



ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
2014
ANNUAL
REPORT



RECTOR'S REPORT

February 1, 2015

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

— Psalm 111:1

Hallelujah, indeed! This is my first annual report as the rector of St. Mary's Church. As the body gathers at our annual meeting, we get to look back at the year that has passed, take stock of where we are at this moment, and set our sights on what is to come. It is a day of thanksgiving. No matter where we set our gaze, we have reason to give thanks with our whole hearts.

I wish to begin this report by thanking God and thanking you, St. Mary's. I am so glad that God has called me to serve alongside you in ministry. Time and again this past year I have had occasion to appreciate the people of St. Mary's—our incredible lay leaders, those who serve tirelessly in ministry of many kinds, and the dedicated staff who are beginning this new journey with us.

The past year has been a time of intense transition. Since the last annual meeting, there have been 12 staff changes, including the call of a new rector. I am glad to report that the current staff is settling in and discovering best ways to support this church in its worship, hospitality, and service. Please join me in finding ways to thank Dorothy Skirzenski, our parish administrator; Anne Stone, our director of communications and ministry; and Ron Jones, our sexton. The transitions in staff will continue into the coming year as we call an assistant to the rector. This second priest will have primary responsibility for developing our Christian formation programs for all ages. We will also be addressing our need for a new music director. By the end of 2015 we should have the staff we will need to support St. Mary's ministry and mission as we move forward.

As we take stock of where we are right now, we must also acknowledge recent changes in our financial life. Last week we reached a long-awaited milestone, with the closing of the Aquidneck Land Trust deal. This closing will allow us to pay off the mortgage on the new parish house, pay the final bills associated with this long process, and refund the money we borrowed from our own endowment back in 2011. This ending allows us to make a solid beginning in 2015. On behalf of all of us, I thank our senior warden, Murry Edwards, for her persistence and faith in seeing this process to its conclusion. Over the years, Murry has called the various parties to the table again and again. Thank you also to all who have spent so many hours at the table. It was an unpredictable journey, and you have led us to the end. Hallelujah! We give thanks with our whole hearts.

Another improvement in our financial life is that, after multiple years of decline, our annual giving has gone up by \$30,000. We can all give thanks to the members of the Stewardship Commission and chairperson Christine Cassels. This team of leaders put together a program and a process that has begun to strengthen our giving. Thank you to every member and friend who made a pledge to St. Mary's. We will continue to grow in giving as we grow in faith, commitment, and numbers of disciples.

In December of 2014 one of our members made an unrestricted gift of nearly \$50,000. These three positive developments put us on much firmer financial footing as we begin this new year of ministry. Hallelujah!

Your vestry and I have set three goals for our parish for 2015. They are:

- 1) Develop and offer three distinct worship services to nourish and support the variety of people who seek to grow in Christ at St. Mary's.
- 2) Develop a coordinated plan for Christian formation that strengthens seekers and disciples of all ages and stages of life.

- 3) Create opportunities for new and established members of all ages to discover their gifts and offer them in and through the ministry of this community.

As leaders, this is where we will be focused. We are going to be getting back to basics: worship, Christian formation, and discipleship for all ages. At our best we are a community of all ages, who serve together across the generations. This year we will focus on rebuilding ministry to children, youth and their parents. We will not neglect everyone else. In fact we need the older generations to minister to children and youth. St. Mary’s has a history of rich and life-changing ministry, including to children and youth, and I trust that God will renew this. This kind of change is never an easy thing, but I believe it will be fruitful for those of us who are here and for those who will come.

These changes will begin fairly soon. The first Sunday of Lent our 10:30 am service will move to the chapel for Holy Eucharist. We hope that this new service, called “come and see” will nourish people of all ages.

We have begun a new and exciting journey together in Christ. Certainly God will lead us on an adventure beyond anything we can imagine. We have great cause for celebration. Those who have come before us have left us a solid foundation upon which to begin again. At this moment, we are being equipped for a healthy ministry in Christ. God will give us everything and everyone we need.

Thanks be to God for the generations who have come before, for the members whose gifts are being given now, and for those who will come and share ministry in Christ in our future. Hallelujah! We will give thanks to the LORD with our whole hearts!

Yours in Christ,
 The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick
 Rector, St. Mary’s Episcopal Church

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION OF ST. MARY'S

Sunday, February 1, 2015 • St. George's Chapel

1. Call to order –
The Reverend Jennifer Pedrick, Rector
2. Invocation –
Jennifer Pedrick
3. Determination of a quorum –
Ms. Christine Cassels, Clerk
4. Acceptance of minutes of 2013 Annual Meeting of St. Mary's Church
5. Acceptance of annual reports by title as published
6. Thanksgiving for vestry and ministry leaders completing terms, and acknowledging staff and commission chairpersons – *Jennifer Pedrick*
7. Nominating Committee Report and Elections
Ms. Murry Edwards, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee
8. Senior Warden's Report – *Murry Edwards*
9. Financial and Investment Reports for 2014
Ms. Christine Winslow, Treasurer
10. Budget for 2015 – *Christine Winslow*
11. Report of Election Results
12. New Business
13. Closing Prayer and Adjourning – *Jennifer Pedrick*



FROM THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH

Article IV Section 1. Membership. The Members of the Parish shall all be persons who have received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and who are registered as members of the Parish. The Voting Members of the Parish shall be the rector or minister in charge and all Member communicants of eighteen years and over who are regular worshipers in the Parish church, who for six months preceding the annual meeting have been regular contributors to the support of the Parish, and who are not in arrears in the fulfillment of their pledges to support the Parish.

*The Staff of St. Mary's: The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick, Rector • Ron Jones, Sexton
Dorothy Skirzenski, Parish Administrator • Anne Stone, Director of Communications and Ministry*

MINUTES FROM 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 2, 2014

Senior Warden Murry Edwards opened with a prayer and thanked our interim, the Reverend Greg Prior, for his leadership this year. Thanks were followed by a standing ovation from those present.

The Senior Warden called the meeting to order at 11:45 am at the St. Mary's Parish House and called for a quorum count. The Clerk reported that a quorum was present. Those in attendance had handouts of the annual financial report and a collection of ministries and activity reports for 2013.

The Senior Warden introduced each Vestry member, and extended her deepest gratitude to the support and hard work that they do. Outgoing members of the Vestry (Steve Bakios and Cindy Dube) were thanked for giving so unselfishly of their talents, time, and hard work, not only on the Vestry but also within the St. Mary's community.

The Senior Warden then recited the qualifications necessary to run for Vestry, proceeded to outline the election process, and solicited nominations from the floor. The candidates were as follows:

- Senior Warden for a 3-year term:
Murry Edwards. Elected by acclamation.
- Treasurer for a 3-year term:
Christine Winslow. Elected by acclamation.
- Clerk for a 3-year term:
Christine Cassels. Elected by acclamation.
- Vestry, three members each to serve a 3-year term: Dave Monroe, Pat Sweeney (running again) and Judy Hall. Motion made, seconded, and approved by acclamation.
- Election, by acclamation, of three delegates to the Diocesan Convention: Bev Hall, Paul Westrom, and Karen White; and as an alternate: Marshall Lundberg.



Chris Winslow, Treasurer, presented an overview of the financial reports.

The Senior Warden gave a brief overview report of the major accomplishments of the past year with emphasis on the entire parish involvement in the successful search and call of our next rector in only 10 months!

The Senior Warden then solicited and received motions to accept the following reports:

- Clerk's Report from last year (2013). Approved unanimously.
- Financial and Investment Reports as printed. Approved unanimously.
- Reports from Commissions and Ministries. Approved unanimously.
- Validate the acts of the Vestry and the Investment Committee for 2013. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Dube
Vestry Clerk

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

February 1, 2015



“So I realized there is nothing better for us than to find joy in the work we do, for work is its own reward. For who will bring us back to see what will be after we are gone?”

—Ecclesiastes 3: 22, *The Voice*

As I began to ponder my annual report to the parish, I thought of “to everything there is a season” and the changes and transitions that we have had at St. Mary’s since the last annual meeting. However, when I read further into the passage, I found the verse printed above and I realized this annual report is really about the work that we have done as a parish in 2014.

So, let me briefly highlight what I think of as the work that has “its own reward” (and lest anyone’s feelings get hurt, these are in no particular order except for the randomness of my brain):

- Welcoming the community through collations and coffee hour;
- Feeding the hungry through the Martin Luther King Jr. food drive and the soup kitchen;
- Providing affordable clothing and housewares in the thrift shop;

- Worshiping together through prayer, music, and offerings;
- Sharing the Good News of the Gospel during Christian formation; and
- Setting goals and visions for the future of St. Mary’s.

Of course, I could continue on down the page, but that would overshadow the reports to follow.

All of these works have been made possible by the Holy Spirit working through us in this place, at this time. While we are moving forward as a parish, we may think of the fleetingness of our time and work, but we should realize that each action that we take here at St. Mary’s will have an impact on the future and God’s presence in this place and the world.

And with that, my time as senior warden has come to an end. I am thankful for the support that you have given me in my tenure, which was marked by so much change and transition. We will continue to change, and new leadership will lead us through the transitions ahead.

Respectfully,
Murry U. Edwards
Senior Warden

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Corporation Officers, Vestry Members, and Delegates to Diocesan Convention

The nominating committee presents the following slate for corporation officers, vestry members, and delegates to diocesan convention, to be voted on at the annual meeting on Sunday, February 1, 2015.

For Senior Warden to serve a term of three years: Linda Drummond. For Junior Warden to serve a term of three years: Dave Monroe.

For Vestry (three people to serve 3-year terms, and one person to complete the remaining 2 years of Dave Monroe's unexpired term): Steve Downing, Dave Ferkinhoff, Mattie Gustafson, Christian Myers, and Amanda Westrom.

For Diocesan Convention 2015: Harry Gustafson, Grace Sweeney, and Karen White, and as alternate Marshall Lundberg.

During the nominating process for the 2015 slate, it came to the attention of the nominating committee

that St. Mary's was not in keeping with the bylaws: The senior warden, Murry Edwards, should not have run for a second term in 2014, and the junior and senior warden positions were out of synch for elections. As a result, Murry Edwards has resigned as senior warden effective February 1, 2015. This will put a new senior warden in place in 2015, as well as a new junior warden.

Continuing to serve are Christine Cassels, Clerk (2017); Christine Winslow, Treasurer (2017); Judy Hall (2017), Marshall Lundberg (2016), Pat Sweeney (2017), Karen White (2016), and Anna Zambrano (2016).

Respectfully,
The Nominating Committee
Murry Edwards, Harry Gustafson,
and Paul Westrom



FINANCE COMMISSION

This commission meets on a monthly basis to review the financial operations of the church. The following list includes a summary of the commission's duties and responsibilities.

Second Wednesday of the month, 4 pm

LEADERSHIP

William B. Hall, Chair
401-477-2312 (cell)
401-341-2343 (work)
401-683-9331 (home)

Members of the Finance Commission:
Christine Winslow, Harry Gustafson,
Murry Edwards, and Jennifer Pedrick

BUDGET PROCESS

- Prepare a budget for each calendar year. The budget process is participatory, with each commission requesting its budget for the upcoming year. The process begins in October preceding the new year.
- Review all revenue accounts, including obtaining the pledge income amount from the stewardship commission.
- Calculate the required draw from the endowment and communicate to the Investment Commission via the treasurer once the budget is approved.
- Present the budget (via the treasurer) for the vestry's approval in December preceding the new year.



ONGOING BUDGET MAINTENANCE

- Review the monthly budget to actual reports for accounts over/under budget and examine the deviation from budget.
- Review revenue opportunities and present (via the treasurer) ideas to the vestry for approval (for example, the fundraiser dinner in fall 2014).

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Detailed review of expense accounts, such as altar guild, outreach, and utilities. Reviewed the previous year's expenditure patterns and made suggestions to modify funds spent.
- Simplified presentation of income accounts (e.g., endowment draw on one line).
- Analyzed detail of all income and expense accounts to understand amounts recorded.

2015 GOALS

- To analyze the lease of land and ensure that the church is receiving market rent.
- To bid longstanding contracts to ensure that the church is receiving competitive pricing.
- To maximize the use of church assets by parishioners and third parties.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Investment Committee is to oversee the investment management of the parish's endowment funds so as to generate high enough returns within prudent risk parameters to fund the operations of the parish that are not supported by pledge income.

Jeff Belden: beldenj@verizon.net, 401-683-1632

FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT REPORTS

Ms. Christine Winslow, Treasurer • Subject to adjustment per final year-end data

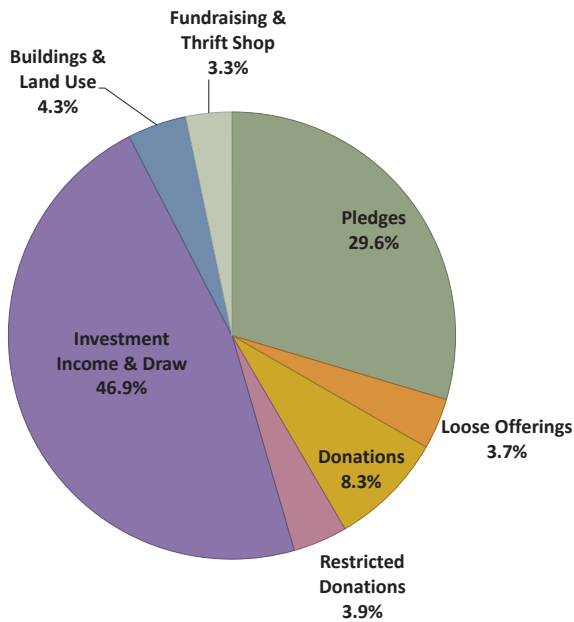
GENERAL AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

<u>INCOME STATEMENTS</u>	<u>Budget</u>		<u>Budget</u>		<u>Actual</u>		<u>Actual</u>	
	<u>2015</u>		<u>2014</u>		<u>2014</u>		<u>2013</u>	
Income:								
Pledges	230,000	35%	230,000	41%	202,510	30%	226,479	37%
Loose Offerings	25,250	4%	24,250	4%	25,219	4%	28,356	5%
Donations	39,000	6%	4,250	1%	56,628	8%	27,646	5%
Restricted Donations	-	0%	-	0%	26,910	4%	-	0%
Investment Income & Draw	313,637	48%	249,573	45%	320,578	47%	281,969	47%
Buildings & Land Use	26,100	4%	33,800	6%	29,199	4%	28,800	5%
Fundraising & Thrift Shop	24,350	4%	15,000	3%	22,731	3%	12,844	2%
Total Income	<u>658,337</u>	100%	<u>556,873</u>	100%	<u>683,775</u>	100%	<u>606,094</u>	100%
Expenditures:								
Personnel	332,424	50%	233,986	42%	244,145	40%	282,268	45%
Apportionment	87,560	13%	83,329	15%	83,328	14%	85,057	13%
Grounds	73,000	11%	79,650	14%	70,227	12%	82,640	13%
Buildings	84,618	13%	76,460	14%	136,435	22%	118,534	19%
Office	54,000	8%	45,638	8%	56,656	9%	45,231	7%
Outreach	5,000	1%	14,950	3%	2,634	0%	913	0%
Stewardship, Christian Formation & Worship	21,735	3%	22,860	4%	17,081	3%	18,960	3%
Total Expenditures	<u>658,337</u>	100%	<u>556,873</u>	100%	<u>610,506</u>	100%	<u>633,603</u>	100%
Net Excess (Deficit)	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>73,269</u>		<u>(27,509)</u>	
Net Realized & Unrealized Gain on Investments					<u>116,213</u>		<u>280,550</u>	
Net Change in Assets					<u>189,482</u>		<u>253,041</u>	

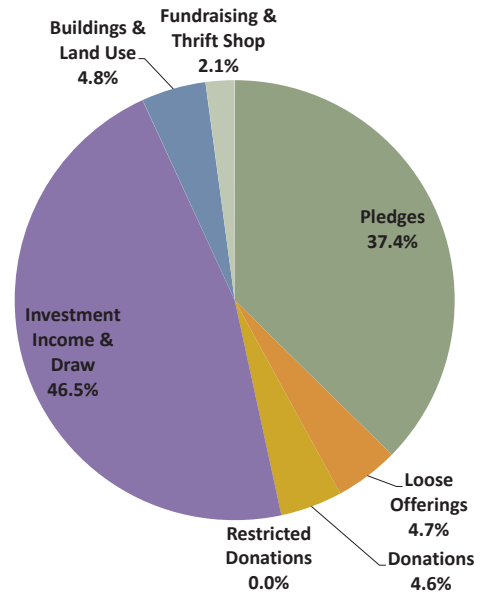
<u>BALANCE SHEETS</u>	<u>12/31/2014</u>	<u>12/31/2013</u>	<u>PLEDGE HISTORY</u>			
Assets:			<u>Pledged</u>		<u>Received</u>	
			<u>\$</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
Cash in Bank	6,155	4,560				
Investments	1,964,867	2,169,232	2015	229,916	133	
Diocesan Investment Trust	228,481	218,634	2014	197,921	134	102%
Tuck Education Loans	56,031	56,071	2013	240,221	153	94%
Loan to New Building Fund	2,165,108	2,166,500	2012	249,374	160	96%
Total Assets	<u>4,420,642</u>	<u>4,614,997</u>	2011	237,700	158	101%
Liabilities and Fund Balances:						
Unrestricted	2,918,220	3,046,520				
Temporarily Restricted	1,215,151	1,268,575				
Permanently Restricted	287,272	299,902				
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	<u>4,420,642</u>	<u>4,614,997</u>				

2014 AND 2013 INCOME AND EXPENSE COMPARISON

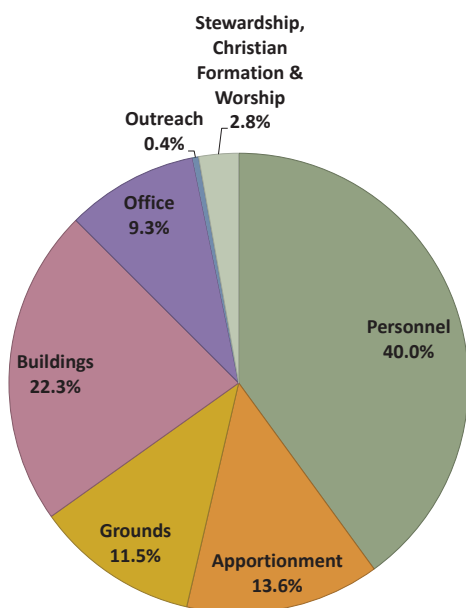
2014 Income



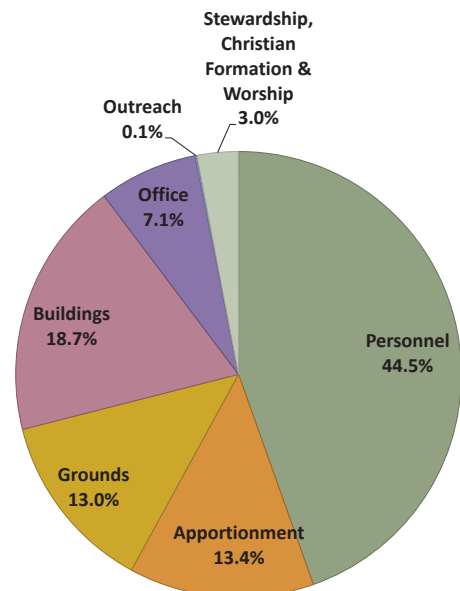
2013 Income



2014 Expenses



2013 Expenses



NEW BUILDING FUNDS

<u>INCOME AND EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>1/1/2006- 12/31/2014</u>
Income:		
Capital Campaign Donations	5,741	306,455
Donations for Furnishings & Equipment	-	55,065
Memorial Gifts and Other Donations	125	248,994
Craft Fairs & Quilt Donations	-	11,973
Interest	2,010	82,766
St. George's Assets Transferred	-	521,489
Sale of St. George's Building	-	1,084,004
Agreement of Sale with Aquidneck Land Trust	50,000	3,000,000
Island Commons Funds	36,520	50,000
	<u>94,396</u>	<u>5,360,746</u>
 Expenditures:		
Construction	-	4,390,487
Engineering and Architect	-	425,951
Legal and Other Professional	15,000	215,810
Merger with St. George's	-	112,732
Feasibility Study & Campaign Expenses	-	62,485
Furnishings and Equipment	666	29,310
Interest on Bank Loan	13,907	59,105
Utilities and Other	-	57,622
Pass-through to Island Commons	36,520	47,545
	<u>66,093</u>	<u>5,401,047</u>
 Net Income less Expenditures	 <u>28,303</u>	 <u>(40,301)</u>
 BALANCE SHEETS		
	<u>12/31/2014</u>	
Assets:		
Cash in Bank	36,700	
Investments	-	
Agreement of Sale with Aquidneck Land Trust	2,850,000	
Total Assets	<u>2,886,700</u>	
 Liabilities & Fund Balances:		
Construction Loan	787,500	
Loan from Endowment Funds	2,165,108	
Other Restricted Funds	(65,908)	
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	<u>2,886,700</u>	

2014 FINANCIAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Pledge Income and Donations: The combined pledge and plate offerings received in 2014 fell about \$27,000 behind the total received in 2013, and was 88% of the projected budget amount. Other donations that helped us out included \$55,000 unrestricted donations, \$18,000 donations toward Rectory renovations, and \$1,300 donations for Community Garden expenses.

Endowment Funds: Total distributions from the endowment funds were approximately \$313,000 and supported the following areas:

General Programs & Operations	\$138,000	Church	\$11,250
Churchyard & Grounds	\$127,500	Christian Formation	\$ 3,400
Rectory Renovations	\$ 28,000	Grand Piano Restoration	\$ 4,050

Dividend income of \$20,000 and net realized and unrealized losses of \$34,000 in 2014 helped to offset unrealized losses of about \$412,000. With the loan to the new building fund included as an asset of the Endowment Fund, our total Endowment balance of about \$4,188,000 is about 9% lower than the balance at 12/31/2013. The long awaited closing of the sale of the North Field land and the conservancy rights for a portion of St. Mary's land to the Aquidneck Land Trust was final on January 30, 2015. The BankNewport loan balance (\$787,361) was repaid. Reserving \$28,000 for remaining attorney's fees and approximately \$25,000 for designated furnishings for the Parish House, the balance of approximately \$2,008,000 will be returned to the endowment account.

Other Income: Other Income of about \$54,000 included:

	2014	2013		2014	2013
Cemetery Sales	\$ 9,250	\$11,500	"Old" Parish Hall Use	\$10,200	\$10,000
Farming Leases	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,800	Thrift Shop	\$17,700	\$12,844
Parish Hall Use	\$10,000	\$15,250	BBQ Fundraiser	\$ 5,050	

Cemetery Sales have averaged about \$10,500 annually over the last ten years, though each year varied widely. Income from the Thrift Shop (reopened in Gibbs House in late 2012) increased 38% over 2013.

Expenditures: Budgets for Personnel expenses were challenging in 2014 as we worked through quite a few staff transitions including the call of our Rector and strengthening our Parish Administrator and Communications-Ministry positions to two full-time positions. Diocesan apportionment continues to be about 14% of our total budget. Buildings and Grounds operating expenses were 34% (32% in 2013) of total expenses, Office and other administrative expenses about 9% (7%), and Outreach, Stewardship, Christian Formation and Worship were 3.5% (3%).

2015 Budget Highlights: The budget challenges are much the same for 2015 as they were in prior years: stretching limited resources to provide funding for the wide range of important ministries and the day-to-day programs and operations of our parish. For 2015, the Vestry has approved a budget to include draw from the endowment funds at 7%, with the dual goals of growing our parish and pledges and reducing the draw within 2-3 years to 5%. The largest category in our budget is Personnel expenses. Increases over prior years' expenses include the \$20,000 for Clergy (hiring an Assistant to the Rector at mid-year), \$16,000 additional costs of full-time administrative staff, and about \$54,000 for required payroll taxes (\$3,000), pensions (\$18,000), health insurance (\$28,000), and other allowances (\$5,000).

Annual Review and Parochial Reports: The accounting firm of O'Reilly and Skuncik, Ltd. reviewed the 2013 church records and prepared financial statements that were submitted to the Diocese along with the annual Parochial Reports. Reports for 2014 are currently in process. Copies of the reports are available in the Church Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Winslow, Treasurer

ST. MARY'S CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT

Endowment Funds	12/31/2014 (Pending Final Adjustments)
Permanently Restricted	
<i>Parker Organ Fund</i>	48,078
<i>Gibbs & Weaver Church & Grounds</i>	23,800
<i>Hamilton Fish Webster Buildings & Churchyard</i>	228,481
Total Permanently Restricted	300,359
Temporarily Restricted	
<i>Churchyard</i>	496,021
<i>Church Burial Grounds</i>	135,739
<i>Adelene Tuck Education Fund</i>	362,796
<i>Christian Education Account</i>	65,838
<i>Church Organ</i>	39,830
<i>Perry Altar Window</i>	68,845
<i>Altar Guild</i>	4,182
<i>Chase Tree Memorial</i>	38,019
<i>Flowers</i>	13,257
Total Temporarily Restricted	1,224,529
Unrestricted (Incl \$2,168,108 due from Building Fund)	2,663,173
Total Endowment Funds	4,188,061
Diocesan Investment Trust	228,481
Barrett Investment Account	1,901,354
Due from ALT	2,845,587
Due to BankNewport	(787,361)
Total Endowment Funds	4,188,061



Statement for the Period December 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

ST MARY'S CHURCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNT - Religious Org
Account Number: 0EA-295213

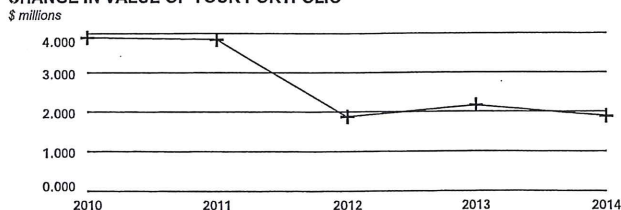
Account Overview

STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2014 TO DECEMBER 31, 2014

ST MARY'S CHURCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNT - Religious Org
Account Number: 0EA-295213

TOTAL VALUE OF YOUR PORTFOLIO \$1,901,354.24

CHANGE IN VALUE OF YOUR PORTFOLIO



Change In Value Of Your Portfolio information can be found in Miscellaneous Footnotes at the end of this statement.

Account carried with National Financial Services LLC, Member

CHANGE IN ACCOUNT VALUE	<i>Current Period</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
BEGINNING VALUE	\$1,935,116.19	\$2,169,231.49
Securities Transfers	\$48,316.23	\$48,316.23
Additions and Withdrawals	(\$35,191.64)	(\$298,955.39)
Income	\$2,356.89	\$20,014.12
Taxes, Fees and Expenses	(\$32.14)	(\$3,338.63)
Other Activity	\$0.00	\$0.01
Change in Investment Value	(\$49,211.29)	(\$33,913.59)
ENDING VALUE (AS OF 12/31/14)	\$1,901,354.24	\$1,901,354.24

Refer to Miscellaneous Footnotes for more information on Change in Investment Value.

MARGIN PROFILE

as of December 31, 2014

Margin Positions Market Value	\$1,802,466.39
Margin Balance (Net currency credit/debit)	\$0.00
Margin Equity	\$1,802,466.39
Margin Equity Percent	100.0%
Equity Buying Power	\$2,085,801.58
Margin Interest Charged this Period	\$0.00

Balances and Margin availability are reflected as of the closing date of this statement. Please consult with your broker/dealer prior to trading as these amounts may have changed. Refer to Miscellaneous Footnotes at the end of this statement for more information.

INCOME

	<i>Current Period</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
TAXABLE		
Taxable Dividends	\$2,356.89	\$20,014.12
TOTAL TAXABLE	\$2,356.89	\$20,014.12

SARAH GIBBS TRUST

Annual Report of Trustees of the Sarah Gibbs Trust 2014

Eight meetings, done via email, to give two (2) month extensions to the Aquidneck Land Trust for delays that have been given by the USDA. The trustees approved all extensions but recommended there be no further extensions.

The trustees were invited to two (2) vestry meetings that were dealing with Aquidneck Land Trust issues. At the second of these meetings, the trustees approved a final two-month extension into January 2015. This supported the vestry approval of a two-month extensions. Final signing of documents will take place no later than January 2015.

The trustees were saddened to learn of the death of independent trustee Alexander "Sandy" Cozzens in Florida. The independent trustees asked Jeffrey Belden to fill Sandy's term. He accepted with honor.

Jim Vanicek's term ends this year. The independent trustees asked him to continue for another term, and he has agreed. Paul Westrom's term on the vestry ends this year, and his replacement will be elected from the new class of vestry members.

Election of trust officers will take place in February 2015 after the annual meeting of St. Mary's Church.

Respectfully submitted,

V. James Vanicek, Chair (ind. 2017)

Jeff Belden (ind. 2015)

Jenny Matteson Swider (ind. 2016)

Paul Westrom, Vice Chair (vestry 2014)

Karen White, Secretary (vestry 2015)

Christine Winslow, Treasurer (vestry 2016)

The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, Bishop



CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION

We embrace a commitment by all ages to foster spiritual growth in Christ, believing that time spent in study and reflection transforms not just our own lives, but also the life of our church and community.

At St. Mary's, Sunday mornings provide opportunities for our entire community to grow in faith and commitment: Children share the experience of Godly Play. Youth and young adults take part in the Exploring our Faith and confirmation programs, deepening an expression of faith through study, discussion, and service to the greater community. Adults engage in classes that help them continue learning about their faith and renew their commitment to a Christian life. Multigenerational events such as the four-week series "The Adventure of Advent" and the making of Advent wreaths bring us together as a church family and invite us to deepen our faith commitment and share our spiritual life with others.

Setting aside time during the week for Bible study, contemplative prayer, and occasional retreats also helps foster an ever-deepening commitment to a lifelong spiritual journey of faith, prayer, and service to each other, our church, and our community.

Josephine Carlos, Chair: josephine.h.carlos@gmail.com, 401-816-0997

NURSERY

Sundays during the program year, 7:45–11:45 am

Our nursery is open most Sundays from September through early June, with average attendance ranging from one to four children. The nursery is generally staffed by three students from Salve University, who are supported as needed by three volunteers from the parish (Lydia DeAngelo, Libby Westrom, and Jasmine Westrom). All caregivers are safe-church certified.

Paul Westrom: pwestrom@neit.edu, 401-849-2776

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sundays during the program year, 9:15–10:15 am, and other times as scheduled

The Pre K through 2nd grade class uses the Montessori-based Godly Play curriculum and has 11 students enrolled. The two Exploring Our Faith classes (Class I for 3rd–5th grades and Class II for 6th–9th grades) use a lectionary-based curriculum

called Seasons of the Spirit. Class I has 14 students enrolled; Class II has 7 students enrolled.

In addition to Godly Play and Exploring Our Faith, we participated in a four-week, church-wide program where young and old experienced the anticipation of awaiting the coming of Jesus during Advent.

This fall, Amanda Westrom mentored five students through a two-and-a-half-month confirmation class, culminating in their confirmation in November.

The Christmas pageant for children and youth attracted great interest by students wishing to participate, and it was a rousing success. Thank you, Kim Stamoulis and everyone else who helped!

Not counting the confirmation class (attendance was mandatory) and the two weeks of pageant practice, the average Sunday attendance in youth Christian education has been 12 students per week. The first two Sundays of the New Year, we have had five students and four students attend.

Amanda Westrom: amandawestrom@hotmail.com, 401-849-2776



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Second and fourth Saturdays, 8:30 to 10 am

The men of the parish started a Bible study that meets every other Saturday morning in the parish house. We enjoy coffee, pastries, and fellowship at 8:30 and Bible study from 9 to 10. We started by looking at the question: "Is God real, was Jesus real, and how can we prove it?" We have since studied Galatians and Romans, and are now delving into Acts. We are planning a men's retreat at St. Mary's for June.

Paul Westrom: pwestrom@neit.edu, 401-849-2776

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY MINISTRY

*Occasional day-long or evening retreats;
monthly planning meeting*

Christine Cassels, Linda Drummond, and Claire Hebert are the planning group for this ministry and meet monthly to plan retreats, pray together, and look for opportunities for this ministry to grow.

The Women's Spirituality Ministry fosters exploration of faith through questions, prayer, and shared reflections. Our mission in offering retreats for women is to provide the gift and opportunity of being sustained in community and to help each of us be attentive to the Spirit's inviting us to perceive the "new thing" underway in our lives.

In 2014 we held two retreats. The first was titled "The Images of Resurrection" and was held in April in St. George's Chapel, with 22 women in attendance. Since it was our rector Jennifer Pedrick's first time with us, we welcomed her and laid hands on her, blessing her and her ministry at St. Mary's.

During the retreat we focused on Easter's happening all around us. Using the disciples' experience on the Road to Emmaus, we explored how God continues to reveal his love, extend invitations to grow, and offer us hope. We spent time in silence and in small groups to ponder the images of resurrection and the blessings they bring to each of us.

Our second retreat, "The Promise of Autumn," was held in October, with 13 women attending. This retreat focused on vulnerability in the season of autumn and in our relationship with God.

This fall, Christine had the opportunity to attend a reception at Bethany House of Prayer and a workshop at Wellesley College that featured the work of Sister Joan Chittister and the art of Janet McKenzie. These two women have collaborated on a book together entitled *The Way of the Cross*. We have been in contact with Janet to request use of a slide presentation she developed, and she has given us that permission. We are considering using McKenzie's images for a Lenten retreat this spring.

*Linda Drummond: lcdrummond1@verizon.net,
401-529-4730*

HOSPITALITY COMMISSION

The Hospitality Commission works with members of the parish community to coordinate regular Sunday morning coffee hour, collations, and other special events where members and guests may gather to share a meal, enjoy old friends, and make some new ones.

LEADERSHIP

Judy Hall, Chair
woofer64@yahoo.com
401-924-4252

Sunday morning breakfast/fellowship:
Judy Hall and Dave Monroe (david.r.monroe@hotmail.com, 401-846-0702)

Funeral Collations: Sue Kelchner
jkelchner@cox.net, 401-683-9745

New Member Ministry: Carol Brierley
carrie@galaxia.com, 401-847-6891

Special Events: Judy Hall

Fun(d) Raisers: Judy Hall

Name Tags: Anne Stone and staff
anne@smcportsmouth.org
401-846-9700, ext. 102

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Hosted a reception for Bishop Knisely's visit.
- Held farewell luncheons for departing staff Martha Hultgren and Larry Bettencourt.
- Hosted weekly Super Summer Sunday breakfasts and weekly coffee hours during the program year.

- Coordinated a successful barbecue fundraiser.
- Hosted Diocesan Convention.
- Hosted the Celebration of a New Ministry, the formal institution of Jennifer Pedrick as St. Mary's rector, at which we welcomed many guests.

2015 GOALS & NEXT STEPS

- Establish a regular monthly meeting time and date.
- Establish a team approach to Sunday morning coffee hour. Communicate these changes to Anne Stone and Jennifer Pedrick.
- Create welcome cards and visitor/new member information, and revise our process of incorporating new members into the parish.

COLLATIONS

A collation is a reception and light meal organized, prepared, and served by members of the parish following a funeral or memorial service held at St. Mary's. Six collations were held in 2014 following funerals or memorial services for members of the St. Mary's community.

Susan Kelchner: jkelchner@cox.net, 401-683-9745



OUTREACH COMMISSION

The Outreach Commission's purpose is three-fold: to champion existing outreach initiatives, to encourage leadership to take on new outreach initiatives, and to arrange for distribution of funds St. Mary's pledges for outreach. Our overarching goal is to enable St. Mary's to live out the Second Commandment, "to love thy neighbor as thyself," to the fullest.

We were highly successful with the first two purposes in 2014. However, for the second year in a row, strained cash flow restricted virtually all monitory contributions from St. Mary's to other worthy charities. We hope with the better balanced 2015 budget to distribute \$5,000 to worthwhile organizations.

Cherie Martin, Chair (martin.cherie77@gmail.com, 401-486-3362). Meetings: Periodically.

THE BLESSING WAY

The Blessing Way is a faith-based agency providing recovery spirituality and transitional housing to people returning from prison and drug rehabilitation. In 2014, it sponsored a training course in landscaping skills to assist former prisoners in gaining employment. Members of St. Mary's contributed scholarships to trainees, allowing them to take this course. In 2014 The Blessing Way completed a large federal grant that will not be renewed due to funding cuts. This loss was partially offset by private donations from many members of Episcopal churches in Rhode Island, allowing The Blessing Way to continue to offer transitional housing for ex-offenders. In addition to private donations, members of St. Mary's generously contributed paper goods, toiletries, personal care items, and cleaning supplies to residents of The Blessing Way houses.

Cherie Martin: martin.cherie77@gmail.com, 401-486-3362

BLOOD DRIVE

For the third year in a row St. Mary's hosted a Sunday morning blood drive in the church parking lot between services, making a vital contribution to the Rhode Island Blood Center.

Dave Monroe: david.r.monroe@hotmail.com, 401-846-0702



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Parishioners purchased more than 100 toys and gift wrapping materials for the children at the Lighthouse School and Aftercare Program at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Newport for their annual parent holiday workshop.

Judy Hall: woof64@yahoo.com, 401-924-4252

CLEMENTS' RECEIPTS

In 2014, St. Mary's parishioners submitted \$80,000 worth of Clements' Marketplace receipts, earning an \$800 cash-back donation to St. Mary's. The vestry voted to apply this money, beginning in 2015, directly to outreach programs such as the MLK Center, the soup kitchen, and the community garden. Goals for 2015 include continuing to encourage parishioners to submit Clements' receipts via our various communications channels, and updating collection boxes and signage for greater visibility.

Judy Gessler: judybob.gessler@verizon.net, 401-683-3860

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The community garden shares fresh produce with those who would otherwise not have access, and serves as a learning resource and example for others.

Special thanks to Austin Kopp of Boy Scout Troop 82 for completing his Eagle Scout project for the garden, to Roger Williams University freshman students, and to all the volunteers who helped. The usable size of the garden was increased to approximately 8,000 square feet, a second trellis was installed, and the perimeter path was completed as part of the Eagle Scout project. Roger Williams University freshmen weeded the garden and spread compost for their community service day. By the end of the season, we had delivered more than 600 pounds of produce to the MLK Center, Salvation Army food pantry, and Lucy's Hearth. Additional contributions from home gardens supplemented the community garden produce. Flowers were grown for use by St. Mary's Pastoral Care Commission. Sources for funding were a \$500 grant from New England Grassroots Environment Fund and a \$790 Aquidneck Land Trust Merritt grant. Primary use for the funds was purchasing materials for the trellis and tomato cages, plants, and soil amendments.

The primary goal for 2015 is to donate more than 1,000 pounds of fresh food. To reach this goal we need to involve more people from our parish family, Emmanuel Church in Newport, and other volunteers from the community. Soil amendments need to be added in the early spring to correct soil deficiencies. Earlier initial planting and timely replenishment plantings will be necessary to reach the poundage goal. Longer-range projects that may be possible, depending on the number of volunteers and available funding, include the installation of both low- and high-tunnel hoop houses, adding a demonstration garden, renting out individual plots, and involving parish youth in planning, planting, and working in a children's garden.

Bob Gessler: judybob.gessler@verizon.net, 401-683-3860

EPISCOPAL CHARITIES

For more than 60 years, this group has enabled Rhode Island Episcopalians to live out their Second Commandment covenant to "love thy neighbor as thyself" by donating money to aid the neediest and most vulnerable among us. In 2014, St. Mary's participated in this annual campaign, giving every parishioner the opportunity to reach out personally to others. Our goal is to perpetuate that opportunity for all.

Dave Monroe: david.r.monroe@hotmail.com, 401-846-0702

MLK FOOD DRIVE

Scores of St. Mary's parishioners make weekly food donations in the church or parish house collection baskets to support the MLK food pantry. Each week, those donations are gathered by one of our five individual or family drivers and delivered to the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center. In 2014, St. Mary's contributed 6,463 pounds of food to the MLK food pantry. We continue to be one of their biggest donors. Please remember to shop for MLK when you do your shopping. We are setting a goal in 2015 of 10,000 pounds, as we did a few years ago. Let's help the Martin Luther King Center feed our neighbors on Aquidneck Island!

Paul Westrom: pwestrom@neit.edu, 401-849-2776





PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Wednesdays at 10 am

Knit, crotchet, quilt, needlepoint, or simply visit and enjoy each other's company and support. Members work on projects for our parish and local communities and friends near and far.

2014 projects included:

- 79 adult and 2 children's prayer shawls
- 9 baptism blankets
- 8 lap robes
- 61 prayer patches
- Silent auction donations: dress shawl, baby blanket, baby set (blanket, 2 hats, booties)
- Seaman's Church institute donations: 15 hat and scarf sets
- MLK Center: 75 adult and children's hats, 12 scarves, 6 baby blankets, 31 pairs of mittens, 2 hat and scarf sets, and 1 hat and mitten set.
- Soup kitchen: 12 hats

Jeanne Derrah: jeannederrah@mac.com, 401-847-5747

SOUP KITCHEN

Second Thursdays of the month

In 2014, our soup kitchen volunteers served 60–75 hot, homemade meals each month at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Newport. The soup kitchen is St. Mary's largest, longest continuously running, most all-encompassing outreach ministry. Scores of parishioners are involved each month in

purchasing, preparing, serving, and cleaning up after meals. Over the years, we have met the needs and touched the hearts of thousands of Newport's neediest residents. All parishioners are welcome to join in this powerful, meaningful ministry.

*Dave Monroe: david.r.monroe@hotmail.com
401-846-0702*

THRIFT SHOP

Open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 am to 1 pm

St. Mary's thrift shop, which operates in Gibbs House, is a resource to help the needy and others in the community have access to clothing and small household goods at affordable prices. It has the additional goal of extending the reach of St. Mary's Church to our customers and volunteers, while making a tangible contribution to St. Mary's.

In 2014, a dedicated group of volunteers gave more than 1,107 hours of service at the shop. We implemented strategies to increase donations, such as the installation of an external dropbox, allowing small goods to be delivered outside of shop hours. In February, an unused phone line was turned off, saving \$40 a month, and we have cleaned out an old office, expanding our usable space. Our revenue appears to be steady, thanks in part to sales such as "fill a bag for \$3." In addition to selling our goods, we also donated clothing to a mission in the Philippines, to homeless and the elderly in our own area, and to a nursing home for a fashion show. Many connections and opportunities for hospitality have been achieved between our customers and St. Mary's.

2015 goals include:

- Continuing the outreach to our community by providing affordable goods and volunteer opportunities.
- Gaining revenue for St. Mary's operational budget.
- Opening another day of the week, depending on quality and quantity of donations
- Expanding and using our space efficiently.
- Removing an old rug (possible Eagle Scout project).

Priscilla Cousins: 401-680-3256

PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION

Listening and caring for one another while being fully present to all who have need.

Karen White, Chair: kwhite62@cox.net, 401-847-2478. Meetings: First Thursdays, 6–7:30 pm.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & REFLECTIONS

With donations from the parish, we prepared and delivered generous baskets to parishioners at both Easter and Thanksgiving.

We know this represents only a portion of those who are hungry within our church community, and we ask parishioners to contact the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick if you or someone known to you has need of food assistance.

A requirement of members is that they attend monthly meetings. We have not been consistent in meeting due to illness, work, and vacations, but will strive to resume a monthly schedule in 2015.

2014 STATISTICS*

Visits: 249
 Communions: 94
 Phone calls: 180
 Cards: 53
 Bereavement support: 49
 Flower delivery: 22
 Funerals and wakes: 17
 Doctor's visits: 14
 Organized meal preps: 8
 Food basket deliveries: 6
 Groceries: 3

* Does not include clergy visits

2014 VITAL RECORDS

Baptisms	8
Burials	7
Confirmations	6
Death of Members	6
Weddings.....	5
New Members	21



2015 GOALS

This year, we are asking members of the team to take responsibility for designated areas of ministry:

- Organize diocesan Eucharistic Visitor training at St. Mary's (Marshall Lundberg: libertyhound@cox.net, 401-683-1192).
- Organize food baskets for Easter and Thanksgiving (Dave and Marily Ferkinhoff: dave-fe@cox.net, 401-848-9699).
- Organize preparation of meals for those in need (Ann Gizzi: eag8@verizon.net, 401-846-6282).
- Organize programs for the team and possibly also for the parish (Pauline Davis: ppdavis44@gmail.com, 401-363-1475).
- Review of movie "Still Alice," which deals with Alzheimer's Disease. Encourage people to read book *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova (2007).
- Choose and train a new chairperson by the end of the year.

PROPERTY COMMISSION

The Property Commission has been established to plan, budget, and coordinate the maintenance and repair of St. Mary's campus grounds and buildings. We have met twice to discuss our organization, to prepare 2015 budget estimates, and to start a list of future projects.

Harry Gustafson, Chair: harrygn@cox.net, 401-569-7906 (cell), 401-846-3332 (home).

Meetings: Quarterly and as needed.

LEADERSHIP

Current point people for specific buildings and/or areas of the St. Mary's campus are:

Church: Dave Ferkinhoff (dave-fe@cox.net, 401-848-9699)

Parish House: Ted Bierman (tbierman@cox.net, 401-847-9162) and Marshall Lundberg (libertyhound@cox.net, 401-683-1192)

Rectory: Chris Myers (cwmyers@cox.net, 401-683-0399)

Gibbs House: Dave Monroe (david.r.monroe@hotmail.com, 401-846-0702) and Harry Gustafson (see contact info above)

Garage/Barn: TBD

Grounds & Cemetery: Debby Timby (debtimby@cox.net, 401-847-7741) and Bob Vergnani (rjvergnani@gmail.com, 401-683-0736)

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Gift from the Vaniceks of five new maples along the driveway.
- Gift of 100 daffodil bulbs along East Main Road.
- Maintenance of the new 2013 trees.
- A new company, Northeastern Tree, will do winter maintenance of trees on the grounds.
- Cleared brush from the stone wall at the south end of the property near the Community Garden.
- Had window well covers built to keep water from the rectory basement.
- Had drains installed from the downspouts of the rectory to carry water away from the building.
- Dug a berm/trench west of the rectory to divert water that was causing basement flooding.
- Removed overgrown shrubs in front of rectory.
- Removed storm-damaged trees.

- Reflectors have been installed by the driveway entrance—a gift.
- The large dying pine tree near the church was removed. Ant damage inside the trunk.

2015 GOALS*

Do project planning and cost estimates for the following projects.

- Finish layer of asphalt on the new parking lot behind Gibbs House and the new parish house. (This includes repair of the driveway parking lot entrance south east of Gibbs House.)
- Install parking signs.
- Major repair or replacement of church slate roof.
- Modernization and possible reconfiguration of the kitchen area on rectory first floor.
- Possible staining of new parish house siding shingles.
- New lights by the driveway entrance from East Main Road as funds permit.
- Replacement of cemetery water irrigation system (pump and electrical).
- Repair and restore damaged tombstones.
- Continued maintenance of grounds and trees. Annual tree maintenance under the supervision of an arborist will take place during the winter and involves pruning in appropriate places (e.g., dead branches) and removal of dead or dying trees.
- Our plan for periodic grass fertilization will continue, and the results of this have been evident in its appearance.

** This list is not prioritized. Projects considered beyond normal maintenance and repair will need to be considered when funding is made available.*

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

The Stewardship Commission is dedicated to a year-round program of communication, formation, and education about the stewardship ministry of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church. Stewardship is about recognizing the abundance we have received from God and joyfully giving of our talent, time, and money. The annual giving campaign was based on the belief that at the heart of stewardship is a call to deepen our relationship with God through giving—to pray and ask the questions: What has God given me, and what can I give back to God to make a difference in my church?

Christine Cassels, Chair: christinecassels@gmail.com, 401-619-4074. Meeting Time: First Wednesdays, 6:15 pm

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special thanks to committee members: Claire Hebert, Anna and Jason Kane, and Lauren Lema. Heartfelt thanks also to the Reverend Jennifer Pedrick for advisement and management oversight.

- Developed annual giving campaign theme: “Next steps in faith, next steps in community.”
- Established a four-week speaker series, with committee members sharing what they have received from St. Mary’s.
- Offered an adult education forum on gratitude and giving, asking people to pray about the stewardship commitment they were planning.
- Christine Cassels led the vestry in exploring and defining our stewardship practices as leaders.
- Identified active membership and friends as a base for annual giving; mailed a letter from the

rector and pledge card to parishioners.

- Tracked and acknowledged pledges with thank-you cards from the rector and stewardship chair.
- Identified a plan to follow up with members who did not return pledge cards. Vestry members held a Sunday evening follow-up telethon and a second letter was sent.

2015 GOALS

- Provide a quarterly message in the bulletin related to stewardship and the importance of pledging.
- Develop a stewardship education series.
- Update the Church Windows database and create systematic reports.
- Establish a new member pledging process.

WHAT DO THE NUMBERS SAY?

As of January 26, 2015, there were 133 pledges, totaling \$229,916.

New pledges	13	Average pledge	\$1,729
Increased pledges	59	Amount of pledge increase over 2014 ...	\$27,561
Pledges stayed the same	53	% increase in total pledge over 2014	16%

Year	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Pledge #	133	134	153	160	174
Pledge \$	\$229,916	\$197,921	\$240,221	\$249,347	\$258,250
\$ \$ Received			\$226,479	\$238,355	\$248,400
% of Pledges Received			94%	96%	96%

WORSHIP COMMISSION

The Worship Commission was formed in June 2014 and includes a coordinator from the altar guild, acolytes, choir, greeters, lectors, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers, as well as the rector and key parish leaders. The commission oversees, sets goals, and plans for all worship services at St. Mary's, with the stated purpose of strengthening the worship experience at each of the services, inviting people to serve in worship, and increasing involvement in the parish.

Grace Ann Sweeney, Chair: cookingwithgrace1@gmail.com, 401-241-7715. Meetings: First Wednesdays, 1 pm.

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Monthly, the commission identified the needs and set the goals for upcoming services.
- Developed a worship schedule for three services.
- Recruited and trained individuals to serve in all areas of worship.
- Provided support for all worship services to include weddings, funerals, and baptisms.
- Improved communication with the parish about worship.
- Increased involvement: Each weekend approximately 30 people now serve at Holy Eucharist.
- Developed a corps of 29 lectors, 23 LEMs, 14 acolytes, and 27 greeters.
- Organized, cleaned, and created a place for all the albs.

2015 GOALS

- Develop a manual for each type of service that takes place throughout the year.
- Recruit additional greeters for the 8 am service.
- Recruit youth as acolytes.
- Purchase vestments/albs as needed.
- Continue improving communication with the parish about worship.

ACOLYTES

Serve in rotation at Sunday and other services. Meet as needed for training (usually once per quarter).

Acolytes assist the priests and deacons performing their duties during the service. Duties vary by service and depend on the number of acolytes present.

Accomplishments of note in 2014 include a transition

of leadership from Karen White to Dave Ferkinhoff. During the year several new acolytes were also trained and have entered the rota, including both adults and teens. It has been a joy watching new acolytes as they gain experience. Acolytes fill an important role, and we are grateful for having them.

Dave Ferkinhoff: dave-fe@cox.net, 401-848-9699

ALTAR GUILD

Members of the altar guild assist the clergy and prepare the sanctuary for all services held in the church and in St. George's Chapel. Typical altar guild work includes polishing silver and brass, marking readings, laundering linens, arranging flowers for the altar, and delivering flowers after Sunday services to the sick and shut-ins.

2014 Accomplishments

- Prepared the altar in the church for all services, and the altar in St. George's Chapel for the 9 am services during the summer and the 12 noon services on Wednesdays.
- Kept the sacristy in St. George's Chapel stocked with communion wafers, wine, candles, and clean linens.
- Decorated the church and chapel for Easter and Christmas.
- Welcomed Stacy Mello, Michelle Freitas, and Kari Reardon as new members of the altar guild.

Our primary goal in 2015 is to attract and train new members, especially people to prepare the chapel for the 12 noon service on Wednesdays.

Millie Cozzens: sandyandmillie@aol.com, 401-847-4117

GREETERS

Serve in rotation at Sunday and other services, weddings, funerals, and other special gatherings. Meet as needed for training.

Greeters glorify God by extending a warm welcome to every person who comes to worship at St. Mary's.

2014 Accomplishments

- Successfully recruited new greeters, with a total of 25 parishioners now serving as greeters.
- Trained all active greeters.
- Developed effective communication systems between leader and greeters to help with the flow of information regarding worship schedules and changes in procedures.

In 2015, we will focus on the ongoing recruitment of new greeters, inclusive of families, as well as on continued training as requested by the rector.

Pauline Davis: ppdavis44@gmail.com, 401-363-1475

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (LEMS)

Serve in rotation at Sunday and other services, including weddings and funerals as requested. Meet as needed for training.

LEMs assist the clergy and administer the chalice at the Eucharist.

2014 Accomplishments

- Provided training for all current LEMs and newcomers to the ministry.
- Participated in the planning of regular and special services and events.
- Developed a scheduling process to provide longer lead time and minimize disruption for LEMs and the church alike.

Our goals in 2015 include recruiting new LEMs to the ministry and sustaining the high level of positive responses for special services.

Marshall Lundberg: libertyhound@cox.net, 401-683-1192

LECTORS

Serve in rotation at Sunday and other services, including weddings and funerals as requested. Meet as needed for training.

Lectors read aloud the scriptures, proclaiming God's Word to the congregation during worship, in addition to leading the Prayers of the People.

2014 Accomplishments

- Purchased a new lectionary book with "The Word of the Lord" at the end of each reading.
- Attended training sessions for new worship led by the Reverend Jennifer Pedrick.
- Provided multiple lectors for All Saint's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and Lessons and Carols services.

In 2015, we have three goals:

- To recruit a minimum of one new lector for each service;
- To capture the congregation's attention by expressing the Word of God clearly; and
- To provide lectors for funerals when requested by the family.

Stacy Mello: sam102069@aol.com, 401-524-8730

MUSIC

The music program at St. Mary's seeks to proclaim the gospel through the gift of music and to support and encourage members of St. Mary's in offering their vocal and instrumental talents in praise to God.

With the January 2015 resignation of our music director, Ted Platt, the music program at St. Mary's has entered a time of transition. In 2015, we will find a way to continue to offer music that inspires and uplifts the congregation and all those in this community who enjoy making—and hearing—music in worship.



COME
AND SEE!

