

St.
Paul's
Annual
Report

2017

Annual Meeting

January 28, 2018

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BRUNSWICK, MAINE
Annual Parish Meeting
28 January 2018

AGENDA

"... love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers." Romans 12:10-13

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| 1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer | The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund, Rector |
| 2. Introduce Leadership | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 3. Acceptance of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 4. Acceptance of 2017 Annual Report as Written | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 5. Introduce Nominees | Carol Bondy, Nominating Comm. Chair |
| 6. Call for Nominations from the Floor | Carolyn H. Eklund |

A Nominee must be a member in good standing (acc. to Canon, give financially and attend worship at least four times in the year, at least 16 years old), and must have agreed to run.

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| 7. Voting | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 8. Announce Election | Carol Bondy |
| 9. Presentation to Outgoing Leadership in Gratitude | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 10. Presentation of 2017 Finances and 2018 Budget | Lenita Richard, Finance Comm. Chair
Nancy Whitehouse, Treasurer |
| 11. Giving Program, Pledging Data, Pledging Update | Paul Womer, Giving Program Chair |
| 12. St. Paul's Ministry Priorities and our Future | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 13. Move to Adjourn | Carolyn H. Eklund |
| 14. Sung Dismissal | Led by Randy Day, Music Ministry Dir. |

Nominating Ministry Team Report

The Nominating Ministry Team members are Jo Belknap; Carol Bondy, Chair; Jim Johnston and Jane Redlon.

The Nominating Ministry Team submits the following slate for a vote at the Annual Meeting on January 28, 2018:

Senior Warden (two-year term) Paul Womer

Vestry Members (three-year term) Susan Martens, Abigail Manny Patterson, and William Edman

2018 Convention and Episcopal Electing Convention scheduled for February 2019.

Delegates: Linda Ashe-Ford, Charlie Priest, Emily Levine, Kevin Miller and Pat Ryan

Alternates: Charla Spann and James Ford

Note: At the December 2017 Vestry Meeting, the Vestry resolved and accepted unanimously the Nominating Committee Report recommending that the delegates elected for the 2018 Diocese of Maine convention scheduled for October also serve as the delegates to the Episcopal Electing Convention (New Bishop) scheduled for February 2019.

St. Paul's Church

Vestry Job Description

The Vestry is comprised of a Senior Warden and a Junior Warden, elected for two-year terms, and three groups of three members, elected for three-year terms. Including the Rector, there are twelve voting members of the Vestry. All Vestry meetings are announced, open to all members of the parish, and approved minutes of those meetings are posted on the Church bulletin board. In addition, a Clerk and Treasurer are appointed annually by the Vestry, with the privilege of a voice.

Election to the Vestry is for a three-year term, unless one is elected to fill a vacancy created by resignation. Current vestry members are not eligible for re-election.

As a current Vestry, we expect candidates to be willing to commit themselves with us to:

1. Regular attendance at monthly Vestry meetings and the annual Vestry Planning Retreat.
2. An average of 2 hours weekly in addition to current St. Paul's activity.
3. A leadership role, not necessarily that of Chair, on a parish Ministry Team, with responsibility to communicate its work to the Vestry and vice versa, to recruit new members, and to encourage integration and coordination of that Ministry Team's work into the life of St. Paul's.
4. Participation in the life of worship, education and service of this parish.
5. Participation as a pledger in the Annual Stewardship Program.

Introduction to the Candidates

To serve as **Senior Warden** for a **two-year term: Paul Womer**

Paul was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is a lifelong Episcopalian, attending various Episcopal and Anglican churches in the US and Europe. In Worcester, he sang in the junior choir, served as an acolyte, and was a member of the youth group. For four summers, he taught swimming at Bement Center and Camp, operated by the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. Paul graduated from Assumption College in 1971 with a BA in Political Science and later earned a MS in the Administration of Justice from American University. Paul served with the US Army from 1971-1982 in Japan, Washington, DC, and Germany. In 1982, he joined the CIA and served in Washington and various overseas locations until his retirement in 2005. Concurrent with that service, he also maintained his military status in the Army Reserves in numerous domestic and overseas assignments, retiring in 2000. Paul and his wife, Abigail (Abbie) Van Doren, moved to Brunswick in January 2005, becoming active in St. Paul's shortly thereafter. Paul has been active in the Men's Group, worked on the Christmas Fair, chaired the Buildings & Grounds Ministry, served twice on the vestry, and was been Jr. Warden 2014-2016 and elected Senior Warden in 2017. Abbie is a co-chair of the Reception Ministry and is active in the Bible Study Ministry. Paul is an old-movie buff, enjoys bicycling and sculling during the warmer months. He and Abbie enjoy the live arts (musicals, opera, and stage plays) whenever the opportunity arises.

To serve on the **Vestry** for **three years:**

Susan Martens

Susan Martens and her husband, Bill, of Pownal, Maine have been members of St. Paul's Church in Brunswick for 34 years. Their children, Jess and Kate, were raised in the church. In addition to church involvement (Prayer Group, Thursday Eucharist, Women's Group, Freezer Gourmet Committee), Susan has been active throughout the Brunswick and Portland communities. She volunteers weekly at Mid-Coast Hunger Prevention and Portland Adult Education. Susan is a former English teacher who still practices her craft on anyone who asks for an edit (and even on those who don't)!

Abigail Manny Patterson

Abigail and her late husband retired to Harpswell from Connecticut in 1993 and joined St. Paul's soon thereafter. She has served on the Flower Committee and chaired it for a number of years, and co-chaired the Gourmet Freezer Committee for the Fair for a long time as well. When younger, Abigail worked regularly on the church gardens. She is a fairly recent member of the Lay Pastoral Visitors Committee and also enjoys our Book Group.

Abigail is a graduate of Radcliffe College and mother to six children, grandmother to seventeen. After her youngest started kindergarten, she was employed as Director of Admissions at the New Canaan Country School in Connecticut. Since moving here, community involvement has included volunteering regularly at MidCoast Hospital, serving as Auxiliary President there and as a member of their Board of Directors. She still works on two of their committees. Abigail is a past president of the Harpswell Garden Club and a current volunteer at the Gathering Place and a member of that Board. Her hobbies are gardening, tennis, doting on grandchildren and new husband of two years, the Rev. Bob Patterson.

William Edman

Bill retired from Civil Service working for the Navy repairing nuclear submarines. He sold his house and moved to Maine to be with family. While at St. Peter's Church in Fla., Bill was a lay reader, Chalice bearer, Lay Pastoral Visitor, active in the Cursillo movement, Vestry member, and President and founder of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. While there he completed the course for Education for Ministry. Since having been at St. Paul's he has been active as a Chalice bearer, lay reader, Clerk of the Vestry, and Verger. Bill organized the Red Cross Blood Drive and the food drive to support Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program. He is a member of the Outreach Commission. Bill is also active in coaching youth soccer and basketball and is a substitute teacher in the Brunswick School System.

Delegates to the 2018 Convention & the Episcopal Electing Convention scheduled for February 2019.**Linda Ashe-Ford**

Linda lives in Brunswick Maine with her husband James Ford. They have 2 adult sons, Ethan and Elijah and a granddaughter Jada and grandson Amari. Linda served as the Christian Education Director at St Paul's for 6 years. In the past she also served as the Superintendent of Sunday School for St Peters Church, Portland and the Director of the Day Care Center at Trinity Church, Portland. She has been an educator for over 35 years working with children of all ages. Linda has written Christian Education materials for "Living the Good News" and other publications. Linda retired last year from teaching Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten at the Cricket Hunt School in Freeport, Maine. She is currently working as Aftercare Coordinator at Friends School of Portland. This past summer Linda volunteered with Limited Resource Teacher Training in Ghana.

Pat Ryan

Pat has been a member of St. Paul's since 2005. She also worshiped at St. Paul's in the late 89's and early 90's. She chairs the Outreach Commission, and is also a member of the Finance Committee. She has served as Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Vestry member. She has just completed serving a 3-year term as a lay representative to the Disciplinary Board for the diocese. Pat has been elected as a convention delegate from St. Paul's in 2014, 2015 & 2016. She was an alternate in 2017.

Pat is a board member of the Maine Women's Lobby, The Gathering Place, and on the Advisory Committee of the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust.

Pat is married to Charlie Priest and both usher at the 8:00 service. They have two daughters, and two grandchildren.

Emily Levine

Emily grew up in the mid-Atlantic and first came to Maine as a student at Bowdoin. She and her husband, Pete, and were thrilled to return to the state in 2001, and their daughters Mira and Ellie were born here. She was raised in the Episcopal Church; one highlight of her faith journey was being chosen to participate in a young adults' pilgrimage to Hawaii, Okinawa, and Hiroshima that was organized on the occasion of Presiding Bishop Edmund Browning's retirement. Since joining St. Paul's in 2007, she has tried to find ways to cultivate her own spirituality and involvement in parish life while introducing their children to a faith community. She has served on the St. Paul's Vestry from 2014-2017. Emily has been a fundraising professional for the past 13 years and currently serves as Development & External Relations Director for Portland Public Library.

Kevin Miller

Kevin is a lifelong Episcopalian who joined St. Paul's after relocating to Maine in 2014 after several years in Washington, DC. A native of New Jersey, Kevin grew up in a family heavily involved in all aspects of their close-knit parish. After attending about a dozen different churches in five different states over the past 20 years, Kevin felt like he found a home again when he came to St. Paul's. He has served on the St. Paul's Vision/Mission Statement Team and volunteers at the Christmas Fair. He has volunteered as a driver for Meals on Wheels in Brunswick, Augusta and Ellsworth and was a regular volunteer with Washington, DC's largest food pantry before moving back to Maine. Kevin works as a journalist in Portland and enjoys hiking, camping, kayaking, fishing and pretty much anything outdoors.

Charlie Priest

Charlie graduated from Dartmouth and the University of Maine Law School, practiced law, and served in the Maine Legislature for 14 years. He and Pat Ryan were married at St. Charles Episcopal Church in Gardiner, and have two children, Clare and Jenny, and two grandchildren, Athena and Chiron. He and Pat joined St. Paul's in the 1980's, and have been regular worshipers for the last decade. Both he and Pat usher, normally for the 8 o'clock service, and they were St. Paul's delegates to the Diocesan Convention in 2014 and 2015. Currently, Lucy Leitzell and he are working on writing a history of St. Paul's from 1945 to the present.

Alternates: Charla Spann and James Ford

St. Paul's, Brunswick, Maine

Annual Meeting 29 January 2017

The meeting was called to order by the Rector, the Rev. Carolyn Eklund at 11:40a.m., followed by an opening prayer.

The Rector shared her happiness at starting on her 4th year with us. The expanded Music Ministry is bearing fruit already. From the Parish Profile, the Rector instituted a "First Sundays Life Together". It has been very popular with some, but we aren't getting as many young families. More research and input are needed to strengthen our fellowship and worship together. We have made great strides in interfacing with our community; Frontline and Christian Formation Interfaith dialog are well supported. The success of the 9:30 service necessitated moving into the Great Hall. We are a very healthy and vibrant parish, but we will be further discussing where we can grow and strengthen.

The Rector introduced the leadership: Vestry members Dana Baer, Kevin Miller, Sarah Arnold, Cliff Ruprecht, Jo Belknap, Linda Ashe-Ford, Emily Levine, Chip Liversidge, Pat Ryan Senior Warden, Paul Womer, Junior Warden; Staff: Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator, Randy Day, Music Ministry Director, Melanie Chicoria, Administrative Assistant, Aubrey Farmer, sexton, Mary Lee Wile and Chick Carroll, Deacons.

Peter McCracken moved and Paul Womer seconded acceptance of the minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Pat Ryan moved and Bob Walking seconded acceptance of the 2016 Annual Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Pat Ryan, Nominating Committee Chair introduced the Nominating Committee slate: Senior Warden, Paul Womer, Junior Warden Johanna Wigg; Vestry, 3 year terms, Dana Baer, Betsy Bailey, Caroline Russell, One-year term, Susan Martens; Convention Delegates, Susan Brown, Emily Levine, Kevin Miller, Charlie Priest, Macauley Lord; Alternates: Linda Ashe-Ford, James Ford, Pat Ryan. Each person present stood to be introduced.

The Rector called for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Julia Walking moved and Bob Walking seconded that the slate be accepted by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously. The Rector led the welcoming of the newly elected parish leaders.

Lenita Richard, Chair of the Finance Committee and Nancy Whitehouse, Treasurer presented the end of 2016 financial standing of the parish. First, she thanked the treasurer, Nancy Whitehouse for her service. She thanked the members of the Finance Committee for their service, Charles Arnold, Peter McCracken, Nat Henshaw, Johanna Wigg, The Rev. Carolyn Eklund and Wardens, Pat Ryan, Paul Womer. We ended the year in very strong shape. Our final year end found we had recovered all but \$6500 of our projected deficit, this on top of large unbudgeted repairs to the heating plant.

Paul Womer, Stewardship Chair updated the parish on Stewardship. We have received 141 pledges, 40% of which were increased; 17 new pledges were also reported. Electronic giving is not automatically renewed. Please notify the office if you plan to give regularly, but have not signed a

pledge card so we can plan more effectively. Some discussion was held on the significance of a slightly decreasing Average Sunday Attendance (ASA); much of it can be attributed to our single service Sundays. This possible trend will be discussed at the upcoming Vestry retreat.

Myrna Koonce and Caroline Russell provided an update on St. Paul's engagement in "Living Local: Meeting God in the neighborhood". This 18 month process, led by a lay Guiding Team and steered by a Diocesan hired coach endeavors to find new ways to approach situations and opportunities, rather than continuing with ones which have proven unsuccessful.

The outgoing Vestry members Emily Levine, Linda Ashe-Ford, and Pat Ryan were called up, along with outgoing Clerk, Caroline Russell. The Rector gave a picture to each retiring member.

The meeting ended with a sung dismissal. The motion to adjourn was moved by multiple people from the floor. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 12:30

Respectfully submitted by Caroline Russell, Clerk in conjunction with the Rector.

Rector's Report

“Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread One body are we, for though many, we share one bread.”

The life of St. Paul's Church centers in the gathered body of Christ in worship to be strengthened and nourished for ministry. Christ has work for us to do in this world, and our greatest joy is to glorify him in worship and prepare to go out into the world to love and serve him.

In the year 2016, a group of St. Paul's lay people volunteered to participate in a diocesan-wide discernment of what God is up to in the parish and in the neighborhood. The Living Local Joining God in the Neighborhood Guiding Team met regularly with a coach, and in 2017 their work deepened to include more members of the parish.

The Living Local Guiding Team invited the Vestry to a luncheon after church this fall and introduced us to their work. They shared a TED Talk video with us and we discussed what aspects of the church are dying and the mystery of moving forward into uncharted waters. [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-9G-IJTGA0&feature=youtu.be>]. They each wrote an article in the Friday email describing what Living Local has meant to them. As rector, I have met with them and with my own clergy cohort as we travel forward to listen to each other, our neighbors and to God. What IS God up to at St. Paul's and in our neighborhoods? We agreed to begin to talk to other ministry groups about what God is up to and to try “little experiments” of change into some of our ministries.

You might remember from the Mutual Study of Ministry the vestry completed in 2016 that one of the top priorities was to connect with each other across different congregations. You will read about the changes we made this year in all-parish worship to facilitate more of this integration (see Worship Ministry Team). New this year is the First Sundays, Life Together at 8:00 am Morning Prayer in the Celtic Tradition, a way to gather those who wish for quiet worship on those Sundays we gather for all-parish worship.

In the spring of 2017 we welcomed Sherrie Holbrook to St. Paul's as our Christian Formation Director. Together, Sherrie and I planned this fall to expand our Christian Formation goal of intergenerational connection. Each week after Family Eucharist, families and people of all ages were invited to the “Coffee House Discussion” during which a story-book was read and discussion about Christian values was led. Sherrie also organized monthly activities for families. In December, unfortunately, Sherrie resigned from her position as Christian Formation Director. We give thanks for her vision and her presence among us for those eight months in 2017.

The Vestry and I will revisit our top parish goal of “Bring in new families and young people; develop Family ministries, music, spiritual growth for parents, young adults and singles” and make a plan to have a parish-wide conversation. We hope to create and fund a staff position that not only supports families with small children, youth and newcomers, but sustains it and builds it up for the future. We believe that St. Paul's needs to prepare for our future growth by expanding the role of Christian Formation Director. It will be important for St. Paul's to have a wide commitment to nurturing families with small children, youth and providing a loving and trusting community for all.

The vibrancy of ministry, worship, and the strength of our lay and clergy were demonstrated in 2017 as St. Paul's expanded our leadership in the Diocese of Maine. Three members of St. Paul's have been chosen to work on the new bishop's search and transition teams: Paul Womer serves of the Discernment Team, the Revs. Carolyn Eklund and Mary Lee Wile serve on the Transition Team. Charlie Priest continues his service on the Standing Committee (an elected role similar to a parish Vestry). The Rev. Chick Carroll serves on the Commission on Ministry. Pat Ryan serves on the Provincial Council Disciplinary Board and the Rev. Mary Lee Wile is a Deputy to the General

Convention. In 2017, St. Paul's was called upon by the Diocese of Maine to host the second annual Spring Training, an offering of many ministry workshops.

Early in 2018, our leadership and I will invite our parish to gather for a conversation about our future, the importance of nurturing families of all generations, new people to the faith and our children and youth. Perhaps we will discover that our conversation will reveal the importance of expanding the role of Christian Formation Director to much more than a half-time position. Perhaps we will begin to discern the financial commitment it might take for us to sustain this kind of ministry for several years. We might ask ourselves, what might St. Paul's look like in another generation if we don't?

As I begin my fifth year as rector of St. Paul's, I am aware of the privilege it has been and continues to be to serve with you in ministry. I am very grateful for your commitment to my need for hip surgery and recovery. You have not only demonstrated uncommon pastoral care to me, as you do on a regular basis to others, you have the gift of healing. I felt held in prayer and the Laying on of Hands for Healing that the Healing Team offered me was very important to my healing. Thank you.

I'm grateful as we close 2017 for your open attitude to the things we have changed in the life of this parish.

Thank you for another faith-filled and delightful year together.

Your sister in Christ,

Carolyn+

The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Report from the Wardens

A Diverse and Unified Body of Christ.

Dear Friends in Christ,

In 2016, St. Paul's undertook a study of our mission(s), our wishes, weak points, and strengths. Similar to a SWOT analysis (Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats), the Study of Mutual Ministries helped us focus on our-agreed-upon goals. Those were: (1) Bring in new families and young people; develop Family Ministries, music, spiritual growth for parents, young adults and singles; (2) Develop St. Paul's role in the larger community and nourish outreach; (3) Create opportunities for members of all four congregations to relate with each other as a community of Christ; and (4) Minister with empathy and care to individual parishioners in need.

How are we doing 18 months later? Have we and/or our goals changed? Looking back at the past year, including several focus groups, it is safe to say that our goals remain the same. Are we progressing towards meeting those goals? Yes, but as a family with diverse perspectives and different ideas of how those goals are to be met, there have been some bumps.

The 9:30 service, at first considered as a type of entry-level service, now has its own religious place in our community. At the other end of the spectrum, a monthly, quiet Celtic-based service is quickly acquiring adherents. Along with the services at 8:00, 10:30, and Thursdays, we are a diverse and unified body of Christ.

Our Christmas Fair continued the long tradition of serving the community by providing financial support to local, national, and international programs. We also learned that our "role in the larger community" meant speaking out against hate with a forum attended by people from Boothbay to York, and a strongly worded letter of concern to our elected representatives. This did not come easy and made some uncomfortable: It is not always easy being a diverse and unified body of Christ.

St. Paul's does indeed minister with empathy and care. Pastoral care, counseling, and support to those in need is found often and in so many ways. Unfortunately, that is occasionally in the form of comforting the bereaved as some of our dear friends have left us. Last year we noted as decreased number in our rolls. Now, new members seem to be on the horizon. Providing spiritual growth for all has caused stress: for example, the departure of our Christian Formation Director. Not everyone is prepared to work within such a body as St. Paul's.

In the coming year, how will we be called to serve Christ and how will that look? The above summary shows much good, but with a continued need for discernment as we work toward the goals outlined in the Study of Mutual Ministries. There will be financial obligations to meet (and likely adjustments because of the new tax law). Change is afoot; we must be prepared to adjust in how we continue our mission. St. Paul's might not feel like the church that many of us have been accustomed to - "comfort zones" may be left behind. At the vestry retreat in early February, we will look forward with hope and discernment as we prepare to lead the parish in the coming year. The lessons we learn from the retreat will be shared as we seek input from the parish in a community-wide forum tentatively planned for February/March.

In peace,

Paul Womer
Sr. Warden

Johanna Wigg
Jr. Warden

Report from the Deacons

St. Paul's in Brunswick, Maine is a good place to be a deacon. Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, often says that "we are the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement" – stressing the idea of moving: out of our comfort zone, even out of our doors into our wider neighborhoods. In one of his first addresses, he spoke of how a deacon's role is to anchor this movement in the Gospel before propelling folks into the world to love and serve each other and our neighbors in the Name of the Lord. Our own Bishop Steve and our rector Carolyn echo this call.

Although assisting in worship on Sunday morning is our most visible role at St. Paul's, it's actually not the top priority for deacons. Bishop Lane makes it clear that by virtue of the canons of the Church, a deacon's primary role is "bridge" ministry, connecting the church and the world, helping people live their faith beyond Sunday morning, taking God's Good News to those who may not even have a faith community. Mary Lee and Chick do this in differing ways. During Lent, for example, we organize Ashes to Go in various locations around Brunswick on Ash Wednesday, and plan the Way of the Cross around our neighborhood on Good Friday. Chick and Mary Lee are both contributing members of the Adult Education programs of the parish, and Mary Lee helps shepherd the Sunday morning family programming.

Another "bridge" activity for Mary Lee is the ongoing ministry of the Eucharistic Visitors, which connects homebound parishioners sacramentally to the church. She also facilitates workshops and worship among men and women at the Correctional Center in Windham, writes regularly for Forward Movement's "Grow Christians" blog, which is aimed at families looking for ways to live their faith at home, leads quiet days and workshops around the diocese, serves as Chaplain to the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross, and has been appointed to the Transition Committee for the 10th Bishop of Maine.

For Chick, his primary bridge ministry is to lead others to the work of ministering to and being ministered by those who are materially poor. This is done through The Gathering Place, where so many members of St. Paul's serve and are served. In addition, Chick is active on various committees in the community, working jointly with Tedford Housing, Midcoast Hunger, and the Brunswick Police Department to provide a safer community for those who are poor and homeless.

Being deacons at St. Paul's is a privilege. This is a parish that has long been living into Presiding Bishop Curry's call to servant ministry: through Outreach, Frontline, and our active participation in Living Local: Joining God in the Neighborhood, as well as all the ways individual parishioners tirelessly tend and advocate for those on the margins.

The Revs. Chick Carroll and Mary Lee Wile

Music Ministry Report

The ministry of music in worship at St. Paul's is a weekly and seasonal contribution to the life of our parish. In order to summarize what has taken place during the 365-day interim since last annual meeting could be a lengthy tome to read. Why? For there would be a biased view on my part of what has been accomplished...or not.

Taking a bird's-eye view of this past year, here are some trivial-pursuit details that might be of interest:

1. The Adult Choir learned and offered nearly 75 published and/or arranged compositions, a number of them written by G. Cameron Smith, former choir director for more than four decades.
2. Our Summer Music program netted five different opportunities for folks to join a one-time ensemble. These groups included a Men's Ensemble, Women's Ensemble, Vestry Ensemble, Family Ensemble, and a final group that combined current choir members and any singers who'd participated in the other four pick-up ensembles.
3. Susan Brown, our musician for the 9:30 a.m. service, continued to ably lead the musical component for that service.
4. A new bench and music stands were purchased, allowing for improved seating at our consoles in the Parish Hall and Nave. The extra music stands helped provide equipment not just for our use, but also for Oratorio Chorale and other guest musicians who rehearsed or played for our services.
5. New anthems were purchased in order to expand our choral repertoire.
6. New singers were added to the choir: Janet Foster, Carol Martin, Devonia Redlon, and Brian Swanson.
7. Work continues on "St. Paul's Liturgical Service," a collection of service pieces composed specifically for our use at St. Paul's by yours truly. Individual selections were carefully introduced throughout the year, with more to be shared in 2018. Eventually the collection will be outfitted for placement in the pews.

I want to use this forum to thank each singer, keyboardist, and instrumentalist who freely gave of his or her skills during this past year. Also important in driving a music ministry are the office personnel – Melanie Chicoria and Susan Tyler – who work with me and the Rector to see that bulletins are accurately created, posters made and posted, and all electronic or paper communication sent in a timely and artful manner.

While I write this document, anticipating a winter storm, my heart is thankful that another Sunday is just around the corner, waiting for all of us to share together, no matter our skill level in singing or playing, or our personal exposure to training. For the joyful noise made in 2017, I indeed give thanks.

In gratitude,

Randy Day

Director of Music Ministry

Christian Formation Report

This year, our new Christian Formation Director, Sherrie Holbrook helped us move forward in innovative ways to grow faith formation for families in a new direction. Our 9:30 am Family Eucharist has grown with new families joining the congregation and new babies being baptized. It was a full and inspiring year of ministry with families and children.

Unfortunately, Sherrie resigned in early December. We give thanks for Sherrie's presence with us. We give thanks for her spouse, Kirk and children, Forrest and Violet and their ministry among us. We wish them happiness and God's love in their new surroundings.

Sherrie put in place a vision for St. Paul's and our future of Christian Formation that was intentionally intergenerational. Each week after Family Worship and fellowship, children and adults alike are invited to gather in a circle for a story-book and conversation called "Coffee House Discussion." The time and content was flexible enough that families with young children could come and go as they needed to each week.

Sherrie also put into place monthly family activities. One month families made placemats for the nursing home. Another month they made "Ani-meals," pet food to be delivered with "Meals on Wheels." Another month, families carved pumpkins. These programs have been well received and will continue into 2018. I give thanks to The Rev. Mary Lee Wile who has been key to building and sustaining Christian Formation. She will help me plan the next months as we re-formulate how to proceed with Christian Formation and discern how we might expand the position of Christian Formation Director to meet our growing needs.

Our youth program started a-new in 2017 with three new youth leader volunteers energetically planning monthly meetings. Thank you Roberta Beal Hipkins, Lenita and Rodney Richard who have committed themselves to our youth by sponsoring monthly activities and brief early morning Sunday bible conversations on some of the "characters" of the Old Testament.

Thanks to our Family Ministries Team, we partnered with the Abyssinian Meeting House of Portland to offer our second annual celebration of the historical Juneteenth day. Juneteenth is the day the news of the Emancipation Proclamation finally reached Texas and thus completed the news for the entire country, "Free at last!" Geared for families and children the day offered live, original songs and drama by Linda Ashe-Ford, crafts for children and adults, games and "soul food."

Bishop Lane's Episcopal Visitation to St. Paul's was in October of 2017. He confirmed four of our teens, Ariana Edwards, Helen Hornor, Emma Nickerson and Devonia Redlon. I am proud of these four girls and their re-commitment to their faith. They could not have done it without the Rev. Mary Lee Wile who organized and led a Saturday retreat at her house followed by a dinner and conversation with the bishop for the confirmands.

It is a joy to see families at St. Paul's growing. Babies are being born and parents are calling on our community to bring their children into the body of Christ in baptism. The Rev. Mary Lee Wile and I joyfully accept this call and join parents in a conversation about their child's baptism and what it means to them and their family. Baptism by water into the body of Christ is the symbol of God's permanent mark of love on each and every child. And our community has the commitment to help bring each and every child up in the faith, loving them and modeling for them the loving kindness of our Savior..

by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Adult Christian Formation Ministry Team Report

We feel humbled that this ministry continues to be inspired by the Holy Spirit to sponsor first-rate programs that are incredibly well received. In the early days of Adult Formation, all of the program ideas came from within our group, but a wonderful trend has been growing recently: Parishioners are suggesting their own program ideas and volunteering to facilitate them. We are very grateful for your ideas, your input, your enthusiastic attendance, and your desire to facilitate many of them. If anyone ever wanted to study the strength of lay ministry, he or she should come to St. Paul's. And we are thankful that we have ordained clergy willing to use their expertise and training to expand the variety of programs we offer. The partnering of the laity and the ordained clergy make for a very dynamic ministry.

Early in 2017, Macauley Lord and Myrna Koonce, two of our lay chaplains, took a second look at Martin Doblmeier's excellent documentary *Chaplains: On the Front Lines of Faith*. Many people had missed this DVD the first time we showed it and asked us to show it again. With such a rich experience between them, Macauley and Myrna selected different clips and developed a very different program. Many in the room were second-time participants and found the second program as engaging as the first.

The Rev. Mary Lee Wile continued to offer two Quiet Morning Retreats, one in March ("And God Saw That It Was Good") and another in November ("All Shall Be Well"). Mary Lee is a very gifted retreat leader, and if you have never participated in one of her morning retreats, you don't know what you're missing. Look for more of them in the coming year.

Our Lenten Supper, Study, and Sharing for 2017 was based on Martin Doblmeier's documentary *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Pacifist, Nazi Resister*. We thank all of the presenters (Charles Arnold, Sarah Arnold, the Rev. Carolyn Eklund, and Macauley Lord), who did a superb job facilitating the program on their designated week. Much thanks goes also to Nancy Keating and her Fellowship Ministry for organizing such delicious meals; they provided a wonderful warm-up for the program that followed. The response to the topic was so enthusiastic that participants evinced interest in another program on Bonhoeffer, which was subsequently planned for the fall.

Also for Lent we sponsored the popular Lenten Meditations booklet. The readings from the Daily Office repeat every other year, but there is never a shortage of variety from the 40 parishioners who volunteer to be writers. If you've never volunteered to be one of the meditation writers, sign up next time. You will discover that it a blessing both for you and for those who read what you've written.

Small groups seem to be increasingly popular. In April Tom Nugent facilitated a conversation for five sessions on Rick Wile's book *Requiem in Stones: A Novel of Grief & Grace*. The book describes an archetypal Christian journey of loss and redemption.

Sarah Arnold and Macauley Lord teamed up in October and November to facilitate a five-session small group called Bonhoeffer Revisited. The driving force behind this group was the overwhelmingly popular Lenten program earlier in the year. The focus was on Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*, a book that offers not only theological insights but also practical guidance for Christians living in community. Conversations were dynamic and the sharing was deep and open. The group was sorry to see it end.

Then in November and December the Rev. Dick Hall facilitated a small group on the Ministry of Restoration. A critical feature was to understand how even our most simple acts of kindness and care can be seen through the lens of restoration, a ministry in which people's dignity is maintained, love is offered, care is given, compassion is expressed, respectful listening is exercised—so simple and so life giving. It is a ministry in which we all can participate.

Blessings and peace from Adult Formation, Sarah Arnold, Chick Carroll, Liz Messler, Danielle Murphy, Pam Nugent (Chair), Bob Walkling

Building and Grounds Ministry Team Report

The following is a summary of buildings and grounds issues of 2017. For more detailed information, parishioners are invited to read the periodic reports prepared throughout the year for the vestry. These reports are on file in the office and included as attachments to minutes of vestry meetings.

Heating System: Nothing major to report. The 2015 repairs to the heating system continue to hold. There have been some minor valve failures. One rooftop A/C compressor needed repair. Its near failure was, in part, responsible for the high temperatures in the upstairs choir area.

Dishwasher: After receiving estimates for the cost of a new dishwasher, the associated need for new plumbing, and professional assessments that our Hobart dishwasher was functioning properly, we decided not to replace the unit. Instead, the unit was raised to facilitate ease of loading and unloading. New drain hoses were installed. One disposal unit was removed, allowing the dishwasher to pump out the water in a direct line. This renovation was done in-house, saving us thousands of dollars.

Great Hall - Memorial Garden Sound System: To enhance parishioner experience at the middle service in the Great Hall, a portable sound system was purchased from *The Music Center* in Brunswick. It is separate from the nave's sound system, is easy to use, and its portability permits use at outdoor services. We have also used it for several forums.

Memorial Garden:

Fence: The fence around the Memorial Garden was damaged in 2016 because of an automobile in the library parking lot. The driver's insurance would not respond to requests for repair. We have contracted to have the fence repaired and the gates replaced.

We purchased a battery-powered lawn mower that works well, and quietly

Use of the garden by people from the community has been a subject of concern and discussion. Ideally, the garden should be open for relaxation and quiet reflection. Responsible use of area and picnic tables is permitted. Unfortunately, some users have left empty liquor/beer/wine bottles, cigarette butts, and occasionally, used needles. Some families also use the area for refuge, including church electrical outlets to recharge their portable electronic devices. This is a type of homelessness, and it causes deep concern. We are seeking a balance between being a welcoming church and placing appropriate limits on unwanted behavior.

Capital Upgrades: Peter McCracken has been getting estimates for interior and exterior painting, cleaning of the stain-glass windows. The church's exterior paint (church, not the annex) is in poor shape. As such, we will probably need to find funds in 2018 to paint at least part of the church exterior. Other projects (stain glass, interior painting, interior lighting) will require a capital campaign effort after all estimates have been received.

Other:

Sacristy: Last year, we were asked to consider a change to the plumbing. The single-control tap permitted very hot water to flow. We anticipated a simple and inexpensive plumbing job, but that was not the case; the job was deferred. Since then, the water heater died. We have contracted with ACB Plumbing to replace the heater and install a suitable mixing valve that will allow hot water for washing, but not at dangerous levels

Lighting: As accessible fluorescent tubes die, we are replacing them with long-lasting, low-power LED tubes.

Building Skirt: The design of the skirt holds water which promotes rot. Work continues. We are assessing the effectiveness of the repairs.

Ice Melt: Last January we bought ice-melt in bulk. It was a considerable saving over previous years when we bought bags as needed, and eliminated the need to continually restock. Same again for the this winter.

Thanks to Hugh Savage, Dana Baer, and Peter McCracken for their assistance and advice during the past year.

Respectively submitted,

Paul D. Womer
Buildings & Grounds, Chair

Christmas Fair Report

Co-chairs Bonny Labonte, Abbie Van Doren, and Lili Ott led the 2017 St. Paul's Church Fair to a very successful conclusion. Our goal again this year for the Fair was two-fold: one to make it a fun event for our congregation and the greater Brunswick community, and two to raise as much money as possible to meet our commitment to donate an amount equal to 5% of our pledges to outreach. Both of these goals were achieved.

Over 500 people attended our Fair on Saturday, December 2nd. We determined this number as a result of the number of pay sheets handed out to our shoppers. We printed 600 pay sheets and had a small stack of about 100 sheets remaining - very scientific! The important part is that our merchandise was sold, our lunchroom was lively with many diners enjoying lunch and conversation, and our workers, parishioners, and guests seemed to be having an enjoyable Saturday at St. Paul's Church.

We had to say good-bye to Duane Peck who for many years advertised our Fair and chaired the first ever Christmas Decorations table. "May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace." We welcomed new table chairs – Lollie Brown and Bronda Niese who set up and organized the Christmas Decorations in the Library with a bounty of lovely pre-owned Christmas decorations. Betsey Bailey joined Ritalee Doty to provide the Fair with our Religious table. Dana Baer and Bill Martens organized our popular Silent Auction. One of the items in the Silent Auction was a basket of toys and games. The following is a story related about this basket:

... the successful winner of the basket has spent many years teaching young people with intellectual challenges. She is now retired but tutors several young people on a weekly basis. She took the basket and divided it up with her daughter-in-law, who teaches Special Education, giving each of their students an appropriate gift for their level. All students were thrilled with what they got and the extra items were put into "grab bags" for the families. The basket not only helped make the silent auction a success, but also made 15 young people have a joyous holiday. Sometimes our Fair goes well beyond just the day. It goes out into the community.

This year we received several cash donations that substantially increased our bottom line. Indeed, this was uplifting! However, the Fair is not without its struggles. Set up and clean up need additional workers. This work can be physically challenging so not only do we need willing workers, we need volunteers who are able to lift and carry and who have not worked all day at the Fair. For the most part, the Fair is successful because of the dedicated individual table chairs who plan the whole year for the following year to make the Fair a success. We thank them for their continued dedication.

Please consider how you can help and what you can donate to the 2018 Christmas Fair remembering that sometimes our Fair goes well beyond just the day – it goes out into the community. As Duane Peck always said, "Thanks be to God."

Bonny Labonte for the 2017 Christmas Fair Co Chairs

Family Ministries Report

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Ephesians 3:20

The mission of Family Ministries is:

- ❖ To facilitate the giving and receiving of support in our parish and throughout our community
- ❖ To cultivate a caring inclusive church.
- ❖ To provide a multigenerational connection in faith.

In 2017 Family Ministries sought to fulfill its mission in these three areas of parish life:

- ❖ Spiritual Nurturing

- Women's Meditation Group met for 5 sessions to complete 10 Q as a group. 10Q was inspired by the traditional ten days of reflection that occur between the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, a period of time that's long been considered an opportunity to look at where you're at, where you've come from, and where you're heading.

- ❖ Hospitality

- St. Paul's Café
Family Ministries invites you to St. Paul's Café!
When: 3rd Wednesday of every month
Location: Great Hall
Time: 5-6:30 pm
A break in the month to gather together as a parish, relax and connect
Food and good company are provided and all are welcome!

- ❖ Pastoral Ministries

- Help identifying needs
- Help with meals during times of hardship
- Help with home visits/communion

Flower Ministry

The Flower Committee is delighted to report that, once again, our annual miracle has occurred: our s have been covered by memorial donations from parishioners. For that, we are deeply grateful. We are, like most committees, short-handed, and would warmly welcome new members.

Respectfully submitted, Abigail Manny Patterson

Healing Prayer Ministry Report

All of us at St. Paul's were saddened by the death of Charles Arnold in 2017. He was an important member of our team for many years, and because of that, we had the opportunity to know him pretty well. We remember many things about him, and there are many things we learned from him. One of the gifts Charles gave us was due to his openness about his cancer, which enabled many of us (including many in the wider parish) to come alongside, witness his experience, and in some sense be part of it. His was a remarkable journey of faith and walking with God, and sharing that journey the way he did was an incredible blessing to all of us, one that we will not forget. Although in the end Charles did not receive a physical cure, he experienced many healings along the way, for which he openly gave thanks to God. We are blessed by the way he lived and shared his life, both in good times and in difficult ones.

We celebrate the addition of at least one new member, Mariette Bulger, and anticipate her participation with the Sunday teams. She feels a strong call by God to be part of this ministry, and we feel she will be a strong addition.

We continue to consider how to best offer healing prayer twice a month on Sundays—at the lay-led Celtic morning prayer and the worship-together services on the first Sunday, as well as at the 8:00 and 10:30 services on the third Sunday of the month. Teams are available to pray with people who request it, whether it be for healing for themselves or for friends and loved ones, for thanksgiving for grace received, for relationships, for worrisome life events, for a stronger sense of God's presence, or for anything at all. If you have a burden, a need, or a concern, we invite you to share it with God. Everything you share with the team is kept strictly confidential. Please know that you can ask for prayer at any time, even if it is not on the designated first and third Sundays. The healing team members can be identified by nametags printed in green ink and with the words Healing Prayer Team.

Matthew 6:8 says that “your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” God is well apprised; through prayer we are simply opening the door for healing. Jesus has come to make all things new. New now.

Many blessings from the Healing Prayer Team,

The Rev. Dick Hall, Sarah Arnold, Myrna Koonce, Liz Messler, Ada Moore, Pam Nugent, Virginia Vincent, Bob Walkling, Julia Walkling

Holy Stitches Report

Holy Stitches is a small group ministry of St. Paul's.

We have 3 separate goals:

1. To be there for each other as we go through passages of our lives. We celebrate birthdays, stand by each other when a loved one dies, or a family member achieves a great success; and when one moves from one home to the next. The everyday moments, the highs and lows. All of life's changes.
2. We make and pray over prayer shawls to be given to anyone for whom 'it would help'. Although shawls are an ancient and traditional item of clothing, in the 1990's several Methodist women developed this specific ministry. A hand-made shawl is a physical, touchable item of clothing which envelops a person with warmth. This ministry encourages shawls to be made with prayer and then blessed by a pastor as a symbol of God's healing power.
3. We make products which we hope will sell well at St. Paul's Christmas fair. This year we were very focused on increasing both the amount and type of products. We even changed the name of our table to 'Fiber Arts' to reflect this more intense change. Despite some logistical concerns, we were able to increase our sales by 25% from the previous year. BUT even more impressive we were able to promote the legacy of one of our fellow parishioners. Mimi Havinga shared the patterns of her Dutch Gnomes with us. They were in great demand in her former parish in New Hampshire. After knitting for over 85 years, she no longer felt she could do an adequate job; so, she graciously allowed our group to continue making these Gnomes. At least 15 were sold at this year's fair. Continuing her legacy is by far a greater success than any amount of money made; but we are pleased that they sold so well. (Orders for next year are already being made.)



Mimi Havinga holding two of her gnomes at the Christmas Fair.

We invite anyone who wishes to join us. We have about 8-year-round members, and 4 Summer members. We also teach anyone who would like to learn, we maintain a large 'stash' of supplies to use; and we thank all who donated items and time to this ministry.

Submitted by,

Charla A. Spann, Chair

Hospitality Ministry Team Report

The Hospitality Ministry began the year in February with lunch provided for a Christian Education in February and four Lenten dinners during the month of March, as well as a Quiet Morning also followed by lunch. The diocese sponsored a "Spring Training" event in April for which snacks were provided and served by the Ministry. The bishop's visit in October called for a reception sponsored by the Ministry. November's schedule included a Quiet Morning and lunch, followed by a forum planned by the stewardship group and followed by a brunch for participants. December brought the traditional three Oratorio Chorale concerts for which the Hospitality Ministry provided refreshments. The Ministry continues to offer weekly coffee hours for the 8 o'clock and 10:30 services. We welcome your help in all areas of our ministry, particularly for our coffee hour. A list of dates is posted on the Hospitality bulletin board in the Great Hall and we encourage YOU to sign up. Help is needed to continue with this favorite parish event, and instruction in using kitchen equipment is available.

We recognize the contributions that the Reception Committee led by Bonny Labonte and Abbie Van Doren, makes in faithfully and beautifully providing for funeral/memorial service hospitality. And we salute the many parishioners who graciously respond to calls for delicious food for these activities.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Keating and Michael McCabe

Lay Pastoral Visitors Ministry Team Report

In 2017 we saw the addition of new members - always welcome! Some are on board totally while others are helping with specific tasks. It should be noted that St. Paul's is a CARING CONGREGATION. Many of us meet several times a year to organize our regular tasks and sometimes hear from community members whose work connects with our ministry. However, it should be noted that Pastoral Visiting is done by our entire congregation! Thank you.

The Crisis/Emergency Meals aspect continues under the leadership of Donna Thivierge and Joan Reynolds. During 2017 there were 74 meals provided to 14 parishioners/families. Any parishioner may receive this service upon the event of an emergency or crisis by alerting the church office, Donna or Joan. Meals are delivered directly to the party in need. New cooks are always welcome. You may sign up on the bulletin board in the Great Hall or call Donna or Joan.

This year we had three programs/speakers during our regular meetings. Myrna Koonce shared her experience in the Chaplaincy Program at Maine Med. Nancy Johnson talked about reviving and expanding the Family Ministries at St. Paul's. Judy Warren and Cathy Bagdon told us of the history and work of Neighbors, Inc.

Also ongoing outside of our meetings but under this umbrella are the monthly Sharing and Caring meetings. Susan McCracken, Barbara Blanchard and Sandy Meyer organize and run these meetings. They invite all those who are caring for a loved one or who have recently lost a loved one.

Another ongoing ministry is the delivery of flowers. Each week following the Sunday service the altar flowers are taken by one of our members to Visitees (parishioners who are unable to get to church). This work is shared by all members of the Lay Pastoral Visitors Committee. In addition to the altar flowers we deliver Easter plants, All Saint's plants and Christmas plants. In 2017 Terry Howell and Jo Belknap put together a book of prayers which were delivered with each of the Easter plants. They were greatly appreciated and welcomed!

Our Annual Tea at Thornton Hall/Thornton Oaks was well received again. This event is held in May and enjoyed by most of our Visitees - some who live at the Thornton Community and some who are brought to the event from elsewhere.

Meanwhile, the Committee continues to work on the organization of the group. It is hoped that we will continue to share the various responsibilities and find ways to minister to those in need and especially those who are unable to attend services at church on a regular basis.

Please join us! It is such a gratifying ministry.

Jean Mulligan, Susan McCracken and Barbara Blanchard, Co-leaders

Living Local- Joining God in the Neighborhood

We have not finished our work begun last year, nor have we disbanded. Living Local, like many new things is evolving and changing as we are learning to be more open. We have said all along that we did not know where we were heading; we just wanted to better discern where God was active and working in our communities.

In what can only be called turbulent times, we all have different things clamoring for our attention. Each of us has learned to better seek God in what we see around us, rather than concentrating on the "noise" that surrounds us. Whether participating in the "Neighborhood Conversations" (held at St. Paul's in August), becoming active in congregational and civic activities promoting dignity and welcome, or even working on the Lenten study for this year (Who is our Neighbor?), each of us is listening more deeply, loving more genuinely and caring more personally. We have shared our feelings and discernments with each other and the Vestry. In the coming year, we anticipate activities within the congregation, inviting all of us to join in the journey to see where God is acting and where we are called to follow.

Caroline Russell

Outreach Ministry Team Report

The Outreach Ministry provided funds to 17 organizations in 2017 to contribute to the good work they do in the communities in need. Coupled with proceeds from the Christmas Fair, a generous anonymous matching contribution from a parishioner allowed the Committee to distribute \$27,000 during 2017.

Outreach hosted an Outreach Fair & Reception in October so that parishioners could meet with organizations that were funded to learn more about what they do – and how our contributions are used. We were pleased with the great response to this event.

During 2017 Outreach also sponsored the annual blood drive for the American Red Cross, and formalized the collection of food items on the First Sunday of each month for Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Project. Outreach also hosted an evening with Preble Street Resource Center's Faith Action Network to learn more about advocacy work surrounding issues of opioid addiction. We were happy to include parishioners from Grace Church in Bath, along with parishioners of St. Paul's for this evening.

Thank you to all who work to engage our congregation in outreach activities, and your commitment to contribute to organizations helping others.

Pat Ryan

Reception Ministry Team Report

St. Paul's Reception Committee, co-chaired by Bonita Labonte and Abbie Van Doren, hosted eight memorial receptions for members of St. Paul's.

We continue to be able to host receptions because of the many people in our parish who support St. Paul's Reception Committee either by their food donations and/or their continued assistance with setting up, serving, and cleaning up following the reception. Together we can provide this valuable service.

If you would like to become an active member of the Reception Committee, please speak with Bonny or Abbie. We encourage new members to join us. Thank you to all who support the Reception Committee time and time again.

Bonita Labonte and Abbie Van Doren, Reception Committee Co-Chair

Worship Ministry Team Report

It takes many committed volunteers to create a lively, spirited and reverent liturgy. That's why I wish to give thanks for the many people who give of their time and talents to work on the Worship Ministry Team.

BISHOP LANE'S VISITATION

We celebrated the Episcopal Visitation of Bishop Stephen Lane on First Sundays, Life Together at 9:30 am with his excellent sermon, joyful celebration of the Eucharist and confirmed of four of our teens, Ariana Edwards, Helen Hornor, Emma Nickerson and Devonia Redlon. He also spoke to us and answered questions at a reception in the Great Hall after worship where the Outreach Ministry Team had organized exhibits by our non-profit partners in outreach.

CHANGES IN WORSHIP IN 2017

A wonderful characteristic of our life together at St. Paul's is that you don't hesitate to give feedback. After two years of our trial monthly "First Sundays, Life Together at 9 am," we asked for your feedback on how we might continue to accomplish our goal of intergenerational worship and getting to know others from the three different Sunday congregations. You responded to the Constant Comment survey and attended the Town Hall to give your thoughts on whether or not to continue "First Sundays, Life Together at 9 am," or make adjustments that were more hospitable for families and those who prefer quiet worship.

The result was that we changed the time of "First Sundays, Life Together" to 9:30 am because that made it easier for families to remember the time and it was more hospitable to "first-time" families to arrive at the time of Family Worship even on First Sundays, Life Together.

We also distributed a hand-written survey to the congregation of our 8:00 am Quiet Eucharist. We discovered that some members might be staying home instead of joining the lively 9:30 First Sundays service. We discovered that a quiet service of Morning Prayer would likely be appreciated and well-attended each month at 8:00 am. We discovered that quiet prayer time was also important for parents and their children as an alternative.

I want to thank Julia Walkling and Katy Rivera who gave me feedback and helped me plan "Morning Prayer in the Celtic Tradition." Our licensed Lay Worship Leaders lead this 30-minutes of prayer that include long periods of silence. November and December were our first offerings and the feedback has been positive.

ALTAR GUILD

We gave thanks for the ministry of Altar Guild Chair as Lenita Richard transitioned into a supporting role for the new Altar Guild Chair, Bonny Labonte. Lenita served beautifully and faithfully through the many clergy transitions at St. Paul's and helped me find my way around the sacristy and the beautiful hangings and vessels of worship. Thank you to all members of the Altar Guild.

In 2017, St. Paul's received a grant from The Vicarage by the Sea to purchase much needed white hangings and clergy vestments. They were dedicated on Christmas Eve at the 4:00 pm Family Service. Thank you for this generous gift. Bonny Labonte and Lenita Richard researched the choices for the white hangings and the selection was an act of collaboration.

FLOWER COMMITTEE, USHERS AND GREETERS

The Flower Committee once again collaborated with the Oratorio Chorale to create a beautiful and festive space for Christmas. The Oratorio Chorale has offered performances of “Sing We Noel” at St. Paul’s for the last four years. Our high holy days and Sundays are always adorned beautifully, thanks to Abigail Manny Patterson and her committee.

Thank you, Ralph Thivierge and Caroline Russell who organize the ushers and the greeters. Thank you to Randy Day and the choir for their beautiful and diverse music. Thank you to Leslie Brancart who calls our Worship Ministry Team together and organizes our agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund, Rector

Treasurer's End of Year Report

Balance Sheet: The Bath Savings Institute (BSI) checking account #1005 ended the year with a balance of \$28,731.49. This is a healthy balance although the proceeds from the Christmas Fair of over \$15,000 will have to be transferred to BSI outreach savings account. Thanks to a generous donation of \$15,000 to cover the budget deficit we were able to get through the lean months of September and October without “borrowing” from our savings account to meet expenses. The BSI savings accounts total \$62,672.43 bringing our total current assets to \$105,196.82. Total fixed assets are 2,342,675.42. In other Assets, we have the Genesis Root fund (investment for Maine Outreach) and Endowment Funds totaling \$1,240,038.81. **Grand total of all Assets is \$3,687,911.05.**

Income & Expense Statement: Total pledge money received in 2017 was \$301,183.25 or only \$548.75 under budget. Plate offerings account #4100 looks as if it was below budget but Account #4120 Rector's Discretionary Funds needs to be added to it (\$3,483.46) and that will bring the total to only \$110.50 below budget. All other income accounts were over budget or just slightly below. With the several generous contributions to operations Account #4411, the Total Income for 2017 is **\$439,420.22 or \$29,928.22** over budget. Expenses, for the most part, were near budget or under. Note that Account #5100 is under budget due to a change in payroll listing (Payroll comes from the Diocese) for the Rector. Some of that payroll is charged to account #5200 (approx. \$6,600) so those accounts show for this a deficit in one and an overage in the other. Total Expenses for 2017 were \$414,885.04 or \$7,303.96 under budget. This brings our **Net Ordinary Income to \$24,435.18 compared to a budgeted negative (\$12,797.00).**

Other Income & Expenses: Other Income & Expenses are those items that are exempt from the Diocesan Assessment. There were gains in our Endowment Principal funds of \$65,688.89, special contributions of \$23,386 and, of course, the Annual Christmas Fair to bring total “Other Income to \$124,427.82. Expenses were for Outreach and the Rector's Discretionary Fund totaling \$29,833.90. **This gives us a 2017 total Net Income of \$118,979.10 compared to a budgeted negative \$(12,797.00)**

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Whitehouse, Treasurer

Balance SheetDec 31, 2017**ASSETS**

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1005 · BSI-Checking	28,731. 49
1006 · BSI-Rector's Discretionary	13,792. 90
1060 · Savings Account - BSI	<u>62,672. 43</u>

Fixed Assets

1500 · Church Property

1501 · St. Paul's Building & Land	3,035,655. 24
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1502 · St. Paul's Equipment	<u>1,166,391. 89</u>
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1500 · Church Property	4,202,047. 13
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1510 · Barnes Building & Land	284,776. 28
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1515 · Computer Equipment	3,659. 44
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1516 · Sound System	23,882. 00
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1517 · Furniture, Fixture & Equipment	2,120. 57
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1550 · Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-2,173,810. 00</u>
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Fixed Assets	2,342,675. 42
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Other Assets

1800 · Genesis (Root Fund)	11,215. 17
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1900 · Diocesan Endowment Funds	<u>1,228,823. 64</u>
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Other Assets	<u>1,240,038. 81</u>
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ASSETS3,687,911. 05**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

2000 · Accounts Payable	<u>4,351. 68</u>
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Accounts Payable	4,351. 68
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Other Current Liabilities

2050 · Prepaid Pledges	11,159. 99
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2200 · Passthrough Liabilities	275. 92
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2300 · Barnes Property Security Dep	<u>2,000. 00</u>
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Other Current Liabilities	<u>13,435. 91</u>
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Current Liabilities	17,787. 59
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Long Term Liabilities

1260 · Prepaid Funerals	<u>2,000. 00</u>
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Long Term Liabilities	<u>2,000. 00</u>
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Liabilities	19,787. 59
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Equity

3000 · Net Assets	3,067,866. 63
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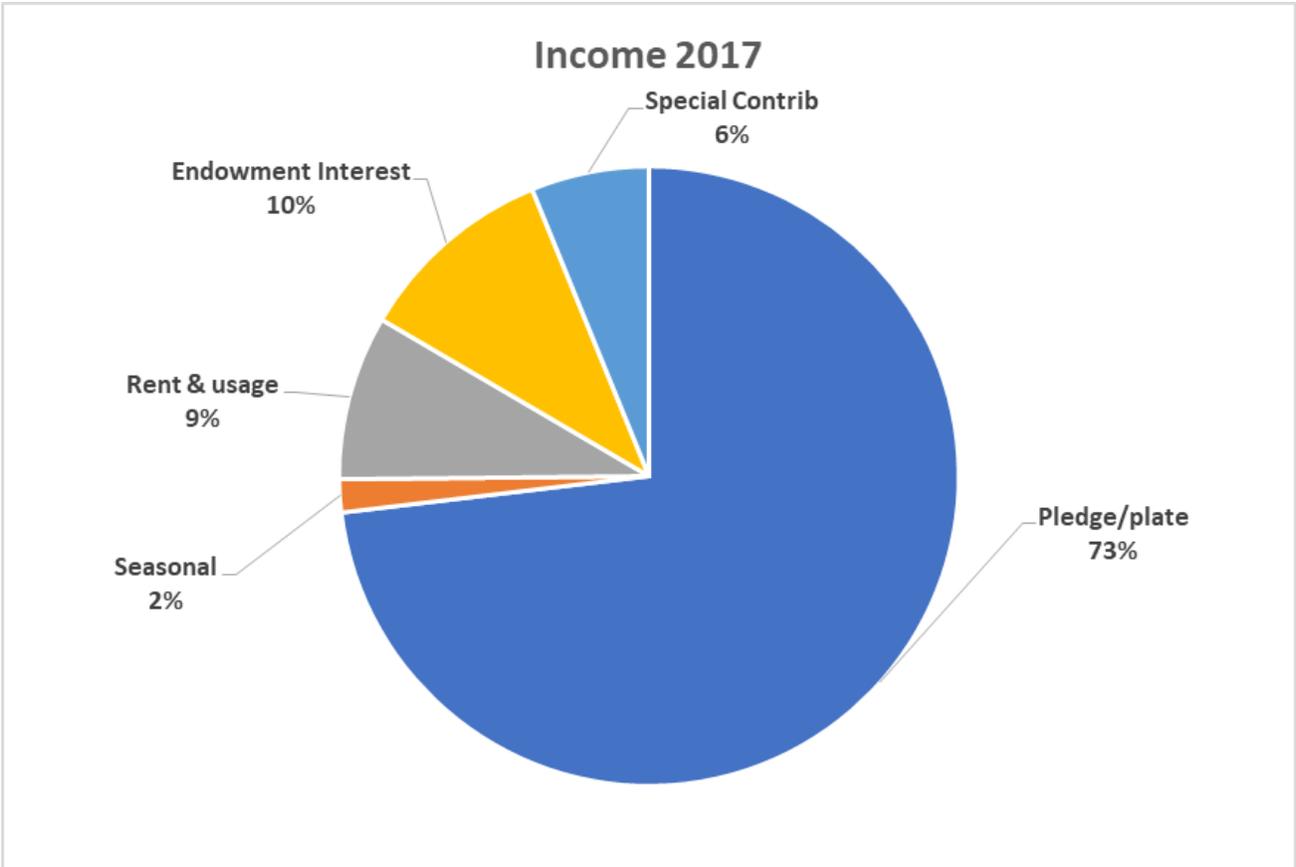
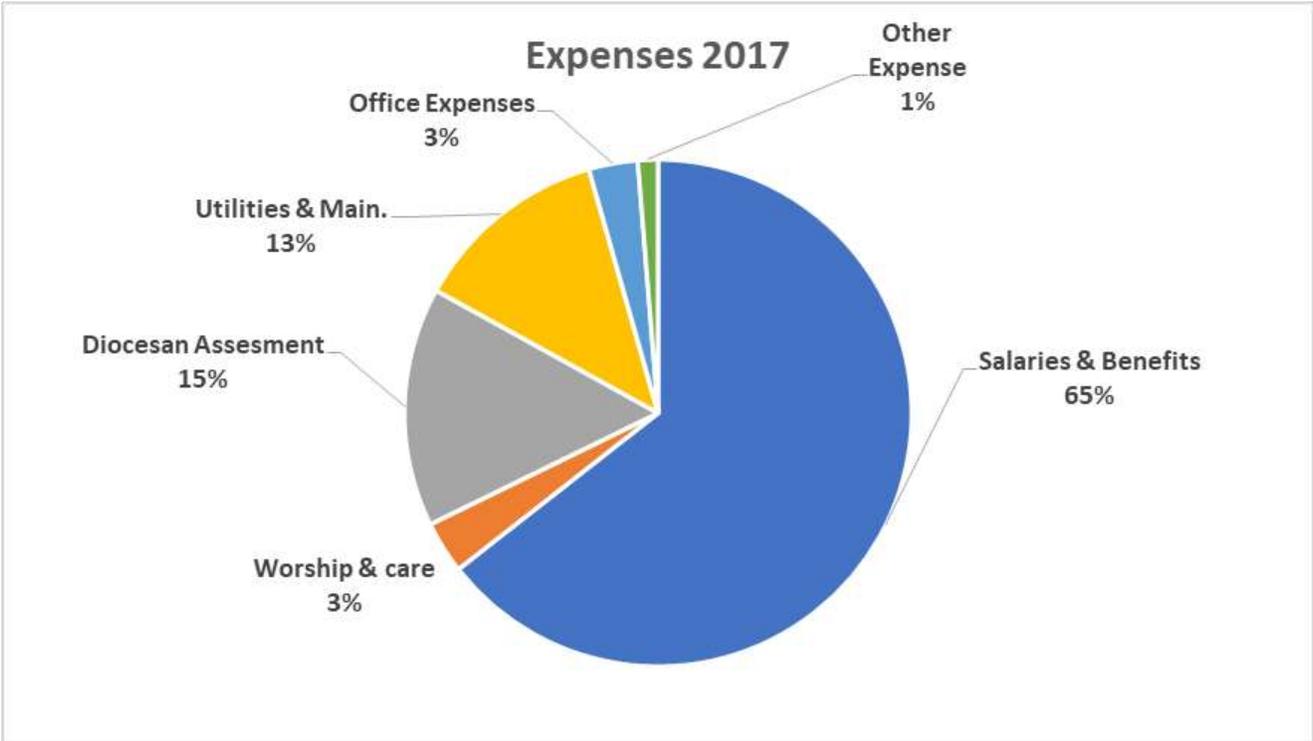
3025 · Scheduled Maintenance Reserve	4,721. 59
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32000 · Retained Earnings (Undistributed earnings of the corporation)	476,556. 14
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Net	<u>118,979. 10</u>
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Equity	<u>3,668,123. 46</u>
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY3,687,911. 05



Income & Expense	Actual Jan-Dec 2016	Actual Jan - Dec 2017	Budget 2017	Variance
Ordinary /				
4000 · Pledge Offerings	303,419.98	301,183.25	301,732.00	(548.75)
4001 · Prior Year Pledge Offerings	1,203.70	30.00		30.00
4002 · Amazon Smile	112.67	138.44		138.44
4100 · Plate Offerings	15,693.57	16,406.04	20,000.00	(3,593.96)
4120 · Rector's Discretionary Offering	4,947.38	3,483.46		3,483.46
4200 · Seasonal Offerings	1,764.00	3,006.00	2,000.00	1,006.00
4202 · Spring Event	0.00	4,543.37	5,000.00	(456.63)
4300 · Great Hall & Other Revenue	7,327.00	1,003.30	2,000.00	(996.70)
4355 · Rent & Usage Fees	33,896.00	36,750.00	34,560.00	2,190.00
4370 · Endowment, Interest & Dividends	45,470.86	45,726.36	44,100.00	1,626.36
4411 · Special Contribution-Operations	5,510.54	27,050.00		27,050.00
	<u>419,345.70</u>	<u>439,320.22</u>	<u>409,392.00</u>	<u>29,928.22</u>
5100 · Salaries & Housing	203,698.48	211,005.71	217,807.00	(6,801.29)
5200 · Travel, Pensions & FICA/Tax	36,263.14	44,282.74	32,138.00	12,144.74
5300 · Insurances - Med/Life/WC	10,894.93	10,521.53	11,334.00	(812.47)
5351 · Rector Education	1,897.52	1,472.34	3,100.00	(1,627.66)
6000 · Worship & Care	14,955.91	13,456.51	17,446.00	(3,989.49)
6710 · Wedding/Funeral s	1,150.77	394.30		394.30
7000 · Diocesan Assessment	61,585.08	63,356.04	62,570.00	786.04
7110 · Utilities	26,449.05	26,710.23	27,349.00	(638.77)
7120 · Insurance	2,988.70	6,085.00	4,800.00	1,285.00
7130 · Repairs & Maintenance	41,884.60	15,470.79	24,695.00	(9,224.21)
7160 · Real Estate Taxes	3,240.48	3,857.86	3,200.00	657.86
7200 · Office Operations	12,208.77	12,959.56	12,200.00	759.56
8100 · Other s	4,692.34	5,312.43	5,550.00	(237.57)
	<u>421,909.77</u>	<u>414,885.04</u>	<u>422,189.00</u>	<u>(7,303.96)</u>
Net Ordinary	-2,564.07	24,435.18	-12,797.00	37,232.18
Other /				
Other				
4377 · Unrealized Gains (Losses)	55,891.65	85,688.89		
4410 · Special Contributions	24,958.00	23,386.00		
4425 · J2A Special Projects	1,400.60	339.30		
4506 · Annual Christmas Fair	13,593.05	15,023.31		
6600 · Warm Thy Neighbor Donations	-100.00	-9.68		
Other	<u>95,743.30</u>	<u>124,427.82</u>		
Other				
6425 · J2A	7,983.56	0.00		
8015 · Christmas Fair Outreach	22,255.00	26,250.00		
8200 · Rector's discretionary fund exp	8,371.21	3,633.90		
Other	<u>38,609.77</u>	<u>29,883.90</u>		
Net Other	<u>57,133.53</u>	<u>94,543.92</u>		
Net	<u>54,569.46</u>	<u>118,979.10</u>	<u>-12,797.00</u>	<u>131,776.10</u>

St Paul's Budget -- 2018

	2018 Budget
4000 · Pledge Offerings	313,801.28
4001 · Prior Year Pledge Offerings	
4100 · Plate Offerings	20,000.00
4200 · Seasonal Offerings	2,000.00
4300 · Great Hall & Other Revenue	2,000.00
4301 · Spring Event	5,000.00
4355 · Rent & Usage Fees	34,560.00
4370 · Endowment Interest & Dividends	40,100.00
4310 Special contributions	4,000.00
<hr/>	
Total Income	<u>421,461.28</u>
Expense	
5100 · Salaries & Housing	226,669.00
5200 · Travel, Pensions & FICA/Tax	33,494.38
5300 · Insurances - Med/Dent/Life/WC	12,003.24
5351 · Rector & Staff Education	3,100.00
6000 · Worship & Care	13,881.00
7000 · Diocesan Assessment	61,949.00
7110 · Utilities	27,097.00
7120 · Insurance	4,800.00
7130 · Repairs & Maintenance	20,285.00
7160 · Real Estate Taxes	4,400.00
7200 · Office Operations	13,550.00
8100 · Other Expenses	10,800.00
<hr/>	
Total Expense	432,028.62
Net /loss	(10,567.34)

2017 Christmas Fair

	Expense	Income	Total
Bake & Candy			Table
	(\$18. 00)	\$1,084. 00	\$1,066. 00
Cheese			Table
	(\$414. 72)	\$529. 50	\$114. 78
Christmas Café			Table
	(\$362. 99)	\$1,063. 00	\$700. 01
Christmas Corner			Table
	\$0. 00	\$450. 50	\$450. 50
Gourmet Freezer			Table
	(\$700. 51)	\$2,497. 00	\$1,796. 49
Greens			Table
	(\$1,340. 01)	\$2,355. 00	\$1,014. 99
Knives/Country Store			Table
	(\$1,362. 00)	\$995. 42	(\$366. 58)
Religious			Table
	\$0. 00	\$67. 35	\$67. 35
Silent Auction			Table
	(\$31. 01)	\$6,575. 00	\$6,543. 99
Fiber Arts			Table
	\$0. 00	\$1,281. 25	\$1,281. 25
Treasures			Table
	\$0. 00	\$2,074. 00	\$2,074. 00
Sunday Sales			Table
	\$0. 00	\$402. 50	\$402. 50
Misc.			Table
	(\$890. 33)	\$1,119. 20	\$228. 87
Fair Proceeds	(\$5,119. 57)	\$20,493. 72	\$15,374. 15

PARISH STATISTICS*	2015	2016	2017
Communicants in Good Standing	437	435	435
Average Sunday Attendance	162	152	150
Sunday Eucharists	125	110	119
Weekday Eucharists	53	53	51
Private Eucharists	70	57	24
Daily Offices on Sunday or Saturday Evenings	2	0	3
Daily Offices Held on Weekdays	5	10	10
Marriages Conducted	1	3	0
Burials Conducted	7	10	9
Baptisms 16 years and older	0	1	0
Baptism under 16 years of age	6	3	8
Confirmations 16 years and older	1	0	2
Confirmations under 16 years of age	0	0	2
Received by a Bishop	1	0	0

* Beginning with the Annual Report for 2015 and subsequent reports the Parish Statistics will be recorded to reflect the Episcopal Parochial Report statistics. Therefore, the statistics on this page in past Annual Reports will not match the format of the 2015 & 2016 Parish Statistics.

Ministries

Buildings and Grounds	Paul Womer, Chair	373-1020
Christmas Fair	Bonny Labonte, Chair	729-5226
	Lili Ott, Co-Chair	833-3398
	Abbie Van Doren, Co-Chair	373-1020
Earthcare	Michael Anne Banks, Chair	729-6592
Education	Adult Formation Ministry Team, Pam Nugent	737-2369
Finance	Lenita Richard, Chair	688-2249
Healing Prayer	Pam Nugent	737-2369
Holy Stitches	Charla Spann	844-8220
Living Local	Caroline Russell	729-1845
Men's Group	Al Niese	443-8613
Outreach	Pat Ryan, Chair	725-5439
Prayer Group/Chain	Nancy Hawkins	442-7759
Pastoral Care	Jean Mulligan, Chair	798-6765
	Receptions: Bonny Labonte	729-5226
	Abigail Van Doren	373-1020
	Crisis Meals: Donna Thivierge	729-3511
Women's Group		
Worship	Leslie Brancart, Chair	729-7873
	Acolytes: Tom Nugent	737-2369
	Altar Guild: Bonny Labonte	729-5226
	Flowers: Abigail Manny Patterson	725-9062
	Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers: Julia Walkling	725-6353
	Ushers, Greeters: Ralph Thivierge	729-3511
	Welcomers: Caroline Russell	729-1845

Staff and Vestry

The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund, Rector	373-3891
The Rev. Mary Lee Wile, Deacon.	846-5288
The Reverend Chick Carroll, Deacon.. . . .	721-9245
Susan Tyler, Parish Administrator.	841-1380
Randy Day, Music Ministry Director	318-5526
Melanie Chicoria, Administrative Assistant.	725-0670
Aubrey Farmer, Sexton.	319-0164
Kimmy Edwards, Nursery Caregiver.	725-7166
Jane Redlon, Nursery Caregiver.....	651-3474

The Vestry

Paul Womer, Senior Warden.	373-1020
Johanna Wigg, Junior Warden	833-6178

Term ending 2018

Jo Belknap.....	721-8505
Jim Johnston.....	375-5145
Susan Martens.....	688-2294

Term ending 2019

Katy Rivera.....	522-5584
Kevin Miller.....	249-8511
Cliff Ruprecht.....	688-4169

Term ending 2020

Dana Baer.....	319-4992
Betsey Bailey.....	729-8073
Caroline Russell.....	729-1845