

# Annual Report for the Year 2016 - Presented at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

January 29, 2017

11:30 am

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**SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IGLESIA EPISCOPAL

**SAN CRISTÓBAL**



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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 2016: Gina Rocha, Judy Schneider

Class of 2015: Bill Masters, Frank Schlichting

Class of 2014: Chris Annako, Jane Meyers, Gary Welsh

Officers:

Senior Warden: Diane Plein

Junior Warden: Al Franco

Clerk of the Vestry: Judy Schneider

Treasurer: Jane Cooley

Convention Delegates in 2016:

Mona Guarino

Diane Plein

Judy Schneider

Staff: Parish Administrator: Doreen Rohrer; Sexton: Arturo Jaramillo, Music Director: Vacant

## Ministry Leaders:

### Adult Education:

Barbara Fabre (Women's Bible Study; Formation Facilitator),

Killy Balabanis & Gary Welsh (Instructors)

**Ads & Press:** Clive Chancey, Diane Plein

**Altar Guild:** Beth Mayhew, Betty Roddy

**Bargains Galore:** Bonnie Franco

**Bookshelf:** Jane Meyers, Barbara Welsh

**Can Recycling:** Bill Masters

**Cards & Calls:** Carol Brown

**Card Making:** Ann Gay

**Children & Youth:** Barbara Fabre

**Christopher Singers:** Joanne David, Rosemary Lynch

**Coffee Hour (9am Svc):** Frieda Spann & Anna Van Scoter

**Coffee Hour (11:15 Svc):** Eva Quiles

**Communications Coord:** Diane Plein

**Contribution Tracking:** Beth Mayhew, Mona Guarino

**Counters:** Frieda Spann

**E.C.W. Point of Contact:** Frieda Spann

**Hospitality:** Anna Van Scoter

**Kitchen:** Jim Benson

**Lay Eucharistic Ministry:** Betty Roddy

**Landscaping:** Bonnie Franco, Eva Quiles

**Living with Loss:** Amy Schultz

**Men's Club President:** Killy Balabanis

**Music at our 11:15 Service:** Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo

**Newsletter:** Doreen Rohrer

**Outreach:** Amy Schultz

**Prayer Shawl:** Barbara Fabre

**Social Media & Web:** Judy Schneider

**Spanish Language:** Eva Quiles

**Ushers:** Frank Schlichting

**UTO:** Vacant

**Volunteer Coord:** Vacant

**Outreach:** Killy Balabanis, Ruthie Bratcher, Ann Gay, Mona Guarino, Jane Meyers, Amy Schultz, Anna van Scoter.

**Planning Group:** Mona Guarino, Ruthie Bratcher, Jane Meyers, Amy Schultz.

**Welcome Ministry:** Killy Balabanis, Ruthie Bratcher, Mona Guarino, Bill Masters, Jane & George Meyers, Michael Moradian, Diane Plein, Gina Rocha, Judy Schneider, Frank Schlichting, and Amy Schultz.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Fr. Peter Fabre opened the 2016 Annual Meeting at 12:08 pm with prayer. As a count of those in attendance indicated that more than 50 adults were in attendance, Fr. Peter called the Annual meeting to order.

**PRESENTATION OF THE 2015 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

The Annual Report was distributed to the congregation one week prior to the Annual Meeting. The Report contained Minutes of 2015 Annual Meeting. Betty Roddy moved for adoption of the Minutes as published in the Annual Report. Killy Balabanis seconded. Tad Daughters noted the need to correct the reference from "2013 Annual Meeting Minutes" to "2014 Annual Meeting Minutes". With that change, the motion to accept passed unanimously.

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REMARKS**

Fr. Peter referred us to his report in the Annual Report. Called out status of budget - expected deficit, but closed part of expected deficit. He thanked Al Franco for all of his work, and for keeping a close eye on what we are paying for in areas of utilities and repairs. Fr. Peter noted that attendance is still cycling up and down.

St. Christopher's has lost some people due to moves to other parts of the country to be near to family, as well as deaths in the parish family; all of those things have a ripple effect on budget and attendance.

Fr. Peter addressed the issues in the Anglican Communion, and the fact that we have been "suspended" from taking part in some of the decisions of the councils of the international church. But we are still part of the world wide Anglican Communion in good standing. This disagreement is something that we will work our way through.

Fr. Peter also wants to give thanks to those who are ending their vestry terms, especially Killy Balabanis and Beth Mayhew.

Fr. Peter asked Diane Plein to be the new Senior Warden, and she has accepted. Diane could not be at today's meeting due to a preexisting commitment.

**BY-LAW CHANGES**

<p><b>Resolution Passed at the Vestry Meeting of November 23, 2015 and presented at the Annual Meeting January 31, 2016</b></p>
<p>Whereas, the Vestry of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church has found it increasingly difficult to find a qualified slate of individuals to stand for Vestry each year; therefore, it is hereby Resolved, that the Vestry propose at the next annual meeting that the number of elected members of the Vestry be changed from Nine to "Six to Nine"; and, it is further Resolved, that the Vestry propose the following changes to the bylaws of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the third paragraph in Article I be changed from "nine Vestrymen" to "six to nine Vestrymen".</li> <li>• That the first sentence in Article V, Sec. 7 be changed from "There shall be six elected members of the Vestry" to read "There shall be six to nine elected members of the Vestry"; and that the first half of the second sentence be changed to read "Two to three members of the Vestry shall be elected at each Annual Parish Meeting,"</li> </ul> <p>To facilitate this change to the nominal size of the Vestry, it is therefore resolved that two members of the current Vestry may end their terms in office.</p>

**Article I currently reads:**

**ARTICLE I**

**Nature, Membership, and Governing Body**

The St. Christopher's Protestant Episcopal Church (sometimes referred to hereinafter as "The Parish"), accedes to the Constitution of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and to the ecclesiastical authority of the Bishop of the Diocese of Arizona. The St. Christopher's Protestant Episcopal Church shall have control of its own local affairs, but nothing shall be done which conflicts with the canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America or the Diocese of Arizona.

The membership of the Parish shall consist of all Communicants in good standing, whose names appear on the Parish register.

The governing body of the Parish shall be the Vestry consisting of the Rector of the Parish as Chairman, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, and *nine Vestrymen*.

Throughout these By-Laws, words grammatically connoting gender shall be deemed to include both masculine and feminine persons.

**Article V, Section 7 currently reads:**

Sec. 7 *There shall be nine elected members of the Vestry; members of the Vestry shall serve a term of three years. Three members of the Vestry shall be elected at each Annual Parish Meeting, and their terms in office shall commence following their election. Members shall be nominated by a Committee, approved by the Vestry, and appointed by the Rector. The Committee shall meet at least ninety days prior to the Annual Meeting and shall nominate two persons for each position on the Vestry to be filled and these persons shall be presented in nomination at the Annual Parish Meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee and presentation of qualifications.*

Bonnie Franco moved the adoption of these By-laws. Bill Masters and Betty Roddy seconded. The changes to the By-laws carried unanimously by voice vote

**NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY AND DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION**

The following persons were nominated to serve on the 2016-2019 Vestry:

- Gina Rocha
- Judy Schneider

Jerry Schwab moved to close nominations, and Bonnie Franco seconded. Motion passed. Bonnie moved to accept the slate as presented by acclamation. Donna Verville seconded. Motion passed.

The following persons were nominated to represent St. Christopher's at the Diocesan Convention:

- Gina Rocha
- Mona Guarino
- Judy Schneider
- Betty Roddy

Tad Daughters moved to close nominations; Clive Chancy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bonnie Franco moved that we elect the slate as delegates to Convention. Donna Verville seconded Motion carried.

**SENIOR WARDEN REPORT**

Beth Mayhew stated that she has appreciated everyone's love and support through her four years as Senior Warden. She also thanked Al Franco who will continue as Junior Warden. She noted that while she will no longer be Senior Warden, she will continue with many of her other duties including Altar

Guild, Parking Lot Greeter, and Dishwasher-in-Chief. She stated that she will give the same love and support to our new Senior Warden, Diane Plein.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Annual Report contained the Financial Report. Fr. Peter commented on the increasing clarity of the report and the transparency of the financial information. He reminded the congregation that copies of the Monthly Financial Reports were always available in the Parish Hall. He also noted the continuing existence of the deficit, the contributions of the income from Bargains Galore and the Bookstore, and expressed his thankfulness that we did not spend any money again from the Endowment. Fr. Peter stressed that we had not taken any money from the Endowment since February of 2013, and that was by accident – and the money taken was repaid. Fr. Peter then asked for questions on the Report as contained in the Annual Report. There were no questions from the Congregation.

The Financial Report for 2015 and Budget for 2016 was approved by acclimation

### **OTHER REPORTS**

With respect to the other reports in the Annual Report, Fr. Peter noted that we as a Congregation do far more Outreach activities with real results than other congregations larger than ours, and that he was proud of us for being so involved. He urged us to continue. Fr. Peter then asked for questions on reports of other Ministries contained in the Annual Report. There were no questions or comments.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Following a short recess to the Annual Meeting, the congregation elected Al Franco as Junior Warden by acclimation.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Fr. Peter closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Schneider, Clerk of the Vestry

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## REPORTS OF THE CLERGY & WARDENS

### Priest-in-charge

Fr. Peter Fabre

It's that time once again 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:

2016 continued to be another year of unexpected twists and turns! Challenges abounded, but we continued moving forward throughout the year. The ministry leader reports in this book tell the story of the past year beautifully. Challenges arose time and time again, and were constructively dealt with by ministry leaders and their teams alike. The reports document what was done in 2016, continuing to be even more "forward looking" than in the past. Joy in carrying on the work of the parish, and anticipation of things to come, reflect greater confidence in our future as a parish.

I am grateful for the hard work of all who made this a fruitful year, with special kudos to our Wardens, Vestry, and the Finance Committee who helped keep us all on track. This has enabled and empowered us to move forward with a clearer understanding of who we are as a parish family, and how God has called us to embrace and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is alive and well, working among and with us! We were saddened by the loss of a number of parishioners, some of whom moved away, and some of whom passed into eternal life. All will be greatly missed. But we also welcomed a number of new families - God provides!

Parish finances continued to challenge us - we are nowhere near "out of the proverbial woods" there. We are coming up on five years with no withdrawals from the Endowment. How awesome is that, especially in view of the many years of dependence on the Endowment? That speaks volumes about the outlook for the future!

The 2016 budget was a deficit budget, as will be the 2017 budget, but we came closer to closing the deficit this year. We are not yet at the point where we operate under a balanced budget. There is still work to do in that regard. Please review the Finance and Budget Committee Report in this booklet for specific details. This is very much a work in progress that reflects conscious efforts to streamline our expenses, and focus on doing the right things as cost-effectively as possible.

### Where we are:

The Spirit continues to encourage us to be "doers of the Word" in a multitude of ways. In-reach and outreach ministries alike continue to grow and find new ways of expression. Making a positive difference in the lives of more people in the community that surrounds us is a high priority. Our vision of ourselves as participants in God's work, rather than as merely observers and bystanders is taking clearer form.

In terms of our temporal health, we've made progress in 2016. Our willingness to be more flexible and make mid-course corrections has been key to that progress. After all, it is the Spirit who guides us, and not we ourselves! As the saying goes, "The Spirit moves in mysterious ways". May we continue to be willing to step out in faith, even when we cannot clearly see the destination!

Our overall attendance is somewhat lower than last year, with patterns and cycles of attendance having changed and become somewhat harder to predict. Our "ASA" (Average Sunday Attendance) is around 110, lower than the 120 of 2105, with even greater fluctuations around attendance at services held other than on Sundays. Some Sundays we don't have nearly enough bulletins - and on others we have far too many! At a Friday memorial service for one of the parishioners that attended our 11:15 service, we had 280 people in attendance, including a full honor guard from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. That did not affect our traditional "ASA" metric, but definitely boosted our weekday attendance figures!

The blessings continue: more people have joined us to become active in the life and work of the parish. Scripture-based Christian Education continues strong, anchored by the Tuesday Men's Bible Workbench study, the Thursday Women's Bible Studies, the Children's Sunday School, and another very successful summer Vacation Bible School program. Our Monday Living with Loss community support group has anchored its place among our pastoral ministries. The key to all of these is that they are all scripture-based, each in its own unique way.

Our sense of "family" continues to be strong, with more opportunities to worship and play together despite differences in language, culture and tradition. 2016 was another year of "firsts" and "first time in a long while" events and activities that bring us closer together. Confirmations during the Bishop's visit in July, baptisms at various points in the year, and our traditional celebrations of Las Posadas and the Matachines Dancers were all part of 2016's special events. We even engaged in some intentional acts of evangelism as we went out two-by-two welcoming neighbors, inviting them to enjoy food and fellowship with us! ...and we're doing it again in February. This is a great place to serve!

### **Where are we going?**

Our journey together continues, day by day. Challenges and surprises will abound, filled with opportunities to grow together in faith. May we be open, receptive, and obedient to God's will and the work of the Holy Spirit in and among us. That will keep us on the right path, and open new doors. Our underlying focus on discipleship and building community will grow stronger, if we are willing to nourish it. As a sign in Bargains Galore reads: "It is not about bringing people to church, it is about bringing people to Jesus." Our new Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, has inspired us to be part of the "Jesus Movement" that is growing within the Episcopal Church. May it be part of how we see and define ourselves moving forward!

2017 will be another exciting chapter in the life of this place we know and love as St. Christopher's!

*Your Servant in Christ*  
*Fr. Peter+*

### **Reporte del Sacerdote Encargado de la Parroquia para la Reunión Anual 2016**

Es tiempo una vez más a reflexionar sobre la salud espiritual y temporal de la parroquia en términos de donde hemos estado, dónde estamos y donde vamos en nuestro viaje juntos.

#### **Donde estábamos:**

¡2016 continuó siendo un año de inesperados giros y vueltas! Abundaban los desafíos, pero seguimos avanzando durante el año. Los reportes de los líderes de los Ministerios Laicos en este libro cuentan la historia del año pasado maravillosamente. Retos se presentaron y otra vez y fueron tratados constructivamente por los líderes de los ministerios y sus equipo por igual. Los reportes documentan lo que se hizo en el año 2016, mirando aún más adelante al futuro que en el pasado. Alegría en el desempeño en la labor de la parroquia y anticipación de las cosas por venir, reflejan una mayor confianza en nuestro futuro como parroquia.

Estoy agradecido por el trabajo de todos los que hicieron esto un fructífero año con especiales agradecimientos para nuestros guardianes, el Vestry, y el Comité de finanzas que ayudaron a mantenernos en pista. Esto ha permitido avanzar con una comprensión más clara de lo que somos como una familia parroquial, y cómo Dios nos ha llamado a abrazar y compartir las buenas nuevas de Jesucristo. ¡El Espíritu Santo está vivo aquí, obrando entre y con nosotros! Nos entristecimos por la pérdida de un número de feligreses, algunos de los cuales se mudaron, y algunos de los cuales pasaron a la vida eterna. Los extrañaremos enormemente. Pero también recibimos a un número de nuevas familias, ¡Dios provee!

Las finanzas de la parroquia continuaron siendo un reto - todavía lejos de estar "fuera de peligro" en nuestras finanzas. ¡La buena noticia es que tenemos casi cinco años desde la última vez que fue



necesario tomar dinero de los fondos de la Fundación! ¿Cuánto tiempo ha pasado desde que pusimos el dinero en el Fondo? Eso es impresionante, especialmente en vista de los muchos años de dependencia de la Fundación, sólo para financiar las operaciones del día a día.

El presupuesto de 2016 era un presupuesto de déficit, como será el presupuesto de 2017, pero llegamos más cercanos de cerrar el déficit de este año. No estamos todavía en el punto en que operamos bajo un presupuesto equilibrado. Todavía hay trabajo por hacer en ese sentido. Por favor revisen las finanzas y el informe de la Comisión de Presupuesto en este folleto para detalles específicos. Esto es un trabajo en progreso, reflejando esfuerzos conscientes para optimizar nuestros gastos y centrarnos en hacer las cosas bien de manera más lo efectivamente posible.

### **Donde estábamos:**

El Espíritu continúa animándonos a ser “hacedores de la Palabra” en una multitud de formas. Ministerios interiores y de alcance más allá por igual siguen creciendo y encontrando nuevas formas de expresión. Hacer una diferencia positiva en la vida de más personas en la comunidad que nos rodea es una alta prioridad. Nuestra visión de nosotros mismos como participantes en la obra de Dios, y no como meros observadores, está tomando forma más clara.

En términos de nuestra salud temporal, hemos avanzado en 2016. Nuestra voluntad de ser más flexible y hacer correcciones sobre la marcha ha sido clave para que el progreso. Después de todo, es el Espíritu que guía a nosotros y no nosotros mismos! Como dice el refrán va, “El espíritu se mueve en formas misteriosas”. Continuemos a estar dispuestos a salir en la fe, incluso cuando no podemos ver claramente el destino!

Nuestra asistencia es un poco más baja que el año pasado, con los patrones y ciclos de asistencia cambiando y más difícil de predecir. Nuestro “ASA” (Promedio de Asistencia Dominical) es alrededor 110, menos de los 120 de 2105, incluso con mayores fluctuaciones alrededor de la asistencia a servicios de los domingos. Algunos domingos no tenemos suficientes boletines – y en otros tenemos demasiados! En un funeral de uno de los feligreses que asistieron a la 11:15 servicios un viernes, tuvimos 280 personas en asistencia, incluso una guardia de honor completo de la oficina del Alguacil del Condado de Maricopa. No afectó la tradicional métrica de “ASA”, pero indefinitivamente había aumentado nuestras cifras de asistencia de los días de la semana!

Las bendiciones continúan: hemos dado la bienvenida a más gente a unirse a nosotros y participar activamente en la vida y obra de la parroquia. Educación cristiana basada en la Escritura continúa fuerte, anclado por Estudios Bíblicos de los Hombres los martes, Estudios Bíblicos de las Mujeres los jueves, la Escuela Dominical de los Niños, y otro muy exitoso programa de la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones en el verano. El grupo “Viviendo con la Pérdida” apoya los en la comunidad que han perdido seres amados. La clave de todo esto es que tienen las escrituras como su base, cada uno en su propia manera.

Nuestro sentido de “familia” sigue siendo fuerte, con más oportunidades de dar culto y jugar juntos a pesar de las diferencias en idioma, cultura y tradición. 2016 fue otro año de “primeras veces” y “primera vez en un largo mientras” eventos y actividades que nos traen más cerca juntos. Tuvimos confirmaciones durante la visita del obispo en julio, bautizos en varios puntos en el año y las celebraciones tradicionales de Las Posadas y la Danza a la Virgen. Todos fueron parte de eventos especiales en 2016. Hemos empezado unos algunos actos intencionales del evangelismo, saliendo de dos-por-dos dando la bienvenida a nuestros vecinos, invitándolos a disfrutar de comida y compañerismo con nosotros! ...y lo haremos otra vez en febrero. ¡Este es un gran lugar para servir!

### **¿Dónde vamos?**

Nuestra jornada juntos continúa, día a día. Desafíos y sorpresas abundarán, lleno de oportunidades para crecer juntos en la fe. Que podamos ser abiertos, receptivo y obedientes a la voluntad de Dios y la obra del Espíritu Santo en nosotros y entre nosotros. Eso nos mantendrá en el camino correcto, y

abrirá nuevas puertas. Nuestro enfoque subyacente en el discipulado y la construcción de la comunidad crecerá más fuerte, si estamos dispuestos a alimentarlo. Como un letrero en la tienda de segunda mano "Bargains Galore" dice: "No se trata de llevar la gente a la iglesia, se trata de traer a la gente a Jesús." Bellamente y sucintamente dicho - pero yo añadiría: "... itambién será bueno verlos en los bancos!" ¡Esa parte depende de todos nosotros!

Nuestro nuevo Obispo Presidente, Michael Curry, nos ha inspirado para ser parte del "Movimiento de Jesús" que está creciendo dentro de la Iglesia Episcopal. ¡Que seamos parte de cómo nos vemos y definimos en el futuro!

2017 será otro emocionante capítulo en la vida de este lugar que conocen y aman como St. Christopher!

*Su Servidor en Cristo  
Padre Pedro+*

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### **Vestry Report - Senior Warden**

Diane Plein

This year is the first year I have been privileged to serve as your Senior Warden. From the Vestry retreat theme of Invite Welcome Connect! I have also been blessed to have been involved, along with the Vestry, in the creation of the Welcome Ministry at St. Christopher's. It was exciting to know that many of you rang doorbells to tell people in the neighborhood that St. Christopher's is here and to invite them to our events and services. Thanks to all who participated in this ministry and in all the other ministries doing God's work in this church. I know we are a vibrant congregation in worship, fellowship and outreach and I look forward to another busy and rewarding year.

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### **Junior Warden**

Al Franco

This past year as Junior Warden is my last year to serve in that capacity. It has been my pleasure and my challenge to maintain and / or improve elements of our church campus. Thank you to all who have helped in that effort over the past several years. Hopefully, we will continue to make in-house repairs and improvements to alleviate the expenses experienced when an outside party supplies those tasks.

A list of maintenance and replacement actions has been provided to help us see where we need to travel in the very near future. Several things have been postponed because of lack of funding. That approach will only be tolerated for so long.

Currently, we have the equipment in working order, however, there is more than that to the story. Painting needs to be done, the parking lot needs to be sealed, as well as other objects need replacement or significant cleaning (our upholstered chairs or the carpeting in Harte Hall, for example). Our situation is not unique to us. There are several churches in the same situation. It is however, critically important to us to address these needs as we go forward.

I am confident, we as a church family can meet these challenges with foresight and personal prayer.

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## **MINISTRY TEAMS REPORTS**

### **Worship Ministries**

#### **Altar Guild**

Beth Mayhew, Betty Roddy

This year the Altar Guild is pleased to have 3 new members: Carole Dickey and Christine Sauser who are training for set ups and Cindy Schwab who is assisting with altar linens. Our Co-Director Betty Roddy represents our ministry at various meetings and works on administrative tasks.

Throughout the year we prepare the church altar for our Sunday services and the chapel altar for Wednesday healing services. We also prepare for baptisms and memorial services as needed. For those unable to attend church we provide portable communion boxes used by Lay Eucharist Visitors. We've been very thankful for our special donors for the Sanctuary and additional candles. Our special December services continue for the Virgin of Guadalupe and the Posadas.

Many thanks to each of you for your faithful and gracious service: Carole Dickey, Marj Kassien, Jane and George Meyers, Ivón Millán, Martha Pulsford, Eva Quiles, Luz Elena Salinas, Christine Sauser, Cindy Schwab, and Anna Van Scoter.

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#### **Altar Servers**

Barbara Fabre

The altar servers are a dedicated group of parishioners who serve our Lord in the most intimate way. We have ten active servers, 4 of which come from our EYC. We are looking forward to adding more youth in 2017 and we will always welcome any adults interested in serving. Training sessions are held at least twice a year, more if needed.

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#### **Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs)**

Betty Roddy

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

This may be in a hospital, a rehab facility, nursing home or the person's own home. 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 share their time. If you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized or completely home bound who would like to have communion and a visit, please call the office. If you would like to train to become a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Betty Roddy or Fr. Peter; a training session will be held Saturday, February 4.

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#### **Music Ministries and Choir**

Fr. Peter Fabre

2016 was a year of changes in our music program as we continued with Joe Brown as our Organist/Choirmaster. Joe completed 18 months with us at the end of December.

Although we did move forward with the integration of more contemporary music into the mix, the decline of strong voices in the choir necessitated some changes in the degree of music during our services, and in how it was performed. We had stopped chanting the psalms in 2015, and did not resume chanting them in 2016, that being the result of difficulty in learning new psalm chants each week, and the "pointing" of the psalms to make them sing-worthy being outside the skill set of our choirmaster.

The attrition of the choir continued in the first half of the year, and a Music Forum was held in June to solicit input from the congregation regarding the selection of music, expectations regarding choir and

overall performance of music, with very mixed results. Some parishioners were comfortable with not having a choir and simply singing along with the organ or piano. Others were adamant about the need to have a good, well-functioning choir in keeping with "Episcopal tradition". ...and there were many in the middle between the extremes.

Given the limited cross-section of available voices for the choir, I opted not to attempt to reinstate the choir after summer break, instead supporting an effort on the part of our Choirmaster / Organist to form small ensembles that would perform offertories and help drive the music on recurring occasions, but not every Sunday. The scope of the Choirmaster/Organist's position was proportionally reduced, with a corresponding reduction in compensation, as there was no longer a need for regular choir rehearsals and the work involved in planning and supporting a choral program.

That effort to build up ensembles did not come to fruition, and by the end of the year we were in essence in an "organ or piano only" mode, with an occasional offertory by skilled individuals within the parish. That resulted in the position of our minister of music being further reduced in scope and compensation, with those changes to take place at the first of the year in 2017. Our Minister of Music declined to accept that reduction, and tendered his resignation, effective the 15th of January 2017.

We enter 2017 embarking on a search for a new choirmaster/organist with a broader skill set to enable us to, over time, re-establish and build a choir. As this long-term process moves forward, we are blessed to have musicians Killy and Charlyn Balabanis, and Gary Welsh take an active role in coordinating music on a Sunday-by-Sunday basis with the help of local area organists and pianists. Substitute musicians will keep the music going on Sundays as we move through our search. We may see and hear many new faces as we move forward.

If you have interest in being involved with church music or choir, please contact Killy Balabanis, our point-of-contact for weekly music. If you know of anyone who is talented and seeking employment as a choirmaster/organist, please contact me.

*Thank you,  
Fr. Peter+*

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### **Prayer Concerns / Prayers Chain**

Judy Schneider

St. Christopher's Prayer Chain is an on-going ministry. We exist solely to pray for anyone in need of prayer and/or who doesn't want to wait for the bulletin on Sunday. All prayer requests are held confidential, unless the requestor asks that their prayer request be included in the bulletin. There are presently 14 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 Judy Schneider or contact the church office. To request prayers, you may submit email to: [Prayers@StChristophers-AZ.org](mailto:Prayers@StChristophers-AZ.org) .

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### **Readers**

Judy Schneider

Readers read the lessons and psalm appointed for the day. There are usually two readers for each Sunday service. If you are not "freaked out" about speaking in front of people and appreciate the wisdom of the Scriptures, you may feel called to serve as a Reader. We are always looking for new Readers. We typically schedule two months in advance so you can plan your time. If you are interested, please contact Judy Schneider.

## Ushers

Frank Schlichting

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.

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## Education / Formation Ministries

Barbara Fabre, Director of Christian Education

Christian Education has had yet another busy year. Our adult studies, both Men's and Women's Bible Study Groups, continue strong. The Sunday School, Growing our Faith, has continued with great success. We continue to provide the Word to our growing children.

### Adult Formation

#### Advent Bible Study

Amy Schultz

We prepared our hearts and lives for the celebration of God's presence in Advent, the season of waiting with *God Is With Us*, a 5-week study of the lectionary readings for Advent and Christmas. By following the lectionary, our Bible study and prayers were in tune with our Sunday sermons. We had a better understanding of the flow of the Scripture readings chosen for the season. *God Is With Us* is based on the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). The study included commentary and reflections on readings from the Old Testament, the Epistles, and the Gospels. Amy Schultz led the study. The Advent Bible study met in Middleton Hall and was followed by a light soup supper. Eleven members took part in this study.

#### Men's Bible Study

Killy Balabanis / Gary Welsh

MEN!!! Searching for a place you can SOUND OFF about what you believe and what you don't concerning the Christian religion? We have it! Each Tuesday morning at 10:30 we meet in Harte Hall to read assigned lessons from the Bible and discuss how they might apply to our everyday life, if they do. The most fascinating aspect of this meeting is that not all of us feel the same way about the readings, nor are any one of us wrong or right. Another good thing about the meeting is the agreement that ne'er a comment made goes outside the group. This is about feelings....our feelings. It is not about studying the Bible and its various translations....we leave that to the scribes of today. We are not meeting to prove or disprove our feelings. What we do not leave to the scribes, theologians, philosophers or students of the Bible are our thoughts about today, today's happenings, issues and life with and without Jesus. We have learned vey much from one another, and are looking forward to more. We welcome all faiths and beliefs. Come join us, if you haven't already, and bring a friend with you. You might be giving yourself and your friend a real treat.

#### Women's Bible Study

Barbara Fabre

The Women's Bible Study group is made up of at least 12 dedicated ladies. It remains an ecumenical group and open to anyone who yearns to know their God. This year we did two intense studies; *The Most Beloved Disciple*, *the Life and Ministry of John*, and *The Book of Daniel*. Both of these studies were history and eschatology combined. If you happen to run into one of these dedicated ladies, be sure to ask them about Babylon! The first study for 2017 will be the study of *James: Mercy Triumphs*, which will start of Thursday, March 2nd.

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## Children and Youth

Barbara Fabre

2016 for Growing Our Faith has been a busy one. We have added some new children to our family and we average 6 to 10 children every Sunday. Our EYC has doubled in size with a typical Sunday of 5 to 7 youth in attendance.

Our focus of study this year has been the Old Testament with the life of Moses as our chief study. It was great to see the children's fascination in all of Moses' accomplishments considering he had a disability, but with God's help he served HIM in mighty ways.

Our VBS was Egypt themed. The story of Joseph opened many little eyes as our Noah Parsons took on the Joseph roll every week. We transformed the parish hall into a bazaar in Egypt of the past. With our staff and CITs, we taught the children about Egypt and how everything is possible when you have God in your heart. VBS was blessed with a \$500.00 grant from the diocese to aid with our expenses.

In October we enjoyed Trunk or Treat. It's wonderful to offer our children a safe Halloween experience. Thank you St. Christopher's.

On December 18th we preformed a mini Christmas Pageant for the congregation. We choose to act out the Little Drummer Boy" with one of our newest "EYCers" as our drummer boy.

These are very precious children indeed, but there is room in our little family for many more!

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## Outreach Ministries

Amy Schultz

Outreach has continued its theme of partnership and collaboration both within St. Christopher's and with other organizations. We have:

- Continued our partnership with Eve's Place, fighting domestic violence in the West Valley.
- Continued our 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, and food bags at Thanksgiving. Carol Master participated in the E.C.W. ingathering session on outreach partners on behalf of Cheyenne Elementary School.
- Expanded our Thanksgiving Food Drive from Cheyenne Elementary School to include Country Meadows Elementary School, and within the parish.
- Continued our Christmas Food Drive for Cheyenne Elementary.
- Strengthened our partnership with Valley View Community Food Bank, donating \$100 to purchase turkeys for their Turkey Drive.
- Partnered with the E.C.W. in the backpack drive, collecting toiletries for Eve's Place, and more.
- Continued to investigate the feasibility of becoming a distribution station for POW-WOW, Produce on Wheels - Without Waste to get lower cost fresh produce into the neighborhood.
- And continued to encourage all ministry leaders to consider how their ministry is a part of the broader Outreach St. Christopher's as a whole. To facilitate various ministries working together, we continue to use the Outreach Calendar on the wall in Middleton. We continue to reflect back to the congregation and to visitors what Outreach is doing by posting photos and news articles on the wall near the calendar.

The Diocese has continued to return a portion of what was paid in Mission Share the prior year to parishes, increasing the amount we receive from 1% to 1.25. The Mission Share Rebate money is to encourage churches to explore new ways of reaching beyond our own congregational needs to engage the wider community with the message of the Gospel. We received \$1,327.83. The funds are held in the Outreach Account as Restricted Funds. In 2016, we will continue to use these funds to support the Men's Club Sandwich Ministry, but also use some of the funds to advertise St. Christopher's and to update our promotional materials supporting the new Welcome Ministry. We continue to consider 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. We are in discussion with a qualified teacher and expect to begin conversation session in the

second quarter of the year. Funds will also be used to have the Ministry Booklet translated into Spanish early.

- 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.
- Alzheimer's / Dementia resources. We have been touched in both our clergy and our members and it's an ongoing issue for many in our congregation.

All of these are areas 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 speak to Amy Schultz.

Our Outreach budget for 2017 is \$3,320. Below are the many ways that you can become involved:

### **Baby Quilts**

Anna Van Scoter

At least four times a year, caring women from both our services come together to create quilted baby or lap / single bed quilts. The quilts are blessed on the next first Sunday of the month and are delivered to Project Linus, Eve's Place, and Crisis Nursery. In 2016, about 100 quilts were lovingly created and 24 fleece tied quilts were created for the residents of two of the Sunshine Homes.

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

E.C.W. and Outreach Committee

The congregation filled backpacks between services with supplies from a list provided by Outreach, which our parishioners shopped for and 36 filled backpacks and extra supplies were divided between Country Meadows and Cheyenne Elementary Schools. Backpacks included a note that read, "May these supplies and backpack help you to have an exciting and successful school year."

### **Bargains Galore**

Bonnie Franco

Our second-hand store has been in existence for several years with many people offering their help and donations to make the store a success. There are many second-hand stores in our immediate area but few have the identical mission we have. Our mission is to offer merchandise, which has been gently used, for sale at low cost points to enable all individuals the opportunity to shop and buy articles to ease the activities of daily living. The actual use of our profit is broken down in the following manner: 80% funds our Capital Replacement Fund, 10% goes to Outreach and the remaining 10% is used to buy the supplies the store needs to operate.

Our Bargains Team consists of many dedicated individuals who come by dependably to sort donations, price the merchandise and then display the articles from which our customers make their choices. This procedure takes time, patience, and effort week after week to accomplish the success we have realized. In 2016, we have an approximate gross income of \$14,000.

The above information is some of the pertinent facts, which explains who we are and what we do. The rest of the story is this: We have fun together, laugh at ourselves and generally have established a bond between us that is critical to our pride and satisfaction with what we do. Many areas of our Christian life overlap and we genuinely care for each other. We all acknowledge our work is one of our ways to offer glory and praise to God for the gifts He has given to us.

Our small group is like many others in that we always need more hands to accomplish the tasks before us. We generally start Monday to "set up" what merchandise we need to price and display for the following Saturday. On Tuesday, for the first major work day, we clean, check if articles work, price and display what will be on sale on Saturday. Saturday is the second major work day when we are opened from 8am until noon selling the donations we have prepared to offer. There are other behind the scene activities, which also are critical to our operation. We must review and change the merchandise we offer so our customers will continue to visit us frequently to check out what we have this time. The

adage is true: "Many hands make light work". We would surely enjoy some additional help to continue our ministry. If this might be something you think you might like to be a part of, please call me to discuss how you could fit into our group. We would love to welcome you among us!!

### **Bookstore**

Jane Meyers

The Bookstore is a reader's best friend and a valuable asset for St. Christopher's Outreach. There are not only hardbound and paperback books for readers of all ages; DVD's, CD's, audio books, greeting cards and puzzles fill the shelves. It's a spot for regular and new customers to grab a cup of coffee and "get to know us". Bookstore sales help fund the UMOM sandwiches that the Men's Club and a cadre of saints put together on a monthly basis and we get to share just what St. Christopher's is all about with our customers. The Bookstore depends on donations and thrives on love.

### **Boot Fund**

Ann Gay

In 2016, Outreach provided 15 \$25 Payless gift cards to Cheyenne and Country Meadows Elementary Schools for shoes. 12 cards for purchase of shoes were provided buying shoes for Phoenix Crisis Center. The Boot Fund began in 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. It provides shoes for homeless and low-income children to be able to attend school. Recently it 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 with "Boot Fund" on the memo line.

### **Bring a Bunny to Church [Palm Sunday]**

E.C.W. and Outreach Committee

In 2016, we received 63 stuffed animals and one Easter basket. Of the animals donated on Palm Sunday, three were taken to the boys removed by CPS that St. Christopher's helped out in 2016, 14 were taken to Eve's place for kids under 10, 32 smaller were taken and an Easter basket were taken to Valley View Community Food Bank.

### **Card Making**

Ann Gay

Our Card Ministry with the help of customers from SCRAP'S OF LOVE gave over 12,000 cards to various non-profits this year including a Christmas card for each of the Men's Club bagged lunches that went to the UMOM shelter in Phoenix before Christmas! Like to make cards? Please join us the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Kits, scissors, and glue are provided. We always have a good time and 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**

Carol Brown

Begun in 2015, this ministry makes a difference to growing numbers of people. Volunteers and recipients have received it splendidly. Both groups have enjoyed the end result - caring for each other. Presently we have five dedicated volunteers devoting their own spare time to this ministry.

We send out 25+ cards each month to individuals who are shut-ins, in nursing or retirement homes. We also provide service to people who are hospitalized, accident victims, long term illness sufferers and those who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend church services in person. Our feedback from recipients has been most gratifying to all of us who participate.

### **Christmas Food Drive**

Amy Schultz

In 2016, the Outreach Committee provided 5 Christmas Food Bags to Cheyenne Elementary School hourly staff who are not paid over the 2-week Christmas break. The total expenditure was \$175.26. Outreach Committee members shopped for and organized bags containing staples including:



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 pound of pasta and a jar of sauce</li> <li>• 1 small container of Parmesan cheese</li> <li>• 2 cans of cream of mushroom soup</li> <li>• 1 family-sized can of chicken noodle soup</li> <li>• 1 can of tomato soup</li> <li>• 2 pounds of white rice</li> <li>• 4 cans of green beans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 cans of baked beans</li> <li>• 1 jar of peanut butter (large) &amp; jar of jelly</li> <li>• 1 box of Bisquick and 1 box of Ritz crackers</li> <li>• 1 can of tuna fish and 1 can of chicken breast</li> <li>• 1 loaf of whole wheat bread</li> <li>• 2 cans of black beans</li> <li>• 1 can of sliced peaches</li> </ul>
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**Christopher Singers**

Joanne David & Rosemary Lynch

29 years ago, 12 members of St. Christopher’s Church started a sing-a-long ministry to care centers and assisted living facilities. This is a fun time for the residents as well as a rewarding time for us. Thank you to all who have ever participated. 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. If you don’t sing, you can help the residents find the songs on the song sheets. For further information contact Joanne David or Rosemary Lynch.

**Eve’s Place**

Amy Schultz

Eve’s Place provides transitional housing and emergency shelter and empowerment for domestic violence victims. We work with Eve’s Treasure in a variety of ways. We donate various items such as furniture to Eve’s Treasures Thrift Store located at 10765 W. Peoria Ave. We collect or purchase women’s and men’s toiletries as well as linens. Each person leaving the shelter or transitional housing program leaves with a bedding kit.

**Lap Robes**

Ann Gay

Lap Robes are given to Banner Boswell Hospital 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 knit. Please pick up some yarn in Harte Hall and create! In 2016 we gave 36 lap robes to Banner Boswell; all made by members of our congregation using yarn provided by Outreach. Please let me know if you would like to knit/crochet lap robes---we can always use more.

**Operation Christmas Child**

Jane Meyers

Operation Christmas Child - 2016 was the first year St. Christopher’s participated in Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child, a shoebox ministry to children around the world in over 100 countries and US reservations. Shoeboxes are provided to be filled with Christmas delights for children of all ages. Our church served as a Relay Center and we collected shoeboxes from our surrounding neighbors. Our parishioner’s 55 boxes added to the 700 boxes collected here the second week in November. Calvary Chapel in Surprise is our area’s Collection Center and they loaded 15,095 shoeboxes into shipping cartons that filled 3 trailers. What an exciting and rewarding ministry for us. We will be doing this next year and need all the help we can muster; filling shoeboxes, greeting donors, recording donations, packing cartons and helping to load the cartons into utility trailers. A true labor of love. Please plan to join us in 2017.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Barbara Fabre

The devoted ladies of our ministry team have worked very hard this year creating beautiful prayer shawls as well as baby blankets. These blessed shawls have touched many hearts all over the country. We’ve also put prayer shawls in the church for people to use during the service. It doesn’t matter if they are used for warmth or comfort. They are a blessing to all.

As long as there is a need, we will continue to knit!

**Project Linus - Phoenix / West Valley Chapter**

Barbara Fabre (preemie blankets) & Anna van Scoter (baby quilts)

The ministry took many quilts to the local Phoenix / West Valley Chapter of Project Linus. 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.

### **Sandwich Ministry**

Men's Club

The Men's Club leads, champions, and organizes preparing and serving lunches each month at the UMOM center for homeless families and abused women. In 2016, they served the lunches monthly, delivering over 2,015 sack lunches. This commitment would not be possible without the support and assistance of the entire congregation, friends of the parish, and others. The Book Store contributes \$20 of each week's income and the Korean Congregation gave \$200 in 2016. We buy the food for the lunches in advance, make the sandwiches and package the cookies at 9:30 after the Men's Club meeting. Members from both services bag the lunches between services on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Later in the day, Men's Club, church members, friends of the parish and youth drive to uMom to feed the homeless. In September, volunteers walked in uMom's Zoo Walk to raise funds to support feeding the homeless at the UMOM center. In December, Amy Schultz, her daughter and two grandsons, helped Betty Roddy and Michael Moradian distribute beany babies, candy canes and handmade cards from Ann Gay to the children spending the night at uMom.

### **Sojourners**

Ann Gay

We give cards to the women and children of this shelter throughout the year as well as craft supplies as we receive them. Clothes and bedding from Bargains Galore is given to their thrift store as well as books, videos, and puzzles from the Book Store.

### **Summer Water Drive**

E.C.W. Sponsored

E.C.W. sponsored the summer parish water drive from June to September. In 2016, tons of water as well as cash was collected for:

- Phoenix Rescue Mission's Code Red Drive in June and July: over 200 gallons plus \$267 cash.
- Salvation Army in August and September: over 200 gallons plus \$181 cash.

Thank you to those who donated water or cash and especially to those who loaded cars and delivered the water this summer! This is the fourth year of this life-saving ministry.

### **Sunshine Residential & Group Homes**

Ann Gay

We provide cards to Sunshine for the kids in foster care to use throughout the year. At Christmas church members hand write 340 individual notes so each child would get a special card--for many, this is the only card they will receive at Christmas. Several members cut and tied fleece blankets for about 20 foster children. Through out the year we give the homes handmade greeting cards for the kids to give to others.

### **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

E.C.W. and Outreach Committee

The E.C.W. and Outreach Committee co-sponsored the Thanksgiving Food Drive to provide 30 bags of food for families in need. In 2016, 15 bags went to Cheyenne Elementary School, 11 to Country Meadows Elementary, and 4 bags went to individuals at St. Christopher's. 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 \$25 Fry's gift card to purchase a meat to finish out the meal. One bag included a frozen turkey instead of a gift card. Extra food received in the drive was donated to the Valley View Food Bank.

### **Valley View Community Food Bank [VVCFB]**

Carol Brown / Jane Meyers

A sampling of our donations is at the base of the altar on the first Sunday of the month and blessed during the service. Volunteers take the contributions to the food bank twice a month. Carol Brown serves as liaison to coordinate with the Office and let parishioners know what is most needed; Jane Meyers works with Jesse Ramirez to try to broaden our partnership. The E.C.W. third annual Pasta

Dinner collected food for VVCFB as well as West Valley Wind Ensemble concerts at St. Christopher's. Outreach provides \$100 to purchase turkeys for their annual Turkey Drive.

### Other

The Outreach Committee addresses a variety of unplanned for needs throughout the year. In 2016, we again helped Cheyenne Elementary combat a lice outbreak. We give unsold goods from Bargains Galore primarily to Eve's Treasurers Thrift Store, to Soujourners, and the Phoenix Rescue Mission. Unsold children's clothing and goods are given to a Peoria school that maintains an emergency room for those in need. There is a very strong calling to help others here at St. Christopher's. Besides the organized Outreach activities at St. Christopher's, many individual participate in a variety of helping and giving activities.

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### Service & Fellowship Ministries

#### Episcopal Church Women (E.C.W.)

Frieda Spann, Treasurer

Current Officers include:

President:	Vacant	Memorial Receptions:	Anna Van Scoter
Vice President:	Eva Quiles	UTO Chair:	Vacant
Secretary:	Marilyn Hunter	Publicity:	Diane Pleine & Rosemary Lynch
Treasurer:	Frieda Spann	Calling Committee:	Mary Duval & Carol Brown

All St. Christopher's women are members, so please come and participate. E.C.W. has stopped having monthly meetings and instead meets when planning an event or project. Early in 2017, ECW will meet to discuss how to move forward with fewer able and active members. ECW no longer meets regularly. In 2016, the E.C.W.:

- assisted with travel costs for Stephen Nasser, internationally known author, lecturer, playwright, and holocaust survivor who spoke at St. Christopher's in February.
- held a pasta dinner in February to raise money for the St. Christopher's operating fund. We were able to raise \$641.50 as well as collect food for Valley View Community Food Bank. Many thanks to all who helped, especially those who went the extra mile to get a food handler's card, and helped with the serving and cleanup.
- filled 50 Easter baskets for Sojourners and three baskets for the boys removed from their home that St. Christopher's helped out in 2016.
- sponsored the summer parish water drive during June through September. In 2016, over 3 tons of water was collected for:
  - Phoenix Rescue Mission's Code Red Drive in June and July: over 200 gallons plus \$267.
  - Salvation Army in August and September: over 200 gallons plus \$181 cash.

Thank you to those who donated water or cash and especially to those who loaded cars and delivered the water this summer! This is the fourth year of this life-saving ministry.

- sponsored the back to school backpack and school supply drive that filled 36 backpacks for children who otherwise would not have had the school supplies that they needed. The supplies were donated by the congregation from a list provided by Outreach. We also provided extra supplies were divided between Country Meadows and Cheyenne Elementary Schools. Backpacks included a note that read, "May these supplies and backpack help you to have an exciting and successful school year."
- held a bake & craft sale in December making a profit of \$ 582.75 for E.C.W. outreach projects.

## **Men's Club**

Killy Balabanis, President

All men of St. Christopher are members of the Men's Club. We meet for Morning Prayer (New Zealand Prayer Book's version), breakfast, planning meeting, and fellowship on the third Saturday of the month. Following the meeting all that are able are invited to help make sandwiches for the lunches we take to homeless women and families at the UMOM facility. Men's Club is the facilitator for this project. In the past year we provided 2,012 lunches to many grateful and needy people. It would not have been possible without the support of our entire congregation.

The Men's Club has been active in the Bible Work Bench study that meets weekly at 10:30am on Tuesdays. All men are welcome. The Men's Club also has served an annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner before Lent. Our men from both services have also been busy supporting the many projects St. Christopher's takes on.

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## **Hospitality Ministry**

Anna van Scoter & Frieda Span

In January, we coordinated refreshments, as well as provided ushers, greeters, and a reader for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2016. We provided receptions for the Sonoran Sounds Concert the Piano & Cello Concert, and for memorials. Hospitality is funded by money from eScrip, Fry's Community Rewards, aluminum can recycling, coffee hour, potluck and individual contributions. Anna van Scoter and Frieda Span coordinate the 9am coffee hour volunteers and donations.

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## **Landscape Ministry**

Bonnie Franco & Eva Quiles

The year in review is should be an easy task to accomplish but sometimes we lose track of when one year ends and the next one begins. We have accomplished many changes over the past 4 years in the landscaping of our church grounds. Many old, woody/flowering bushes and sad trees have been replaced or simply removed. Our landscape hopefully looks new and cared for as we all go about the sharing of our God given gifts within our parish and the community.

Currently, our campus landscaping has reached a state of status quo for now. The irrigation is reliable, the vegetation is flourishing and the weeds are in check. I have had much help over the years from people like Eva Quiles, RoseMary Lynch, Jacinto Nieco and his family, Al Franco, and Maria Anderson who have all helped to keep our costs to a minimum. The next few years should be a manageable challenge for us to maintain.

As always, anyone interested in helping us in this endeavor is welcome to give me a call. I always have a wish list to add additional beauty to our church landscape.

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## **Living with Loss Ministry, a Community Grief Support Ministry**

Amy Schultz

Every Monday from 9:30am to 10:30 am, St. Christopher's hosts Living with Loss, an on-going program for those dealing with a significant loss of any kind: loss of a job, loss of family, loss of a marriage, loss of health, loss of a pet, loss of mind and functioning (dementia). The program provides practical strategies and approaches within the context of a supportive community. In 2016, the group observed the Day of the Dead, a traditional Mexican holiday, on November 7th by praying for and remembering friends and family members who have died, and help support their spiritual journey and then sharing a simple soup lunch.

For the last 2-1/2 years the program has provided practical strategies and approaches within the context of a supportive community. This Community of people has become part of St. Christopher's and several individuals from the group now volunteer at St. Christopher's events, contribute to our thrift store, shop in our bookstore, and attend our concerts.

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## Planning Group

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tue of the Month at 9am

The group's primary role is to brainstorm and serve as a backstop helping other ministries to succeed. We work to figure out how we might restart prior ministries or activities; we work to start new activities helping figure out which other ministries to work within. We also serve as a coordination point for space utilization within the church complex and fund raising efforts. Since 2013, Fr. Peter has tasked the group to work to eliminate the clutter in various areas and to develop strategies to keep it that way. The group works mostly by email but meets once a month to coordinate.

In 2016, we:

- Continued to encourage and coordinate many improvement projects around the campus.
- Continued to experiment with forms of verbal and written announcements.
- Encouraged members and friends of St. Christopher to sign up for Fry's Community Rewards - 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. In 2016, Fry's contributed \$79.84 to St. Christopher's. In 2016, Safeway discontinued their eScrip program which St. Christopher's had previously been enrolled in. Contact Amy Schultz for more information.

In 2017, we will

- Continue to work to improve communications. Currently
  - The office handles the monthly newsletter;
  - Clive Chancey, Mona Guarino, Rosemary Lynch, and Diane Plein share our many activities with local papers and the Diocese;
  - Betty Roddy updates the mobile signboard on the Peoria 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 and the Ministry Handbook.
  - Judy Schneider works to share our news through FaceBook, social media, and our refreshed website.
  - Ruthie Bratcher delivers prepared flyers to restaurants that are willing to display them for us.
- Continue to 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 103<sup>rd</sup> and Peoria to those passing by.

Members: Killy Balabanis, Ruthie Bratcher, Mona Guarino, Jane Meyers, Amy Schultz, and Gary Welsh.

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## Recycling

### Aluminum Cans

Bill Masters

Look for the red can in Middleton to donate your cans. In 2016, the cans brought in over a hundred dollars.

### Paper

Office

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.

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## Social Media

Judy Schneider

St. Christopher's has been actively using Social Media, especially Facebook and our newly re-developed website. Whatever is Social Media, you may ask! Well, Social Media includes all kinds of

public sharing and interaction sites and tools such as websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, and others. Currently, St. Christopher's has a Facebook site at facebook.com/StChristophersAZ and our web site at StChristophers-az.org . We focus on Facebook because 49% of Internet users age 65 and older use Facebook.

We use our Facebook site to spread the Good News of Jesus, primarily by sharing prayers, brief Bible studies, and other Episcopal-related information. We also use our Facebook site to promote events such as our Christmas and Easter service times, the Posadas, concerts, outreach activities and so forth. Our revised website has lots of information on who St. Christopher's is and what we are doing in the world to spread His love and Good News.

We know this is "working" because when we have asked new worshippers, "How did you find out about us?" they frequently cite our web page or our Facebook page.

If you are interested to help with either of these ventures, if you see something missing, or if you have suggestions please contact Judy Schneider.

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## Welcome Ministry

Committee

Over the summer, St. Christopher's developed a new ministry devoted to developing and carrying on active evangelism and improved welcome at St. Christopher's. The ministry is founded on principles from the Invite • Welcome • Connect program developed in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas in 2010. The committee held a forum September 12<sup>th</sup> between services to introduce the exciting new ministry:

Diane Plein, Sr. Warden, talked about the March 2016 diocesan vestry retreat that featured Mary Parmer who described herself as *a southern Baptist lady who, at a low point in her life, was invited to attend an Episcopal church by a friend, and became a new Episcopalian*. From her experience she developed a method of ideas and resources designed to help bring people into Episcopal congregations as a way to grow our parish. There are three areas to this method:

- **INVITE:** Sharing the Good News with others (Evangelism)

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. [Matthew 28: 19-20]*

Invitation is not only about inviting people into a relationship with you and others in our congregation, but it is also about inviting them into a relationship with God through Jesus and St. Christopher's.

- **WELCOME:** A Ministry of Hospitality

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. [Romans 15: 7]*

Welcoming the stranger is welcoming Jesus. Jesus paid attention to what was going on around him and especially to those people he encountered on a daily basis. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place – We want to offer this space, St. Christopher's.

- **CONNECT:** Empowering the newcomer and laity for ministry

*For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another. [Romans 12: 4-6]*

We need to use our gifts or talents that differ according to the grace given to us, Connection is giving meaning to membership and discovering our talents that will involve us in the work of serving Jesus.

Members were invited to sign up to serve on the committee, to ring doorbells of houses surrounding the church, or to help at a neighborhood cookout. Thank you to all who participated in ringing doorbells to invite 111 neighbors around the church to our November 18th neighborhood cookout and other events at St. Christopher's. About 65 - 70 members from both services, neighbors invited by doorbell ringers, shoppers at Bargains or the bookstore, and friends of St. Christopher's enjoyed great weather and better food. It was truly heartening to see all of us welcoming our neighbors and making them feel at home. Our next neighborhood cookout is 4pm on Friday, February 3.

The Welcome Committee has been very active in many areas including:

- **Updated promotional material** - working with a graphic designer to develop a new logo, new business cards, a trifold brochure, and postcards to mail to new neighbors near the church. A new welcome folder is being completed to provide to new members.
- **Improved accessibility** - the Sr. Warden, Treasurer, Clerk, and Finance Chair met with Leanne Murrillo from the Diocese to walk through the entire campus and evaluate possible modifications to improve our accessibility to members and visitors with mobility challenges (those using a variety of canes, walkers, scooters some or all of the time), visual challenges, and hearing challenges. Located in a 55+ community, it is important for us to make as much of our campus easily available as possible. While some items will include large dollars, there were a number of things that took no money and only a few minutes to make it possible to significantly improve our facilities to all. These included:
  - Removed the kneeler in the narthex that blocked access to the bathroom without assistance to anyone in a wheelchair.
  - Rearranged things in the narthex bathroom to make it easier for someone with a walker or in a wheelchair to use the room.
  - Removed items from the women's bathroom off Middleton to make it easier to use the room without having to maneuver a gauntlet of furniture first.

We have a variety of tasks from pew cuts in the sanctuary and chapel to bathroom improvements to an improved sound system to broadcast better for those using hearing aids. We also have a contractor list with accessibility experience. Funds for the various tasks could come from the Mission Share Rebate funds for smaller tasks from the Building Fund or Memorial Fund or as part of a Capital Campaign.

- **Conducted research into a new digital sign** - Several members of the committee have conducted research to select a manufacturer of digital signs and met several local installers. We know that the sign boards on the Peoria side of the campus work - we have had people come to spaghetti dinners, join the women's bible study, and take tai chi classes because they see the sign. But, the signs are showing significant signs of age, they are hard to change, they have limited space and we can only promote two to three things at most at a time. The new digital signs can be pre-programmed for a year's worth of events, be changed by cell phone or computer, and are much more legible. Funds for the sign can be drawn from a combination of the Memorial and Building funds; these funds are restricted as to their use, but, the sign would be within the intended uses. It is anticipated that a final recommendation on installer and design for the sign will be made and presented to the vestry for early in 2017. The sign could be in place and operational by Easter 2017.

- **Improving promoting events at St. Christopher's** - Besides posting flyers around the campus, one member has agreed to consistently take flyers to businesses in the area willing to post them. We invite (by email) 25 other Sun City churches to share information on our non-worship events with their members. We create and share a list of upcoming events through our web site, our facebook, and our twitter social media outlets; we also include the upcoming event strips in the bookstore, Bargains Galore, and in programs for all concerts.

There are many ways for you to participate in the exciting and crucial new ministry. Please contact Diane Plein or Judy Schneider for more information.

## **Financial Ministries**

### **Finance & Budget Committee Report**

Mona Guarino, Chair

Highlights:

- Another year without using Endowment dollars;
- Successful audit review in July;
- No required capital expenses;
- Continued to clarify and implement recognizing capital v. operating expenses.
- Completing 2016 with less than the \$25,920 budgeted deficit: \$559.
- Continued improvement in transparency and accountability.

We continued to watch the budget closely. Our expenses were below budget and our income was over budget. Fewer pledges were lost in 2016 to moving, changed circumstance or death than we normally experience. Income minus expense for 2016 was -\$559.39. But, we used \$4,000 from the Capital Reserve fund to fill the gap between our income and our expenses and that \$4,000 is included as part of the income. Without taking \$4,000 from the Capital Reserve, our deficit would show -\$4,559. We will again forecast a deficit for 2017: \$11,041. This is the first year since we implemented this approach to coping with the deficit that we have been able to pay back part of what was borrowed. In each earlier year, we have declared the full amount borrowed as income and paid mission share on it. This was possible because our income was higher than expected and we were no longer able to pay pension premium for Fr. Peter as we'd budgeted.

As indicated elsewhere in this report, in 2012, the Vestry established the Capital Reserve to be used before taking money from the Endowment. 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, Marj Kassien, Beth Mayhew, Amy Schultz along with Fr. Peter and Diane Plein (ex-officio members).

### **Finance Focus in 2017 will be:**

- Develop strategies to eliminate our continued deficit spending;
- Develop missing policies especially a Gift Acceptance Policy;
- Continuing to improve fiscal accountability and reporting;
- Support the capital campaign effort that was passed by Vestry 9/26/16.



## 2016 Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 16	Dec 31, 15	\$ Change	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
1000 CASH ACCOUNTS				
1001 Petty Cash	0.00	100.00	-100.00	-100.00%
1003 UMCU Checking - 10	0.00	133.85	-133.85	-100.00%
1004 UMCU Restricted Checking - 11	0.00	354.65	-354.65	-100.00%
1010 Wells Fargo Operating Checking	3,104.50	2,402.77	701.73	29.21%
1011 Wells Fargo - Ministry Account	43,245.45	28,620.92	14,624.53	51.10%
1012 Wells Fargo - Savings-Youth	9,839.92	9,656.76	183.16	1.90%
1013 Wells Fargo-Op Sav/Key	600.40	600.20	0.20	0.03%
Total 1000 CASH ACCOUNTS	56,790.27	41,869.15	14,921.12	35.64%
Total Bank Accounts	56,790.27	41,869.15	14,921.12	35.64%
Total Current Assets	56,790.27	41,869.15	14,921.12	35.64%
Fixed Assets				
1500 FIXED ASSETS				
1501 Bernard Building	166,341.68	166,341.68	0.00	0.00%
1502 Church & Parish Hall	788,603.00	788,603.00	0.00	0.00%
1503 Chapel	231,143.00	231,143.00	0.00	0.00%
1504 Furniture & Fixtures	112,236.00	112,236.00	0.00	0.00%
1505 Vestments	13,700.00	13,700.00	0.00	0.00%
1506 Awnings	6,234.00	6,234.00	0.00	0.00%
1507 Security System	2,864.00	2,864.00	0.00	0.00%
1508 Signage	4,934.00	4,934.00	0.00	0.00%
1509 Land	30,853.00	30,853.00	0.00	0.00%
1510 New Doors	1,472.00	1,472.00	0.00	0.00%
1511 HVAC	35,379.00	35,379.00	0.00	0.00%
1599 Accumulated Depreciation	-981,265.53	-981,265.53	0.00	0.00%
Total 1500 FIXED ASSETS	412,494.15	412,494.15	0.00	0.00%
Total Fixed Assets	412,494.15	412,494.15	0.00	0.00%
Other Assets				
1610 Schwab - Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1612 Schwab - Blackburn Fund	30,811.55	29,384.56	1,426.99	4.86%
1613 Schwab - Memorial Fund	27,970.91	26,675.48	1,295.43	4.86%
1614 Schwab - Columbarium	15,836.32	15,102.89	733.43	4.86%
1615 Schwab - Cares Fund	4,226.32	4,030.58	195.74	4.86%
1616 Schwab - Building Fund	20,122.03	19,190.11	931.92	4.86%
Total 1610 Schwab - Restricted Account	98,967.13	94,383.62	4,583.51	4.86%
1622 Schwab - Endowment Account	239,576.24	221,915.39	17,660.85	7.96%
1900 Suspense - Clearing	0.00	-825.00	825.00	100.00%
Total Other Assets	338,543.37	315,474.01	23,069.36	7.31%
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>807,827.79</b>	<b>769,837.31</b>	<b>37,990.48</b>	<b>4.93%</b>

## 2016 Balance Sheet (Cont'd)

	Dec 31, 16	Dec 31, 15	\$ Change	% Change
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>				
2100 Payroll Tax Liability				
2101 Federal Withholding	1,217.70		1,217.70	
2102 FICA Payable	243.09		243.09	
2103 Medicare Payable	75.69		75.69	
2104 AZ Withholding	238.29		238.29	
Total 2100 Payroll Tax Liability	1,774.77	0.00	1,774.77	
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,774.77	0.00	1,774.77	
Total Current Liabilities	1,774.77	0.00	1,774.77	
Total Liabilities	1,774.77	0.00	1,774.77	
<b>Equity</b>				
3000 Opening Balance Equity				
3001 Unrestricted - Operating	3,664.51	11,524.71	-7,860.20	-68.20%
3002 Unrestricted Endowment - MS/Sch	239,576.24	221,935.39	17,640.85	7.95%
3003 Unrestricted Fixed Assets	410,615.82	410,615.82	0.00	0.00%
3010 Unrestricted Capital Reserve	102,363.03	72,671.42	29,691.61	40.86%
3010-C Contra Unrestr. Capital Reserve	-81,634.33	-62,677.63	-18,956.70	-30.24%
Total 3010 Unrestricted Capital Reserve	20,728.70	9,993.79	10,734.91	107.42%
3020 Unrestricted - Search Fund	4,500.00		4,500.00	
3102 Temp. Restricted - Youth Minist	9,839.92	9,836.76	3.16	0.03%
3103 Temp Restricted - Investment -	98,967.13	94,383.62	4,583.51	4.86%
3200 DONOR RESTRICT NET ASSETS				
3201 Outreach	36,516.85	28,181.25	8,335.60	29.58%
3201-C Contra Outreach	-27,190.54	-19,338.31	-7,852.23	-40.60%
Total 3201 Outreach	9,326.31	8,842.94	483.37	5.47%
3204 Bargains Galore	72,288.51	58,697.90	13,590.61	23.15%
3204-C Contra Bargains Galore	-70,709.79	-55,843.70	-14,866.09	-26.62%
Total 3204 Bargains Galore	1,578.72	2,854.20	-1,275.48	-44.69%
3206 ECW	13,078.52	11,528.35	1,550.17	13.45%
3206-C Contra ECW	-11,043.85	-10,041.06	-1,002.79	-9.99%
Total 3206 ECW	2,034.67	1,487.29	547.38	36.80%
3207 Men's Club	7,371.38	5,639.28	1,732.10	30.71%
3207-C Contra Men's Club	-6,606.02	-4,567.91	-2,038.11	-44.62%
Total 3207 Men's Club	765.36	1,071.37	-306.01	-28.56%
3208 Memorial	1,255.00	555.00	700.00	126.13%
3208-C Contra Memorial	-106.71	-63.51	-43.20	-68.02%
Total 3208 Memorial	1,148.29	491.49	656.80	133.63%
3209 Columbarium	3,037.00	3,037.00	0.00	0.00%
3209-C Contra Columbarium	-1,949.39	-1,400.57	-548.82	-39.19%
Total 3209 Columbarium	1,087.61	1,636.43	-548.82	-33.54%
3210 Adult Education	1,521.78	1,521.78	0.00	0.00%
3210-C Contra - Adult Education	-1,924.36	-1,924.36	0.00	0.00%
Total 3210 Adult Education	-402.58	-402.58	0.00	0.00%

## 2016 Balance Sheet (Cont'd)

	Dec 31, 16	Dec 31, 15	\$ Change	% Change
3211 Children & Youth Ministries	14,118.42	14,118.42	0.00	0.00%
3211-C Contra Children & Youth Min	-12,414.17	-12,414.17	0.00	0.00%
Total 3211 Children & Youth Ministries	1,704.25	1,704.25	0.00	0.00%
3212 Hospitality	4,425.39	3,426.78	998.61	29.14%
3212-C Contra Hospitality	-3,290.86	-2,385.81	-905.05	-37.93%
Total 3212 Hospitality	1,134.53	1,040.97	93.56	8.99%
3213 Landscaping	4,964.00	4,814.00	150.00	3.12%
3213-C Contra Landscaping	-4,688.70	-4,463.70	-225.00	-5.04%
Total 3213 Landscaping	275.30	350.30	-75.00	-21.41%
3214 Key Deposit Fund	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00%
3299 Misc. Restricted Account	-269.23	-269.23	0.00	0.00%
Total 3200 DONOR RESTRICT NET AS	18,983.23	19,407.43	-424.20	-2.19%
Net Income	-822.53	-7,860.21	7,037.68	89.54%
Total Equity	806,053.02	769,837.31	36,215.71	4.70%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	807,827.79	769,837.31	37,990.48	4.93%

[Reminder: 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.]

**2016 Profit & Loss**

	<b>Dec 31, 15</b>	<b>Dec 31, 16</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Income</b>				
4000 Contributions				
4011 Pledges	138,477.63	138,531.37	-53.74	0.00
4012 Plate Offerings	1,925.08	2,702.67	-777.59	-0.29
4013 Non-Pledge Giving	9,743.50	7,476.00	2,267.50	0.30
4020 Other Offerings	7,286.51	1,774.08	5,512.43	3.11
Total 4000 Contributions	157,432.72	150,484.12	6,948.60	0.05
4030 Other Income	4,000.00	11,000.00	-7,000.00	-0.64
4033 Bookstore	2,956.55	3,885.80	-929.25	-0.24
4040 Facility Usage	3,665.50	4,032.50	-367.00	-0.09
Total 4030 Other Income	10,622.05	18,918.30	-8,296.25	-0.44
4100 Dividend Income	0.19	0.19	0.00	0.00
4300 Misc Other Income - Not MS	25.00		25.00	
4500 Non-operating Revenue				
4501 Restricted Investment Income		2,184.16	-2,184.16	-1.00
4502 Restricted Investment Gains/Los		1,408.65	-1,408.65	-1.00
4503 Endowment Income		4,176.16	-4,176.16	-1.00
4504 Endowment Gains/Loss Net		3,949.82	-3,949.82	-1.00
Total 4500 Non-operating Revenue	0.00	11,718.79	-11,718.79	-1.00
Total 4990 Clergy Disc Fund (deleted)	0.00	-128.51	128.51	1.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>168,079.96</b>	<b>180,992.89</b>	<b>-12,912.93</b>	<b>-0.07</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>168,079.96</b>	<b>180,992.89</b>	<b>-12,912.93</b>	<b>-0.07</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
5000 DIOCESE				
5001 Diocesan Mission Share	28,527.70	29,347.18	-819.48	-0.03
5005 Clergy Retreat	205.00	168.22	36.78	0.22
Total 5000 DIOCESE	28,732.70	29,515.40	-782.70	-0.03
5100 Personnel				
5106 PIC- Stipend	32,445.12	33,757.62	-1,312.50	-0.04
5107 PIC- Housing	27,037.92	28,131.67	-1,093.75	-0.04
5109 PIC- Medical/Dental	999.84	1,041.50	-41.66	-0.04
5110 PIC - Disability	318.96	395.10	-76.14	-0.19
5111 PIC Pension	1,429.25	10,170.00	-8,740.75	-0.86
5112 Continuing Education	160.00	40.00	120.00	3.00
5113 PIC Mileage REI	706.86	905.37	-198.51	-0.22
5151 Choir Director & Organist	13,560.00	13,650.00	-90.00	-0.01
5152 Sexton	9,499.92	9,600.00	-100.08	-0.01
5153 Church Administrator	10,062.00	9,762.00	300.00	0.03
5155 Payroll Expense	2,722.20	3,041.68	-319.48	-0.11
5158 Supply	572.90	600.00	-27.10	-0.05
Total 5100 Personnel	99,514.97	111,094.94	-11,579.97	-0.10
5200 MUSIC	221.14	1,091.70	-870.56	-0.80
5300 WORSHIP SUPPLIES	50.03	677.14	-627.11	-0.93
5400 EDUCATION				
5401 Children's & Youth	626.05	1,779.04	-1,152.99	-0.65
Total 5400 EDUCATION	626.05	1,779.04	-1,152.99	-0.65

**2016 Profit & Loss**

	<b>Dec 31, 15</b>	<b>Dec 31, 16</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>5600 BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>				
5601 Electricity	8,634.24	8,566.72	67.52	0.01
5602 Gas	442.22	451.45	-9.23	-0.02
5603 Water	993.08	942.63	50.45	0.05
5605 Trash Collection	324.00	324.00	0.00	0.00
5606 Security Alarm Expense	1,245.51	1,656.64	-411.13	-0.25
5609 Pest Control	1,200.00	1,320.00	-120.00	-0.09
5610 Repairs & Maintenance	2,604.04	2,670.59	-66.55	-0.02
5611 Telephone & Service Contract	2,484.70	2,634.55	-149.85	-0.06
5612 Landscaping Expense	920.33		920.33	
<b>Total 5600 BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>	<b>18,848.12</b>	<b>18,566.58</b>	<b>281.54</b>	<b>0.02</b>
<b>5700 ADMINISTRATION</b>				
5703 Postage/Del/BulkMail	96.00	8.79	87.21	9.92
5705 Office Supplies	825.47	941.50	-116.03	-0.12
5706 Stewardship	373.92	1,092.96	-719.04	-0.66
5707 Advertising	640.72	424.43	216.29	0.51
5708 Accounting Services	4,111.44	3,230.00	881.44	0.27
5709 Auditing	89.49	66.07	23.42	0.35
5710 Bank Service Charges		138.77	-138.77	-1.00
5711 Office Equipment Expense	3,586.49	3,511.87	74.62	0.02
5714 Misc. Expenses	1,349.95	464.21	885.74	1.91
5716 Comprehensive Church Insurance	9,836.00	9,213.00	623.00	0.07
5717 Financial Fees & Charges		25.56	-25.56	-1.00
<b>Total 5700 ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>20,909.48</b>	<b>19,117.16</b>	<b>1,792.32</b>	<b>0.09</b>
<b>6000 Non-operating Expenses</b>				
6001 Depreciation Expense		36,754.34	-36,754.34	-1.00
6002 Investment Fees		1,501.21	-1,501.21	-1.00
<b>Total 6000 Non-operating Expenses</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>38,255.55</b>	<b>-38,255.55</b>	<b>-1.00</b>
6003 Unrealized Gain(Loss)		8,339.31	-8,339.31	-1.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>168,902.49</b>	<b>228,436.82</b>	<b>-59,534.33</b>	<b>-0.26</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>-822.53</b>	<b>-47,443.93</b>	<b>46,621.40</b>	<b>0.98</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-822.53</b>	<b>-47,443.93</b>	<b>46,621.40</b>	<b>0.98</b>

**ACCOUNT COMMENTS**  
**2016 Audit of 2015 Books**

In July of 2016, a member of the Diocese of Arizona’s Audit Committee reviewed our 2015 books. [This option is available to parishes with an operating income below \$300,000. This service provided by the Diocese is part of what our Mission Share makes possible.] The audit review found that we were in compliance with the rules set by the National Episcopal Church. The audit review again provided helpful suggestions that have been incorporated in our Chart of Accounts and fiscal procedures.

**Banking and Investing**

**Restricted Checking** includes all funds of non-operating ministries that are short-term money. This also includes the Capital Reserve.

**Restricted Investing Account** includes all non-operating funds invested for a longer-term horizon. Interest accrued is distributed monthly among the various parts of the fund (ex: Columbarium Fund, Memorials, Building Fund, etc).

**Endowment** - \$236,576.24 - We have not withdrawn from the Endowment since February of 2012. The value of the Endowment is up from 2015 by \$17,660.85 or almost 8%. The Investing Subcommittee of the Budget & Finance Committee consists of Mona Guarino, Jane Cooley, and Amy Schultz. Our goal continues not only to resist spending principal, but also to carefully grow the principal.

**Bargains Galore 2016 Accounting**

	2014	2015	2016
Gross Income:	\$11,235.06	\$ 14,653.61	13,590.86
Bargains Expenses:	\$ 2,285.21	\$ 3,034.36	1,550.13
To Outreach:	\$ 894.98	\$ 1,465.16	1,359.06
Stayed in Bargains:	\$ 894.98	\$ 1,465.16	1,359.06
To Capital Reserve:	\$ 7,159.90	\$ 11,721.36	10,872.49

Throughout 2016, the split for Bargains Galore sales has continued as:

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

**Capital Reserve – Current Balance: \$33,328.70**

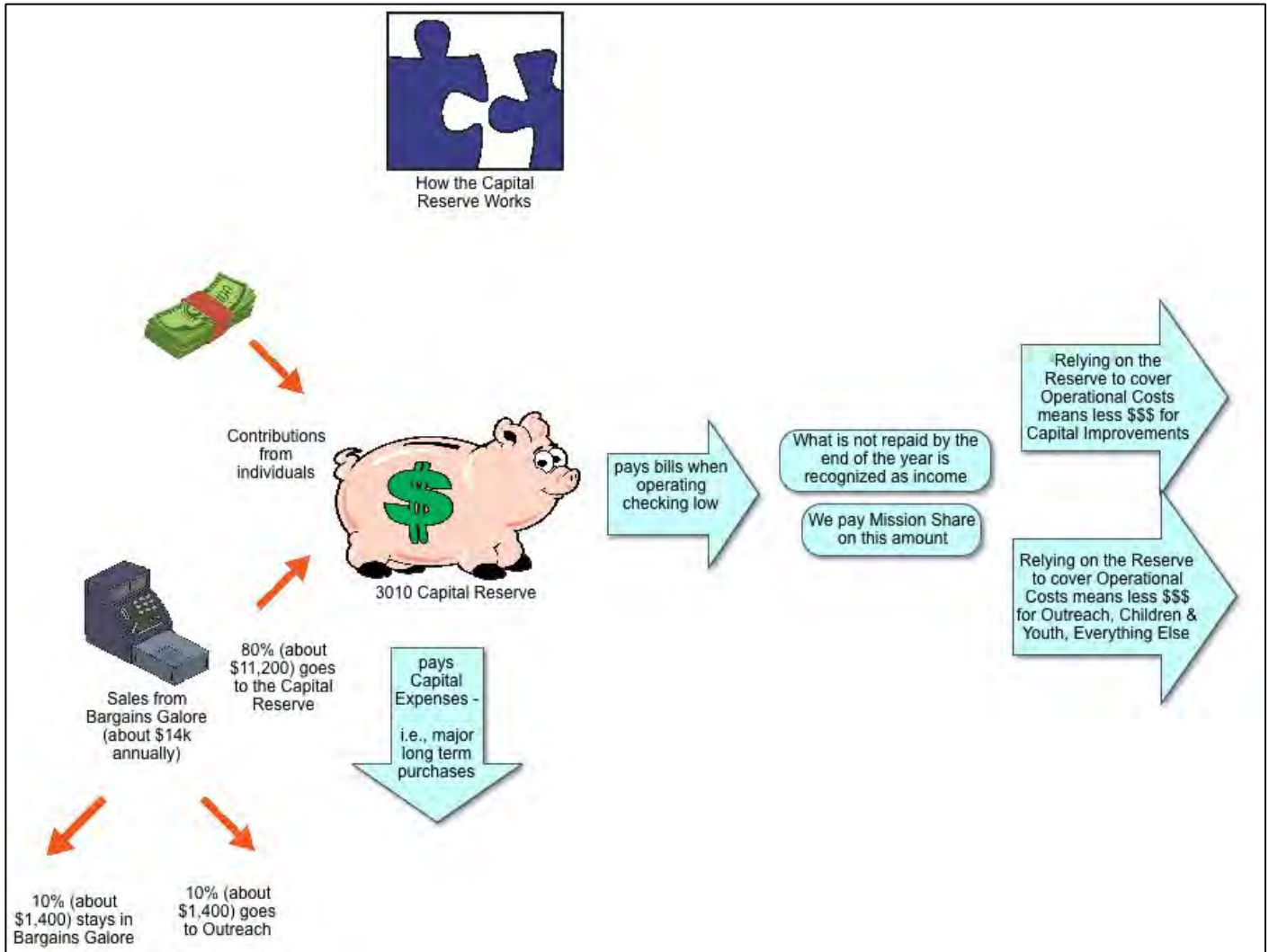
	Income	Expense	Balance
<b>2016 Starting Balance</b>			10,957.91
80% of Bargains sales	10,872.49		21,830.40
Misc (Acct 11 int, closed c/u accts)	15.80		21,846.20
Capital Expenses paid in 2016		92.50	21,753.70
Operational Expenses Paid in 2016		4,000.00	17,753.70
Altar Guild Savings (restricted)	75.00		17,828.70
<b>Capital Campaign Prepaid Pledges</b>	<b>7,400.00</b>		<b>25,228.70</b>
<b>Search Fund</b>		<b>4,500.00</b>	<b>20,728.70</b>
<b>2016 Ending Balance</b>			<b>20,728.70</b>

Of the funds in 3010 Capital Reserve:

Altar Guild Savings:	\$2,427.70
Capital Campaign:	\$ 7,400.00
Available to Spend:	\$10,901.00

The prepaid pledges soon will be moved to a separate bank account. If the vestry decides not to proceed, donors will be contacted as to how to reallocate or return the funds.

The chart on the next page illustrates how the Capital Reserve is created and used.



**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 a checking account at Wells Fargo. The funds appear directly on the Balance Sheet in a separate 3200 level account for each ministry. Note: Account 3010 · Capital 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.

## 2016 Operating Budget Passed by Vestry 1/9/17

		2016 Budget	2016 Actuals	2017 Budget
<b>Income</b>				
<b>4000 · Contributions</b>				
	4011 · Pledges	138,319	138,478	149,428
	4012 · Plate Offerings	3,000	1,925	2,000
	4013 · Non-Pledge Giving	7,000	9,744	8,000
	4020 · Other Offerings	1,500	11,287	3,000
Total 4000 · Contributions		<b>149,819</b>	<b>161,433</b>	<b>162,428</b>
<b>4030 · Other Income</b>				
	4033 · Bookstore (Net after sandwiches)	3,200	2,956.55	3,000
	4040 · Facility Usage	3,798	3,666	3,800
Total 4030 · Other Income		<b>6,998</b>	<b>6,622</b>	<b>6,800</b>
	Budgeted income	<b>156,817</b>	<b>168,055</b>	<b>169,228</b>
<b>4300 · Misc Other Income - Not MS</b>			<b>4,025</b>	
Total Income		<b>156,817</b>	<b>172,080</b>	

<b>Expense</b>				
<b>5000 · DIOCESE</b>				
	5001 · Diocesan Mission Share	27,719	28,528	29,498
	5005 · Clergy Retreat	285	205	285
Total 5000 · DIOCESE		<b>28,004</b>	<b>28,733</b>	<b>30,101</b>
<b>5100 · Personnel</b>				
	5106 · PIC- Stipend	32,445	32,445	32,445
	5107 · PIC- Housing	27,038	27,038	27,038
	5109 · PIC- Medical/Dental	1,000	1,000	1,000
	5110 · PIC - Disability	317	319	319
	5111 · PIC Pension	11,004	1,429	
	5112 · Continuing Education	1,000	160	1,000
	5113 · PIC Mileage REI	1,000	707	1,000
	5151 · Choir Director & Organist	14,400	13,560	17,280
	5152 · Sexton	9,500	9,500	10,000
	5153 · Parish Administrator	9,360	10,062	12,355
	5155 · Payroll Expense	3,196	2,722	2,600
	5158 · Supply	636	573	636
Total 5100 · Personnel		<b>110,896</b>	<b>99,515</b>	<b>105,673</b>
<b>5200 · MUSIC</b>		<b>500</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>5300 · WORSHIP SUPPLIES</b>		<b>600</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>5401 · Children's &amp; Youth</b>		<b>1,800</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>750</b>
<b>5500 · Hospitality</b>		<b>200</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200</b>



	(Cont'd)	2016 Budget	2016 Actuals	2017 Budget
<b>5600 · BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>				
	5601 · Electricity	8,376	8,634	9,432
	5602 · Gas	451	442	442
	5603 · Water	943	993	990
	5605 · Trash Collection	324	324	324
	5606 · Security Alarm Expense	2,540	1,246	1,861
	5609 · Pest Control	1,440	1,200	640
	5610 · Repairs & Maintenance	3,000	2,604	3,300
	5611 · Telephone & Service Contract	2,544	2,485	2,544
	5612 · Landscaping	1,200	920	1,200
	<b>Total 5600 · BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>	<b>20,818</b>	<b>18,848</b>	<b>20,733</b>
<b>5700 · ADMINISTRATION</b>				
	5703 · Postage/Del/BulkMail	120	96	120
	5705 · Office Supplies	800	825	850
	5706 · Stewardship	450	374	550
	5707 · Advertising	300	619	500
	5708 · Accounting Services	4,000	4,133	4,500
	5709 · Auditing	70	89	90
	5711 · Office Equipment Expense	3,543	3,298	3,543
	5714 · Misc. Expenses	800	1,350	1,000
	5716 · Comprehensive church Insurance	9,836	9,836	10,559
	<b>Total 5700 · ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>19,919</b>	<b>20,621</b>	<b>21,712</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>182,737</b>	<b>168,614</b>	<b>180,269</b>
	<b>Total Income (not including reserve loans)</b>	<b>156,817</b>	<b>168,055</b>	<b>169,228</b>
	<b>DEFICIT (Tot Expense – Tot Income)</b>	<b>(25,920)</b>	<b>(559)</b>	<b>(11,041)</b>
	<b>ADJUSTMENTS</b>			
	Loans from 3010 reserve		(4,000)	
	Pension not paid		(9,575)	

#### 4030 · Other Income – Other Account

During the year, money is borrowed from account 3010 · Unrestricted Capital Reserve to pay bills when there would otherwise not be enough in the operation checking account. For three years we have hoped to be able to repay the cash shortfall by the end of the year, but have been unable to do so. By December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, we declare the monies as income. Mission Share is paid in January of the following year.

## Deficit / Surplus Discussion

We budgeted a deficit of \$25,920 for 2016, expecting to spend more than we would bring in as pledge, plate, other offerings, and the bookstore proceeds. We have continued to keep our expenses down and even reduce several significantly. After four very careful spending years, the expense side of the books runs at about \$183,000 per year. Our pledge level runs at about \$149,000. Facility Use, the Bookstore, and other financial offerings cover some of it. The problem is that despite our significant reduction in expenses, we do not bring in income as much as we spend.

Recent annual income versus expenses:

Year	Budgeted			Actual			Cash on Hand	From Orgs	From Capital Reserve
	Income	Expense	Deficit	Income	Expense	Deficit			
2013	149,955	176,861	(26,906)	165,710	172,698	(6,988)	10,078	2,500	
2014	160,824	182,310	(21,486)	185,111	176,787	(11,976)	2,393		12,500
2015	161,924	184,348	(22,424)	161,924	176,883	(18,860)	10,038		11,000
2016	156,817	182,737	(25,920)	168,055	168,614	(559)	2,403		4,000
2017	180,269	169,228	(11,041)				3,105		

How we closed the gap in 2013: last of money previously taken from the Endowment and money from E.C.W. and Men's Club.

How we closed the gap in 2014: \$12,500 from the Capital Reserve (account 3010) in 2015 were declared as income; mission share paid will be paid on them in January of 2016.

How we closed the gap in 2015: \$11,000 from the Capital Reserve (account 3010) in 2016 were declared as income; mission share paid will be paid on them in January of 2016.

How we closed the gap in 2016: \$4,000 from the Capital Reserve (account 3010) in 2017 were declared as income; mission share paid will be paid on them in January of 2017.

Further, we cannot expect that simply asking members to up their pledge will fill the gap. Stewardship has done an exceptional job in 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. Our total income runs around \$160,000. The gap between income and expense remains around \$12,000. In 2016, the picture is misleading. Fr. Peter reached the presumed maximum retirement age for clergy and we can no longer contribute to his pension. We had budgeted \$9,575 for 2016 that we could not spend. At the end of 2016, we set aside \$4,500 toward a future search fund for when Fr. Peter eventually retires. This is **not** part of our operating budget for 2017 and therefore our expenses appear to have been lower.

## Capital Campaign

Jane Cooley & Mona Guarino, Chairs

St. Christopher's is moving forward with exploring the possibility of a proposed capital campaign to fund the renovation and maintenance of our beautiful church home. The vestry has engaged the Episcopal Church Foundation to lead us through the journey toward a proposed capital campaign.

The Episcopal Church Foundation's three-step approach ensures that our entire congregation is aware and has been invited into the process for input into the plans for renovation and repair. The three phases are **discern, study, and ask**.

### First Phase

This first phase of exploration is called *discernment*. During discernment, our primary goal as a congregation is to prayerfully consider what God is calling us to do and be in the world. Now is a time for us to dream big and take time to develop a vision for the future of St. Christopher's ministry. The Finance Committee, Vestry, and Capital Campaign Committee was working behind the scenes for at

the end of 2016. Beginning in March 2017, you will be asked to join us at a discernment meeting to share your voice. Stay tuned for more information!

#### What's next...

At the end of *discernment*, we will have engaged as much of the congregation as possible to hear your thoughts about St. Christopher's future and we will have a full list of potential projects the congregation would like to consider with corresponding cost estimates.

Should we agree to proceed with exploration around a capital campaign, in the next phase, *feasibility study*, we will ask your opinion and your level of commitment and support for proposed projects once more using an email and print survey. This second phase is projected to begin in the Summer or Fall of 2017.

At the end of the *feasibility study phase*, we will have a right-sized financial goal and a list of projects that will be supported, both of which will lead us into the third phase, *solicitation* or *ask*. This third phase is projected to begin in late 2017 or early 2018. Should we decide to proceed with a capital campaign for the restoration and renovation of our historic home, in the ask phase, we will celebrate our future and make individual financial commitments to the future of St. Christopher's, each according to our own means.

#### So Far ...

At its September meeting, the vestry passed a resolution authorizing Fr. Peter to spend up to \$4,500 for the discernment phase. The expectation is that the consultant's fees for all three phases would be about \$12,000. It is intended that the funds for this will be taken from the Building Fund. Our ECF consultant has worked with us to enhance our 2017 annual giving drive and is currently working to prepare for an on-site visit the weekend of March 11 - 12 when she will train parish members to conduct small group sessions.

#### Pray and participate!

You will be hearing much more about the proposed capital campaign in the months to come! Let us prayerfully consider together what our future holds for God's works in Sun City and beyond. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Cooley or Mona Guarino.

#### **Columbarium Committee**

Wynn Lawry, Coordinator

Many of our former parishioners are interred in the Columbarium, which is located in the Chapel. There are a total of 180 single niches, approximately 40 of which remain available. The total amount of funds in the Columbarium Account was \$16,923.93 as of the close of 2016; \$15,836.32 in account 1614 Schwab - Columbarium and \$1,087.61 in account 3209 Columbarium at Wells Fargo. The former is for long term maintenance of the columbarium and the latter for short term such as engraving plaques as necessary. If you are interested in purchasing a niche or have other questions, contact a member of the Columbarium Committee: Killy Balabanis, Wynn Lawry, or Fr. Peter Fabre.

#### **Counters**

Frieda Spann

The link between our offerings and other monetary gifts, the Church's financial accounts, and records of 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 budget item. This is a vital cog in keeping the Church's financial house in order.

#### **Direct Debit**

Beth Mayhew & Mona Guarino

St. Christopher's is entering our fourth full year of accepting direct deposit of pledged offerings via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Under this system, pledges are automatically transferred from donors' financial institutions to the church's account without having to write a check; the church receives a steady income flow regardless of whether or not we are in church to present our offerings. In 2016 about 15 families or individuals participated in this program and over 40% of our total pledged income was received this way. 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 database automatically. Laminated cards are available in the narthex to place in the offering plate indicating that you gave electronically. Contact Beth Mayhew or Mona Guarino if you have questions or if you need an authorization form.

**Stewardship Campaign for 2017**

Mona Guarino & Beth Mayhew

Mona Guarino and Beth Mayhew continued to ask everyone to take a step forward in faith here at St. Christopher's. Our bilingual Consecration Sunday service on December 18th was followed by a Celebration Potluck with plenty of food and fun as we celebrated the gathering and blessing of our time, talent and treasure pledges. By the end of 2016, we received a total of 69 pledges totaling \$146,568.32 (up \$7,249 over last year's campaign) along with 30 time and talent pledges. Pledge confirmations went into mail cart folders.

We'd like to thank all of you for your pledges of time, talent, and / or treasure. Stewardship continues all year long as we donate our time, talent, and treasure each day, constantly building God's kingdom and working to become more like God every day in every way.

2017 Stewardship Campaign Summary:

125 Households	25 Up	9 Up 1 year
69 Pledging Households (55.2%)	5 Down	2 2 years
\$146,048.32 Total Pledged	27 Same	7 3 years
	10 New	1 4 years
		6 5 years

**Candidates for Election to the Vestry – Two Three-year Term vacancies**



**Ruthie Bratcher**

After living in Alaska and Wisconsin, I am now residing in Sun City as a snowbird. I became an Episcopalian last year after many years of being an ELCA Lutheran where I was on the church council for several years. I have been active in Outreach, Planning Group, and Bargains Galore.



**Chris Sauser**

I was born and raised in England and was confirmed into the Church of England. I also attended Church of England schools. I willingly followed my handsome hubby to the USA over 27 years ago at the insistence of the US Air force. I retired after 26 years in the insurance industry only to realize I wasn't ready so I work a couple days a week in an insurance office which keeps me out of trouble. I have a daughter, a stepson, and a kitty cat. I am very happy to include St. Christopher's in my family line up.

**Candidates for Election as Delegates to Annual Convention (2017) four vacancies:** Ruthie Bratcher, Mona Guarino, Chris Sauser, and Judy Schneider. Alternates are always needed. If you are willing to serve as an alternate, please let Fr. Peter know.