



PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REPORT

A Year of Discernment

The Rev. Daniel Green

2014 was a year of discernment at St. John's, and I am grateful that we took the time to do this: grateful for the hard work of the Discernment Committee and everyone who participated in the process; grateful for the prayers and the thinking and speaking and listening. I am thankful that in the end it issued in the call to me to serve as the 21st Rector of St. John's, Petaluma. Most of all, I am grateful for the grace of God that has brought this congregation back to life out of the ashes of schism.

The joyful sense of gratitude and appreciation for the miracle of what God has accomplished here in the last seven years was a resonant theme in our year of discernment. But along with that joy there was a question, one tinged with a certain amount of awe and trepidation—what for? What is God's purpose in doing this for us, in us? As I did my own discernment this year about how I am being called to grow and change in ministry, and turned my decision over in thought, prayer, and conversation, it became clear to me that the adventure that brought me and my family to Petaluma is only just beginning. And this question about God's purpose in bringing St. John's back to life is one we need to keep asking as we become more of the church we are meant to be.

It is a question that stretches us, that asks us to pay close attention to what is happening around us, to look for signposts of the path God is showing. It encourages us not be complacent,

but continue to take new risks and embrace new challenges, even as we enjoy the fruit of the hard work that has already been done. Most importantly, it reminds us that this parish does not belong to us (though all of us are vital contributors to the growing whole), or to the past (though we continue to live from the inheritance that our predecessors in this place have left us—this church has re-grown in part because it has strong, deep roots). St. John's belongs to the future, and that has been the hidden power at work here that has made all the difference over the past seven years—the faith that God is working with us to create something new.

Ever since I came here I've enjoyed telling people that we are a church start-up in a 124-year-old building. This paradox encapsulates much of what is unique about our current situation. In the past year, we have made further strides toward taking better care of our legacy. We have transferred the management of our endowment funds to the Episcopal Church Foundation and implemented spending rules to better ensure both sustained income and growth in the principal. A strong Buildings and Grounds Committee has coalesced, and the proceeds of the hard work so many people put into the Big Night Out fundraiser, combined with an unexpected bequest from the Robert Buffum Trust, will enable us in the coming months to carry out our first major step toward the renovation and restoration of our historic church building—the repair and protection of the stained glass windows.

But developing the capacity to care for this property over the long run will require a larger community of stakehold-

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Reports from

- PAGE 1 Priest-in-Charge
- PAGE 2 2014 Parish Goals
- PAGE 3 Stewardship Committee
- PAGE 4 The Big Night Out
- PAGE 4 Children's Ministry
- PAGE 5 Communications Team
- PAGE 5 Interfaith Food Pantry
- PAGE 5 Finance Committee
- PAGE 7 Endowment Committee
- PAGE 7 Senior Warden
- PAGE 8 Facilities
- PAGE 8 Prayer Quilt Ministry
- PAGE 8 Bread Ministry
- PAGE 8 Building & Grounds
- PAGE 9 Parish Ministries
- PAGE 9 Treasurer's Report
- PAGE 10 Budget Report

Vestry Candidates Statements

Commissioning of Vestry Members



Funds were raised in 2014 to repair and protect the church's beautiful stained glass windows.

ers than we have in our existing congregation. The same goes for sustaining the cost of a full-time parish priest and the kind of staff that will make his or her ministry truly effective. We remain dependent on the generosity of our largest contributors to fund our current operations, to an extent that makes us vulnerable. We also continue to subsidize the operating budget from our endowment income, instead of using it as a dedicated funding stream for the maintenance of the historic building, or for new outreach initiatives. To make our renewal viable over the long-term we need to expand our ministry, and enlist more people in our mission.

In order to refocus on the core of our ministry and mission, your vestry has made the decision not to undertake a large fundraising event in 2015, but to devote its energy and effort to consolidating our gains, and laying the groundwork for further growth. The vestry has set a goal for the coming year to develop a more comprehensive program of stewardship education, so we can all better understand and participate in the different types of giving that will sustain the mission of St. John's, not only now, but also long into the future. Another of the vestry's goals is to create a more effective ministry of welcoming of new members to our community, from the time they walk in the doors of the church for the first time, to the point where they know that they belong, that the gifts they bring are valued, and that they are actively offering those gifts in leadership and service to our mission.

A further goal is to involve more of our members in caring for one another in times of need. I will be working with the vestry and other leaders to develop a more consistent and effective ministry of pastoral care, to enable us to support those who are sick, recuperating from surgery, bereaved, have a new baby, and so on. We also desire to be more visible and active, as the church, in witness and service to our neighbors. The Sacred Order of Deacons is a historic ministry with roots in the apostolic age, whose explicit role is to call

the church out into service, especially to the poor and marginalized. Bishop Beisner has set a goal of having a deacon in every congregation in our diocese within five years. So our corresponding goal at St. John's for this year is to begin the process of discerning which person (or persons) within our community is (are) called to ordination as a deacon.

This year we will also be continuing work toward unfinished goals from last year. Our Communications Team continues to work on executing its strategic plan. A major milestone was achieved beautifully in 2014 with the redesign of our parish website, but much remains to be done. With the help of our part-time Administrative Assistant, we are working to improve our systems for keeping the website fresh and up-to-date, and for publicizing our services and sponsored events. At the same time, I am interested in how we can move from an emphasis on publicity to organizing and empowering us for the kind of person-to-person communication, through social media, presence at public events, and in-person outreach that cuts through the swarm of information overload to make inviting and illuminating human contact.

Finally, our Worship Committee continues to work on a comprehensive vision for worship and music at St. John's. The committee was charged by the vestry with "creating a worshipping community that experiences harmony by honoring the depth and breadth of Episcopal tradition and the best of contemporary currents in worship and music." However, it is clear to me that in order to carry out this mandate well, we need to look beyond the narrow frame of a clash between "traditional" and "contemporary" tastes and styles. So the Worship Committee has begun by reflecting on important questions that we rarely ask—about what we are doing when we gather for worship, and who is doing the work, about what relationship this activity has to the rest of what we do, and how it is influenced by, and resists the influence of, other aspects of our culture.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Parish Goals

FOR 2015

- 1.** Provide the parish with a more comprehensive vision of financial stewardship, so we can better understand and participate in the different types of giving that will sustain the mission of St. John's now, and long into the future.
- 2.** Minister to new members of our community, making them welcome from the time they enter for the first time until the point where they know that they belong and that their gifts are valued, and are able to offer those gifts in leadership, service, and hospitality to others.
- 3.** Support our members with effective guidance and the necessary information to care for one another in times of need.
- 4.** Invite our members to discern which person (or persons) in our midst may be called to the ministry of a deacon.



Everyone Welcome!

In order to have this kind of in-depth reflection, we have begun with a relatively small group, composed of members of our 8 and 10 o'clock congregations, as well as leaders in our Taizé and Wednesday noon services. However, as we begin to consider how what we are learning might translate into practical changes we will be seeking to broaden this reflection to include the wider parish. Be on the lookout as 2015 goes on for opportunities to participate, perhaps through

structured conversations like the "World Café" that the Discernment Committee hosted last summer.

All of these efforts are unified by a common vision, one that began to emerge in January 2007 when a few hardy souls took the first fateful steps to continue St. John's Episcopal Church in Petaluma. It has steadily brightened and acquired definition as we have made the journey of renewal together, following

its unmistakable signs. Our vision takes a big step into the light this year, as we formally celebrate the Renewal of our Ministry and the calling of a Rector, and re-commit ourselves to making it more vivid, more compelling and transforming, not only in our own lives but in the lives of friends and strangers. Because while the vision is still emerging, we've seen enough to know that God has given it, and is calling us to make it real. ■

2014 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Abiding and Bearing Fruit

Kevin Jones

THE CAMPAIGN The formal 2015 stewardship campaign at St. John's lasted from October 12th through November 2nd. This year's theme, Abiding and Bearing Fruit, came from a passage in ! St. John's Gospel, suggested by Father Daniel as the focal point our stewardship conversation and prayer.

Our 2015 Stewardship Committee plans for a more year-round conversation in the coming months, keeping different aspects of stewardship in the forefront of our mind throughout the year. We are also looking at ways to engage 100% of our parish in stewardships commitments of time, talent and treasure. **Based on a roster of 101 households (as of October 2014), our stewardship participation rate for 2015 – using pledge forms submitted to date – is approximately 61%. That provides us with a clear opportunity to make progress over the course of the year!**

A letter from the Wardens and Vestry accompanying the 2015 Stewardship pledge form were available to parishioners beginning October 12th in the narthex. Those not collected were mailed. The financial results of the Stewardship Campaign to date is as follows:

FINANCIAL RESULTS *

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
# of Pledges	62 +5%	59 - 9%	65 +33%	49 +14%	43 +26%	34
\$ Pledged	\$134,749 -1%	\$136,820 +18%	\$116,123 +25%	\$92,592 +18%	\$78,268 +18%	

As of December 31, 2014, we have received 62 pledges of time, talent and treasure (a 5% increase from 2014). The 2015 financial commitment to date is \$134,749 (a nominal decrease over 2014).

Just over 50% of the pledges received to date showed increased financial pledges from 2014, while about 35% remain constant from last year. A handful of parishioners who pledged in 2014 are yet to respond; we expect to hear from them soon.

TIME AND TALENT RESULTS The pledge form also collects 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. It is clear that our parish is blessed with many people sharing their gifts of time and talent - almost always in more than one of the church's ministries. ■

*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FINANCIAL PLEDGES

Pledge Amount	# of Pledges	Total Pledge	% of Total \$ Pledged	% of # of Pledges	Average Pledge
> \$5K	5	\$54,400	40%	8%	\$10,880
\$2K -4,999	18	\$48,200	36%	29%	\$2,678
\$1K -1,999	16	\$21,192	16%	26%	\$1,324
\$0 - 999	23	\$10,957	8%	37%	\$ 476
TOTAL	62	\$134,749	100%	100%	\$2,173

FUNDRAISING REPORT

The Big Night Out

Tom Rotella

If you were at The Big Night Out last May, you would have enjoyed an evening with one hundred and twenty of your friends and neighbors, all of whom came to support the restoration of our historic church and COTS Food Box Program. Cram Hall never looked so good. Under a canopy of party lights, guests enjoyed delicious appetizers, wine and beer, and listened to live music. There were nearly one hundred items in the silent auction. Guests also generously bid on the live auction items. The two hour reception passed quickly. Forty guests then went on to a private dinner at one of five homes in Petaluma. It was a grand evening, bringing together our parish family as well as friends throughout the community.

The Big Night Out grossed a total of \$21,000. Twenty-five percent of this amount went to support COTS Food Box Program. We are happy to report that the Vestry recently voted to spend the remaining funds to restore our church's glorious stained glass windows.

A year was spent planning for The Big Night Out. The event could not have taken place without the extraordinary



Kathryn Dixon & Tom Rotella received many kudos for their skillful chairing our first Big Night Out!

contribution of a dedicated steering committee and a large number of volunteers. In the end, all of us involved think it was a win-win situation for COTS and especially for St. John's. ***What a great party it was!***

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

It Takes a Village!

Alison Adams

They say it takes a village to raise our children, and indeed it does. Heather Oehm continues to be our steadfast leader in the Sunday School, assisted by Alison Adams, Kari Klein, Monty Sullivan and Larry and Victoria Temple. Jonathan Hiller assisted with his guitar.

We continue to use Godly Play for the majority of our Sunday School curriculum with Larry Temple further enriching our program with "Stories of the Saints". For Summer Sundays we invited parishioners to come and play with our kids and they ended up doing things like making prayer flags, learning how to juggle plus many other fun things.

Under Larry Temple's direction the children participated in the multi-generational staging of a Michaelmas pageant! With the help of so many this was a lot of fun and we hope to make it an annual event. The children also performed the song "The Friendly Beasts" for the 5:00pm Christmas Eve service with a reprise on January 4.

We are hoping to keep our families informed of what is happening in the Church School through group emails and by a monthly article in the newsletter. This year we welcomed three new families with young children and we hope to keep on growing. Parents and parishioners are always welcome to drop-in on Sundays, and we are open to receiving new ideas and new volunteers! ■



Alison Adams helped dress Angels, prepare Knights and manage a dragon, all for the Sunday school's Michaelmas Pageant, held for the first time in 2014.



INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

*Going Strong**Janet Knudson*

The Westside Interfaith Food Pantry is still going strong thanks to the support from this parish, and our partners (St. Vincent's, United Methodists, B'nai Israel, and Elim Lutheran). We have been serving, on average, 50 families a week. There have been as many as 73 show up on a given week. We never know who or how many we will be needing to serve. We also don't know what foods will be available for purchase at the Redwood Food Bank each week, or what gleaning will have been done by the Mary Isaac Kitchen staff (we get their overstock of bread and veggies), or from Petaluma Bounty during the summer months.

I've said it before, but each week is an amazing act of faith! We do what we can to provide equal amounts of fresh produce and dry goods to everyone who shows up on Thursday evening at 5:30 in the fellowship hall on the campus of Elim Lutheran Church. Costs are between \$250-275 each week to accomplish this (and our budget must include the months with 5 Thursdays!). Prices at the Redwood Food Bank have been slowly increasing, straining the budget, but thankfully produce continues to be underwritten by some large Sonoma County donors, and we have been awarded a couple of grants. Providing protein is the largest challenge, and greatest cost. During the holiday season we were blessed with turkeys on some weeks, and chickens on others, as well as some other special treats, all of which would not have been possible without the generosity of Petalumans via the Mary Isaac Kitchen. People generally leave with many full bags of food. That's a substantial return on your monthly investment in this project (approx \$5/family)!

We are one of three weekly faith-based food distributions in Petaluma (Tues, Thurs, Sat). No documents or pre-registration is

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

*Steady Work**Frances Frazier*

Our major project in 2014 has been the redesign of our website as a major means of communication with the larger community as well as within our St. John's parish. We organized the writing, new images, shifted to a new template, and now the testing phase is completed and we have a fresh and elegant website. Marsha Trent is being trained to maintain the website on a daily basis. An outreach binder is being created to enhance our community contacts on a regular basis.

New signage around the church continues to be a priority, and our team is working with the Building and Grounds Committee to convey a coherent and tasteful new look.

We have signed up for a couple of on-line connection sites, Meet Up and Faith Street, and are updating our Argus Courier and Press Democrat ads to be more inclusive. We are working on a system which will generate press releases about our many public activities here at St. John's.

Hospitality efforts continue to be important in our team, especially as one of the Vestry goals this year is to create a more intentional newcomer welcoming program. We plan to make a brochure to offer to new members which will

needed at these sites for an individual or family to receive food. Help on Thursday evenings is always greatly appreciated. We do our work, on the second Thursdays of each month, in tandem with our neighbors from The United Methodist church. We also have a select set of volunteers, who are also recipients of food, who routinely help with the heavy lifting (we are very grateful for this). Please contact me with any questions. ■



be essentially a hands-on version of the website on what is available at St. John's Episcopal – ways to serve, connect, celebrate.

If you are interested in participating in concrete ways to help St. John's grow, please consider joining our team. ■

ST. JOHN'S U:

This year we are reframing St. John's U into a more event centered project rather than a once a month class. Stay tuned for announcements of events this spring.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Final Report for 2014**Walter Helmuth*

The St. John's finance committee has met monthly in 2014 to continue the oversight of the finances of St. John's, and conduct the budgeting process for 2015. The members of the committee are Fr. Daniel Green, Rector; Bill Reid, Treasurer; and congregation members, Clif Hill, Connee Young, Walter Hellmuth, and Vestry member Monty Sullivan. Susan Hadenfeldt retired from the committee in 2014, and we wish to express our thanks for her years of service on the committee.

The main task of this committee is to identify and oversee the yearly expenses, and income for the parish of St. John's Episcopal Church. The primary purpose of the committee is to develop for the Vestry a working budget that identifies, and dedicates the gifts of treasure, for the greater glory of God's mission in the church. The duty of the committee is to report the committee's findings and recommendations to the Vestry, and Wardens, for review, discussion, revision, and approval.

A preliminary budget document has been prepared for 2015 (see page ?), which includes budget amounts for income sources, fixed expenses, diocesan mission apportionment, ministry expenses, and reserve funds, and breakdowns of income and expense items. Projected expenses in 2015 are increasing, and projected revenue in 2015 is decreasing. Due to a number of factors, the budget for 2015 shows a deficit of approximately \$21,233. The main loss of revenue in 2015 will be the suspension of the grant from the diocese, which we have prepared for by accumulation of reserve funds in our bank account. We have also seen a slight decline in the revenue from pledges in 2015 due to the normal ebb and flow of congregation members. The finance committee sees great promise in our short term financial health, due to the continued support of the current generous congregation, but for the long term identifies the need to grow the congregation to insure it's secure, and confident financial standing.

Fixed Expenses are defined as items that are constant to the general function of the parish including, utilities, general maintenance, insurance, and staff payroll. The utilities and maintenance amounts are based on current fees and rates, and may be subject to change. Two new items of note for the 2015 budget are: we have hired a part time administrative assistant, and a full time gardener. In 2013 St. John's hired a part time bookkeeper, and will continue with

that in 2015. The 2015 payroll amount for clergy was based on a full time commitment for our Rector, and is consistent with standard church salary calculations. Volunteers currently staff the parish office; and will continue to do so in 2015.

The 2014 year end reserves remain in healthy condition with, \$149,222. in cash reserves, and over \$10,000.00 designated funds for capital improvements or major repairs, thanks to the "Big Night Out" program last May. The committee also recommends that yearly contributions be made to a Clergy Search and Sabbatical reserve.

The budgets for the ministries at St. John's for 2014 include the Altar Guild, Music, Education, Parish Business, and Outreach. Much of the operation and ministry of the parish in 2014 has relied upon the extremely generous support of the parish family. Through their time, talent, and dedication, parish members have created numerous groups that contribute to the rich and vital parish life that is being created, including: preparation and liturgy at worship services, children and adult education programs, the sustaining of our buildings and grounds, and outreach beyond our doors. All this work must continue with the support of the parish family. The education budgets include training and supplies for the Sunday school program, and the current weekly Adult program, as well as infant care at the 10am service.

During the average year, the parish will also accumulate various expenses for the general ministry of the parish including: stipendiary funding for delegates to the Diocesan Convention; Vestry business; Website, and Newsletter content updates and revisions; and food service for parish meetings and events. The parish also incurs costs related to the production of the service bulletin for the Sunday morning service, and Christmas and Easter week bulletins. The committee has estimated these expenses, based on reimbursements for a typical parish of our

size. General repair to the buildings and grounds, and upkeep, are also included in the 2015 budget. These are estimated expenses, and may include minor repairs to our structures, garden repair, kitchen hardware, lighting updating, plumbing and heating service calls.

The 2015 budget also reflects the approved West Side Food Pantry contribution. St. John's continues to look for additional ways to support the needs of our local community. St. John's also partnered this year with Cots in our "Big Night Out" fundraiser.

In summary, projected income is \$192,139. for calendar year, 2015. In summary, projected fixed expenses, estimated ministry expenses, estimated Diocesan Assessment, and contribution to the reserve funds for 2015 are \$213,372. The difference (deficit) between our funding and our expenses in 2015 is estimated at \$21,233. To eliminate the budget deficit, the parish will tap funds in our reserves to cover the deficit.

There is continued need on the part of the entire congregation, along with the Vestry, to discern the ongoing essential needs of the parish, to bring into balance, our income and our expenses, which will enable the mission of our church to continue. The budgeting process is vital to getting a clear picture of where we are in financial terms, so that we can sustain the parish for the long term. The first priority is always to conduct a very successful Stewardship Campaign, to boost the pledged annual contributions of current members; the second priority will be to maintain sustainable funding through planned giving, and a capital campaign. To that end the committee has prepared a five-year financial plan to chart the progress of the financial condition of the parish, and desire to be on track to meet those projections.

Faithfully submitted,
The Finance Committee



Father Daniel, vestry members and the Discernment Committee for Calling a Priest-in-Charge as Rector, after their Discernment Retreat, facilitated by Dean Jeanne Forte, Rector of St. Paul's Church in Benicia, at Bishop's Ranch in November.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Year End Report 2014

Walter Helmuth

During 2014 the Endowment Committee met several times to review goals for the maintenance of St. John's legacy gifts. The members of St. John's Endowment Committee are Fr. Daniel Green, Rector, and congregation members Clif Hill, Walter Hellmuth, and Tony De Sousa.

The Endowment Committee's primary accomplishment in 2014 was to oversee the transition in April from investments held at Charles Schwab, to ECF/SSGI pooled fund investments (Episcopal Church Foundation, and State Street Global Investors), of 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 substantial income for the operation of the parish. For 2014 they provided \$30,296.83 in distribution funds to the operating funds. The year-end value of the funds on December 31, 2014 was \$694,118.58. The LAMF value grew by 5.4%, and the SJEF grew by 2.4%, after

distributions. The endowment funds are now invested, and funds are distributed in compliance with the investment policies adopted by the vestry in 2014. Please see attached summary statements for each fund.

The committee foresees the need for periodic oversight, and analysis of the investments to maintain the financial health of each, and will conduct an annual meeting in 2015 to review its management and care with ECF, who now manage the funds.

Faithfully submitted,
The Endowment Committee

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

We've Called Our Rector!

Victoria Temple

Serving as your Senior Warden in 2014 has been an honor and a blessing. I'm a new Episcopalian. After Father Norm invited me to get involved, back in 2008, I just jumped in and tried to help where I was needed because I was so thrilled to be part of a joyously renewing community coming out of exile together. It didn't seem to matter that I didn't know the traditions or what was always expected of me. Since

everyone was welcome, I figured that included me!

At our vestry's annual Mutual Ministry Review in the Fall of 2014, Cannon Britt was our facilitator. Skillfully she guided us toward a goal of calling our priest-in-charge as rector in 2014. At the point in the meeting when we were asked to choose the goal we wanted to work on in the coming year, I felt myself levitated out of my seat. The next thing I knew I was standing next to Clif Hill in front of a flip chart labeled "calling a rector." I had no prior experience or clear idea how we would do this, other than through this process I had just heard about called a "discernment year."

In January, I became Senior Warden and together with Clif, who served as chair, we formed a Discernment Committee. Tom Rotella was our chaplain, and Alison Adams, Nancy Bosch and Marty Shortridge joined in. We met throughout the year and we did the research, communicated with the diocese, and attended to the needed operational details. But in truth, what we really did is learn to listen—first to each other, then to you, the congregation, and finally to Daniel. Ultimately, through each other,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

we were attempting to discern God's will for us through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

It was a searching, questing and wondering experience for me. In some ways it was hard, so much seemed on the line. We needed to get it right. And one way or another, things were going to change. I never had any doubt that we overwhelmingly wanted Father Daniel as our rector, but there were times when I wondered, did he want us?

It wasn't until long after our summer World Cafe and well into the planning of the fall Discernment Retreat that it occurred to me we were calling a rector on "my watch" as Senior Warden!

I felt tremendous gratitude and relief when I put the pen to paper and signed my name on the contract, right next to Bishop Beisner's and Father Daniel's, at our celebratin dinner in early December.

As my time as Senor Warden draws to a close, I look forward to learn what will grow out of this seed of listening we planted in our St. John's community during our year of discernment. ■

FACILITIES USE REPORT

A Busy Year!

Susan Hadenfeldt

It was a busy use of St. John's facilities for 2004. Below is a listing of the many community groups and the room they use.

THE LIBRARY The Adult Children of Alcoholics continued evening use of the library twice weekly. Petaluma Serenity Debtors Anonymous rents our library weekly. Meridian University made use of this room for classes.

CRAM HALL The Boy Scout troop 74 uses for weekly meetings, Eagle Scout ceremonies and banquets. Cub Scout Pack 8 meets twice monthly. The Petaluma Mother's Club rented the space for three events. A dance group Champion Youth



The Candlemas service in 2014

used Cram Hall weekly most of last year. Living Presence Practice Group is here weekly. Meridian University used the hall for large groups. For the last six months Yoga For 50+ has taught classes. A series of classes Passion and Joy met weekly. The Petaluma Children's Chorus held weekly singing classes and their concerts. Sacred Circle Dance is here once a month. The hall was rented for private celebrations, receptions, special presentations and memorials.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM The Petaluma Quilt Guild holds their monthly meeting in the Sunday School Room.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Donations Roll In

Susan Hadenfeldt

This Ministry continued in 2014. Like the Flower Fund, this ministry is funded by donations. With the help of Susan Stewart, Geri Olson and Marti Shortridge the fifth quilt was blessed before being given to the recipient.



A St. Valentine's Sacred Cabaret and potluck dinner was a big hit featuring many performers, including the Sunday school children.

BREAD BAKING MINISTRY

We're Growing

Susan Hadenfeldt

With the team work of Connie Prim, Helen Mossman and Susan Hadenfeldt baked bread has been available for Sunday Services. With Geri Olson and Marret Plehlmann, a second team is hoped to be formed in 2015

BUILDING & GROUNDS

A Growing Committee

Connie Prim

A large Building & Grounds Committee has coalesced this year. Members include Clif Hill, Dennis Adams, Susan Hadenfeldt, Steve Nelson, Connie Prim, Gail Reid, Rebecca Smith and Joanne Woodland. A contract has been signed for work to begin on our stained glass windows in the new year and the ADA accessible project is moving forward. Work days continue and a "to do list" is guiding repair and maintenance projects.

Ministries of St. John's Parish

If you would like more information about any of these ministries, contact the Rector or a member of the vestry. The bracketed ministries are awaiting the timely convergence of leadership and circumstances to begin their work.

1. Rector

2. Executive Ministries

- a. Executive Committee—
Rector and Wardens
- b. Vestry
- c. Treasurer's office
- d. Diocesan Convention
delegation

3. Committees of the vestry

- a. Finance
- b. Endowment
- c. Buildings and Grounds
 - i. Volunteer Work Days
- d. Stewardship
 - i. [Legacy Society]
 - i i. Annual Fund Campaign
- e. [Commission on Ministry]

4. Administrative ministries

- a. Office staff
- b. Communications Team
- c. Health and Safety program
- d. Facility manager
- e. Parish Archives

5. Worship ministries

- a. Worship Committee
- b. 8 a.m. Music
 - i. Music Director
 - ii. Laudate Choir
 - iii. Organist
- c. 10 a.m. Music
 - i. [Music Director]
 - ii. [Choir]
 - iii. Accompanists
 - iv. Sunday School Choir
- d. Taizé service
 - i. Musicians
 - ii. Support team
- e. Centering Prayer
- f. Ushers
- g. Lectors
- h. Acolytes

- i. Eucharistic Ministers
- j. Altar Guild
- k. Altar Flowers
- l. Liturgical Arts/Seasonal
decorations

6. Formation and Education ministries

- a. Godly Play
- b. Adult book studies
- c. Julian's Way
- d. St. John's U.
- e. Lectio Divina
- f. [Youth group]
- g. [Sunday morning nursery]
- h. Other formation & education
programs

7. Fellowship ministries

- a. "Kitchen Cabinet"
- b. Coffee Hour hosts
- c. Foyer Groups
- d. Parish Picnic & other special
events
- e. [New member ministry]

8. Pastoral Care ministries

- a. Eucharistic Visitors
- b. Hands-on prayer
- c. Intercessory prayer chain
- d. Prayer quilts
- e. Pastoral Care team
- f. [Friendly visitors]

9. Community Outreach ministries

- a. Interfaith Food Pantry
- b. Petaluma Children's Chorus
- c. The Shepherd's Play

10. Fundraising activities



St. John's members continue to support local immigration reform activities.

TREASURER'S REPORT *A Successful Year*

Bill Reid

As shown in the attached report, 2014 was a successful year on a financial basis. The balance sheet shows this success as cash in the bank grew by more than \$30,000, half representing the fact that income exceeded expenses by nearly \$15,000 and half representing a bequest from a former parishioner. Additionally the Endowment Fund and the Albertson Memorial Fund grew by nearly \$31,000, while also contributing \$30,296 current expenses.

Looking at the income statement for 2014 one sees that income grew by over \$11,000 at the same time that the Grant from the Diocese dropped by \$10,000. This happened as contributions grew by \$16,000 or 12%. Expenses grew a relatively modest 4%, including our new administrative assistant and adding contract exterior maintenance.

2015 looks a good deal more challenging. Forecast income is down. There will be no grant income from the diocese in 2015. This produces a drop in income of \$15,000. Further, the loss of a small number of members and changed financial circumstances for some others produces a drop in our expected pledge income of over \$6,000. At the same time select commitments we made in 2014 will lead to higher expenses in 2015. Combined, this produces an expected deficit in 2015 of approximately \$21,000.

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014 AND 2015 BUDGET

St. Johns Episcopal Church, Petaluma				
Annual Report for 2014 and 2015 Budget				
	12-31-2013	12-31-2014	Change	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Assets				
Cash in bank	118,268.43	149,222.16	30,953.73	
Endowment Fund	190,533.64	195,144.60	4,610.96	
Albertson Memorial Fund	473,235.68	498,973.68	25,738.02	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Total Assets	782,038.03	843,340.74	61,302.71	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Liabilities and Equity				
Building Fund & Reserves	12,648.83	10,671.58	(1,975.27)	
Endowment Fund	190,533.64	195,144.60	4,610.96	
Albertson Memorial Fund	473,235.68	498,973.68	25,737.80	
Daniel's Discretionary Fund	3,418.25	3,310.74	(108.51)	
Flowers Fund	923.72	2,304.60	1,381.18	
Traze Funds	2,575.17	3,074.18	499.01	
Other Restricted Funds	1,927.50	11,725.89	9,798.18	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Total Restricted Accounts	885,262.07	725,205.53	38,943.48	
Unrestricted Funds	96,775.88	118,135.21	21,359.25	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Total Liabilities & Equity	782,038.03	843,340.74	61,302.71	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Income Statement	2013	2014	Budget 2015	2015 Vs. 2014
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Contributions	136,818.85	152,603.47	146,000.00	(6,603.47)
Grant from Diocese	25,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	(15,000.00)
Facilities Use	9,977.23	9,538.60	8,500.00	(1,038.60)
Investment Income	27,689.09	30,288.83	31,584.00	1,295.17
Special Gifts	3,448.00	6,480.58	6,000.00	(480.58)
Interest	57.13	73.60	75.00	1.40
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Income	202,788.30	214,001.08	192,139.00	(21,862.08)
Expenses				
Clergy Expense	102,330.80	105,649.60	108,568.00	2,918.40
Administrative Assistant			5,040.00	5,040.00
Facilities	22,200.05	24,009.73	25,231.78	1,222.05
Insurance	16,289.67	12,480.25	15,700.00	3,219.75
Mission Apportionment	29,337.00	29,731.18	32,000.00	2,268.82
All Other Expense	21,041.89	27,278.16	28,835.00	(441.16)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Expenses	191,208.81	199,158.82	213,372.78	14,215.88
Income Less Expenses	11,589.49	14,844.16	(21,233.78)	(38,077.64)
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Vestry Candidate Statements

ALISON ADAMS

My husband Dennis and I are relative newcomers to Petaluma, having moved here three and a half years ago from Marin. We have two married daughters, each of whom has two sons. (One daughter lives two minutes away and the other lives in Santa Cruz.)

I was born in San Francisco and my parents moved to Marin when I was a year old. With the exception of my college years, and the first five years of our marriage, I have lived in this area my whole life. I spent twenty-one happy years teaching in the Early Education program at San Domenico School in San Anselmo. We were members of St. John's Ross and while there I was involved in many aspects of parish life. I have taught Sunday School forever (!), taken a multitude of adult ed. courses, worked (and chaired) fundraisers, served on the Vestry and was Senior Warden in 1990.

I hope that some of my experiences with parish life in another church will be helpful here at St. John's and I feel very blessed to be a part of this warm faith-full community. With Daniel being appointed Rector, I feel this parish is on the brink of some very exciting times. ■

KATE KLARKOWSKI

Belonging to a congregation and being part of a parish are very important to me. Helping to keep St. John's Episcopal church alive drew me back into active church life some 6 years ago. I have served on the altar guild for those 6 years as well as leading the guild for almost 3 years. I was baptized and confirmed in the episcopal church. I have spent decades exploring dances of universal peace and Sufi studies. St. John's feels like home to me and provides a place to meet with fellow travelers, growing in faith, service. I look forward to co-creative activities that will strengthen our work for the greater humanity and community of Petaluma. I would be honored to serve on the vestry. Respectfully, Katherine Klarkowski ■

TERESA PETER

Recent Parish Activities Include: My recent

parish activities include ushering at the 10AM service, participating in St. John's first annual Big Night Out, and hosting coffee hour. I have also enjoyed getting to know people through Foyer Group dinners.

Strengths and skills I can offer the vestry: I have been fortunate to work for the same company for the past 11 years. I have worked my way from merchandising to front-line management. I have the motivation to set challenging, but realistic goals and the patience to achieve them.

I would also like you to know: I feel extremely blessed for finding the St. John's community just a few short years ago. I understand that the work of the vestry is rewarding and can be challenging and I am willing to commit the time and energy necessary. I welcome the chance to share my knowledge and talents and look forward to this exciting new opportunity. ■

LARRY TEMPLE

It is my love for St. John's that inspires me to be willing to serve on the Vestry of this wonderful church. In the past I have served on the Board of Trustees for two churches of The Christian Community in Los Angeles and in San Francisco. While being a class teacher, leading my classes and their parents into the life of these schools, I also served on the boards for the Denver Waldorf School and the Summerfield Waldorf School here in Sonoma County. In Denver I also served on the Finance Committee with one other teacher and one knowledgeable parent, managing the finances of that institution. In my late 20's and early 30's in Los Angeles, I was the administrator of two different convalescent hospitals, i.e. skilled nursing facilities, where, besides overseeing all aspects of these institutions, I also led the Boards for those institutions. ■

LAURIE WARREN

I discovered the Episcopal Church in the late 1990's while attending Early Music concerts at several churches in San Francisco. I became a member of Grace Cathedral and eventually was received as an Episcopalian during Easter, 2001. The intensive faith formation process required for recep-

tion gave me a deep appreciation for the history, traditions, and scriptural basis of the Church. It instilled in me a sense of the personal responsibility (and freedom) involved in being an Episcopalian that inspired me to ministry service. At Grace, I served as a liturgical minister, chalice bearer and on the altar guild. I enjoyed reaching out to people finding their way (or way back) to church while serving with the "newcomer ministry", faith formation, adult education and community outreach programs. I also enjoyed serving in church governance ministries including Congregation Council (much like the Vestry), as a Deanery Delegate and on other diocesan committees. When my partner and I moved to the Northwest, I was actively involved in similar ministries in small, rural churches in Oregon and Washington. My life's work and education has been dedicated to teaching and advocating for people with neurological impairments and physical disabilities through my work as a behavior analyst, special education teacher, recreation therapist, and social worker. It brings me great joy to serve others through the ministries of the Episcopal Church and my professional work.

I came to St. John's about two years ago in my search for a church where I might find a spiritual home. I feel blessed to have found this here and have never left since. I find it a very dynamic, engaging, loving, and prayerful community. I usually attend the 8AM service, take part in Julian's Way and participate in as many educational offerings as my schedule permits. I had the privilege of serving as a Deanery Delegate last year and enjoy serving as an usher, acolyte, altar server, chalice bearer, praying for people on St. John's prayer list and leading seasonal prayer series, as I did during Lent of last year. I have a tremendous appreciation for the history of St. John's and great hope for its future. **I would like to serve as a member of the Vestry** to offer my service, skills and experience to help fulfill and further the mission that Father Daniel and the previous Vestry set forth, to listen and respond to the needs of the community, and to grow in spirit in community. I would like to thank the current Vestry members for encouraging me to serve. ■

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.