

Rector's Report for 2010

2010 was an exciting and productive year for Christ Church. We began at last year's Annual Meeting with the adoption of the Strategic Plan. That plan shapes the direction and priorities we will pursue for the next 4-5 years. In the following committee and ministry reports, you will catch a glimpse of what the Lord did through us last year.

Our parish has been very well-served by the entire vestry. I wish to thank especially Mark DeMichele, our senior warden the past two years, for his superb leadership. I also want to thank retiring members, Vicki Morris, Hal Skelly, and Sue Steven. Vicki has worked tirelessly on several committees and ministries, most notably the Planned Giving Committee and the Year-Round Stewardship Committee. Hal has overseen the development and growth of our stewardship program in recent years. Sue Steven came on the board as a short term replacement and brought her considerable skills to the table.

One of the spiritual highlights of the year was a two-week pilgrimage to the Holy Land by 27 of our members and the sharing of that experience with the congregation.

The Right Reverend William Godfrey, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Peru, visited us in June. While here, he invited Christ Church to become a partner in ministry with the Diocese. The Vestry decided to explore that opportunity. I am currently serving on a board of a non-profit organization called Amigos del Peru, which is committed to building relationships between North American parishes and congregations in Peru. Our youth group is planning a mission trip to Peru this June.

Perhaps the most important event (at least for me personally!) was the calling of the Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas to join us in ministry as our associate rector. She brings an impressive array of skills and a warm, gentle spirit to serve among and with us.

I would be remiss not to comment on what is perhaps Christ Church's lasting and most enduring legacy to our community—that of forming and educating young children spiritually, academically, and morally. Our Day School is superbly directed by Nancy Roberts. Under her direction, 120 future leaders are taught critical thinking skills, the unique value of each person, teamwork, and ethical decision making. I am very pleased with what I see taking place on our campus Mondays through Fridays, and so should you be. Our Vestry and School Board have fruitfully worked together in joint sessions to strengthen our common mission and to enhance better communication.

I continue to be amazed at the giftedness of our parish community. We are so blessed in talent and abilities, in ideas and opportunities to serve. You are a gracious, strong, and committed group of God's people. Teresa and I love being a part of your community, and I am honored to serve as your rector.

Faithfully yours,

Edward Harrison