudspeaker system to aid the hearing impaired. A special donation was made to the Memorial Fund for its acquisition by a member of the congregation. The Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacons continued their efforts to purchase playscape and/or educational toys for the Sunday School.

The church continued to operate under a lean budget this year. A major factor contributing to the current financial shortfall is the UCM's impending vacancy of the third floor of

the John and Eleanor Towery Education Wing. This shortfall has been partially alleviated by the awarding of a seven thousand dollar grant to the church by the UCC Homeland Ministries (many thanks to the efforts of John, Vic, and Garry). This grant will be used to allow the expansion of the People's Community Clinic to the vacated space for HIV+ counseling. Additionally, the People's Community Clinic will vacate the first floor space of the education wing, thus freeing the space for church activities.

Future financial concerns include:

- the hiring of an interim minister and a new minister,
- continued building maintenance (replacement of the San Antonio entrance door, street sign),
- renovation of the first floor space in the John and Eleanor Towery Education wing, and
- acquiring funds for the third-floor space after exhausting the seven-thousand dollar grand at the end of 1989.

Respectfully Submitted,

Midori H. Campbell

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 1988

Income Sources	General	OCWM	Other
Loose Plate	1,589.90	0.00	68.00
Interest from Savings	1,719.87	0.00	0.00
People's Community Clinic \$1200/mo.	14,524.52	0.00	0.00
United Cam. Min.(a) \$400+83.33util/mo.	827.52	0.00	3,999.96
Miscellaneous Income	1,427.00	0.00	0.00
Misc. Deposits(redeposits etc., not income)	1,779.25	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total	21,868.06	0.00	4,067.96

Pledged Income	44,591.66	7,783.70	8,445.90
Non-Pledged Income	3,822.75	0.00	777.00
Total by Columns	70,282.47	7,783.70	13,290.86

Total Deposits 91,357.03

Status of Budget vs Income	General+UCM	UCM
1988 Budget	84,202.00	4,800.00
1988 Budgeted funds (gen.-misc.dep.+UCM)	72,503.18	3,999.96
Difference	-11,698.82	-800.04

Status of UCM and Clinic:	UCM	Clinic
Expected Income (UCM includes utilities)	5,799.96	14,400.00
Actual Income	4,827.48	14,524.52
Difference:	-972.48	124.52

1988 pledge record:	General	OCWM	Witness	Intern
1988 PLEDGES (32 units)	45,038.00	8,672.00	1,927.00	3,051.00
Pledged Income Paid in 1988:	44,591.66	7,783.70	1,446.80	2,239.60
1988 pledges paid in 1987:	6,050.00	775.00	225.00	1,100.00
1989 pledges paid in 1988:	6,400.00	800.00		
Total of Pledged 1988 funds in:	44,241.66	8,558.70	1,671.80	3,339.60
Difference (total in - pro-rated)	-796.34	-113.30	-255.20	288.60

89 Pledged Income (27 pledges)	General	OCWM	Witness
	46,702.00	8,029.00	1,483.00

-Sara Ross, Financial Secretary

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT - 1988
 Congregational Church of Austin

January 10, 1989

	Budget Amount	Expenditure	%
PASTORAL LEADERSHIP			
Salary	\$17,250.00	\$17,250.00	100
Annuity	4,535.00	4,435.05	98
Health Insurance	4,426.00	4,428.00	100
Family Prot. Plan	253.00	250.62	100
Continuing Educ.	400.00	38.50	10
Housing Allowance	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>	100
SUBTOTAL	\$34,864.00	\$34,402.17	99
LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS			
Pastor's Disc. Fund	200.00	0.00	0
Auto Expense	2,000.00	2,066.31	103
Music for Worship	5,200.00	3,867.50	74
Christian Educ. Materials	250.00	251.19	100
Office Supplies & Postage	1,200.00	1,241.19	103
Utilities	11,000.00	13,231.09	120
Property Maint.	4,000.00	2,110.50	53
Janitorial Supply & Service	750.00	550.00	73
Church Telephone	400.00	386.42	97
Conf. Delegates	300.00	430.65	144
Camps & Workshops	1,000.00	861.50	86
Safe Deposit Box	55.00	60.00	109
Bond for Finance	28.00	28.00	100
Officers			
Advertising	750.00	139.72	19
Pulpit Speakers	250.00	148.10	59
Nursery Attendant	520.00	450.00	87
Misc.	<u>97.00</u>	<u>91.21</u>	94
SUBTOTAL	\$28,000.00	\$25,913.44	93
MORTGAGE PAYMENTS			
West Wing	\$10,644.00	\$10,381.00	98
Air Conditioning	<u>4,200.00</u>	<u>3,349.39</u>	80
SUBTOTAL	\$14,844.00	\$13,730.39	93
SEMINARY STUDENT	\$3,600.00	\$2,400.00	67
COOPERATIVE RESPONS.	\$3,400.00	\$3,196.00	94
TOTAL	\$84,750.00	\$79,642.00	94

Treasurer's Report - Page 2

FUND BALANCES

	1/1/87	1/1/88	1/1/89
GENERAL FUND			
Checking Account	\$11,024.08	\$ 6,466.70	\$ 4,210.50
Money-Market			
Savings Account	<u>3,204.81</u>	<u>4,675.19</u>	<u>1,691.97</u>
TOTAL	\$14,308.99	\$11,141.89	\$ 5,902.47
 MEMORIAL FUND	 \$2,574.77	 \$3,597.31	 \$4,267.86
 CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	 \$31,323.52	 \$34,134.48	 \$38,983.02


LIABILITIES

* EDUCATIONAL WING MORTGAGE	\$24,705.00	\$17,018.00	\$ 8,623.50
 AIR CONDITIONING LOAN		\$27,616.77	\$27,616.77

* Last payment is 1/1/90

COMMENTS

We have made it through a rather difficult financial year and we are still solvent after all obligations have been met. The only overrun on our budgeted spending was in the line item of utilities and this was mostly due to increased rates. The operation of the A/C units in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall does not cost very much because of the very few hours per week that these units are in operation. The line item to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund was not paid this year because the fund has a balance of \$125.00 even after paying \$800.00 in office supplies and postage (which is reflected in the expenditures). The 1989 line item for this fund will be deposited for use by the Interim Minister and the future Pastor. The difference in the Cooperative Responsibilities budget and expenditures is that \$200.00 budgeted for UCM was not paid and that the Brazos Association dues were \$4.00 less than budgeted. 1989 looks better from the start as our projected income is only \$2600.00 less than our budgeted spending (as opposed to a \$10,000.00 projected shortfall last year), but after 2 straight years of deficit spending, our reserves are low. On the bright side, our cash assets are greater than our debts.

Sincerely,

 Dave Ashton
 Treasurer

1989 BUDGET FOR ANNUAL REPORT
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

January 10, 1989

	1987 Expenditure	1988 Expenditure	1989 Budget Amount
PASTORAL LEADERSHIP			
Salary	\$17,000.00	\$17,250.00	\$17,000.00
Annuity	3,430.00	4,535.05	3,500.00
Health Insurance	3,225.00	4,428.00	4,000.00
Family Prot. Plan	245.00	250.62	125.00
Continuing Educ.	90.60	38.50	300.00
Housing Allowance	<u>7,500.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$32,480.00	\$34,864.00	\$32,825.00
LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS			
Pastor's Disc. Fund	200.00	0.00	200.00
Auto Expense	1,850.36	2,066.31	2,000.00
Music for Worship	3,716.41	3,867.50	4,800.00
Christian Educ. Materials	310.00	251.19	250.00
Office Supplies & Postage	941.42	1,241.19	1,000.00
Utilities	10,600.51	13,231.09	13,000.00
Property Maint.	1,919.56	2,110.50	3,000.00
Janitorial Supply & Service	638.71	550.00	750.00
Church Telephone	389.89	386.42	400.00
Conf. Delegates	190.00	430.65	200.00
Camps & Workshops	390.50	861.50	1,000.00
Safe Deposit Box	55.00	60.00	60.00
Bond for Finance	28.00	28.00	28.00
Officers			
Advertising	424.37	139.72	750.00
Pulpit Speakers	261.40	148.10	250.00
Nursery Attendant	446.70	450.00	520.00
Misc.	<u>2772.63</u>	<u>91.21</u>	<u>92.00</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$25,701.55	\$28,000.00	\$28,300.00
MORTGAGE PAYMENTS			
West Wing	\$10,588.00	\$10,381.00	\$10,656.00
Air Conditioning	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,349.39</u>	<u>4,044.00</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$10,588.00	\$14,844.00	\$14,700.00
SEMINARY STUDENT	\$8,126.67	\$2,400.00	\$0.00

Health Ins
M. Adams
MMR
\$189/mo

	1987 Expenditure	1988 Expenditure	1989 Budget Amount
COOPERATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES			
Metro-Ministries	400.00	459.00	0.00
Austin Conf. of Churches	300.00	300.00	0.00
Austin Metropolitan Ministries	0.00	0.00	760.00
Brazos Ass. Dues	133.00	262.00	240.00
Texas Conf. of Churches	30.00	30.00	30.00
National Council of Churches	15.00	15.00	15.00
World Council of Churches	15.00	15.00	15.00
Regional Seminary Support	300.00	300.00	300.00
Eden Home	500.00	500.00	500.00
United Campus Ministry	200.00	0.00	0.00
Yale Divinity School	100.00	100.00	100.00
Back Bay Mission	300.00	300.00	300.00
Slumber Falls Camp	100.00	100.00	100.00
Salvation Army	65.00	65.00	115.00
Caritas	50.00	50.00	100.00
Austin Interfaith	500.00	500.00	500.00
Ft. Worth Synod	200.00	200.00	200.00
SUBTOTAL	\$3,208.00	\$3,196.00	\$3,275.00

TOTAL \$80,116.31 \$79,642.00 \$79,100.00

	1987 Received	1988 Received	1989 Projected
INCOME			
Loose Plate	\$ 2,163.77	\$ 1,589.90	\$ 1,800.00
People's Community Clinic	13,300.00	14,524.52	16,600.00
Other Church Groups / Misc.	1,052.11	1,427.00	1,000.00
Interest from C.D.s	1,052.11	1,719.87	2,000.00
Non-Pledged Giving	9,905.00	3,822.75	4,000.00
United Campus Min.	3,627.48	4,827.48	0.00
UCBHM Grant for Clinic on 3rd Flr.	0.00	0.00	7,000.00
PLEDGES	44,979.95	46,831.26	44,102.00 → 46,202*
TOTAL	\$76,158.31	\$74,742.78	\$76,502.00

INCOME vs EXPENDITURES <\$3,958.00> <\$4,899.22> <\$2,598.00> ← 25 pledges
 * 2 more pledges
 + #4 ← 27 pledges

Annual Report of the Board of Deacons
1988-1989

The following members of the Congregation provided service to the Board of Deacons during the past year: Michael Adams, Pamela and Chuck Aurand, Carol Barrett, Nancy Brown, Fred Burchsted, Hildegard Everett, Catherine Hubbs, Dennis Isenberg, and John Towery. Their cooperation is much appreciated.

Hildegard Everett served as chairperson, Fred Burchsted as secretary, and Carol Barrett as Coordinating Council representative.

The Board of Deacons worked in the following areas during the year:

Special services, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise, Thanksgiving, Christmas Candlelight, Sunday School graduate recognition, Youth Participation, and Laity Sunday.

The celebration of Pamela and Chuck's wedding and the Everett's reaffirmation during Sunday services.

Summer Sunday School and services.

Spring and Autumn retreats at Slumber Falls, including the program on spirituality.

The Brazos Association meeting at Huston-Tillotson College in November, in which Carol was especially active.

Discussion of appropriate playground equipment and toys for the Sunday School.

Planning for the Ice Cream Social and Pot Luck Dinners.

Inclusion of children's hymn during the December services.

Collection of food for donation to the AIDS Pantry.

Revision of the membership list.

*{ directory on computer,
to be updated.*

We want to thank Hildegard Everett for providing flowers for the sanctuary. Thanks go also to Oliver and Midori Campbell, and Pamela and Chuck Aurand for Communion preparation and cleanup.

*+ Nancy Brown for taking ~~into~~ care of
tablecloths.*

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Burchsted, Secretary

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Search Committee held its first meeting on February 29, 1988. The first few months were spent writing the church profile. During the summer we received and began reading our first candidate's profiles. We received and considered 35 profiles.

From these we selected six candidates who were interviewed on the telephone. Three of these persons have been asked to visit in Austin and get better acquainted with us. We hope that one of these three will be a suitable candidate for us. However, should that not be the case, we will begin reviewing profiles again.

While we developed a list of objective criteria for evaluating candidates, we also have considered other important attributes such as personality and style of ministry.

I want to thank the members of the committee--David Ashton, Carol Barrett, Judy Cole, Oliver Campbell, Hildegard Everett, Tommie Pinkard, and David Ross--for their patience and dedication during this past year. *Thanks to Everetts for use of house.*

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Briggs

Fran Briggs, Chairperson

CLERK'S REPORT

~~in~~ out

Membership on 1/1/88 116. Two deaths* Two transferred by letter. After contact twenty-seven were removed to inactive list. Active membership is now 85 of whom nine live away. We have four associate members who are not included. Our average attendance was 54.19 for best months compared with 57.7 in 1987. Summer average was 35.4 compared to 36.6 in 1987.

-Catherine Hubbs, Clerk.

* Dorothy Lay
Alfred Wupperman

116
- 2
- 2
- 27

85

PASTOR'S REPORT

1959 seems a long time ago as I look at old pictures and slides of myself and others. Yet in some ways it was just yesterday. Faces and memories come to mind of persons who were "pillars" of the church then. Their voices and actions are still vivid for me. One did not remove a bush without consulting Josie Trenckmann or do something about finances without seeing Will Warren. The church had a marvelous group of older ladies who were very strong individuals in their own right. They could drink beer at a function and argue forcefully about any and everything. We had more German members who came from the "free-thinking" tradition and were more concerned with social justice than orthodox beliefs. Sunday School was almost non-existent, and Frank Horak, who was completing work for a college degree to secure his ordination, led the choir with many college students in it. A very active college group was entitled United Student Fellowship met on Sunday nights. Two items shocked us. Very few persons bothered to come to church until time for the sermon, and the average age of the congregation was quite old. After becoming more settled it became apparent that minds were still alert and weighed sermons with care.

The sixties were a challenge for this church even as it was for our society. While our church had first had a black member in the early fifties, we truly became integrated in the sixties. By the late sixties we were close to 10% black because of the participation of Huston-Tillotson College students. A graduate student had kayaks that we could use, and a member of the church had a cabin on Lake Austin which gave a great opportunity for students from UT and Huston-Tillotson to become acquainted socially. The girls from H-T had to be dressed in heels, hose, and a skirt to leave and get back to the college. We had to get them to a place to change to shorts or a swim suit as more appropriate attire for a kayak or canoe.

The church had had renovation plans for its worship area when we arrived but was held up by the Board of Homeland Ministries withholding approval. In the fifties the area below the Fellowship Room had been excavated by hand by members of the church. It provided space for a growing church school but gave the feeling of a cave. A proposal for an educational wing that could also have commercial use had surfaced during the pastorate of Fred Cole but was never realized. The biggest mistake came early in the sixties when the church did not explore the purchase of the house and lot to the north of it. It sold for \$23,000, and the church would have a much greater opportunity if it had been purchased. The need for better facilities and the sale of property given by the long time treasurer of the church, Mr. Krohn, provided the basis for a building project. Mr. Richard P. Swallow, an

associate member of the church, was hired as the architect for the project continuing the use of a member architect for the church's buildings. A fund raising drive for \$25,000 was directed by Mr. John Westfield of the Board of Homeland Ministries. He was certain that our church could not attain that goal and was surprised when \$29,000+ in pledges was made. The original plans had our present educational wing with apartments on the top floor, a bell tower, and complete renovation of our worship area. We waited too long as building costs went up rapidly, and we were only able to build the addition and complete three floors leaving the top floor empty. The new facility was dedicated in 1969.

This church was always generous in the use of its space, but two uses in the sixties created controversy. A graduate psychology class training counselors approached the church to use the facilities to house and counsel runaway teen-agers. The church agreed, and the program lasted a bit over two years. As some of the young people were arrested in demonstrations and for storing "grass" in the church which was against the rules of "The Raft", older members were perturbed to see their names in the newspaper listing 408 W. 23rd St. as their home. They were a bit mollified by recognizing that the church was more of a home to unwanted teen-agers than anywhere else. The group collapsed for a lack of leadership but helped several young people. A member of the church from Huston-Tillotson, now the Rev. Pat Russell, was the drummer in a band called the Baby-Cakes and requested the use of the church basement for practice. Rock and roll was not popular with many members of the church, but they did use the facility. We had students in our building listening to them who were not often found inside of a church building. The church remained open around the clock during the 60's and provided a place for students to study late at night when even the university was closed. We had one young man who enjoyed playing the piano after he got off from work at 2 a.m. The sanctuary was often used for private devotions by individuals who were seeking guidance during the stressful time of the Vietnam War.

The sixties ended with about a fourth of slowly acquired new members suddenly leaving the church as they transferred to other cities and jobs. It was the closest that this minister came to looking for another location. After a building program is completed it is often good for the minister to move on, but that did not happen.

The seventies were a time of struggle in operating a day care program, slow but somewhat steady growth of church membership and church school program. We reached our greatest strength during this period even though

our largest membership total came during the eighties. Experimental worship services with balloons, dancing in the aisle, guitars, and the commencement of our guest speaker program belong to the 70's. People's Free Clinic came into existence because Dr. Whitaker and Dr. Alexander wanted to write an article about the counter-culture and its medical needs. They fully expected it to die after a year, but it struggled on and finally found funding sources. It now treats more than 15,000 patients a year and has over twenty employees. The church also furnished a place of worship for a group that was primarily composed of homosexuals. They did not inform us of their orientation, and we first read about it in the *Daily Texan* to our shock. The group was permitted to stay and was succeeded by other groups over the years. An Assembly of God group pastored by the Rev. Steve Darby has been a user of our facilities over the years. Interestingly they oppose homosexuality strongly, but they managed to share the facilities at a different time slot. Church members painted the sanctuary and did a lot of the necessary maintenance. We had a strong youth group which was active at Conference and Association levels. Our church gave up its separate program for college students and work ecumenically and cooperatively. The pastor worked in a coffee house program at the Methodist Student center and stayed up late at night as a part of the Listening Ear program. When the Methodists decided to tear down their structure for a parking lot, we worked to provide the United Campus Ministry with office space on our top floor. Mr. Hugo Kuehne, Jr., an inactive church member, was the architect for the project. To our sorrow, we worked with Phog Pfoundation and the street vendors. We had written a protest to Mayor Roy Butler in 1972 when they were first moved on to the street. No one bothered to talk to us about our needs or the effect on the church. That one action has probably been more of a handicap than anything else for this church. Without taking the time to look up the dates Mark Thomas and Ernest Dean were ordained into UCC ministry. The Rev. Norman Sundwall and the Rev. Dr. Louis Eason came into UCC by recognition of their ordination and the securing of a call. In spite of the handicap of the street closing the church attained its highest membership total of 153 in 1983, but we have been on a downward spiral since that time. 1987 and 1988 have found us with the highest level of personal giving, and we have also continued our strong support of OCWM, Witness Shares, and other special projects. We continued with our improvement of the worship area commissioning the creation of our tapestry and paraments. We also had an architectural friend of the church help us design our new pulpit, altar, and communion table. We continued our

work with persons seeking to enter the ministry. Charles Stark and Bruce Carlson were ordained here. Katherine Flarity was ordained in Houston after being Student under Care as our member. Dennis Graham is currently in seminary and is an inactive member of our church. David Bartholomew has completed seminary and awaits a call for ordination. Pamela Aurand and Carol Barrett are currently students under care in our Association. At one time our church had ten fully ordained ministers in its membership. The year with David Bartholomew as full time intern was valuable for us both. Our part time association with Pamela Collins now Aurand has been instructive for us both. We have been a conduit for ministers through the years. The church has always been very active in ecumenical organizations. The pastor has been president of Metro-Ministries in Austin and Texas United Campus Christian Life Committee. Other members have provided leadership to these and other organizations. Back Bay Mission in Biloxi has had two presidents of its board from this church, and we have furnished two treasurers to the conference. At times it has seemed like I was preaching to a parade, but the church has made a difference at times.

As my personal ministry with you comes to a close, I think that we can both recognize that a year under these circumstances is more than a little trying. Hopefully you will soon know who your interim pastor will be and who your new pastor will be. Finances are fairly good at this time. The new space usage with the clinic will likely solve some of the church's frustrations. The educational wing (sorry I can't quite bring myself to use the name that you have honored us with) will be paid for in another year. If the church wanted to do so, it could pay all debts and still have money in certificates of deposit. Some new programs such as a young couples group, a singles group, a student/faculty group, or a woman's group needs to be started. The church may have to relocate with the parking difficulties in the area. I was hopeful that we would win the lawsuit and be able to have a new location and use this area as a mission to the university. Dreams do sometimes happen, but it will take a lot of work. It is possible that the church will still win the law suit as it will be appealed. If it does, we hope that members will struggle with what needs of our community can best be met by the Congregational Church of Austin. Thanks to so many of you for your support and encouragement through the years.

-John C. Towery, Pastor

CHURCH SCHOOL-Our thanks to Mrs. Marilyn Pickens for many years of service as our church school superintendent. We also want to express our appreciation to Pat and Mel Oakes who are once again participants after many years of teaching for us. Pamela Aurand lead the adult class until summer, and Carol Barrett is now teaching. The pastor had two in the confirmation class this fall. We have new materials. New toys will be secured, and the ground floor will be renovated. Now we need students.

Austin Interfaith Sponsoring Committee is now becoming its own group. They want a representation of five persons from each church to be present Friday, February 3 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday, February 4, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Our church has been well represented this last year. Ms. Kathleen Strong has been one of the leaders of this group.

AUSTIN METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES is the new organization replacing the Austin Conference of Churches and Metro-Ministries of Austin. Our Mrs. Frances Briggs has been Treasurer of Metro-Ministries and is on the board of the new organization which includes groups not in either of the other organizations. 1989 should be a very interesting year as the new group grows and develops.

PEOPLES COMMUNITY CLINIC will try to have a report for us next Sunday to pass out. The pastor failed to warn them carefully of the exact date of our annual meeting. The church sought and secured a grant from the Board of Homeland Ministries for \$7,000 to enable them to use the offices built for United Campus Ministries. Funding for 1990 is not assured.