

# Saint John's Episcopal Church

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

576 Concord Road  
Glen Mills, PA 19342  
SaintJohnsConcord.com

*Founded 1702*  
*Celebrating 323 Years of Worship*



**The Rev Jill M. LaRoche Wikel – Rector**  
**The Rev. Terry Dinovo – Priest Associate**  
**The Rev. Elizabeth Brickle - Deacon**

**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 15, 2026



### AGENDA

Invocation

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Ministry Highlight #1: Music

*Martin Hinkley and  
The Choir of Saint John's*

Approval of Minutes from Feb 2, 2025

Reports:

A. Rector's Report

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

B. Wardens' Reports

*Danielle Yoch and Dick Constable*

C. Finance Reports & 2025 Budget

*Burt Blackburn*

Ministry Highlight #2: Communication

*Phil Thompsen*

Introductions: Staff, New Members, Others . . .

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Recognition of our Unsung Heroes

*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel*

Ministry Highlight #3: Outreach

*The Rev. Elizabeth Brickle & Mary Alice  
Peeling*

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. Elizabeth Brickle*

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*Presented for Approval*  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
Annual Meeting Minutes February 2, 2025

## INVOCATION

The meeting began at 9:20 AM with prayer offered by Rev. Jill. The Rev Jill played a video made when the Bishop visited in November.

## APPROVAL OF LAST YEAR'S MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held February 4, 2024, was made by Gerry Tierney and seconded by Carol Angus. 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. A year of growth and hope for us. Many newcomers who are committing to Saint John's in various ways. Rev. Jill acknowledged those who were at the Annual Meeting. Our latest stewardship numbers also look great (with over half of our pledges increasing their pledge this year) in reflection of this. Part of the reason for this is our wonderful Vestry volunteers and their focused efforts. Our youth also did great things this year with the mission trip in Appalachia. We confirmed 12 youth this year as well! We look forward to the coming year as we will welcome a vocational Deacon, Elizabeth Brickle. She will join us starting March 2. God is good!

B. Rector's Warden. It was Bill Calhoun's last Vestry Warden experience with us today. He has served the last four years. He thanked the harmonious Vestry for all their dedication and hard work as well as the property committee for their tireless efforts as they have helped us save a lot of money. Danielle Yoch expressed her thanks to Bill as well and echoed what Rev. Jill said. It was a joyful year at Saint John's including our most successful giving train. Everyone knows your name now with the new nametags giving us a more inclusive feel. She invites everyone to join a ministry i.e. ushering. Thanks to the Altar Guild and they are always looking for help as well. We also have a Celebration Committee who could use a few more members to help with our various fun events.

C. Finance Report and Budget. The parish finances continue to remain strong due primarily to the support of the entire congregation. We had a very good year and we are very blessed and grateful. We had a bump in revenue as we received an early check from the foundation and we didn't fill the full time position for our choir director. You can read all the details in the annual report. Motion to approve the 2025 budget made by Diane Carlin. and seconded by Charlie Smith. Passed unanimously.

D. Ministry Highlights: Green Team. Glenn Wikel gave presentation on Green Team which started a little over a year ago. Full report in the Annual Report booklet. We came up with a purpose statement this year. Preservation, protections, sustainability, planting with intention, providing education – that's what we're all about. Planted over 1,000 crocus bulbs and will double that again this year. Also planted daffodils along the road. Working on a water bottle filling station for this coming year. Developed a memorial tree agreement. Prioritizing reusing dishware and recycling. Held multiple workshops over the year including a great Earth

Day celebration. Established a road cleanup schedule. Sip and Stroll fundraiser event at Debbie and Bernie Miller's home. We have many goals and plans for the new year; thanks for our wonderful committee members.

## **INTRODUCTIONS: STAFF, NEW MEMBERS, OTHERS**

Laura Seidelmann is officially now our organist. Carol Angus once again picked up the responsibility of coordinating and managing our choir in the absence of a paid director. Thank you for her dedication to this ministry. Rev. Jill acknowledged the new members earlier in the meeting.

## **RECOGNITION OF 2025 UNSUNG HEREOS**

So many on the list who keep this church going strong. This year we recognize Rev. Terry for all his donated time to our parish. Rev. Jill could not function without him. His Pastoral Care expertise and ministry is a true blessing to our congregation. Tracey Payne is active with MANY areas of the church. Atlar Guild directress – and fellowship chair. Thanks for all you do! Burt Blackburn – our treasurer – his job requires lots of time and management of our expenses and money. Burt has a deep heart of a servant – he went on the mission trip with the youth.

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

A slate was nominated. Second 2-year Term: Tracey Payne. Nominated for first 2-year term: Diane Stover, Phil Thompsen and Debbie Miller. We recognized John Pachkowski (12 years of service total, through two 6-year spreads), Bill Calhoun who served as the Vestry Warden for many years, and Mary Pat Lynam (6 years).

Elected unanimously by vocal acclamation.

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

Nominated as Delegate: Philip Thompsen, Diane Stover, and Glenn Wikel.

Nomination from floor for Ann McGonigal as an alternate. Elected unanimously by vocal acclamation.

## **THE NECROLOGY**

Sandy McKinley and Diane Carlin spoke for those who passed away in 2024.

## **CLOSING**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM with Rev. Jill leading us in closing prayer.

*Respectfully submitted by Jen Troutman, Parish Administrator and Vestry Secretary.*

## RECTOR'S REPORT: Bearing Much Fruit



“Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit... My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.” *John 15:5-8*

As I reflect on our past year together, I am deeply grateful for God’s abundant gifts to us – and the ways we’ve used those gifts to care for Saint John’s and wider community. I’m reminded of Jesus’s words to his disciples on his last night with them as he urged them share the love they have rooted in Christ with each other, doing fruitful actions. This year, we have seen clear evidence that as a congregation we have remained rooted in God, experiencing growth, stability, and new opportunities for ministry – bearing fruits that will last.

One of the most visible signs of fruit this year has been the beginning and expansion of the hot meal outreach in the city of Chester with our ministry partner Chester Eastside. What started as a step of faith – to commit to providing the resources to pay for one catered meal a month – has grown into a consistent and compassionate ministry. We were able to pledge to providing two meals a month at CEI’s Open Table, evenings that were filled with shared meals, meaningful conversations, and faithful presence. We’ve been able to extend Christ’s love beyond our walls, serving “the least of these” (Mathew 25:40) as a vital expression of our fruitful witness in the community.

I’m also grateful for the addition of Deacon Elizabeth to our staff this year. Her leadership, dedication, and servant’s heart have already been a blessing to our congregation. She has strengthened our outreach efforts and helped nurture spiritual growth among our members with her insightful sermons. We thank God for her willingness to serve among us and for the gifts she brings to the body of Christ.

Another important fruit in our congregation is our financial stability, a testament to the faithful stewardship and generous giving of our parishioners. Because of your commitment and trust in God’s abundant blessings, we’ve been able to support ongoing ministries, respond to new opportunities, and plan responsibly for the future. Our parishioners have also provided hundreds of hours of volunteer service to the upkeep and care of our beautiful 15 acre campus.

I’m grateful for the consistent and strong attendance in worship of our parishioners; this reflects a congregation eager to worship, grow, and serve together. This culminated in the return of our Christmas pageant. What an incredible joy it was to see so many children participating and our little church packed to the roof! Their voices, laughter, and enthusiasm reminded us that our parish is alive and growing across generations, a joyful witness that filled our sanctuary with hope and celebration.

As I look ahead to the coming year, I’m confident that Saint John’s will continue to bear much fruit, rooted in Christ the true vine. Jesus reminds us that fruitfulness is not about striving harder, but about remaining connected to him. My prayer is that God will continue to shape us, nurture us, and use us to bear even more fruit as we proclaim God’s Kingdom in Glen Mills.

*Faithfully,*  
*The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel, Rector*

## RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT

It's been another wonderful year together in our beloved community of Saint John's. As I began writing my last Rector's Warden's report, I browsed through the past twelve months of photos we've shared. There are so many smiling faces—rocking with the Rector, creating flower arrangements, planting trees, serving and eating pancakes, serving meals at Chester Eastside, hiking, painting, working together to keep our property beautiful, enjoying Faith by the Fire, Easter egg hunting, sipping and strolling the Millers' beautiful garden, building birdhouses, taking in the Wilmington Blue Rocks game and singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," splashing and learning at Vacation Bible School, dancing together at the Giving Train, decorating cookies, singing carols, and welcoming back our Christmas pageant—just to name a few! I continue to be impressed by all of the love and dedication our many members pour into our community in big and small ways all year long. One of the highlights this year was welcoming Deacon Elizabeth and her family to our congregation. We're so blessed! Our country is in a tough place right now, and Reverend Jill's and Reverend Terry's sermons have provided solace that helps ground us and inspire us each week to continue to do the work of Jesus even when it's hard, especially when it's hard. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside Reverend Jill and to watch her vision for a vibrant, loving, welcoming, and inclusive community come to life. I'm grateful to my fellow Wardens: serving for four years with Bill Calhoun (who we lost in August; *may he rest in peace and rise in glory*) and this year with Dick Constable; our treasurer Burt Blackburn; and all of our dedicated Vestry members. Saint John's is a truly special place because of the love, kindness, and generosity of everyone here. I look forward to all of the great things this year has in store and to celebrating our 325th anniversary next year!

*Yours in Christ,  
Danielle Yoch, Rector's Warden*

## VESTRY WARDEN REPORT

As you read, or hear about, the individual Vestry Committee Reports you realize that St. John's had a very busy 2025. I would like to personally thank the Vestry members who served as committee leaders; and also thank all those who worked on the various committee projects. With your hard work and dedication, you are making St. John's a better place to worship; and, are maintaining and expanding opportunities to serve our community.

The Vestry is looking forward to a busy 2026 and preparing St. John's for our 325th anniversary in February 2027.

*Dick Constable, Vestry Warden*



# SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

## Annual Financial Report 2025

As your treasurer, I am thankful for your continued generosity and support of our congregation. Your faithfulness continues to sustain the mission of Saint John's

2025 revenue:	\$371,650.16
2025 expenses:	<u>\$350,999.01</u>
Net Balance	\$ 20,651.15

- Our revenue for 2025 decreased by \$13,921 over 2024 revenue.
- Our total Pledge income for the year was \$235,602, our budgeted amount was \$225,000 with a positive variance of \$10,602.30
- Our expenses for 2025 were \$350,999.01, our budgeted amount for expenses was \$363,647 for a positive variance of \$12,647.99
- The good news is that we completed our fiscal year with a positive net balance enabling us to offset our potential 2026 budget deficit of \$10,911.07.
- Our Giving Train for 2025 again continued its successful journey generating \$38,019 to fund a number of parish projects including: the meal program at Chester Eastside; our sister congregation in San Andreas Guatemala; Youth Group/ Sunday School; the purchase of LEVAS hymnals; Kitchen supplies; equipment for our field of dreams; a handicap assist system for our entrance door and the general operating fund.

Included with this report:

- 2026 Vestry approved budget
- Analysis of Revenues and Expenses for 2025

Thank you,

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Burt Blackburn, Treasurer*




# Analysis of Revenue and Expenses for 2025

Date : 01/27/2026  
Time : 8:44:38 PM

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail**  
**January to December 2025**

**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	\$5,000.00	\$5,499.00
1752-002 - Current Year Pledge Income	\$220,000.00	\$230,103.30
<b>Total Pledge Income</b>	<u>\$225,000.00</u>	<u>\$235,602.30</u>
<b>Plate Income</b>		
1751-001 - Unrestricted Plate Offering	\$4,800.00	\$5,381.50
2761-001 - Special Offerings	\$220.00	\$1,933.02
<b>Total Plate Income</b>	<u>\$5,020.00</u>	<u>\$7,314.52</u>
<b>Investment Income-Operating</b>		
1755-001 - Unrestricted Church Fdn Income	\$100,000.00	\$108,633.26
1755-002 - Interest	\$7,500.00	\$10,851.08
<b>Total Investment Income-Operating</b>	<u>\$107,500.00</u>	<u>\$119,484.34</u>
<b>Other Income</b>		
1756-001 - Hall Rent	\$7,500.00	\$8,860.00
1756-011 - Church Auction	\$4,485.00	\$0.00
1756-013 - Miscellaneous Income	\$100.00	\$389.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>\$12,085.00</u>	<u>\$9,249.00</u>
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u><u>\$349,605.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$371,650.16</u></u>



## SAINT JOHN'S

### 2025 Generosity

# \$50,235

*Local*

*\$16,548*

Plus MANY  
non-financial donations  
throughout the year

*Diocesan*

*\$30,237*

Supporting the Episcopal  
Diocese of Pennsylvania

*Global*

*\$3,450*

Supporting our Partner  
Parish in Guatemala

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail**  
**January to December 2025**

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

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>YTD Budget (This Year)</b>	<b>YTD Actual (This Year)</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
<b>Business Expenses</b>		
<b>Insurance</b>		
1867-081 - Master Insurance Policy	\$13,000.00	\$13,114.25
1867-082 - Workers' Compensation	\$1,500.00	\$1,460.00
<b>Total Insurance</b>	\$14,500.00	\$14,574.25
<b>Utilities</b>		
1867-091 - Heating Oil - Church - 2418540	\$2,250.00	\$2,373.88
1867-094 - Electric - Church&Hall-58589-01104	\$6,400.00	\$6,179.96
1867-095 - Water	\$950.00	\$1,085.36
1867-096 - Gas - School and Hall	\$4,000.00	\$4,136.63
1867-131 - Heating Oil - Rectory - 2418582	\$2,500.00	\$1,674.37
1867-132 - Electric - Rectory-	\$2,400.00	\$1,843.33
1867-133 - Propane-Rectory	\$300.00	\$240.00
1867-161 - Telephone - Office	\$3,100.00	\$3,035.16
1867-162 - Telephone Allowance - Rector	\$400.00	\$384.00
<b>Total Utilities</b>	\$22,300.00	\$20,952.69
<b>Office</b>		
1867-101 - Copy Machines	\$9,000.00	\$9,183.75
1867-102 - Postage	\$700.00	\$528.64
1867-103 - Advertising	\$400.00	\$171.33
1867-104 - General Office Expense	\$2,200.00	\$1,719.24
1867-105 - Newspaper Listing	\$0.00	\$141.45
1867-106 - Computer Support	\$6,200.00	\$6,052.37
<b>Total Office</b>	\$18,500.00	\$17,796.78
<b>Altar Supplies</b>		
1867-171 - Altar Supplies	\$300.00	\$462.16
<b>Total Altar Supplies</b>	\$300.00	\$462.16
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
1867-210 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$15,000.00	\$20,641.35
1867-213 - Organ Maintenance	\$800.00	\$1,217.54
1867-215 - Maintenance - Rectory	\$3,400.00	\$2,400.00
1867-241 - Housekeeping Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$502.84
1867-243 - General Grounds Care	\$1,100.00	\$365.96
1867-244 - Trash Pickup	\$3,500.00	\$3,440.46
1867-245 - Snow Plowing	\$6,000.00	\$3,742.00
1867-246 - Cemetery Grass Cutting	\$13,300.00	\$11,320.00
1867-247 - Tree Care	\$1,500.00	\$1,100.00
1867-248 - Sewer Service	\$850.00	\$963.25
1867-249 - Cleaning Services	\$12,000.00	\$13,700.00
1867-250 - Green Team expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	\$58,950.00	\$59,393.40
<b>Taxes on Property</b>		
1867-221 - School Tax	\$1,600.00	\$1,510.77
1867-222 - Township Tax	\$200.00	\$88.48
1867-223 - County Tax	\$375.00	\$406.53
<b>Total Taxes on Property</b>	\$2,175.00	\$2,005.78
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	\$116,725.00	\$115,185.06
<b>Outside Giving</b>		
<b>Diocesan Giving</b>		
1864-001 - Assessment	\$30,237.00	\$30,237.00
<b>Total Diocesan Giving</b>	\$30,237.00	\$30,237.00
<b>Other Giving Outside Parish</b>		

Date : 01/27/2026  
 Time : 8:44:38 PM

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail**  
**January to December 2025**

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

Accounts	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)
1866-001 - Deanery	\$150.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Other Giving Outside Parish</b>	<u>\$150.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Total Outside Giving</b>	<u>\$30,387.00</u>	<u>\$30,237.00</u>
<b>Church Programs</b>		
1867-510 - Adult Education	\$400.00	\$378.97
1867-511 - Pastoral Care	\$100.00	\$0.00
1867-512 - Sunday School	\$300.00	\$161.99
1867-513 - Fellowship	\$500.00	\$128.08
1867-514 - Worship	\$1,000.00	\$1,070.55
1867-515 - Music (printed)	\$500.00	\$59.00
1867-517 - Other Education Supplies	\$500.00	\$170.77
1867-518 - Stewardship	\$400.00	\$437.68
1867-519 - Newcomers	\$200.00	\$0.00
1867-521 - Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$133.63
1867-522 - Rector's Professional Development	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1867-526 - Dir of Music Ministry Profess Devel	\$200.00	\$20.00
1867-531 - Other	\$300.00	\$435.00
<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<u>\$5,900.00</u>	<u>\$4,495.67</u>
<b>Remuneration</b>		
1867-011 - Rector's Salary	\$79,900.00	\$79,991.76
1867-013 - Rector's Relief	\$1,200.00	\$2,100.00
1867-021 - Sexton's Salary	\$4,920.00	\$4,559.15
1867-031 - Organist/Choir Director's Salary	\$22,000.00	\$16,248.92
1867-032 - Organist's Relief	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00
1867-041 - Parish Secretary Salary	\$21,900.00	\$22,601.22
1867-042 - Other compensation	\$200.00	\$150.00
1867-051 - Director of Religious Ed Salary	\$13,675.00	\$13,673.52
1867-054 - Bonuses	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00
1867-055 - Choir Stipend	\$3,000.00	\$1,750.00
1867-061 - Social Security and Medicare	\$4,560.00	\$4,018.06
1867-062 - SECA Reimbursement-Rector	\$7,580.00	\$7,581.60
1867-071 - Rector's Pension Premium	\$24,000.00	\$21,941.45
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	\$400.00	\$400.00
1867-151 - Mileage - Other	\$800.00	\$800.00
<b>Total Remuneration</b>	<u>\$207,135.00</u>	<u>\$197,615.68</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
1867-301 - Bank Charges	\$1,000.00	\$1,368.71
1867-302 - Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00	\$2,096.89
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<u>\$3,500.00</u>	<u>\$3,465.60</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>\$363,647.00</u>	<u>\$350,999.01</u>
<b>Net Total</b>	(\$14,042.00)	\$20,651.15

# Vestry Approved 2026 Budget

Headings and Account	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 budget
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
<b>Pledge Income</b>			
1752-001 - Prior Year Pledge Income	\$5,000.00	\$5,499.00	\$8,000.00
1752-002 - Current Year Pledge Income	\$220,000.00	\$230,103.30	\$227,000.00
<b>Plate Income</b>			
1751-001 - Unrestricted Plate Offering	\$4,800.00	\$5,381.50	\$5,400.00
2761-001 - Special Offerings	\$220.00	\$1,933.02	\$5,700.00
<b>Investment Income-Operating</b>			
1755-001 - Unrestricted Church Fdn Income	\$100,000.00	\$108,633.26	\$105,000.00
1755-002 - Interest	\$7,500.00	\$10,851.08	\$10,000.00
<b>Other Income</b>			
1756-001 - Hall Rent	\$7,500.00	\$8,860.00	\$8,000.00
1756-011 - giving train	\$4,485.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
1756-013 - Miscellaneous Income	\$100.00	\$389.00	\$200.00
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$349,605.00</b>	<b>\$371,650.16</b>	<b>\$375,300.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
<b>Business Expenses</b>			
<b>Insurance</b>			
1867-081 - Master Insurance Policy	\$13,000.00	\$13,114.25	\$14,200.00
1867-082 - Workers' Compensation	\$1,500.00	\$1,460.00	\$1,650.00
<b>Utilities</b>			
1867-091 - Heating Oil - Church - 2418540	\$2,250.00	\$2,373.88	\$2,400.00
1867-094 - Electric - Church&Hall-58589-0110	\$6,400.00	\$6,179.96	\$6,600.00
1867-095 - Water	\$950.00	\$1,085.36	\$1,300.00
1867-096 - Gas - School and Hall	\$4,000.00	\$4,136.63	\$4,500.00
1867-131 - Heating Oil - Rectory - 2418582	\$2,500.00	\$1,674.37	\$2,250.00
1867-132 - Electric - Rectory-61681-01702	\$2,400.00	\$1,843.33	\$2,400.00
1867-133 - Propane-Rectory	\$300.00	\$240.00	\$300.00
1867-161 - Telephone - Office	\$3,100.00	\$3,035.16	\$3,200.00
1867-162 - Telephone Allowance - Rector	\$400.00	\$384.00	\$400.00
<b>Office</b>			
1867-101 - Copy Machines	\$9,000.00	\$9,183.75	\$7,000.00
1867-102 - Postage	\$700.00	\$528.64	\$650.00
1867-103 - Advertising	\$400.00	\$171.33	\$400.00
1867-104 - General Office Expense	\$2,200.00	\$1,719.24	\$2,000.00
1867-105 - Newspaper Listing		\$141.45	\$200.00
1867-106 - Computer Support	\$6,200.00	\$6,052.37	\$6,200.00
<b>Altar Supplies</b>			
1867-171 - Altar Supplies	\$300.00	\$462.16	\$500.00
<b>Property and Equipment</b>			
1867-210 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$15,000.00	\$20,641.35	\$20,000.00
1867-213 - Organ Maintenance	\$800.00	\$1,217.54	\$900.00
1867-215 - Maintenance - Rectory	\$3,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
1867-241 - Housekeeping Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$502.84	\$800.00
1867-243 - General Grounds Care	\$1,100.00	\$365.96	\$1,000.00
1867-244 - Trash Pickup	\$3,500.00	\$3,440.46	\$3,500.00
1867-245 - Snow Plowing	\$6,000.00	\$3,742.00	\$6,000.00
1867-246 - Cemetery Grass Cutting	\$13,300.00	\$11,320.00	\$11,500.00
1867-247 - Tree Care	\$1,500.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,500.00
1867-248 - Sewer Service	\$850.00	\$963.25	\$1,200.00
1867-249 - Cleaning Services	\$12,000.00	\$13,700.00	\$12,000.00
1867-250 - Green Team Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$750.00

Headings and Account	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 budget
<b>Taxes on Property</b>			
1867-221 - School Tax	\$1,600.00	\$1,510.77	\$1,700.00
1867-222 - Township Tax	\$200.00	\$88.48	\$200.00
1867-223 - County Tax	\$375.00	\$406.53	\$430.00
<b>Outside Giving</b>			
<b>Diocesan Giving</b>			
1864-001 - Assessment	\$30,237.00	\$30,237.00	\$31,463.00
<b>Other Giving Outside Parish</b>			
1866-001 - Deanery	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
<b>Church Programs</b>			
1867-510 - Adult Education	\$400.00	\$378.97	\$400.00
1867-511 - Pastoral Care	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
1867-512 - Sunday School	\$300.00	\$161.99	\$300.00
1867-513 - Fellowship	\$500.00	\$128.08	\$300.00
1867-514 - Worship	\$1,000.00	\$1,070.55	\$1,100.00
1867-515 - Music (printed)	\$500.00	\$59.00	\$200.00
1867-517 - Other Education Supplies	\$500.00	\$170.77	\$400.00
1867-518 - Stewardship	\$400.00	\$437.68	\$500.00
1867-519 - Newcomers	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
1867-521 - Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$133.63	\$500.00
1867-522 - Rector's Professional Development	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1867-526 - Dir of Music Ministry Profess Devel	\$200.00	\$20.00	\$200.00
1867-531 - Other	\$300.00	\$435.00	\$400.00
<b>Remuneration</b>			
1867-011 - Rector's Salary	\$79,900.00	\$79,991.76	\$82,951.55
1867-013 - Rector's Relief	\$1,200.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,000.00
1867-014 - Pastoral Care Chaplain			\$4,200.00
1867-015 - Deacon Stipend			\$3,000.00
1867-021 - Sexton's Salary	\$4,920.00	\$4,559.15	\$6,000.00
1867-031 - Organist/Choir Director's Salary	\$22,000.00	\$16,248.92	\$23,187.00
1867-032 - Organist's Relief	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1867-041 - Parish Secretary Salary	\$21,900.00	\$22,601.22	\$23,500.00
1867-042 - Other compensation	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$300.00
1867-051 - Director of Religious Ed Salary	\$13,675.00	\$13,673.52	\$14,179.52
1867-054 - Bonuses	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
1867-055 - Choir Stipend	\$3,000.00	\$1,750.00	\$0.00
1867-061 - Social Security and Medicare	\$4,560.00	\$4,018.06	\$4,500.00
1867-062 - SECA Reimbursement-Rector	\$7,580.00	\$7,581.60	\$7,850.00
1867-071 - Rector's Pension Premium	\$24,000.00	\$21,941.45	\$23,000.00
1867-072 - Rector's Housing Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1867-083 - Rector's Health Insurance	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
1867-121 - Rector's Mileage	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
1867-151 - Mileage - Other	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$400.00
1867-301 - Bank Charges	\$1,000.00	\$1,368.71	\$1,500.00
1867-302 - Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00	\$2,096.89	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$363,647.00</b>	<b>\$360,999.01</b>	<b>\$377,511.07</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>-\$14,042.00</b>	<b>\$20,651.15</b>	<b>-\$2,211.07</b>



# SAINT JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Rooted in God, Growing in Faith*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Our Parish Administrator, Jen Troutman, continues to be the glue that holds Saint John's office together. Jen continues to oversee our website, manage the rental agreements with outside groups who use the Parish Hall, and oversee the day-to-day operations of Saint John's. We are blessed to have the continued service of our office volunteer, Maureen Thompson, who assists when Jen is out.

This year, we added several new staff members to Saint John's team. Martin Hinkley joined us as the new choir director in later part of 2025. Dakota Pauswinski recently became Saint John's newest Sexton. In early 2025, we were fortunate enough to welcome Rev. Elizabeth Brickle to Saint John's. Rev. Elizabeth, a newly ordained deacon, is committed to service and has taken on an active role in Saint John's outreach efforts. We are grateful for all that our staff (Laura, Jen, Martin, Dakota, Margie, Rev. Elizabeth and Maureen) bring to Saint John's.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn*

### CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Three graves were laid out in 2025. In addition, we are available to address requests for information regarding purchases of plots and genealogy questions. Finally, if you are interested in serving on the Cemetery Committee, please contact me.

*Respectfully submitted by John Pachkowski*

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT: Sunday School

Vacation Bible School this year focused on our place in the world and how we interact with those around us. We called it Creation Connection – who is my neighbor? Our Bible verse came from the Gospel of Mark; **“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’**

This is a theme that we carried throughout the year, using our Sacred Scaffolding framework. Sacred Scaffolding continues to help the children build their faith in themselves, their Creator, and their Community. We implemented the Sacred Scaffolding program last year as a way help children explore faith and learning in a safe, welcoming, and joyful way.

We started the Sunday School year with “Steam Ahead in Faith”, looking at old stories in a new way. The shrewd manager showed us that sometimes the wrong thing turns into the right thing, Jonah with his wailing and whales tried to run from his responsibility, Abigail stood up to a king. We learned that regular people can be called by God and that our Creator doesn't desert us. When we're lost, God finds us, like the lost sheep and disappearing coins. We also learned about how we can be God's helpers here by doing what we can now and doing more when we are able. We also figured out that everyone is our neighbor.

We did a short story/play for the 10 A.M. service about a tree who learns that she has been special her whole life – she just didn't know it. Some of the children were very nervous about performing in front of everyone, but they worked through the fear and did an amazing job. We named the tree Sophie in honor of a little girl we remember every year. She died in Auschwitz, but lives on through us in our story, our prayers, and our kindness to others.

We have been working on art as well as science and storytelling; the kids contributed original artwork to our Stations of the Cross vigil. Their empathy and understanding really came through in the pieces they created and they had fun explaining and exploring their art together.

And finally – the Christmas Pageant came back! Nothing reflects the joy and chaos of Creation like the Pageant. Everyone is welcome, we help each other, we laugh, we sing, we praise and we love. Isn't that what it's really all about? That's what we are teaching in Sunday School.

*Respectfully submitted by Margie Hatcher*

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

2025 has been a year of rebuilding for our Youth Group. Last year, twelve of our youth were confirmed. The group developed a strong bond with Saint John's and each other, and they still attend events when they can. They volunteer as chalicists, readers, and with the tech team. We welcomed four new Youth to our Youth Group this year. Our new Youth are learning about each other and what it means to be part of the community that is Saint John's.

Volunteering continues to be a focus; the group volunteered at Chester Eastside at Thanksgiving helping to package Thanksgiving dinners and helping members of community carry those dinners to their car. We continued our tradition of baking and delivering cookies to members of the Parish. The group continues to fundraise for a future mission trip. We hosted two pancake breakfasts this year and are always grateful for the huge turnout from our Parish. The Youth Group continues to focus on developing a closer relationship with God through service and fellowship.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn*

### **CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Christian Formation is one of the foundations of Saint John's and includes those events that deepen a person's faith through discussion, teaching and fellowship.

Saint John's offered many such opportunities throughout the year. Sunday mornings included Bible studies, along with fellowship during Coffee Hour. Seasonal Series discussions were available during Lent and Advent. We saw the return of the popular series "The Chosen" during our evening Lenten program. The Advent program this year was "the Power of Yes," a series of teachings about ordinary people who said yes to God.

The service of Compline was offered on various Thursday evenings throughout the year. Bible Study, offered two Thursday mornings a month, gives an in-depth look at the Bible. This year, Saint John's offered a series on the Sermon on the Mount and the Psalms.

We are grateful for Rev. Jill, Rev. Terry, and Rev. Elizabeth for teaching and guiding us in our journey towards a closer relationship with God.

*Respectfully submitted by Jacqui Dunn*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

This past year was one of significant growth for Saint John's online ministry efforts, both in reach and in technical quality. One of the notable highlights of 2025 was the launch of the podcast "Sacred Sermons and Stories," which provides a convenient way to subscribe and listen to Rev. Jill's sermons. The podcast is available on most of the major podcast platforms, including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, YouTube and Amazon Music. If you listen to podcasts, please consider subscribing.

Another highlight came later in the year when we started distributing short video clips of our livestream. Like many videos seen on social media today, these short clips included colorful animated captions, and were presented in a vertical orientation to better target those watching on phones. Many of these clips were among our most widely viewed videos on both Facebook and Instagram.

These initiatives helped increase engagement with Saint John's online content. During 2025, our livestreamed services and short video clips achieved a combined total of 8,224 views on Facebook, 4,400 views on YouTube and 1,839 views on Instagram. These totals represent an increase in video views of 165% on Facebook and 69% on YouTube over 2024 figures.

The addition of two new Shure wireless handheld microphones helped enhance the audio of our livestreams, while reducing wireless signal interference from cellular telephones. We also introduced the display of a QR code on our livestreams to encourage online giving, added short pre-recorded welcome and Passing of the Peace videos, and incorporated music licensing information on our livestream graphics.

Special thanks to the loyal members of our Tech Team who make our livestream possible each week, including Gerry Tierney, Bill Klingler and Patti Doyle.

*Respectfully Submitted by Philip Thompsen*

## **FELLOWSHIP**

Saint John's has and continues offering many Fellowship opportunities. We have had Holy Hikes, book clubs, fireside fun, Thursday Morning Cafe's, which include Bible Study and healing Prayers, 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, Back to Fall schedule Brunch-THAT WAS YUMMY!!!...and anything else we can make an excuse to gather together.

Our new Saint John's Hospitality Team (read all about it below) is doing a GREAT job streamlining the hosting of Coffee Hours. Which continue at 9 AM between 8 AM and 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 have Dakota, our sexton, to help clean up.

*Respectfully submitted by Tracey Payne, Vestry Fellowship Chair*

## **2025 LIVE GIVING TRAIN**

Our Giving Train fundraiser was a HUGE success! Held on Saturday, November 8th our parishioners enjoyed the delicious food from Tone's Spot BBQ Food Truck and danced to great music by Offline (the band).

We raised over \$38,000 for our mission and ministry as God's people in Glen Mills. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success and who donated to support God's good work in our community.

Ticket Sales: 63x\$35 = \$2205

Party Expenses: \$1500 (food truck)

\$600 (band – donated by Yochs)

\$150 (soda/wine/beer – donated by Wikels and WWJB parishioners)

\$125 (appetizers/desserts - donated by Paynes)

Party Net Revenue: \$705

### **Train Stop Pledges**

Stop 1 “I Choose You”

A – LEVAS (hymnals) Goal \$1200 – **Raised \$1800**

B – Soul Kitchen (supplies) Goal \$2000 – **Raised \$2100**

C – Promise Land (field equipment) Goal \$3500 – **Raised \$4020**

Stop 2 “You’ve Got a Friend” *Chester Eastside Meals*

Goal \$5000 – **Raised \$9400**

Stop 3 “We are the World” *Sunday School/Youth Group*

Goal \$4000 – **Raised \$4600**

Stop 4 “Let my Love Open the Door” *Handicap Assist Button*

Goal \$10,000 – **Raised \$10,025**

Stop 5 “Amazing Grace” *For Saint John’s*

Goal \$6000 – **Raised \$5369**

Total Train Stop Pledges: \$37,314

**Total Raised at the 2025 Giving Train: \$38,019**

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

### **THE GREEN TEAM**

In November, 2023, a small group of very energetic and passionate people got together to start a ministry devoted to caring for the environment and resources God has entrusted us with. The “Green Team” was born, and we continue to meet in the Battin Room on the second Sunday of each month.

2025 was our second full year of existence, and we carried the first year’s momentum throughout 2025. We continued to promote the care and stewardship of our property and natural resources, while in the process keeping a focus on education and fun for our entire parish family. So much of what was done was due directly to fund raising efforts and the financial generosity of the Green Team members, who raised or donated \$1,114 to fund most events with only minimal impact to the church budget!

Some accomplishments from this past year include:

- Planting approximately 40 trees around the campus, field and woods to increase the canopy.

- Planting numerous perennial flowers
  - Another 1,000 crocus bulbs leading the eye from Concord Road to the church door
    - Another 1,000 will be planted this coming fall 2026
  - About 60 daffodil bulbs in the front of the church
  - Prioritization of flowering perennials and shrubs in our gardens
  - Collaboration with several community partners (Penn State Master Watershed Stewards [tree purchase and planting help], Newlin [reforestation plan], Scott Arboretum, Chanticleer, Concord Township [field planning], Rachel Kohl Library)
- Collaboration with Property Committee, for example watering spigot installation, Penn Oak loop mulched walking path, and canopy improvements
- Consulted with Concord Township regarding plans for field use
  - Discussed converting to wildflower meadow, our re-forestation efforts and increasing our bird habitat, as Concord Township is part of Birdtown USA.
- Giving Train stop to support field and forestation efforts (over \$1,750 donated)
- Launch of a “Memorial Tree” agreement and initial batch of plantings
  - 14 White Dogwoods and 6 Southern Magnolias were planted in the fall
- Continued emphasis on recycling and reduction of disposable items (plates, cups, single use items)
- Creation and sales of bird house kits, with 6 to be placed around the property
- Flower arranging workshop offered by Bernie Miller to the WOW group
- An Earth Day celebration with a themed coffee hour, educational displays (birdhouse kits, memorial trees, site planting plan, “green your home” and recycling tables), a Japanese Maple tree planting, creation of “seed bombs” and property walks
- Two road cleanup days, with 16 volunteers at our fall date
  - State of PA placed the St. John’s sign near Rt. 1
- The second peony garden Sip and Stroll tour at the lovely home of the Millers. Funds generated supported Green Team projects.
- Development of a schedule for care of St. John’s gardens (weeding, watering, care of new plants)
- Installation of the water bottle filling station in June
- St. John’s water bottle sales (11 remaining)

And we’re only getting started! Keep on the lookout for many of these events again in 2026, along with some additional projects:

- Expansion of a walking/meditation/prayer path
- Conversion of part of the field into unmowed areas, expanding habitat for birds, insects, and small wildlife
- Erection of bat houses, in collaboration with our youth and scout groups
- Development of a visual display for memorial tree donors
- Another round of memorial tree opportunities
- Milkweed grant

Please consider joining us for any of these activities, or to help the Green Team have a strong third year. See Glenn Wikel, Bernie Miller, or any of the Green Team to learn more.

*Submitted on behalf of the Green Team members: Glenn Wikel, Bernie and Debbie Miller, Peggy Long, Katharine Dunlevy, Kathleen Smith, Mary Alice Peeling, Bob and Linda Fertig, Bill and Lynne Bertolet, and Martha Pearlman.*

## **HOSPITALITY TEAM**

The St. John's Hospitality Team was formed in August 2025 to support the needs of the congregation and reoccurring events to run more smoothly by a team rather than repeatedly by one or two individuals. The responsibilities for this committee include supporting the kitchen, monitoring the use and laundering of the church owned tablecloths and providing floral arrangements when requested. (These would be reimbursed by the requestee.) One could define our presence as a link between the church and the people.

We have implemented a Sponsorship program for Coffee Hours. If a church member does not want to bring everything, they can contribute a \$30 donation and someone on the team will do the shopping. (Martha Pearlman has graciously been doing this task.)

The committee identified needs for the kitchen and through this past Giving Train, we will augment the glasses, electric teapot and new pitchers. We will also be ordering a few new chairs and tables for the Parish Hall.

*Prayerfully Submitted by Committee Members: Martha Pearlman, Carol Angus, Carla Durdan, Edie O'Neil, Light von Steuben, Sandy Bassick, Sandy McKinley and Marti Keenan.*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### New Members in 2025

Tom Monastra and Eleanor Zerbato  
Bill Klingler and Karen Kieffer

*Respectfully Submitted, Carla Durdan*

## **MISSION AND OUTREACH**

In 2025, 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 a food insecurity donation of \$2680. Weekly food delivery of food and supplies donated by parish members & resources donated by Costco which are also delivered by John Keenan, , Darree Clark, Debbie Miller, Peg Calegero, Cathy Blackburn & Maria Warlow. Cathy Blackburn is now maintaining the food delivery schedule. Thanks to Ronni Liberi for many years of maintaining the schedule & delivering food.

### Chester Eastside Incorporated

We supported Chester Eastside in several ways:

We began serving dinner one Thursday a month in February & added a second Thursday in May. We contributed \$4750 to cover the cost of the dinners.

Summer Camp Phoenix – This year we donated \$500 for the Chester Eastside summer camp.

Sunday, Nov 2 at 9:15, the Adult Forum was Outreach in Chester Sunday with Andy Jacob, ED of Chester Eastside. Andy talked about the food insecurity in Chester, which is worse than ever with all the federal cuts. We presented Andy with a check for \$1000 that day and an additional \$2680 for food

insecurity in December.

Thanksgiving -We continue to support their Thanksgiving food drive. We contributed 34 turkeys as well as canned vegetables, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, turkey gravy, instant mashed potatoes & stuffing. 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 more than \$3300 in requested gift cards to Target & Walmart.

#### Interfaith Council of Delaware County

School Supplies - We collected school supplies and backpacks for the Interfaith Council of Delaware County. We provided needed school items and supplies to assist Chester & Upper Darby 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.

#### Fostering Hope

We collected \$438 in back-to-school supply donations, which Jen Troutman (who is the Chapter Coordinator) used to purchase more backpacks and supplies for Fostering Hope Chesco. Fostering Hope serves local families with youth experiencing the Foster Care System.

#### 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 (\$2700).

Lenten Offerings – This year we asked for donations for the Chicken Ministry in Guatemala. Chickens provide a source of eggs and meat for the family & a source of income when they sell eggs. We sent a \$500 check shortly after Easter. We received the following message from Fr. Miguel: We already have the offering for the chicken program in our hands, we are very happy to start this ministry once again, thank you for your offerings.

In September, Padre Miguel fell off a ladder & was hospitalized. We sent him \$250 to help cover the expenses for his treatment.

Our October 26th Adult Forum was a Zoom conversation with Padre Miguel; Jacqui Dunn translated. Padre Miguel asked for 30 Prayer Books however due to the shipping expenses we will be arranging to send them with the next Diocesan group that visits Guatemala.

*Respectively Submitted, Mary Alice Peeling*

## **MUSIC**

The music ministry continues to be an integral part of the ministry at St. John's Episcopal Church. In September, Martin Hinkley was hired as our new choir director. Martin leads our choir nine months—September through May—each year. Thank you to Carol Angus for directing our choir prior to Martin's arrival. Her dedication was instrumental in providing continuity to our music ministry. Carol continues to support the choir by frequently accompanying the choir on the piano. Laura Seidelmann also continues to serve as our organist. Thank you to Laura for serving our parish with your excellent music.

Our faithful choir has been active throughout the past year. They sing anthems during the 10 am service three to four times each month. The choir sang throughout the Advent Season and at two Christmas services. The choir consists of Carol Angus, Bill Angus, Karen Kieffer, Carol Moore, Lisa Ochs, Philip Thompsen, Sherry Thompsen, Maureen Thompson, Laura Seidemann and Martin Hinkley. Anyone interested in singing with the choir should contact Martin Hinkley.

*Respectfully Submitted, Martin Hinkley, Choir Director*

## **PASTORAL CARE**

The Pastoral Care Team continues in their mission to oversee the pastoral care needs of St. John members. See the following:

- Home Communion visits (monthly)
- Communion services at Fair Acres & Maris Grove (monthly)
- Hospital visits
- Card ministry
- Parkinson Support Group (open to public)
- Prayer group list (online)
- Pastoral care request forms (online)

New this year is a spreadsheet to assist clergy in tracking visits in person, by phone, or by email. The spreadsheet has several advantages: it ensures members receive pastoral care when requested; allows for clergy to communicate current and ongoing needs among parishioners to each other; and provides for more efficient use of clergy time and energy. Thanks to Jen Troutman for her creativity in developing the spreadsheet.

During the year, the Care Team focused on review of the **card ministry**. How can technology play a role in acknowledging important events in the life of our parishioners? The card ministry will continue as is (snail mail) for the next six months when the Care Team will revisit. Comments from the parish are welcomed. A shout to Peg Long and her team of volunteers who volunteer their time and resources.

The Care Team is also reviewing ways to involve team members and parishioners in **lay visitations**. Many home bound members would greatly benefit from regular visits from lay members beside just clergy visits. Reading a book together, playing cards or just conversation would lighten many hearts.

The **Prayer Group List** continues to offer prayer for those requesting prayer. If you wonder how you can be involved in St. John's, this is an easy way and important ministry. If interested please contact Rev. Terry. A shout out to Phil Thompson for his oversight of the Prayer Group.

A word about the **Parkinson's Support Group**. Since its inception, attendance has grown from within the church and out in the community. The monthly gatherings vary. One month attendees will hear a speaker on issues important to them (living with Parkinson's, nutrition, medications, physical therapy, available resources available in the community, etc.). One session may include actual exercises they can use at home. Some sessions just simply provide an opportunity for those with Parkinson's and their caregivers to share their experiences and their ups-and-downs as they deal with the disease. A shout out to Darree Clark as she organizes each of the gatherings.

Thanks to all who participate in the Pastoral Care Team. They are a blessing to St. John's. New members are always welcomed.

*In 1998, Janet Severi Bristow and Victoria Galo, two graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut gave birth to a ministry as a result of their experience in this program of applied Feminist Spirituality under the direction of Professor Miriam Therese Winter, MMS.*

*Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every stitch.*

*The shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!*

*"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."*

*Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow (excerpts from [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com))*

The Pastoral Care Committee's **Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministry** continues to thrive since being brought back in 2023. In 2025 various parishioners continued to offer their crocheting and knitting talents to lovingly create blankets and shawls for this powerful ministry. The blankets and shawls are blessed by Reverend Jill and are available to any parishioner who feels compelled to gift one to someone in need. Additionally, all those who receive the sacrament of baptism are gifted a blanket.

Items are available in the entrance to the parish hall as well as in the vestibule of the church. They are hanging with hangar signs denoting the ministry and free for the taking for anyone in need. Please sign the form near the supply indicating that a blanket/shawl has been gifted. Recipient names are not necessary to maintain confidentiality.

If you are interested in donating handmade items to this ministry, please contact Carla Durdan at [carladarla@msn.com](mailto:carladarla@msn.com) or 610.299.0857. Additionally, if you are interested in offering a blanket to an individual but are not able to physically get to the church, arrangements can be made to send or drop off a blanket to you.

*Respectfully Submitted by various members of our Pastoral Care Team*

## **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 2025. This list reflects the hard work of all the committee members on behalf of our church.

### **Improvement Projects:**

- In 2025 we were able to complete installation and successful startup 2 major improvement projects funded through specific project donations that have been in discussion for a while – New LED Sign and Bottle Filler in Parish Hall
- The LED Sign Project took about 9 months to complete due to a number of issues relating to design, permitting, communication on /unexpected cost of electrical needs, and installation issues.

Thankfully, the completed project has been well received and we have received very positive feedback from the local community on the welcomed messages that we are able to communicate.

- The Bottle Filler was installed in the Hallway outside the kitchen to allow easy filling of water bottles and glasses with chilled water. This project took a while but was able to come in under budget partly due to installation assistance from Church Members.
- In the Spring, with the help of a number of Church Members, we were able to open a path to the Darlington Oak starting from the Cemetery and with a less steep climb than the existing path. Working with the Green Team, the area has been cleared of some unwanted undergrowth and new saplings and trees have been planted to help regrow the forest.
- This Fall, new shades were installed in the Archive Room (to reduce fading of archival material) and the Outreach Room (to lower the temperature from the direct sunlight).
- During 2025, we have been working to remove the 2 Paper Retriever Containers in the Parking Lot which have not been emptied in over 10 years after the vendor who owned and operated pull out of this area. We were able to contact the successor company who was not interested in removing the containers. We are now working with local companies to try to identify the best method of reuse or recycling these containers.

### Repairs

- As in 2024, we had a number of expected and unexpected expenses relating to our HVAC and other support systems. We had significant repairs costs to one of the Parish Hall boilers and to the Church AC units. We also had to install a building pressure control valve when CWA increased our incoming water pressure to over 105 psi without informing us.

We continue to look at routine maintenance and servicing of all of our systems to determine the right balance between frequency and risk of failure. Annual servicing where needed and less often when the cost/risk balance allows.

The stove fire suppression system was due for its “every 12 year” pressure test on the fire suppression liquid tank. Based on the likelihood of failure, it was recommended that we replace the tank directly instead of the more expensive option of testing and then having to replace after failure.

- The trim around the Main Parish Hall Entrance (opposite the Sacristy) was badly peeling. With help from Church Members, we were able to scrap, prep and paint this trim for the cost of paint. We will continue to work on the areas where Church Members can prep and paint areas without having contract outside resources.
- We lost a tree in front of the Parish Hall and another one near the Cemetery. We had to get a tree company for the one by the Parish Hall but was able to clean up the other one without outside assistance. In the Spring we will be surveying the trees to identify ones that are a concern due to their health and any risk if they fall.
- Unfortunately, we are starting 2026 with several of new repair HVAC items that could be significant costs.

The Oil Tank in the Rectory failed a visual inspection and we were advised it is nearing the end of its lifespan. We are working through whether we ought to replace the tank or replace the 25+ year old oil boiler with a propane boiler as we already have propane storage.

On several instances, there has been a strong “oil smell” within the Church related to the Oil Furnace. We have and will continue to work with HVAC companies to identify and define corrective options to this issue.

The secondary gas boiler in the Parish Hall has developed a hole in the heat exchanger that will require replacement of the heat exchanger.

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

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Safety Committee continues to meet to discuss the needs of Saint John's Church to ensure a safe place of worship for parishioners and a safe location for community members to utilize space for various activities.

In January 2025, a final Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Report was received from the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). These assessments are available to places of worship, schools, and various community organizations and gathering places. The purpose of seeking this assessment was to:

- Assess the physical facilities and operational procedures of Saint John's Church
- Identify vulnerabilities in the church, church hall and grounds
- Obtain recommendations to mitigate identified vulnerabilities

These assessments are free of charge and are very comprehensive. Not only do the assessments offer ways to provide a more secure environment to the church, the parishioners and visitors, it also provides suggestions on how to streamline emergency services calls to the property for faster and more effective interventions. Lastly, often-times for organizations to qualify for various Federal, State and local grant funding, a formal PSP Risk and Vulnerability Assessment is required for applications for funding to be considered.

A Knox Box (outside mounted safe) has been installed that is accessible to emergency fire personnel. The box will hold building master keys as well as building site plans to assist in responding in the event of an emergency.

A meeting was held with the Fire Marshal and other staff from the Concordville Fire & Protective Association to establish communication regarding Saint John's efforts to enhance communication with the fire department and to identify implementation of best safety practices for effective responses from the fire department.

In the coming months, we will be establishing a numbering system for the rooms and new door signage in the parish hall for identification during an emergency; establishing a new key system for the parish hall; and directional and evacuation signage for the rooms.

If you have any questions about the Safety Committee please contact Dick Constable, Carla Durdan, Ron Hammer or Paul Pearlman.

*Respectfully submitted, Carla Durdan*

## **STEWARDSHIP**

"Stewardship of time, talent, and treasure" is a guiding principle at St. John's. It encourages individuals to responsibly manage and share their resources for our mission and ministries.

We are all great Stewards for St. John's. We estimate that over 1000 person hours are spent by our members and groups supporting our numerous activities, staffing for all our wonderful coffee hours, educational programs, Pastoral care activities, property care and management and many church functions that allow St. John's to be a vibrant, growing and giving church.

Our Outreach activities involve both financial support and individual efforts to our sister Parish in Guatemala and Chester Eastside ministries which involve rental support and meal support to these two institutions. Last

year we provided weekly meals to Chester Eastside and over 30 Thanksgiving turkeys as well as \$3300 in Christmas gift cards to make their holidays brighter.

Your volunteer work and financial pledges all assist St. John's in fulfilling its mission to be a welcoming and active church in our community.

Financially, your individual generosity in 2025 exceeded our goal of \$220,000 in pledges by over \$10,000. Our goal in 2026 is \$225,000. To date we have pledges of \$204,000. So we are short of our goal. If you have not had the opportunity to pledge just yet, we ask you to pray on this and consider submitting a pledge for the upcoming year.

Thank you all for the time, talent and treasure you provide to support St. John's.

*Respectfully submitted, Gerry Tierney, Vestry Stewardship Chair*

### **THE 1702 SOCIETY**

St. John's 1702 Society was established by the Vestry in 2014 to honor individuals and families who make financial gifts to St. John's through 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 our outreach missions.

In 2025 we welcomed Mr. Fred Wood to the 1702 Society for his generous contribution to St. John's. Ms. Bobby Ely bequeathed a generous contribution upon her passing. Also Mr. Larry Dunbar, already a member of the Society, fulfilled his pledge through his will after his passing.

If you have questions about planned giving, please contact Gerry Tierney through the office.

*Respectfully submitted, Gerry Tierney*

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

St. John's continues to expand our liturgical traditions. From time-to-time, our 10:00 am service has used material such as *Enriching Our Worship* and regularly uses hymns from *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*. Finally, a monthly Thursday Compline service uses *A New Zealand Prayer Book* as the basis for the service.

The addition of The Rev. Elizabeth Brickle as our Deacon has provided an additional aspect to worship at St. John's

Finally, the hiring of Martin Hinkley, as St. John's Choir Director, and the addition of new choir members has strengthened the music program.

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



**2025 Vital Statistics from the Church Office**

**BAPTISMS**

Luke Thomas Dorman

**CONFIRMATIONS**

*None*

**RECEPTIONS**

*None*

**MARRIAGES**

Michael Brouse and Shaianne Boyer Brouse

Anne Pearlman and Jeremy Kraph

Franta Barton and Erin Billigmeier Barton

**DEATHS & BURIALS**

Edward Koslow\*

John T. Carlin

Martin Capasso

Elizabeth Schwalbe

Roger Readinger\*

Louise Fitzgerald ✕

William Calhoun\* ✕

Jean C. Broemel\*

Dyctis Moses ✕

Edward Borer\*

\* *Saint John's Parish Members*

✕ *Buried at Saint John's*

**Virtual ONLY Sundays = 0**

**Average Sunday Attendance = 86**

*Does not include our online attendance*

# **2026 Ballot**

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

- \_\_\_ Dick Constable, third 2-year term    \_\_\_ Steve Long, first 2-year term  
\_\_\_ Carla Durdan, second 2-year term    \_\_\_ Lauren May, first 2-year term  
\_\_\_ Ron Hammer, second 2-year term    \_\_\_ Jen Osgood, first 2-year term

Nominations from the floor:

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

- Philip Thompsen
- John Pachkowski
- Glenn Wikel
- \_\_\_\_\_ (Alternate)

Nominations from the floor:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_