

Annual Report for the Year 2017 - Presented at the 56th Annual Meeting

January 28, 2018

11:30 am

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SAINT CHRISTOPHER'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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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 Vestry:

Class of 2017: Ruthie Bratcher, Chris Sauser

Class of 2016: Gina Rocha, Judy Schneider

Class of 2015: Bill Masters, Frank Schlichting

Officers:

Senior Warden: Diane Plein

Junior Warden: Gordon Lindvall

Clerk of the Vestry: Judy Schneider

Treasurer: Jane Cooley

Convention Delegates in 2017:

Mona Guarino

Chris Sauser

Judy Schneider

Staff: Parish Administrator: Doreen Rohrer; Sexton: Arturo Jaramillo, Ministers of Music: Fr. Bill Young, Arturo Jaramillo

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: Barbara Kimball

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

Women's Club:

Betty Roddy, Frieda Spann

Hospitality:

Anna Van Scoter

Kitchen:

Frieda Spann, Anna Van Scoter

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:

Sue Schlichting

Volunteer Coord:

Vacant

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

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began around 11:40 with Fr. Peter asking for a count of the attendance – came to 75 so a quorum was made. Fr. Peter opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed all.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Bonnie Franco moved to adopt the minutes as presented, Clive Chancey seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REMARKS

- Gave thanks for all the hard work. Many challenges came up and all helped deal with them.
- Thanked Al Franco for work as Jr. Warden.
- Thanked outgoing Vestry members Chris Anako, Jane Meyers, Gary Welsh. Feels the Vestry works very well together.
- Fr. Peter will continue with us for another year with the permission of the Bishop. Explained he will meet with the Bishop and the Jr. and Sr. Wardens sometime this year to approve his continuing in his role at St. Christophers. This is done on a year-by-year basis.
- Mentioned the budget in that it is doing better this year and we are reducing the deficit.
- Stated the Holy Spirit is working here and that speaks volumes about who we are. This is an amazing congregation in which he serves.
- 2017 and Future: Sees two challenges: (1) will be the music program for the English service as the organist left at the end of 2016, but we are currently in a search process and will continue to have help with the music in the service until a new person is hired. (2) Hopes to present a class for receptions and confirmation to the Bishop in May. Per question from Gina Rocha, he explained the difference between confirmation and reception. He intends to offer confirmation classes this year.

GINA ROCHA wanted to apologize to everyone for missing many Vestry meetings but she reports her family is doing much better so that she will be here more this year.

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Diane Plein

Per Paul’s letter to the Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

I have been privileged to serve as your Senior Warden in 2016, and look forward to serving one more year in 2017. I have enjoyed getting to know all of you better and working with you in the various ministries and activities here at St. Christopher’s. I want to thank the Vestry of 2016: Chris Anako, Bill Masters, Jane Meyers, Judy Schneider, Frank Schlichting, Gina Rocha, and Gary Welsh, along with our Treasurer Jane Cooley and Finance and Budget Chairman, Mona Guarino. And, of course, Fr. Peter who guides us operationally and spiritually. I especially want to thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for his love and guidance and for giving me the opportunity to worship Him with you here at St. Christopher’s.

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Al Franco

NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY AND DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION

Diane Plein will continue to be Sr. Warden for this year.

The nominations for the Vestry are: Ruthie Bratcher and Christine Sauser. As there were no other nominations from the floor, Bonnie Franco moved to close the nominations and Dave Cooley seconded.

The nomination for Jr. Warden is Gordon Lindvall. As there were no other nominations from the floor, Bill Masters moved to close and Bonnie Franco seconded.

The nominations for delegate to the convention were: Ruthie Bratcher, Mona Guarino, Chris Sauser and Judy Schneider. Ruthie Bratcher declined as she will not be able to attend. As there were no other nominations from the floor, Tad Daughters moved to cast a unanimous ballot for all names and positions nominated above. Jane Meyers seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mona Guarino noted two corrections in the budget report: On page 26, the column headings were reversed, the first column should be 2016 and the second column should be 2015. Also on page 32, the Budgeted numbers in the income and expense columns for 2017 should be reversed.

The budget looked like it ended the year pretty even because we budgeted \$11,000 for a pension that we could not pay because Fr. Peter is over age 72. However, it was decided that \$4500 of that money would go into a future search fund for when Fr. Peter eventually retires, and the rest to pay part of the Capital Reserve back that we borrowed.

In September, Vestry voted to discern whether or not we should begin a Capital Campaign. We have talked to consultants from the Episcopal Church Foundation to work with us on this. See report.

Bonnie Franco offered a compliment to the Finance Committee to have the foresight to plan this.

Fr. Peter thanked Mona and Jane Cooley for producing financial reports that are clear and legible for the Vestry to operate.

Gary Welsh had a question: he feels the music program is the second most important priority of this church, second to the priest. He feels that more money should go to the music program than money out of the budget for a digital sign out front. Mona answered that they are in the stages of investigating costs for a sign with possible money coming from the restricted building fund and restricted memorial fund. Neither of these funds could go toward the music program because of their restrictions. For personnel budget for an organist, the budget was increased this year.

CLOSING PRAYER

There was no other business so Fr. Peter closed the meeting with a prayer at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Plein, Sr. Warden and Acting Clerk of the Vestry for the Annual Meeting

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 have been:

2017 continued to be another year of unexpected twists and turns! Challenges abounded, but we continued moving forward throughout what turned out to be a banner year. The ministry leader reports in this booklet tell 2017's story beautifully. Issues were dealt with constructively by ministry leaders and their teams alike. The paradigm shift from acting reactively, to dealing with issues proactively, became increasingly evident. We continue 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 – but this was one of our strongest years in recent memory. We are coming up on six 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 2017 budget was a deficit budget, as will be the 2018 budget, but we came closer than ever to closing the deficit this year. We are not yet at the point where we operate under a balanced budget. But we are getting closer every year! Judicious monitoring and control of expenses have made possible two noteworthy achievements:

1. Net expenses coming in below budget; and
2. Fully paying back what was withdrawn from our Operating Reserve before year's end. Not that long ago, we did not even have an Operating Reserve.

Please review the Finance and Budget Committee Report in this booklet for specific highlights and details.

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 2017. Our willingness to be more flexible and make mid-course corrections have been the hallmarks of that work in 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 similar to last year's, with patterns and cycles of attendance having changed and become somewhat harder to predict. Our "ASA" (Average Sunday Attendance) was 113, up from 107 in 2016. That may not sound like much, but when you consider that over the course of the year, it

represents over 300 more people in church on Sundays. Some Sundays we don't have nearly enough bulletins - and on others we have far too many! It is particularly noteworthy that in 2017 we had over 1,000 more people receive communion than in 2016. That reflects a higher comfort level among those relatively new to the church.

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 Monday Men's Bible Workbench study, the Thursday Women's Bible Studies, and special occasion Children's Programs. Our Monday Living with Loss community support group remains anchored 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. 2017 was another year of events and activities that brought us closer together. Baptisms at various points in the year, and our traditional celebrations of Las Posadas and the Matachines Dancers were all part of 2017's special events. Intentional acts of evangelism such as going out two-by-two welcoming neighbors, inviting them to enjoy food and fellowship with us, continued and flourished! We've embraced the "Invite-Welcome-Connect" approach to evangelism, and increased our partnerships with other organizations to strengthen outreach even further. This is a great place to serve!

Where are we going?

2018 will be marked as a year of preparation for transition, as we will be electing a new bishop for the diocese, and we are preparing for my retirement from full-time ministry at the end of January 2019. I am greatly encouraged by the tangible evidence that St. Christopher's is planning on being around for a good long time, doing God's work in this place. Among those visible signs:

- Increasing membership with active participation in the ministries of the parish
- Ongoing development of an updated Strategic Plan incorporating meaningful mission and vision statements with relevance to our lay ministries
- Embarking on the elements of what will become a current parish profile that defines us as we are now, and will be critical to the search process
- An increasingly stronger financial outlook
- Establishment of a Rector search fund, setting aside money now in anticipation of future needs
- Contributions already being received for a future capital campaign

Our journey together continues, day by day. Challenges and surprises will abound, filled with opportunities to grow together in faith. May we continue to 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.

2018 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 2018

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:

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 hemos estado:

¡2017 sigue siendo otro año de inesperados giros y vueltas! Abundaban los desafíos, pero continuamos avanzando a lo largo de lo que resultó ser un año excepcional. Los informes de los líderes de los Ministerios Laicos en este folleto cuentan la historia de 2017 maravillosamente. Retos se presentaron constructivamente por los líderes y sus equipos por igual. El cambio de paradigma de actuar reactivamente, a abordar problemas de manera proactiva, se hizo cada vez más evidente. Seguimos mirando más "hacia adelante" que "al 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 Felicitaciones para nuestros guardianes, Junta Parroquial y el Comité de finanzas que ayudaron a mantenernos en pista. Esto nos 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, trabajando 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 pasó a la vida eterna. Los extrañaremos enormemente. Pero también recibimos a un número de nuevas familias, ¡Dios provee!

Las finanzas de la parroquia continuaron a desafiarnos, pero este fue uno de nuestros años más fuertes en la memoria reciente. ¡La buena noticia es que tenemos casi cinco años desde la última vez que fue necesario tomar dinero de los fondos de la Fundación! ¿Qué impresionante es, especialmente en vista de los muchos años de la dependencia en la Fundación? ¡Habla volúmenes acerca de las perspectivas para el futuro!

El presupuesto de 2017 fue un presupuesto de déficit, como será el presupuesto de 2018, pero llegamos más cercanos que nunca de cerrar el déficit este año. Todavía no estamos al punto en que operamos bajo un presupuesto equilibrado. Pero nos estamos acercando más cada año! Juicioso seguimiento y control de gastos han hecho posible dos logros destacables:

1. Los gastos fueron menos de lo que anticipamos en presupuesto de 2017; y
2. Totalmente pagamos lo que fue retirado de la reserva operativa antes del fin del año. En años pasados, ni teníamos una reserva operativa.

Por favor revisen las finanzas y el informe de la Comisión de Presupuesto en este folleto para detalles específicos.

Donde Estamos:

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 2017. 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 presencia global es similar a la del año pasado, con los patrones y ciclos de asistencia después de haber cambiado y se convierten en algo más difícil de predecir. Nuestra "ASA" (Promedio de Asistencia Dominical) era 113, más que el 107 en el año 2016. Esto no suena como mucho, pero cuando se considera en el transcurso del año, que representa más de 300 personas más en la iglesia los

domingos. Algunos domingos no tenemos suficientes boletines – ¡y en otros tenemos demasiados! Es particularmente notable que en 2017, 1000 personas más recibieran la comunión que en el año 2016. Refleja un mayor nivel de comodidad entre los relativamente nuevos en la iglesia.

Las bendiciones siguen: más gente se han unido a nosotros a ser activos en la vida y obra de la parroquia. Educación cristiana basada en las escrituras sigue fuerte, con Estudios Bíblicos de los Hombres los lunes, Estudios Bíblicos de las Mujeres los jueves, y otros programas para ocasiones especiales.

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. 2017 fue otro año de eventos y actividades que nos trajeron más cerca juntos. Bautismos en varios puntos en el año y las celebraciones tradicionales de Las Posadas y la Danza a la Virgen fueron parte de eventos especiales de 2017. Actos intencionales de evangelismo como saliendo de dos en dos dando la bienvenida a nuestros vecinos, invitándolos a disfrutar de comida y compañerismo con nosotros, ¡continuaron y florecían! Hemos adoptado el enfoque de evangelismo “Invitar-dar la Bienvenida-y Conectar” y aumentado nuestras alianzas con otras organizaciones para fortalecer el alcance más allá. ¡Este es un gran lugar para servir!

¿A dónde vamos?

2018 se marcará como un año de preparación para la transición, vamos a elegir a un nuevo/a obispo/a para la diócesis, ya nos estamos preparando para mi retiro del Ministerio a tiempo completo a finales de enero de 2019. Me siento muy alentado por la evidencia tangible que San Cristóbal está planeando estar aquí por muchos años más, haciendo las obras de Dios en este lugar. Entre esos signos visibles:

- El aumento del número de miembros con participación activa en los ministerios de la parroquia
- El desarrollo de un Plan Estratégico actualizado que incorpora declaraciones significativas de misión y visión con relevancia para nuestros ministerios laicos
- El embarcando en creando los elementos de lo que será un perfil actual de la parroquia que nos define como somos ahora ,y será fundamental para el proceso de búsqueda de un nuevo sacerdote
- Una perspectiva financiera cada vez más fuerte
- El establecimiento de un fondo de búsqueda para nuevo Rector, poniendo a un lado dinero ahora en previsión de necesidades futuras
- Contribuciones ya siendo recibidas para una campaña capital por venir

Nuestro viaje junto sigue, día a día. Retos y sorpresas abundarán, llenas de oportunidades para crecer juntos en la fe. Que podamos ser abiertos, receptivos 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.

¡2018 será otro emocionante capítulo en la vida de este lugar que conocemos y amamos como San Cristóbal!

*Su Servidor en Cristo
Padre Pedro+*

Vestry Report - Senior Warden

Diane Plein

This is the second year I have been privileged to serve you as your Senior Warden. I want to report that the Vestry and I have had a productive and rewarding year in 2017. Beginning in March, we began a Capital Campaign discernment process with you to get your opinions, thoughts, and ideas for the continued maintenance and further growth of St. Christopher's church buildings, grounds, and ministries. In April, the Vestry approved the purchase and installation of an electronic sign, which has now been successfully installed. In June through September, we worked to produce a Parish Picture Directory for you and roster information for our database, the first major update since 2013. In August, we began a process to look at installing a Solar Roof System for electric power conservation and will continue to research our options. In September, in conjunction with the Capital Campaign discernment results, we began strategic planning for St. Christopher's by developing a mission/vision statement and ministry identity to sharpen our focus on who we are and where we want to be in the future. As St. Christopher's continues to be a vibrant congregation in worship, fellowship and outreach, the Vestry and I look forward to again serving you in 2018.

Junior Warden

Gordon Lindvall

The Junior Warden is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the church buildings and grounds and is elected by the congregation. Other duties are the same as vestry members that are charged with the administration and leadership of the church. Leona and I are snow birds and are not here for six months. Al Franco was kind enough to take over the duties of Junior Warden in my absence.

The challenges we face as a church are similar to those faced by all churches. We are blessed to have outstanding members of the congregation that rise to the challenges and make our church what it is today. As Junior Warden, one of the exciting things is the capital improvement campaign. Working with a consultant, areas of improvement have been identified. Cost of these improvements have been assembled. We as a congregation are in the process of prioritizing these improvements and deciding how they are to be funded. If we as a congregation elect not to continue with the capital improvement campaign, we have still identified possible improvements we may want to make in the future.

During the last year, these are the projects I can remember. It is by no means a complete list.

- A new air conditioner was installed in the chapel when the old one gave out.
- Thanks to the efforts of Bonnie Franco the vent for the furnace-air conditioner at the north end of the church was refurbished with new fabric replacing the old screen and the vents were repaired and painted.
- A generous donation by Bill Bisig, in memory of his wife, resulted in the parking lot being cleaned, sealed and restriped.
- The old sign boards and support structure at the corner of Peoria an 103rd was removed and a new electronic sign was installed that uses a variable message board.

As a relativity new member of St. Christopher's, I am amazed at the involvement of the congregation in the care of the buildings and grounds of our campus. Thank you everyone for your help and support.

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.

Altar Servers

Barbara Fabre

St. Christopher's is truly blessed to have a dedicated group of Acolytes/Altar Servers. Sadly, four of our servers from the English service have had to resign this year for various reasons and they are missed. However, we've also had two new servers join our ranks; John Card and Ashleigh Johnson. The 2nd Service (Spanish-language) also had a couple of servers resign, but they too have picked up new people: Gina Rocha, Maria Maciel and Fernanda Luna Chavez. Welcome!

We are always looking to increase our ranks of altar servers. It's an honor and privilege to serve at the altar of God. If you are interested, please contact Barbara Fabre (the Acolyte Master) or Fr. Peter. We train on Saturday mornings about twice a year and we have donuts!

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs)

Betty Roddy

These are dedicated lay persons who call on those unable to come to church and bring them news of our 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.

This vital ministry to the ill and shut-ins of our parish grew in 2017. Betty Roddy and Judy Schneider have been joined by John Card and Ruthie Bratcher 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 about the next training session.

Music Ministries and Choir

Fr. Peter Fabre

2017 was another year of changes in our music program as we began with Joe Brown as our Organist/Choirmaster through mid-January, after which he went on to other work. In the weeks that followed, we were blessed to be served by supply organists/pianists Holly Votaw, June Locke, and ASU Music Student Heather Peel. By the end of the first quarter, we had established Heather as our Interim Organist for most of the remainder of the year, and even had a guest appearance by Michael Heap during Heather's student travels. The choir came out of its long hiatus after the summer, under the able direction of Killy Balabanis. Killy, choir and Heather worked beautifully together to provide us with inspiring music.

The last quarter of the year brought another set of transitions. We welcomed Fr. Bill Young onboard in October to work with Killy and the choir while Heather was still with us. As a bonus, we were blessed with Katy Young as a strong addition to our choir. Fr. Bill officially took on the role of choirmaster in November, which was Heather's last month with us before graduating with her Masters in Organ Performance from ASU and moving "back East" to take on new responsibilities.

Fr. Bill became our Minister of Music, serving as choirmaster and organist, on the first Sunday in December - going back into his roots in a capacity in which he had served in a number of churches before being called to ordained ministry.

We begin 2018 with Fr. Bill getting "back into the groove" as our music program continues to unfold, with new choir members and an invitation for those who would like to lead the congregation in singing and making a joyful noise unto the Lord to contact Fr. Bill about being part of our music program.

Prayer Concerns / Prayers Chain

Judy Schneider

St. Christopher's Prayer Chain exists solely to pray for anyone in need of prayer and/or who doesn't want to wait to be included in the Sunday bulletin for prayers. 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.

Readers

Clive Chancey

Our readers, or Lectors to use their official name, are a meaningful part of our parish life. They read the lessons and psalms appointed for each Sunday, or for special services. If you enjoy public speaking and appreciate the wisdom of the Scriptures, we invite you to join us and serve as a Reader. We schedule two months in advance so you can plan ahead. If you are interested, please contact Clive Chancey.

Ushers

Frank Schlichting

Thanks to the Ushers for a great job again in 2017. Chris Anako, John Corn, Ann and Louie Gay, Bill Masters, Al Franco, Rosemary Lynch, JP Harrison, Sue Schlichting. We can always use more people to usher; call Frank Schlichting.

Education / Formation Ministries

Barbara Fabre, Director of Christian Education

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 *The Lord is Light*, 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. *The Lord is Light* 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 followed by a light soup supper. Twelve members took part.

Lenten Bible Study

Amy Schultz

We explored God's saving and redeeming love through a 7-week study of the Scripture readings for Lent and Easter using *Christ Is for Us*. Key Bible readings called us to embrace God's salvation and the new life offered to us through Christ. Amy Schultz led the study. The Advent Bible study met in Middleton Hall followed by a light soup supper. Twelve to fourteen members took part.

Men's Bible Study

Killy Balabanis / Gary Welsh

Killy and I can't express how wonderful this year has been with the MEN'S BIBLE WORKBENCH. From the very beginning the class was a success, from three people in attendance to seven by the end of the third month. If you are interested in what your fellow man at St. Christopher's or any visiting church member thinks about the assigned Biblical lesson provided by the National Calendar, come join us. You are in for a surprise. We all have thoughts that we don't care to share because of "whatever" reasons. But when you hear other's thoughts and questions, YOU may be glad you came. It's fun and its rewarding. Come join us for one session. We meet each Monday morning at 11:00 in Harte Hall and there are now eight members to the group.

Women's Bible Study

Barbara Fabre

2017 has been a year for intense learning for the women. We did two long studies, the first being James (the step-brother of Jesus). James' concentration was on convincing the Jews that Jesus was truly the Son of God. One of our disciplines was handwriting out the entire book of James. Our second study of the year was probably the toughest study in five years, Believing God. We were challenged right down to our very cores of belief.

We picked up three new students this year and they were all welcome additions to our sisterhood. We welcome any woman who desires to get closer to her maker to join us on February 8, 2018 when we start Discerning the Voice of God by Priscilla Shirer. It's a 7-week course where we'll get to know God's language, character, and tone of voice, by growing closer to Him through His Word.

Children and Youth

Barbara Fabre

Growing our Faith has been like a roller coaster this year. Attendance has been a real issue, so classes were suspended for several months. But, we are up and running for the special Advent series *Christmas Around the World*. The children learned how children in other countries (Sweden, China, Italy and England) celebrate their Christmases They've been learning with all their senses, such as learning to say Merry Christmas, Hello, Good-bye and Jesus in each country's language. They've learned what each country's Christmas traditions are religious and secular with videos, stories, and pictures. They've also learned by tasting each country's holiday specialties. Sweden brought St. Lucia, gingerbread men, and Tomte the Gnome who delivers gifts instead of Santa. When studying China, they learned to sing Jesus Loves Me in Mandarin Chinese and eat Lo Mein Noodles with chop sticks! What fun!!

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 both our Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drive from Cheyenne Elementary School to include Country Meadows Elementary School, and within the parish.
- Strengthened our partnership with Valley View Community Food Bank, donating \$100 for their Turkey Drive.
- 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, 1.25% in 2017 (\$2,901.84). 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. 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.
- Support development of Fidget Blankets as a viable Outreach Ministry.
- Support Hearts and Hands of Hope (CHHH), a charity which helps orphans, children of widows and those from poverty-stricken families obtain a high school education in Kenya by sponsoring one child.

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. Below are the many ways that you can become involved in established Outreach Ministries at St. Christopher's:

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 next month and are delivered to Project Linus, Eve's Place, and Crisis Nursery. In 2017, about 100 quilts were lovingly created and delivered.

Backpacks & School Supplies

Outreach Committee

In early August, we delivered 18 small packs (for 1st - 3rd graders), 23 large backpacks (for 4th - 7th graders), and boxes of extra spare supplies to Country Meadows Elementary School. One large backpack was also provided to a St. Christopher's family. Thanks to all who shopped, brought, packed, checked, and delivered the backpacks to start the school year off for 42 students!

Bargains Galore

Bonnie Franco

We have had a very busy and successful year. We are indebted to all our donors who make our mission a workable goal. This past year we have added several additional people to our team and feel blessed to have them step up to help when we needed it the most.

We generally have assigned captains for each week who come in before Tuesday morning and set up our tables with all the current donations. On Tuesday mornings, we gather in numbers and set about cleaning, repairing, pricing, displaying and getting everything ready for our Saturday sale day. If you are available to join our fun and commitment, please feel welcome to stop by any Tuesday morning. We are a relaxed, (sometimes loud) fun loving group offering usable articles at low price points to customers who are in need or who are simply looking for great bargains. Stop by and learn more.

Our donations have been steady and have included many households. We laugh among ourselves wondering how we can endure our blessings. Our storage spaces have been full to the brim a few times this year and we have managed to spread that goodwill far and wide. Again, thank you to all who have remembered us and our constant need for gently used items.

Bookstore

Jane Meyers

Not only is the Bookstore a wonderful place to buy books and share magazines but it directly supports the Men's Club sandwich effort and Outreach in general. It is also a warm and friendly place to enjoy a cup of coffee and share stories. The support of the congregation and community in supplying books and magazines has been phenomenal. Thank you.

Boot Fund

Outreach Committee

In 2017, Outreach provided 35 \$25 Payless gift cards to Cheyenne and Country Meadows Elementary Schools for shoes. The fund received \$530.56 from individual contributions and from the wooden boots in the narthex and Bargains Galore (at the checkout). The Outreach Committee adds \$300 to the donated amount. 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]

Outreach Committee

In 2017, we had a tremendous response to our annual *Bring a Bunny to Church Drive* on Palm Sunday. We received a total of 134 animals at the altar including:

- Bunnies - 111
- Other - 23
- Duck - 4
- Peeps - 1
- Chicken - 1
- Piggie - 1
- Frog - 1
- Donkey - 1
- Dog - 2
- Lamb - 8
- Bear - 1

Card Making

Ann Gay

Our Card Ministry, with the help of customers from SCRAPs OF LOVE, continued thousands of 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? The ministry no longer meets at St. Christopher's. Kits, scissors, and glue are provided. Everything is in the form of a kit and all you do is glue the pieces together. Please contact Ann Gay if you are interested in making cards.

Cards & Calls Encouragement

Barbara Kimball

It has been my pleasure to assume the Cards & Calls Ministry following Carol Brown's departure. I did cards under Carol for over a year. I thank Jane Meyers, Marilyn Hunter, and Carol Dickey for staying on. It made things much easier for me. I also thank Ann Gay as she furnishes all the cards for us. In the near future, we hope to send birthday cards as well. I would appreciate any ideas you may have to improve this ministry.

Christmas Food Drive

Amy Schultz

In 2017, the Outreach Committee provided 5 Christmas Food Bags to Cheyenne Elementary School hourly staff who are not paid over the 2-week Christmas break and 20 bags for families at Country Meadows Elementary Schools. The total expenditure was \$817.94. Outreach Committee members shopped for and organized bags containing staples including:

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

Joanne David & Rosemary Lynch

Wow-ee!! We are into our 30th year with this sing-a-long ministry. Times goes fast when you're having Fun. I would like to give a heartfelt thanks to anyone and everyone who is or has given their time to this outreach. We go to care centers twice monthly - usually October through April - depending on how many members fly back north when their snow is gone. So, if you like to sing the "oldies" or if you play an instrument, come out to one of our sings and try us out. If you would like to know more about us, please call Joanne David or Rosemary Lynch.

Easter Baskets

Women's Club

Women's Club collected candy and small animals and then met to create baskets 25 Easter baskets for Sojourners.

Eve's Place

Amy Schultz

For over 10 years, Eve's Place has provided innovative and empowerment based programs to victims of domestic, sexual and teen dating abuse. Eve's Place has introduced the concept of a Mobile Advocacy Program for victims in 10 separate communities in the West Valley. This brings services to victims in their own community regardless of their place in the healing process. Their goal is to reach 75% of domestic abuse victims who would never go or call a shelter program for assistance. The Mobile Advocacy Program can provide all the services available in a shelter without the bed for any victim of domestic abuse. Thanks to a recent grant, Eve's Place has been able to expand their advocacy and assistance. We will be working with Eve's Place in 2018 to strengthen and broaden our partnership.

Lap Robes

Ann Gay & Stacie Peters

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 Middleton Hall and create! In 2017, we gave many lap robes to Banner Boswell; all made by members of our congregation and friends using yarn provided by Outreach or donated. Please let Stacie Peters know if you would like to knit/crochet lap robes --- we can always use more.

Fidget Blankets

Ann Gay

We gave about 30 fidget blankets to Banner Boswell hospital who nicknamed them the *Cadillac of Fidget Blankets!* because we put over 10 items on each blanket. 17 ladies participated at the August Women's Club meeting to make the blankets A fun project!

Operation Christmas Child

Jane Meyers

This outreach project is conducted through Samaritan's Purse and sends Christmas gift shoeboxes and Gospel lessons all over the world. Our church is acting as a gathering/relay station for the collection of the shoeboxes which are taken to Calvary Chapel Surprise and then to a distribution center in California. In 2016, we collected approximately 750 shoe boxes and 1,163 this year! Parish and community support is gratifying. We are truly acting as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Barbara Fabre

The ladies of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Team had a very slow summer, but have returned this fall with a vengeance. December 3rd there were 9 shawls on the altar to be blessed! Thanks be to God. Anyone, male or female, that knits or crochets is encouraged to help themselves to yarn that is stored in Middleton Hall and become a blessing to a needy soul.

We continue to get beautiful thank you notes from people who have received one of our blessed shawls. In fact, three shawls were hand delivered to Connecticut this past week. We have meetings twice a year which are announced in the bulletins ahead of time. If you're interested in making shawls, please contact Barbara and she will see that your hands are blessed by Fr. Peter and introduce you to our yarn collection.

Just a short reminder, prayer shawls are available in the church office to anyone that needs one...Free.

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 2017, they served the lunches monthly, delivering over 1,500 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 \$10 of each week's income and the Korean Congregation gave \$300 in 2017. 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 3rd Sunday. Later in the day, Men's Club, church members, friends of the parish and youth drive to uMom to feed the homeless. In December, we brought beany babies, candy canes and handmade cards to the children spending the night at uMom. You can support the Sandwich Ministry by helping make sandwiches each month, help deliver the sandwiches each month, or financially by dropping a check in the offering plate any Sunday, at the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, or at a Piano / Cello Recital reception with "Sandwiches" or "uMom" on the memo line,

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. Women's Club made and gave 25 Easter Baskets at Easter.

Summer Water Drive

Outreach Committee

Outreach sponsored the Summer Water Drive from June to September. In 2016, tons of water as well as \$812.79 cash was collected for Phoenix Rescue Mission's Code Red Drive in June - September. Thank you to all who donated water or cash. This is the fifth 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. Throughout the year we give the homes handmade greeting cards for the kids to give to others.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee sponsored the 2017 Thanksgiving Food Drive to provide 15 bags of food for families in need providing 15 bags to Cheyenne Elementary School, 3 bags to Eve's Place, and 3 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. Extra food received in the drive was donated to the Valley View Food Bank. The gift cards cost was covered in 2017 by a \$200 donation from the Women's Club and another donation from an individual member.

Valley View Community Food Bank [VVCFB]

Carol Brown / Jane Meyers

Food is collected year-round for Valley View. Leave food in the large basket in the narthex. You may write "Valley View," "VVCFB," or "food bank" on the memo line of a check dropped in the Sunday plate. All West Valley Wind Ensemble concerts at St. Christopher's collect food for the food bank encouraging concert goers to bring "a tin for the bin." In 2017 food was also collected as part of our LifeTouch photo sessions and many members used coupons that not only saved them money but had LifeTouch contributing funds to Valley View. Outreach provides \$100 to purchase turkeys for their annual Turkey Drive and gave \$50 for water during late summer. A sampling of our donations is placed 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, who long served as liaison to coordinate with the Office and let parishioners know what was most needed moved in 2017 and Jane Meyers stepped forward to take her place and work with Jesse Ramirez to try to strengthen our partnership.

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 Sojourners, 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 individuals participate in a variety of helping and giving activities.

Service & Fellowship Ministries

Women's Club

Jane Cooley, Secretary

Current Officers include:

Coordinators:	Betty Roddy & Frieda Spann
Secretary:	Jane Cooley
Treasurer:	Jane Meyers
Memorial Receptions:	Anna Van Scoter
UTO Chair:	Sue Schlichting

The Women's Club was organized mid-year 2017 to give all women of the parish an opportunity to meet the second Saturday of each month for community and parish service. The following are some club projects during 2017.

- Collected candy and small stuffed animals, then met to create 25 Easter baskets for children at Sojourners.
- Donated \$200 to the Outreach Thanksgiving Food Bag Project.
- Donated \$150 to Father Peter's Discretionary Fund.
- Collected candy, then met to create Halloween Goody Bags for children at the homeless shelter.
- Sponsored "Our Daily Bread" publications in English and Spanish.
- Guest speaker, Claudia Rumwell, talked about keeping up-to-date information for future senior care including wills, powers of attorney, list of locations for safe deposit keys, passwords, medications, doctor contacts -- anything our caregivers might need.
- The Little Gift Shop and Bake Sale raised \$970.25. These funds will go into the club account for in-reach and outreach projects.

Thanks to all parishioners who contributed materials, funding, time, and talent to these projects.

Plans are underway for new projects in 2018. All women of St. Christopher's are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship while helping our parish and our community.

Men's Club

Killy Balabanis, President

All men of St. Christopher's are members of the men's club. Our meetings are take place on the third Saturday of the month at Mercer's restaurant at 8 am for morning prayer, business, breakfast, and fellowship. Following breakfast, we adjourn to our parish hall to make sandwiches for our UMOM project which are bagged and delivered on Sunday. Money for the 120 lunches (averages \$140 per month) comes from the Men's Club account generously supported by our book store, the Korean congregation, the diocese, our fundraisers and other donors.

Although attendance at our meetings are relatively small we have good support from the men of St. Christopher's with our other projects, as well including our cook out events (two in the past year), Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, and assistance to other congregation events. Men's Club also established the men bible study to which all men are invited.

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 Recital, and for memorials. Hospitality is funded by money from eScrip, Fry's Community Rewards, aluminum can and paper recycling, coffee hour, potluck and individual contributions. Anna van Scoter and Frieda Span coordinate the 9am coffee hour volunteers and donations.

Landscape Ministry

Bonnie Franco & Eva Quiles

It has been a relatively quiet year for landscaping. We have been blessed by Bill Bisig joining our landscaping crew. He has dedicated himself to keeping us weed-free and is winning the fight by a long shot. He has also accepted responsibility for keeping the shrubs and flowering plants in front of the church trimmed back. Thank you, Bill!! The plantings seem to be holding their own. A few have been lost due to our excessive heat this past summer but nothing major requires action.

The big news is the removal of the permanent brick/mortar monument sign on the corner of Peoria Ave and 103rd Ave. and replacing it with our new digital sign. Our special committee took care of all the research, selection, placement, installation, and implementation of the information we want to share. It was a major event, which they worked very hard to accomplish.

We refurbished the back of the church facing Peoria. The old screening was removed, the wood framing was painted, and high-grade shade cloth was installed where the old metal screening had been. The aluminum cables and trunk cover was painted to blend in with the back of the church, along with a new paint job on the cross. The old spot lights, that were lighting the original sign have been removed and new lights were installed to up light the flag. We are investigating ways to light the cross better. Our challenge involves two stumbling blocks. The first is the west arm of the cross is directly over the new sign top and the second issue is the automatic eye for the digital sign is on the lower East side of that sign. If we light the cross from the top, it will turn off the bottom half of the new sign. If you think you have a workable idea please share it with me, Gordie Lindvall or Al Franco.

Finally, we got additional granite and will be adding plants to enhance the overall esthetics of our church yard.

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 2017, the group again observed the Day of the Dead, a traditional Mexican holiday, 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 3-1/2 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, attend our concerts, and sometimes attend our services.

Planning Group

Meets 1st Tue of the Month at 9am

The group's primary role is to threefold:

- to brainstorm new ideas and ways to support ministries,
- to serve as a backstop helping other ministries to succeed, and
- to coordinate our common life both around the campus and scheduling time and resources.

We also serve as a coordination point for space utilization within the church complex and fundraising efforts. Since 2013, Fr. Peter tasked the group to work to eliminate the clutter in various areas of the campus and to develop strategies to keep it that way. The Planning Group works mostly by email but meets occasionally to coordinate.

In 2017, we:

- Continued to encourage and coordinate many improvement projects around the campus.
- Encouraged members and friends of St. Christopher to sign up for Fry's Community Rewards - a simple, year-round fundraising project in conjunction with Fry's. 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 that St. Christopher's had previously been enrolled. Contact Amy Schultz for more information.

In 2018, 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;
- Mona Guarino, in coordination with the office, keeps the Ministry Leader Roster with current contact information for all Ministry Leaders and the Ministry Handbook up to date.
- Judy Schneider shares 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.

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

Recycling

Aluminum Cans

Bill Masters

Look for the red can in Middleton to donate your cans. In 2017, the cans brought in over \$200 for the Hospitality Ministry.

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. The paper brought in about \$100 for the Hospitality Ministry.

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.

Welcome Ministry

Committee

The Welcome Ministry is 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. 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.

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

- **Updated promotional material** developed 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** – Because we are 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 we did in 2016 and 2017 that took no money and only a few minutes to make it possible to significantly improve our facilities to all. We have a variety of tasks remaining that include 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 projects or, for larger projects, as part of the Capital Campaign.

- **Installed a modern digital sign** – After interviewing and receiving bids from two local installers, we installed a new digital sign. We have received several positive comments about the sign. We know that signs work as a way people come to spaghetti dinners, join the women’s bible study, and take tai chi classes, or Sunday services because they see the sign. The new digital sign not only relieves people from having to go out in the summer heat to update them but 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 were drawn from a combination of Memorial and Building funds.

We know that the old sign boards on the Peoria side of the campus worked –people came to spaghetti dinners, joined the women’s bible study, and took tai chi classes because they saw the signs. We will be continuing to ask those attending church functions how they hear about the event.

- **Improved promotion of 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.

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.

Financial Ministries

Finance & Budget Committee Report

Mona Guarino, Chair

Highlights:

- Another year without using Endowment dollars;
- Successful audit review in April;
- Few required capital expenses;
- Completing 2017 with less than the \$11,400 budgeted deficit: \$754.

We continued to watch the budget closely. Our expenses were below budget and our income was over budget. Fewer pledges were lost in 2017 to moving, changed circumstance or death than we normally experience. Income minus expense for 2017 was -\$754. We used funds from the Capital Reserve fund to fill the gap between our income and our expenses several times in 2017, but, all was repaid by the end of the year; no Reserve money was reported as income in 2017. We will again forecast a deficit for 2018: \$13,336. This is the first year since the Vestry implemented this approach to coping with the deficit that we have been able to repay all that was borrowed in a year. 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 instead of "borrowing" money from the Endowment. Our cautious optimism continues. The members of the Finance Committee that have been working diligently on your behalf are Mona Guarino (chair), Marj Kassien, Beth Mayhew, Amy Schultz, Judy Schneider along with Fr. Peter and Diane Plein (ex-officio members).

Finance Focus in 2018 will be to:

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

St Christopher's Episcopal Church
Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2017

	Dec 31, 2017	Dec 31, 2016	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
1000 CASH ACCOUNTS				
1010 Wells Fargo Operating Checking	1,752.81	3,104.50	-1,351.69	-43.54%
1011 Wells Fargo - Ministry Account-	47,769.25	43,245.45	4,523.80	10.46%
1012 Wells Fargo - Savings-Youth	9,842.88	9,839.92	2.96	0.03%
1013 Wells Fargo-Op Sav/Key	600.58	600.40	0.18	0.03%
Total 1000 CASH ACCOUNTS	\$59,965.52	\$56,790.27	\$3,175.25	5.59%
1610 Schwab - Restricted Account				
1612 Schwab - Blackburn Fund	36,497.09	30,546.04	5,951.05	19.48%
1613 Schwab - Memorial Fund	30,703.37	27,970.91	2,732.46	9.77%
1613 -C Contra - Schwab Memorial Fund	-23,270.60		-23,270.60	
Total 1613 Schwab - Memorial Fund	\$7,432.77	\$27,970.91	-\$20,538.14	-73.43%
1614 Schwab - Columbarium	18,836.10	15,836.32	2,999.78	18.94%
1614-C Contra - Schwab Columbarium	-1,206.25		-1,206.25	
Total 1614 Schwab - Columbarium	\$17,629.85	\$15,836.32	\$1,793.53	11.33%
1615 Schwab - Cares Fund	5,050.85	4,226.32	824.53	19.51%
1616 Schwab - Building Fund	21,547.51	20,122.03	1,425.48	7.08%
1616-C Contra Schwab - Building Fund	-13,041.58		-13,041.58	
Total 1616 Schwab - Building Fund	\$8,505.93	\$20,122.03	-\$11,616.10	-57.73%
1617 Schwab - Campaign for Tomorrow	16,775.62		16,775.62	
1617-C Contra Schwab Campaign for	-3,390.79		-3,390.79	
Total 1617 Schwab - Campaign for	\$13,384.83	\$0.00	\$13,384.83	
Total 1610 Schwab - Restricted Account	\$88,501.32	\$98,701.62	-\$10,200.30	-10.33%
Total Bank Accounts	\$148,466.84	\$155,491.89	-\$7,025.05	-4.52%
Total Current Assets	\$148,466.84	\$155,491.89	-\$7,025.05	-4.52%
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%
1550 Miscellaneous Capital Expenditures	38,815.47		38,815.47	
1599 Accumulated Depreciation	-1,054,774.21	-1,054,774.2	0.00	0.00%
Total 1500 FIXED ASSETS	\$377,800.94	\$338,985.47	\$38,815.47	11.45%
Total Fixed Assets	\$377,800.94	\$338,985.47	\$38,815.47	11.45%
Other Assets				
1622 Schwab - Endowment Account	259,203.88	239,098.22	20,105.66	8.41%
Total Other Assets	\$259,203.88	\$239,098.22	\$20,105.66	8.41%
	\$785,471.66	\$733,575.58	\$51,896.08	7.07%

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2100 Payroll Tax Liability

Total 2100 Payroll Tax Liability

Total Other Current Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities

Total Liabilities

Equity

3001 Unrestricted - Operating

3002 Unrestricted Endowment - MS/Sch

3003 Unrestricted Fixed Assets

3010 Unrestricted Capital Reserve

3010-C Contra Unrestr. Capital Reserve

Total 3010 Unrestricted Capital Reserve

3020 Unrestricted - Search Fund

3102 Temp. Restricted - Youth Minist

3103 Temp Restricted - Investment -

	\$1,575.23	\$1,774.77	-\$199.54	-11.24%
	\$1,575.23	\$1,774.77	-\$199.54	-11.24%
	\$1,575.23	\$1,774.77	-\$199.54	-11.24%
	\$1,575.23	\$1,774.77	-\$199.54	-11.24%
	291.85	37,866.72	-37,576.87	-99.23%
	259,203.88	239,098.22	20,105.66	8.41%
	338,985.46	338,985.46	0.00	0.00%
	123,244.82	102,363.03	20,881.79	20.40%
	-94,288.76	-81,634.33	-12,654.43	-15.50%
	\$28,956.06	\$20,728.70	\$8,227.36	39.69%
	10,500.00	4,500.00	6,000.00	133.33%
	9,842.88	9,839.92	2.96	0.03%
	112,248.04	98,701.62	13,56.42	13.72%

**St Christopher's Episcopal Church
Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2017

	Dec 31, 2017	Dec 31, 2016	\$ Change	% Change
3200 DONOR RESTRICTED NET ASSETS				
3201 Outreach	47,689.04	36,516.85	11,172.19	30.59%
3201-C Contra Outreach	-35,980.64	-27,190.54	-8,790.10	-32.33%
Total 3201 Outreach	\$11,708.40	\$9,326.31	\$2,382.09	25.54%
3204 Bargains Galore	87,671.97	72,288.51	15,383.46	21.28%
3204-C Contra Bargains Galore	-86,158.22	-70,709.79	-15,448.43	-21.85%
Total 3204 Bargains Galore	\$1,513.75	\$1,578.72	-\$64.97	-4.12%
3206 ECW	0.00	13,078.52	-13,078.52	-100.00%
3206-C Contra ECW	0.00	-11,043.85	11,043.85	100.00%
Total 3206 ECW	\$0.00	\$2,034.67	-\$2,034.67	-100.00%
3207 Men's Club	9,310.57	7,371.38	1,939.19	26.31%
3207-C Contra Men's Club	-8,216.31	-6,606.02	-1,610.29	-24.38%
Total 3207 Men's Club	\$1,094.26	\$765.36	\$328.90	42.97%
3208 Memorial	1,280.00	1,255.00	25.00	1.99%
3208-C Contra Memorial	-200.76	-106.71	-94.05	-88.14%
Total 3208 Memorial	\$1,079.24	\$1,148.29	-\$69.05	-6.01%
3209 Columbarium	3,037.00	3,037.00	0.00	0.00%
3209-C Contra Columbarium	-1,949.39	-1,949.39	0.00	0.00%
Total 3209 Columbarium	\$1,087.61	\$1,087.61	\$0.00	0.00%
3210 Adult Education	1,521.78	1,521.78	0.00	0.00%
3210-C Contra - Adult Education	-1,521.78	-1,521.78	0.00	00%
Total 3210 Adult Education	\$0.00	-\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
3211 Children & Youth Ministries	14,118.42	14,118.42	0.00	0.00%
3211-C Contra Children & Youth Min	-12,803.17	-12,414.17	-389.00	-3.13%
Total 3211 Children & Youth Ministries	\$1,315.25	\$1,704.25	-\$389.00	-22.83%
3212 Hospitality	5,461.57	4,425.39	1,036.18	23.41%
3212-C Contra Hospitality	-3,961.91	-3,290.86	-671.05	-20.39%
Total 3212 Hospitality	\$1,499.66	\$1,134.53	\$365.13	32.18%
3213 Landscaping	5,359.00	4,964.00	395.00	7.96%
3213-C Contra Landscaping	-4,688.70	-4,688.70	0.00	0.00%
Total 3213 Landscaping	\$670.30	\$275.30	\$395.00	143.48%
3214 Key Deposit Fund	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00%
3215 Altar Guild	2,427.70		2,427.70	
3216 Womens Club	14,636.22		14,636.22	
3216-C Contra Women's Club	-12,041.26		-12,041.26	
Total 3216 Womens Club	\$2,594.96	\$0.00	\$2,594.96	
3299 Misc. Restricted Account	0.00	-269.23	269.23	100.00%
Total 3200 DONOR RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$25,591.13	\$19,655.04	\$5,936.09	30.20%
Net Income	-1,722.87	-37,576.87	35,854.00	95.42%
Total Equity	\$783,896.43	\$731,800.81	\$52,095.62	7.12%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$785,471.66	\$733,575.58	\$51,896.08	7.07%

[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.]

2017 Profit & Loss

	Dec 31 2017	Dec 31 2016	Change	% Change
Income				
4000 Contributions				
4011 Pledges	149,127.95	138,477.63	10,650.32	7.69%
4012 Plate Offerings	2,762.10	1,925.08	837.02	43.48%
4013 Non-Pledge Giving	9,916.05	9,743.50	172.55	1.77%
4020 Other Offerings	3,718.00	7,286.51	-3,568.51	-48.97%
Total 4000 Contributions	\$165,524.10	\$157,432.72	\$8,091.38	5.14%
4030 Other Income		4,000.00	-4,000.00	-100.00%
4033 Bookstore	3,631.55	2,956.55	675.00	22.83%
4040 Facility Usage	3,858.00	3,665.50	192.50	5.25%
Total 4030 Other Income	\$7,489.55	\$10,622.05	-\$3,132.50	-29.49%
4100 Dividend Income	0.18	0.19	-0.01	-5.26%
4300 Misc Other Income - Not MS	0.00	25.00	-25.00	-100.00%
Total Income	\$173,013.83	\$168,079.96	\$4,933.87	2.94%
Gross Profit	\$173,013.83	\$168,079.96	\$4,933.87	2.94%
Expenses				
5000 DIOCESE				
5001 Diocesan Mission Share	29,954.63	28,527.70	1,426.93	5.00%
5005 Clergy Retreat	210.38	205.00	5.38	2.62%
Total 5000 DIOCESE	\$30,165.01	\$28,732.70	\$1,432.31	4.98%
5100 Personnel				
5106 PIC- Stipend	32,445.12	32,445.12	0.00	0.00%
5107 PIC- Housing	27,037.92	27,037.92	0.00	0.00%
5109 PIC- Medical/Dental	999.84	999.84	0.00	0.00%
5110 PIC - Disability	318.96	318.96	0.00	0.00%
5111 PIC Pension		1,429.25	-1,429.25	-100.00%
5112 Continuing Education	40.00	160.00	-120.00	-75.00%
5113 PIC Mileage REI	557.47	706.86	-149.39	-21.13%
5151 Choir Director & Organist	15,876.00	13,560.00	2,316.00	17.08%
5152 Sexton	10,000.08	9,499.92	500.16	5.26%
5153 Church Administrator	11,328.00	10,062.00	1,266.00	12.58%
5155 Payroll Expense	2,539.90	2,722.20	-182.30	-6.70%
5158 Supply	315.52	572.90	-257.38	-44.93%
Total 5100 Personnel	\$101,458.81	\$99,514.97	\$1,943.84	1.95%
5200 MUSIC	59.12	221.14	-162.02	-73.27%
5300 WORSHIP SUPPLIES	574.98	50.03	524.95	1049.27%
5400 EDUCATION			0.00	
5401 Children's & Youth	254.71	626.05	-371.34	-59.31%
Total 5400 EDUCATION	\$254.71	\$626.05	-\$371.34	-59.31%

2017 Profit & Loss

	Dec 31 2017	Dec 31 2016	Change	% Change
5600 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS				
5601 Electricity	8,902.24	8,634.24	268.00	3.10%
5602 Gas	450.27	442.22	8.05	1.82%
5603 Water	1,353.30	993.08	360.22	36.27%
5605 Trash Collection	324.00	324.00	0.00	0.00%
5606 Security Alarm Expense	1,717.98	1,245.51	472.47	37.93%
5609 Pest Control	850.00	1,200.00	-350.00	-29.17%
5610 Repairs & Maintenance	2,713.55	2,604.04	109.51	4.21%
5611 Telephone & Service Contract	2,561.45	2,484.70	76.75	3.09%
5612 Landscaping Expense	1,099.15	920.33	178.82	19.43%
Total 5600 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$19,971.94	\$18,848.12	\$1,123.82	5.96%
5700 ADMINISTRATION				
5703 Postage/Del/BulkMail	83.94	96.00	-12.06	-12.56%
5705 Office Supplies	1,172.85	825.47	347.38	42.08%
5706 Stewardship	364.86	373.92	-9.06	-2.42%
5707 Advertising	327.56	640.72	-313.16	-48.88%
5708 Accounting Services	3,692.04	4,111.44	-419.40	-10.20%
5709 Auditing	89.49	89.49	0.00	0.00%
5710 Bank Service Charges	39.00		39.00	
5711 Office Equipment Expense	3,528.66	3,586.49	-57.83	-1.61%
5714 Misc. Expenses	1,421.98	1,349.95	72.03	5.34%
5716 Comprehensive Church Ins	10,563.00	9,836.00	727.00	7.39%
Total 5700 ADMINISTRATION	\$21,283.38	\$20,909.48	\$373.90	1.79%
Total Expenses	\$173,767.95	\$168,902.49	\$4,865.46	2.88%
Net Operating Income	-\$754.12	-\$822.53	\$68.41	8.32%
Net Income	-\$754.12	-\$822.53	\$68.41	8.32%

ACCOUNT COMMENTS
2017 Audit of 2016 Books

In April of 2017, a member of the Diocese of Arizona’s Audit Committee reviewed our 2016 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 - \$259,203 - We have not withdrawn from the Endowment since February of 2012. The value of the Endowment is up from last year by \$20,105.66 or 8.5%. 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. In 2018, we will be developing an Endowment policy to recommend to Vestry.

Bargains Galore 2017 Accounting

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gross Income:	11,235.06	14,653.61	13,590.86	15,383.46
Bargains Expenses:	2,285.21	3,034.36	1,550.13	1,603.27
To Outreach:	894.98	1,465.16	1,359.06	1,538.35
Stayed in Bargains:	894.98	1,465.16	1,359.06	1,538.35
To Capital Reserve:	7,159.90	11,721.36	10,872.49	13,845.11

Throughout 2017, 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

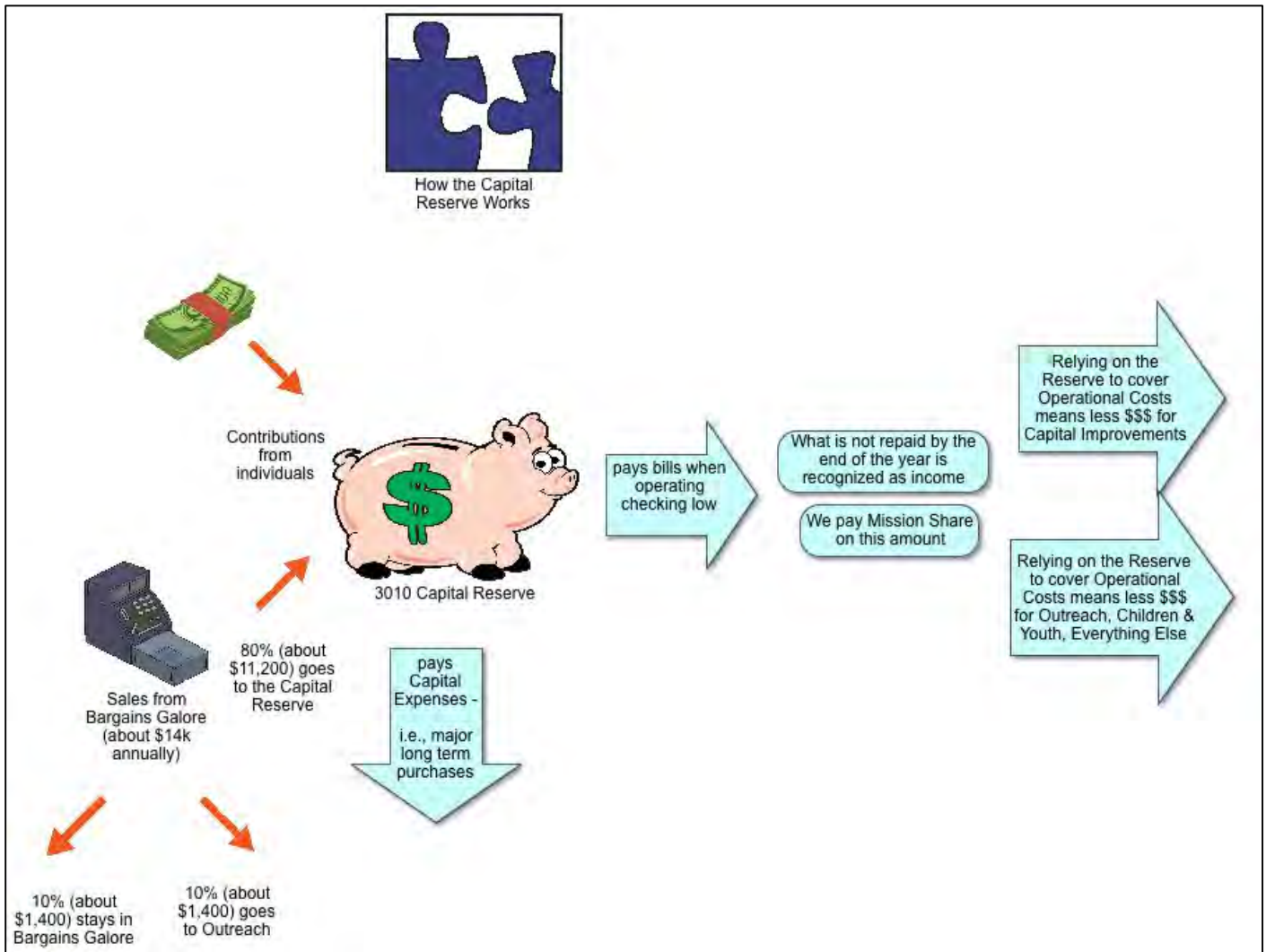
Capital Reserve – Current Balance: \$28,956

	Income	Expense	Balance
2017 Starting Balance			20,728.70
80% of Bargains sales	12,306.79		32,585.49
Misc (10k to Capital Campaign)	10,000.00		42,585.49
Capital Expenses paid in 2017		5,651.73	36,933.76
1,085.72 Repair & paint screening			
352.51 Light flag & cross			
453.25 A/C control in chapel			
3,325.00 A/C in chapel			
279.00 New Vac for Sexton			
Operational Expenses Paid in 2017		0.00	
Altar Guild Savings (restricted) moved		2,427.70	24,506.06
Search Fund		6,000.00	8,506.06
2017 Ending Balance			8,956.06

[Note: \$10k was moved from the Reserve to the Capital Campaign but does NOT reflect in QuickBooks. We’ll correct this in 2018. The Balance Sheet reflected in the 2017 Financials for 1617 Campaign for Tomorrow is correct, but, 3010 Capital Reserve overstates the Reserve by \$10,000.]

Of the funds in 3010 Capital Reserve:
 Available to Spend: \$18,956.06

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.

2018 Operating Budget Passed by Vestry 1/15/18

	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Income			
4000 · Contributions			
4011 · Pledges	149,429	149,128	147,252
4012 · Plate Offerings	2,000	2,762	2,750
4013 · Non-Pledge Giving	8,000	9,916	9,900
4020 · Other Offerings	3,000	3,718	3,700
Total 4000 · Contributions	162,429	165,524	163,602
4030 · Other Income			
4033 · Bookstore (Net after sandwiches)	3,000	3,632	3,600
4040 · Facility Usage	3,800	3,858	3,800
Total 4030 · Other Income	6,800	7,490	7,400
Total Income	169,229	173,014	171,002

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 until 2017 we had been unable to do so. By December 31st of each year, we declare the monies as income. Mission Share is paid in January of the following year. However, in 2017, we were able to pay back all that was borrowed from the 3010 Capital Reserve.

	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Expense			
5000 · DIOCESE			
5001 · Diocesan Mission Share	29,816	29,955	30,116
5005 · Clergy Retreat	285	210	285
Total 5000 · DIOCESE	30,101	30,165	30,401
5100 · Personnel			
5106 · PIC- Stipend	32,445	32,445	34,067
5107 · PIC- Housing	27,038	27,038	28,390
5109 · PIC- Medical/Dental	1,000	1,000	1,000
5110 · PIC - Disability	319	319	319
5111 · PIC Pension	-	-	-
5112 · Continuing Education	1,000	40	1,000
5113 · PIC Mileage REI	1,000	557	1,000
5151 · Choir Director & Organist	17,280	15,979	17,280
5152 · Sexton	10,000	10,000	10,500
5153 · Parish Administrator	12,355	11,328	12,973
5155 · Payroll Expense	2,600	2,437	2,219
5158 · Supply	636	316	636
Total 5100 · Personnel	180,269	173,768	184,338
5200 · MUSIC	500	59	500
5300 · WORSHIP SUPPLIES	600	575	600
5401 · Children's & Youth	750	255	-
5500 · Hospitality	200	-	200
5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS			
5601 · Electricity	9,432	8,902	9,432
5602 · Gas	442	450	442
5603 · Water	990	1,353	1,830
5605 · Trash Collection	324	324	324
5606 · Security Alarm Expense	1,861	1,718	1,975
5609 · Pest Control	640	850	640
5610 · Repairs & Maintenance	3,300	2,714	3,000
5611 · Telephone & Svc Contract	2,544	2,561	2,544
5612 · Landscaping	1,200	1,099	1,200
Total 5600 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	20,733	19,972	21,387
5700 · ADMINISTRATION			
5703 · Postage/Del/BulkMail	120	84	120
5705 · Office Supplies	850	1,173	1,000
5706 · Stewardship	550	365	400
5707 · Advertising	500	328	450
5708 · Accounting Services	4,500	3,692	4,000
5709 · Auditing	90	89	90
5710 · Bank Service Charges	-	39	-
5711 · Office Equipment Expense	3,543	3,529	3,529
5714 · Misc. Expenses	1,000	1,422	1,500
5716 · Comprehensive Church Ins	10,559	10,563	10,777
Total 5700 · ADMINISTRATION	21,712	21,283	21,866
Total Expense	180,269	173,768	184,338
Total Income	169,229	173,014	171,002
DEFICIT	(11,040)	(754)	(13,336)

Deficit / Surplus Discussion

We budgeted a deficit of \$11,041 for 2017, 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. After five very careful spending years, our expenses run about \$174,000 per year. Our pledge level runs at about \$149,000. Facility Use, the Bookstore, and other financial offerings cover some of the gap. The problem is that despite our significant reduction in expenses, we do not bring in as much income as we spend on expenses.

Recent annual income versus expenses:

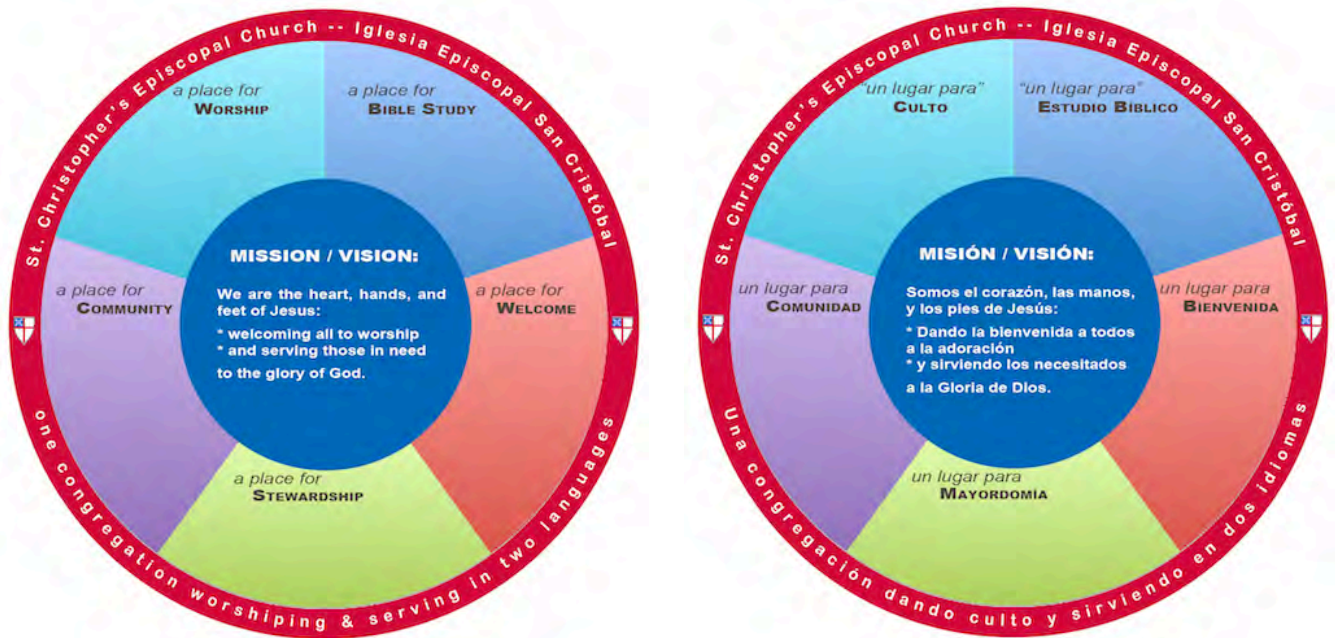
Year	Budgeted			Actual			Cash on Hand	From Orgs	From Capital Reserve
	Income	Expense	Deficit	Income	Expense	Deficit			
2013	149,955	176,861	(26,906)	165,710	172,698	(6,988)	10,078	2,500	
2014	160,824	182,310	(21,486)	185,111	176,787	(11,976)	2,393		12,500
2015	161,924	184,348	(22,424)	161,924	176,883	(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)	173,014	173,768	(754)	3,105		0
2018	171,002	184,338	(13,336)				1,753		

How we have been closing the gap

- in 2013: last of money previously taken from the Endowment and money from E.C.W. and Men's Club.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- in 2017: for the first time since the Vestry established the Reserve (Acct 3010), although we borrowed funds several times, we were able to repay all borrowed funds and will not have to declare anything as income for mission share in January of 2018.

Further, we cannot expect that simply asking members to up their pledge will fill the gap. Stewardship has done an exceptional job since 2013. Our total income runs around \$174,000. The gap between income and expense remains around \$12,000. For 2017, the picture is misleading. Fr. Peter reached the presumed maximum retirement age for clergy and we can no longer contribute to his pension. As of the end of 2017, we set aside \$10,500 toward a future search fund for when Fr. Peter retires at the end of January of 2019. By that time we will have over \$16k as we set aside \$500 per moth. This is **not** part of our operating budget and therefore our expenses appear to have been lower.

On Sunday, December 10, 2017 the Vestry conducted a forum between services to share with members the result of months of strategic planning. Vestry members met every other week from July to the end of November to develop an updated strategic plan for St. Christopher's. Early in 2018, the vestry will be talking to ministry leaders to explain the plan in more detail and to help ministry leaders understand their role in furthering the plan.



Pray and participate!

You will be hearing much more about both the strategic plan and the proposed capital campaign! 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 about the capital campaign or any member of vestry about the strategic plan.

Columbarium Committee

Mona Guarino

Many of our former parishioners are interred in the Columbarium, which is located in the Chapel. There is a total of 180 single niches, approximately 40 of which remain available. The total amount of funds in the Columbarium Account was \$18717.46 as of the close of 2017; \$17,629.85 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 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 fifth 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 and the church receives a steady income flow whether or not the donor is in church to present the offerings. In 2017 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.

Online Giving

Jane Cooley & Mona Guarino

In 2017, we began to investigate online giving through our web site and through a free app that can be downloaded to smart phones and tablets. The process is through Vanco that already handles our direct debit giving. Watch in early 2018 for details on how you can take advantage of this new way of supporting our many ministries.

Stewardship Campaign for 2018

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 November 12th 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 2017, we received a total of 62 pledges totaling \$147,252 (up \$1,524 over last year's campaign) along with 54 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.

2018 Stewardship Campaign Summary:

113 Households	19 Up	5 Up 1 year
52 Pledging Households (54%)	5 Down	3 2 years
\$147,252 Total Pledged	30 Same	2 3 years
	7 New	2 4 years
		1 5 years
		7 6 years

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

Jane Meyers



I am a cradle Episcopalian and sang in the choir and served on the Jr. Altar Guild as a youth. During my husband George's military career I taught Sunday School and was active in E.C.W. At St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Manitou Springs, CO I was Director of the Altar Guild and a vestry member. I was a delegate to the convention that elected Robert O'Neill as Bishop of Colorado. At St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Seattle, WA, George and I organized a Potluck Discussion Group that has continued for 20 years. I served on the vestry as Jr. Warden. I was a delegate to the convention that elected Greg Rickel Bishop of Olympia and attended his ordination, Anacortes, WA. I currently serve on the Altar Guild, as a lector, am ministry leader for the Bookstore, serve on the Outreach and Planning Committees, and I lead the annual Operation Christmas Child drive.

Killy Balabanis



I have been attending St Christopher's since 2001, at first as a snow bird. In 2011, we moved to Sun City the year round. From the beginning Charlyn and I have been choir members. I have served a 3-year term on the vestry, am president of the Men's Club, am a co-facilitator of the men's club bible study, ramrod the UMOM lunch project of the Men's Club, and donate time weekly to Bargains. I have been participating weekly with the music of the 11:15 service and strongly support our one congregation and two-services concept of St. Christopher's.

Candidate for Junior Warden

Stacie Peters

I was born in New Jersey in 1960. I grew up in a big loving family. I have nine brothers and sisters. We get together whenever we can. I was raised Catholic and received all sacraments. I have one son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. I have been a widow for 18 years and have since lived in AZ, FL, CA, OR, and WA. I moved back to AZ in June of 2017. I recently purchased a home in Sun City and will be here to stay for a very long time.

I am happy that I found St. Christopher's and have felt as though I belonged from the first Sunday. I take part in the Baby Blanket Ministry as well as often serving at Coffee Hour after the 1st service on Sunday morning.

Candidates for Election as Delegates to Annual Convention (2018) four vacancies: Killy Balabanis, Mona Guarino, Jane Meyers, and Judy Schneider. Alternates are always needed. If you are willing to serve as an alternate, please let Fr. Peter know.

