

Congregational Support Plan
Annual Survey
Please PRINT or TYPE your responses

Congregation Name: **Christ Church**

Location: **222 Old Post Road, Marlboro, NY 12528-0027**

Name of person completing this form: **T. Gerald Brooks**

Priest; Warden; Other: (check one)

Your phone number: **845-834-3474** Your e-mail address: jerrybrooks@episcopalmarlboro.org

WORSHIP

The following group of questions is intended to give us a feel for your congregation's weekly worship experience.

- What is the time of your Sunday service(s) **9:30 a.m. (A Saturday 5 p.m. service will begin in Lent 2006)**
- What is the comfortable seating capacity of your church **90-100**
- What was your attendance in 2005 for Easter **92** Christmas Eve **92 (yes, both the same)**
- How is your offer church music accompanied (check all appropriate answers): Organ **X**; Piano **X**; Recorded music ____; Paid organist (pianist) **X**; Volunteer organist (pianist) ____
Contemporary music provided by **Three guitars, harmonica, and keyboard**
- Do you have a choir (check the appropriate answer): Every Sunday ____; On special occasions, only **X**; No choir ____; Other music leaders ____; No music leaders ____
- Who usually assists the priest in the service (check all appropriate answers) A Deacon ____; Lay Eucharistic Ministers **X**; Acolytes **X**. Are your acolytes: adults ____; Young persons ____; Some of each **X**?
- Is your church heated comfortably during the winter months: Yes **X** No _____. Is it air conditioned in the summer: Yes ____ No **X (however, ductless A/C to be installed this spring)**
- Do Sunday school children join the congregation for Holy Eucharist: Yes **X** No ____.
- Are services conducted in English **X**; Spanish ____; French ____; Another language ____ (check all appropriate answers)?
- Does your sanctuary show any structural problems, such as leaky roof, water damage; broken or missing windows, sloping floor, stress fractures in walls; falling plaster? Yes ____ No **X** If you answered "Yes," indicate what structural problems exist. **Time for a coat of fresh paint!**

MISSION

- Which of the following outreach programs occur at your church (check all appropriate answers)?
Soup kitchen ____; Food pantry **X***; Midnight run to deliver food and clothing to the homeless ____; Organized visits to hospitals, nursing homes or shut-ins **X**; Fund raising for charities **X**; English as a second language classes ____; Day care (or after school care) ____; Other **X** (please list)
***We contribute monthly to a regional pantry.**

- Please list the programs you support with volunteers, but occur off your premises:

- How many parishioners contribute their time regularly to outreach done through or at your church (check the appropriate answer): Less than 10 **X**; 10 to 20 ____; More than 20 _____.
- Does the congregation expect to start any new outreach ministries during 2006? Yes **X** No ____
Please describe **Support a family for Christmas.**

NURTURING

The following group of questions is intended to acquaint us with your Christian education, membership development, stewardship and leadership development programs.

- Do you have a Sunday school for young people: Yes **X** No ____.
- What is the average Sunday attendance of your church school (check the appropriate answer): Less than 10 **X**; 10 to 20 ____; more than 20 _____.
- Do you often experience Sundays when church school attendance is less than 5: Yes **X** No ____
- Are Sunday school pupils grouped by age in separate classes: Yes ____ No **X**. If “Yes,” how many classes are there (check the appropriate answer): fewer than 3 classes ____; 3 classes ____; more than 3 classes _____.
- Does each class have its separate classroom? Yes ____; No _____
- Do you have a youth choir? Yes **X**; No ____ **Children’s handbell ringers**
- Do you have a teen program? Yes ____; No **X (But it’s about to happen: J2A)**
- Do you have an ECW ____; a men’s club ____; an altar guild **X**; or any other group or guild ____ (check the appropriate answers)
- Have you had a confirmation class with each Episcopal Visitation in the past 6 years? Yes **X (right now)**; No _____
- Do you have an adult education program: Yes **X** No _____. If “Yes,” how often will the program meet in 2005 (check the appropriate answer): Less than 5 ____; 5 to 10 **X**; more than 10 _____
- Do you have a special Lenten program: Yes ____ No **X**. Give a brief description of your program:
- In 2005 did members of your congregation (clergy or laity) attend any educational programs, leadership conferences, congregational development programs offered by the diocese: Yes **X** No _____
- If “Yes,” how many sessions were attended (the number of attendees multiplied by the number of events; check appropriate answer): Less than 3 ____; 4 to 8 ____; more than 8 **X**.
- Do you have a stewardship committee: Yes **The vestry is it.** No _____. If yes, how many members? _____

- In 2005, were any of the following part of the stewardship program: (a) an all member stewardship canvas: Yes No ___; (b) **Congregational meeting** Yes No ___; (c) letters to the congregation Yes No ___; Pledge cards Yes No ___; Stewardship articles in the newsletter or Sunday bulletin Yes No ___; Personal statements about stewardship Yes No ___.
- Are new members asked to pledge in their first year: Yes No ___.
- In your stewardship program, was the congregation given guidance on “proportionate giving:” Yes No ___.
- Is proportionate giving an important part of your steward program: Yes No ___
- Did you begin, conduct, or complete a capital campaign in 2005? Yes ___; No . If yes, what was the purpose of the campaign? _____
- Did you use a professional firm to assist with the campaign? Yes ___; No ___. If yes, which one? _____.
- Do you have a membership committee: Yes ___ No
- Are greeters designated to welcome new comers at Sunday services: Yes No ___
- Do you have a regular coffee hour after Sunday services: Yes No ___ Are greeters designated to introduce newcomers during coffee hour: Yes ___ No
- Are visitors added to your church mailing list? Yes ; No ___
- Do you hold dinners or other fellowship events at your church? Yes No ___ If yes, where? **Parish hall** How many are you able to seat comfortably in that location for dinner? 1-25 ___; 25-60 ; More than 60 ___
- Are there term limits for members of your vestry or advisory board? If yes, what are the limits? **Two years for wardens, three years for vestry members.**
- Did anyone join one of the following committees or perform one of the following ministries for the first time in your church (check all appropriate answers)? Volunteers ; Sunday school teachers ; regulars on Sunday morning ; nominating committee ; Vestry ; Lay Reader or

If there anything else you wish to tell the CSP Committee about your church related to the above subjects? Please use the space below to add this to the survey. Thank you for your help.

(Two pages follow.)

Asset-Based Planning: Fall 2005 all-parish meetings

In September, October, and November we held what we called “Mini-Annual Meetings.” Each meeting lasted no more than 20–30 minutes. Potluck lunch was served at each occasion. A technique called “asset-based programming,” picked up at last summer’s Small Church Leadership Institute, was used. In thinking about programming, it starts from “what you’ve got” rather than starting from an “ideal” model that may or may not be possible.

September: Identifying parish and personal assets

At our first meeting, in September, we spent 30 minutes and identified Christ Church’s assets—and our individual assets, talents, and skills.

The parish's assets...	Our personal assets...	
The parish's assets	Our personal assets	Building and grounds
Beautiful church	Musical	work
Church be3ll	Cleaning	Licensed eucharistic
Openness of people	Working with children	minister
Rectory	Reader	Good voice
Great location	Serve at altar	Good cook
Beautiful windows	Writing and reading	Patriotic
Historic cemetery	Play guitar	Love the church
Good priest	Handyman	Enjoy people
Large lawn	Willing	Creator of programs
Parish hall	Teacher	Meeting skills
Good kitchen	Love kids	Martial arts skills
Pots and pans	Love outdoors	Management skills
Computer	Have the “desire”	Organizational skills
Advertising in place	Like to entertain	Love gardening
Great music	Sense of humor	
Rental property	Good listener	
Informality	Sports enthusiast	

October: Identifying community needs

At the next meeting, we added two more columns to the list: parish needs and community needs (below). We then had listings of assets to match up with needs—something to look at as we move into 2006.

The parish's assets...	Our personal assets...	Our parish needs	Our community's needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parish's assets • Beautiful church • Church be3ll • Openness of people • Rectory • Great location • Beautiful windows • Historic cemetery • Good priest • Large lawn • Parish hall • Good kitchen • Pots and pans • Computer • Advertising in place • Great music • Rental property • Informality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our personal assets • Musical • Cleaning • Working with children • Reader • Serve at altar • Writing and reading • Play guitar • Handyman • Willing • Teacher • Love kids • Love outdoors • Have the “desire” • Like to entertain • Sense of humor • Good listener • Sports enthusiast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and grounds work • Licensed eucharistic minister • Good voice • Good cook • Patriotic • Love the church • Enjoy people • Creator of programs • Meeting skills • Martial arts skills • Management skills • Organizational skills • Love gardening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something for older children • Involvement of all • Choir - adult and children • Love! • Maintenance work • Adult bible study • Air conditioning • Roof • Bee removal • Sunday school volunteers • Better communication among members • Commitment by everyone • Confirmation with another church • More members • Air conditioning • Advertising • Prayer chain
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babysitting – parents' night out • Recreation and cultural space • Interfaith service • Involvement in community services • Friday night “funday”

November: Matching assets with needs

At our third "Mini Annual Meeting" we linked items from List A (our assets) with items from List B (member and community needs). A huge number of connections surfaced. In the last few minutes of the meeting, a number of suggested programs or activities were suggested—an initial list:

- Host a seasonal interfaith service
- Establish a "garden" committee.
- Leverage our historic setting (building and cemetery).
- Involve Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in community service at the Church.
- Organize "Friday fun days" - game nights for families.
- Host an interfaith snowman building event
- Start an adult education program - maybe a Lenten series?
- Host an outdoor concert on our grounds.
- "Grow" ice for ice skating.
- Do a pet-blessing Sunday
- Add a Saturday 5 p.m. mass

January: Plans for 2006

A number of programs are in planning stages, or being implemented:

- Youth programs
 - RITE-13 (6th-8th graders, or anyone turning 13 during the first two-year period)
 - Journey to Adulthood (JTA) (grades 9-10)
 - Young Adults in Church (YAC) (grades 11-12)
 - Saturday 5 p.m. service starting in Lent
- BibleBasics—Beta-test an introduction to the Hebrew and Christian scriptures being developed by The Rev. Michael Phillips
- Groundwork: Digging Deep for Change & Growth: A Lenten program
- Inquirers' course: *via media*
- Diocesan CAP Program—Professional assistance available for capital fundraising
 - Update three bathrooms and two kitchens
 - Replace nonstandard parish hall doors (bring up to code)
 - Update both entrances to the church
 - Replace parish hall floor
 - Refinish floors in the church
 - Bring the sacristy up to date

Jerry Brooks
January 30, 2006 9:02 pm