

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Parish Profile ■ January, 2016



What We Seek in Our Leadership

As we gather together for services in the warmth of our historic church home, we celebrate the presence of God in a joyful and loving environment. Parishioners of Emmanuel Church enjoy the strength of strong relationships that come from working together — through our ministries, caretaking of our elders, and our social events.

We are seeking a priest who has the experience and confidence to partner with our active, diverse congregation. We desire a sacramental presence, pastoral support, and a shepherd willing to help us strengthen our flock and grow our presence in the Wood River Valley community. We are looking for a partner in discipleship, with sound interpersonal skills who will encourage and help us to recognize and use our inherent strengths and skills to do God's work.

Table of Contents

3	Welcome to Emmanuel Church Our Mission
4	The Community Wood River Valley History City of Hailey
5	Neighborhood Walk
6	Who We Are Church History Clergy History
7	Parish Population
8	Parish Structure Emmanuel's Relationship with Hailey Stained Glass Windows
9	Parish Treasures Legacy Tea
10	How We Worship Sunday Ministries Music
11	Fellowship Parish Life Committee Education Outreach Thrift Store
12	Community Meditation-Prayer Garden Scholarship Fund Haiti Micah Project Highway Cleanup
13	Strengths / Challenges
14	Financial Stewardship

Welcome to Emmanuel Church

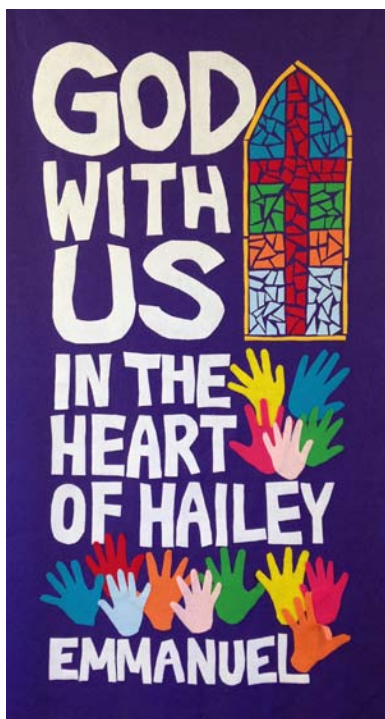
“God with us” in the heart of Hailey

Welcome to the community of Emmanuel Episcopal Church at this time of renewal and transformation. We are prayerfully preparing to call a new leader who will walk with us on our journey into an exciting future as we seek new ways of serving God.

For over 125 years, people have gathered in the heart of Hailey at Emmanuel Episcopal Church to give thanks to God and celebrate the blessings of Christian community.

Today, young and old, newcomers and long-time members are all part of the caring family of Emmanuel Church.

Wherever one is on the journey of faith and life, all are invited to join us and find a welcoming spiritual home.



Our Mission

Share the story, share the journey, share the joy

We share the story of God's love by loving, we share the journey by linking our hands with those who want to find the way to God, we share the joy in our laughter and our spirit of thankfulness for the abundant life we find here at Emmanuel.

We are a people of faith, trusting in God's guidance and grace as we engage in God's work in the Wood River Valley.

The Community

Wood River Valley History

From prehistoric times, the Wood River Valley was inhabited by Native Americans. Fur trappers roamed the inter-mountain Rockies in the early 1800s. Settlers and miners, however, did not come to the area until about 1879. The first shipment of ore left Hailey in 1881. That same year the town was surveyed and platted by John Hailey and others. When fire swept the main street of Hailey in 1883, the population was about 2,700, including the many Chinese who came to work the mines. Mining was later replaced by the growing demand for sheep and wool. In 1929, sheep outnumbered Idahoans seven to one. Hundreds from the Basque Country immigrated to the United States to work the sheep and related trades. Today the Basque of Idaho are mostly located in the cities (like Boise). Peruvians now have taken over the historical role of sheep herders and this legacy is seen in the annual celebration called the “Trailing of the Sheep.”



Father Kenneth Brannon and Bishop Brian Thom blessing the sheep at the Trailing of the Sheep Parade in Ketchum.

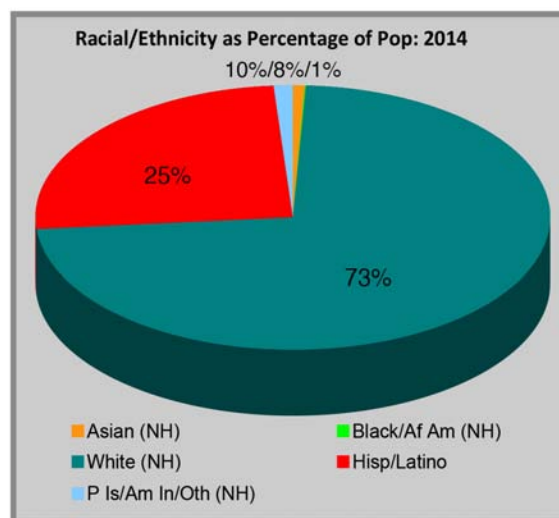
Averell Harriman, Chairman of the Board for UP Railroad, was looking for a way to develop industry and passenger travel in the West. He had also visited ski resorts in Europe and was searching for a place where the snow is powder, the sun shines and there is no harsh wind. The Sun Valley Resort opened in December 1936 and the development of world-class skiing on Bald Mountain followed in 1939. The resort, 12 miles north of Hailey is home to politicians, movies and movie stars. In addition to skiing, the area has miles of hiking trails, excellent fishing and golf. Sun Valley continues to attract seasonal and full-time residents to this area.

City of Hailey

Hailey, located in Blaine County, is in the heart of the central Idaho Rockies. The city lies in the midst of the lovely Wood River Valley.

One of the fastest growing towns in Idaho, the population of Hailey is about 8,000. However, Emmanuel Church draws from a population of 11,500, which includes the city of Bellevue, three miles to the south, and County residents. Unemployment rate is low at 4.6%. Future job growth is predicted to be 29.68%, due to recovery from the recession, growth of tourism, construction, increased commuter traffic with more accessible air travel, and independent start-ups (Sperling's Best Places to live).

The median age of the population is 39.2 years, 63% of those are married, 79% are white, and 25% Hispanic. The median household income is \$70,505. Schools: Hailey citizens spend more than twice the U.S. average per pupil.



However, with high employment and income, the cost of living is about 10% higher than the national average — due largely to housing costs. The median house costs about \$250,000. And, about 60% of the students in the Blaine County School district are expected to qualify for free/reduced lunches according to the local Hunger Coalition. 28.5% of the people in Hailey say they are religious, meaning they affiliate with a religion. Of those, 2.77% say they are Episcopalians (the figure for Idaho is reported as 51% say they are religious, with .38% Episcopalian).

More information about the city of Hailey can be found at this website:
www.city-data.com/city/Hailey-Idaho.html#b

Neighborhood Walk

Dividing Hailey into nine areas, our church members walked in pairs to make observations and address questions about Hailey's neighborhoods. Among the things they observed were a variety of single family and multiple family condominiums and apartments, a mix of residential and business, and homes built as early as the 1890's, mingled with more recent homes. They observed a minority of Latino families amid largely Caucasian neighborhoods.



Birthplace of Ezra Pound. This residence is typical of many homes in the neighborhood of Emmanuel Church.

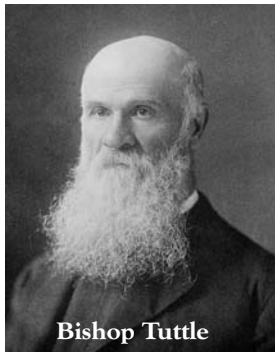
In walking the neighborhoods, the economic discrepancies were quite evident. Due to the high cost of living, those who are the essential workers have difficulty finding affordable housing and providing for their families.

Hailey enjoys many neighborhood parks and most neighborhoods are relatively close to the downtown area, easily accessible by foot, bike and vehicle. In addition, a local bus service provides convenient transportation throughout the Wood River Valley.

During the week most neighborhoods were quiet; however, recreational activities were in evidence by the number of campers, trailers and sports equipment in driveways and garages.

Who We Are

Church History



Bishop Tuttle

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is the oldest church building in Hailey and the oldest Episcopal church still in use in the Diocese of Idaho. Only four years after the founding of the city of Hailey, Emmanuel was built on the corner of Second and Bullion Streets. The cornerstone was laid in July, 1885 with Bishop Daniel Sylvester Tuttle in attendance. Earlier services were held in 1883 in the Hailey Theater by the Rev. I.T. Osborn.

Emmanuel grew in size with the addition of the Parish Hall. Plans were in place in 2004 and the hall was completed in 2006. The historic “little red building” on First Avenue became the Thrift Store for Emmanuel in the mid-1960’s.

Clergy History

From 1883-2014 there are 34 names of clergy who participated in some way, for some length of time at Emmanuel. The most recent priest, the Reverend Shawn Carty, served for nine years — the second longest term. Many men faithfully served the parish as priest in the early years, often along with two or three other parishes in central Idaho.

The Reverend Jennifer Anttonen was welcomed to Emmanuel in 1998 as our first full-time rector. With her energy and guidance, we started programs for children, the choir, a formal Pastoral Care

Committee, and many fellowship events. She was instrumental in forming the plans for the Parish Hall. Some of our members became uncomfortable with what they perceived as rapid change, and the parish became conflicted. Clergy and lay leadership were unable to bridge the gap and resolve their differences. Jennifer left in 2003.

When the Reverend Shawn Carty arrived at Emmanuel (2005) he focused on building the youth programs and music. The Sacred Harp singing group was started and was open to the community. Shawn participated in community groups such as Rotary, Interfaith Coalition of Idaho and the Blaine County Community Drug Coalition, and Emmanuel became more visible in the community. Unfortunately, clergy and lay leadership again developed a conflicted relationship. In the spring of 2014 Shawn was called to a new parish in New Jersey.

The current lay leadership has learned and grown from those experiences of the past 17 years, and has worked on conflict resolution skills, values transparency, and strives for clear and constant communication.



Emmanuel circa late 1800's, with stockyard behind the church.

Parish Population

More than 65% of active parishoners are over 50 years of age. The core group is about 50 people and our average Sunday attendance for 2014 was 24.

For 2016, Emmanuel has approximately 31 pledging households and 60 individual members. More than half live within a one-mile radius of the church. There are some who regularly walk or bike to service, and three individuals live between 50-100 miles away.

Our story gathering revealed that parishioners value the special life-event services and holidays: weddings, funeral services, baptisms, Christmas and Easter services. The annual Palm Sunday march (with music) around the city is especially treasured. Members attend church picnics, and dinners and other social events in parish life.

The Emmanuel congregation participates in the life of the Diocese. Consistently, there are delegates to convention, and representatives for the Idaho Episcopal Foundation. Members participate in Education for Ministry, attend Deanery meetings, and participate in Paradise Point Camp events, and one of our leaders has recently become Dean of the Central Deanery.

Older and younger members agree that personal relationships at Emmanuel have helped them through all the changes and challenging times. People at Emmanuel describe each other as caring, welcoming and friendly. While they do hope for growth in size, by contrast, they value their intimacy and closeness.

Emmanuel has seasonal members who attend services only in winter; others, only in the summer to escape the heat of other states. Some parishioners have a second home here in the Valley or in another city. Of course, there are friends who join us for Easter and Christmas services, or who contact the parish for a memorial service. Seasonal members have an important place in our ministries, and they happily return to the parish to participate in the life of our parish community.



Sunday school children bake bread for Eucharistic services.

Parish Structure

The elected Vestry has five members, plus the Senior and Junior Wardens. Vestry meets at least monthly. Each vestry member serves as Vestry on Duty on Sunday morning to keep worshippers aware of upcoming ministries and events. The annual meeting for Emmanuel congregation is in January of each year. There is a Worship chair, a volunteer Treasurer, the chair of Parish Life, and the Sunday School Coordinator. One vestry person is the liaison to the Thrift Store, and another arranges for the ministry schedule (usher, coffee hour, nursery, Altar Guild, etc.).

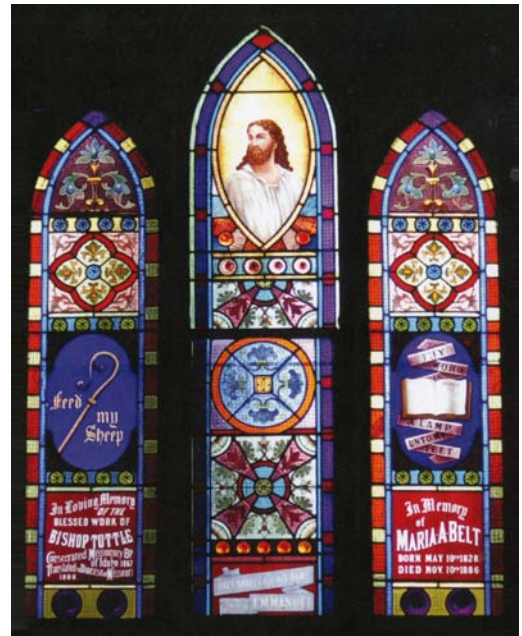
Paid positions include: the Parish Coordinator (who is also the clerk of the Vestry), Sunday organist, nursery helpers, interior cleaners, yard work, snow removal, and our CPA, who advises us.

Emmanuel's Relationship with Hailey

The newly constructed Community Meditation-Prayer Garden is a welcoming place for the entire population of the Wood River Valley. Emmanuel participates in many community events, i.e., the 4th of July Parade, Women's Bible Study and book discussions are open to the community. Our building is available to non-profit groups in our area.

Parish members are involved in every aspect of the community: City Council, The Senior Center, City Parks and Land Board, State of Idaho Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation, Art and Music, the Public Library, Souper Supper (free dinners), and youth activities, i.e., the Skate Board Park. Many members "adopt" neighbors who need help.

Emmanuel has a good relationship with St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Sun Valley). They share in a highway clean up day and members of Emmanuel attend workshops at St. Thomas. Our clergy have been part of the Interfaith Coalition of Valley Clergy, and Emmanuel seeks to foster those relationships.



The Stained Glass Windows

At the first service on Christmas Day, 1885, bleached muslin covered the spaces that would later be filled with stained glass memorial windows. There are 16 windows; some were installed as early as 1887. A project to restore all of these historic windows began in 2007. Restoring costs about \$8,000 per window and involves removal, shipping to the restorer, re-leading, making repairs and re-installing. The restoration has been embraced by the Hailey community as well as the parish.

We have received grants for the windows from the State Historical Society and Idaho Heritage Trust. Additional financial support from the community characterizes the high esteem for Emmanuel held by non-members.

Parish Treasures



Lois Heagle shown with the stained glass window, in honor of her mother.

Some of our elders are 3rd and 4th generation Hailey families. Lois Heagle's father, Lawrence Heagle, served in the Idaho State Legislature during the 1940s and as Hailey's mayor during the 1970s. There is a city park named for her family. Our oldest member is 96 and she just renewed her driver's license for another five years!



Gary and Laren Price were married at Emmanuel 53 years ago.

Legacy Tea

In honor of the long-time members of our parish, a Legacy Tea was held for six participants in January, 2015.

Guests were asked how they felt about all of the transitions that have transpired during their attendance at Emmanuel. The conversation alternated between past, present and future, and the following observations emerged:

Most of the participants saw a need for consistent Sunday School, Bible Study classes and Eucharist services twice a month. The need for pastoral care was voiced as a major concern, especially for hospital visits and funeral services.

All reported that Morning Prayer is most enjoyable and rewarding, with the variety of styles that our worship leaders present.

All of the participants commented on how very fortunate we are to have such excellent music at Emmanuel, and inferred that it is a joyful and important part of the weekly service — the musical expertise of Jim Watkinson on organ and the playful nature of the Accord Sisters and Strings.



Gary Price, Laren Price, Merle Phipps, Lois Heagle and Hermione Watkinson in attendance at the Legacy Tea.

How We Worship

Sunday Ministries

We have seven licensed worship leaders and two licensed preachers, as well as monthly supply priests from around the Diocese. Worship at Emmanuel is a joyful experience. Our ministry schedule is prepared quarterly and most of the members are involved on Sunday: altar, flowers, coffee hour, and with visiting supply clergy. There is a casual warm atmosphere in our worship and in our hospitality before and after service. Our worship is traditional, yet not restrictive. Coffee hour is an important time for fellowship after church.



Music



Music plays an important role at Emmanuel. We are blessed to have a brilliant organist for three Sundays a month. We have had a children's bell choir and in addition, five of our parishioners, "The Accord Sisters & Strings," play once a month with accordions, mandolin and guitar.

At Christmas there is a caroling party and the public is invited. The Accord Sisters and Strings also play for Women's Camp at Paradise Point. We have hosted Sacred Harp singing events as well.

Fellowship

Parish Life Committee

Parish Life Committee members are actively committed to supporting Emmanuel: bringing meals to parishioners if needed, providing rides to church and doctor's appointments, activating the prayer chain or just planning fun activities. This past year they hosted the annual parish picnic, co-hosted the Stewardship Pledge Sunday, sponsored the Christmas caroling evening, provided lunch after a funeral service, and held a special coffee hour for our graduating seniors.



Education

In a dedicated effort to increase our Sunday School population, our rooms are well stocked with teaching materials, and there are new teacher volunteers, as well as a new coordinator. A music teacher volunteers one Sunday a month.

Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday in a private home, and participants include women from other faiths.

Parishioners are encouraged to attend Education for Ministry classes.

Outreach

Thrift Store

It is the ministry of the Thrift Store to provide a safe and friendly place for everyone walking in its door. It also provides gently used items at lower prices. Thrift Store volunteers look for opportunities to give those in need warm clothes, work boots and a warm blanket, or household basics. A portion of store income is sent to Episcopal Relief and Development as international outreach from Emmanuel. And finally, the store supports Emmanuel financially in its functions and programs. The store is staffed by many volunteers, whose duties include counter sales, sorting donations, and general maintenance of the building.



The Thrift Store building was purchased in 1955. It was originally the Assay Office for mining operations and was erected in Hailey in 1885.

Community Meditation-Prayer Garden

Completed in 2015, the garden consists of a 15' x 40' stone courtyard with a large Celtic Cross mounted at one end. It offers the community a unique opportunity for spiritual inspiration, peace, and comfort in a garden setting. Designed to be available for the people of the Wood River Valley, the setting is large enough for community gatherings, small concerts, and is handicapped accessible.

Jim and Suzy Ferguson donated the cross in honor of Suzy's parents, Anne and Bill Janss. The Fergusons envisioned a place where people passing by could stop and visit, and spend a few peaceful moments in quiet contemplation.



The Emmanuel Church meditation garden completes the circle of life and death; it gives anyone passing by a place of rest, refuge, or simply a place to have lunch.

Scholarship Fund

Beginning in the spring of 2016, Emmanuel will be offering a scholarship to one high school graduate each year in the amount of over \$500. The intent is to select a student (preferably Episcopalian) who is not a recipient of other scholarships. There is a small change jar in the Thrift Store and in the church which also contributes to these funds.



The Haiti Micah Project

The Haiti Micah Project rescues the poorest of the poor from the streets and provides needed food, water, clothing, shelter, medical care, housing, and has saved hundreds of children from death and given hope to them.

In 2015, Emmanuel decided to sponsor one child for this project. Roseleine Altenor lives in the SAES Home and attends St. Pierre Ecole and is in the 9th grade.



Highway Cleanup

Twice a year, Emmanuel joins with St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Sun Valley) for a morning of highway cleanup and pizza.

Strengths

Interview responses from parish members repeatedly said the relationships at Emmanuel are what they value the most. Members are generally well educated, active people who are tolerant and value diversity. In the absence of a rector, parishioners have developed their ministry responsibilities. Our worship leaders and musicians are also outstanding.

The parish enjoys a good relationship with the Bishop and the Canon, and actively participates in Diocesan conventions, and trainings. We prepare reports on time and conscientiously.

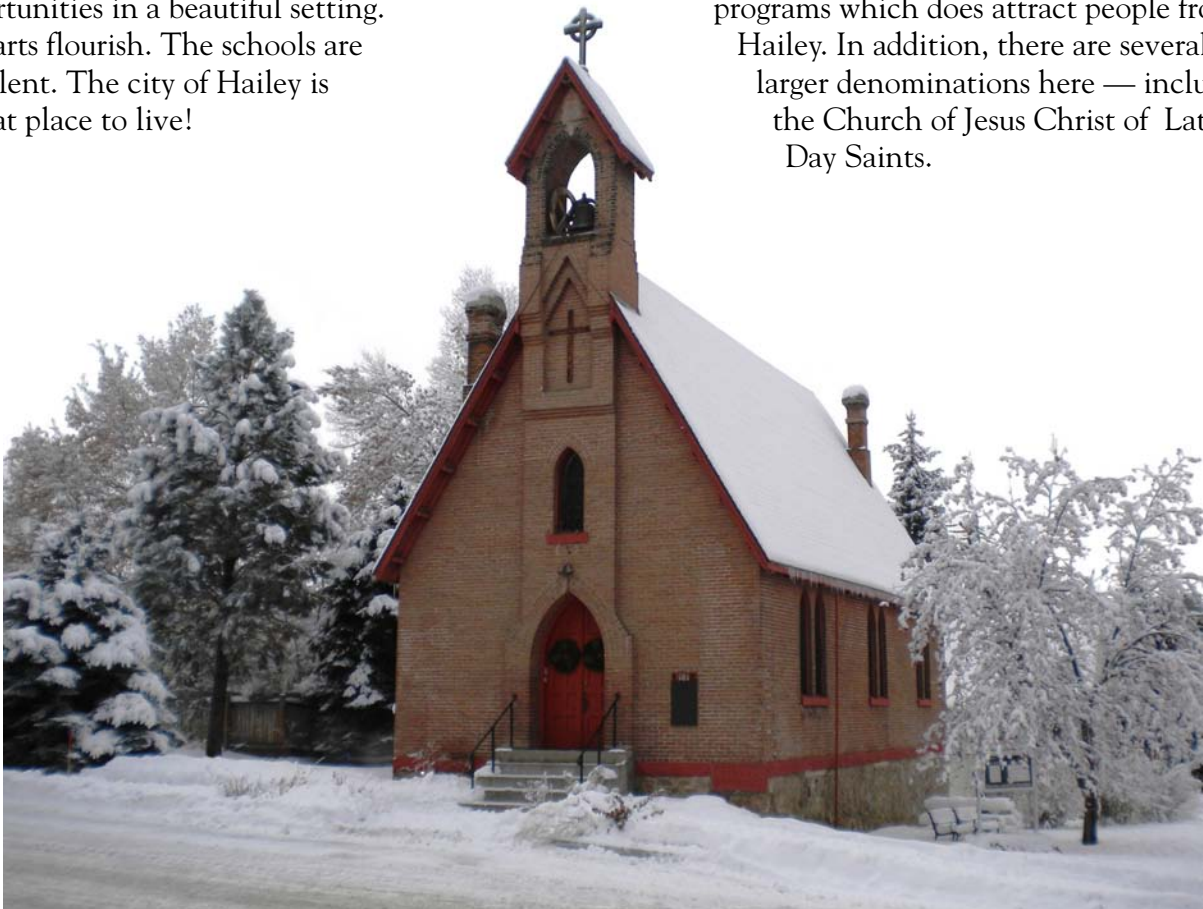
Emmanuel is highly thought of in Hailey, and collaborates with other churches. Our building is known for its beauty and is in an historic part of the city. The Wood River Valley has wonderful recreation opportunities in a beautiful setting. The arts flourish. The schools are excellent. The city of Hailey is a great place to live!

Challenges

Lost sheep: there are many people living in the area who previously attended Emmanuel. Several stopped coming for various reasons, including changing life circumstances, and have not yet returned. Some say they are waiting for a new priest.

Age: Nearly two thirds of Emmanuel Parish members are over 50 years of age. Yet the average age in Hailey is 37.02 years, and children aged 15-17 are declining as a percentage of the total population of Hailey. We have an aging population and Emmanuel does not have accessible entry for seniors/disabled people (Vestry is currently studying this issue and exploring all solutions).

Attendance: The nature of the Valley is recreational and seasonal. People who choose to live here are active; skiing, hiking, biking, golf, fishing — all compete with Sunday attendance. Emmanuel's Episcopal neighbor immediately to the north (St. Thomas Episcopal Church) offers more programs which does attract people from Hailey. In addition, there are several larger denominations here — including the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.



Financial Stewardship

Operating Pledge History

Year	# of Pledges	Amount Pledged	Amount Collected
2013	42	\$81,934	\$61,096
2014	41	\$61,004	\$56,914
2015	27	\$47,315	\$46,052

2015 Financials

Income

Pledge & Plate	\$59,310
Thrift Store	\$28,911
Other	\$397
TOTAL INCOME	\$88,618
Grants & Donations	\$49,855

Expenses

Assessment	\$19,670
Salaries	\$13,600
Maintenance	\$6,561
Administration	\$12,149
Thrift Store	\$1,195
Other	\$525
Total Expenses	\$53,700
Window Project	\$16,961

