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Annual Report
Rev. Patricia L. Liberty
Interim Senior Minister

As we continue in our second year together, it continues to be a joy to share ministry with you. I am privileged to work with dedicated and talented lay leaders and staff as we move through our interim work.

We have weathered significant changes and have a few changes yet ahead. When financial concerns became a necessary focus, we made difficult decisions about staff, most notably eliminating the position of Christian Education Director. Once again lay leaders came forward and stabilized the Board of Christian Education and our Educational Ministry. I am grateful beyond words for their dedication and leadership.

KCC is blessed with a terrific staff. When budget woes exacted a pay cut and more than a little uncertainty, they all pulled together and continued to give their best. I am most grateful to them as well.

In this past year we have updated our Safe Church Training and refreshed the policy. Compliance in this is a cornerstone for growing an educational ministry. We are at about 97%; one more workshop will take place in February.

Evaluations for staff were also accomplished this year along with renewing job descriptions. The Council, Deacons, Trustees, and Music Committee worked endlessly to create evaluation documents and processes for this important administrative ministry.

Spending the better part of last year on crutches enabled me to see a different side of the KCC community. Your encouragement, patience, compassion and empathy were a great source of strength as the months dragged on. You provided rides, carried my stuff, brought me meals and constantly offered to help. The practical help and never ending support made it all much easier and I thank you.

I believe there is a renewed spirit taking hold, a sign that you are readying yourselves for new leadership. There is renewed energy, new leaders are stepping forward and other leaders are taking a much needed rest. We are nicer to each other. There is laughter and lightness in our midst. The past is fading into the past and there is renewed energy for the future.

We have a few hurdles to navigate, most notably a renewed Stewardship ministry, a shift in the fiscal year, and finalization of our by-laws. I believe KCC has the capacity to fund its ministry consistently and generously. The challenges of Stewardship are navigated through ongoing education, theological reflection, personal relationship and organization; and our initiative this year embraces it all. With a leadership team second to none I believe we will launch a new direction for the future.

It is a privilege and joy to share this time with you.

Pastor Pat

President's Annual Message – Year End 2010

“And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8: 28)

First I want to say thank you to everyone for your patience and support as we continue to make progress during this period of change. I am filled with gratitude to the members of the Council, the Boards and Committees, every volunteer, and of course Pat Liberty, Enrico Garzilli, Shirley Schock, Andy Cournoyer, Cathy White, Nancy Gardner – and all of you who have a passion for our church and its mission. Without your perseverance and dedication it would not be possible for me to fulfill my obligations as Council President.

Clearly 2010 was a year of change and challenge at Kingston Congregational Church. However, neither is new to KCC, or, I suspect, to most of us. Whether as part of an organization or as an individual, I try to accept each new situation as an opportunity to acquire wisdom, learn from mistakes I may make, and then move forward. Nevertheless, coping with change and challenge tests us and can make things uncomfortable. Therefore, *like* Paul, I tried to remain steadfast in the belief that loving God will result in things “working together for good”. I confess that to a doubting Thomas like me, such a simple formula sometimes seemed insufficient to meet the needs of the church. There was and still is much to do. I wanted positive outcomes; and the sooner the better. I prayed for harmony and success. Was it too much to ask? Then, more words from Paul settled me:

“...if we look forward to something we don't have yet, we must wait patiently and confidently.” (Romans 8: 25).

Subsequently I made every effort to be patient, boost my confidence and love God. I also endeavored to coalesce the diverse opinions, prerogatives, needs and desires of our congregation along with our institutional mission and operational commitments. Taken in total, the amalgam of these mental, administrative, and spiritual exertions provided a solid foundation for what proved to be an exciting, intense and interesting year.

We began the year with an unbalanced budget and ultimately found it necessary to make dramatic and difficult changes in our personnel budget to close the gap. Those actions, combined with your generosity, place us in a stronger financial situation moving into the new year.

We gathered a Pastoral Search Committee and it has recently completed our church profile. We will soon be listing our vacancy and, with some good fortune and God's grace, can look forward to welcoming a settled pastor in the coming year.

Of the five strategic areas identified in the Strategic Plan we made measurable progress in three. First, the by-laws were overhauled and are currently under review by the Council. They will be presented to the congregation in the new year. They address church leadership structure and process. Second, actions and activities by the Boards, Committees, and by Interim Pastor Pat Liberty improved our role and collaborative relationships in the community. Third, realigning the church fiscal year to match the church calendar is expected to assist stewardship growth in 2011 and beyond.

Strategic areas still requiring attention include addressing Christian Education across the lifespan and dealing positively with membership growth, assimilation and retention. In the new year the work of approving amended by-laws, calling a settled pastor, expanding our presence in the community and implementing a new stewardship plan and philosophy will continue to engage our enthusiasm, our steadfastness, and our time, energy and emotions. We must remain vigilant, have patience and confidence, and most of all – trust in God to lead us to work together for good.

And I shall be an optimist again this year - because – my business card says I am and *“It does not seem too much use being anything else,” (Winston Churchill)* and *“I can do all things in him that strengthen me.” (Philippians 4:13)*

Thanks be to God and to all of you.
Tom Brillat

Board of Deacons- Annual Report 2010

The Board of Deacons had a very busy year with the annual changing of faces- goodbyes and new beginnings. Michael McMahon was asked to chair the board with the gracious departure of Deb Shaw.

Kevin Munroe began his final journey this spring to being ordained as a Minister. The Deacons were involved with his Ecclesiastic Council as well as his presentation of his Ordination Paper. Kevin was ordained on January 9, 2011 at 2:00 in the Kingston Congregational Church sanctuary. The event was attended by many friends, family and clergy that have been touched by his spirit.

Pat Liberty continued her work as Interim Minister, using her experience and enthusiasm to guide us through this interim period of change. Pat offered many new programs to the parishioners that were widely attended.

The Board of Deacons spent many hours partnering with Church Council formulating and refining an evaluation process for the Pastor and Director of Music. This process will be used in the future as a best practice for evaluating employees of Kingston Congregational Church. Reverend Pat Liberty's evaluation met expectations and her contract was renewed for another year.

We have been blessed to have so many of our congregation to lead us in worship this year; Reverend Bill Bartels, Reverend Kevin Munroe, Dr. Enrico Garzilli, Tom Brillat, Frank Lenox and Michael McMahon.

The Deacons continued their service to the congregation by attending to funerals; recruiting and guiding ushers, greeters, lay readers and coffee hour hosts; interacting with various committees and boards; and responding as best as possible to the spiritual and worship needs of the congregation.

Members of the 2010 Board of Deacons were Nancy Ross, Linda Mendillo, Dottie Leduc, Jim Findlay, Kevin Pelton, Lou Pearson, Michael Wakefield, Mark Tortolani, Andrea Richardson, Tracy Heffron, Beth Asher, Michael McMahon

Respectfully submitted,
Michael W. McMahon, Chair

Music Director/Organist Annual Report 2010

I very much enjoy being organist and music director here at Kingston Congregational Church. I believe this past year again has truly been a wonderful musical and worshipful experience.

The adult and junior choirs have been excellent in their dedicated contribution to Worship. The repertoire of anthems for the choirs consists of the best available music from the past as well as new musical texts. While the Senior Choir sings every Sunday, the Junior Choir sings on the fourth Sunday of the month and on special feasts. Kristen Couturier and Andrea Richardson along with other parents have been generous and faithful in their superb work with the children. This year Lori Ann Hiener and Beverly Stringer lead the singers very admirably. I also meet with both choirs every week. Normally, the children sing on the fourth Sunday of the month, as well as on Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday and Easter.

This past Christmas the Senior Choir gave their traditional Concert of Christmas Music before the Midnight Service. I am very proud, indeed, of their fantastic work. The Choir continues to meet every Thursday evening to prepare for Sunday Worship. I deeply appreciate their great contribution to Worship. Easter was truly wonderful with Trumpet, Timpani and Violin. We were fortunate to have Jenny Collins play trumpet for us this year. For Pentecost, the choir again performed with trumpet. One of the pieces performed was written by Pelouquin, a student of Leonard Bernstein, who was my organ teacher. I was very pleased to have that piece performed since I also was his assistant at the Cathedral in Providence when I was a teenager. In October, the choir performed a contemporary Cantata for a worship service. It is entitled *The Mass for the Son of God* by James Whitbourne. Scored for choir, organ and soprano sax, the piece is truly brilliant and the choir more than rose to the occasion.

On a personal note, I have continued to compose music for both Concert performances and Services. I have also continued to conduct the South County Chamber Singers. On Palm Sunday, we performed *The Mass for the Son of God* at St. Francis Church in Wakefield. In November of this year, we performed at the Potter Library. The title of the program was *Music and Poetry*.

I would like to thank Claudia Smith and the music committee for their excellent leadership. Their help, advice, and encouragement have been invaluable. I would also like to thank Diana Geisler and Grace Woodward who have provided very much appreciated service as choir librarians. And finally to all of you, I express my gratitude once again for your support, encouragement, and inspiration.

Respectfully submitted,
Enrico Garzilli

Annual Report from the Trustees

This year the Trustees: Took a key inventory. Had the church house re-roofed because of leaks. Replaced the storm windows on the Sanctuary, re-glazed and had the windows painted to improve weather and energy tightness. We had National Grid help us with energy conservation by enrolling in their lighting program and had all the florescent bulbs and ballasts replaced by them with low energy use equipment. Resealed the parking lot and had lines painted. Made progress on the kitchen.

We had 11 meetings during witch we made sure that the day-to-day expenses of the Church were met, organized and held a fundraiser, gave feedback to the Council, and made recommendations to the Search Committee.

Personally I found this year challenging. Being a Chair person for the first time and meeting the challenging issues of this year has been a growth experience for me. I hope I can meet future challenges as well or better than I did this year. I thank everyone on the Board of Trustees for their service to the Church and the help they gave me.

David C. Remington "Rem"

Membership Report

Members as of January 1, 2010		443
Additions:		
Confirmations	0	
New Members	7	
Reactivated Members	5	
Total Additions:		12
Losses:		
Death	8	
Transfer	1	
Inactive	0	
Total Losses:		9
Members as of December 31, 2010		446
Baptisms	6	
Marriages	1	

Baptisms

Jakob Zachary Syrett	February 7, 2010
Riley William Strough	April 18, 2010
Morgan Francesca Luzzi	June 27, 2010
Aiden Christopher Cummiskey	July 4, 2010
Lauren Elizabeth Coleman	July 11, 2010
William Sargent Gwaltney	October 3, 2010

Marriages

Rebecca Harlow and Michael Spahn	May 29, 2010
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New Members

Amy Coleman	May 23, 2010
James Coleman	May 23, 2010
Christopher Cummiskey	May 23, 2010
Kristen Cummiskey	May 23, 2010
Jennifer Murray	May 23, 2010
A. Roger Wutzl	May 23, 2010
Joan Wutzl	May 23, 2010

Deaths

Franz U. Hayes	January 8, 2010
David Cole	February 22, 2010
Elma Christopher	March 1, 2010
Ralph Oliva Jr. (non-member)	March 28, 2010
Rosemary Wilson	May 31, 2010
Patricia A. Barrett	September 28, 2010
Maurice Zarchen (non-member)	October 9, 2010
Vernon H. Bradley	October 11, 2010
Margaret E. McVeigh	November 15, 2010
Rev. Edmund W. Fetter	December 11, 2010

Respectfully
submitted,

Loretta H. Shaw
Registrar

Nominating Committee Report for 2010

The Nominating Committee began meeting in the 3rd quarter of 2010 to review the many positions that needed to be filled. At that time there were 13 positions to be filled and 15 positions that required confirmation that they would continue for their next term. The total number of 28 grew to 35 as members dropped off committees and others chose not to complete a 2nd or 3rd term.

We continued to meet reviewing the progress of finding replacements and confirming existing members' continuance. We began to narrow down possible candidates. Each meeting we prepared a new list of the positions still open and the minutes of each meeting were kept by Karin Aukerman.

Currently there are still 11 openings on boards and committees that need to be filled. (see 2011 final ballot)

The good news is that this year we were able to get many new members actively involved on the committees and boards. Many of these new members were young which will help serve our needs in future years.

Thank you to all committee members and all board members for their dedication and support.

Sue Kermes completed her three terms on the Nominating Committee and we are waiting for the Council to find a replacement.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Asher
Nominating Committee Chair

Committee Members: Brad Asher, Sue Kermes, Scott Alemany, Karin Aukerman, Tom Holland, and Nancy Tortolani

Treasurer's Annual Message 2010

This year started out on a down note with an unbalanced budget and ended the year with not only closing the budget deficit but having an operating surplus. Total income was \$338,200 and total expenses were \$317,200 for a surplus of \$21,000. Total revenue was up by \$1,000 year over year and \$15,500 over budget. Boards kept expenses lower by \$8,500 year over year and \$12,000 under budget and staffing expenses were down \$8,100 year over year and \$7,700 under budget.

Pledge activity was also encouraging; please refer to "Pledge Activity" on page 4 of the Treasurer's report. Basically, we received \$3,700 more than was pledged.

In June a CD was purchased in the amount of \$50,000. That, along with the balances in our checking account and money market account amounted to \$128,600 in assets. Fund liabilities amounted to \$63,800 which resulted in a reserve of \$64,800. Please refer to "Balance Sheet" on page 4 of the Treasurer's report.

As encouraging as this is there are several issues to consider. As of August 31 KCC had an operating deficit of \$13,800 and it wasn't until mid-September, when elimination of the Church School Director position and staff salary reductions were announced, did things start to turn positive. Is this increased revenue in the last four months of the year a one-time event or is it sustainable? During the year the Search Committee spent \$49. At some point we will start to incur expenses related to obtaining a settled pastor. At present there is about \$6000 in the Painting Escrow Fund. The Church was last painted in the summer of 2005, 5 years ago, at the cost of about \$60,000. Over the past five years the Boards have cut expenses by \$35,000 or 25% and next year salaries are expected to be \$23,000 or 11% below 2005 levels. At what point will cost cutting efforts start to have a negative effect on the life of the KCC?

For a more detailed account of the Treasurer's Message please refer to the Treasurer's Report, the footnotes and comments at the bottom of each page. If there are any questions about these reports or any other "Treasurer" issues, please don't hesitate to ask.

Submitted by,

Richard Geisler, Treasurer

Investment Committee 2010 Annual Report

During 2010 the Investment Committee met 6 times. On January 1, 2010 the Endowment portfolio had a market value of \$932,892. During the year, \$14,228.13 in gifts and bequests were added and \$54,215 was distributed for support of the Church budget for a net outflow of \$ 39,986.87. The market value as of December 31, 2010 had risen to \$1,023,377. After accounting for the distribution and the addition, the Endowment had a 14.3% annual rate of return. This is slightly better than the Vanguard Balanced Index Fund of 13.1%. At year-end the portfolio held a mix of 11 index mutual funds and ETFs, with an approximate portfolio weighting of 76.2% equity, 22.4% bonds and 1.4% cash.

The Committee recommended, and the Trustees and Church Council approved that 4% of a 7 year rolling average be used in 2011 to support the general operating budget (\$37,356), cemetery (\$3,778) and music (\$1,679) for a total of \$ 42,813. By lowering the payout from 5% to 4%, this should enable the Endowment to grow.

This coming year the Committee will be designing a spending policy more in line with UCC recommendations that not only support the operating budget, but support capital improvements as well as ministry and mission beyond the general operating budget of KCC. It is hoped that this spending policy could be phased in over 5 years. This will be presented to the Trustees, Church Council and then the Congregation later this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Macy, secretary

Members: Earl Chambers, Jim Elliot, Bonnie Baker, Kathy Wyllie, Ernie Torres, Jim Joly and Dave Remington, Chair Board of Trustees

Ex Officio members: Richard Geisler, Jim Aukerman.

Board of Missions Annual Report 2010

The KCC Board of Missions (BOM) had a year filled with learning and action. In the year 2009 the BOM took on the task of exploring the issue of inhumane treatment of immigrants in the USA and how KCC can promote just the opposite, the humane treatment of immigrants in this country. We continued to keep our eyes, ears and hearts focused on this issue in 2010 but also embraced a theme of bringing radical Christian hospitality to our community.

The BOM hosted many events at KCC to foster its theme of radical Christian hospitality. Many in our church congregation and community had a wonderful opportunity for education by attending these events. The events were as follows:

- A drumming circle with master drummer and immigrant Issa Coulabli from Mali, Africa. Participants experienced a drumming circle, followed by Issa's sharing of his immigration story as well as the stories of immigrant friends, and last a Q&A period. All who participated got a first hand account of the struggle of an immigrant and a moving musical experience.
- Mexican Dinner night where the many in attendance brought a dish and a donation to share and heard of the work done by Angeline who runs a shelter in Mexico for orphans. Proceeds benefited the shelter.
- An after service presentation with Bill Shuey of the International Institute who discussed ways the agency helps immigrants/refugees in our state. He fielded questions about how we as a church and individuals can help people through this process.
- Job Seekers group- offered emotional and job search support for those unemployed in the community. It ran for several sessions but lacked interest and was, therefore, canceled.
- Thanksgiving Community Dinner was a free dinner targeting fellow community members especially international students or students who did not travel home for the holiday in the URI Community. The dinner was coordinated by the Pastor and members of KCC and fed about 25 people. The future of the dinner will be reviewed in spring 2011.
- The collection of dry/canned goods the first Sunday of each month to be delivered alternately to South Providence Neighborhood Ministries (S.P.N.M.) and Johnnycake Center.
- the BOM task forces: the Peace and Justice T.F. (P&J T.F.) and Environmental T.F. (Env. T.F.); hosted several events at KCC including: (P & J T.F.)Interfaith Community Peace Service, (P & J T.F.) the Emig Lecture with Pam Steager and 2 separate movie series.

There were further learning experiences offered and received. We learned about the most current initiatives of South County Habitat for Humanity (S.C.H.H.) in visits with Deedra Durocher, a S.C.H.H. board member, who updated us at one of our BOM monthly meetings; and Lynne Baker Dooley who spearheaded URI's 20th Anniversary Habitat for Humanity celebration at URI and gave a sermon at KCC related to hospitality and S.C.H.H.. Our KCC confirmands, with their KCC adult leaders, joined a BOM meeting in order to learn about the workings of KCC's BOM.

Throughout the year, in order to place missions work front and center, the BOM made a conscious effort at communication within the congregation and the community as listed below:

- To emphasize and inspire the KCC congregation we had regular updates about the current work of the BOM and application of members' mission donations in the *Spire* and bulletins as well as monthly "mission moments" shared during the Sunday service.
- We were in regular contact with the BOM task forces; P&J T.F. and Env. T.F. in order to stay on top of their important activities.
- We had a running dialogue with many members of the S.C.H.H. team as to what role KCC could play in building and supporting, both financially and vocally, the four Old North Road houses and the Charlestown house. This year there were primarily individual opportunities to contribute labor on the Thursday night "womens' build", otherwise labor was not needed. One possibility for the future is a "church build" where area churches sponsor a house which would require a minimum \$60,000 commitment.
- The designers of the Memorial Mission Immersion Fund (in memory of KCC member Franz Hayes) kept the BOM up to date on the funds formation and the BOM brought the Fund to the Council for approval which it received. The Fund will be announced to KCC at the January 9th service with a dialogue time the following Sunday after services.

- The Board informed S.P.N.M. of the availability of a grant from the UCC Neighbors in Need Fund for which they are applying and to which we have donated.
- The BOM promoted the Annual Welcome House Walk for Shelter by publicity packet delivery, holding sign-ups and pledge opportunities.

In the spirit of Christian Unity we took and offered opportunities to reach out and work with other faith communities as follows:

- Unitarian Universalists of Wakefield organized a peace movies series of which we hosted two film nights.
- Peace Dale Congregational Church generously lent their facilities for Thanksgiving Community Dinner preparations.
- Several area churches were felt-out about their interest in the above mentioned "church build" Habitat for Humanity project.
- Church of God in Peace Dale holds Store House Meals for which various area churches, including KCC, are on a rotating schedule to supply dessert for a free Friday night community dinner.
- KCC hosted the Interfaith Community Peace Service.

One of our very important tasks is coordination/dispersion of UCC collections and other mission causes which kept us busy. Pat gave an interesting presentation about the UCC mission structure to help inform us of the workings, goals and opportunities within the UCC. This was a great aid in helping the board make informed decisions about our collections. The collections and mission project donations are listed below:

- 2010 budgeted BOM funds of \$3000 were dispersed as follows: \$2000 to S.P.N.M. and \$1000 to S.C.H.H.
- Issa Coulibali drumming circle and reflections on immigration: \$400 (from suggested ticket donation proceeds).
- Haiti Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund: \$3738
- Angelina's Shelter Mexican Dinner Funds (from suggested ticket donation proceeds): \$600 (note: \$1000 originally for Angelina's Shelter, under the Peace & Justice Task Force budget, was to be used for Emig Lecture as the commitment to the shelter was fulfilled).
- O.G.H.S.: \$2273
- Pakistan Flood Fund: \$1624
- S.C.H.H.: approximately \$2000 (from KCC Scrip)
- Blanket Sunday: \$2229
- Christmas Offering: half to Neighbors in Need and the remaining half split between the Johnnycake Center and Welcome House: totals to be determined.

We look to the new year, 2011, with the desire to continue the mission work in the areas of immigration and hospitality and will search for new opportunities to use our church's resources wisely, always in the name of Christ.

Sarah Simeone(Chair), Doris Findlay(Co-chair), Jean Bambara(Secretary), Fredericka Bettinger (Treasurer), Carol MacKenzie, Jennifer Collins, Susan Berman and Elizabeth Candas

Board of Christian Education 2011 Annual Report

The start of 2010 began with a new member, Mr. Prentice Stout who had replaced Nancy Pelton on the board. The remaining members for 2010 were: Barbara Hart, Mary Cole, Rachel Marino, Lori Ann Heiner, Michael Salvadore, Jr., Jill Dumican, and Susan Gallagher. The board met once a month during the months of January-June except the month of February. We started out the year with the support of the Church School Director, Joanne Gyorgy. We reviewed the KCC by-laws, the CE responsibilities, and discussed a new organizing framework for the future. We also discussed various church school issues. The board set the goals for 2010 to be to put on another Family Game Night, choosing a new curriculum, an update of the safe church policy, and offering more adult education programs.

Adult education activities for the year began in January with the start of the Kerygma class offered by Reverend Pat Liberty. This was to be a long term class starting in January and ending at the end of 2010. Other topics of interest offered throughout the year included Elizabeth McNab on "End of Life Issues" on February 21, 2010, several joint programs with Peace Dale Congregational Church including "Living with Questions", and a women's retreat held in the Fall of 2010.

The CE Board sponsored the Family Game Night on April 30th which was attended by several families and all had fun.

Joanne Gyorgy researched various curricula and a new curriculum from the UCC was selected at a special June meeting. This meeting included any teachers and lay people who wanted to provide input into the selection. The new curriculum is titled "Seasons of the Spirit". This curriculum follows a lectionary where the kids hear the same Bible stories/verses as are read in the church.

The first day of church school was held on September 7, 2010 with a CE sponsored open house prior to church school. Shortly after, financial constraints became such that the Church School Director position was eliminated. Although it was not effective until October 15th, Joanne Gyorgy left immediately upon this news. As a result, the CE Board quickly transitioned into volunteering to do the necessary tasks to run the Church School. These tasks included ensuring teachers were assigned to the classes and collecting and compiling church school registrations. As started by Joanne, the classroom configurations were the following:

- Nursery: Nancy Gardner as a paid provider, and Tom Holland
- PreK/K: Lori Ann Hiener and Rachel Marino
- Grades 1/2: Jen Jensen and Krista Reid
- Grades 3/4/5: Michelle Davis and Tracey Quarella
- Grades 6/7/8: Mike Coffey, Christy Sheehy and Carol Shilling.

The CE Board also volunteered to be "roamers" during church school. This job was to ensure kids were directed to the appropriate places, checked on the teachers to see if they needed help, and collected attendance records. The attendance records are being kept on file by Michelle Davis.

The Rev. Pat Liberty also conducted two safe church training events for the teachers and anyone working with children. This church-specific training on our safe church policy will be held every year and is required for all teachers and those working with children along with background checks to ensure we follow our own safe church policy. The Board will be reviewing our safe church policy and will continue to look at issues related to the policy in the coming year.

The CE Board sponsored a few activity times instead of church school and also put on the Christmas Eve pageant with the help of some additional volunteers including Erin Trodson and Tracey Quarella.

We have finished the year with some of the Board not returning. They are Mary Cole, Jill Dumican, and Rachel Marino. We are working with the Nominating Committee to fill these vacancies and thank them for their service. The Board looks forward to a new year as we have many things to do in our new role but look forward to the opportunities this will bring.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Michelle Davis, Chair

Christian Family Life Committee 2010 Annual Report

Our first event of the year, the annual Mardi Gras Pancake Supper in February, was well attended by about 104 hungry members (63 adults and 39 children). They enjoyed hot pancakes, and sausages, with applesauce, fruit, and whipped cream while listening to lively Cajun music. The chocolate chip pancakes are still very popular. Allie's doughnut cakes were also quite delicious. The children had fun creating elaborate Mardi Gras masks/visors. Mary Daly did a great job planning the event.

About 84 church members enjoyed the Progressive Dinner in April. A wonderful evening of fellowship was shared by all. Thank you to Cindy Dowgiallo and Mary Daly for all their hard work in planning this always popular event.

About 43 adults and 28 children attended the KCC Annual Church Picnic at Kingston Park on a September afternoon. They enjoyed grilled beef and veggie burgers, with traditional picnic fare and, of course, watermelon. The children enjoyed the bubble machine, and played many lawn games provided by the committee. They were also able to make use of the park's playground equipment and basketball court. Thanks go to Chrissy Lockwood for organizing this event.

In October, 37 adults and 25 children enjoyed the Fall Festival at church. There were plenty of delicious meatball sandwiches and apple crisp, and many fun activities for the kids, such as a scary touch and feel station, a "dunking" for doughnuts activity, a spooky ghost walk, and a very amusing toilet paper mummy contest. We also included the ever popular pumpkin decorating and apple pie making activities. Thanks to Krista Reid who planned a terrific event.

The Advent Workshop occurred on the Thanksgiving weekend. The children enjoyed making candy trains, ornaments, reindeer food, pine cone bird feeders, and decorating cookies. We thank the Senior High Youth Group Kids who helped oversee the various activities. The Advent wreaths (15 were sold) and crèche figures created were all lovely. Special thanks to Debi Jennings and family for again coordinating the crèche painting and for molding plaster figurines. Jen Jensen and Valerie Howe did a great job planning this fun event.

The Christmas tree was set up in time for the Advent Festival.

We welcomed new member Valerie Howe to our committee this year. We regretfully said goodbye to outgoing members Heidi Joly and Cindy Dowgiallo and thank them for all their hard work and dedication.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Lockwood and Jen Jensen, Co-Chairpersons

Mary Daly, Cindy Dowgiallo, Valerie Howe and Krista Reid.

Women's Fellowship Annual Report – 2010

As we look back on 2010 (the 130th year of Women's Fellowship), we find that it was a wonderful year of interesting programs, renewing old friendships, making new friends, and a bonding together of Christian women with the same goals.

Programs began on January 11 with "Women Sharing Stories of their Faith Journey". The panel consisted of Sue Davis, Cindy Dowgiallo, Canna Falby, Martha Hartman, Tina Letcher, and Helen Rowe-Drake. Their variety of experiences woke us up to how different our faith journeys can be. The Board Meeting on February 9 concentrated on the fact that new officers are needed, and also a discussion on revisions to the Constitution. Delight Carpenter worked with Claudia Smith regarding these revisions. The March 9 program was "The Faces of Immigration in South County". Speakers were Jee Lee, originally from Korea, Lily Roiu from Romania, and Ingrid Yogarantnam from Sri Lanka. All three ladies had come to the United States as young adults, and they told of their experiences adapting to life here. In April Church World Service, under the direction of Helen Rowe-Drake, proved again to be a big success! We filled 30 baby kits, 125 hygiene kits, and 201 school kits. \$428.97 was the total spent. The grand total was \$2,163.16 including \$1,136.00 from 42 donors, and \$1,027.16 from our budget. Dottie Leduc reported that the spring bake sale had taken in \$716.10, the most money ever in recent memory. She thanked the many people who had priced, baked cakes, pies, bread, and cookies, and had also worked during the day as well. On June 14, Flag Day, Elizabeth McNab led us in a rendition of George M. Cohan's "You're a Grand Old Flag" followed by a reading from the UCC New England Women's Celebration VIII. The program by Canna Falby, Elizabeth McNab, and Helen Rowe-Drake was a discussion of their experience at this year's Celebration VIII held on March 12-14, 2010 in Burlington, VT. The theme "Together Building Bridges" intertwined music, workshops, worship, stimulating speakers, and wonderful women from New England and our National UCC. Jan Kraus and Ann Ross were co-hostesses, and delicious ice cream sundaes were served.

The fall began with a Pot Luck Supper on September 21 with everyone happy to be back. Helen Rowe-Drake passed out the WF booklets which she had put together; they came out great! There was more discussion about the retreat the first weekend in November. The program on October 19 was an interactive book review of "The Faith Club" by Claudia Smith, and she did a beautiful job. Helen Rowe-Drake purchased a new stainless steel refrigerator for our kitchen for \$1,000. "Decorating Gingerbread Houses" was held on November 20 with Claudia Smith in charge, and it was a big success! Jan Kraus led the cookie and craft sale on December 4th and 5th with Connie Fitzelle instrumental in helping out. Canna Falby was in charge of bulbs for shut-ins, and they were distributed to many. Helen Rowe-Drake orchestrated the annual Christmas Dinner on December 10. Reservations were needed, and the price was \$15/per person. The program was in the sanctuary directly following the dinner, and Jim Ross did a reading enjoyed by all. Carolyn Barwise continues to be our Sunshine gal and sends out cards regularly. A big thank you to all!!

Respectfully submitted from the Board,

Beverly Buchert, Secretary

Co-Presidents: Jan Kraus and Nancy Ross

Pres. Exofficio: Delight Carpenter

Vice President: Ruth Fiddes

Treasurer: Canna Falby

Program Chair: Cindy Buxton; Assist-Program Chair: Connie Fitzelle; Publicity: Ann Ross

Sunshine: Carolyn Barwise; CWS: Helen Rowe-Drake; Mother-Daughter Luncheon: Claudia Smith

Kingston Fair Bake Sale: Dottie Leduc

Annual Report- Flower Committee 2010

The Flower Committee continued its weekly responsibilities of organizing the ordering of the floral arrangements by request and by distributing the flowers in the sanctuary to those named in prayers. We replaced the memorial flower ordering card found in the pews with a fuchsia colored one to draw attention and we placed announcements throughout the year in the *Spire* and Sunday bulletins to encourage donorship. This has increased interest in new donors and has improved the participation by the congregation. The cost of the weekly arrangement is \$50 and our relationship with Kenyon's Florist continues to be positive. Previously the flower committee placed an arrangement of green plants on the altar for the summer and did not provide weekly services but due to the number of requests that we had for this past summer, we will go forward in 2011 with our standard weekly procedures.

The flower committee decorated the sanctuary for Easter with a display of multicolored tulips and daffodils. The historical lily display needed to be changed due to allergies of Pastor Pat and the overall response to the new display was very upbeat. Many encourage us to consider in future years a display of tulips, daffodils and lilies. A total of 54 plants were ordered at \$15 each (cost of \$12) and those that were not taken by purchasers were distributed to others and to shut-ins.

The flower committee decorated the sanctuary and church for Christmas with our traditional garlands and wreaths for the first Sunday of Advent and the poinsettia display at the altar for Christmas services. A total of 27 plants were ordered at \$15 each (cost of \$11) and those that were not taken by purchasers were distributed to others and to shut-ins.

Total costs for the flower committee for 2010 was \$3097.18 and total revenue was \$3722.00 resulting in a profit of \$624.82 for Kingston Congregational Church.

The committee purchased a new paper cutter which was needed due to the previous one being dull and no one to sharpen it.

A complete updating of the manual depicting all activities required by the flower committee was accomplished in 2010 and in addition to the hard copy kept in the flower cabinet, there is an electronic version. The weekly reports of flower requests are now done electronically. A standard monthly template was developed and proved to be most efficient for committee members and for the office. Quarterly reconciliation was done for expenses and income to verify finances. A few errors were found and items were adjusted to the proper committee (i.e. Deacons).

Going forward, the committee continues to consider new ideas and ways to increase efficiency and promote the floral activities of our church.

Respectively submitted,
2010 Kingston Congregational Flower Committee
Nancy Tortolani, Co-chair
Beth Asher, Co-chair

Kyle Ashworth
Karin Aukerman
Carol Blanpied
Sue Buntz

Beth Curtis
Michelle Little
Jane Skogley
Patti Steere

Congregational Society in the Pettaquamscutt Purchase
Report of the Cemeteries Committee
May 12, 2010

Background - The Cemeteries Committee supervises three cemeteries: Old Fernwood and Tower Hill belong to the Society, and the Peckham Family Cemetery belonging to that family. The Tower Hill Cemetery, on the site of the first church building in the history of the Kingston Congregational Church, had its first burial in 1719 and in 1944 the last one, Bernon E. Helme. Although inactive since then, it is still available for use. The Peckham Family Cemetery is restricted to use by members of that family, but is cared for by our committee in accordance with an agreement made with the late Dorothy Peckham who contributed \$5,000 to our endowment for that purpose. Old Fernwood is divided into two parts: the original section was given by Elisha Reynolds Potter in 1826 for use by members of this Society and of the church, and by people living within one mile of the church or of the cemetery. The extension of Old Fernwood, landscaped in the 1960's and put into use in the 1990's, was given by Herbert J. Wells in 1927 for use by members of this Society and of the church and their families.

2009-2010 Report - Chris Faella, caretaker of New Fernwood Cemetery, is employed to cover the routine maintenance around Old Fernwood and the Peckham Cemeteries. He has made many small improvements around this area. Scott Wallace continues to provide quality care to the Tower Hill Cemetery. Ann Ross, a member of our committee, tends to the Old Fernwood entrance. Tracy Heffron and Patricia Moore trimmed and neatened many shrubs and trees. Cameron Schneck cleaned monuments and cut brush.

During the past year (May 2009-April 2010), five members of this Society and the church have been interred in the cemetery: Herbert W. Behrens (7-17-09), George Fiddes (9-1-09), Jacqueline Gloria Stoewer Piez (9-16-09), John R. Gowell (10-26-09), and Agatha Littlefield (12-4-09) - pending. Dorothy Woods as mentioned last year was interred on May 30, 2009.

Our desire is to make the cemeteries in every respect places of honor to the dead and of comfort to their relatives and friends. Lots remain available in both cemeteries with contributions to the endowment fund. Rates were raised on September 1, 2007 to \$600 for non-members and \$450 for members. Reservations may be made for future use, and a number of families have elected to have monuments placed on their lots even many years in advance of actual use, thus easing the burden on the family at a time of great sorrow. All reserved lots continue to be held in ownership by the Congregational Society in the Pettaquamscutt Purchase.

Respectfully submitted: Ann Ross, Elizabeth McNab, Richard Shaw, and Jane Skogley
William D. Metz, Chairman

**Please note that this report was presented at the Annual Meeting of the Congregational Society in the Pettaquamscutt Purchase in May 2010.

KCC Prayer Chain – Since 1979

Each month our Prayer Chain needs are updated. December includes 17 from KCC and 24 loved ones. The total year 2010 included 259 from KCC and 365 loved ones' needs.

Sixteen prayer links have prayed daily. Kevin Munroe is leaving so we would welcome your becoming a prayer link. Confidentiality is required, of course, and each link chooses where and when to pray daily. It's a wonderful ministry – Do join us!

Call Pastor Pat or contact:

Delight Carpenter 789-8006

Bev Larimer 783-6388

Lou Pearson 783-8975

Coordinator Carol Shilling 783-5677

Call any of us for daily prayer.