



PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REPORT

A Year of Spiritual Renewal

The Rev. Daniel Green

2013 was the year of the Bible Challenge at St. John's. A small but significant number of our members completed all or part of the calendar of daily readings that steadily, systematically took participants through the entire canon (as defined by the Episcopal Church) of the Holy Scriptures. But I believe the spiritual influence of this undertaking on our congregation is belied by the mere fraction of members who did the reading. It certainly had a significant impact on me. For one thing, I decided to support the Bible Challenge by making biblical themes the focus of my adult teaching this year. Sunday mornings in the library we met to discuss books about the Bible that did not shy away from rigorous historical study of the text, but used scholarly discipline to gain profound insight into the meaning of the scriptures for our lives today. The combination of those classes with my daily chapters of scripture reading and the weekly study of the Lectionary texts that is part of my preaching responsibility made for a year of intellectual growth and spiritual fulfillment for me personally. I hope I was able to share these fruits in some measure with the congregation.

There are other signs that 2013 was a year of spiritual renewal at St. John's. To me the strongest measure of this is the growing number of our members participating as servant-leaders in our worship ministries. We added significantly to the ranks of Eucharistic Minis-

ters, Godly Play teachers, and Acolytes, and to the 10 a.m. NewSong Choir. We reorganized the leadership of the Altar Guild, so that it is now shared between three co-directors. We completed our first full year of the monthly Taizé service under a new leadership team, and that program draws a growing and enthusiastic following from within our Sunday congregation and beyond it. We began a new weekday program with three series of Wednesday morning Lectio divina meetings over the course of the year. Another sign and celebration of spiritual renewal was the six members who came before the Bishop on the first Sunday in January to publicly reaffirm their baptismal commitment in Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation.

While worship and prayer are the heart of our congregation, and the life-blood of its renewal, a further sign of strength is the newly-confident face we are presenting to the world. Our new logo, featuring a representation of our distinctive church tower, and the conceiving and planning of the upcoming St. John's Big Night Out fundraiser, contain an implied message of pride in our past, commitment to our identity, and confidence in our future. The completion of phase one of the Cram Hall renovation, the tree removals and other improvements to our streetscape, and the initial planning of future renovation, restoration, and preservation work on our sanctuary that we have done this year, are concrete steps toward reclaiming our historic profile as a center of spiritual culture and civic benevolence for the good of the whole Petaluma community.

We have done this as well by going out and being visible in that community,
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Vestry Candidates Statements Commissining of Vestry Members



Parishoners gather at coffee hour to create table centerpieces for the Committee on the Shelterless' (COTS) annual fundraising breakfast.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 seeking out the new leadership at COTS to offer partnership and support, presenting Taizé at the Petaluma Palooza Community Expo, and rallying and marching with other churches for immigration reform. More and more we see ourselves not simply as plucky survivors of the culture wars in the Episcopal Church, but as bearers of something of great and lasting value—the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which we seek to share with the world in an understated, generous, inclusive, caring, humane, playful, yet truly sincere and deeply-considered way of doing things that is uniquely our own.

As I look forward to 2014, I see us continuing and consolidating this spiritual renewal in various ways. First, I see us continuing to develop our discipline of prayerful encounter and investigation of the scriptures. Bishop Beisner has called us to renew the Bible Challenge, with a focus on the New Testament and on the practice of daily reading in the context of the Common Prayer tradition. I will be offering workshops on Praying the Daily Office and Praying with the Body to support this call. This will fit well with a year-long program of adult study series in which I and others will lead reading and discussion around the theme: Who is Jesus?

Second, the vestry has given us a congregational goal of experiencing harmony in our worship between the impulse to preserve and celebrate the richness and depth of our liturgical tradition, on the one hand, and, on the other, the desire to enliven our corporate prayer with the creative currents that are renewing the church around the world. The immediate vehicle for this work will be the formation of a new Worship Committee committed to sustaining a collaborative project of inquiry, experimentation, reflection, and discernment. This group will take a fresh look at what is going on with worship in the Episcopal Church more broadly and how St. John's can offer a variety of liturgical events that work together and separately to glorify God and bring Christ to life in our midst. We will look for suitable ways to share this process with the

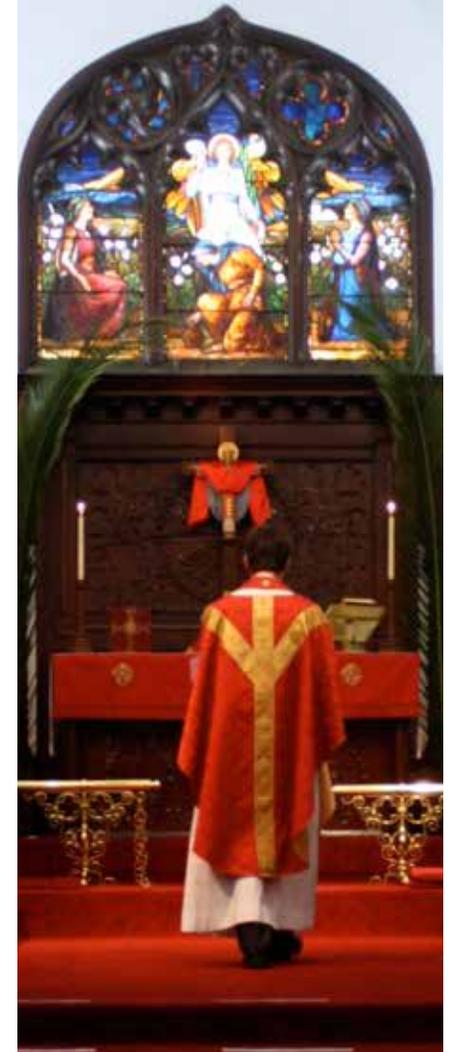
wider congregation, perhaps in the form of an offsite parish retreat weekend, later this year or, more likely, in 2015, that we hope will become an annual tradition.

Third, I see us continuing to look for ways to nourish our faith through dialogue and partnership with other faith communities and civic organizations. As Bishop Beisner put it so well when he was here on January 5th, our task is to join with the *Missio dei*, the mission of God in the world, where it is happening—out in the world beyond the doors of our church. That is what the final clause of our parish mission statement means when it says that we bring Christ to life by “serving the peace and renewal of the earth.” Strengthening relationships with the staff, board, and volunteers of groups like COTS, the Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative, the faith communities with whom we share the Interfaith Food Pantry, and others in Petaluma who are aligned with our mission, and building on the work we are already doing together, will help us understand more deeply the particular gifts that Christ has given us, and how to use them faithfully.

Finally, 2014 will be a year of remembering and giving thanks for how far we have come, in the last four years, as a partnership of priest and parish, and of clarifying our needs, hopes, and mutual requests for a renewed commitment to a shared future. As the term of my Letter of Agreement as Priest-in-Charge comes to an end, I look forward to opening the gift of loving, hopeful, and faithful discernment about my call to ordained ministry and the work that remains to be done here in Petaluma. I trust that you, as lay ministers of the gospel and stewards of the sacred mystery of St. John's Episcopal Church, will undertake your own discernment wisely and well, and will also be gifted in the process. It is an extraordinary privilege for all of us to be here together—I pray we remember this, honoring one another as we have been honored by God with the blessing of our call to belong to Christ, for the sake of those who are not here, whom we seek to know, to love, and to serve. ■

Parish Goals FOR 2014

- 1** Create a worshipping community that experiences harmony by honoring the depth and richness of Episcopal tradition and the best of contemporary currents in liturgy and music.
- 2** To move from Priest-in-Charge to Rector by January 2015.
- 3** To advance the mission of St. John's with effective communication that invites and empowers our congregation to lead and serve, and creates positive and accessible points of connection with the wider community.



BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT

Loaves and Fishes

Clif Hill

With one more coat of exterior paint where the outside door to the handicapped bathroom used to be, phase one of the Parish Hall upgrade will be complete. In 2012 the project began by refinishing the hardwood floors and painting the walls. Under Al Lockwood's leadership, we also started the effort to make Cram Hall accessible for everyone by getting a good start on converting a storage closet into a restroom that complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). But late in the year the prospects for completing the project weren't looking good. The Building Fund was almost completely depleted. And, we had yet to even begin work on getting handicapped access to the building.

SO WHAT HAPPENED IN 2013? Here's a summary of Parish Hall accessibility expenditures for the year:

Permits	\$ 724.23
Survey	4,225.00
Architect	2,692.66
Concrete	8,476.00
Handrails	4,242.12
Striping & Signage	4,040.00
TOTAL	\$24,400.01

Not only did St. John's construct a handicapped ramp with parking for the Parish Hall in 2013 but we wound up with a surplus in the Building Fund of over \$7,000. This all happened through a combination energetic fund raising, very generous donations to the Building Fund, and volunteer labor (a special thank you to **Steve Nelson** and his son and son-in-law for their work in completing the ADA bath).

Loaves and fishes indeed! ■

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

A Milestone Year

Clif Hill

Future generations will likely look back on 2014 as a milestone year in the long history of St. John's Episcopal Church. We are poised to embark on an exciting new phase in the life of our precious jewel at the corner of 5th and "C". That we would be able to make it to this place on our journey was never a sure thing. This year we will achieve the dream of a handful of people who just a few years ago were meeting in Betty Patrillo's living room. This year we will achieve the dream of a courageous diocesan leadership who gambled on that handful of people to not only resuscitate the Episcopal Church in Petaluma but do it in a 120 year old historical building.

SO WHAT DOES 2014 HOLD in store? Take a close look at the Finance Committee report. This year marks the last one where St. John's will depend on the Diocese for financial assistance to meet its operational commitments. Day-to-day fiscal self sufficiency is an important criterion for attaining Parish status. But, perhaps, more important in the long term is how the congregation approaches the matter of planned giving. Take a close look at the Endowment Committee report. Last year the Vestry endorsed the work of the Endowment Committee by adopting rigorous endowment policies. This year our invested funds will be placed in the hands of professional advisors operating under guidelines aimed at ensuring the viability of St. John's for the next 150 years.

And, in 2014 we will begin the march into the next century by starting the process of restoring our Sanctuary. We have met with historical and architectural consultants. A preservation plan is under development and we will shortly be applying to the National Registry for recognition as a historically significant structure. Although maintaining the



Clif Hill admires the new ramp with Father Daniel and Vestry member Joanne Woodland.

historical integrity of the church is important, the first step will be to make the Sanctuary inclusive and accessible for everyone. We have engaged an architect with historical structure credentials to prepare plans for handicapped access to the church while maintaining the historical character of the building.

But, with all the milestone events in store for this year, the most important is that we will call a Rector. So much of the work of the Vestry in the last few years has centered on the daily survival of the Parish. Now we look to the long term. A Discernment Committee has been established to undertake the formal process of envisioning where St. John's is going in the years ahead and what is the leadership that will get us there. The initial structure of the committee is in place. If you would like to be a part of this exciting work, please let me know.

I must admit that I occasionally get a tear in my eye as I contemplate the end of my term as St. John's Senior Warden. However, be prepared, you'll still be seeing me a lot. Looking to the year ahead, I can't wait to get started with the tasks at hand. Fiscal independence, a fresh start for planned giving, renovating the church, and calling a Rector. 2014—bring it on! ■

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Mastering Transitions through Discernment

Victoria Temple

How quickly the year turns! January 2014 finds me looking back longingly at the Advent and Christmas season just passed. This was my fifth year celebrating with you, and joyfully I can report that I sense our life together is growing deeper and wider with each passing year.

One of the blessings of age is how I recognize the mood of certain times of the year for what they are. January is particularly hard. It's not just that the dark velvet embrace of the Holy Nights is over. Or, that in winter only slowly is the light returning. January is a transition time, and it requires courage to face and to fashion a new year.

January at St. John's means I'm required to say good-bye to people who have grown dear to me in the very special process of attempting to discern God's will for us, as your Vestry. I'm entering my third, and final, year in this role so twice before I've stumbled through this loss. The good news is that I've come to know that a new group will form and it too will become a beloved community.

But with 2014 I face a new challenge. As Junior Warden I have been blessed to walk in the shadow of a very big man – both in stature and in spirit. Working with Senior Warden **Clif Hill** has been wonderfully healing, for Clif has given me renewed faith in the possibility of noble and wise authority. Here the good news is that I will see him weekly carrying that cross at the 8:00 am service!

Working together with Father Daniel, the vestry and its wardens have accomplished a lot this year and much of it is being recounted in this Annual Report

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

For my part, I can say that the Communications Team has inspired and conducted a steady drum beat of good news about the life and times, service and celebration, mission and work of the St. John's Parish. We are following a Communications Plan that is about to be updated and serve once again as a key organizational goal for the coming year. Our mission is to keep you informed. But it is also to provide tools for you share your story of a life in Christ in the wider world.

In this work we strive to be contemporary and develop a host of effective communications tools – banners, ads, bulletins, e-newsletters, flyers, postcards, posters, reports, a monthly newsletter and a website. Using them we try to beautifully and well tell the story of all that is happening at St. John's as we carry out our mission of bringing Christ to life. Christ was born, Christ died, and Christ was resurrected, no doubt. But the extent to which Christ's will is manifest in our communities and world today – well that is up to us!

I am very much looking forward to another good and growing year together.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

The Big Night Out

Tom Rotella

Planning for St. John's 2014 Fundraiser "The Big Night Out" has shifted into high gear. On May 3, you will be able to mingle with old and new friends as we raise funds to restore our beautiful church and support COTS' Food Box Program. The Big Night Out Steering Committee, **Kathryn Hardt, Tom Rotella, Connie Prim, Jason Klein, Rebecca Smith** and **Kevin Jones**, is working hard to put together an evening that you won't forget.

The two-part event will begin at 4:30 pm with a kick-off catered reception in our parish hall with wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres. There will be live and silent auctions and a raffle. Jason, Kevin and their teams are working to secure corporate sponsorships and some wonderful and exciting items for the auctions and raffle. Music at the reception will be provided by "Take Jack," a popular Sonoma County choral group. Connie and her team are working together on all the details of the reception. At 6:30 pm, guests will leave the reception and go to one of a number of private homes in and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 4, NUMBER 9 DECEMBER 2013



Everyone Welcome!

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PETALUMA

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Easter Sunday
MARCH 31, 2013

8:00 AM RITE I
Feast of the Resurrection

10:00 AM RITE II
Feast of the Resurrection

11:15 AM
Easter Egg Hunt

11:30 AM
Potluck Fellowship Brunch

The Rev. Daniel C. Green, Priest-in-Charge
40 Fifth Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 707-762-8872
www.saintjohnseiscopalpetaluma.org

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Christmas
AT ST. JOHN'S PETALUMA

The Shepherd's Play
Saturday, December 21 at 6:30 pm

Family Christmas Celebration with Communion
Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00 pm

Festal Christmas Eucharist
Tuesday, December 24 at 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Service
(at Elim Lutheran)
Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 10:00 am

The Rev. Daniel C. Green, Priest-in-Charge
40 Fifth Street, Petaluma
707-762-8872
www.saintjohnseiscopalpetaluma.org

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4 around Petaluma for a themed dinner for between 8 and 12 people. Themes range from "Under the Tuscan Sun" to "New Orleans Mardi Gras." Kathryn Hardt and her team have been busy working with the private dinner host homes.

Invitations to The Big Night Out will be mailed to all parishioners and others the first week in March. The invitation is your reservation form and should be mailed back to the church. On it you will select your first, second and third choices for attending a themed dinner. A list of host homes and menus will accompany the invitation. Rebecca and her team will make every effort to accommodate your choices. You will find out which dinner you are attending and be given driving directions when you check in with Rebecca at the reception.

We have been very fortunate to have **Victoria Temple** design a Big Night Out website for us. Tom has been helping Victoria with website content. You may visit the website at www.stjohnsbignightout.com. Remember, it is still a work in progress and will evolve over the next several months.

COTS has been very helpful to the Steering Committee. COTS will advertise the event on their website and enable their supporters to register online. "Take Jack," will also advertise to their mailing list.

It is going to be a great evening. Please make a commitment to be a supporter. Our historic church is in need of some significant repairs and we all know the great work COTS does feeding and sheltering the homeless in Petaluma. ■

TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS NOW ! SAVE THE DATE – MAY 3, 2014!

TICKET PRICES for The Big Night Out are as follows:

\$40 per person for the Kick-off Reception only.

\$75 per person for the Kick-off Reception and a Themed Dinner

PAYMENT by check or credit card should accompany the reservation form you mail back to the church. If you wish, you may also pay in person in the church office.

ST. JOHN'S U ASSESSMENT

Creative Arts & Soul Care

Frances Frazier

Recently, Father Daniel, my fellow organizer **Victoria Temple** and I meet to evaluate our experience producing the 2013 St. John's U educational program and think about the future. I share with you here notes from our conversation.

Has it accomplished what it set out to do? It has revealed the vitality of the congregation, helped us get to know each other, lifted up our gifts to the world, and given St. John's a reputation as a cool and interesting place.

What positive trends or new purposes do we see emerging? That it is serving to enhance people's leadership skills for teaching and speaking, moving some of us from student to teacher. It has pushed the envelope of spiritual formation work to include lay teaching; helped us see the whole person and how creative, artistic and communication talents strengthen the soul life and help bring Christ to life.

What about the program has been challenging? Attendance. We need to communicate about the program more effectively, focusing on the content of the talk rather than "St. John's U" itself. Scheduling spring and fall "semesters" has helped, the outreach is getting better and attendance is growing. We need to use the website more effectively too, and create a St. John's U page on the site.

The future? It will continue with stronger marketing; scheduling will continue with semester-by-semester blocks, with a summer break, but what day of the month need not be frozen into a specific Saturday. Also we will be using the Aqus network, Petaluma 360, and the church network for promotion.

This is an evolving initiative and we look forward to growing it in 2014. ■

Nourish & Preserve



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PETALUMA SINCE 1856

BIG NIGHT OUT

A benefit for historic preservation & homelessness prevention

SAVE THE DATE
MAY 3, 2014

Join St. John's Episcopal Church, located at Fifth & "C" Street in downtown Petaluma, for a fundraiser to restore and preserve the landmark shingle-styled church designed by architect Ernest Coxhead.

A portion of the proceeds will go to COTS' Food Box Program. Called **St. John's Big Night Out**, the event will feature a wine and hors d'oeuvres kick-off party in St. John's parish hall followed by a themed dinner at a private Petaluma home. Check out stjohnsbignightout.com for details.

2014 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sharing in Abundance

Kevin Jones

The formal 2014 stewardship campaign at St. John's lasted from October 6 through November 3. This year's theme, Sharing in Abundance, came from a passage in 2 Corinthians suggested by Father Daniel as the focal point of our stewardship conversation and prayer.

Father Daniel reinforced our stewardship theme from the pulpit. Members of the parish also generously and effectively shared their personal perspectives on Sharing in Abundance in the context of their own commitments of time, talent and treasure to God's work at St John's. In addition to individuals speaking during each service, we shared parishioners' written reflections throughout the season via email and on our website.

We were blessed to have **Warren Theuret**, Operations Manager from COTS — an important community outreach partner of St. John's — join us for the final Sunday in October. Additionally, Canon **Britt Olson** preached during our ingathering celebration on November 3.

A letter from the Wardens and Vestry accompanying the 2014 Stewardship pledge form were available to parishioners beginning October 6 in the narthex. Those not collected were mailed.

As of December 31, 2013, we have received 59 pledges of time, talent and treasure (a 9% decrease from 2013). The 2014 financial commitment, however, is \$136,820 (an increase of 18% over 2013), an excellent result that extends year to year trends since 2010 — and a reflection of the growing ministry at St. John's.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

New Leadership Structure Works!

Rebecca Smith

This was the first year of the new leadership team — it took three of us to replace **Kate Klarkowski**. **Victoria Temple** agreed to be the point person for communicating between Daniel and the Guild about special services. **Ouida Wise** helped her develop the 2014 schedule. **Joanne Woodland** agreed to oversee the inventory and order supplies as needed. **Rebecca Smith** agreed to update the procedures manual and train new members. There are five two-person teams on the Guild and **Jeanne Nelson** helps by taking down after the Wednesday service. Ouida also met with

Rebecca a couple of times this year to pass on her knowledge about mentoring Guild members, taking care of the candles, and polishing methods and schedules.

All Guild members including Ouida, Jeanne and **Susan Stewart** met last fall with Father Daniel at **Allie Andrews'** house for a social hour and to discuss preparations for Advent and Christmas. The leadership team agreed that the Christmas decorating was successful because not only Guild members, but others helped to clean the church, polish the brass, decorate and take down the decorations so the tasks were shared and accomplished quickly.

Plans for 2014 include scheduling a special training meeting to prepare for Easter, updating the procedure manual, and deciding on which and how many new linens to purchase. ■

	2014	2013	2012	2011
Number of Pledges	59 (- 9%)	65 (+33%)	49 (+14%)	43 (+26%)
Dollars Pledged	\$136,820 (+18%)	\$115,763 (+25%)	\$ 92,592 (+18%)	\$ 78, 268 (+ 18%)

Five first-time pledges more than outweighed several pledges that were reduced or stopped due to changing circumstances. Nearly half (46%) of all renewed pledges reflected increased amounts.

TIME AND TALENT RESULTS

This year, the pledge form was modified to collect information about time and talent commitments differently. Rather than a free form comment box, a detailed check list of St. John ministries allowed parishioners to check their time/talent commitments for both "continuing" and "new" commitments. In addition to recording the many ongoing ministries in which members of the congregation are involved, 18 individuals added commitments to 20 ministries new to them for 2014. ■

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2013 Estate & Stuff Sale

Jason Klein

OVERVIEW

The 2013 Estate and Stuff Sale fundraiser was chaired by congregation member, Jason Klein, and driven forward by a long list of dedicated St. John's volunteers. This year's sale, which took place on Sunday, September 29, 2013, was a departure from the sales of past years because, instead of a 2-day sale, it was scaled down and organized as a single day sale. This new format offered its own set of successes, challenges, and lessons learned.

The labor required to put on the 2013 sale was primarily satisfied again by volunteers. Although paid laborers were required to handle the movement of large-scale donations as well as heavy furniture and bulky items, the majority of hours and efforts spent were by dedicated members of the St. John's community who volunteered their time. In fact, over 50 St. John's parishioners assisted in some capacity to help with this fundraiser. From storing and packing donations, to setting up and staffing the event, to, ultimately, clearing out Cram Hall following the conclusion of the event, dedicated volunteers offered their assistance from the first week in June through the initial days of October to complete all needed sale activities.

Finding locations to store donated items proved to be a major challenge. In 2012, several storage facilities were available at no cost for use by the Estate and Stuff Sale Committee. However, in 2013 no free off-site storage facilities were available and, therefore, only the limited storage space available on site at the St. John's campus was utilized to try to efficiently store incoming donated goods. Parishioners and friends of St. John's were asked to hold onto to their donations for as long as possible before the sale. Without additional storage sites off-site, St. John's was not able to solicit large-scale donations from estates as was done in years past because there were simply no available space to store those donations once acquired.

Despite this storage challenge and others, once again the parish hall was filled from wall-to-wall with donated items for sale and monies were raised. The event was well-attended by members of the community and, in fact, on the morning of the sale more than 60 individuals waited in line just before the parish hall doors opened to be the first to shop and purchase goods.

Expense Detail - 2013 Estate & Stuff Sale

Expense Category	Amount
Labor - Event	\$826.00
Truck Rental - Donation pick ups	\$244.74
Event Supplies	\$218.30
Storage - 3 mos.	\$205.00
Gas - Donation Pick Ups	\$134.00
Food for Volunteers / Workers	\$35.99
Total Expenses:	\$1,664.03

REVENUES AND EXPENSES

The total Gross Income for the one day 2013 Estate and Stuff Sale was \$6,498.12. Total expenditures (as outlined in the table below) were \$1,664.03.

NEXT STEPS

Jason Klein will meet with the Vestry during their February 2014 meeting to discuss in detail the successes and challenges encountered regarding the 2013 Estate and Stuff sale and offer recommendations for going forward.

Meanwhile, St. John's would like to thank all of those volunteers who donated time, goods and services. Without your help this sale simply could not have happened.

Father Daniel continued to offer opportunities for community study through the year again in 2013.



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Final Year of Emergent Ministries Grant

Walter Hellmuth

The St. John's finance committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday. The members of the committee are Father **Daniel Green**, Priest-in-Charge; **Clif Hill**, Senior Warden; **Bill Reid**, Treasurer; and congregation members, **Connee Young**, **Walter Hellmuth**, and **Susan Hadenfeldt**. The main task of this committee is to propose and oversee for the Vestry the annual budget of estimated expenses and income for the parish of St. John's. Another primary purpose of the committee is to oversee the accounts, management practices, and internal controls put in place by the Treasurer, and implement the recommendations of an annual audit. Finally, the committee ensures the provision of financial resources for the long-term maintenance and capital improvement of the physical plant, and of adequate reserves for future extraordinary needs. The committee reports monthly to the Vestry, and Wardens, for review, and revision or approval of its recommendations.

A preliminary budget document has been prepared for 2014 (see page 9) that includes budget amounts for Income sources, Fixed Expenses, Diocesan Mission Apportionment, Ministry Expenses, and Reserve Funds. Detailed breakdowns of income and expense items, and the continued growth in annual giving that makes our improving financial position possible, may be found in the Treasurer's Report and the report of the Stewardship Committee.

2014 personnel expenses includes a 1.5% COLA to clergy cash compensa-

tion mandated by the Diocese of Northern California. The committee has also budgeted the cost for paid office administration at 6 hours per week to support and supplement the volunteer office staff. In 2013 St. John's hired a contract bookkeeper and will renew that contract for 2014.

The Diocese of Northern California continues to support the parish with a special Emergent Ministries grant. For 2014, the final year of the grant, the total will be \$15,000.00, a reduction of \$10,000 from 2013. Our estimated Mission Apportionment to the Diocese for 2014 will be \$32,000.

The 2013 year end reserves remain in healthy condition with \$113,660 in cash reserves, over \$12,000 designated funds for emergency capital improvements or major repairs. The committee plans regular contributions for the next four years to have adequate reserves by the end of 2016. The committee also is making yearly contributions of \$2,000 to a Clergy Search and Sabbatical reserve.

There is continued need for the finance committee, with the Vestry's guidance, to ensure that we are on track toward our goal of balancing income and expenses in the annual operations of our church, without Diocesan support, by 2016. To that end the committee continues to work from a five-year financial plan created in 2011 to chart the progress of the financial condition of the parish. Thanks to the outstanding stewardship of our members, we have so far met and exceeded the benchmarks of that plan each year. And because of extraordinary individual gifts, the success of the Estate and Stuff Sales, and the blessing of extraordinary windfalls, like the \$25,000 bond call that we received from our investment funds this year, we have simultaneously had adequate resources for long-term maintenance and capital improvement of parish property.

Once the goal of a balanced operating budget is met, the finance committee will work on a new five-year projection setting targets for eliminating the use of endowment income for annual operations, and freeing those funds for capital improvements and mission outreach. Those reductions will be balanced with continued growth in annual giving and with strategic increases in parish staffing.

As a special note of gratitude, the committee wishes to thank **Connee Young** for her enormous contribution to the finance committee during her 3 year tenure as Treasurer. She has played a pivotal role in the development of professional accounting standards for the parish, and served through a transition period that extended well beyond her requested termination date. We are thankful that she will remain on the committee. We also want to acknowledge the efforts of **Michael Eodice** as assistant to the Treasurer during the transition period. ■

Faithfully submitted,
The Finance Committee



Larry Temple, Gordon Gilmore and Trillian Donahue beautifully carried The Shepherd's Play tradition forward in 2013.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Comprehensive Investment Policy

Walter Hellmuth

During 2013 the Endowment Committee met four times to review goals for the maintenance of St. John's legacy gifts. The members of St. John's Endowment Committee are Father **Daniel Green**, Priest-in-Charge, **Clif Hill**, Senior Warden, and congregation members **Walter Hellmuth**, and **Tony De Sousa**.

The Endowment Committee's primary task is to oversee the two legacy gifts that comprise the current endowment funds of St. John's Episcopal Church, which are the **Leah Albertsen** Memorial Fund, and the St. John's Endowment Fund. These funds provide a substantial income for the operation of the parish. For 2013 they provided \$30,595.08 in dividends and interest. The total value of the funds on December 31, 2013 was \$663,348.47. The LAMF value grew by 3.73%, and the SJEF grew by 9.5%, after distributions. Please see attached summary statements for each fund on page 9.

In addition to the dividends and interest income, an additional distribution of \$25,000.00 was made to the operational account from the LAMF, due to a called investment. This distribution was directed to the building fund to complete major improvements to the campus of St. John's.

The Endowment Committee undertook two major projects in 2013. First, comprehensive investment policies and procedures were developed, and implemented. Second, two investment consulting firms were interviewed as potential fund managers. The final selection decision will be made in early 2014.

The Committee foresees the need for continued oversight, and analysis of the investments to maintain the financial health of each, and will conduct quarterly meetings in 2014 to continue their management and care. ■

Faithfully submitted,
The Endowment Committee

The Petaluma Children's Chorus continued in 2013 under the direction of new choir director Sadie Sontag, shown here at its delightful Christmas Concert.



TREASURERS REPORT

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Bill Reid

The financial health of St. John's improved during 2013. As shown in the top section of the attached financial summary, the balance in our checking accounts grew by \$8,551.12 while our endowment funds grew by nearly \$34,000. This occurred as contributions to the church grew by more than \$16,000, more than offsetting the planned decrease in the grant from the Diocese of \$10,000, from \$35,000 to \$25,000. Expense control added to the favorable financial performance as total expenses dropped from over \$195,000 to just over \$191,000. The result is that St. John's is well on its way to self-sufficiency: 2013 showed a surplus of income over expense of \$11,589 versus a deficit of \$4,031 in 2012.

Other improvements don't show in the financial statements, as some of the improvement in the endowment funds (\$25,000) was transferred to building funds and the result is seen in our physical plant: Cram Hall,

handicapped access and parking, handicap bathroom, decomposed granite borders around the church, a new heater for the sanctuary and other landscaping additions. The Estate and Stuff sale also contributed significantly to these improvements.

LOOKING FORWARD

The budget for 2014 projects similar improvements for next year. Pledges have been made which will increase contributions by more than \$13,000, again offsetting the planned decrease in the grant from the Diocese. Expenses are expected to rise moderately, with most of the increase accounted for by the addition of a part-time administrator to assist Father Daniel and support the volunteer office staffing by parishioners.

The budget shows an essentially break-even budget. Most expense categories show little change from the prior year. ■

Charles SCHWAB

Schwab One® Account of
LEAH ALBERTSEN MEMORIAL FUND

Account Number
2861-4153

Statement Period
December 1-31, 2013

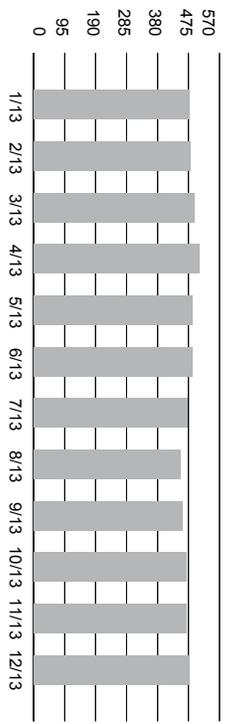
Change in Account Value

	This Period	Year to Date
Starting Value	\$ 469,924.35	\$ 460,230.35
Cash Value of Purchases & Sales	(2,333.24)	22,656.93
Investments Purchased/Sold	2,333.24	(22,656.93)
Deposits & Withdrawals	362.44	(43,604.07)
Dividends & Interest ^z	4,677.08	22,383.54
Fees & Charges	0.00	0.00
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Income Reinvested	(2,371.95)	(2,381.78)
Change in Value of Investments	4,791.44	40,755.32
Ending Value on 12/31/2013 ^Δ	\$ 477,383.36	\$ 477,383.36
Accrued Income ^d	1,345.00	
Ending Value with Accrued Income ^{dΔ}	\$ 478,728.36	

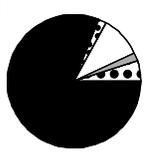
Total Change in Account Value:	\$ 7,459.01	\$ 17,153.01
Including Deposits and Withdrawals	1.59%	3.73%
Including Deposits, Withdrawals, and Accrued Income ^d	\$ 8,804.01	

Asset Composition

	Market Value	% of Account Assets
Cash and Deposit Accounts ^{X,Z}	\$ 7,579.74	2%
Equities	386,013.63	81%
Bond Funds	10,247.42	2%
Equity Funds	48,761.61	10%
Other Assets	24,780.96	5%
Total Assets Long ^Δ	\$ 477,383.36	
Total Account Value ^Δ	\$ 477,383.36	100%
Accrued Income ^d	1,345.00	
Total Value with Accrued Income ^{dΔ}	\$ 478,728.36	



Overview



- 81% Equities
- 2% Cash, Deposit Accounts [X,Z]
- 10% Equity Funds
- 2% Bond Funds
- 5% Other Assets

Gain or (Loss) Summary

Realized Gain or (Loss) This Period	Value
Short Term	\$0.00
Long Term	\$16.70
Unrealized Gain or (Loss)	\$119,871.81¹

All Investments
Values may not reflect all of your gains/losses.

Account Notes

- Your portfolio includes unpriced securities.
- Accrued Dividend is \$1,345.00

Schwab has provided accurate gain and loss information wherever possible for most investments. Cost basis data may be incomplete or unavailable for some of your holdings. Please see "Endnotes for Your Account" section for an explanation of the endnote codes and symbols on this statement.



Schwab One® Account of
ENDOWMENT FUND OF ST JOHNS EPI

Account Number
9651-1730

Statement Period
December 1-31, 2013

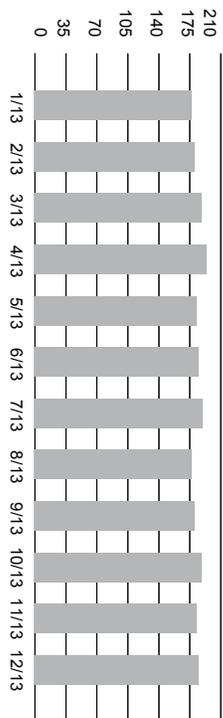
Change in Account Value

This Period

Year to Date

Account Value (\$) Over Last 12 Months [in Thousands]

Starting Value	\$ 183,404.55	\$ 169,837.86
Cash Value of Purchases & Sales	(708.52)	(708.52)
Investments Purchased/Sold	708.52	708.52
Deposits & Withdrawals	(362.44)	(7,421.65)
Dividends & Interest z	2,007.47	8,211.54
Fees & Charges	0.00	0.00
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Income Reinvested	(708.52)	(708.52)
Change in Value of Investments	1,624.25	16,046.08
Ending Value on 12/31/2013	\$ 185,965.31	\$ 185,965.31
Accrued Income ^d	144.48	
Ending Value with Accrued Income^d	\$ 186,109.79	
Total Change in Account Value:	\$ 2,560.76	\$ 16,127.45
Including Deposits, Withdrawals, and	1.40%	9.50%
Accrued Income ^d	\$ 2,705.24	



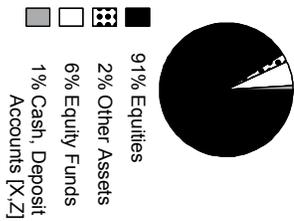
Asset Composition

Market Value

% of Account Assets

Overview

Cash and Deposit Accounts xz	\$ 2,289.69	1%
Equities	168,726.86	91%
Equity Funds	11,775.71	6%
Other Assets	3,173.05	2%
Total Assets Long	\$ 185,965.31	
Total Account Value	\$ 185,965.31	100%
Accrued Income ^d	144.48	
Total Value with Accrued Income^d	\$ 186,109.79	



Gain or (Loss) Summary

Realized Gain or (Loss) This Period

Short Term	\$0.00
Long Term	\$0.00

Unrealized Gain or (Loss)

All Investments \$35,317.37¹
 Values may not reflect all of your gains/losses.

Account Notes

- Accrued Dividend is \$ 144.48

Schwab has provided accurate gain and loss information wherever possible for most investments. Cost basis data may be incomplete or unavailable for some of your holdings. Please see "Endnotes for Your Account" section for an explanation of the endnote codes and symbols on this statement.

St. Johns Episcopal Church, Petaluma

2013 Closing Balance Sheet

	12-31-2013	12-31-2012	Change
	-----	-----	-----
Assets			
Cash in bank	118,268.43	109,717.31	8,551.12
Endowment Fund	190,533.64	169,837.86	20,695.78
Albertson Memorial Fund	473,235.96	460,230.35	13,005.61
	-----	-----	-----
Total Assets	782,038.03	739,785.52	42,252.51
	=====	=====	=====
Liabilities and Equity			
Building Fund & Reserves	12,646.83	20,004.98	(7,358.15)
Endowment Fund	190,533.64	169,837.86	20,695.78
Albertson Memorial Fund	473,235.96	460,230.35	13,005.61
Priest's Discretionary Fund	3,419.25	523.91	2,895.34
Flowers Fund	923.72	955.77	(32.05)
Taize Funds	2,575.17	1,148.13	1,427.04
Other Restricted Funds	1,927.50	1,898.05	29.45
	-----	-----	-----
Total Restricted Accounts	685,262.07	654,599.05	30,663.02
Unrestricted Funds	96,775.96	85,186.47	11,589.49
	-----	-----	-----
Total Liabilities & Equity	782,038.03	739,785.52	42,252.51
	=====	=====	=====

2014 Budget

	2014 Budget	2013	2012	Two Year Change
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income Statement				
Contributions	149,800.00	136,616.85	120,215.75	29,584.25
Grant from Diocese	15,000.00	25,000.00	35,000.04	(20,000.04)
Facilities Use	7,800.00	9,977.23	5,339.50	2,460.50
Investment Income	30,000.00	27,699.09	28,325.25	1,674.75
Special Gifts	3,000.00	3,449.00	2,806.42	193.58
Interest	60.00	57.13	51.12	8.88
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Income	205,660.00	202,799.30	191,738.08	13,921.92
Expenses				
Clergy Expense	105,363.00	102,330.80	99,810.37	5,552.63
Administrative Assistant	6,000.00			6,000.00
Facilities	22,554.98	22,200.05	19,611.47	2,943.51
Insurance	15,863.00	16,299.97	19,248.48	(3,385.48)
Mission Apportionment	32,000.00	29,337.00	33,480.00	(1,480.00)
All Other Expense	23,486.73	21,041.99	23,619.29	(132.56)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Expenses	205,267.71	191,209.81	195,769.61	9,498.10
Income Less Expenses	392.29	11,589.49	(4,031.53)	4,423.82
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Vestry Candidate Statements

JOANNA BUTLER

I am Joanna Butler, an on-and-off member of St. John's since 1990 and a life-long Episcopalian. In 1977 I went to Cursillo. I work as a speech & language teacher for Rincon Valley School District. and as a social worker for Sonoma County (senior case management).

Several people have approached me recently about being on the Vestry and this seems like a good time in my life to become more involved in the parish and the community. After several years of transition it feels like St. John's is moving forward. I would be honored to be part of the Vestry as we guide the parish into the next "chapter" of St. John's development. I hope that we will always be a Spirit-based parish and will always remember the difference between the physical church building and The Church that has no walls. ■

SUSAN HADENFELDT

After a four year respite and a lot thought, I look forward to the privilege of again serving on the Vestry. I feel it is important to continue being available to listen to our congregation at any time.

As a cradle Episcopalian my church experiences are many including being a (Lay) Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Bishop's Committee (AKA Vestry, the parish was a mission), Junior Warden twice, introduction of the Prayer Quilt Ministry, a Sunday school teacher, served Altar Guilds, delegate for General Conventions, Facility Manager and a member of numerous committees including outreach programs. I feel I grew in mind, body and spirit with each experience.

During our transitional years, with the motto of "Everyone is Welcome", it was an honor to serve on the first Vestry in 2007 as Junior Warden at St. John's. Throughout that time I had the wonderful experience of witnessing the growth in attendance, spirituality and community awareness all of which continue now.

Hearing the voices of the little children at the 10 o'clock service is a reminder that this new generation is our future. I look forward to continued growth not only with the increased membership in our church family but in community outreach, activities giving the opportunity for those from all services to join together, expanding our Sunday School for the older children, gathering the ideas of our congregation, study groups for all ages and of course the continued improvement to our facilities.

I want to thank those who suggested that I become a 'returning' Vestry member and especially those who gave me their personal 'thumbs-up' during our conversations. ■

KRISTIN IKOLA

I joined St. John's two and a half years ago, drawn by its hospitality and inclusiveness and by its grounding in tradition. As a regular "10 o'clocker" I sing with the New Song Choir, serve as a Lector and on the Communications team, and love St John's beautiful Taize service. I am one half of an interfaith couple, a mom of two, and work in the international tax department at a software company.

I support the goals set out in the recent mutual ministry review and am committed to supporting them, by listening, and by honoring the things that drew me here. ■

REBECCA SMITH

I am a life-long Episcopalian, who was baptized and raised in the Church in the Midwest. The Episcopal church has always allowed for my curiosity in searching for a better relationship with Christ. I also have always enjoyed and been grounded by the rituals of the Church. I started coming to services shortly after learning that the Episcopalian congregation reclaimed the St. John's Church building. I have participated in several volunteer activities at the Church – lector, office, Altar Guild, Estate Sale and Big Night Out. I am happy to be able to grow in spirit, challenged and supported by others who are also on a spiritual path.

I am interested in serving on the Vestry because of the wonderful things I have heard from current vestry members. Several of them have told me about the opportunities they are enjoying to guide the St. John's congregation and make decisions about the Church's budget priorities in a spiritual Christ-centered manner. I would like to help the Vestry and Father Daniel consolidate and perhaps make some small changes to the services and classes we are offering to our growing congregation. I would like to see how I can contribute to the plans for the repair of the Church building. ■

The Commissioning of Vestry Members

The congregation being seated, the celebrant stands in full view of the people. The sponsors and candidates stand facing the celebrant. The Celebrant says these or similar words:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to the ministry of the vestry to which they are called.

Sponsors We present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Members of the Vestry in this congregation.

The Celebrant asks the sponsors

Are these persons you present prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of their duties, to exercise their ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of the Church?

Sponsors We believe they are.

The Celebrant then says

You have been called to the ministry of St. John's vestry.
Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidates We will.

Celebrant Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidates We will.

Celebrant, turning to the congregation

Will all of you support and uphold these persons in their ministry?

All We will.

Antiphon (spoken by all)

The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.

Celebrant I am your servant; grant me understanding:

All **That I may know your decrees.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Name of God and of this congregation. I commission you [N.]
Member of the Vestry in this Parish.