

## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Annual Report 2009

The Worship Committee would like to express deep appreciation for the many persons who have facilitated “...*the publick worship of God in the Presbyterian Form in the City of New York*”. This committee seeks to offer a worship environment and experience that is meaningful and accessible to all.

This year, the committee has continued to focus on factors that would enhance the worship experience, and on creating new and innovative worship opportunities. Music continues to be integral to our worship, offering meditation, vocal and instrumental praise and an aesthetic whole from prelude to postlude. Our youth have been encouraged to take part in our service as ushers and leaders of the service on many occasions. Members actively participate as leaders, lay readers, cross bearers and ushers. We seek to establish an environment that is welcoming to all peoples, as our congregation includes many generations and families.

Through the dedicated leadership of our pastoral staff, the worship services at The First Presbyterian Church continued to be planned and shared in a variety of formats, offering many voices as worship leaders. Innovative and energizing Wednesday Worship services such as *The Blessing of the Animals*, *The Church of Today and Tomorrow: Youth Led Worship*, *Gospel Accounts of the Last Supper* among many others were explored while inciting ideas for next. The worship committee looks forward to the continued growth of these beautiful services and more.

Our worship services continue to attract newcomers, as the preaching, sacraments and music provide deeply meaningful experiences. In the future, this committee will continue to consider how First Presbyterian’s community might be further artistically engaged.

This committee would like to express appreciation for the following: the extraordinary leadership of our pastors and music staff at First Presbyterian; the communion set up team including Bonnie Hall and our dearly passed, Jeannette Johnson; Elders and Deacons who help prepare, serve and clean up Communion; Meg Harper for coordinating the cross bearers; Joan Ryan and Ellie Garlow for serving as head ushers; Denise Jackson for coordinating lay readers; Dean Greer for creating an artistic setting for summer worship; Lisa Polite and Mia Alvar for ongoing support; Tony Feliciano and his exceedingly capable staff, and K.C. Ptomey for guiding worship at First Presbyterian in Dr. Walton’s medical absence. We acknowledge with gratitude the many hands that have worked to make our worship exceptional.

Ingrid Ladendorf, Chair

**Worship Committee:** Barbara Brazong, Dr. William Entriken, Lucia Haring, Meg Harper, Ingrid Ladendorf, Rose Roberts, Rev. Dr. Jon Walton