

Table of Contents

RECTOR, STAFF, AND OFFICERS REPORTS	2
PRIEST-IN CHARGE ANNUAL REPORT	2
SENIOR WARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT	4
JUNIOR WARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT	4
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VESTRY FOR 2015	8
AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	9
NOTES FROM THE TREASURER	9
<i>2015 Profit & Loss</i>	10
<i>2015 Budget vs Actual</i>	11
<i>Balance Sheet - Assets</i>	12
<i>Balance Sheet – Liabilities & Equity</i>	13
<i>2015 Outreach Funds Report</i>	14
<i>Pledge Report for 2016</i>	14
<i>2016 Budget</i>	15
28TH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES	16
MUSIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT	18
MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS.....	19
COMMUNITY SATURDAY SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT	19
CONGREGATIONAL COMMISSION ON MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT	20
TUESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT	21
TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY ANNUAL REPORT	21
TUESDAY BOOK GROUP ANNUAL REPORT	22
AUDIO-VISUAL MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT	22
COAT AND BACKPACK DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS ANNUAL REPORT	22
TRUNK OR TREAT ANNUAL REPORT	23
FLEA MARKET ANNUAL REPORT	23
WORSHIP MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT.....	24
STEWARDSHIP TEAM ANNUAL REPORT	25
FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT	26
CRAFTERS MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT.....	27
SMART SENIORS ANNUAL REPORT	28
ADULT FORMATION ANNUAL REPORT.....	29
CHILDREN AND YOUTH FORMATION MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT	30
KIDS KAMP ANNUAL REPORT	31

Rector, Staff, and Officers Reports

Priest-in Charge Annual Report

Submitted by: Rev. Anne Smith

In 2015, we did a lot of work to get to know each other, to adjust to changes that came our way, and to make changes of our own. At the Celebration of a New Ministry that we shared to mark the beginning of my pastorate with you, the preacher emphasized the word *abide* from the day's readings. He talked about abiding in church as a dynamic in which people keeping growing and learning together. I am already your priest and you are the worshipping community in my care, but we also are in an ongoing process of becoming those things in new ways—hopefully fuller, deeper, better ways. This year we have abided together.

One of my first major actions here was to hire a music director—a position that had gone unfilled for a while, much like priest-in-charge. Kristin Holt seemed sent from God, and has been knowledgeable about music and adaptable to our setting, serving at the 10:00 service on Sundays and at CommUnity one Saturday each month. With her help, we were able to lighten the load carried by the lay worship planners who had worked so hard over several years to keep things going. The Worship Team has been central to my learning about the parish, and the relationships and work done in that group is central to our ability to be church together at prayer and in worship. The lay worship leaders continue to be the backbone of services offered during the week as well.

During Lent I had the privilege of leading one of the parish study groups in the Tuesday Soup Supper—my group being the Soup Lunch crowd. It was such a pleasure to meet in that group that we chose to continue our Tuesday lunch study, which has been enriching and rewarding for me, not least because it let those of us who met get to know each other better. Since the last Annual Meeting, we've read five books together, and plan to continue—taking care to choose lighter reading in the future!

I recalled the Celebration of a New Ministry above—that was one of many great days I've enjoyed with you at St. Mary's. (And there have been more I didn't get to attend!) Some others were St. Mary's Day, Oktoberfest, and Trunk or Treat. I think it has been good to continue to celebrate and have fun together and hope that we will continue to do so, in old and new ways. The joyful times together are particularly important since some of the work we do together is hard. We need to celebrate the relationships we share and the good things that happen at St. Mary's. That gives us the strength and resilience to face challenges.

We are going to try things and fail together, and I am going to go on making my share of mistakes, and circumstances beyond us will affect us. We have to deal with things like the departure of Mama Bootcamp due to low enrollment, or the letting go of the fireworks stand fundraiser because of a mix of concern for safety and a dwindling pool of able and willing volunteers. Or deeper problems, such as our ambivalence about our property and facilities, or our challenge to minister to and with a larger number of people and draw them into lasting community with us. We must continue to celebrate and enjoy each other in order to thrive as we deal with these and other challenges.

I personally appreciate the generosity and patience of this community as I have led you anew in worship, spiritual growth, stewardship, parish administration, and governance. You have gamely given of yourselves to keep things working and moving ahead. It's especially worth noting that the work of

children's ministry continues in a way that makes it clear this community loves and values youth very highly. Huge thanks go to Barb Nill for ensuring that we can offer Sunday school to the kids most weeks and for bringing in volunteers to participate in that work.

It's also pretty astonishing how very giving this parish is. I have relied upon and appreciated the work of the Stewardship Team formed last fall (thank you, Diana Siers, Carl King, Mark Nill, Ron Zoesch, and John Day!), but I also appreciate the characteristic generosity of the community and its ongoing understanding of the way good stewardship calls us to respond in gratitude to the blessings God has entrusted us with.

I want to express heartfelt thanks for the presence, support, and hard work of many people during this past year. Senior warden Diana Siers asked me what I needed from her early in the year, and she has been keeping me on track, helping me accomplish tasks, and working like crazy for St. Mary's ever since. Thanks go to the other officers of the Vestry as well—Susi Jacobo-Vice in particular has done an amazing job as treasurer keeping our finances and other paperwork in order, and David Gleason as junior warden and Lois Anderson as clerk have carried a giant share of the work as well.

St. Mary's associate priests have been a heartening and indispensable part of our ministry. It has been a gift to have them continue to lend their talents to worship leadership and pastoral care. I have also greatly appreciated their support, knowledge and wisdom, and care. I thank you, Roy Coloma, Ray Potter, Ron Zoesch, Howdy Hartzog (who resigned in August), and John Day.

Our worship ministries also would founder without our very capable and hard-working team of lay preachers and worship leaders. Thank you Lynn Holman, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, and Julie Vice for your vigilant attention to the details, your presence and leadership, and your giving of yourselves for the good of the community.

There are really too many people to thank--JoAnn Vice, Loretta Sherb, and Patti Mangabay are a few of the stalwart volunteers who help get all the pieces into place ahead of each service. Our greeters, lay ministers, AV folks, readers and intercessors faithfully support our worship.

I have sensed God at work among us over and over again, and am so thankful that God brought me here to serve with you. Looking ahead, I know that our abiding in Christ is for the purpose of bearing good fruit, and so I trust the Spirit to continue surprising us with the blessings that come from faithfully following Jesus. Thanks be to God!

The blessings of peace be with you all.

Senior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: Diana Siers

We started 2015 with a new priest-in-charge, a new Junior Warden (although with 2 years of vestry experience), and a new Senior Warden (who was also brand new to vestry). Needless to say, there was a learning curve in the beginning with trying to figure out who was doing what and what we were supposed to be doing. Over the year, things became clearer – although I think we still occasionally wonder where our efforts should be. We worked hard on trying to make it easier on some of our volunteers that are involved in many things to take some of the things off of their plates. One big project that got done over this past year was that we had ramps fixed to make the church ADA compliant with plans to get the voting booths back.

Along with the change in leadership came many other changes during the year, but Jesus was with us to make those changes seem not so bad. We had people who moved away but were blessed to have new people join us. We had Maria, our Nursery Supervisor, move away to spend more time with her family, but we had Kristin join us as Music Director. We had people that were stressed with cleaning our church and grounds, but we hired a cleaning crew and landscaper to help alleviate some of that stress. Howdy, an associate priest, moved away to be closer to his family, but we had John join us as another associate. Brenda stepped down from Sunday school teacher, as her boys are grown, but in stepped 6 other parents to help Barbara in Sunday school.

Through the changes and the ups and downs, I see us starting to settle down. Rev. Anne has been here a year and has been talking about moving to the Elk Grove area. We just signed her new Letter of Agreement to a three year contract. I think that St. Mary's has been through a lot of changes over the last few years and is looking for the stability that Rev. Anne is bringing back to St. Mary's. I look forward to what the next year brings.



Junior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: David Gleason

At every regularly scheduled vestry meetings, the vestry members begin with a formation activity. For 2015 we chose to read through and discuss the Catechism from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. This has been a thought provoking activity and I feel that it helped center us as a group in our governance of the parish. I encourage everyone from time to time to review the catechism and reflect on the teachings. Following are selected passages from each section of the catechism. I commission you to reflect upon these as the vestry has done over the course of this year.

Human Nature

Q. What are we by nature?

A. We are part of God's creation, made in the image of God.
(1979 BCP 845)

God the Father

Q. What does this mean about human life?

A. It means that all people are worthy of respect and honor, because all are created in the image of God, and all can respond to the love of God.
(1979 BCP 846)

The Old Covenant

Q. What response did God require from the chosen people?

A. God required the chosen people to be faithful; to love justice, to do mercy, and to walk humbly with their God.

(1979 BCP 847)

The Ten Commandments

Q. What is our duty to our neighbors?

A. Our duty to our neighbors is to love them as ourselves, and to do to other people as we wish them to do to us;

(1979 BCP 848)

Sin and Redemption

Q. What is sin?

A. Sin is the seeking of our own will instead of the will of God, thus distorting our relationship with God, with other people, and with all creation.

(1979 BCP 848)

God the Son

Q. What is the nature of God revealed in Jesus?

A. God is love.

(1979 BCP 849)

The New Covenant

Q. What is the New Commandment?

A. The New Commandment is that we love one another as Christ loved us.

(1979 BCP 851)

The Creeds

Q. What is the Trinity?

A. The Trinity is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

(1979 BCP 852)

The Holy Spirit

Q. How do we recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

A. We recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit when we confess Jesus Christ as Lord and are brought into love and harmony with God, with ourselves, with our neighbors, and with all creation.

(1979 BCP 852)

The Holy Scriptures

Q. How do we understand the meaning of the Bible?

A. We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures.

(1979 BCP 853)

The Church

Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?

A. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

(1979 BCP 855)

The Ministry

Q. What is the ministry of the laity?

A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

(1979 BCP 855)

Prayer and Worship

Q. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words.

(1979 BCP 856)

The Sacraments

Q. What is grace?

A. Grace is God's favor toward us, unearned and undeserved; by grace God forgives our sins, enlightens our minds, stirs our hearts, and strengthens our wills.

(1979 BCP 858)

Holy Baptism

Q. What is Holy Baptism?

A. Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God.

(1979 BCP 858)

The Holy Eucharist

Q. What is required of us when we come to the Eucharist?

A. It is required that we should examine our lives, repent of our sins, and be in love and charity with all people.

(1979 BCP 860)

Other Sacramental Rites

Q. Is God's activity limited to these rites?

A. God does not limit himself to these rites; they are patterns of countless ways by which God uses material things to reach out to us.

(1979 BCP 861)

The Christian Hope

Q. What is the communion of saints?

A. The communion of saints is the whole family of God, the living and the dead, those whom we love and those whom we hurt, bound together in Christ by sacrament, prayer, and praise.

(1979 BCP 862)

2015 was a year of growth at St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Elk Grove. I do not mean growth in the sense of numbers. On the contrary, we have had a number of regular and long standing members move out of the parish for various reasons this year. We have also been blessed with a number of new comers to our little church home. No, what I mean is a growth in understanding and in depth of relationships between the ministers/administrators of the parish and the congregation. This year marked the first year of service at St. Mary's for Reverend Anne Smith, and the addition of Music Director Kristin Holt as well as the recent addition of Associate Priest Reverend John Day. I foresee this period of relationship growth continuing into the New Year and creating a base from which other growth may occur.

There have been quite a few occurrences and changes over the course of this past year; following are just a few that come to mind.

- This year the vestry elected to take a new direction in our larger fellowship events, such as the annual Seder and Oktoberfest dinners. In the past we have charged admission, in the form of pre-purchased tickets, for these events. This year we strove to make these events accessible to all who wish to attend by not charging for attendance but rather asking for donations to help offset costs. I believe this has been financially successful, positively received by attendees and will encourage greater participation and attendance at these events in the future as our congregation continues to grow.
- The vestry created a budget line for financial support of postulants of full time \$1500 per academic year for three years, or half time at \$750 per academic year for six years for a maximum of \$4500.
- The Vestry resolved that the Reverend John Day was made a non-stipendiary associate priest of this parish.
- This past year has been a challenging one for our building and grounds. This was our first year without a sexton, which has had its challenges. A taskforce was set up to define the roles of the sexton(s) in our parish and to make recommendations for filling this role. The taskforce developed a short list of duties and a recommendation for a Sexton team. Although the proposal for a sexton team was well received in concept, no one has yet discerned a calling for this ministry. Here are a few items that have come to pass for building and grounds in 2015:
 - Over the course of the year, we have held two parish clean-up days
 - A cleaning company was selected to clean the church once every 2 weeks.
 - The riding lawn mower suffered mechanical problems and is not currently operable.
 - A grass fire scorched the western portion of the property.
 - A landscape company was selected to perform basic landscape care every 2 weeks.
 - The dead redwood tree directly in front of the church was removed.
 - A dead ornamental plum tree was removed from the parking lot.
 - One of the three flagpoles was damaged and subsequently removed. Due to costs, the vestry chose not to replace this pole.
 - It was determined that the sacristy and office are in need of renovation and the electrical system is in need of repair/upgrade. A taskforce was established and have worked on securing bids for these projects. This project has been deferred to 2016 for implementation.
 - An Eagle Scout was invited to assist the parish with repairs to the wooden deck and ramp. Minor repairs were coordinated by the Eagle Scout. The deck and ramp remains in need of replacement and will be added to the list of items for bid with the sacristy and office renovation projects.
 - HVAC system switches and the associated circuits burned out, resulting in the loss of power to part of the building and the well pump for a few days while this was repaired.
 - In December the curb and concrete ramp from the sidewalk to the parking lot were upgraded.

In closing I would like to thank

- the 2015 vestry members (Judy Cullum, Frances Hartzog, Ellen Kabaale, Carl King, Patti Mangabay, Carol McElheney, and Harriet McKinnis) for allowing me to be their representative as Junior Warden.
- Senior Warden Diana Siers for her steady leadership and patience.
- Associate Priests Reverend Roy Coloma, Reverend John Day, Reverend Howard Hartzog, Reverend Dr. Raymond Potter, and Reverend Ronald Zoesch for their spiritual guidance both on and away from the pulpit.
- Priest-in-Charge Reverend Anne Largent Smith for her humor and vision.
- The parishioners of St. Mary's for striving to be a warm, welcoming family to all who enter our doors.

Shalom Aleikhem



Annual Report of the Vestry for 2015

Submitted by: Lois Anderson, Clerk of the Vestry

Your vestry has been very busy this past year, working on many projects. Most of these required several months to research and implement and some are still in the developing stage. This was Rev. Anne's first year working with the vestry and we have all grown comfortable working as an effective group.

- Hired a new musical director. Kristin Holt and her family have been an inspiring addition to our church family.
- Finally found someone who would like the stained glass windows that were removed from Our Merciful Savior so many years ago.
- Hired a company to come in and clean the church twice a month. This gave some much needed relief to the few people who had been doing it for many years.
- Hired a lawn service company to keep up the outside. We only had two people willing to mow and Vestry felt that was too large a burden on so few people.
- Approved the recommendation from the CCOM Committee for Julie Vice, Karen Lawler, and Kathy Lawler to continue to seek Postulancy.
- After much research, decided to invest some of our Reserve Funds as this would bring a better return than a savings account.
- Developed a Stewardship Committee to develop a year round stewardship for our congregation.
- Had some much needed repairs done on the entry ramp. Hired a contractor to alter and repair the entrance sidewalk to bring us in compliance with state codes. Had several dead trees removed. Still dealing with an ongoing problem with our electrical system. Procured a new computer for the use of those who count the weekly offerings.
- On July 7th we held a Celebration of New Ministry for Rev. Anne L. Smith as our new priest-in-charge. It was a fun evening and everyone seemed to have a great time.
- Started working on a special training for Safe Church to be held at St. Mary's. Started working on Disaster Preparedness plan. Started considering a hiring a company that develops a reserve funds study so a congregation is ready to handle large cost repairs.
- Decided to not hold the Fireworks Sale this year. We could not find someone or a group that was willing to do all the necessary preparations to enable us to have this fund raising event.

Average Sunday Attendance

2015	75
2014	75.1
2013	68.6
2012	81.2
2011	86.8
2010	88.8
2009	86.8
2008	111.6
2007	112.5
2006	98.7
2005	108.1
2004	118.7
2003	141.3
2002	139.9
2001	131.3
2000	139.0
1999	137.0
1998	135.0



Notes from the Treasurer

Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

The 2015 St. Mary's Budget was based on St. Mary's having a Part-Time Priest-in-Charge. Our 2015 Budget allowed for St. Mary's to cover all operating costs, and keep current on our Promissory Note payments to the Diocese and yet only using \$139 of the Undesignated Reserve Funds.

However due to a number of factors, our Undesignated Reserve Fund actually increased by \$32,228.30.

Those factors being:

- The Budget included Supply Clergy Coverage for two Sundays per month. Anne only used Supply Clergy on average one Sunday per month.
- Priest-in-Charge had medical coverage elsewhere.
- No Child Care for six months and Music Director started at end of January. Both contributed to savings in Payroll Expenses.
- Income was higher than expected, and expenses were less than expected.
- St. Mary's received a \$7,782.01 donation via the Episcopal Foundation of Northern California.

Thus at the end of 2015, St. Mary's had Undesignated Funds of \$174,385.50

2015 Profit & Loss

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
A - Pledge & Plate Offerings	130,331.95
B - Investment Income	4,289.82
C - Rental & Fundraising Income	9,140.92
D - Misc Operating Income	17,082.54
F - Restricted/Designated Income	781.00
Total Income	161,626.23
Expense	
Adult Formation	199.84
Advertising and Promotion	295.52
Apportionment	13,425.96
Building and Grounds	4,540.76
Capital Expense	6,025.00
Child & Youth Formation	253.06
CommUnity	856.95
Convention	150.00
Equipment Lease	1,661.91
Growth & Opportunity	53.89
Hospitality & Fellowship	194.30
Insurance & Taxes	5,676.53
Misc Operating Expense	6,870.96
Music/Video Expense	793.55
Office Expense	4,267.73
Outreach	1,281.00
Payroll Expenses	58,535.61
Priest Funds	3,607.78
Rental Income Expense	1,836.00
Supply - Clergy	3,653.36
Telephone & DSL	2,284.48
Utilities	3,972.41
Worship & Altar Expense	1,017.33
Total Expense	121,453.93
Net Ordinary Income	40,172.30
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
DNC Promissory-Principal	7,944.00
Total Other Expense	7,944.00
Net Other Income	-7,944.00
Net Income	32,228.30

2015 Budget vs Actual			
	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	
Budgeted Income:			
Pledges	97,000	110,395	
Givers of Record / Plate	20,000	19,937	
Fundraising/Scrip	10,000	5,766	
Rental Income	3,600	3,375	
Total Income	130,600	139,473	
Budgeted Expenses:			
Adult Formation	250	200	
Advertising	1,200	296	
Apportionment	15,200	13,426	
Building & Grounds	1,500	4,541	
Child & Youth Formation	100	253	
CommUnity	2,000	857	
Convention	300	150	
Diocesan Requirement	700	0	
Equipment Lease	1,650	1,662	
Growth & Opportunity	200	54	
Hospitality Expense	400	194	
Insurance & Taxes	5,700	5,677	
Music/Video Resources	750	794	
Office Expense	4,000	4,268	
Outreach	500	500	
Payroll Expense	67,045	58,536	
Priest-in-Charge Funds	4,000	3,607	
Scholarship	500	0	
Supply Clergy	8,000	3,653	
Telephone & DSL	2,300	2,284	
Utilities	5,500	3,972	
Worship	1,000	1,017	
Total Expense	122,795	105,941	
Net Deficit/Excess	7,805	33,532	
Non Budget Income	0	22,153	(+)
Debt Reduction	7,944	7,944	(-)
Non Budget Expenses	0	15,513	(-)
Net Cash Flow	(139)	32,228	

Balance Sheet - Assets
December 31, 2015

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

100 General Checking 1.81

200 Designated Savings 69,346.36

210 Memorial Fund CD 11,024.42

Building Funds

220 Smith Barney Cash 55,621.37

310 Building Fund Savings 5,165.65

325 Building Fund CD (41) 8,043.44

Total Building Funds 68,830.46

Investment Fund (Diocese) 129,283.69

Total Checking/Savings 278,486.74

Total Current Assets 278,486.74

Fixed Assets

Land 119,049.00

Total Fixed Assets 119,049.00

TOTAL ASSETS 397,535.74

Balance Sheet – Liabilities & Equity
December 31, 2015

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Promissory Note - DNC	102,499.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>102,499.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>102,499.00</u>
Total Liabilities	102,499.00
Equity	
Building Fund	68,830.46
Designated Funds	
Adult Education	140.00
Audio/Visual Equipment	1,500.00
Camp Noel Porter	592.00
Capital Fund	1,466.24
Columbarium	2,046.53
CommUnity	2,484.32
Financial Peace University	373.07
Flags	361.09
Flowers	1,105.19
Kids Kamp	1,531.41
Memorial Fund	16,219.37
Outreach	1,916.65
Rector Sabbatical Fund	2,100.00
Sharlyn Norman Memorial	1,000.00
SMARTS	1,339.34
Youth	<u>1,095.57</u>
Total Designated Funds	35,270.78
Unrestricted Funds	142,157.20
Unrestricted Net Asset-Property	16,550.00
Net Income	<u>32,228.30</u>
Total Equity	<u>295,036.74</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>397,535.74</u></u>

2015 Outreach Funds Report

Adopt-A-Family	\$ 310.00
Child Spree	\$1,952.00
Domestic & Foreign Ministry	\$ 205.00
Elk Grove Food Bank	\$ 50.00
Fire Relief (Bishop Fund)	\$ 800.00
Gift of Life	\$ 190.00
Lady of Peace & Good Voyage	\$1,121.00
Rebuild the Churches	\$ 735.00
Rector's Discretionary	\$ 821.00
Saint John's - Celebrating30!	\$1,310.00
Saint John's - Mother's Day	\$ 373.00
Tour Against Trafficking	\$ 120.00
United Thank Offering	\$ 745.00

Pledge Report for 2016

2016	
\$110,050	Budgeted Pledge Income
\$112,050	Actual Pledge Amount
32	Number of Pledges
\$ 3,501	Average Pledge Amount

2016 Budget

Income	Pledges	\$	110,050
	Plate/Giver of Record	\$	15,200
	Scrip/Fundraising	\$	4,700
	Rental Income	\$	3,000
	Total Income	\$	132,950
Expenses	<i>(Non-Payroll)</i>		
	Adult Formation	\$	100
	Advertising	\$	750
	Apportionment	\$	15,800
	Building & Grounds	\$	4,550
	Child & Youth Formation	\$	100
	CommUnity	\$	2,000
	Convention	\$	300
	Diocesan Requirements	\$	700
	Equipment Lease	\$	1,650
	Growth & Opportunity	\$	200
	Hospitality	\$	400
	Insurance & Taxes	\$	6,000
	Music/Video Resources	\$	1,100
	Office Expenses	\$	4,200
	Outreach	\$	500
	Postulant Support	\$	1,500
	Rental Income Expense	\$	960
	Scholarship	\$	500
	Supply Clergy	\$	8,000
	Telephone & DSL	\$	2,300
	Utilities	\$	4,640
	Worship/Altar Supplies	\$	1,200
	Total Non-Payroll Expenses	\$	57,450
	<i>(Payroll)</i>		
	Payroll – Music Director	\$	11,520
	Payroll – Nursery Staff	\$	1,612
	Payroll – Office Staff	\$	8,080
	Payroll – Rector	\$	32,832
	Payroll – Rector Insurance	\$	4,860
	Payroll – Rector Pension	\$	5,910
	Payroll Processing Fees	\$	600
	Payroll Taxes	\$	1,686
	Priest-in-Charge Funds	\$	4,000
	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$	600
	Total Payroll Expenses	\$	71,700
	Total Expenses	\$	129,150
	Net Income/(Loss)	\$	3,800
	Debt Reduction	\$	7,944
	Use Reserve Funds	\$	4,144

SAINT MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
28th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2015

Opening prayer led by Reverend Anne Largent Smith at 11:10 am

Voting Instructions: The by-law instructions were shown on the overhead screen. For Vestry, vote for 4 candidates. For Convention Delegate, vote for two as one seat is reserved for the new senior warden.

Nominations from the floor for Vestry and Convention Delegates: There being no further nominations for Vestry, Lynn Holman moved, Scott Siers seconded that the nominations for vestry be closed. Motion carried. There being no further nominations for Convention Delegates, Lynn Holman moved, Scott Siers seconded that the nominations for delegate be closed. Motion carried.

Brief introduction to the candidates: Vestry: Sandi Reed, Diana Siers, Patty Mangabay, Carol McElheney. Delegates: Julie Vice, Dorothy Stoppelmann, Kathy Lawler.

Polls declared open at 11:18 am. Ballots were distributed.

Blessing of food: Prayer from Rev. Anne. Barbara Nill explained the procedure to get the food. We thank you Barbara for coordinating this.

Song: *Now Thank we all our God* (Hymnal 397)

Annual Meeting Minutes from last year: Harriet McKinnis moved we approve the minutes. Karen Lawler seconded. Motion carried.

Reports:

Priest-in-Charge's report: *The Rev. Anne Largent Smith.* Anne shared the joy she experienced during the calling process and when she started serving here. During 2015, she wants to build on the wonderful things we already have here. She was also happy to welcome our new Music Director, Kristen Holt, to serve us.

Treasurer: Susi Jacobo-Vice presented a brief overview of last year. Our income was over what we budgeted and expenses were less than expected. Over \$55,000 has been placed in our reserve fund this year. The 2015 budget is close to last year. Everything is a little up from last year. We are less than \$200.00 shy of funding this budget. Things are looking good right now.

Thanks and acknowledgements (round 1): *ALS+:* Rev Anne thanks. Randy Lee was called to accept a small token of our thanks for all the hours of work that he supplies to our church. Kathy, Julie Karen and Lynn our worship ministers, were thanked for all their hard work keeping the worship going during our long transition. Mary Liz was thanked for caring for the altar linens. Judy Cullum was asked to receive a gift for Taps, for all the wonderful photographs he has provided as a history of our parish.

Song: *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee* (Hymnal 376)

Testimonials: In-reach and Outreach: Scott Siers presented a brief report on our first Christian Concert with Jeff Anderson. We can consider this a wonderful success because two people were so moved by their experiences that they gave their life to Christ at the conclusion of the concert. Frances Hartzog explained a little about Kids Kamp and what a wonderful experience it is for the youth who attend. Julie Vice presented a brief summary of Trunk or Treat. This was our third annual for this event. Kids come in costume, people decorate their trunks and hand out candy and there are games for the kids to play. Our numbers have increased each year. People come from all over the Sacramento area.

Polls declared closed at 12:18 pm. Scott Siers and Barbara Nill counted the ballots.

Testimonials: Dorothy Stoppelmann shared the wonderful experience of Child Spree. Our efforts, in supporting this effort, makes such a difference to many deserving children in the Elk Grove school district. Those who volunteer to shop with the kids also have a wonderful experience helping the child to shop and get some things that they need to start the new school year. Rod Pugh reported on our major fundraiser, the sales of fireworks. This year was easier because many people shared the load of organizing this event. Many years ago, when we first started, fireworks sales were used as outreach. He would like to see us get back on a solid financial footing to get us back to using these funds again for reaching out to the community. Diana and Destiny Siers explained three outreach projects that happen at the end of the year. One is our outreach drive for coats, backpacks and other items needed by the homeless. After these are collected, a group of parishioners actually go out to distribute these items to those in need. We also collect food to distribute food baskets for Thanksgiving. We adopt a family, purchase and wrap the presents and then deliver them to the family. This year it was a family with 9 children! This was a great undertaking for our small parish. We made quite a difference in the lives of these 10 people.

Junior Warden's report: *Scott Siers:* Scott shared that it has been a rewarding three years as junior warden. During his three years on the Vestry, he has gone through two priest-in-charge searches. Our finances have improved during these three years. Community involvement has also increased during this same time period. Momma's Bootcamp also started renting our facilities during this time. They keep a presence on our property three evenings each week. At the end of his presentation, Anne presented Scott with a token of our appreciation for his service.

Senior Warden's report: *Julie Vice:* Julie thanked all who helped her to get through this last year. When she said yes to serve as the senior warden, she had no idea that Fr. David would be leaving and she would get the opportunity to learn all that goes into running a parish. Julie was presented with a gift as thanks for her service.

Thanks and acknowledgements (round 2): *ALS+:* Paula Sink will be presented with a token of appreciation for her service on the vestry when she regains her health. Susi Jacobo-Vice received a token for her wonderful work as treasurer. Lois Anderson was also recognized for her service to our parish.

Announcement of election results: All four Vestry candidates were elected. Dorothy Stoppelmann and Julie Vice are the delegates and Kathy Lawler is the alternate.

Song: *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing* (Hymnal 344)

Closing prayer from Rev. Anne

(A brief Vestry meeting will follow to choose our new wardens.)

Closed at 12: 55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lois B. Anderson, Clerk of the Vestry

Music Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Kristin Holt

Psalm 96:1 urges us to “Sing to the Lord a new song,” and the St. Mary’s choir certainly did that many times in 2015! Meeting consistently on Thursday evenings, the choir prepared for and participated in the 10am Sunday worship service, major Lenten and Holy Week services, and two Easter services. The services for Pentecost and the Celebration of New Ministry for Reverend Anne Smith were particularly exciting moments for St. Mary’s music ministry, while songs from the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas services still resound in our heads! Musical accompaniment was also provided for CommUnity on the fourth Saturday of each month.

We were blessed this year to have Kathy Lawler, Karen Lawler, Destiny Siers, Karalyn Holt, and guest pianist Kimberly Perez provide special music for various services throughout the year. The Youth Sunday services provided additional opportunities for the youth of St. Mary’s to use their musical talents to worship and glorify God, with Lexi Hill and Kate Smith joining the choir on these occasions.

St. Mary’s music purchased some new percussion instruments in 2015, including a shaker and a djembe (African drum). These instruments have added depth of sound as well as energy to the worship services. Along with the djembe, played primarily by choir member Benjamin Holt, other instruments used during the worship services included ukulele, Celtic drum, flute, and guitar.

While we continued to use the *Hymnal 1982* and *Gather* for our primary music sources, we added *Wonder, Love, and Praise*, which is the supplement to the Hymnal 1982. In partnership with CommUnity, St. Mary’s music department also purchased a SongSelect membership. This membership allows us to legally obtain music and song sheets for a wide variety of contemporary Christian music which can be included in the 10 am Sunday worship service as well as the 6pm Saturday CommUnity service.

As I approach the first anniversary of my tenure as Music Director here at St. Mary’s, I would like to express my gratitude to Kathy Lawler, Julie Vice, Lois Anderson and Karen Lawler for their wisdom and guidance over this past year. They have graciously shared their talents and their insights while continuing to support the music ministry.

Ministries and Organizations Reports

CommUnity Saturday Service Annual Report

Submitted by: Julie Vice

CommUnity has completed its **fourth year** of good and faithful worship. We continue to average 13 people each Saturday throughout the year. We are a very small but mighty group of worshipers. We would love to have you join us if you have not already done so. The service is not intended to replace your typical Sunday morning worship but instead either as an addition to your worship or as a way for others who may not feel comfortable at a Sunday service to be able to worship. We have had some fantastic moments over this past year; moments of tears, moments of laughter, moments of awe and wonder and moments of wondering what is going on. Yet at the end of another year, we can all look back and enjoy and look forward and anticipate more to come!!

CommUnity continues to work hard at finding ways to make our community of St. Mary's relevant to the larger community around us. This year we did this in several different ways:

- We sponsored another contemporary **Christian Concert** by Josiah James, a semi-local singer, who preformed inside the church. We would have liked to have had a larger turn out and will be looking for ways to bring in other entertainment with greater success.
- We **collected coats**, backpacks, underwear, gloves and socks again this year with the number of items surpassing the number collected last year. (This year we had 381 items donated! – Thank you to all who donated.) In addition to collecting these items, we were given the opportunity to hand them out individually at two different locations. We went to the location we have been going for the three years prior, by the Union Gospel Mission off Richards Blvd. and we were also able to connect with one of the programs that houses the homeless and visited people while they were preparing to stay at our Cathedral downtown. We did not have many people come out with us and would like to encourage you to consider joining us next year. It is important that we are actively being the hands and feet of Christ in our world today.
- We were able also to **provide Christmas gifts** to a wonderful family. This family was recommended by one of parishioners. They were truly a family with little means but with amazing spirits and those of us who were able to deliver the presents were truly blessed by this family.

And while there remain many goals for this service, I feel that we were able to provide a community for those who needed it. We look forward to all that God has in store for us in the coming year and hope that each of you will choose to be a part of it. We are here **every Saturday at 6pm** with Holy Communion and Holy Spirit potluck on the Fourth Saturday. See you there!!!

God is good.

Congregational Commission on Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: David Gleason

The 2015 Congregational Commission on Ministry (CCOM) consisting of David Gleason (Chair), Fr. Howard Hartzog, Barbara Nill, Taps Taporco, and Rod Pugh met mostly at the beginning of the year and did not convene in the summer or fall seasons. Over the course of these meetings we helped two individuals with their discernment of ordination process. The final result of these meetings and reflections was the CCOM recommending Karen Lawler and Kathy Lawler to the vestry and Priest-in-Charge for discernment on the diocesan level. The vestry and Priest-in-Charge subsequently concurred and the candidates were lifted up to the Diocesan Commission on Ministry.

CCOM Membership

Per the Diocesan manual for CCOMs, membership on the CCOM is to be for a 3 year term. Currently the membership status is as follows:

- David Gleason 2012-2015
- Barbara Nill 2012-2015
- Taps Taporco 2013- 2016
- Fr. Howard Hartzog 2013-2016
- Rod Pugh 2015-2018

In January 2016, Barbara Nill and David Gleason will cycle off of the Commission.

Fr. Howard Hartzog moved out of the parish in the fall of 2015 and no longer serves on the CCOM.

Recommendations

I recommend the 2016 vestry look to identifying new members as soon as possible for the New Year. The CCOM has two main areas of focus: to assist individuals who are discerning ordination and of equal importance members of the congregation discern their own callings to ministry of all levels within the church. This second component has not been directly addressed by this CCOM. I recommend that the vestry commission the newly populated CCOM with the task of addressing ministry discernment within the congregation at large.

I also recommend that a system for CCOM membership be created in order to reduce big swings in members as is occurring at the end of this year.

Tuesday Evening Prayer Service Annual Report

Submitted by: Kathy Lawler and Lynn Holman

The Office – prayer of the people throughout the day – is an ancient and important part of the worship of the church. Much of the Book of Common Prayer is devoted to the various services that make up the daily Office. The focus in the BCP is on Morning and Evening prayer, with additional services included for Noonday, and Compline (night prayer).

St. Mary's has celebrated communal Evening Prayer twice a month for many years, 2015 included. We gather in prayer the first and third Tuesday evenings most months. The first Tuesday service is led by Lynn Holman and the one on the third Tuesday is led by Kathy Lawler. These prayer services are thematic and include the use of the seasons and holy days of the church year. Lynn's prayer services use contemporary prayers, collects, canticles, poetry, creeds, readings and reflections. Kathy's prayer services are more meditative and are close adaptations of the order of Evening Prayer Rite II from the BCP. Her services include the use of Taize and other forms of music.

Evening Prayer at St. Mary's has also been the setting for other communal services over the past year. During Lent, Lynn led a different service for the Stations of the Cross each Friday evening. During an evening Prayer service in November, we celebrated our remembrance of those who have died—with a particular focus on those we lost from our St. Mary's family this past year.

We invite you to come and join in the worship of Evening Prayer. Come and be part of prayer that is both ancient and new. Come and see!



Tuesday Evening Bible Study Annual Report

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

Tuesday evening bible study is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm and is held in the home of Lois Anderson. We wish to give a heartfelt thank you to Lois for hosting this bible study. We started the year studying the Minor Prophets. The Minor Prophet books are so called only because of the size of the books not because the Minor Prophets were of less importance.

We are now studying the books of the Apocrypha. The story told in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) takes readers up to the Persian period to the time of 445 B.C, the next events found in the Protestant Bible concerns the last years of King Herod of Judea who died in 4 B.C. A lot happened in between. The Jews wrote a vast amount of literature during the period between and the Apocrypha is the result.

The Tuesday evening bible study is an in-depth bible study where we delve into the customs of the people and the locales of the story. We discuss who were the individual(s) Jesus was speaking to and why. What was their background, and how do they fit into the story. We go line by line, verse by verse and have lively discussions on what the scripture means to us. Please contact either Lois Anderson or Lynn Holman (facilitator) if you have questions or would like to join us in 2016. All are welcome; we would love to see you.

Tuesday Book Group Annual Report

Submitted by: Rev. Anne Smith

In Lent, Lynn Holman invited me to lead a session of the soup-and-study series she was leading each Tuesday night. I led a group that met Tuesdays at noon. Both groups worked through Adam Hamilton's book and video, *24 Hours That Changed the World*. It was such a pleasure to talk, eat, and study with the group during Lent that we decided to continue meeting Tuesdays at noon. During the rest of the year, we read and discussed Bp. Andrew Doyle's *Unabashedly Episcopalian*, Anne Lamott's *Help. Thanks. Wow.*, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's *Crazy Christians*, and Fr. Richard Rohr's *Falling Upward*. The group nourished our relationships with each other and our spiritual growth and formation.



Audio-Visual Ministry Annual Report

Ever wonder what the Audio-Visual Ministry is about? During the 10:00 am service, and most of the special services (Holy Week, Easter, Christmas, etc.) we run the PowerPoint Presentation and turn microphones on and off as needed.

We are currently looking for a few more people to help with this ministry. If you think this is something you might like to do, please check in with Susi Jacobo-Vice, David Gleason, or Diana Siers for more information.



Coat and Backpack Drive for the Homeless Annual Report

Submitted by: Julie Vice

As with everything that we do at St. Mary's, the generosity of those who gave was wonderful and I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. This year the drive collected 380 items. These items included coats, sweatshirts, long johns, gloves, backpacks, and many handmade beanies. These items were then sorted by size and boxed to be taken out. This year we also decided to provide our guests with a "goodie bag" which consisted of snacks and hand warmers. We then met following church on Sunday and went out to an area off I5 and Richards and handed the items out. The remaining items we were able to take the next day to Trinity Cathedral and personally hand out to those who came to sleep there that evening. When we were finished we had personally handed out 330 of the 380 items.

Being able to see the appreciation when they found something they could use, it was wonderful. I find each time I do these things how much more I, too, appreciate what I have. I cannot encourage you enough to come with us next year. You do not have to be standing or walking for extended time but instead can just sit and be the presence that they need. You will be changed.

Start looking for items for next year, and prepare for us to ask you to help in a new and creative way as we try to reach out into our surrounding community and have them help us with this project as well.

Thanks again and here's to another great year!!

Do Justice, Love Mercy and Walk Humbly with your God!

Trunk or Treat Annual Report

Submitted by: Julie Vice

CommUnity again was blessed with the opportunity to sponsor our **4th Annual** Trunk or Treat. This continues to be such an amazing way for St. Mary's to be known to the community. When we started four years ago, we had approximately 50 children, the next year it was up to 100 and last year we grew again to having just under 150 children. This year, we had more than 200 children and families join us from 23 different zip codes!!! That means we are truly reaching out into our community. We had many volunteers from the church who came and hosted trunks as well as those who came to help with the games and activities that we offer the children.

There were a couple things we did add to this year as opposed to in the past. We encouraged at least some of the trunks and games to participate and provide information about a program designed to insure that ALL children who wish to enjoy the activities can by providing non-food items as "treats". The project is called the Teal Pumpkin Project and I encourage each of you to consider doing this at your homes as well. The other thing we did was include our friend Tim Gianelli (who does the Yard Sale/Flea Market on our front lawn) and he and his family and workers came and setup additional games and which the children really enjoyed.

I really would like to thank all those who came out and put together trunks and those who ran the games. Without your help this cannot be done.

We plan to continue to grow this event and I really encourage you to come out and participate in this event next year. **Save the date: October 30, 2016.** It is not a lot of work and the payoff of seeing the faces of the kids and their families is wonderful.

God is an amazing God!!



Flea Market Annual Report

Submitted by: Diana Siers

Tim came in to talk to vestry in the spring to discuss his contract with us. He asked us, at that time, to increase from once a month to twice a month to have his flea market on our grounds with the same share that he had been giving us each time. The vestry agreed and Tim started having his flea market on the 1st and 3rd of each month. During the summer months, he would sometimes come once, sometimes twice a month depending on his schedule and his health. He was also willing to help us whenever we asked him. He helped out by bringing and running games at Trunk or Treat and also helped out with the grilling during St. Mary's Day.

Worship Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Submitted by Diana Siers

Liturgical Ministries

The goal of our liturgical ministries is to enable us as one community at St Mary's to praise, honor and glorify God in worship. As the Body of Christ has many parts, so our communal worship is expressed in a diversity of forms. Making this happen is a labor of love by many people.

Worship Team

As Reverend Anne began the year with us, she took the reins of leading the worship team. Despite being a part-time priest, she felt this was her role. She was glad to have the help of Lynn Holman, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, Julie Vice, Lois Anderson, and Diana Siers. The team was able to tell how we have done things in the past and why we might do things the way we do. We hired Kristin Holt as Music Director in February and she has become a wonderful asset. We are grateful for our lay worship leaders (Lynn Holman, Julie Vice, Kathy Lawler, and Karen Lawler) and our associate priests (Father Coloma, Father Ray, Pastor Ron, and Father John) that continue to lend their help when Reverend Anne is on her off weeks.

All of our plans come to life through the work of our dedicated liturgical ministers.

Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors

We are blessed with our Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors who assist with the distribution of the consecrated wine and bread at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist and take communion to those who are unable to participate in our Sunday worship due to illness. Many thanks to our Eucharistic Visitors this year; they were Julie Vice and Scott Siers. Much gratitude to our serving Eucharistic Ministers: Norm DeYoung, Scott Siers, Mary Ann Renzi, Mark Voskuil, Julie Vice, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, and Mark Nill, and chalice bearers Lynn Holman and David Gleason.

Lectors and Intercessors

The lectors proclaim the lessons during our worship services. We rely on their faithful service to hear God's word proclaimed each week. A special thank you to Scott Siers, Norm DeYoung, Carl King, Judy Cullum, Michael Taporco, Diana Siers, Destiny Siers, Paula Sink, Dorothy Stoppelmann, Julie Vice, Harriett McKinnis, Frances Hartzog, Mark Nill, Paula Sink, Lois Anderson, Lynn Holman, Kathy Lawler, Ruth Carnie, Carol McElheney, Mary Liz Pugh, and Patti Mangabay.

The intercessors lead us in the Prayers of the People. We would like to thank those that help with this ministry: Norm DeYoung, Michael Taporco, Mary Ann Renzi, Diana Siers, Kathy Lawler, Lynn Holman, Julie Vice, Mary Liz Pugh, Carol McElheney, and Patti Mangabay.

Greeters and Ushers

The greeters and ushers are the first face of our parish community extended to the newcomer. Their smiles, warm words of welcome, assistance in locating bulletins, restrooms or the nursery say that we are a welcoming community. They collect the offerings of the people and present them at the altar. We rely on them to count our numbers and keep our communion procession in good order. Thanks to Mary Ann Renzi, Carl and Cely King, Mark Voskuil, Lincoln Tremble, Richard and Shirley Lange, Randy Lee, Carol McElheney, Rod and Mary Liz Pugh, Ruth Carnie, Mark Nill, Frances Hartzog, Sarian Wyse, David and Astra Gleason, and JoAnn Vice for their service.

Altar Guild

This year, we have worked on restarting an altar guild. In the beginning of the year, JoAnn Vice and Frances Hartzog took this project on. They worked with Paula Sink and Lynn Holman and revamped procedures. They started prepping the vessels needed for the early service the day before so that all that was needed was to bring everything into the sanctuary. Paula Sink started the year purchasing and arranging the flowers in the sanctuary each week. When she was no longer able to do this, Frances Hartzog took over, and when Frances moved away, Kathy Lawler took over. Kathy is in the process of forming a flower guild so that it's not all on one person's shoulders. JoAnn was happy to have Patti Mangabay come on when Frances moved away, and they are also trying to bring on more people to help with this ministry. For both the flower and altar guild, the request is for more people. The goal is to have enough volunteers so each person serves just once a month. If you are interested, please let one of them know.

We also want to thank those that have been baking the bread used each week during the Eucharist: Irene Roltsch, Carol McElheney, and JoAnn Vice. Thank you to Susi Vice who purchases our wine for us, and to Lois Anderson for her wonderful sewing abilities in mending and making new linens as needed. Also, we wish to give a heartfelt thank you to Mary Liz Pugh who launders all the linens for both services each week. One more thank you to all of those that have helped us change the sanctuary during Christmas, Easter, and other special occasions.

Audio-visual

At the Sunday 10:00 a.m. service, the 6:00 p.m. Saturday night service, and special holiday services, the worship aid for the service is projected onto the large screen to support everyone in participating. We wish to thank our A/V technicians who keep our audio-visual system synchronized to our worship services. They are Susi Vice, David Gleason, and Diana Siers. We are hoping to continue to expand this ministry in 2016 so that there is a longer rotation. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please see one of them or a member of the worship team.



Stewardship Team Annual Report

Submitted by: Rev. Anne Smith

In the fall, Diana Siers, Carl King, Mark Nill, Pastor Ron Zoesch, the Rev. John Day and I formed a team to help guide the parish's stewardship practices and administer the annual pledge response program. Believing that stewardship is a spiritual practice that applies to all we do with all we have, the team thought broadly about how to invite people to engage the spiritual practice of giving and caring for the gifts with which we have been entrusted. We read Charles R. Lane's book *Ask. Thank. Tell.* and incorporated principles from that source and others to develop a plan of action. We invited preaching and testimonials to speak to the congregation about the discipline of stewardship and the blessings it yields. The group continues to meet to foster the practice of stewardship in the congregation.

Fellowship Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

The Fellowship Committee has been very busy this year planning and coordinating fellowship events throughout the year. Our first event took place on New Year's Eve as we celebrated our blessings of 2014 and looked forward to the joys to come in 2015.

This was followed in a few weeks by our 28th Annual Meeting. The congregation was royally fed with a delicious luncheon coordinated by Barbara Nill.

This was followed in a few weeks by our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner organized by Barbara Nill and Scott Siers. Our youth did a fabulous job flipping pancakes and cooking sausages as we enjoyed the delicious food and Mardi Gras theme.

And, this was followed in a few more weeks by our annual Seder Dinner where we relived the events of the Old Testament and enjoyed a kosher style dinner complete with traditional Seder songs.

In July, we celebrated the new ministry of Pastor Anne as Bishop Beisner and the clergy in the Diocese took part in the service welcoming Pastor Anne.

In mid-August the Worship Committee hosted Saint Mary's Day with a joyful celebration of the anniversary of our Parish.

October brought our traditional Oktoberfest complete with loads of German style food and this year, authentic sauerkraut, provided by Astra Gleason's mother.

And, Blessed are those on our Sunday morning Fellowship team. What a wonderful dedicated group you are! We thank, Judy Cullum, Diane Gover, Carl and Cely King, Richard and Shirley Lange, Carol McElheney, Harriet McKinnis, Mary Ann Renzi, Loretta Sherb, Betty and Rav Williams, and Sarian Wyse. We have ten people who unselfishly bring "goodies" and make coffee so we can all enjoy chatting with each other after our worship service.

Fellowship is an immensely important ministry in our Parish. It allows each of us to meet and greet each other in casual settings at parish events or after church on Sunday mornings. We then began to know each other better, care about each other, have compassion for each other, become committed to each other and are able to celebrate with each other.

And, what a wonderful Parish we become.

Crafters Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

We have a Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Mary's. A prayer shawl is any shawl pattern you choose, made with love and prayers for the comfort and healing of the person who will be the eventual recipient. A small group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 11:00-12:00 at the church to work on their project. You do not need to be an experienced knitter or crocheter because there are simple patterns and help available at the crafters meetings. Others work on their own at home. Check the church announcements and E-News for date/time changes. If you wish to receive emails and pattern ideas, please contact Mary Beth Voskuil (marybeth@surewest.net).

I think we should mention that folks don't need to attend the meetings to be a part of this ministry - also the projects are not limited to just knitting and crocheting, any other crafters are welcome.

We share projects ideas, make new friends, pray for the person who will be receiving the item (known or unknown), and most of all the love of our handicrafts.

Our goal was to have many shawls on reserve at the church for our Priests to present to folks as a need arises. If you know someone who would benefit from a prayer shawl (female or male), please let Rev. Anne know and it can be arranged.

We delivered many shawls this year to comfort during an illness, personal loss, pre and post surgery care, and hospice for an individual or family member. In addition, our group created hats for the CommUnity sponsored Winter Coat Drive for the homeless.

Our objective is that each crafter picks a project or is asked to make an item for an individual. The style and color of the item is prayerfully decided by the crafter. Many of the shawls patterns are in the three stitch repeated pattern for the Trinity. Prayers for the recipient are knitted, or crocheted, into the piece.

The presentation of the shawl is very inspiring. "It is comforting to think that we may be of help in ways that we don't even realize" Rachel Naomi Remen M.D. The shawls are draped over the person and prayers are read to them. The knitted or crocheted piece is a soft, cozy, colorful shawl/throw to be wrapped in at times of need.

SMART Seniors Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

Another year has passed and the seniors are still meeting and eating, although our numbers have dropped because of the faithful people who moved away. We are praying to increase our attendance and recruit a new leader. We meet on the first and third Thursday of the month. One person volunteers to bring the lettuce and everyone else brings something that goes good with salad.

Our first outreach project for 2015 was Easter Baskets for the children of St. John's Shelter. We started out providing some empty baskets and asked the congregation to fill them with what they felt should be in an Easter basket for a child, wrap it in cellophane and ribbon, and return on Palm Sunday. The people at St. John's were very happy to have them. We are planning to do this again in 2016.

On Maundy Thursday, the seniors gathered early, along with interested others, to stuff plastic Easter Eggs for the egg hunt between services on Easter morning. As usual it was fun for all involved.

The Crafters Ministry, formerly known as the Knitting and Crocheting Ministry, is still meeting before our seniors meeting and we are happy to have them lead into our ministry.

We sponsored the Thanksgiving baskets. This year we had 7 families that had Thanksgiving Dinner because St. Mary's cared. We might be a small congregation but we care deeply and respond when we see a need.

In December we did not think we had enough participants to hold our annual "cookies by the pound" sale. Instead, we tried "selling" decorated candy canes for a donation. We use the money raised to purchase larger items for the pregnancy center and other projects around the church.

Now we begin 2016 as we began 2015 with the giving tree for the Alternatives Pregnancy Center. We used our small tree and a total of 205 different items were given to hang on and place under the tree! The giving tree remained up through Epiphany 2016 and then was packed up to take to the center. There were many handmade blankets. We had sleepers and clothing, hats and socks, diapers and wipes, and much more. Again, St. Mary's has helped those in need.

We have high hopes for more outreach and trips to interesting places. We have been trying to work a trip to the Sacramento Zoo and Daffodil Hill, plus our annual trip to Apple Hill.

If you are available on the first and third Thursday of the month at noon, please join us for the pot luck salad lunch. Officially one should be 55 years old, but we don't mind if you aren't that old or if you don't have grey hair. Just be happy in serving the Lord and using his creations to praise him and help others while having fun.

Adult Formation Annual Report

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

The adult formation class meets on Sunday mornings between the 7:30 am (now 8:00 am) and 10:00 am services. We started the year studying the Book of Joshua. Joshua had served as Moses' apprentice, so when God appointed Joshua as Israel's leader he was ready to lead the People of Israel across the Jordan River into the Promised Land. As they lived there the Promised Land was settled and divided among the twelve tribes. The book of Joshua reveals much about God, who judges sin and faithfully keeps his promises.

We finished the year studying the book of Judges. After Joshua there was no assigned leader for the people of Israel. During the time of Judges the people of Israel were continually unfaithful to God's covenant, and God allowed Israel's enemies to oppress them. Israel repeatedly turned to God for help and He repeatedly rose up leaders to save the people of Israel.

During Lent this year the adult formation class used the book "Scriptures for the Church Seasons - Lent 2015 – The Lord is our Salvation". This book is a Lenten study based on the Sunday readings from the Revised Common Lectionary. Through the study of the readings each Sunday for Lent we were invited to explore God's saving and redeeming love.

During Lent we also had an evening Soup and Lenten study. We used the book by Adam Hamilton "Journey to the Cross - Reflecting on 24 Hours That Changed the World". The book helped us experience the final hours of Jesus' life in new ways and asked us to take our own journey to the cross. There was also an accompanying DVD that took us to the holy land to travel to the same places that Jesus traveled. Thank you to those who provided soup and bread for us each week of the Lenten study.

For the second time during Lent we did the Stations of the Cross each Friday night for a total of six Friday nights. Each Friday night a different Station of the Cross was presented, from Mary's view, to justice and how we care for each other.

Children and Youth Formation Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Barbara Nill

Our St. Mary's Sunday School class has been gathering since September and we are blessed to have 3-10 children each Sunday in our classroom. We have restructured our classroom to include parent volunteers on a rotating basis along with Barbara Nill as the lead teacher and program coordinator. Parents who have volunteered include Astra Gleason, Diana Siers, Ellen Kabaale, Keith Smith, Mark Nill, and Sandi Reed.

We meet each Sunday during the 10:00 service with our class and the addition of the parents in the classroom has been wonderful. The children proudly demonstrate their reading skills, discussion abilities, and their arts and crafts skills to their peers and parents as we focus on a biblical or liturgical theme or story. The joy and fun that exists within our classroom is a blessing to all who are involved with this ministry.

We continue to use the Weaving God's Promises curriculum and work to provide creative and fun lessons and activities to our preschool and school age children. We started at Year 1 of the Weaving God's Promises curriculum this year in order to introduce the curriculum to our parent teachers and any students who were new to this program. The year one theme is, Weaving our Faith, and we continue to seek and find creative and fun ways to bring the Bible and the ministry of Jesus to our children in activities, song, and dramas.

Another enhancement for this year has been the incorporation of the children into the end of the worship service as they give a synopsis of what they did in class that Sunday. The priest asks the kids what promise they learned and then they discuss our lesson and what promise God gave to them in that lesson. They also show their craft or activity to the congregation. The kids love to share their work and are proud to tell what they learned and what the lesson was about. We are still working on understanding how God's promise weaves through what they've learned but they are beginning to connect these concepts.

We also have participated in Youth Sunday services and these opportunities allow the children to be a part of the worship service and practice their public speaking in a safe, nonthreatening place. It allows them to read the word of God, act out lessons or themes they learn in class through skits and songs and start to connect to the liturgy. It is fun to watch them develop their confidence and comfort in speaking in public and wonderful of the congregation and worship team to allow them that chance.

We had a wonderful Christmas pageant at the Christmas Eve family service and a Happy Birthday Jesus party recently and we look forward to the Lenten season, Easter and our family Easter egg hunt.

We are grateful for the opportunity and responsibility of teaching our St. Mary's children and so thankful for the parents mentioned who have helped in the classroom. Without your commitment and service we would not be able to have a weekly Sunday school class. We ask the congregation for your continued prayers for this important ministry and again thank you for your support. We will continue to strive to provide a warm and caring environment for our children's ministry and invite all children and their families to join us.

Kids Kamp Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

Kids Kamp was held the third week in July, Monday through Friday mornings and welcomed 14 attendees and three youth helpers. This year we continued with a free Kamp, and requesting donations to help offset the expenses. The response was wonderful! With careful planning and limited spending, we pulled this off within our budget and have funds for next year.

The themes this year were illustrated with clips from Dream Works movie "How to Train Your Dragon". We have a different Bible based theme each day with a bible reading, story and three crafts that illustrate that theme. We also include games, snack (also theme based), and music.

The final culmination is a special Sunday worship service where the Kampers are invited and included in the service. Because most of the Kampers who attended the worship service were our own, they did a wonderful job of leading the congregation in a marvelous rendition of "Peace is Flowing Like a River" and "We Are Marching" with the verses adapted to reflect the five themes for the week!

Our "Training our Dragons" theme was illustrated with flying dragons hanging from the ceiling and more dragons (each one so very different) on the walls.

We could not have done it without all the help of so many from the congregation, Betty Williams, Deb Hess, Paula Sink, John Hill, Lori Hill, Frances Hartzog, Fr. Howdy Hartzog, Diana Siers, Carol McElheney, Loretta Sherb, Terry Mah, Irene Roltch and our youth leaders, Destiny Siers, Ben Holt, Karalyn Holt, Katherine Holt and Breanna Holquin. We were also very lucky to have our Music Director, Kristin Holt to play our music for practice and performance, and, Rev. Anne leading us all each day and working so hard to make each child's experience rewarding and fun.

As you can see this program involves a large part of the congregation and takes months of preparation but watching the kids getting involved and experiencing Jesus in their lives makes it all worthwhile. It is truly amazing to have a child come up to you at the end to tell you this was the best vacation Bible school they had ever experienced!

This July 11-15, (save the date now!) will be "Inside Out" -We shall consider how our emotions shape our lives and how they can help us get closer in our relationship with God.