

# FOCUS Churches of Albany

## Annual Meeting February 1, 2009

**Now that our anniversary year is behind us**, this is an opportunity to look forward to the future. We have done well in our service, advocacy, and ecumenical connections. 2008 has seen us grow in service and in our living the Word. However, the uncertainty of our economy, our future as a country, and our own personal lives looms large in front of us. Nevertheless, we have the certainty of our faith and assurances that God walks with us. This is a bold claim for any one of us, bolder for each of our churches, and even bolder perhaps as FOCUS. Yet we hold this truth to be so important to us: God through Jesus is the author and perfecter of our faith. It is with this strength that we go forward into 2009. God will call us to be open to the new, the improbable, and the holy. Joyfully we walk toward that call together!

Tony Malone  
President, FOCUS Executive Council



*FOCUS Executive Council meets for prayer, sharing, planning, and visioning on annual retreat at Sisters of St. Joseph Corondelet Hospitality Center.*

### FOCUS Sets Priorities and Initiatives for 2009

- *Worship Experiences*
- *Communications*
- *Training a New Generation*
- *Summer Experiences for Kids*
- *Community Building*
- *Working for Long-term Solutions to End Hunger*
- *Ecumenical and Interfaith—Membership Outreach*
- *Feeding Programs*

*FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry*

*FOCUS Winter Breakfast Program*

*FOCUS Extra Helpings Program*

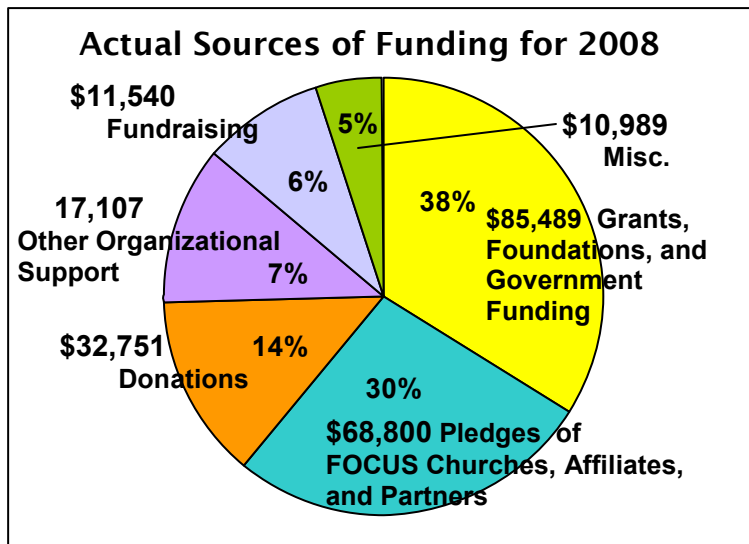
### FOCUS Executive Council Representatives and Covenant Congregations:

Tony Malone (President), Nancy Horan, Rev. Lois Wolff—Emmanuel Baptist; Irving Smith, Tara Lindsey, Rev. Glenn Leupold—First Presbyterian; Elmer Green (VP), Rev. Edward Smart—First Israel AME; Margaret Wieland, Richard MoneyMaker (Comptroller), Rev. Jeff Matthews—Trinity United Methodist; Allan Tedrow (Financial Secretary), Rev. Jim Reisner—Westminster Presbyterian

### FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry Affiliates:

Congregation Beth Emeth, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany, New Covenant Presbyterian, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**New Partners in Ministry:** Delmar Reformed Church and Delmar Methodist Church



Methodist. Also, infrastructure; DELL Computer; Hannay Reels; Troy Savings Bank Foundation; NYS Department of Health, Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP); NYS Operational Support (HPNAP); Stewart's Holiday Match; State Employee's Federated Appeal (SEFA); MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger; Legislative Member Item from Senator Neil Breslin; Feinstein Foundation; Walmart Foundation; Standish Family Foundation; FEMA; and the numerous individuals who support FOCUS through donations and fundraising events. (Names of individual contributors are listed in FOCUS newsletters.)

## FOCUS Adopts 2009 Budget, Cites Major Income Sources

FOCUS has adopted a 2009 budget totaling pledged and anticipated total income of \$234,874.

The budget supports all facets of FOCUS programming and relies on many sources of income.

Pledges from FOCUS Churches, totaling \$55,815, will continue to support the Community Minister position, outreach ministries, administration, and project activities. Other income for these uses will come from fundraising and other contributions. They are projected to provide \$55,195, with a total for the core budget of \$ 111,010.

Food Pantry operation will require \$104,838. That support will come from affiliate faith communities, donations from FOCUS churches, individuals, groups, grants, and a direct contract with NYS Department of Health.

Winter Breakfast operation will spend \$19,026. Its support will come from extra donations from FOCUS churches, individuals, groups, grants, and government funding.

## "In-kind" Gifts and Volunteer Hours Boost Value of FOCUS Contributions

*Editor's Note: In addition to contributions of money, FOCUS receives many "in-kind" contributions of goods and services, as well as thousands of volunteer hours. Below are approximations of the monetary value of goods and services and of the number of volunteer hours contributed.*

### Executive

Office space — Emmanuel Baptist Church — \$7,864  
 Extra Helpings space — First Presbyterian — \$707  
 School Supply donations — \$5,000  
 Volunteer time — 2,675 hours

### Pantry

USDA Commodities — \$17,273  
 Donated food and personal care items — \$11,000  
 Food Pantries of the CD, food certificates — \$1,450  
 Food Pantries of the CD, food supplement — \$8,800  
 Volunteer time — 4,719 hours

### Breakfast

Winter Space — Westminster Presbyterian — \$3,058  
 HPNAP Food Grant — \$1,180  
 USDA Commodities — \$1,844  
 Volunteer time — 2,304 hours

## Grants, Gifts, Contributions Support FOCUS Ministries

FOCUS is grateful for and blessed with continued volunteer and financial support from a variety of individuals, congregations, businesses, and foundations. They include Emmanuel Baptist, First Israel AME, First Presbyterian, Trinity United Methodist, Westminster Presbyterian, Congregation Beth Emeth, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany, New Covenant Presbyterian, St. Andrew's Episcopal, Delmar Reformed Church and Delmar United

