

## **CANDIDATES COMMITTEE**

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" -- Isaiah 6:8*

The Candidates Committee seeks to provide support, nurture, and communication among those who are under care as inquirers or candidates and to assist the Session in fostering its relationship to those members of the congregation who are pursuing ordination as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. Members of Session who are acting as liaisons to inquirers and candidates serve on the committee. In addition, this year a Deacon representative joined the group.

As part of its mission, the committee sponsors educational/fellowship gatherings for those under care, with a dual purpose of furthering their preparation for ministry and providing an opportunity for fellowship with other members of the congregation. On May 13, we presented a program on Music in Worship, with Dr. Entriken and Faye Timmer as speakers. Members of the Deacons and Membership Committee were also invited. The committee also met as needed for status updates, and meets on January 20 with inquirer Jane Duffield as she prepares to move toward Candidate status.

In May, Mary O'Hara Smith and Edee Chase Fenimore accompanied Kellie Anderson-Picallo as she appeared before CPM and was certified ready for a call. In October, Patricia Nunez accompanied Diane Ford as she appeared before CPM to advance to Candidate status. In November, Mary Smith accompanied Alison Geiger as she appeared before CPM and was certified ready for a call.

Members under care are progressing on their journeys toward ordination. Inquirer Jane Duffield is applying for Candidate status in January 2010; Diane Ford is currently a candidate; Kellie Anderson-Picallo, Alison Geiger, and Letitia Campbell have been certified ready for a call. Hwa Ryu and Lindsay Borden were ordained in 2009 and are serving, respectively, Union Presbyterian Church in Schenectady and First Presbyterian Church of Wappingers Falls, Wappingers Falls, NY. We have not taken any new members under care during 2009.

My thanks to the committee members for their participation in the important task of nurturing and supporting our members under care. The intelligence, energy, and dedication of our candidates and the range of life experiences they bring to the task are awe-inspiring and humbling, and they are deserving of the best support we can provide.

### **Members:**

Rev. Barbara Davis (staff liaison)

Patricia Nunez

Ryan Tirre (Deacon representative)

Charlotte Wallace

**Submitted by:** Mary O'Hara Smith, Chair