

# Saint John's Episcopal Church

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

576 Concord Road  
Glen Mills, PA 19342  
saintjohnsconcord.com

*Founded 1702*  
*Celebrating 321 Years of Worship*



**The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel – Rector**  
**The Rev. Terry Dinovo – Priest Associate**

**Mission of Saint John's:**  
**To be a welcoming community committed to seeking, serving, and growing in Christ.**

*Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God.*  
*St. John's welcomes all to our diverse, inclusive, and affirming community.*

Our vision is to grow with intent. We will maintain intimacy by gathering in groups; reach all generations through fellowship; advance our mission through a vital program of outreach; nurture spiritual growth through worship, music, education and pastoral care; encourage commitment to effective ministry; and support the church through stewardship.

# Saint John's Church, Concord

## Annual Parish Meeting February 4, 2024



### AGENDA

Invocation

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Approval of Minutes from Feb 5, 2023

Reports:

A. Rector's Report

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

B. Wardens' Reports

*Danielle Yoch and Bill Calhoun*

C. Finance Reports & 2024 Budget

*Burt Blackburn*

D. Pastoral Care Ministry

*The Rev. Terry Dinovo*

E. Two New Ministries:  
Green Team and Safety Committee

*Glenn Wikel  
Carla Durdan*

Introductions: Staff, New Members, Others . . .

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Recognition of our Unsung Heroes

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Presentation & Election of Nominees for Vestry

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Election of Delegates to Diocesan Convention

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

The Necrology

*Sandy McKinley*

Closing Prayer

*The Rev. Terry Dinovo*

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*Presented for Approval*  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
Annual Meeting Minutes February 5, 2023

In attendance: The Reverend Jill LaRoche Wikel, Rector; Vestry members: Danielle Yoch, Rector's Warden; Bill Calhoun, Vestry Warden; Gerry Tierney, Diane Carlin, Mary Pat Lynam, John Pachkowski, Tracey Payne, Jacqui Dunn, Dick Constable, and Ron Hammer; and Burt Blackburn, Treasurer, along with Members of the Congregation. Absent with regrets: Vestry member Ann McGonigal.

## INVOCATION

The meeting began at 9:20 AM with prayer offered by Rev. Jill.

## APPROVAL OF LAST YEAR'S MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held February 27, 2022, was made and seconded.\* Unanimously approved.

## REPORTS (Refer to meeting booklet for full written reports)

A. Rector. Rev Jill's report was sent via email, shared at the meeting, and is on file for all to review. Rev. Jill highlighted our new logo based upon our historic oak tree, and lifted up Parish Administrator, Jen Troutman for her work on the website and log. Rev Jill also recognized Rev Terry Dinovo and his contributions to our parish.

B. Rector's Warden. Danielle lifted up the fact that St. John's has seen an increase of new people coming to both worship and fellowship events. She asked members to be agents of welcome by seeking out newcomers and inviting them to join you for events.

C. Finance Report and Budget. Burt Blackburn shared that the parish finances continue to remain strong due, primarily to the support of the entire congregation. Though the 2023 budget has a planned deficit, the Vestry will revisit the budget mid-year to see if any changes need to be made.

D. Pastoral Care. This year Rev Terry Dinovo breathed new life into our Parish Care Team and he spoke about this important ministry.

E. Giving Train Update: Danielle Yoch thanked Carol Angus and the original Auction Committee; and thanked the Vestry, Men's Breakfast, and other parishioners who made our fall fundraiser a success, especially our "Live Train Stop," Partytown which was a great night of celebration complete with parishioners from age 12 to 90 out on the dance floor. Details of expenses and money raised can be found in the full report.

## RECOGNITION OF 2023 UNSUNG HEREOS

Rev. Jill recognized Carol Angus for her dedication to our music program; Dorothy Collman for her tireless work as volunteer bookkeeper; Cliff Holgate as our parish archivist; and Sandy McKinley for providing a welcome space for Sunday Coffee Hour.

## **PRESENTATION & ELECTION OF VESTRY NOMINEES**

A slate was nominated. Second 2-year Term: Jacqui Dunn, John Pachkowski, and Tracey Payne. Third 2-year Term: Bill Calhoun and Mary Pat Lynam.

When no nominations were received from the floor, a motion was made and seconded\* for the slate of five persons be accepted as presented and elected. The motion passed unanimously.

## **ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION** (3 delegates, 1 alternate)

Nominated as Delegate: Philip Thompsen, Sue Hammer, Ann Moses; as Alternate: Glenn Wikel.

No nominations were made from the floor. A motion was made and seconded\* that nominees be accepted as presented and elected. The motion passed unanimously.

## **INTRODUCTIONS: Staff, New Members, etc.**

None presented.

## **THE NECROLOGY**

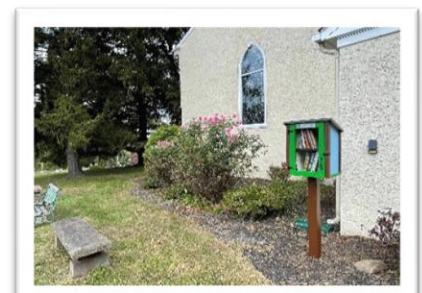
Sandy McKinley read a prayer for those who are buried at St. John's.

## **CLOSING**

With no further business, a motion was made and seconded\* for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM with Rev. Terry leading us in closing prayer.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn, acting secretary*

*\*The names of the movers of motions have been lost to history, but the motions themselves are recorded correctly.*



## **RECTOR'S REPORT: See how they love one another!**

On his last night among his friends, Jesus urged his disciples to love each other the way that God loves them, wholly and completely (John 13:35). Jesus told those gathered around him, that everyone will know that we are his disciples by the love we share. In the century after Jesus's death, early Church father Tertullian, writing to explain how those who follow Jesus worship and act in the world, imagined that non-Christians would remark to themselves, "See how they love one another!" As I reflect on our past year together, this phrase rings through my memory.

Our Pastoral Care Team has revitalized their ministry in our parish. From the prayer shawls our parishioners send to loved ones who need comfort and strength as they wrap themselves in fabric, to the healing prayers offered on Sunday, to meals brought to parish families, the ways we lift and support each other in our times of deep need proclaim our love for each other.

Our remarkable choir has devoted themselves to service and prayer as they boldly lead our congregation in joyful song each Sunday, lead by dedicated choir facilitator Carol Angus. We shifted and adjusted our worship times (8:00 or 8:30?? 10:30 or 10:00??) trying to find the best fit for our congregation, with everyone giving and taking minimal grumbling. And our congregation is bouncing back after the long COVID pandemic: we are welcoming new parishioners, from families with young children to elders who have moved to our area. Our average Sunday attendance, though still lower than it was pre-pandemic, has increased from 76 in 2022 to 88 in 2023. And I have no doubt that one of the reasons is that, when new people come through our doors, they see and experience the deep connection and belonging found in our St. John's family. *See how they love each other!*

We've continued to share the abundance God has gifted to us, fully paying our pledge to the Diocese for the work of the wider Church. We support two partners in Chester, St. Mary's Food Cupboard and Chester Eastside, and never forget our brothers and sisters in Guatemala, lifting up our sister parish in prayer and financial support. Our monetary gifts are signs of the love we have for one another.

In April, my Celebration of Ministry was the most joyful outpouring of love and hope in God's call to us. Our sanctuary was packed full as Wardens Danielle Yoch and Bill Calhoun presented me to Bishop Gutiérrez as the 54<sup>th</sup> Rector of this historic parish. The memory of this day still fills me with a deep, abiding happiness.

More than 300 years ago, a small and faithful group founded our parish believing that St. John's could be a sign of God's love in the wilderness that was. I am deeply grateful that God continues to nourish and bless our congregation, so we can shower our community with the love and blessing we have received, so that all who hear about St. John's will remark: *See how they love each other!*

*Faithfully,*

*The Rev Jill LaRoche Wikel, Rector*

## **RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT**

A big heart felt thank you to all of our dedicated parishioners who come up the hill at all times of the week to keep our sweet church running smoothly, to all of the families who got their pledges in, to all of our new members who found us and keep coming back. It has been an eventful year in the life of our parish and the love and support in our community truly shines through. We gathered for fellowship in inventive ways like-Faith by the Fire, Holy Hikers, Rockin' with the Rector , What Would Jesus Brew and our second successful LIVE Giving Train event.

In a time when many churches are shrinking, we've steadily grown. How wonderful! With growth comes a need for more parishioners to join the ranks of Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Guild. If you've been thinking of joining one of those ministries please reach out.

We have many fun events coming up this year. Look for a list soon and consider being part of an event committee. You can sign up to send out a sign up genius, make a Costco run or help with day of set up/break down. Mark your calendars for Rockin' with the Rector 2/10 and our Pentecost Parish Picnic 5/19 just to name a few!

Our congregation is a beautiful tapestry of humans blessed with a multitude of God's gifts and there are many opportunities to share them. Consider what is calling to you this year and give it a try. It's a great way to feel more connected to our community.

I continue to be grateful to serve as Rector's Warden and blessed to know each of you. Looking forward to what our parish's 322nd year has to offer.

*Yours in Christ,*

*Danielle Yoch, Rector's Warden*

## **VESTRY WARDEN REPORT**

St. John's Vestry is a group of dedicated, faithful parishioners. The Vestry demonstrated its commitment to the people and mission of St. John's in its service to our community, working closely with each other even when things were occasionally tough. It is a blessing to have such committed members.

*Yours in Christ,*

*Bill Calhoun, Vestry Warden*

## **SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **Annual Financial Report 2023**

As in the previous year we have closed the 2023 financial year in a positive position due to the continued commitment and generosity of our congregation who continue to bless and support the parish community of Saint John's.

We ended the year with a positive balance when comparing our revenue with expenses.

2023 revenue:	\$325,574.05
2023 expenses:	<u>\$316,703.12</u>
	\$ 8,870.93

- Our revenue for the 2023 increased by \$15,404.75 over 2022 revenue.
- Our total Pledge income for the year was \$217,374.31, our budgeted amount was \$212,000.
- Our expenses for 2023 were \$34,971.33 less than budgeted the budgeted amount of \$351,674.45, which contributed to the elimination of the anticipated 2023 budget deficit of almost \$32,400.



- Our Giving Train for 2023 continued its successful journey generating over \$22,000 to fund a number of parish projects including youth, outreach and the general fund.
- When reviewing the 2024 budget, you will notice a deficit of \$14,399.77. There are a number of contributing factors including the diocesan suggested cost of living salary increases, an increase in our diocesan parish assessment and the anticipated increases in our utilities and other fixed expenses. The good news is our surplus funds from 2023 will lower our anticipated deficit to approximately \$5,528.84.
- We have started this financial year showing a deficit which is substantially less than the past 2 years. As in the past we have been able to meet our financial challenges. We will continue to review our financial situation as the year progresses and will revise as needed while reporting any changes to the parish.
- Special Note: When reviewing last year's revenue, you will notice we did not include the 2022 Giving Train Contribution to our operating revenue for 2023. The good news is that the Vestry proposed and approved the establishment of a Contingency Fund to offset any unanticipated building repairs or expenses. This restricted fund will only be utilized at the discretion of and approval by the Vestry. This fund is established with \$7,450 from the 2022 Giving Train budget contribution.

Included with this report:

- 2024 Vestry approved budget
- Analysis of Revenues and Expenses for 2023

Thank you,

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Burt Blackburn, Treasurer*





## Analysis of Revenue and Expenses for 2023

Date : 01/24/2024  
Time : 2:59:49 PM

### St. John's Episcopal Church Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail January to December 2023

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
<b>Operating Revenues</b>		
<b>Pledge Income</b>		
1752-001 - Prior Year Pledge Income	\$2,000.00	\$4,515.00
1752-002 - Current Year Pledge Income	\$210,000.00	\$212,859.31
<b>Total Pledge Income</b>	<u>\$212,000.00</u>	<u>\$217,374.31</u>
<b>Plate Income</b>		
1751-001 - Unrestricted Plate Offering	\$2,700.00	\$4,430.69
2761-001 - Special Offerings	\$1,000.00	\$189.66
<b>Total Plate Income</b>	<u>\$3,700.00</u>	<u>\$4,620.35</u>
<b>Investment Income-Operating</b>		
1755-001 - Unrestricted Church Fdn Income	\$89,000.00	\$93,906.41
1755-002 - Interest	\$0.00	\$2,093.98
<b>Total Investment Income-Operating</b>	<u>\$89,000.00</u>	<u>\$96,000.39</u>
<b>Other Income</b>		
1756-001 - Hall Rent	\$6,500.00	\$7,550.00
1756-010 - Youth Group Contributions	\$0.00	\$5.00
1756-011 - Church Auction	\$7,700.00	\$0.00
1756-013 - Miscellaneous Income	\$300.00	\$24.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>\$14,500.00</u>	<u>\$7,579.00</u>
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u><u>\$319,200.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$325,574.05</u></u>

Date : 01/24/2024  
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**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail**  
**January to December 2023**

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
<b>Business Expenses</b>		
<b>Insurance</b>		
1867-081 - Master Insurance Policy	\$10,500.00	\$11,034.50
1867-082 - Workers' Compensation	\$1,500.00	\$1,240.00
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$12,274.50</u>
<b>Utilities</b>		
1867-091 - Heating Oil - Church - 2418540	\$3,500.00	\$2,105.00
1867-094 - Electric - Church&Hall-58589-01104	\$5,500.00	\$6,139.56
1867-095 - Water	\$700.00	\$764.84
1867-096 - Gas - School and Hall	\$7,000.00	\$4,506.23
1867-131 - Heating Oil - Rectory - 2418582	\$3,500.00	\$2,210.75
1867-132 - Electric - Rectory-61681-01702	\$2,000.00	\$1,970.46
1867-133 - Propane-Rectory	\$400.00	\$240.00
1867-161 - Telephone - Office	\$3,000.00	\$2,855.18
1867-162 - Telephone Allowance - Rector	\$400.00	\$384.00
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<u>\$26,000.00</u>	<u>\$21,176.02</u>
<b>Office</b>		
1867-101 - Copy Machines	\$9,500.00	\$9,095.58
1867-102 - Postage	\$1,000.00	\$608.43
1867-103 - Advertising	\$300.00	\$186.34
1867-104 - General Office Expense	\$2,200.00	\$1,612.00
1867-106 - Computer Support	\$6,000.00	\$5,052.19
<b>Total Office</b>	<u>\$19,000.00</u>	<u>\$16,554.54</u>
<b>Altar Supplies</b>		
1867-171 - Altar Supplies	\$400.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Altar Supplies</b>	<u>\$400.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
1867-210 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$17,000.00	\$10,060.33
1867-213 - Organ Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$835.04
1867-215 - Maintenance - Rectory	\$3,000.00	\$2,739.80
1867-241 - Housekeeping Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$612.02
1867-243 - General Grounds Care	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
1867-244 - Trash Pickup	\$4,000.00	\$3,128.60
1867-245 - Snow Plowing	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
1867-246 - Cemetery Grass Cutting	\$12,500.00	\$13,090.00
1867-247 - Tree Care	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
1867-248 - Sewer Service	\$700.00	\$469.00
1867-249 - Cleaning Services	\$12,000.00	\$12,054.68
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<u>\$56,200.00</u>	<u>\$42,989.47</u>
<b>Taxes on Property</b>		
1867-221 - School Tax	\$1,600.00	\$1,447.85
1867-222 - Township Tax	\$200.00	\$155.54
1867-223 - County Tax	\$255.45	\$227.59
<b>Total Taxes on Property</b>	<u>\$2,055.45</u>	<u>\$1,830.98</u>
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	<u>\$115,655.45</u>	<u>\$94,825.51</u>
<b>Outside Giving</b>		
<b>Diocesan Giving</b>		
1864-001 - Assessment	\$27,716.00	\$22,166.00
1864-011 - Pledge	\$0.00	\$5,550.00
<b>Total Diocesan Giving</b>	<u>\$27,716.00</u>	<u>\$27,716.00</u>
<b>Other Giving Outside Parish</b>		
1866-001 - Deanery	\$50.00	\$121.46



Date : 01/24/2024  
Time : 2:59:49 PM

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail**  
**January to December 2023**

Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
<b>Total Other Giving Outside Parish</b>	\$50.00	\$121.46
<b>Total Outside Giving</b>	<u>\$27,766.00</u>	<u>\$27,837.46</u>
<b>Church Programs</b>		
1867-510 - Adult Education	\$300.00	\$160.50
1867-511 - Pastoral Care	\$100.00	\$0.00
1867-512 - Sunday School	\$300.00	\$63.59
1867-513 - Fellowship	\$1,400.00	\$1,746.98
1867-514 - Worship	\$1,200.00	\$1,379.16
1867-515 - Music (printed)	\$250.00	\$0.00
1867-517 - Other Education Supplies	\$300.00	\$312.27
1867-518 - Stewardship	\$400.00	\$454.24
1867-519 - Newcomers	\$100.00	\$180.00
1867-521 - Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$33.92
1867-522 - Rector's Professional Development	\$1,500.00	\$1,623.23
1867-526 - Dir of Music Ministry Profess Devel	\$200.00	\$48.00
1867-531 - Other	\$1,000.00	\$1,161.91
<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<u>\$7,050.00</u>	<u>\$7,163.80</u>
<b>Remuneration</b>		
1867-011 - Rector's Salary	\$75,327.00	\$75,326.64
1867-013 - Rector's Relief	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
1867-021 - Sexton's Salary	\$5,150.00	\$4,708.40
1867-031 - Organist/Choir Director's Salary	\$22,000.00	\$10,800.00
1867-032 - Organist's Relief	\$700.00	\$200.00
1867-041 - Parish Secretary Salary	\$20,500.00	\$23,912.75
1867-051 - Director of Religious Ed Salary	\$12,876.00	\$12,876.24
1867-054 - Bonuses	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
1867-055 - Choir Stipend	\$5,500.00	\$4,000.00
1867-061 - Social Security and Medicare	\$4,000.00	\$2,814.28
1867-062 - SECA Reimbursement-Rector	\$7,200.00	\$7,139.52
1867-071 - Rector's Pension Premium	\$22,100.00	\$21,861.72
1867-072 - Rector's Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1867-083 - Rector's Health Insurance	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
1867-084 - Rector's Life Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
1867-121 - Rector's Mileage	\$800.00	\$60.00
1867-151 - Mileage - Other	\$400.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Remuneration</b>	<u>\$198,153.00</u>	<u>\$183,499.55</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
1867-301 - Bank Charges	\$350.00	\$453.73
1867-302 - Miscellaneous	\$2,700.00	\$2,923.07
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<u>\$3,050.00</u>	<u>\$3,376.80</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>\$351,674.45</u>	<u>\$316,703.12</u>
<b>Net Total</b>	(\$32,474.45)	\$8,870.93

# Approved 2024 Budget

St. John's Episcopal Church - 2024 Approved Budget

Headings and Account	2023 Actual	2024 Budget			
Operating Revenues					
Pledge Income					
1752-001 - Prior Year Pledge Income	\$4,515.00	\$5,000.00			
1752-002 - Current Year Pledge Income	\$212,859.31	\$215,000.00			
Plate Income					
1751-001 - Unrestricted Plate Offering	\$4,430.69	\$3,000.00			
2761-001 - Special Offerings	\$189.66	\$500.00			
Investment Income-Operating					
1755-001 - Unrestricted Church Fdn Income	\$93,906.41	\$94,000.00			
1755-002 - Interest	\$2,093.98	\$4,000.00			
Other Income					
1756-001 - Hall Rent	\$7,550.00	\$7,000.00			
1756-011 - giving train	\$0.00	\$11,875.00	***		
1756-013 - Miscellaneous Income	\$29.00	\$100.00			
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$325,574.05</b>	<b>\$340,475.00</b>			
Operating Expenses					
Business Expenses					
Insurance					
1867-081 - Master Insurance Policy	\$11,034.50	\$12,000.00			
1867-082 - Workers' Compensation	\$1,240.00	\$1,300.00			
Utilities					
1867-091 - Heating Oil - Church - 2418540	\$2,105.00	\$2,250.00			
1867-094 - Electric - Church&Hall-58589-0110	\$6,139.56	\$6,400.00			
1867-095 - Water	\$764.84	\$800.00			
1867-096 - Gas - School and Hall	\$4,506.23	\$5,000.00			
1867-131 - Heating Oil - Rectory - 2418582	2210.75	\$2,500.00			
1867-132 - Electric - Rectory-61681-01702	\$1,970.46	\$2,400.00			
1867-133 - Propane-Rectory	\$240.00	\$300.00			
1867-161 - Telephone - Office	\$2,855.18	\$3,100.00			
1867-162 - Telephone Allowance - Rector	\$384.00	\$400.00			
Office					
1867-101 - Copy Machines	\$9,095.58	\$9,300.00			
1867-102 - Postage	\$608.43	\$700.00			
1867-103 - Advertising	\$186.34	\$400.00			
1867-104 - General Office Expense	\$1,612.00	\$2,000.00			
1867-105 - Newspaper Listing					
1867-106 - Computer Support	\$5,052.19	\$5,500.00			
Altar Supplies					
1867-171 - Altar Supplies	\$0.00	\$400.00			
Property and Equipment					
1867-210 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$10,060.33	\$15,000.00			
1867-213 - Organ Maintenance	\$835.04	\$1,000.00			
1867-215 - Maintenance - Rectory	\$2,739.80	\$3,000.00			
1867-241 - Housekeeping Supplies	\$612.02	\$700.00			
1867-243 - General Grounds Care	\$0.00	\$1,000.00			
1867-244 - Trash Pickup	\$3,128.60	\$3,500.00			
1867-245 - Snow Plowing	\$0.00	\$3,000.00			
1867-246 - Cemetery Grass Cutting	\$13,090.00	\$13,300.00			
1867-247 - Tree Care	\$0.00	\$1,000.00			
1867-248 - Sewer Service	\$469.00	\$600.00			
1867-249 - Cleaning Services	\$12,054.68	\$12,000.00			
Taxes on Property					



St. John's Episcopal Church - 2024 Approved Budget

Headings and Account	2023 Actual	2024 Budget			
1867-221 - School Tax	\$1,447.85	\$1,600.00			
1867-222 - Township Tax	\$155.54	\$225.00			
1867-223 - County Tax	\$227.59	\$275.00			
Outside Giving					
Diocesan Giving					
1864-001 - Assessment	\$27,716.00	\$29,657.00			
Other Giving Outside Parish					
1866-001 - Deanery	\$121.46	\$125.00			
Church Programs					
1867-510 - Adult Education	\$160.50	\$300.00			
1867-511 - Pastoral Care	\$0.00	\$100.00			
1867-512 - Sunday School	\$63.59	\$300.00			
1867-513 - Fellowship	\$1,746.98	\$2,000.00			
1867-514 - Worship	\$1,379.16	\$1,500.00			
1867-515 - Music (printed)	\$0.00	\$250.00			
1867-517 - Other Education Supplies	\$312.27	\$350.00			
1867-518 - Stewardship	\$454.24	\$475.00			
1867-519 - Newcomers	\$180.00	\$200.00			
1867-521 - Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$33.92	\$0.00	Restricted fund		
1867-522 - Rector's Professional Development	\$1,623.23	\$0.00	Restricted fund		
1867-523 - Assisting Clergy Prof. Development					
1867-526 - Dir of Music Ministry Profess Devel	\$48.00	\$200.00			
1867-531 - Other	\$1,161.91	\$1,200.00			
Remuneration					
1867-011 - Rector's Salary	\$75,326.64	\$77,661.77			
1867-013 - Rector's Relief	\$200.00	\$1,000.00			
1867-021 - Sexton's Salary	\$4,708.40	\$4,854.00			
1867-031 - Organist/Choir Director's Salary	\$10,800.00	\$22,000.00			
1867-032 - Organist's Relief	\$200.00	\$2,400.00			
1867-041 - Parish Secretary Salary	\$23,912.75	\$21,228.00			
1867-042 - Other compensation	\$0.00	\$0.00			
1867-051 - Director of Religious Ed Salary	\$12,876.24	\$13,276.00			
1867-054 - Bonuses	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00			
1867-055 - Choir Stipend	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00			
1867-061 - Social Security and Medicare	\$2,814.28	\$4,200.00			
1867-062 - SECA Reimbursement-Rector	\$7,139.52	\$7,360.00			
1867-071 - Rector's Pension Premium	\$21,861.72	\$24,288.00			
1867-072 - Rector's Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00			
1867-083 - Rector's Health Insurance	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00			
1867-084 - Rector's Life Insurance	\$0.00	\$1,000.00			
1867-121 - Rector's Mileage	\$60.00	\$400.00			
1867-151 - Mileage - Other	\$0.00	\$600.00			
1867-301 - Bank Charges	\$453.73	\$500.00			
1867-302 - Miscellaneous	\$2,923.07	\$2,900.00			
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$316,703.12</b>	<b>\$354,874.77</b>			
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$8,870.93</b>	<b>-\$14,399.77</b>			
		<b>\$8,870.93</b>	2023 Surplus		
		<b>-\$5,528.84</b>	Net 2024 anticipated Deficit		
		***	Contingency Fund		



**SAINT JOHN'S**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Rooted in God, Growing in Faith*

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

The office is running smoothly under the direction of our parish administrator, Jen Troutman, and our volunteers - Maureen Thompson and Miriam Stanton. Jen manages the day-to-day office duties, in addition to coordinating all outside groups who use the Parish Hall. Jen also spearheaded our efforts towards an increased digital presence and continues to improve and oversee our website, which underwent dramatic changes in 2022. Jen works hard behind the scenes to ensure that Saint John's operates smoothly.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn*

### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

The last few items on the current Parish Hall Renovation Project were completed in 2023. This marks the end of this project and the capital campaign to fund it. The project phases and costs are shown below.

Phase 1 - new windows, HVAC, floors, ceiling, lighting in the back and side of the parish hall - \$235,000

Phase 2 - cover the courtyard, new rooms (1702, nursery, attic), new handicap accessible rest rooms, revised HVAC for the building - \$650,000.

Phase 3 - new office space for the administrative assistant and rector, new reception area, dish storage room, handicap accessible front ramp, wall plantings for the front flower bed and side entrance, new energy efficient windows and doors - \$175,000

**Total cost of the 3 phases - \$1,060,000**

This total project was completed without borrowing of any kind through the generosity of the parish family with pledges and bequeaths. For all who contributed to this project our deep appreciation. I think everyone will agree that our church facility is much the better for this work. For those that continue to contribute to the capital campaign, I have asked our treasurer to keep this account open so that future capital projects can be funded from this account.

*Submitted on behalf of the Capital Campaign Committee,*

*Paul Costello, Chair, Rocky Bassett, Marti Keenan, Tracey Payne, Paul Pearlman & Ted Stipa*

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Your cemeterians have laid out nine graves in 2023. In addition, we are available to address requests for information regarding purchases of plots and genealogy questions.

*Barry Ersek, John Pachkowski, and Roger Readinger, Co-Cemeterians*

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT: Sunday School**

Discern and Pivot are the two words that best sum up our year in Children's Education. Regular Sunday School time of 9:30 AM did not work for most families. We usually had between 2 and 4 children for Sunday School with much higher attendance in Children's Chapel, which took place during the 10:00 Service. Getting children to Church before the service was a real struggle for most families and, instead of being a source of learning and fun for the kids, our early morning Sunday School was serving mostly to

make their parents feel slightly guilty. That's not at all what we want! So, we pivoted. We made the decision towards the end of 2023 to "flip" the two and are now having "Children's Chapel" available at 9:30 (so parents can attend the adult classes) and "Sunday School" is now during Church, with the children leaving earlier but still coming back in time for Communion. So far, this seems to be working and the children are happy with the new format.

A couple of observations are in order regarding these two programs and how they help our children. Learning about God, Jesus, and life in Church is, of course, important. It's also important for the children to learn to work together with tolerance and compassion. We are all so different and a Sunday School with more children means more opportunity to learn to work together and listen to other viewpoints. It's also a time to fine tune motor skills and focus by doing crafts and activities that also teach us about our relationship to God and how to find our place, not only in the world but in any given situation. The children are learning how to fit in, where they fit in, and how to gracefully make room for others when they share in group discussions and activities. Today's post-COVID world is a time that many children (and some adults) are learning or re-learning how to communicate in ways that don't cause division. They are finding ways to be heard and ask questions without silencing those around them. These are vital and necessary skills. This is what we hope to provide more effectively with our new Sunday School timeslot.

This does not diminish the importance of quiet or one on one time. While we had very few children for the early morning session, that does not negate the importance of what happened there. Children experience so many things in their day to day – joy, loss, bullying (as well as trying not to bully others) and it's difficult for them to process sometimes. When they are going from activity to activity, when they are studying or playing, they aren't always able to process the things they are seeing and feeling. This is where, occasionally, the early morning at Church is important for the children. We found that, even when presented with the opportunity to stay upstairs and enjoy Coffee Hour with the adults during the holidays, most of the children wanted their quiet time. They wanted to talk and tell stories about what was happening in their lives. They wanted a little bit of peace.

We have a mirror on the wall at the bottom of the stairs leading to Sunday School. Above the mirror we have sayings like "Child of God". Each child has a handprint with their name on it and these surround the mirror. The children, as they come downstairs, high five themselves and say, "I'm awesome!". Some of the children have put their handprints up high so they have to jump up. Some have to reach down. But they all do it. Even when they don't feel it, they high five themselves and say "I'm awesome!". We remind them that they are loved by God and by the people around them.

This seems simple, but it's a way for kids to tell themselves that they are worthwhile. They are learning to remind themselves that they are awesome and loved. It's a skill that, hopefully, they will carry with them as they continue to learn and grow. It's a skill that we, with God's help, will continue to teach.

*Respectfully submitted by Margie Hatcher*

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Youth Group**

The Youth Group has a strong following with about 10 youth attending regularly. Our goal is to provide a safe place for our youth to connect with each other and God. We meet twice a month, along with volunteering at Saint John's and in the community. Our meetings vary but usually center on a lesson, food, and fellowship - SPUD in the field and Ghost in the Graveyard in the Sunday School are favorites! This year our youth volunteered by filling Easter eggs for our Easter egg hunt; baking and delivering Christmas cookies for our homebound parishioners; making blankets for those in need; and packing Thanksgiving dinners at Chester Eastside. Renovating the Youth room remains an ongoing project. In the Fall, our Youth



gathered 3 times with two other Episcopal parishes (St. Peter's in the Great Valley and St. Francis in the Field) for combined youth events.

We continued our fundraising efforts to support an upcoming mission trip in the summer of 2024. There were two pancake breakfasts and a bake sale on Election Day. Our next pancake breakfast is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful for your continued support.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn*

## **CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Christian Formation includes those events that deepen a person's faith through discussion & teaching; the learning component is the main reason for gathering.

Throughout 2023 Saint John's offered many such opportunities. Youth Group learned how to give, how to learn and how to have fun. Many Sunday mornings included discussion of current topics during Coffee Hour. Rev. Jill and Rev. Terry offered a Lenten forum called *We Believe* that explored Church history, the founding of the Episcopal Church, and teaching about our liturgy. The Sunday morning *Brief Bible Study* was very popular, studying Matthew in the Spring and the first half of the book of Genesis in the fall.

In non-formal ways such as the simple conversations enjoyed at Sunday Coffee Hour, in the church parking lot and outreach to one another in more private ways our church family learns from one another, deepens their faith, and strengthens Saint John's.

*Respectfully submitted by Mary Pat Lynam*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

We continue to ensure that our members are updated with the information needed for them to have a satisfying and enjoyable Church experience. We have strived to keep our website current and increased our digital presence in an effort to get our message to everyone eager to grow their relationship with the St John's community and gain a deeper spiritual understanding.

We also keep working to meet the technological challenges to provide a streaming service for Church worship services. That has created the ability for members to stay involved even when not physically able to travel and non members to visit digitally and get to know us. We achieved our goal this year of providing a more immersive streaming service with more camera angles and digital graphics.

We have been blessed with both volunteers and staff that have risen to the challenge of upgrading and enhancing our communication efforts.

*Respectfully Submitted by Ron Hammer*

## **FELLOWSHIP**

Once again Saint John's has and is offering many Fellowship opportunities. We have had Holy Hikes, book clubs, fireside fun, Thursday Morning Cafe's, Men's Breakfast, Woman's Dinners, WWJB (What Would Jesus Brew), Cookies and Carols, Live Giving Train, Parish Picnic to kick off our Summer schedule, Karaoke Potluck to ward off the winter blues...and anything else we can make an excuse to gather together.

Coffee Hours continue between the 8:30 AM and the 10 AM services, till our summer schedule starts, then it will be after our 1 Sunday service. This is a great way to meet and greet fellow parishioners and newcomers looking for a church home. Please Sign up, in the parish hall, to host Coffee Hour. Host with your family or grab a friend and host together...It's easy!!! We even had Ron, our sexton, to clean up after.

Blessings are everywhere @ Saint John's!

*Respectfully submitted by Tracey Payne, Vestry Fellowship Chair*

## 2023 LIVE GIVING TRAIN

Building off of the success of our pandemic Giving Train and last year's Giving Train which included a Live train stop to celebrate our commitment to our parish, we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual LIVE Giving Train on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm. Thank you to the many, many hands that went into making this fun fall fundraiser a success, including Jen Troutman, Diane Carlin, Jimmy Yoch, Rachel Wikel and Justin O'Grady, the Vestry, and the Men's Breakfast group who helped set up. Also, big thanks to Tyrone Payne, Ron Hammer, and Glenn Wikel who set up tents in the rain to keep our guests dry as they waited for their food from *Dos Gringos* food truck. (Please accept our apology if we forgot to name someone.)

### Event Revenue

Ticket Revenue	\$2,775
Sponsors	\$515.68
Total Pledges	\$22,917
Total Revenue	\$26,207.68

### Breakdown of Expenses

Dos Gringos	\$1950.69
Cupcakes	\$96
Beverages	\$359.16
Band	\$400
Decorations	\$63.56
Total Expenses	\$2869.41

### 2023 Giving Train

#### Grand Total

Total Revenue	\$26,207.68
Expenses	\$2869.41
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$23,338.27</b>

### Giving Train Stops

Stop	Amount	Goal	%
When You Wish Upon a Star <i>(wish list items)</i>	\$3985	9000	44.28%
Lean on Me <i>(mission)</i>	\$2550	4000	63.75%
Schoolhouse Rock <i>(children &amp; youth)</i>	\$4835	4000	120.88%
Ring of Fire <i>(new AC unit)</i>	\$5160	8000	64.50%
O Come All Ye Faithful <i>(general)</i>	\$6387	10000	63.87%
Total Pledges	\$22,917	35000	65.47%

### When You Wish Upon a Star

#### Wish List Items

'Safety Dance' <i>Safety comm.</i>	\$2,635
'Music Man' <i>Music prog</i>	\$350
'Strawberry Fields For Ever' <i>Field projects</i>	\$1,000
Total for Wish List	\$3,985

Thank you all so much!!

*Respectfully Submitted by Tracey Payne, Danielle Yoch, and Rev Jill*

## THE GREEN TEAM

In November a group of parishioners answered a call to explore how we might better utilize the "back forty" of our acreage. The result was the birth of a ministry to enhance our stewardship of the natural resources entrusted to St. John's. We, as an ecologically-minded group, the "Green Team", want to be intentional about our efforts, for our efforts to be sustainable, and to communicate them with and enlist support and participation of the entire parish. Ideas include actions like planting pollinators and perennials; creating habitats for birds and butterflies; focusing on reducing waste through more recycling and using fewer disposable/single-use products; and creating ecology-based opportunities for fellowship, spirituality, and engagement with the congregation.

Plans have been made. A monthly series with gardening tips and workshops will begin Sunday, Feb 25th, when we'll learn about Lenten Roses, an early-pollinator-friendly plant with a liturgically timely name, and

we'll be able to transplant one to take home. We plan to celebrate Earth Day on Sunday April 21st with activities such as planting a Stewartia tree, with some pointers how we might be successful in doing so on our own; learning about commonly used herbs, and perhaps transplanting one for home; and touring church grounds to become familiar with current plants and to begin imagining where we can go next as good stewards of St. John's.

Anyone interested in participating as a member of the "Green Team" is invited to join us. Dates of team meetings and info on activities for the congregation will be published in the eNews and on Sundays.

*Respectfully submitted, Peggy Long*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### New Members in 2023

Kate Hayes

Tom Dougherty

Ashlyn and Andrew Dorman and Baby Adam

Lauren May and Nathan Torok and their children

Liam and Finnegan

Alison and Chris Gondos and baby Avery

*Respectfully Submitted, Diane Carlin*

Krista Capone and Michelle Troise and baby Luca

Danielle and Franco DeLuca and baby Sophia

Bob and Sandy Johnson

Dean Dannaker

Jacalyn and John Sykes and their children

Savannah and Jack

## **MISSION AND OUTREACH**

In 2023, the Mission and Outreach Committee again had a positive impact through several projects and commitments. The continued generosity of our parish community is a blessing to those we were able to assist.

### Saint Mary's Food Cupboard

We continued to help Saint Mary's with a monthly \$100 donation from our Outreach funds for a total of \$1,200 as well as our weekly food delivery of food and supplies donated by parish members. We are still receiving resources donated by Costco which are also delivered by John Keenan, Ronni Liberi, Darree Clark, Debbie Miller & Maria Warlow. In addition to our usual donations, \$900 in checks and \$240 in gift cards were donated to St. Mary's. These were all given in honor of Marti & John Keenan and Carol & Bill Angus' 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries.

### Chester Eastside Ministries

We supported Chester Eastside Ministries in several ways:

- *Lenten Offerings* – This year we asked for donations for Chester Eastside Food Pantry during Lent. We sent a \$500 check shortly after Easter.
- *School Supplies* - We collected school supplies and backpacks. We provided needed school items and supplies to assist Chester Eastside students as they began their school year. We filled Burt Blackburn's jeep again this year and know these items will make a real difference in the lives of children in the community.
- *Thanksgiving* -We continue to support their Thanksgiving food drive. We contributed more than 20 turkeys. The Youth Group helped pack Thanksgiving dinner bags & distribute those bags.
- *Christmas Gift Cards* - This year Chester Eastside again requested we provide gift cards instead of gifts allowing parents to purchase items for their families. Parishioners generously provided \$1,490 requested gift cards to Target & Walmart. Operations Manager, Tiffany Kea, said, "God bless you all. We really need this since we didn't get as many gift cards this year. This is a real blessing."

### Guatemala and San Andreas Companion Parish

Our support of our Companion Parish in San Andrea Itzapa, Guatemala continues. To ensure the congregation of San Andreas has a place of worship, a meeting spot for educational opportunities and youth group activities, we continue to send rent money of \$225 per month.

*Respectively Submitted, Mary Alice Peeling*

## **MUSIC**

The heart of our Music Ministry is our choir. When our choir vests and processes, somehow this just seems like “regular” church (and our pandemic years without the choir proved just how central to our worship our choir is). The choir truly leads our 10:00 worship in the liturgy: with the choir in the choir pews, the rest of the congregation sings much louder, following their direction. Our choir members include: Carol Angus, Bill Angus, Dottie Collman, Mariann Shirk, Steve Shirk, Miriam Stanton, Phil Thompson, Sherry Thompson, and Maureen Thompson, with additional soprano support by section leader Mila Samargia.

A special shout-out to Carol Angus, our ‘choir facilitator.’ Carol tirelessly plans the anthems our choir offers twice a month, and weekly during the important liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent, along with additional music for our Christmas Eve and Easter celebrations. In the absence of a permanent choir director (Rev Jill continues to search for someone to fill this position), Carol has kept the choir engaged and singing beautifully as she directs our choir.

Musical support has been provided by several guests organists throughout the year, most often provided by Laura Seidelmann, Mary Eileen Johnston, Hugh Kronrot, and Carol Angus. Rev Jill looks forward to hiring a permanent church musician in the coming year.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

On December 12, 2022, Reverend Terry reconvened the Pastoral Care Committee, a long-standing committee at Saint John’s that had suspended regular meetings during the COVID pandemic. At this meeting, we reviewed the ministries that had been the focus of the committee in past years, and discussed how to go about resuming this work. The Pastoral Care Committee, including Rev. Terry, Diane Carlin, Darree Clark, Dottie Collman, Carla Durdan, Joy Embree, Peggy Long, Nancy McKean, Russ Roegner, Ted Stipa, Maureen Thompson and Philip Thompson continued to meet regularly during 2023, and pursued a number of initiatives to revitalize its work:

- A Prayer Chain, whose members are committed to regularly praying for those on the Saint John’s Prayer List. Drawing from the work of the Transition Prayer Group, Philip Thompson worked with Rev. Terry and Jen Troutman to respect privacy concerns when sharing information with prayer chain members, and to implement a new system for sending Prayer Chain members email notifications whenever a change is made to the Prayer List. Jen also added a form to the Saint John’s website where prayer requests can be submitted online.
- A Prayer Shawl ministry, with volunteers knitting or crocheting prayer shawls to be given to the newly baptized, to those needing healing comfort, and at other appropriate times. Carla Durdan led the effort to organize a team to make shawls and label and distribute them. Many of the shawls were put on display in the church, and parishioners were invited to take them as needed.
- A Card Ministry, with volunteers sending out birthday cards, “Get Well” cards, and other notes of greetings and encouragement. Peggy Long led this effort, building a team of volunteers, putting together a schedule for sending out cards, and working with team members to address cards and add handwritten notes on Saint John’s stationary.

- A Healing Prayer ministry, offering parishioners a time to receive healing prayers after Sunday morning worship. Ted Stipa organized this effort to regularly offer healing prayers at the front of the church sanctuary after the 10 a.m. service. Many have since taken advantage of this opportunity.
- A Parkinson's Support Group. Darree Clark worked with Rev. Terry to establish a regular support group meeting for those with Parkinson's disease or those caring for them. This group has been meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, with meetings open to the community.

In 2024, the Pastoral Care Committee will continue to meet monthly to review current ministries, to learn ways parishioners can participate in ministry here at St. John's and to discover new ministries to enrich the lives of our members and the community of which we are part. New members are always welcomed. Please contact Rev. Terry for meeting times.

*Respectfully submitted, Philip Thompson*

## **PROPERTY/GROUNDS**

This last year has been an active year for the Property Committee with numerous planned and unplanned repair and upgrade projects for the Buildings and Grounds.

The Property Committee of St. John's would like to submit the following list of accomplished projects in 2023. This list reflects the hard work of all the committee members on behalf of our church.

### Grounds:

- An Eagle Scout Project by Aiden Neff was completed last Spring. An 18X18 foot slate flagstone patio was placed around the fire pit and the top row and a half of broken fire pit blocks were replaced. The area around the fire pit was cleaned and trash and excess sticks were removed.
- A combination trash/recycle receptacle was installed by the sidewalk between the Parish Hall and Playground. The funds for this project were donated by a member and the receptacle was built by the Property Committee.
- Chalking on the sidewalk leading to the front of the Church was repaired/replaced to prevent damage to the retaining wall from freezing and the new ADA sidewalk along the Parish Hall was caulked to prevent water intrusion in the Sunday School Area. Mortar in the steps leading up to the Outreach Door on the Parish Hall was repaired.
- Spring and Fall cleanups were a big success this year with over 30 volunteers from Church members, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, and Brownies at each. We thank everyone who participated.

### Buildings:

- A remote-controlled advent wreath winch was installed in the Church and significant wiring was carried out to support the A/V upgrade. We would like to acknowledge Ron Hammer for his lead efforts.
- Funded by donations to the Giving Train, the downstairs Sunday School Girl's rest room was updated and converted to a Unisex bathroom. The vanity, sink, and mirror were replaced and the toilet divider was repainted. The boy's bathroom has been converted to the new Janitor's closet.
- With the completion of the Parish Hall project, the kitchen was reorganized to optimize location of and access to supplies and equipment. Work continues to improve the management of the kitchen facilities and utilization during events.
- During the annual maintenance/inspection of the Parish Hall heating boiler, a significant hole was found in the Primary boiler's heat exchanger. The heating load has been transferred to the auxiliary boiler and a new boiler has been ordered and will be installed in the next month.

- In 2021, one of the 3 large split heat pump units in the Parish Hall fails due to an electrical fire and would have to be replaced. It was decided wait to see if we could operate with the 2 remaining units alone. It has been determined that we need to have the 3 units to handle larger crowds during the hottest days. The unit will be replaced in 2024.

*Respectfully submitted, Paul Pearlman, Chair, and the Property Committee*

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

A newly formed Safety Committee has been brought together to address the ever-changing needs of Saint John's as we continue to grow and prosper as a congregation and a resource for community-based programs/activities. The initial meeting was held on July 12, 2023, with the following committee members: Dick Constable, Carla Durdan, Ron Hammer, and Paul Pearlman. The mission of the committee is to take steps to ensure a safe place of worship for parishioners and a safe location for community members to utilize space for approved activities. Assessments will be made to take steps to enhance the physical security of the grounds, the building and its contents, and those who attend services/activities. Assistance and education will be provided by law enforcement entities at the State and Federal levels. The committee will ensure ongoing communication with Rev. Jill and the vestry to make recommendations for overall safety improvements based on assessments and recommendations received. Questions or suggestions can be sent to Carla Durdan at carladarla@msn.com

*Respectfully submitted, Carla Durdan*

## **STEWARDSHIP**

We are all stewards of St. John's and your individual contributions of Time, Talent and Treasure were outstanding in 2023. All these contributions enable St. John's enable us operate our services each Sunday, maintain our facilities and our missions to meet the needs of our parishioners and our multiple outreach ministries.

Your treasure allowed us to exceed our goal of \$210,000. Thank you all for providing the capital that we need to meet St. John's mission. As we start 2024, we are pleased to report that we are well on our way to exceed our \$215,000 goal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Another key component of stewardship is the time and talent portion. We are fortunate to have members who give their time and skills so that we can operate the church. Many volunteer hours are spent by individuals and teams on weekly services, property management, treasury and finance, Christian education, office administration, live streaming services, the Vestry as well as a host of other activities.

In 2022 we estimated to volunteers spent about 4200 hours supporting our operations and ministries. This past year we estimate that those hours have increased to over 4500 hours. The complete redesign of our live streaming services, the installation of 2 additional cameras and the addition of amazing graphics on the broadcasts required many hours. On the property front, major efforts and hours have been spent on our heating and air conditioning systems in order to delay replacement of very expensive equipment. Translate the 4500 hours of volunteer work in to dollars at \$15 an hour amounts to \$67,500: Funds that we don't have to take out of our operating budget.

Stewardship is strong at St. John's and we thank you all for being strong stewards.

*Respectfully submitted, Gerry Tierney*

## TECHNOLOGY

The Tech Team at Saint John's grew out of the need to live stream worship services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that we have returned to in-person worship, we have focused more on improving the production of live streams and recordings for those who may be unable to attend, would prefer to worship online, or would like to watch a recording of the service.

During 2023, we have implemented a number of improvements to our live video streaming capabilities. We now have three cameras that provide three different viewing angles of the service. This includes two cameras mounted on the balcony and one camera near the front of the church. We also have a video switcher, which enables switching between cameras, as well as superimposing hymn lyrics, scripture references, prayers and other graphics over the lower third part of the video. To help provide a more stable signal with limited internet bandwidth, we now use a "restreaming" service which sends our signal to multiple destinations. We currently can be viewed on YouTube, our public Saint John's Facebook page, and the private "Friends of Saint John's" Facebook group.

In 2024, the Tech Team plans to install additional microphones to improve the audio quality of our broadcasts. We also hope to incorporate pre-recorded video segments, including an opening welcome video from Rev. Jill. And we are looking into additional destinations for the video stream, such as Instagram Live.

Members of the Tech Team include Gerry Tierney, Philip Thompson, Patti Doyle, Ron Hammer, Paul Pearlman and Glenn Wikel. We also appreciate the additional contributions from Evan Willoughby, and Will Durdan. We welcome your comments and appreciate your feedback. If you are interested in helping on the Tech Team, please contact Gerry Tierney or Philip Thompson.

*Respectfully submitted, Philip Thompson*

## THE 1702 SOCIETY

The 1702 Society honors individuals and families who make gifts to St. John's through planned giving in their wills and direct bequeaths upon their passing. Planned Giving through your will and estate will establish your legacy with St. John's and will provide a lasting benefit to the church so it can continue to serve our families and continue outreach missions.

How could you become a member 1702 Society? Well, first of all, you don't have to pass away. You can simply make St. John's part of your estate plan by including the church as a beneficiary in your will or as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy. If you don't have a will – you should. Already have a will? No need to rewrite it. Just add a simple codicil to it naming St. John's as a beneficiary. Questions? Please contact the office or Gerry Tierney.

### Current Members

Norman Butterworth  
Edna Shmith  
Sharpless Family  
Barr Family  
Judith Pittock  
Dorothy Thomas  
Lawrence A Dunbar  
Donna Tierney  
Joseph Luttrell  
Ruth Duncan

Carol Pittock  
Bowers Family  
Schroeder Family  
Paul Costello  
Richard Leroy Mendenhall  
George H Woodcock  
Janice Luttrell  
Gerry Tierney  
Francis Smedley Ennis



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

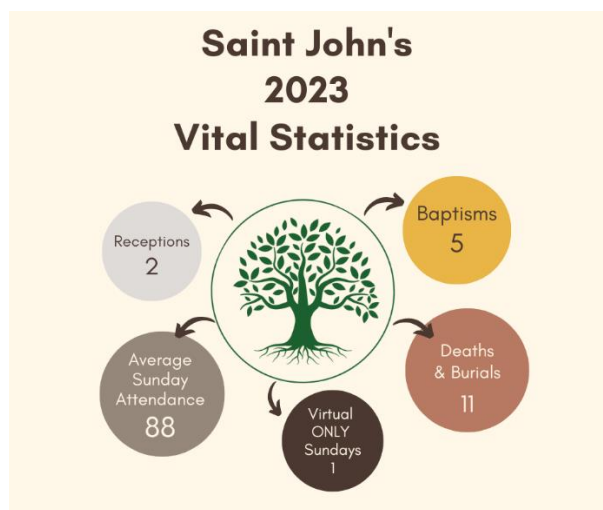
Although there is always a new COVID-19 variant popping up, 2023 saw further efforts to return worship to some pre-Covid normalcy. The latest step was offering the chalice in two way, “dipping and sipping” in the late summer of 2023. At this point, most congregants have opted for “dipping” option.

Due to current conditions, the hiring a full-time organist has still been a challenge. However, Rev. Jill has continued to do an excellent job of lining up a steady rotation of organists to provide music at the second Sunday morning service.

Finally, special thanks to:

- Tech team for running, continually improving upon quality of St. John’s livestreaming; and Ron Hammer for installing the new cameras.
  - Tracey Payne and Melody Calhoun and all the members of the Altar Guild.
- Carol Angus, Bill Angus, Martha Pearlman, Paul Perlman, Nancy McKean, and Maggie Hibbs for getting the church ready for Christmas.

*Respectfully submitted by John M. Pachkowski – Worship Committee*



### Vital Statistics from the Church Office

#### BAPTISMS

Adam J. Dorman  
Glenn G. Wikel Jr.+  
Avery H. Gondos  
Sofia R. LaBraico  
Luca V. Troise-Capone  
*+indicates conditional Baptism*

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Glenn G. Wikel Jr.

#### RECEPTIONS

Carla Durdan  
Diane Carlin

#### DEATHS & BURIALS

Dexter Armistead+  
Zachary Blackburn+  
Sibyl Wood Borden+  
Ellin Crane+  
Bobbie Ely  
Rev Dee Faison+  
Marlene Dennis Hazzard+  
David Lawrey+  
Susan Niederitter+  
David Scargall Jr.  
Thomas Williams+  
*+ indicates buried at St. John's*

**Virtual ONLY Sundays = 1**

**Average Sunday Attendance = 96**

*Does not include our online attendance*

## **2024 Ballot**

### ***Vote for Five Vestry Members (2 year terms)***

- ☐ Carla Durdan, first 2-year term
- ☐ Ron Hammer, second 2-year term
- ☐ Dick Constable, second 2-year term
- ☐ Ann McGonigal, second 2-year term
- ☐ Gerry Tierney, third 2-year term

Nominations from the floor:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Delegates to Diocesan Convention: Three Delegates & One Alternate***

- ☐ Philip Thompsen
- ☐ Sue Hammer
- ☐ Glenn Wikel
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ (Alternate)

Nominations from the floor:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_