Annual Report for the Year 2013 - Presented at the 52nd Annual Meeting

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Welcoming all God's children, young and old



DANDO LA BIENVENIDA A TODOS LOS HIJOS DE DIOS, JÓVENES Y ANCIANOS

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St. Christopher's Ministry Team

The Rt. Rev. Kirk Steven Smith, Bishop of Arizona All Members of St. Christopher's Church The Rev. Peter Fabre, Priest-in-Charge The Rev. Brian Couvillion, Assisting The Vestry: Class of 2013: Killy Balabanis, Jane Cooley, Jean Liversidge Class of 2012: Gene Carbaugh, Bob Martin (completing 2013 for Bill Duvall), Eva Quiles Class of 2011: Jim Benson, Marinell Eron, Mari Kassien Convention Delegates in 2013: Officers: Senior Warden: Beth Mayhew Jane Cooley Killy Balabanis Junior Warden: Al Franco Clerk of the Vestry: Diane Plein Jean Liversidge Treasurer: Jane Cooley Diane Plein Assistant Treasurer: Amy Schultz

Staff: Secretary: Doreen Rohrer; Sexton: Jordan Montes; Music Director: Gary Quamme

Ministry Leaders:

Adult Sunday School:

Addit Sunday Sent		riospitanty.	
Barbara Fabre (wor	nen's bible study; Formation	Kitchen:	Jim Benson
Facilitator), Killy B	alabanis & Gary Welsh (instructors)	Lay Eucharisti	c Ministry (LEM): Marinell Eron
Ads & Press:	Rosemary Lynch, Diane Plein	Landscaping	Bonnie Franco, Eva Quiles
Altar Guild:	Beth Mayhew, Doris Schoeben	Men's Club:	Killy Balabanis
	(co-directors)	Music Director fo	rour1stService: Gary Quamme
Bargains Galore:	Amy Schultz	Music Director fo	rour2nd Service: Arturo Jaramillo
Book Shelf:	Charlotte Powley, Barbara Welsh	Newsletter:	Jean Liversidge
Can Recycling:	Bill Masters	Outreach Poir	It of Contact: Amy Schultz
Cards & Calls:	Carol Brown	Outreach Fina	nces: Doris Schoeben
Card Making:	Ann Gay	Prayer Shawl:	Barbara Fabre
Children & Youth:	Barbara Fabre	Secretary:	Doreen Rohrer
Christopher Singe	r s: Joanne David, Marion West	Sexton:	Jordan Montes
Coffee Hour:	Karolena Cardella	Spanish Lang:	Eva Quiles
Contribution Tracl	king:	Ushers:	Frank Schlichting
	Beth Mayhew, Mona Guarino	UTO:	Naarah Griswold
Counters:	Frieda Spann	Vol Coordinat	or: Angelo Cardella
E.C.W.:	Jean Liversidge		5

Hospitality:

Anna van Scooter

Planning Group:Gene Carbaugh, Marge Carbaugh, Mona Guarino, Doris Schoeben, Amy Schultz, Gary WelshOutreach:Killy Balabanis, Clive Chancey, Ron Dow, Barbara Fabre, Ann Gay, Mona Guarino, Jean
Liversage, Jane Meyers, Doris Schoeben, Amy Schultz, Anna van Scoter, Gary Welsh

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in the West Valley

MINUTES from Sunday, January 27, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting convened at 11:30 with a prayer by Fr. Peter Fabre. The Annual Report for the Year 2012 was handed out to all in attendance.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the 2012 annual meeting as presented in the report. Motion carried.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REMARKS

Fr. Peter addressed the congregation stating that we started the year on a negative note with problems with our finances and thought we might have to close the doors. But starting in March, we decided to do what it takes to survive and thrive. Thanks to a tremendous amount of teamwork, we have come a long way. Our finances are in much better shape and we have a real budget, one that we can understand. We are no longer taking money from the endowment fund for daily operations and our endowment fund has actually increased thanks to the hard work on everyone's part. We all worked together and we are now on the right path. Thank you all.

NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY, JUNIOR WARDEN, AND DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION

A ballot for the Vestry and delegates to the 2013 Diocesan Convention was handed out to everyone. There were no nominations presented for the Vestry or for the convention from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed and that the Secretary be instructed to indicate that those on the ballot were elected by acclamation. The motion carried. The Vestry members elected were Killy Balabanis, Jane Cooley, and Jean Liversidge. The delegates to the convention elected were Killy Balabanis, Jane Cooley, Jean Liversidge and Diane Plein.

The nomination for Jr. Warden was opened with Al Franco as a candidate. There were no other nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded that the nomination of Al Franco be closed and that he be elected by acclamation. Motion carried.

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Beth Mayhew stated that her report was detailed in the Annual Report for the Year 2012. However, she wanted to give special thanks for the following:

Fr. Peter for his leadership.

Fr. Glenn Jenks who advised us at the start of the year.

Deacon Carol Jean McClelland who helped with pastoral care.

Vestry members who were outgoing: Diane Plein, Bill Masters, Jerry Schwab, Doris Schoeben as Clerk of the Vestry, Frank Schlichting as Junior Warden, Amy Shultz as Treasurer.

Ministry leaders: Arturo Jaramillo for music for the Spanish service, Marinell Eron for the Lay Eucharistic program, Barbara Fabre for the prayer shawl ministry.

Budget Review Committee at the beginning of the year and the Budget and Finance Committee later on in the year: Bill Masters, Doris Schoeben, Mona Guarino, Al Franco, Gene Carbaugh, Gary Welsh, Diane Plein, and Marj Kassien.

Office help until a new secretary was hired: Diane Plein, Doris Schoeben, Gary Welsh, Katherine Craine and Anna Van Scoter.

Bargains Galore: Barbara and Gary Welsh, Ann Gay, Amy Shultz.

Landscaping ministry: Jacinto Nieco, Eva Quiles, and Bonnie Franco.

Volunteer organizers: Angelo and Karolena Cardella.

Newsletter: Clive Chancey and Jean Liversidge.

Parish Hall organization and potlucks: Eva Quiles, Rafael Rodriguez, Anna Van Scoter.

Webmaster: Charlotte Powley

Direct Debit giving program: Gene Carbaugh

END OF THE YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2013 Operating Budget, passed by the Vestry, had been handed out to the congregation the prior Sunday for review. There were no questions regarding the budget or the financial statements as shown in the Annual Report for the Year 2012. A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial statements as presented in the Annual Report. Motion carried.

GROUP REPORTS

The Annual Report contained reports from the following: Junior Warden, Worship Ministries and Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Choir, Christopher Singers, E.C.W., Men's Club, Bargains Galore, Bookshelf, Landscaping, Outreach, Prayer Shawl ministry, Planning for the Future Group, Recycling, Adult Formation, Children and Youth Ministries, Finance and Budget Committee Report, Budget Review Committee, Columbarium Committee, Counters, Stewardship Campaign for 2012, and the Direct Debit program.

NEW BUSINESS

Carol Brown was happy to report that a new Card and Call Ministry has been started for homebound parishioners and for anyone to call her if they were interested in supporting this ministry. There was no other new business from the floor.

CLOSING PRAYER

Fr. Peter closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry

REPORTS OF THE CLERGY & WARDENS

Priest-in-charge

Fr. Peter Fabre

It's that time once again! ... Another opportunity to reflect on the temporal and spiritual health of the parish in terms of where we've been, where we are, and where we're going on our journey together.

Where we've been:

2013 was another banner year at St. Christopher's! Despite some unexpected twists and turns in the road, we continued moving forward throughout the year, and are coming to a new understanding of who we are as a parish family, and how God has called us to embrace the Good News of Jesus Christ. Equally important, we have learned much together about how to share the message of the Gospel both within the life of the parish and with those in the world around us. The Holy Spirit has worked within and among us through the course of the year to bring us to an entirely new place in the ongoing story of our parish. In other words, where we ended up in 2013 was not our destination – it was only a milestone along the way.

Parish finances continued to be challenging throughout 2013, but when all was said and done, we worked our way through some significant unanticipated expenses, such as an almost \$12,000 reroofing project and some major air-conditioning equipment and ventilation line replacements and repairs; without having to draw on the Endowment. That would have been unheard of, not that long ago – and we are coming up on two years since there were any withdrawals against the Endowment! The 2013 budget was a deficit budget, but the good news is that the deficit at the end of the year was much smaller than anticipated, thanks to a combination of giving that exceeded pledges and projections, and expenses that were lower than budgeted.

A clear indicator of the work of the Spirit among us is that more of us are "doers of the Word" than ever. In-reach and outreach ministries alike have grown. We are making a positive difference in the lives of more people in the community that surrounds us. This transformation has resulted in a more active congregation, with fewer of us choosing only to "warm the pews" on Sunday mornings. The old maxim that states that 20% of the people do 80% (or more) of the work no longer applies. St. Christopher's has been turning that paradigm upside-down, as our level of involvement continues to grow by leaps and bounds. It is a great joy to see how full the parking lot is not only on Sunday mornings, but at times during the week as various ministry meetings and activities are underway. One parishioner recently commented to me that it was getting more difficult to find a parking space close to the church. That's one mixed blessing we can live with!

Where we are:

In keeping with the agreement we made with the diocese in 2012, we've remained current on our payment of monthly mission share, and have only one of our "stretch goals" to complete: to revisit or redo our Strategic Plan. Given that we have literally been rediscovering and reinventing ourselves as our understanding of our ministries has evolved, revisiting the Strategic Plan will now be a spring 2014 initiative. Our new Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev. Megan Traquair, will be facilitating that effort and is very much looking forward to working with the parish as a whole to make it a meaningful experience for us all. This is all part of the "journey of discovery" of which I often speak with the Vestry.

From the perspective of our temporal health, we've come even further in 2013, but are nowhere near our destination. I suspect that just when we think we are "almost there" – the destination has moved further ahead! It is all about the journey and the amazing experiences along the way.

That renewed and uplifting spirit among us that we celebrated this past year is very much alive. The phrase that comes to mind is that we are "Alive, alert and enthusiastic" about doing God's work in this place!

We are growing, not by leaps and bounds, but surely and steadily. We closed out 2013 with an "ASA" (Average Sunday Attendance) of 126 and increasing. That compares 118 at the end of 2012. 2014 is off to a very good start: as of this writing (mid-January), we are at an ASA of 140. Also 274 more communions in 2013 compared to 2012. It's not about the numbers, but about what the numbers tell us about who and what we are ...

The blessings have continued: we are poised to welcome more people to join us and become active in the life and work of the parish. Christian formation has been reenergized: we are doing more to connect with Holy Scripture as foundational as we see the Adult Lectionary Study, Children's Sunday School, the new Tweens' Class, and Thursday Women's Bible Study blossoming and bringing together an increasingly diverse group of participants.

Last year, I commented on the inclusion in Sunday school and Vacation Bible School by the Korean Evangelical congregation that uses our facilities. That has continued – and we now have a number of non-Episcopalians who are dedicated participants in our Women's Bible Study. That speaks well for our sense of unity with our Christian brothers and sisters of other denominations. We are reaping the benefits of taking part in opportunities for ecumenical worship and service, focusing more on what we have in common than on the differences among us. We are discovering that we really can do that without jeopardizing or diminishing our Anglican, Episcopal identity. I like to think of it as "Letting go and letting God".

Our sense of "family" is stronger than ever. 2014 brought even more opportunities to worship and play together despite differences in language, culture and tradition. It has been a year of "firsts" and "first time in a long while" events and activities which have brought us closer together.

Where are we going?

Our mutual journey of discovery continues, day by day. This will no doubt be a year of surprises, new challenges, filled with opportunities to grow together in faith. Of one thing we can be certain: if we

continue to be open, receptive, and obedient to God's will and the work of the Holy Spirit among us, we will remain on the right path. As we revisit our Strategic Plan this year, we may find that our current Mission and Vision statements change as we learn even more about who we have become as a community of believers. What will not change is our underlying focus on discipleship and building community.

We may fine-tune the words we use to describe it, but it is really all about "bringing as many people as possible into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ and enabling each of us to be transformed into a disciple of Jesus Christ through participation in the worship and ministries of St. Christopher's."

Our work together continues in ever-new ways...

Your Servant ín Chríst Fr. Peter+

iYa es ese tiempo del año! Tenemos otra oportunidad de reflexionar sobre la salud temporal y espiritual de la parroquia en términos de dónde estábamos, dónde estamos y hacia dónde vamos.

Donde estábamos:

i2013 fue otro año excepcional en San Cristóbal! A pesar de algunos giros inesperados en la carretera, continuamos avanzando a lo largo del año, y hemos llegando a una nueva comprensión de quienes somos como familia parroquial, y cómo Dios nos ha llamado a abrazar la Buena Nueva de Jesucristo. Igualmente importante, hemos aprendido mucho juntos acerca de cómo compartir el mensaje del Evangelio, tanto dentro de la vida de la parroquia como en el mundo que nos rodea. El Espíritu Santo ha trabajado en y entre nosotros en el transcurso del año, para llevarnos a un lugar totalmente nuevo en la historia de nuestra parroquia. En otras palabras, donde terminamos en 2013, no era nuestro destino - fue sólo un punto en el camino.

Las finanzas de la parroquia continuaron desafiándonos a lo largo de 2013, pero cuando todo estaba dicho y hecho, superamos algunos gastos imprevistos significativos, como un proyecto de techado de casi \$12,000, y algunos de reparación y reemplazo de equipos de aire acondicionado y de líneas de ventilación; sin tener que tomar dinero de la Fundación. Eso no habría sido posible en el pasado reciente, y ipronto llegaremos a dos años en que no hemos tomado ningún dinero de la Fundación! El presupuesto de 2013 fue de un presupuesto deficitario, pero la buena noticia es que el déficit al final del año fue mucho menor de lo previsto, gracias a una combinación de donaciones que superaron los compromisos y proyecciones, y gastos que eran menos de los presupuestados.

Un indicador claro de la obra del Espíritu en medio de nosotros es que más de nosotros somos "hacedores de la Palabra" que nunca. Los ministerios interiores y de alcance más allá por igual han crecido. Estamos haciendo una diferencia positiva en las vidas de más personas en la comunidad que nos rodea. Esta transformación ha resultado en una congregación más activa con menos de nosotros eligiendo sólo a "calentar las bancas" los domingos. La vieja máxima que dice que 20% de la gente hace el 80% (o más) de la obra ya no aplica aquí. San Cristóbal ha dado vuelta ese paradigma, ya que nuestro nivel de participación sigue creciendo. Es una gran alegría ver tantos carros en el aparcamiento, no sólo los domingos por la mañana, pero a veces durante la semana mientras diversas reuniones y actividades del ministerio están en marcha. Un feligrés recientemente me comentó que se hacía más difícil encontrar una plaza de aparcamiento cerca de la iglesia. iEsa es una bendición mixta con que podemos vivir!

Donde estamos:

De conformidad con el acuerdo que hicimos con la diócesis en 2012, nos hemos mantenido al día en el pago de nuestra porción mensual para apoyar la misión de la diócesis; y sólo tenemos una de nuestras "metas ambiciosas" para completar: a revisar o rehacer nuestro Plan Estratégico. Dado que literalmente nos hemos estado redescubriendo y reinventando mientras nuestra comprensión de

nuestros ministerios ha evolucionado, revisando el Plan Estratégico será ahora una iniciativa para la primavera de 2014. Nuestra nueva Canon al Ordinario, la Reverenda Megan Traquair, facilitará el esfuerzo y está muy deseosa de trabajar con la parroquia en su conjunto para que sea una experiencia significativa para todos nosotros. Todo esto es parte del "viaje de descubrimiento" de la que hablo a menudo con la Junta Parroquial (El Vestry).

Desde la perspectiva de nuestra salud temporal, hemos viajado aún más lejos en 2013, pero todavía lejos de nuestro destino. Sospecho que en el momento en que pensamos que somos "casi allí" - iel destino se ha movido más hacia el futuro! Todo se trata sobre la jornada y las increíbles experiencias en el camino.

Ese espíritu renovado y edificante entre nosotros, que celebramos el año pasado está muy vivo. La frase que viene a la mente es que estamos "ivivos, alertos y entusiásticos!" de hacer la obra de Dios en este lugar!

Estamos creciendo, no a pasos enormes, pero seguramente y de manera constante. Cerramos 2013 con un Promedio de Asistencia los Domingos de 126 y en aumento. E so se compara 118 a finales de 2012. 2014 ha tenido un muy buen comienzo: a partir de este escrito (mediados de enero), nos encontramos en un promedio de 140. También tuvimos 274 comuniones más en 2013 en comparación con 2012. No se trata de los números, sino de lo que los números nos dicen acerca de qué y quiénes somos ...

Las bendiciones han continuado: estamos dando la bienvenida a más gente, invitándolos a unirse a nosotros y participar activamente en la vida y obra de la parroquia. Formación cristiana se ha revitalizado: estamos haciendo más para conectar con la Sagrada Escritura como fundacional Vemos esto en el Estudio Leccionario para adultos, la escuela dominical para niños, la clase nueva para los "Tweens", y el Estudio Bíblico de las Mujeres los jueves. En cada caso se reúne un grupo de participantes cada vez más diverso.

El año pasado, hice un comentario sobre la inclusión en la escuela dominical y Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones por la congregación Evangélica Coreana que utiliza nuestras instalaciones. Eso ha continuado - y ahora tenemos un número de no-episcopales que son participantes dedicados en nuestro Estudio de la Biblia de Mujeres. Eso habla bien de nuestro sentido de unidad con nuestros hermanos y hermanas de otras denominaciones cristianas. Estamos cosechando los beneficios de participar en las oportunidades para el culto y servicio ecuménico, centrándonos más en lo que tenemos en común que en las diferencias entre nosotros. Estamos descubriendo que realmente podemos hacerlo sin poner en peligro o disminuir nuestra identidad Episcopal Anglicana. Me gusta pensar en ello como "Dejando que Dios obre entre nosotros".

Nuestro sentido de "familia" es más fuerte que nunca. 2014 trajo aún más oportunidades para dar culto y jugar juntos a pesar de las diferencias de idioma, cultura y tradición. Ha sido un año de haciendo cosas "por primera vez" y "por primera vez en mucho tiempo"—eventos y actividades que nos han traído más cerca unos a los otros.

iEs un verdadero placer y fuente de inspiración servir con y entre ustedes!

¿Dónde vamos?

Nuestro viaje de descubrimiento mutuo continúa, día a día. Este será sin duda un año de sorpresas, nuevos retos, lleno de oportunidades para crecer juntos en la fe. De una cosa podemos estar seguros: si seguimos siendo abiertos, receptivos, y obedientes a la voluntad de Dios y la obra del Espíritu Santo entre nosotros, vamos a mantenernos en el camino recto. En cuanto revisamos nuestro Plan Estratégico este año podemos encontrar que nuestras declaraciones de misión y visión actuales cambian a medida que aprendemos más acerca de a quiénes nos hemos convertido como una comunidad de creyentes. Lo que no cambiará es nuestro enfoque fundamental en el discipulado y la construcción de comunidad. Podemos poner a punto las palabras que usamos para describirlo, pero realmente todo se trata acerca de "traer a tantas personas como sea posible a una relación personal

con Dios a través de Jesucristo, y que permita a cada uno de nosotros a ser transformado en un discípulo de Jesucristo a través de la participación en el culto y los ministerios de San Cristóbal".

Nuestro trabajo conjunto continúa en maneras siempre nuevas...

Su Servidor en Cristo Padre Pedro+

Vestry Report - Senior Warden

Beth Mayhew

We have continued on our journey of growth and change during 2013.

Father Peter has served as our Priest-in-Charge this year. New vestry members Killy Balabanis, Jane Cooley, and Jean Liversidge have actively participated since the first meeting. Al Franco has worked tirelessly as our Junior Warden; Jane Cooley took on additional responsibilities as our Treasurer. We thanked outgoing vestry members Bill Masters, Diane Plein, and Jerry Schwab who completed their service along with Doris Schoeben as Clerk, Amy Schultz as Treasurer and Frank Schlichting as Junior Warden. We have appreciated Diane Plein continuing to serve as our Clerk and Amy Schultz as our Assistant Treasurer.

The Lay Leadership Retreat in February at Chapel Rock offered participants great opportunities to connect with the Diocesan team and people in other parishes. Learning about available resources was very helpful.

The general areas of concentration for the year involved working on policies and procedures. Some were revised; others were created; a few continue to be worked on. Another area that required significant attention and cooperation was producing a current parish photo directory. Killy Balabanis, Diane Plein, Mona Guarino, Father Peter, and Beth Mayhew all had a hand in this project. A very special thanks for her innumerable hours of work goes to Kay Young. Parishioners received the finished product in September.

Looking forward, members of the Vestry and others have begun to look into the possibility of solar panel installation at St. Christopher's. We have begun contacting various companies and doing our research.

Informe Anual de la Junta Parroquial para 2013

Hemos continuado con nuestro camino de crecimiento y cambio de todo el año 2013.

Padre Pedro ha servido como nuestro Sacerdote encargado este año. Los nuevos miembros de la junta parroquial Killy Balabanis, Jane Cooley, y Jean Liversidge han participado activamente desde la primera reunión. Al Franco ha trabajado incansablemente como nuestro Guardián Menor; Jane Cooley asumió responsabilidades adicionales como Tesorera. Dimos gracias a los miembros que terminaron sus años de servicio en la junta parroquial Bill Masters, Diane Plein y Jerry Schwab juntos con Doris Schoeben como Secretaria, Amy Schultz como Tesorera y Frank Schlichting como Guardián Menor. Dimos gracias a Diane Plein para seguir como nuestra Secretaria y Amy Schultz como nuestra Tesorera Adjunta.

El Retiro de Liderazgo Laico en febrero en Chapel Rock les ofreció a los participantes una gran oportunidad para conectar con el equipo Diocesano y con la gente en otras parroquias. Es útil contar con los recursos disponibles del Diócese.

Las áreas generales en las cuales enfocábamos durante el año eran de la organización y de los procedimientos. Algunos fueron revisados, mientras que otros fueron creados, y pocos todavía necesitan más atención. Otra área significativa era el nuevo directorio parroquial de fotos. Las siguientes personas ayudaron a llevarlo a cabo: Killy Balabanis, Diane Plein, Mona Guarino, Padre

Pedro, y Beth Mayhew. También queremos agradecerle muchísimo a Kay Young por las innumerables horas de trabajo que hizo. Los feligreses recibieron los directorios en septiembre.

De cara al futuro, los miembros de la Junta Parroquial y otros han comenzado a estudiar la posibilidad de instalación de paneles solares para San Cristóbal. Hemos comenzado a ponernos en contacto con varias compañías y hacer nuestra investigación.

Junior Warden

Al Franco

Greetings from the shop of the "people's warden." 2013 was an exciting and productive year at St. Christopher's. The involvement and teamwork of the entire congregation was wonderful. Thank you all for the cooperation and support you showered on me.

The year started with a typical series of problems. Water leaks were rampant (ice maker and irrigation). Security issues appeared (files were missing). Operation costs were rising (utilities, both water and electric). These issues were quickly brought under control. All water problems are under control and temporary fixes in place. The vestry approved a complete change of all the church locks and a policy of key management initiated. Programmable thermostats were installed to reduce our use of electricity.

As the year went on a number of projects, recommended by our ministries and congregation were completed. A special committee organized and paid for the installation of fans in Hart Hall. This project improved the comfort and lighting for all users of the hall. The alter guild recommended and paid for the painting of the sacristy wall. The children and youth ministries recommended and paid for the painting of the Sunday school quarters. The vestry helped with the project of repairing the leaky roof and steeple and painting the steeple. Another group of parishioners took up the landscaping of our campus. This is now a permanent ministry of our church. One of their projects was to install a complete new irrigation system with no cost to our operating budget.

We accomplished one major capital improvement project in November. All of the flat, foam-insulated roofs on the church property were recoated and are now warranted for 10 years against leaks. This project was made possible by your forward thinking finance committee and vestry members who had put the money aside for projects such as this.

As we move into 2014, we will stress preventative maintenance and conservation programs. With your continued involvement, this year should be even better than last year.

MINISTRY TEAMS REPORTS

Worship Ministries Altar Guild

Doris Schoeben & Beth Mayhew Co-Directors

This year the Altar Guild began something new for Christmas flowers: two large poinsettia plants adding their beautiful color to each side of the altar and replaced the many plants from previous years. Those with allergies were grateful. Donations were handled differently: they were general offerings. People still listed the names of loved ones they wanted to remember and/or give thanks for which were placed on a separate insert into the Christmas Eve bulletin. We accepted donations for flowers on Sundays, the Sanctuary candle, and candles at the Virgin of Guadalupe's prayer area. We are thankful for our special donors of the Sanctuary candle and for those for the Virgin.

In addition to our regular Sunday services and the Wednesday healing service in the chapel, we've been pleased to be involved in preparing for so many baptisms this year. The monthly blessings of prayer shawls, quilts and blankets provided colorful displays at the altar rail. We also take care of setting up for special memorial services and the crèche at Christmas. Our newest traditions include a service honoring the Virgin of Guadalupe and recreating Mary and Joseph's search for a place to staythe Posadas. We include those who can't come to church by providing LEM boxes used to take communion to them.

Many thanks to each of you who have so faithfully and graciously served this year (and for many years): Marj Kassien, Jane and George Meyers, Martha Pulsford, Eva Quiles, Betty Roddy, Luz Elena Salinas, Anna Van Scoter, and Mary Wissler. You are very much appreciated.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs)

This ministry to the ill and shut-ins of our parish is an important ne, although not often publicized. These are dedicated lay persons who call on those who are unable to come to church regularly and bring them news of the parish activities, sometimes the Sunday bulletins, as well as sharing Holy Communion with them.

This is done in a hospital, a rehab facility, nursing home or the person's own home. Since we do not have a fulltime Deacon at St. Christopher's, this lay ministry is our loving way to keep in touch with persons who would otherwise not have the opportunity to share Holy Communion regularly.

We presently have three LEVs who regularly share their time with parishioners. If you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized or completely home bound and would like to have communion, please call the office, leave your request with the person there, and I will see that this is fulfilled.

If you would like to train to become a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please contact me, and I will be happy to see that you are trained, and added to our active list.

Music Ministries Choir

Gary Quamme Music Director

The Choir at St. Christopher's continues to grow in its size and strength. This year, we added two more members, which allows us to take on more challenging literature, the fruits of which you will see in the coming months. And, as we grow, we become ever more grateful for our return to the previous Choir Room, filled with robes, music, and equipment—all the things necessary to serve a growing and vibrant parish.

This past summer, we were able to host another of the Ecumenical Hymn-Singing services, which took us on an excursion through the Church Year, and showcased some of the many hymns we share with other denominations.

Marinell Eron

I must share with you my profound thanks for all of those who contribute with such dedication their time and talents to the music of our worship each week. It is for me the greatest joy to serve this community with you, and to further the kingdom of Our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Prayer Concerns / Prayers Chain

St. Christopher's Prayer Chain is an on-going ministry. We exist solely to pray for anyone in need of prayer, and who doesn't want to wait for the bulletin on Sunday. There are presently fourteen devoted people on our prayer chain. Prayers may be requested for you, your family, or friends. The prayers might be for illness, loss of a loved one, loss of employment, or anything else that may be causing you or your loved one stress. We are always looking for some more people to join us in prayer.

If you wish to participate in any way, please notify Jean Liversidge @ jliversidge@cox.net, or tel.# 623-680-0431 or you may call the church office.

Ushers

I would like to thank all the ushers for your service time. You all did a great job. We can always use more people to usher. Thank you again.

Education & Formation Ministries

Adult Formation

Advent Devotional

An Advent Devotional was written, edited, complied, and published by the thirty generous friends and members of St. Christopher's Church. It was an opportunity for us as a congregation to share and reflect on *the* birth of Jesus and the season of Advent. Reflections provided in Spanish were translated to English; several of the English reflections were translated to Spanish as well. Thank you to everyone who participated in this new venture.

Sunday Adult Bible Study

Our Adult Bible Study is co-hosted by KIIIy Balabanis and Gary Welsh on Sunday mornings from 10:45 to 11:15. At present we are studying the lectionary readings for the Sundays to follow. History of the writings and spiritual benefits are discussed with emphasis upon participation...., lots of fun, observations and learning going on. The possibility of having the class on a weekday is being discussed. Come join us. We need your thoughts, your input and fellowship.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study Group is almost through our second 10-week study. Last spring we worked through *Living Beyond Yourself / The Fruit Of The Spirit* and this winter we are close to finishing up *A Woman's Heart/God's Dwelling Place*. Both of these studies are intense Beth Moore series. We have increased our group by four new ladies who are all from churches other than St. Christopher's. That brings our group up to 14 Christ-seeking women. We are planning to have a 5-week Lenten study (also by Beth Moore) starting March 6th. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Children and Youth Growing Our Faith: Sunday School Ages 4-10

This has been a banner year for St. Christopher's youth. Three years ago we had 4 children enrolled and now we have 14, not including our newest class, the Tweens. We've also added two new teachers, Aprille Harris and Aimee Fabre-Georgieva.

Barbara Fabre

Barbara Fabre

Jean Liversidge

Director of Christian Education

Killy Balabanis / Gary Welsh

Frank Schlichting

Amy Schultz

Barbara Fabre

The children continue to learn about our Lord according to the weekly gospel, but we've also branched off into some of the Old Testament lessons that are so familiar. We are still using storytelling, art, music, games and drama to make our lessons memorable.

We love our newly painted powder-sky blue walls! They make our rooms seem closer to heaven! Thank you grown-ups of St. Christopher's!

Vacation Bible School in July was a giant success as we all became "fired-up for Jesus" with our Son Surf theme. The surfer dudes loved learning about Jesus in songs, crafts and food, BUT especially at their own private beach. The teachers are wondering how we are going to top that this summer?

Christmas brought our pageant. It was a grand success. The children from the 9:00, 11:30 and Korean congregations worked together which melted my heart. They can't wait to do another for Christmas 2014. The children's Advent outreach project of collecting socks and underwear for Eve's Place went very well too. They collected 224 pairs of socks, 239 pieces of underwear, 1 knitted cap, 3 pair of gloves and 1 can of chicken/mushroom soup! Good job!

We look forward to a year full of love and learning!

Sunday School: Tweens

Barbara Fabre

Tweens is our new Sunday School class for youths ages 11 to 14 years old. Ms. Aprille Harris is the teacher and the Tweens love her! The main purpose of this class is to learn about our Lord and relate His teachings to their everyday lives, which is vital for their well-being.

The Tweens made themselves comfortable in the old nursery. It was such a pleasure to have them participate in the Christmas Pageant and I have hopes that they will help in VBS this summer. We welcome them into the family of Growing Our Faith at St. Christopher's!

Outreach Ministries

Amy Schultz, Point of Contact for the Outreach Committee

Outreach has re-envisioned itself this year and the theme has been partnership and collaboration both within St. Christopher's and with other organizations. We have:

- begun a partnership to support Eve's Place, fighting domestic violence in the West Valley.
- solved a Bargains Galore problem (not enough strong backs) by initiating a partnership with Eve's Treasures (the thrift stores for Eve's Place). When we get calls for donations of all or part of a household, Eve's Place will collect everything and they sell the furniture through Eve's Place, but they deliver the smaller household items, books, etc. to us.
- initiated partnerships with nearby elementary schools (Cheyenne and Country Meadows). The schools receive shoes and flip-flops from the Boot Fund, backpacks from the backpack drive, Cheyenne received the food bags from the Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- strengthened our partnership with Valley View Food Bank, donating \$100 to purchase 25 turkeys for their Turkey Drive when we learned near Thanksgiving that no turkeys had yet been donated. Carol Brown has agreed to be our liaison with them.
- expanded the baby blanket ministry to support Eve's Place and Project Linus.
- partnered with the E.C.W. in the backpack drive, collecting toiletries for Eve's Place, and more.
- begun to encourage all ministry leaders to consider how their ministry is a part of the broader Outreach umbrella at St. Christopher's. To facilitate various ministries working together we have started an Outreach Calendar that is on the wall in Harte Hall. To reflect back to the congregation and to visitors what Outreach is doing, we have begun to post photos and news articles on the wall near the calendar. Watch the "Outreach Wall" to see what we've done lately and what's next.

The Diocese began to return to parishes 1% of what was paid in Mission Share in 2012. The Mission Share Rebate money is to encourage our church to explore new ways of reaching beyond our own congregational needs to engage the wider community with the message of the Gospel. We received \$1197.79 and are holding it in Outreach as Restricted Funds. We are considering launching new ministries in one or more of the following areas:

- Spanish Language (general conversation or ESL). Given the growing Hispanic portion of our congregation, such classes would help communication among us all, facilitate communicating with shoppers at our thrift store, and attract neighbors as our area is now about 32% Hispanic.
- Kinship Care. Children raised by relatives (seniors raising grandchildren, great-grandchildren, • other relatives). Over 100,000 children in AZ alone are in such situations and we have several families currently doing this.
- Grief Group (in conjunction with Hospice of the Valley or others).
- Alzheimer's / Dementia resources. We have been touched in both our clergy and our members ٠ and it's an ongoing issue for many in our congregation.

All of these are areas are of significant concern to not only our own congregation but also the surrounding community. The money will allow us to publicize and invite neighbors of the church in ways we are unable through our own existing budget. We are researching and evaluating how we might proceed in each area. If you are interested to take part in developing one of these new ministries, please talk to Amy Schultz, Point of Contact for Outreach.

In 2014, we will continue our current projects, rebate money, and will also investigate opportunities to develop outreach into new areas:

- We have discussed with the Men's Club about how to become involved in feeding the • homeless. We are talking to another Episcopal Church to piggyback on what they are already doing in this area.
- We have discussed launching a pet / animal ministry. ٠
- And, we will select one or more ministry areas as discussed above to use the Mission Share ٠ Rebate funds.

Below are the many ways that you can become involved:

Advent Sock & Underwear Drive

The children's Advent outreach project of collecting socks and underwear for Eve's Place went very well too. They collected 224 pairs of socks, 239 pieces of underwear, 1 knitted cap, 3 pairs of gloves and 1 can of chicken / mushroom soup!

Baby Quilts

Every other month, various members come together to create guilted baby blankets and / or lap or single bed quilts. The quilts are blessed on the first Sunday of the month and are then delivered to Eva's Place or Project Linus. In 2013, 20 quilts were delivered to the Phoenix Crisis Center, 74 quilts to Eve's Place, and 39 quilts to Project Linus.

Backpacks & School Supplies [with E.C.W.]

Backpacks were filled with supplies from a list provided by Outreach, which our parishioners shopped for. The backpacks were stuffed during a Coffee Hour between services. A total of 15 backpacks were delivered to both Country Meadows and Cheyenne Elementary. Backpacks included a note that read, "May these supplies and backpack help you to have an exciting and successful school year. If you need things this year, please contact the church office."

Bargains Galore

Bargains Galore has had a successful year and enjoyable year. We thank God for all the hard - working volunteers, thirty plus, who work on Saturday and during the week. We thank God for the people who

Anna van Scoter

Amy Schultz Coordinator

Children & Youth Ministries

E.C.W. and Outreach Committee

bring their generous donations to Bargains. We thank God for the opportunity to serve St Christopher's and the surrounding community.

Al Franco installed a new thermostat with a timer that helps to keep the air conditioning and heating bills lower. The men's department has been rearranged and made more attractive. And the new storage room has been a real help for our seasonal inventory.

Many repeat customers come in every week to chat with us and look around to see what is new. Some customers ask for prayers – some ask about the programs at St Christopher's. We put a flyer in every bag telling what our outreach programs are and information about St. Christopher's.

Bookstore

Charlotte Powley Bookstore Minister

The Bookstore continues to be open every Sunday before and between services and on Saturdays during Bargains Galore sales. We appreciate all the donations and purchases which contribute to the good year we have had. Thank you. We have been able to increase the amounts we put each week in the general fund. We find that the book donations come mainly from our people in the church and the purchases from friends and visitors outside of the church. Many of the people we see on Saturday morning come in every Saturday and are now familiar friends.

Assistant bookie, Barbara Welsh, works very hard and keeps our fiction in alphabetical order. Visitors have commented on how much they appreciate this. We have added several new categories in our non fiction section so fewer books are winding upon the miscellaneous shelf.

Best sellers are DVD movies and mystery and Western fiction. Paper backs sell better than hard cover. So, we need more of these. Puzzles are selling well and so are the children's books. The crafts section has its own bookcase and a table for people to use to sort through these books and brochures. We also have had requests for books about American history.

We have a theme table which has been successful and we welcome suggestions for new exhibits.

We started with one bookcase and so far now have a whole wall and a half. We will continue to encourage the use of the Harte Hall space in the Bookstore for church events.

Special thanks go to Al Franco, Gary Welsh and Rafael Rodriguez for their cheerful help moving heavy boxes of books. Thanks also to Jane Meyers, Clive Chancey and Ron Dow for their help selling on Saturday mornings.

We are now receiving books from the Phoenix Library mainly large print and audio books.

We have never had any expenses for the bookshop. Everything we have has been donated including the book cases. We operate on the honor system. Put your money in one of the book banks, located on the bookshelf and table. All money raised goes for church support & projects.

Boot Fund

Ann Gay

Ann Gay

We began the Boot Fund 1997 in response to a great need for shoes for students in the Dysart School System; many kids could not go to school because they had no shoes. In 2013, Outreach provided 60 \$25 gift cards from Payless to Cheyenne and Country Meadows Elementary Schools. Twenty more were used to purchase shoes for Phoenix Crisis Center. The Boot Fund has long provided shoes for homeless and low-income children to be able to attend school. Recently the fund has expanded to provide flip-flops for loan to children on a temporary basis. Look for the wooden boot bank at the Bargains Galore checkout counter or on a table in the Narthex or drop a check in the plate any Sunday with "Boot Fund" on the memo line.

Card Making

The card making ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9am in Middleton Hall. We made well over 2,000 cards for Banner Boswell Hospital, about 500 for Hospice of the Valley, about 700 for Sunshine Homes and over 500 for the Crisis Nursery and Sojourners'. Cards from the ministry are also used for various outreach efforts including the Thanksgiving Food Drive Bags and individually written

cards are sent to residents of Sunshine House. We always have a good time and always need more crafters -- everything is in the form of a kit and all you do is glue the pieces together. Please come and give us a hand.

Cards & Calls Encouragement

2013 was the first year of this amazing ministry. As a new venture, it has been received very well by both volunteers and recipients. All have enjoyed the end result – a caring for one another. Presently, we have four dedicated volunteers who devote their own spare time to this cause. We send out nineteen plus cards per month to individuals who are shut-ins, in nursing or retirement homes. We also provide service to people who are hospitalized, accident victims, and those who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend church services in person. Our feedback from recipients has been most gratifying to all involved.

Christopher Singers

25 years ago, twelve members of St. Christopher's Church started a sing-a-long ministry to care centers and assisted living facilities. This is, and has been, a fun time for the residents and us as well as a rewarding time for us. Thank you to all who have ever participated in this ministry. These outings are usually twice monthly, October through April, and occasionally we do a sing-a-long here at St. Christopher's. If you like to sing the "oldies" and would like to join us we would love to have you. Even if you don't sing you could help the residents find the songs on the song sheets. For further information call Joanne David 974-1759 or Marion West 972-4567.

Eve's Place

St. Christopher's began to support Eve's Place and Eve's Treasures in 2013. Eve's Place provides transitional housing and emergency shelter and empowerment for domestic violence victims. We donate various rummage items such as furniture to Eve's Treasures Thrift Store located at 10765 W. Peoria Ave. We collect or purchasing toiletries (both women's and men's) as well as towels, washcloths, and bedding. In September, 29 baby quilts, 32 wash cloth, 6 pillows and 10 towels were taken to Eve's Place. Each person leaving the shelter or transitional housing program leaves with a bedding kit. Bargains Galore has begun to work with Eve's Treasure in a variety of ways. Eve's Place volunteers were thrilled to receive the new, clean underwear and socks from the Advent youth sock and underwear drive. If you are interested in more information, please talk to Amy Schulz or Marj Kassein who toured the transitional housing program and met with the Executive Director late in 2013.

Lap Robes

We gave Banner Boswell Hospital about 50 lap robes in 2013 to give to patients and guest who express being cold; they are theirs to take home when they leave. The lap robes measure about 36" x 45" and can be crocheted or knitted. The supply of lap robes at the hospital is very low -- so, if you knit or crochet, please pick up some yarn in Harte Hall and create! We also need baby blankets for the Phoenix Crisis Nursery; again knitted or crocheted.

Mission Trip to the Elderly Poor in Rocky Point, Mexico

Arturo Jaramillo, Minster of Music for Spanish Ministry; Coordinator for La Campaña Convivencia con los Adultos Mayores (Campaign for Living in Harmony with the Elderly)

Arturo Jaramillo led an outreach mission trip to provide aid to the elderly poor at the *José Davalos Valdivia* nursing home in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico (Rocky Point) the weekend of May 24th and 25th. Your generous contributions of funds (\$275.96), bed sheets, durable medical supplies and other items enabled him not only to deliver all that you donated, but also to provide healthy meals, inspiring music and companionship to the residents of the nursing home. You are helping make a meaningful difference in their lives. Thanks to Father Peter's encouragement, and both the English- and Spanish-speaking members of the Community of St. Christopher's, for all the great support for this cause. Everything you've donated and designated for this mission trip makes it possible to touch the lives of so many people. Heartfelt thanks to those who have bought my music CDs, allowing me to pay for

Carol Brown

Joanne David / Marion West

Ann Gav

Amy Schultz

Arturo Jaramillo

food for the residents, transportation for the mission team, and related expenses. May God bless your generosity!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This dedicated group of eight women and one gentleman continue to make beautiful and unique prayer shawls for our St. Christopher's in-reach/out-reach ministry. As long as there is a need, they are willing to work to fill that need. We have branched out to include knitted baby blankets for Project Linus in 2013. These blankets include special-sized blankets for premature babies.

Each shawl and blanket is blessed, wrapped and delivered as needed. We encourage our church family to request prayer shawls for friends and family. Thus far, the furthest one of our shawls has gone is China.

The thank you notes that come our way from people who've received a shawl are so touching! It always amazes us how the Lord's peace and healing are felt by the warmth of our blessed shawls. Thanks be to God!!

Project Linus - Phoenix / West Valley Chapter Barbara Fabre (preemie blankets) & Anna van Scoter (baby quilts)

The ministry took 34 quilts to the local Phoenix / West Valley Chapter of Project Linus in December. Project Linus provides love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets or quilt.

Summer Water Drive

E.C.W. sponsored a parish water drive for outreach during June, July and August. A ton of water or 49 cases were delivered in July to the Phoenix Rescue Mission in partnership with the Glendale Fire Department, and 1.25 tons, or 77 cases, was delivered in August to the Salvation Army. E.C.W. voted to make this an annual event and will determine the recipients in 2014.

Sunshine Residential & Group Homes

Members of the parish hand write individual notes to residents at Christmas.

Thanksgiving Food Drive for Cheyenne Elementary School

The E.C.W. and Outreach Committee co-sponsored a Thanksgiving Food Drive to provide 30 bags of food for families in need at Cheyenne Elementary School. The bags, shopped for and donated by church members and friends, contained stuffing, macaroni & cheese, canned string beans, cranberry sauce, yams, mashed potatoes or rice, onions, baking mix, cake mix & frosting or muffin mix, a card made by the church's card-making ministry, and a \$20 Safeway gift card to purchase a meat to finish out the meal. Extra food received in the drive was donated to the Valley View Food Bank.

Valley View Community Food Bank

Valley View Food Bank donated the shopping cart that is in the narthex ready for your contributions. A sampling of our donations is at the base of the altar on the first Sunday of the month and part of the blessing during the service. A volunteer (see the sign up sheet in the parish hall to sign up) takes the contributions to the food bank after having been blessed. To improve our partnership with Valley View in 2013, Carol Brown agreed to head the ministry and serves as liaison to coordinate with the Office and let parishioners know what is most needed each week. Outreach also provided \$100 to purchase 25 turkeys for Valley View's Thanksgiving Turkey Drive when there were no donations as Thanksgiving neared.

Service & Fellowship Ministries Episcopal Church Women (E.C.W.)

Jean Liversidge President

First of all I would like to thank all our members for their support and help in the year of 2013. Attendance at the meetings has grown, and we are all hoping it will continue to grow. Our purpose is to support our "Family of St. Christopher's", and our surrounding community.

Barbara Fabre

Ann Gay

E.C.W. Sponsored

E.C.W. and Outreach Committee

Carol Brown

We kept our meetings going all summer this year, with approximately 12 members attending each of the summer meetings.

Officers and Committee Chairmen were installed in April, 2013, and will serve until April, 2014.

Officers are as follows:

President:	Jean Liversidge, Vice President: Kitty Martin,
Secretary:	Carol Brown (resigned)
Acting Secretary:	Kitty Martin
Treasurer:	Mary Wissler
Memorial Receptions	: Anna Van Scoter,
UTO Chair:	Naarah Griswold
Publicity:	Dianne Pleine & Rosemary Lynch
Calling Committee:	Rose Harris, Mary Duvall, & Carol Brown.

We also elected "Our Woman of the Year." Congratulations to Beth Mayhew. It is well deserved.

We sponsored a water drive for the "homeless" during the summer months, during which two and a half tons of water were collected and distributed. "Many Thanks" to all who made this possible.

Envelopes were distributed in the Sunday Bulletin in November to collect dues for the Diocese Assessment. The church is assessed one dollar per adult woman member--\$190.00 was collected.

E.C.W. donated \$500.00 to the "Fan Fund" which was later re-allocated to the Landscaping Ministry.

E.C.W. donated \$1,500 to the General Fund of St. Christopher's to be used for operation expenses.

The members of E.C.W. made soup, and salads for Consecration Sunday, with ice cream for dessert; thanks to Jim Benson who helped with the serving of the ice cream.

E.C.W. hosted the April Pot Luck Dinner with Southern Cooking as its theme.

E.C.W. donated \$300.00 for the Thanksgiving Baskets for the children of Cheyenne Elementary School.

E.C.W. held a bake & craft sale in December, making a profit of \$466.90

Other fundraisers including our Easter Basket Sale netted \$281.00

The Style Show had a net profit of \$781.00. All proceeds went to Outreach.

We have an on-going prayer chain for anyone who needs prayers for themselves, family and friends. Please notify the office or Jean Liversidge by e-mail jliversidge@cox.net, or telephone 623-680-0431.

E.C.W. meets once a month-on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M. All St Christopher's women are automatic members, so please come and participate. It is a great way to get to know your fellow members. If you can't come every month, come when you can. You can come late, or leave early, if need be.

Men's Club

Killy Balabanis President

The Men's Club re-energized by Gary Welsh in 2012 has continued to act out our commitment to St. Christopher's Church and the community. Members of the men's club work behind the scenes at many events and also host some. The high point of the year for us was the revival of the Famous Follies. Talent drawn from both services provided an afternoon of appreciation from the very large audience. Special thanks to Gary Welsh who built the stage and Clive Chancey who organized the program and emceed it as well. We all had a wonderful time.

Men's Club meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month for breakfast. In 2013 we met through the summer as well. It is a great time to pray a little, to laugh a little, and to hear each other's stories. All men from both services are welcome. Bring your friends as well. We look forward to seeing you.

Hospitality Ministry

Anna van Scoter

In 2013, the Hospitality Ministry was formed and Anna van Scoter agreed to serve as its initial ministry leader. The ministry is funded by money from eScrip, aluminum can recycling, coffee hour, potluck and individual contributions. Karfolena Cardella coordinates the 9am coffee hour volunteers and donations. In January, we coordinated refreshments, provided ushers and greeters and a reader for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2014. The ministry hosted the Thanksgiving Dinner (revived after many years); thank you to Jim Benson who, with three outside friends, roasted turkeys, made the dressing, cooked the potatoes and vegetables, and helped serve.

Landscape Ministry

Bonnie Franco & Eva Quiles Coordinators

The official Landscape Ministry kicked off in November of 2012. Eva Quiles, Jacinto Nieco and I started cleaning up the exterior of our church campus and evaluating the status of our landscaping. The first plea for donations netted \$820, most of which was used to repair our antiquated irrigation system and trim palms and shrubs much in need as well as begin a weed eradication program. The weeds were winning for a bit of time but we now are in control. It soon became obvious the irrigation lines were beyond repair and a second plea for donations went out to help us sustain the maintenance needed, replace the existing lines and watering heads and to plant three trees. We collected \$976 during that initiative. Additionally, the E.C.W. donated \$500 to our needs that allowed us to proceed with the necessary work. To date we have all the palm trees trimmed with two near the play area having being skinned, our plants are trimmed properly, the irrigation lines have been replaced and three trees (one live oak, one sissoo and one palm tree, which was a free offering from above) are growing happily within our perimeters. Father Peter offered an official dedication and blessing to this work December 15, 2013 and a plaque is displayed within Middleton Hall noting this occasion.

In the very near future, we will plant 3-5 bushes around the AC box outside the office windows along Peoria. There are a number of trees that passed their prime, especially around the chapel and the south side of the church. We will address these challenges as money and professional opinion permit.

Special note: while I have personally felt it an honor to take on this particular project, there have been numerous people who have <u>manually</u> helped me. Eva Quiles, Jacinto Nieco, Ray Borda, Sabino Rocha, Rafael Rodriguez, Jordan Montes, and Al Franco have made it all possible by stepping up to do more than their share. Additional thanks to all who have recognized this need and answered my prayers by making monetary donations.

Planning Group

Meets Tue at 10am the week before Super Staff

The former "Future Planning Group" and then "Planning for the Future Group (PFFG), in 2013 changed its name this time to just the "Planning Group." The group works mostly by email but tries to meet prior to the monthly Super Staff meeting. This group's primary role is to brainstorm and to serve as a backstop to make sure other ministries can succeed. We work to figure out how we might restart prior ministries or activities; we work to start new activities, helping figure out which ministry to work within. We also serve as a coordination point for space utilization within the St. Christopher's complex.

When Ann Gay stepped down after many years from being responsible for Outreach, the Planning Group served as a temporary Outreach Committee until the Outreach Committee could be formed and launched.

Early in 2013, Fr. Peter tasked the group to work to eliminate the clutter in various areas and to work to develop strategies to keep it that way. He also tasked us to help figure out better space utilization. As part of this effort we have coordinated:

- the choir having access to Fr. Peter's former office as of 3/2/13;
- the bookstore having access to the adjacent closet (they had previously used the vesting closet in the office and had to move boxes of heavy books a long way);
- Bargains Galore and Outreach having access to an outside locked storage area so that items no long end up in the Parish Hall;
- reducing the number of tables in the Parish Hall. There should be no more than five tables in the Hall unless there is an upcoming event;
- reorganizing the Narthex. This has been a repeated task that constantly needs revisiting.

Restarting things – the Thanksgiving Eucharist and family dinner. St. Christopher's has not had a Eucharist and dinner on Thanksgiving for many years, but renewed the practice in 2013.

Helping start new things like the Advent Devotional Guide.

Figuring out which ministry should handle things when it is unclear which ministry is responsible and best able to take something on. An example is the news in early 2013 that the Diocese would be rebating 1% of what we paid in Mission Share in 2012, but that it was restricted. We worked with Outreach and the money received are held in outreach as restricted funds.

We have continued to:

- encourage members and friends of St. Christopher's to sign up for eScrip a simple, year-round fundraising project in conjunction with Safeway. If you register any one or all of your existing grocery loyalty, debit and credit cards for use in the program, participating merchants contribute to St. Christopher's based on purchases made using the cards you register. Contact Amy Schultz for more information.
- Rearrange and de-clutter the patio to make it more welcoming and continue to police it as things simply appear or are left there.

In 2014, we will

- continue to work to improve with communications. We have unsuccessfully attempted to identify a minister for communications.
 - Jean Liversidge is handling the monthly email newsletter;
 - Diane Plien, Rosemary Lynch, and Mona Guarino share our many activities with local papers and the Diocese;
 - Gary Welsh has taken responsibility for updating the mobile sign board on the Peoria Ave. side of the property.
 - Mona Guarino, in coordination with the office, has created a Ministry Leader Roster with current contact information for all Ministry Leaders.

We have been working on updating many promotional pieces. We updated the outreach flyer used as a bag-stuffer in Bargains Galore and available on the Communications table in the Narthex. In early 2014, we sill complete a new ministry booklet that will contain information on all ministries at St. Christopher's including who to contact to become involved, information on where the outreach goes, and more.

• try to address our outdoor signage. We are looking for several people willing to work on a task force to take on a review of what we have and to see what we can do to improve the message we are projecting from the corner of 103rd and Peoria to those going past.

Active members include Marge and Gene Carbaugh, Barbara Fabre, Mona Guarino, Doris Schoeben, Amy Schultz, and Gary Welsh.

Recycling Aluminum Cans

Bill Masters restarted our aluminum can recycling effort in 2013. Look for the red lidded can in Middleton to donate your cans.

Paper

Bring your paper, collapsed boxes, cardboard, and shredded paper (in a plastic or paper bag) and drop it in the collection bin in the parking lot near the breezeway. If you find the bin very full, please notify the office.

Financial Ministries Finance & Budget Committee Report

Highlights:

- Another year without borrowing from the endowment; in fact money from the Capital Reserve will go INTO the endowment early in 2014;
- Paid for significant (\$10k) roof repair, various HVAC repairs, and the ice machine repairs from the Capital Reserve without need to touch the Endowment;
- Successful audit in July;
- Completing 2013 with much less than the \$27k budgeted deficit;
- Continued improvement in transparency and continued improved accountability.

During 2013, we reinforced the many changes we made in 2012 to improve our financial management. We had a successful and informative audit by a CPA from the Diocesan Audit Committee in July; this is an option open to us as our operating budget is below \$200,000. We continued to watch the budget closely and, with everyone's help, we were above budget on income and below budget on expenses resulting in a deficit in 2013 of only \$6,899 instead of the budgeted \$26,906. In 2014, we will have a budgeted deficit of \$21,486.

In 2013, we obtained credit cards for the secretary, the Junior Warden, and the priest-in-charge. The balances are paid in full each month so that we don't incur finance charges, but using the credit cards simplifies paying for church purchases instead of multiple reimbursements.

As indicated elsewhere in this report, in 2012, the Vestry established an Operating Reserve to be used before having to resort to withdrawing funds from the endowment. We could not have done much of this without having hired an able and patient bookkeeper, Darlene Paterson, who has been delving into the church finances and assisting the Finance Committee to improve all aspects of money handling at St. Christopher's.

We are still not out of the woods, but our cautious optimism continues. The members of the Finance Committee who have been working diligently on your behalf are Mona Guarino (chair), Al Franco, and Marj Kassien along with Fr. Peter, Beth Mayhew, and Amy Schultz (ex-officio members). Although Marj Kassien's term on Vestry ends at this annual meeting, she has agreed to stay on Finance as a Lay Member.

Office

Bill Masters

Mona Guarino Chair

Finance Focus in 2014 will be:

- Continuing to improve fiscal accountability and reporting; ٠
- Improving return on both short term and long term money; ٠
- Restarting the Blackburn and Memorial Funds; ٠
- Developing other missing policies including a Gift Acceptance Policy and a Conflict of Interest ٠ Policy.

2013 Financials

Jane Cooley Treasurer

[There is a 'contra' account for each ministry where expenses appear, a Total - Other account for income or donations. These are summed to show the funds available for a ministry in the total line for that ministry.]

2013 Balance Sheet				
	Dec 31, 13	Dec 31, 12	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
1000 · CASH ACCOUNTS				
1003 · UMCU Checking- 10	2,393	10,078	(7,685)	-76.25%
1004 · UMCU Restr Chk- 11	58,717	60,924	(2,207)	-3.62%
1005 · UMCU Youth Min CD	7,945	7,886	59	0.75%
Total 1000 · CASH ACCOUNTS	69,055	78,888	(9,833)	-12.46%
Total Checking/Savings	69,055	78,888	(9,833)	-12.46%
Total Current Assets	69,055	78,888	(9,833)	-12.46%
Fixed Assets	·	·		
1500 · FIXED ASSETS				
1501 · Bernard Building	166,342	166,342	-	0.0%
1502 · Church & Parish Hall	788,603	788,603	-	0.0%
1503 · Chapel	231,143	231,143	-	0.0%
1504 · Furniture & Fixtures	112,236	112,236	-	0.0%
1505 · Vestments	13,700	13,700	-	0.0%
1506 · Awnings	6,234	6,234	-	0.0%
1507 · Security System	2,864	2,864	-	0.0%
1508 · Signage	4,934	4,934	-	0.0%
1509 · Land	30,853	30,853	-	0.0%
1510 · New Doors	1,472	1,472	-	0.0%
1511 · HVAC	35,379	35,379	-	0.0%
1599 · Accumulated Depreciation	(907,757)	(907,757)	-	0.0%
Total 1500 · FIXED ASSETS	486,003	486,003	-	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	486,003	486,003	-	0.0%
Other Assets				
1601 · SB Restricted Account				
1602 · SB- Blackburn- Seminarian Sup	29,903	30,403	(500)	-1.65%
1603 · SB- Memorial Fund	27,146	26,936	210	0.78%
1604 · SB- Columbarium Fund	15,369	14,470	899	6.22%
1605 · SB- Cares Fund	4,102	254	3,848	1,517.89%
1606 · SB- Building Fund	19,529	19,078	451	2.36%
1601 · SB Restricted Acct - Other	-	6,304	(6,304)	-100.0%
Total 1601 · SB Restricted Account	96,049	97,445	(1,396)	-1.43%
1610 · SB Endowment	209,390	212,186	(2,796)	-1.32%
1900 · Suspense- Clearing	(27)	-	(27)	-100.0%
Total Other Assets	305,411	309,630	(4,219)	-1.36%
TOTAL ASSETS	860,470	874,521	(14,052)	-1.61%

2013 Balance Sheet

LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities	Dec 31, 13	Dec 31, 12	\$ Change	% Change
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable 2000 · Accounts Payable	1,683		1 692	100.0%
•			1,683	
Total Accounts Payable	1,683		1,683	100.0%
Total Current Liabilities	1,683		1,683	100.0%
Total Liabilities	1,683	-	1,683	100.0%
Equity				
3001 · Unrestricted Net Assets	10,353	46,945	(36,592)	-77.95%
3002 · Unrestricted Endowment- MS	207,994		(4,192)	-1.98%
3003 · Unrestricted Fixed Assets	486,003	,	(,, / _	0.0%
3010 · Unrestricted Capital Reserve	100,000	100,000		0.070
3010-C · Contra Unrestr. Capital Reserve	(14,936)		(14,936)	-100.0%
3010 · Unrestricted Capital Reserve- Other			12,289	34.61%
Total 3010 · Unrestricted Capital Reserve	32,858		(2,647)	-7.46%
3102 · Temp. Restricted- Youth Minist	7,945		(2,017)	0.75%
3103 · Temp Restricted- Investment-	97,445	,	-	0.0%
3200 · DONOR RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	07,110	07,110		0.070
3201 · Outreach				
3201-C · Contra Outreach	(5,032)	(1,281)	(3,751)	-292.8%
3201 · Outreach- Other	11,269	· · /	4,745	72.73%
Total 3201 · Outreach	6,237		994	18.96%
3203 · Prayer Shawl Ministry	0,207	5,245	554	10.5070
3203-C · Contra Prayer Shawl Ministry	(718)	(280)	(437)	-155.88%
3203 · Prayer Shawl Ministry- Other	791	• • •	507	178.14%
Total 3203 · Prayer Shawl Ministry	73		69	1,770.66%
3204 Bargains Galore	70		05	1,770.0070
3204-C · Contra Bargains Galore	(30,428)	(18,484)	(11,945)	-64.62%
3204 · Bargains Galore- Other	32,809	• • •	12,938	65.11%
Total 3204 · Bargains Galore	2,381		993	71.6%
3205 Altar Guild Funds	2,301	1,307	993	11.070
3205-C · Contra Altar Guild Funds	(3,180)	(861)	(2,320)	-269.51%
3205 · Altar Guild Funds- Other	6,125	• • •	(2,320)	10.73%
Total 3205 · Altar Guild Funds 3206 · E.C.W.	2,944	4,670	(1,726)	-36.96%
3206 · E.C.W. 3206-C · Contra E.C.W.	(4 110)	(154)	(2.065)	2 502 10/
3206 · E.C.W Other	(4,119)	• • •	(3,965)	-2,583.1%
	5,765		2,224	62.8%
Total 3206 · E.C.W.	1,647	3,388	(1,741)	-51.39%
3207 · Men's Club	(4 504)		(4 504)	400.00/
3207-C · Contra Men's Club	(1,524)		(1,524)	-100.0%
3207 · Men's Club- Other	2,506		700	38.75%
Total 3207 · Men's Club	982	1,806	(824)	-45.63%
3208 · Memorial	(00)		(22)	400.000
3208-C · Contra Memorial	(33)		(33)	-100.0%
3208 · Memorial- Other	300		75	33.33%
Total 3208 · Memorial	267	225	42	18.8%

2013 Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 13	Dec 31, 12	\$ Change	% Change
3209 · Columbarium				
3209-C · Contra Columbarium	(858)	(338)	(520)	-153.87%
3209 · Columbarium- Other	3,037	137	2,900	2,116.79%
Total 3209 · Columbarium	2,179	(201)	2,380	1,183.11%
3210 · Adult Education	,	()		
3210-C · Contra- Adult Education	(859)	(48)	(812)	-1,694.86%
3210 · Adult Education- Other	990 ´	-	990	100.0%
Total 3210 · Adult Education	131	(48)	179	372.81%
3211 · Children & Youth Ministries		()		
3211-C · Contra Children & Youth Min	(4,510)	(709)	(3,800)	-535.74%
3211 · Children & Youth Ministries- Other	9,075	9,071	4	0.04%
Total 3211 · Children & Youth Ministries	4,565	8,362	(3,796)	-45.4%
3212 · Hospitality				
3212-C · Contra Hospitality	(428)	-	(428)	-100.0%
3212 · Hospitality- Other	1,308	-	1,308	100.0%
Total 3212 · Hospitality	880	-	880	100.0%
3213 · Landscaping		(222)	(1.000)	
3213-C · Contra Landscaping	(2,188)	(200)	(1,988)	-993.77%
3213 Landscaping- Other	2,669	820	1,849	225.49%
Total 3213 · Landscaping	481	620	(139)	-22.35%
3214 · Key Deposit Fund	600	-	600	100.0%
3299 · Misc. Restricted Account	(279)	(313)	34	10.74%
Total 3200 · DONOR RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	23,088	25,143	(2,055)	-8.17%
Net Income	(6,899)	(36,592)	(2,055) 29,693	81.15%
Total Equity	858,787	874,521	(15,734)	-1.8%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	860,470	874,521	(14,052)	-1.61%
	500,410	517,021	(14,002)	1.0170

2013 Profit & Loss	Jan- Dec 13
Income	
4000 · Contributions	
4011 · Pledges	150,513.39
4012 · Plate Offerings	3,008.15
4020 · Other Offerings	1,628.40
Total 4000 · Contributions	155,149.94
	155,147.74
4026 · Transfer from Church Org	2,548.95
4030 · Other Income	
4031 · Recycling	0.00
4032 · E-Scrip	0.00
4033 · Bookstore	3,168.50
4040 · Facility Usage	3,050.00
4099 · Hospitality	0.00
Total 4030 · Other Income	6,218.50
4100 · Dividend Income	5.25
4300 · Misc Other Income- Not MS	1,787.38
4990 · Clergy Discretionary Fund	1,7 07.30
	1714 24
4990-C · Contra Clergy Discretionary Fun	-1,714.34
4990 · Clergy Discretionary Fund- Other	1,802.24
Total 4990 · Clergy Discretionary Fund	87.90
4999∙Misc Pass Through	
4999-C · Contra Misc Pass Through	-3,978.21
4999 · Misc Pass Through- Other	3,979.25
Total 4999 · Misc Pass Through	1.04
Total Income	165,798.96
Expense	
5000 · DIOCESE	
5001 · Diocesan Mission Share	24,470.17
5003 · Yellow Pages Ad	373.49
Total 5000 · DIOCESE	24,843.66
5100 · Personnel	
5106 · PIC- Stipend	30,000.00
5107 · PIC- Housing	24,999.84
5109 · PIC- Medical/Dental	999.84
5110 · PIC- Disability	368.52
5111 · PIC Pension	9,900.00
5113 · PIC Mileage REI	812.31
5151 · Choir Director & Organist	14,400.00
5152 · Sexton	8,150.78
5153 · Church Administrator	6,538.05
	0,000,000

	Jan-Dec 13
5155 · Payroll Expense	4,981.31
5158 · Supply	423.54
Total 5100 · Personnel	101,574.19
5200 · MUSIC	196.00
5300 · WORSHIP SUPPLIES	103.01
5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	
5601 · Electricity	12,128.00
5602 · Gas	439.25
5603 · Water	897.80
5605 · Trash Collection	318.00
5606 · Security Alarm Expense	2,626.80
5609 · Pest Control	1,320.00
5610 · Repairs & Maintenance	5,986.29
5611 · Telephone & Service Contract	3,484.95
Total 5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	27,201.09
5700 · ADMINISTRATION	
5702 · Website Fees & Internet	96.55
5703 · Postage/Del/Bulk Mail	137.00
5705 · Office Supplies	798.18
5706 · Stewardship	278.60
5707 · Advertising	133.92
5708 · Accounting Services	3,895.00
5709 · Auditing	68.07
5710 · Bank Service Charges	78.05
5711 · Office Equipment Expense	3,266.77
5714 · Misc. Expenses	831.34
5716 · Comprehensive church Insurance	9,187.00
5717 · Late Fees & Finance Charges	9.83
Total 5700 · ADMINISTRATION	18,780.31
Total Expense	172,698.26
Net Income- the Deficit	-6,899.30

ACCOUNT COMMENTS

2013 Audit

In July, our 2012 books were audited by a member of the Diocese of Arizona's Audit Committee. This is an option open to parishes with an operating income below \$200,000 and the Vestry of St. Christopher's determined in late 2012 to go that route. The audit performed in June and July found that we were in compliance with the rules set to the National Episcopal Church. The audit provided several helpful suggestions, which the Finance Committee and bookkeeper have incorporated in our Chart of Accounts and procedures.

- **Restricted Checking** includes all funds of non-operating ministries that is short-term money. This also includes the Capital Reserve.
- **Restricted Invest Account** includes all non-operating funds invested for a longer-term horizon. This fund was reconciled in 2013 and interest accrued is now distributed monthly among the various parts of the fund (ex: Columbarium Fund, Memorials, Building Fund, etc).

Bargains Galore 2013 Accounting

Income: \$12,938.07 To Outreach: \$1,293.80 To Capital Reserve: \$10,350.46

Throughout 2013, the spilt for Bargains Galore sales has been:

- 10% to Outreach
- 80% to the Operating Reserve
- 10% remains at Bargains Galore to cover expenses and improvements

Endowment - \$209,390

We have not withdrawn from the Endowment since February of 2012. The value of the endowment is down from 2012 by 1.3% due to market conditions. We will be making the first contribution to the endowment in early 2014 with a deposit of \$10,000 from the Capital Reserve.

Capital Reserve – Current Balance: \$32,858.

\$10,350.46	
none	
\$10,350.46	
\$14,936.33	
	none \$10,350.46

In 2012, the Vestry created an "Operating Reserve" as an emergency savings fund to be drawn on before resorting to the endowment. The fund is funded by designating 80% of net dollars brought in through Bargains Galore; 10% goes to Outreach and 10% stays in Bargains. The fund was renamed and moved on the balance sheet after the 2013 audit. In 2013, Capital Reserve funds were used for parish hall air conditioning repairs, ice maker repairs, and major repair of the flat roof.

There were contributions from individuals to this fund in 2012 given with the hope the funds would end up in the endowment, but, with the knowledge that things were tenuous and the funds could very well have had to be used for emergencies. As we have continued to build the Reserve from Bargains income and our capital needs have not been significantly beyond our Reserve, the Budget & Finance Committee will begin to rebuild the endowment by moving \$10,000, about half of the 2012 contributions to the Reserve early this year.

Balance Sheet 3200 Level Restricted Ministry Accounts

Money managed by ministry leaders is all donor restricted and given for a particular purpose. Physically, the money remains in the credit union in checking account 11. The funds appear directly on the Balance Sheet in a separate 3200 level account for each ministry.

Note: Account 2110 · Operating Reserve is not a ministry account, but is the emergency fund the Vestry created in August of 2012. These are "Delegated" rather than "Restricted" as it is the Vestry, not individual donors placing the spending restrictions on the funds.

Budget for 2014	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Approved
Income			
4000 · Contributions			
4011 · Pledges	138,582	150,513	144,544
4012 · Plate Offerings	3,929	3,008	3,000
4013 · Non-Pledge Giving			5,280
4020 · Other Offerings		1,628	
Total 4000 · Contributions			
4026 · Transfer from Church Org		2,549	
4030 · Other Income			
4031 · Recycling	150		
4032 · E-Scrip	180		
4033 Bookstore	2,000	3,169	3,000
4040 · Facility Usage	3,000	3,050	3,000
4099 · Hospitality			
Total 4030 · Other Income			
4100 · Dividend Income	33	5	
4300 · Misc Other Income- Not MS	2,081	1,787	2,000
4990 · Clergy Discretionary Fund	,	,	,
4990-C · Contra Clergy Discretionary Fund			
4990 · Clergy Discretionary Fund- Other			
Total 4990 · Clergy Discretionary Income			
4999 · Misc Pass Through			
4999-C · Contra Misc Pass Through			
4999 · Misc Pass Through- Other			
Total 4999 · Misc Pass Through			
Total Income	149,955	165,710	160,824
Expense	,	,	,
5000 · DIOCESE			
5001 · Diocesan Mission Share	24,484	24,470	26,841
5003 · Yellow Pages Ad	340	373	
5005 · Clergy Retreat	285		155
Total 5000 DIOCESE	25,109	24,844	26,996
5100 · Personnel			
5106 · PIC- Stipend	30,000	30,000	31,500
5107 · PIC- Housing	25,000	25,000	26,250
5109 · PIC- Medical/Dental	1,000	1,000	1,000
5110 · PIC- Disability	390	369	369
5111 · PIC Pension	9,900	9,900	10,395
5112 · Continuing Education	1,000	,	1,000
5113 · PIC Mileage REI	2,000	812	2,000
5151 · Choir Director & Organist	14,400	14,400	14,400
5152 · Sexton	9,800	8,151	9,800
5153 · Church Administrator	7,488	6,538	7,488
5155 · Payroll Expense	4,796	4,981	3,868

2014 Budget Passed by Vestry 1/6/13

5158 · Supply	660	424	636
Total 5100 · Personnel	106,434	101,574	108,706
5200 · MUSIC	185	196	500
5300 WORSHIP SUPPLIES	100	103	500
5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS			
5601 · Electricity	11,196	12,128	11,304
5602 · Gas	588	439	450
5603 · Water	783	898	925
5605 · Trash Collection	328	318	318
5606 · Security Alarm Expense	2,933	2,627	2,433
5609 · Pest Control	1,756	1,320	1,440
5610 · Repairs & Maintenance	2,799	5,986	6,000
5611 · Telephone		3,485	3,360
Total 5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	20,383	27,201	26,230
5700 · ADMINISTRATION			
5701 · Telephone & Service Contract	4,149		
5702 · Website Fees & Internet	271	97	
5703 · Postage/Del/Bulk Mail	250	137	200
5704 · Safety Deposit Box	40		
5705 · Office Supplies	587	798	900
5706 · Stewardship Supplies	621	279	550
5707 · Advertising	500	134	700
5708 · Accounting Services	2,080	3,895	4,000
5709 · Auditing	250	68	75
5710 · Bank Service Charges	37	78	
5711 · Office Equipment Expense	2,972	3,267	3,000
5714 · Misc. Expenses	3,706	831	1,200
5716 · Comprehensive Church Insurance	9,187	9,187	8,753
5717 · Late Fees & Finance Charges		10	
Total 5700 ADMINISTRATION	24,650	18,780	19,378
Total Expense	176,861	172,698	182,310
Total Income	149,955	165,710	160,824
Net Income- the deficit	(26,906)	(6,988)	(21,486)

Accounts that are struck through are no longer in use, but continued this year for the prior year comparison.

Columbarium Committee

Many of our former parishioners are interred in the Columbarium, which is located in the Chapel. There are a total of 180 single niches, 41 of which remain available. Due to rising costs, the price of a niche was increased on April 1, 2013 from \$300 to \$500, the first increase in many years. Eight niches were purchased at \$300 each and one niche was purchased at \$500, for a total of \$2,900. Three name plaques were engraved at a total cost of \$520.29. The total amount of funds in the Columbarium Account was \$15,369.30 as of the close of 2013. The funds in the account are designated as restricted, which means that they may not be used for any purpose other than the care and maintenance of the columbarium.

If you are interested in purchasing a niche(s) see a member of the Columbarium Committee: Killy Balabanis, Marinell Eron, or Wynn Lawry.

Counters

Frieda Spann Ministry Leader

The link between our offerings and other monetary gifts and receipts, the Church's financial accounts, and records of donor contributions is a dedicated team of counters. The counters record received donations, give credit where credit is due to those who gave the gifts and offerings, and allocate monies received to the proper Chart of Accounts line item. This is a vital cog in keeping the Church's financial house in order. Frieda has recently agreed to serve as ministry leader. Please contact Gene Carbaugh or Frieda Spann if you are interested in helping.

Direct Debit

Gene Carbaugh Coordinator

St. Christopher's is entering our second full year of accepting direct deposit of pledge offerings via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Under this system, pledges are automatically transferred from our financial institutions to the church's account without having to write a check and the church receives a steady income flow regardless of whether or not we are in church to present our offerings each week.

In 2013 there were 15 families or individuals participating in this program and a little over 1/3 of our total pledged income was received in this manner. This is one reason why we were able to make it through the summer in fairly good financial shape since we did not have as much of the usual sharp fall-off in pledges received while people are away. So far for 2014 there are 17 participants signed up and approximately 42% of our pledged income as reported in the 2014 budget will be received via EFT.

It is not too late to participate in EFT for 2014 and beyond. We even have laminated cards you can place in the offering plate which indicate that you give electronically. Transfers can be scheduled on a monthly, semi-monthly, or weekly frequency. The church receives a detailed report of all transactions and your contributions are recorded in our Servant Keeper database just as if you gave checks or cash.

Contact Gene Carbaugh (623-234-3517 or egenmar@aol.com) if you have questions or for an authorization form.

Stewardship Campaign for 2013

Mona Guarino & Beth Mayhew Co-Chairs

We made a few changes but continued with our same basic format. Amy Schultz, Angelo and Karolena Cardella, and Clive Chancey, and Gary Welsh, along with Co-Chairs Mona Guarino and Beth Mayhew tweaked last year's Stewardship packet and sent them out in mid-October, introducing our scheduled Sundays, and culminating in Consecration Sunday on November 10th. Rose Harris began our stewardship-focused talks, followed by Miss Barbara accompanied by our children, and rounding out our speakers were Angelo Cardella, Gary Welsh, and Carmen Borda. Bonnie Franco's written testimony appeared in the Lantern. Interspersed in these weeks we were most fortunate to have the Blessing of the Animals, the Celebration of Hope to honor Father Peter's and Barbara's ministry with us, and the Fall Ministry Fair.

Our bilingual Consecration Sunday service was followed by a Celebration Potluck. Both were well attended. We had plenty of food and fun celebrating the gathering and blessing of our time, talent and treasure pledges. We received a total of 70 pledges totaling \$144,544 (up about 9% over 2012) along with 40 time and talent pledges. Pledge confirmations and later thank you notes went into mail cart folders.

We'd like to thank all of you for your pledges of time, talent and/or treasure. We add a special thanks to our E.C.W. for organizing our Celebration Potluck on Consecration Sunday! Stewardship continues all year long as we donate our time, talent, and treasure day by day, constantly building God's kingdom and working to become more like God every day in every way.

Candidates for Election to the Vestry – Three Three-year Term vacancies and One One-year Term vacancy



Chris Anako

I was born in the Eastern part of Nigeria into a devout Anglican Church family. I was baptized, confirmed, raised and married in the same faith. I remained an active member of the church and was later honored with the conferment of Order of Knighthood of St. Christopher by the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion). I attended High School and College of Pharmacy, University of Nigeria. I was a member of the Pharmacists Board of Nigeria. My immediate family moved to the US via a US

Government program, and we remained members of the St. Christopher's family. We continue to enjoy the fellowship here. I work for Fry's Food and Drug Stores in Phoenix as a Pharmacy Manager and serve also as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Midwestern University College of Pharmacy, Glendale Arizona.



Ron Dow

St. Christopher's has become my spiritual home and I am blessed to be part of our church community. Now I am interested in on our Vestry. Over the years I have served on four Vestries in three Dioceses: Louisiana, Pennsylvania and twice in Arizona. They were St. George's 1982-1984 in New Orleans, Trinity Memorial, in Philadelphia 1990-1992 and All Saints', in Phoenix 1988-1990 and also 2009-2011. I was elected Junior Warden twice at All Saints 1989 and 2010. Various Diocesan Conventions and Committees along the way.



Jane Meyers

I am a cradle Episcopalian and sang in the choir and served on the Jr. Altar Guild as a youth. During my husband George's military career I taught Sunday School and was active in E.C.W. At St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Manitou Springs, CO I was Director of the Altar Guild and a vestry member. I was a delegate to the convention that elected Robert O'Neill as Bishop of Colorado. At St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Seattle, WA, George and I organized a Potluck Discussion Group that has

continued for 20 years. I served on the vestry as Jr. Warden. I was a delegate to the convention that elected Greg Rickel Bishop of Olympia and attended his ordination, Anacortes, WA. I currently serve on the Altar Guild, as a lector, and Assistant Bookie in the Bookstore.



Frank Schlicting

My name is Frank Schlichting and I am running for St. Christopher's Vestry. I was Jr. Warden for two years and am Head of Ushers. I volunteer at Bargains Galore. I will be married to Susan for 50 years on February 10. Coached Jr. High girls basketball and volleyball, boys basketball and wrestling. Officiated basketball, football and wrestling. Have been members of parish for 10 years. Retired from printing trade after 45 years. Born and raised in Waukegan, IL. Moved to AZ 20 years ago.



Gary Welsh

I am a retired businessman married to Barbara Welsh. We have four children and six grandchildren. We are members of St. Christopher's, where several of our family have attended since 2001, and, like past and present members, love our parish family. I am very interested in the progress the church is making in outreach and promoting stewardship. With God's help I would like to help guide the church in its direction of being a church for all people. In the past I have been on your vestry, and served as senior warden for three years. At present I serve as a lay reader and a lay Eucharistic

minister. I am a member of the Planning Group, the Outreach Committee, the Men's Club, the Choir, and a co-host of the Adult Bible Study.

Candidates for Election to the Delegates to Annual Convention (2014) four vacancies: Chris Anako, Ron Dow, Jane Meyers, Frank Schlichting, Gary Welsh. Alternates are always needed. If you are willing to serve as an alternate, please let Diane Plein know.