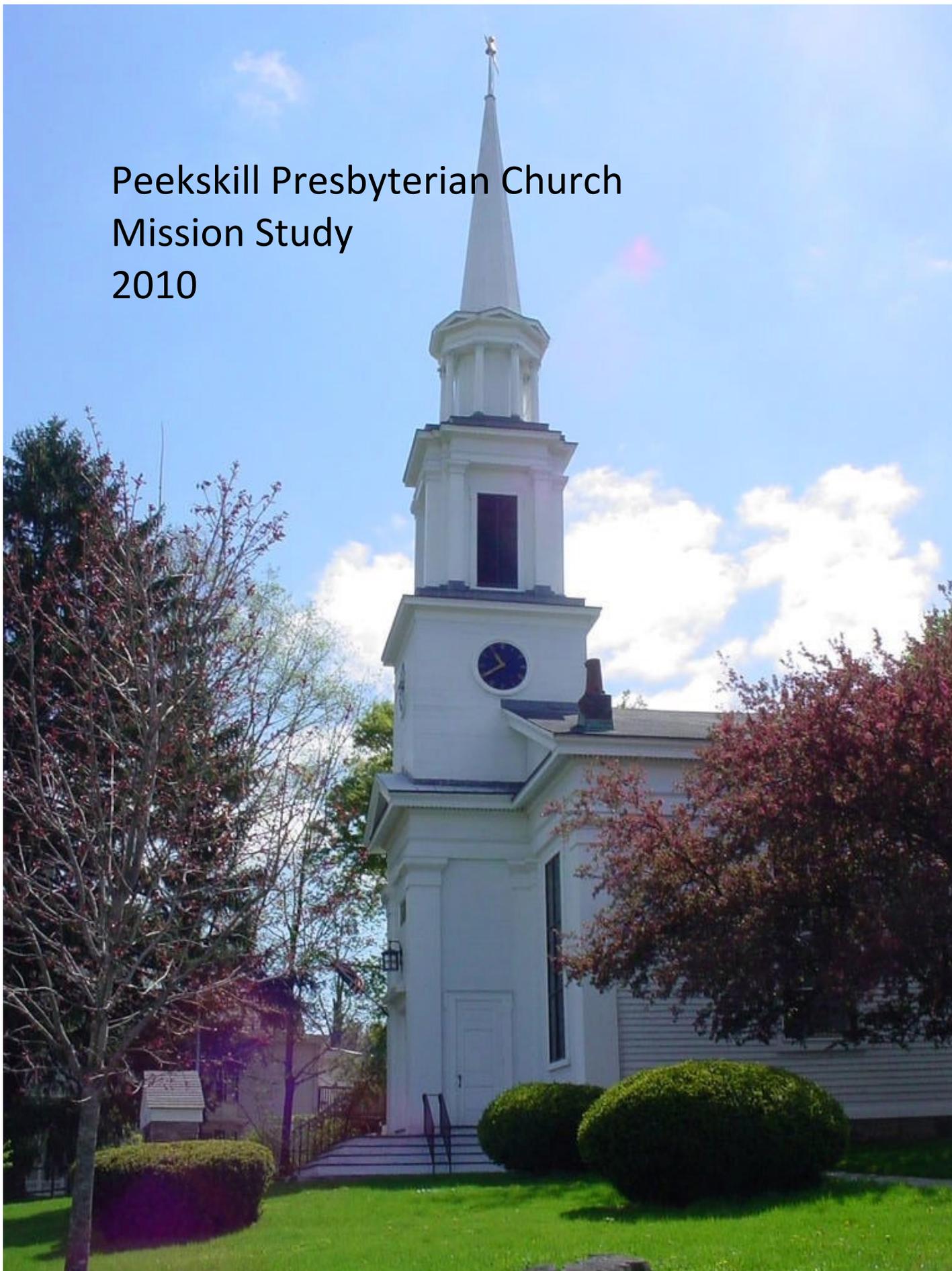


Peekskill Presbyterian Church  
Mission Study  
2010



**Peekskill Presbyterian Church  
Mission Study**

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## Peekskill Presbyterian Church Mission Study

### Introduction:

The Peekskill Presbyterian Church has a long history of service to Peekskill and the surrounding communities of Northern Westchester County. As our communities have changed, we find ourselves challenged by the growing diversity of the communities we serve. Our community includes both city and suburban areas, professional and nonprofessional people, long term residents and more recent arrivals. More recently, the Church has suffered lapses in pastoral leadership. Our most recent pastor was involved in personal issues that seemed to consume much of his attention at the expense of his pastoral duties. As a result our lay leadership became discouraged, worried and seemed to be losing its way. Although the Church remains strongly united, the necessary transition was, nonetheless, traumatic. Also during this time we faced the larger questions of relevance that are affecting church attendance across our county. With all of these things taken together, it is timely that we rethink the mission of our Church.

Despite the apparent challenges facing us, our Church is strong. We have a core of devoted, hard working members. We have excellent facilities. We are financially strong. Our assets have been well managed. Most importantly, our congregation loves our Church and our faith is strong. We find new meaning in Ecclesiastes (3:1), where It tells us; "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:" We look forward expectantly to our new season.

As we search for new ways of service, we are confident in Christ's promise, when he said "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds" (Matthew 7:7-8). We also accept the truth of the Psalmist who wrote many years ago, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." (Psalm 127)

The central theme of our efforts to find new ways of service for our Church is that of Renewal. We believe that Renewal is a continuing personal journey as well as a necessity for our Church and our community. We see God's promise of renewal with the coming of spring, with the freshness of the rain, with each new generation, and with the giving of his only Son. We start our journey of Renewal with optimism and faith.

## **History of the Peekskill Presbyterian Church:**

### **The Congregation**

**Our Presbyterian Congregation in Peekskill dates back to 1721 when Reverend William Tenant, an itinerant Preacher, began bringing the Word to the Hudson Valley. Then, beginning in 1742, the church started to meet regularly, relying on the Presbytery of New Brunswick, NJ which sent a minister to preach in Peekskill and other nearby towns with "much success." From 1785 to 1799 the congregation functioned as a satellite ministry of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, and finally, in 1799 the group of trustees that previously administered the Yorktown ministry evolved to formally organize The First Presbyterian Church of Peekskill. On June 25th, 1826 the Church was incorporated, and the first called Minister was The Rev. John H. Leggett.**

**For about 80 years, the story of Presbyterianism in Peekskill was the story of two churches instead of one. In 1841 the Second Presbyterian Church was formed. Services were held in the old Methodist church on South Street. A new Sanctuary was constructed in 1845. This building was later sold and became The Field Library, and is now privately owned. There had been talk of a reunion between the First and Second churches in 1866 but that did not happen until 1920 when the two churches united. The Rev. Thomas C. Straus was appointed to be the moderator of the combined Session. Rev. Straus served in the pulpit until 1921. He was the minister of the Second Church from 1896-1917.**

### **The Church Building**

**The first sanctuary on the site of the present Peekskill Presbyterian Church was built in 1799. The original 1799 building served until 1846 when the current Church was constructed. The church was designed and built in a traditional New England style with white exterior and tall steeple. The church bell was retained from the original sanctuary according to a 1926 church history by The Rev. Thomas C. Straus that stated that "the bell that hung in the 1799 Church is in use in the present house of worship."**

**In other words, the bell we hear on Sunday mornings is the original bell and it's over 200 years old! There is little doubt it tolled for the funerals of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and other distinguished Americans!**

**Over the years various alterations have been made to the church building, while maintaining the historic character of the church. An extension of 30 feet was added in 1858. Extensive alterations were made in 1892 when the organ was placed in the back of the pulpit. The next major renovation took place in 1922. The Christian Education Building, designed for the**

Church School and church-connected activities, was built and dedicated in 1964. Most recently, emphasis has been on upgrading the existing structure through capital improvements and modernizing building systems, while insuring that the historic character of the church remains to be enjoyed for years to come.

### **Study Method:**

Our Mission Study Team was organized with our first meeting in September, 2009 and a plan for study established. In searching for new ways of service, our team has examined our community, our congregation and looked to scripture for guidance. Subcommittees were formed to examine each of the three study areas. The community review included discussions with community leaders, other churches and reviews of Mission Statements from other Churches. The congregational study involved informal discussions with members, an all member “sharing” meeting and an extended questionnaire. Scriptural readings were sought, studied and taken as essential building stones for our study.

We believe that the following observations are important guideposts pointing our way.

### **Scriptural Guidance:**

We are guided by the teachings of Holy Scripture that help us find balance between personal spiritual development and reaching out to our neighbors. Some of the most helpful passages we have found are

*1) For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. (Romans 3:28)*

*2) So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. (James 2:17)*

We believe that the spiritual growth of our congregation is just as important as the works we seek to do in our community. One cannot be done without the other, i.e. our spiritual life gives us guidance and strength for our ministry in the world just as our ministry in the world feeds our spirits and helps us grow as Christians. Therefore, our mission must serve the renewal of our members’ faith as well as our Church’s service to our community.

Another truth that we have found in Holy Scripture is that as one congregation we are not called to solve all the problems in our community or “fix” the world. Rather, we are called to provide a beacon of light and hope, as described in the following passage:

*He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”*

*He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." (Matthew 13:31-33)*

We are committed to doing all we can to be a mustard seed, or leavening in the Peekskill community, making a difference in individual people's lives by demonstrating the joy and hope found in Jesus Christ.

### **Our Community:**

Our community presents us with a number of unique challenges. Although the Church is located in the city of Peekskill, a large portion of our membership comes from the surrounding villages. These villages are served by several different school districts as well as different town governments. Additionally, many of our members commute to other cities for work. So aside from Church, the usual elements that tend to define a community are lacking.

Another challenge is the fact that most of our present membership is highly educated and middle class, both black and white, with a large number of professional people, though many are retired. Yet we find that the resident population of Peekskill itself has changed radically in the last decade or so. There has been a large influx of immigrants, most from Latin America. We received census data for the city of Peekskill (zip code 10566, attached as Appendix D). Some of the more interesting findings are;

- The fastest growing racial/ethnic group is Hispanic/Latino
- Family structure is non-traditional
- Education is very low
- Resistance to change, somewhat high
- Church program preference, recreational

In our meetings with city officials, they emphasized the need for programs for youth. With many single, working parents, many Peekskill youth have inadequate supervision and little emphasis on their educational needs.

We also met with several area clergy. Although we do not have direct data, it seems that a majority of the Hispanic people come from a Roman Catholic tradition. Assumption, the biggest Catholic Church in Peekskill, has a very large Spanish-speaking segment in its congregation. In addition, Pentecostal churches with more fundamental or more emotional worship services (praise style of worship) attract larger participation among the Hispanic population. Currently, there are 1 or 2 Hispanic Pentecostal congregations. Another one, Gates of Heaven, has proposed renting our sanctuary beginning in June 2010.

This review of our community presents the context in which we must shape our Church's worship and ministry. We believe it to be challenging, but doable.

### **Our Congregation:**

We have a total membership of 202 people, 186 of whom are listed as active. The statistical breakdown is as follows (as of December 31, 2009):

Gender:	Male	76	Total	186
	Female	110		
Race	Black	15	Total	186
	White	171		
Age	less than 25	30	Total	186
	26-35	5		
	36-55	50		
	56-64	27		
	65 & Over	52		
	Not reported	22		

Our membership would be considered middle class with a considerable proportion of professional people. Many of these are retired. Perhaps more interesting than the statistical breakdown, is the fact that many of our members are long time members. We have 27 members who have been recognized for memberships of 50 years or more.

As part of our study, we conducted a comprehensive questionnaire in two parts. Questionnaire 1 asked respondents to grade how adequately our Church services our congregation and community. Questionnaire 2 consisted of open-ended questions with room for comment. (Appendix B).

In answering the first questionnaire, respondents scored our congregation highest on fellowship and worship. The congregation scored itself poorest on evangelism. From their answers, there seems to be a desire for more scriptural based teaching and a need for a clearer definition of our goals. (Summary of answers – Appendix C)

Although the open-ended answers were not easily summarized, it seems clear that we have a core of hard working, dedicated members. Perhaps most revealing of our congregation were the answers to the questions related to, Reasons for Participation in the Congregation and Strengths of the Congregation (answers on pages 24 & 25). These answers show a high degree of dedication and commitment to our Church.

We also conducted an open meeting of all members of the congregation. Members were divided into 8 groups. The groups were asked to discuss and respond to three questions:

- 1) What needs to happen here at PPC to make this a place where younger families want to be?
- 2) In what ways can the Church help foster, enhance and deepen your spiritual relationship with God?
- 3) How can we be more relevant in this community?

As you might expect, the answers were wide ranging. Again, though hard to summarize, the answers are, nonetheless, interesting (Appendix D)

### **Current Ministries:**

There are many active groups and ministries within the Church including:

**Session—12 elders responsible for the mission and governance of the church. Session committees include Christian Education, Congregational Life, Corporate & Business, Good News, Mission, Stewardship and Personnel**

**Board of Deacons—9 deacons (and one youth deacon) carry out a ministry of compassion, sympathy and service**

**Good News--sharing the good news of the Gospel with our community**

**Soup Kitchen—providing meals to the free lunch program at the Salvation Army**

**Midnight Run—collecting and distributing assistance to the needy of New York City**

**Prayer Partners—opportunities for personal prayer following worship**

**Prayer Chain—soliciting God’s help with local and larger concerns**

**Bible Study—men’s and women’s regular Bible study groups**

**Confirmation class—7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet Sundays at 9:00am**

**Second Fridays Community Youth Group—a multi-church youth ministry for kids in grades 7-12**

**Send Me—our youth mission initiative for high school students**

**Choir Camp—offering music and Bible study to kids for a week each summer**

**Community Christmas Dinner—welcoming the needy or lonely to a joyous Christmas meal**

**Men’s Club—fellowship and spiritual exploration for men**

**Presbyterian Women of H.O.P.E.—Women Helping Other People Everywhere**

**Afghan Makers—knitting for charity**

**Chancel Choir—adult choir offering traditional and classical music weekly**

**Hand Bell Choir—classic bell music for worship featured quarterly**

**Libraries for Children & Adults—with volunteer librarian**

**Memorial Meditation Garden—providing a quiet, green space for reflection and peace**

**Lord’s Attic Thrift Shop—outreach with affordable household items and children's clothing**

**Friday Night Book Discussion—exploring a wide variety of literature**

**Bridge—meeting monthly for fellowship and games**

**Scouts—Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts meet in our facilities**

### **Church Staff:**

**We presently have the following paid staff members.**

<b>Church Secretary</b>	<b>hourly (25 hours)</b>
<b>Choir Director/Organist</b>	<b>salary (is also church secretary)</b>
<b>Sexton</b>	<b>hourly (15 hours)</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>hourly (2 hours)</b>
<b>Interim Pastor</b>	<b>salary</b>

**In addition, numerous other positions are filled by volunteers from our Congregation. The membership of Peekskill Presbyterian consists of people from many professions: educators, business professionals (law, finance, etc.), musicians, physicians, and nurses. Roughly 50% of congregation members are retired. While members generously volunteer their time and skills to keep church operations running smoothly, as the congregation ages it becomes more difficult for them to serve. In addition, the vast majority of active members have been**

tapped multiple times to serve as ordained church officers. Often they have served successive second terms, leaving some of them feeling “burned out.”

### **Our Physical Plant:**

The Church owns two major properties. The main Church buildings are at the corner of South and Washington Streets in the city of Peekskill. These facilities include the sanctuary, the Christian Education building and the Fowler House. The Church architecture is what might be described as classic colonial and seats 300 (more in close fellowship). The Christian Education building was constructed in 1964 and has a social hall, commercial style kitchen, a parlor, and on the second floor, 9 class rooms. The Fowler House serves as our pastor’s office, secretary’s office, an informal meeting place (“The Upper Room”) and also houses our Thrift Shop.

The Church also owns a 3-bedroom manse (split level) located on Hudson Avenue, approximately one-half mile from the main Church grounds.

Because of their age, maintenance is an on-going effort and requires more attention than would be expected of new buildings. We will undertake some big building maintenance projects beginning in Summer 2010 including painting the Church and Christian Education building exteriors, adding gutters to both buildings, and repairing the roof of the Fowler House. The Church building is registered as a National Historical Site and our congregation values and appreciates the historic and traditional character of our Church Building.

### **Our Financial Condition:**

Our Church is over all financially strong. We are without debt and have a strong balance sheet. Our budget projected for 2010 shows a slight deficit reflecting our faith in the success of our efforts of renewal.

Important to the financial health of our Church is the fact that we received substantial bequests in 2009 and our assets have been well managed.

The Christian Education Building second-floor classrooms and kitchen are rented to the government sponsored Head-Start program week days during the school year.

The manse was rented for nine months in 2009-10. Although currently vacant, it nonetheless, represents a substantial asset available for use by the Church.

The Lord’s Attic Thrift Shop, housed in the Fowler House, offers both financial support and outreach opportunities. The shop sells goods contributed by members of the congregation and others of our community. Prices of the items are kept low and we have considerable traffic from all economic levels of our community.

The social hall is rented from time to time for receptions and similar events.

In April 2010 an Hispanic congregation proposed the rental of a portion of our facilities for the expansion of their ministry in Peekskill. Their proposal (yet to be acted upon) offers our Church both the opportunity to expand its service to our immediate community as well as an opportunity for greater use of our facilities.

Condensed versions of our balance sheet as of December 31, 2009 and our budget for 2010 are included as Appendix A.

### **Our Vision - A Journey of Renewal:**

In today's society, the mission of the Church has become unclear and uncertain. The message of the Church seems increasingly muted by many conflicting voices. Lives seem to be increasingly consumed by pressures to earn, to advance, to raise our families, to educate and to support our own special interests. Our public discourse is marked by sound bites with, what often seem to be half-truths and uncompromising views of our secular world. Our views and efforts all too often have become polarized. At the same time our moral sense seems in many cases to be increasingly influenced by the current social fashion. The world as we find it today has left many people of faith asking questions as to the relevance of the Church in today's world.

It is because of the great competition for people's attention that the Church's mission is more important than ever. The challenge for the church is to find its voice and fulfill Christ's promise "I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Ideally, the Church should embrace the spirit of Christ, to make it live for us and, within our means, to bring that spirit to the widening circle of our community. At its best our Church should be a beacon in a troubled world, showing the love of Christ to all who enter its doors and also showing that light to the community around us. It should be a place where the weary find rest from the noise of the world, the lonely find community, the sad find comfort, and the troubled find peace.

From our questionnaire and congregational meetings, it's clear that we recognize the need to find a message that speaks to and attracts younger families to our fold. They are needed to bring renewed vitality and leadership for the continuation of our Church's work. The challenge in front of us is to find new ways to reach prospective new members of our Church. To be successful, we need to reach out in a way that provides for the spiritual growth of our own congregation.

In considering how best to guide our Church towards these goals, your mission study team has recounted the many blessings of our congregation as well as its needs. We have found much that is good. In searching for ways to strengthen the mission of our Church, it was a guiding principle that we should not do anything that would damage the positive ministries

now going on. Further, an important consideration has been that any suggestions must be within our resources and have a reasonable chance for success. The efforts should strengthen the spiritual growth of our congregation as well as those in our community.

As we considered various options, it has become clear that there is no one simple answer as to how best to further God's Kingdom here at Peekskill Presbyterian Church. It has become obvious that planning for the future is a building process. The programs adopted must be guided by scripture and continuously reviewed for their relevance and effectiveness. If the initial steps are successful, the Church will gain strength to continue to expand its service to our community. Therefore, the selection of the first steps to be taken is critical; they must succeed. It may seem trite but, success begets success. Our commitment to these early steps will affect both our ability to attract an appropriate pastor and will affect our congregation's faith in the future of our Church.

Important steps of renewal are already underway. We have successfully sponsored representation on a mission trip to New Orleans. A second mission trip to West Virginia is being planned and (at this writing) is nearly fully subscribed. Our children's Sunday School and confirmation classes are reestablished and growing. A new youth group has been formed in cooperation with other area Churches. Adult bible study groups are meeting regularly. Our Board of Deacon's has found new purpose and direction.

With recent increases in newly arrived immigrants, we see another opportunity to strengthen the circle of Christian faith in our community. We are actively seeking ways to reach these new members of our community, including perhaps some sort of mutual assistance with other newly formed congregations. We had two combined worship services in the last several months with Hispanic congregations as a way to increase our understanding of their community. Although the language barrier was challenging, and the form of worship was not as traditional as ours, it was refreshing and exciting to welcome these people to our Church. There was a clear sense of Christ's spirit being present. We plan to be watchful for other opportunities to reach out to all members of our community, including newcomers.

In considering steps that might be taken to continue the renewal of Christ's spirit at our Church, we have noted with considerable interest the success of our summer choir camp, our Christmas dinner and our roast beef dinner. Our Christmas dinner has become an annual tradition that has continued to grow. It is free and open to all in our community. Several seatings of dinner are served in our social hall on Christmas day and numerous meals are delivered to shut-ins. A total of approximately 400 dinners were served on Christmas 2009.

Our roast beef dinner and summer choir camp are offered to the community by our Church for a nominal charge to cover material costs. The most interesting part of these efforts is the fact that the work is done by people within our congregation as well as by volunteers from other congregations and elsewhere in the community. The people who have helped with these events have uniformly found them to be rewarding to themselves as well as to the people served.

We believe there is a clue in the success of these events. This leads us to what we think should be viewed as another important step in our efforts of renewal. We believe that a monthly, potluck dinner with family (including children) and friends is doable within our people resources. If properly promoted in the community, such a regular dinner has the possibility of capturing a spirit similar to the annual events now sponsored. The dinner will, of course, also enhance the fellowship of our congregation. However, to advance our best hopes, we must work as hosts to the guests who join us. The dinner should be viewed as an out-reach effort.

The program can be varied to suit the needs of our congregation and community. We might have a game night, a music night, a square-dance; we might invite an immigrant congregation to share potluck and music, perhaps a song fest. The program possibilities are limited only by our imaginations. The important thing is to see the effort as a service to families both in our Church as well as those of our guests. We see ourselves as hosts looking to show the love of Christ to those who attend. The dinner could become a billboard reflecting the service and good will of our Church by developing each program around a low key, scripture lesson. A token gift given to each guest would remind them of who we are and of the scriptural theme of the evening. A program of this kind will prove to be of value to our own people who prepare and serve the dinner as well as to those who join us.

An important element in the success of our proposed monthly potluck dinners will lie in how imaginative we can be in varying the program to attract support as well as how well it is promoted. These responsibilities should be assigned to an appropriate mission in the Church. That same mission should monitor the successes (or failures) of the program and make adjustments as needed to keep the program fresh and relevant. With success, and as resources are gathered, we could then move to a broader service agenda. Ultimately, we would hope to enlarge the Church school, with expanded Bible studies for young and old. We might also find additional opportunities to be of service to our community, perhaps through seminars (using our congregation's considerable life experience) on sewing, nutrition and prayer. We talked of establishing a young mother's morning gathering, a couple of times a week, to relieve the isolation they often feel in the continuous care of very young children. Again, the possibilities are limited only by our imaginations.

We should make a stronger effort to publicize the offerings of our Church. We recently prepared an updated website. Within a short time we were pleasantly surprised when a recent visitor, who found us on our website, sent us an E-mail as follows:

"I wanted to thank you and your congregation for such a warm welcome yesterday. I haven't felt at home in a church other than my own in a long time, so yesterday provided me with some much needed spiritual nourishment and comfort. The service was wonderful and the message meaningful; God was truly in our midst. I will endeavor to recognize and live into that divine "nevertheless" in my own journey with

**Christ! Thank you again, and hopefully I'll see you again next week.**

**Blessings and peace to you from our Risen Savior,"**

**We find new wisdom in the instruction that we should put our light on a stand so that all in the room may see it. We believe that the faith and Christian fellowship of our congregation has been kept "under a bushel" too long.**

**One of the questions that remains less than fully answered is the question of relevance of our Church offering to the diverse community in which we find ourselves. The mission study team is unanimous in the view that Christ's message is more needed today than ever. We also believe from our conversations that there is a widespread desire for greater understanding of the role of the Christian faith in finding a more meaningful life. We believe that this search for relevance is un-ending and that our Church leadership should periodically re-establish a study team to rethink the relevance of our Church program as our community changes.**

### **Desirable Qualities of New Pastor:**

**The pastoral needs of our congregation, like most, are many and challenging.**

- \* We have need for a pastor to minister to the spiritual needs of our congregation. Our congregation, as it stands, would be best described as traditional. We have many professional people and an aging membership. We appreciate substantive sermons and pastoral care that lead us towards a better understanding of God's Grace.**
- \* We need assistance in reaching out in service to our increasingly diverse Community. As has been shown by the demographic data in this study, the Peekskill community has changed radically in the last decade or so. We have a large and growing immigrant population. We have a substantial, outlying suburban population. The suburban population has been an important source of membership in past years. Careful thought needs to be given to the spiritual needs of each group.**
- \* We have need for someone skilled in administration to guide the Church's day to day business. Perhaps the most important skill needed here is an understanding of people and an ability to lead and reconcile diverse points of view within the many committees and ministries of our Church.**

As mentioned earlier, our current congregation might be best described as traditional. Our most important need is to reach younger families within our community, to bring Christ's message to them and to provide for the future of the Church. We need a pastor who can put Christ's message in language that is understood by our older members as well as by the younger people we need to reach.

The beginning point for our journey of renewal, of necessity, begins with our existing congregation. Our older members have had extensive life experience. We have seen a lifetime of wars, of social and political strife, of personal success and failures in family and work; we have seen our best efforts spent foolishly or wasted. We are no longer innocent! Our souls at best are vintage wine and at worst, are dry and parched.

Despite the bruises of life, we come to Church to hear God's promise of hope and redemption. We have come to realize that the road to salvation is a personal journey; a journey of renewal, a journey of reconciliation between ourselves and our neighbors, and between ourselves and God. We need a pastor that understands the seasons of life, young and old, and realizes that we are all God's children and worthy of receiving God's grace.

We can all be guided by the Word, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

### **Conclusions:**

We offer the following conclusions from our study for the consideration of our Church leadership. Although it may seem that some of these conclusions go without saying, we believe that they should, nonetheless, be kept in front of us.

- 1) Witnessing to the Truths shown to us by our Lord is the central mission of our Church. The truth of Psalm 127:1 must guide our efforts for renewal. It is; "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."
- 2) A successful renewal effort must serve the spiritual growth of our congregation as well as reaching out to our larger community.
- 3) Our efforts towards renewal are on-going and the proposal to begin a program of monthly potluck dinners open to all, is intended as a catalyst and first step. It has been chosen because it is within our capability and has the demonstrated possibility of enhancing the fellowship and spiritual growth of our congregation as well as reaching out to our larger community.
- 4) Programs offered within our monthly dinners should be aimed at service to our larger community with particular attention given to the needs of younger families. The dinner

programs offered should be designed to serve our current members as well as the increasing diversity of our community.

5) Keeping in mind the need for our dinner programs to be meaningful to our larger community, we suggest the formation of a ministry committee charged with the responsibility of finding and suggesting program possibilities for the monthly dinners. This committee should also be charged with evaluating the successes and failures of the programs offered.

6) Greater attention should be given to our public information (advertising) effort. Development and up-dating of our website has already begun and is producing results. This seems to be an effective tool for getting information out to our larger community and thought should be given to ways of promoting even more traffic to the website.

7) Finally, because of the constantly changing nature of our community, we believe that the Church leadership should periodically (perhaps every 5-10 years) reestablish a study team to evaluate the relevance of our Church's overall program as our community has evolved. The message of Christ is timeless and we need to find ways to express that message in language that resonates with the peoples' concerns at the time.

Respectfully submitted by your mission study team.

Autumn Mathisen-Edoff  
Brenda Martinez  
Fred Froebrich  
Linda Buckiewicz  
Roger Sparling

Lynne Nayman  
Terry Rooms  
Rick Cerreta  
Warren Button

**Appendix A**  
**Financial Summary**

**Balance Sheet : (12/31/09)**

**Assets:**

<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank Accounts (Checking & Savings)	\$ 321,455	
Investments (Restricted)	<u>220,361</u>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>\$541,816</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Buildings & Improvements	61,035	
Equipment	12,115	
Reserve for Depreciation	<u>( 7,079)</u>	
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<u><b>66,071</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$607,887</b> =====

**Liabilities:**

<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>\$ 1,681</b>
<b>Equity</b>		<u><b>606,206</b></u>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>		<b>607,887</b> =====

**Projected Income  
(2010)**

Offerings	\$146,956	
Thrift Shop	10,820	
Investment Income	12,139	
Building Rental	97,335	
Property Fund	<u>3,190</u>	
<b>Total Projected Income</b>		<b>\$270,440</b> =====

**Financial Summary  
(Continued)**

**Projected Expenses**

<b>General Administration</b>	<b>\$ 35,074</b>	
<b>Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>158,218</b>	
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>17,134</b>	
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>34,215</b>	
<b>Mission, Christian Ed., Congregational Life</b>	<b>14,500</b>	
<b>Special Offering Expenditures</b>	<b>12,000</b>	
<b>Taxes &amp; Misc.</b>	<b><u>11,365</u></b>	
<b>Total Projected Expenses</b>		<b>\$282,506</b> <b>=====</b>

