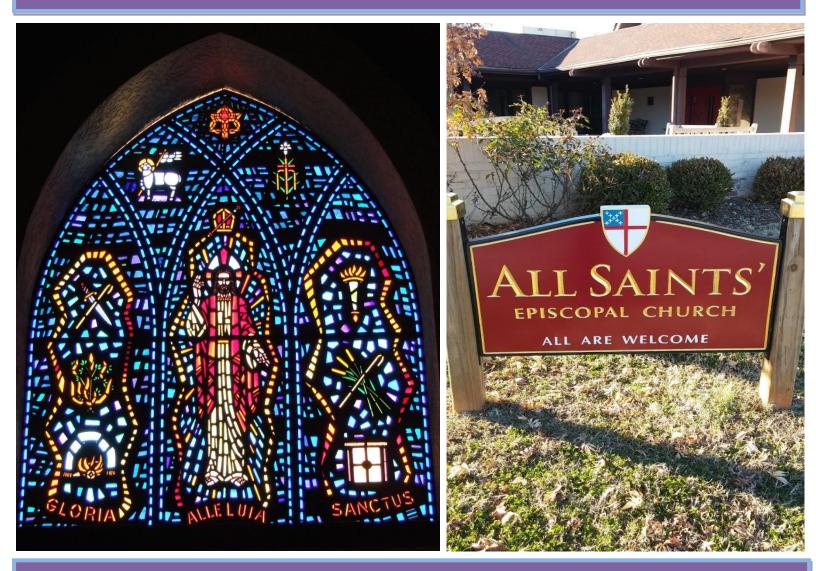
# All Saints' Episcopal Church 2015 Annual Report



525 Lake Concord Road NE Concord, NC 28025

# All Saints' Episcopal Parish, Concord, NC AGENDA OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING January 31, 2016

Call to Order – Clerk, Kim Gordick Presentation of List of Canonical Members—Clerk, Kim Gordick Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting, January 25, 2015 Report on Nominations – Jerrod Smith Installation of New Vestry Members – The Rev. Tricia de Beer Senior Warden's Report—Chuck Collier Financial Report—Hilary Smith

#### Presentation of Financial Plan for Mission and Ministry

#### Parish Discussion—Chuck Collier

Please gather in pairs initially (preferably with people you don't know well—so spouses and significant others should not be in the same group. Write down your response on the "sticky notes" and share them in your group.

This has been an eventful and pivotal year for All Saints. As we finish one year and begin another, please take a moment to reflect on the following questions:

1. Who has been a witness to you in the last year in the mission and ministry of our church?

Please gather in groups of four to discuss the next question

2. How do want All Saints' to be a witness in this community in 2016? What are your hopes for us?

#### A word from our Interim Priest – The Rev Tricia de Beer

#### **Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members and Parish Leaders**

Adjournment -- Clerk, Kim Gordick

# ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ALL SAINTS' MISSION: DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES FOR JESUS ALL SAINTS' VISION: LOVE LIKE GOD DOES

#### Staff

The Reverend Nancy L. J. Cox, Rector

The Reverend Patricia de Beer, Interim Assistant to the Rector

Virginia Ridenhour/ Tammy Matula, Parish Business Manager

Hannah Crone, Interim Administrative Assistant

Brian Sapp, Director of Music bsapp@allsaintsconcord.org

2015 Ragan Kearns Emily Badgett Jerrod Smith Len Witke Vestry 2016 Roxanne Friday Debby Smith Chuck Collier Woodson Hair

**2017** Hilary Smith Kay Boland Amy Spunich

#### Telephones

Church Office: 704-782-2024 Facsimile: 704-782-2019

Address 525 Lake Concord Road NE Concord, NC 28025

Website: www.allsaintsconcord.org Social Media: www.facebook.com/AllSaintsEpiscopalConcord

# All Saints' Episcopal Church Canonical Members

David Abernethy **Catherine Ackiss** Barbara Adams Jim Adams Katie Adams Jane Armitage Jackie Atwell **Emily Badgett** Alf Badgett **Denise Badgett** Rebecca Bahn Lila (Joy) Barbee Gordon Belo Al Benshoff Kris Benshoff **Carol Bentley** Christopher Berg Kevin Berg **Rachel Berg** Ted Berg **Bill Biggerstaff** Sandra Biggerstaff **Richard Billings Bob Black** Loretta Black Pat Black Kay Boland **Ruth Bratton** Sheila Brown Amanda Byrne Robert Byrne Rosanne Byrne **Ruth Carlton** Anna Catherine Carroll **Charles Carroll** Marilyn Carroll John Carroll Jennifer Carroll Carrie Charest Chris Charest **Brittany Childers** Lin Childers Vic Clark

Katherine Clark Jeff Clayton John Cline Carol Cline Monty Coggins **Carolyn Coggins** Chuck Collier Pam Collier Chris Cook Jennifer Cook Ken Copeland Donna Copeland Carol Corbin Erin Corbin Helen Cornett **Bill Cottrell** Rebecca Cottrell Jazzmine Cox Jim Cox Lee Cox Thomas Cox Debra Crow **Yvone Darby-Gilkes** Paul Davison Julia Davison Ryan DeHaas Jim Devine Valerie Devine Tom Dillard Fannie Dillard Jill Downing **Tim Downing Bob Drummond** Mary Ann Drummond Valerie Drye Susan Duncan Juli Dwiggins Kathy Eble Mike Elam Jackie Elam John Erickson Jo Erickson Martin Ericson

Margaret Ericson Kim Everhardt Phil Everhardt **Doug Fairweather Ruth Fairweather** Tom Farebrother Nancy Fennell Karen Fernandez Brad Fisher Dawn Fisher **Regina Forsyth** Don Foskey Nancy Foskey Wayne Fowler **David Friday Roxanne Friday** Steve Fulton **Tiffany Fulton** Ann Gardner Sue Gelarden **Bob** Gerard Rosalyn Gerard Stella Goodman Donna Goodwin **Bob Gordick** Glen Gordick Kim Gordick Jean Gordick Karen Gorman Heather Griswold Jack Griswold Pat Griset Charlotte Grossman Dona Gunn Clay Hair Woodson Hair **Bill Harris** Kay Harris Esther Hauber Mickey Hayes

Bruce Heckert Mark Helms Buddy Hilbish Hagan Hilbish Jon Hill Julia Hill Patti Hodgson **Ruth Hoffman** Tom Holder Mary Holder Andrea Holding Andrea Holdren Duke Holdren Janet Hollopeter Warren Hollopeter Kristen Hornung **Russ Hoyser** Becky Hoyser Jo Hunter Nancy Hunter Gene Hyde Sandy Hyde Mark Jasmine Mary Jasmine Jana John Drew John Mike Jones Teri Jones Tom Jones Regan Kearns Sharon Kearns Gwen King Teka King **Buddy King** James Kirkpatrick Andrea Klauss **Tony Kombol** Phyllis Kombol Heidi Lee Joseph Lee

Debbie Lewallen **Dick Lewis** Barbara Lewis Jane Liles Garen Livingston Betty Sue Lockhart **Dennis Lockney** Norma Lockney Tina Luckey Andre Lussier Eileen Lussier **Brian Malmquist** Michelle Malmquist Cheryl Marsh **Rick Marsh** Hilda Marshall Ceil Matula Steve Matula Tammy Matula Michael McCarthy Jeanne McCarthy Betty McCrary Mike McDonough Pat McDonough **Barrington McFarlane Charles McKinley** Mary Mikhail David Millar Jan Millar Arlyn Miller Jaden Miller George Monroe, Jr. Deborah Monroe Shane Moore Henry Mork Kim Mork Matthew Mork Nick Mork Greg Morrill Jonathan Moyes

Karen Moyes Cynthia Neal Guy Neal Darryl Noreen Catherine Norman Mark Novasad Pam Novasad Scott Padgett Teresa Padgett Stephen Parker **Robin Patterson** Stephanie Patterson Jennifer Pendergrass **Carolyn Phillips** Jeffrey Phillips Jerry Pierce Nancy Pierce Jason Porter Mandy Porter **Elizabeth Prichard** Conrado Ouevedo Kathleen Quevedo David Quiroz Jodi Quiroz Clement Ramdin Nancy Ramdin Michael Reedy Jerry Ridenhour Virginia Ridenhour Henry Riley Margaret Riley Kevin Riley Suzy Riley Anna Robinson Mark Robinson Karen Robinson **Elizabeth Rogers** Alison Russell Kayla Russell Scott Russell

Cary Russell Frank Russo Brian Sapp Jennie Sass **Ron Sass** Ron Seabolt Sharon Seward **Richard Sexton** Cheryl Sexton Matt Shorter Amy Shorter Nathan Shorter **Charles Simmons Gina Simmons Bob Simpson** Beth Simpson Judith Small Ben Smith Don Smith Alice Smith Hilary Smith **Debby Smith** Jerrod W Smith Marshall Smith Matthew Smith Elizabeth Solomon Ericka Southworth Jane Spangler **Bill Speer** Elizabeth Speer Doug Spreen **Denise Spreen** Win Springs Amy Spunich Mike Spunich Michael Staup Katie Staup Barbara Stavitsky Joe Stegman Debbie Stegman

Alice Sumner Jan Sutton James Swann, Jr. James Swann, Sr. John Teeter **Dorothy Teeter** Jon Ter Poorten Mary Anne Ter Poorten Kevin Thayer Melissa Thayer Frank Torrey De Torrey Scott Trott Brenda Trott John Troutman Jean Troutman Sally Trufant Scott Trufant Fred Trull Jill Trull Megan Trull Jessica Trull Amelia Urbanski Joe Urbanski Karen Urbanski Joanne Vance Bryan Vogler Michael Walker Lorraine Warner Ryan Waters Fred Weber Judy Weber Lilian Welch Patricia Wenrich **Russell Wenrich** Becky Wenrich **Dick Whitfield** Jackie Whitfield Henry Wiley Betty Wiley

Robbo Williams Patty Williams Jim Williams Shelley Williamson Larry Williamson Joan Williamson Beryl Wilson Donna Wilson Judith Wilson Len Witke Pat Wydra John Yelton Susan Yelton

# All Saints' Episcopal Church STATISTICAL REPORT

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Holy Communions-Sundays	154	152
Holy Communions-Weekday	44*	35*
Holy Communions-Other	10**	14**
Holy Communions-Private	49***	64***
Number of Communions Administered	12,535	12,348
Morning Prayer Services-Weekdays in Lent	24	24
Other Services	16	57
Baptisms	2	8
Marriages	2	3
Burials	8	5
Number in Attendance (All Services)	13,989	13,557

 \* Includes Wednesday Noonday Eucharist Only
\*\* Includes Holy Week, Women's Quiet Day, and Other Services With Communion
\*\*\* Includes Communions Given By Eucharistic Visitors and Clergy Visits With Communion

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
By Baptism	2	8
Confirmation / Reception	0	4
By Transfer	9	29
Reactivate	6	0
Membership		
Baptized (Child)	74	67
Baptized (+16)	39	32
Confirmed Communicant	331	300
Other Active	92	98
Prospects	69	76
Total	605	573

# ALL SAINTS' EPSICOPAL CHURCH 2015 ANNUAL REPORT DATA GATHERING

**Baptisms:** We welcome into the body of Christ the following persons baptized in 2015: Alan Bradley Campbell – April 4 Ryan Waters – April 4 Grayson Vincent John – May 3 Crosby Leo Phillips – June 7 Maxwell Peter Phillips – June 7 Logan Ray Staup – July 5 Parker David Hill - November 1 Jodi Quiroz – November 1 **Confirmations:** We welcome the following people who were confirmed in 2015: Amanda Byrne – May 27 Don Foskey – May 27 Nicholas Mork – May 27 Ryan Waters – May 27 **Reaffirmations:** We welcome the following people who were reaffirmed in 2015: Nancy Foskey – May 27 Bruce Heckert - May 27 Garen Livingston – May 27 **Transfers to All Saints**: We welcome the following people who joined All Saints' in 2015: Jacqueline P. Atwell Alan Bradley Campbell Chris Charest Celeste Mary (Evans) Campbell Deborah Rimmer Crow Karen Fernandez **Donald Michael Foskey** Nancy Shirah Foskey Pat Griset Bruce Heckert Heidi Ramseur Lee Keith Joseph Lee Garen Livingston Abby Matula Ceil Matula Rachel Matula Tammy Matula Stephen Matula Catherine Norman Steve Parker Barbara Stavitsky David Thayer Kevin Thayer Melissa Hanley Thayer **Ryan Waters** Patricia Weinrich **Russell Weinrich** Beryl M. Wilson Judith Wilson **Transfers from All Saints:** Judy Armstrong Paulette Burris Ryan De Haas Mary Lou Fowler Jim Hosmer **Cindy Hosmer** Betty Hudson **Daniel Malone** Pam McVicker Mary Mikhail Barbara Parker Ken Parker **Rachel Towell** Lynda Waller Haley Williams McGahey **Kimberly Williams** Mark Williams Natalie Williams **Rvan Williams Marriages:** 

Joseph Collins Hunter / Nancy Thomas Aubitz

Mark Helms / Kathryn Sain Alan Bradley Campbell / Celeste Mary Evans

# **Burials:**

Judy Hacskaylo Abernethy Rande Maureen Caldwell Virginia Ferguson Gibson Diane Marie Miller Ralph Avery Barbee Jennifer Elizabeth Cobb Lee Goodman Mary Springs

# 2015 Annual Parish Meeting Minutes All Saints' Episcopal Church, Concord NC

January 25, 2015

**Call to Order**: Meeting was called to order at 10:19 am by Kim Gordick, Clerk of Vestry **Presentation of List of Canonical Members**: by Kim Gordick, Clerk of Vestry to Nancy Cox, Rector. Moved to accept by Rachel Towell, Seconded by Frank Torrey.

Minutes of Annual Meeting, January 26, 2014: Motion to accept made by Joe Hunter seconded by Wayne Fowler.

Introduction of vestry candidates to Nancy by Ben Smith

Slate of Nominations for Vestry Service: Emily Badgett Kay Boland Scott Russell

*Hilary Smith* Amy Spunich are presented as candidates for service. Motion to close nominations and elect the slate by acclimation made by Tom Dillard seconded by John Cline, unanimously approved.

Installation of New Vestry Members- blessing of 2015 vestry by Nancy

**Rector's Report—The Rev'd Nancy Cox** Major accomplishments in the past year included over \$23,000 dollars were raised for outreach, sanctuary renovation, and the opening of the Lockhart early learning center.

We worked towards our core values in many ways this year. We also tried to live up to our mission statement of "Disciples making Disciples for Christ". She challenged the congregation to actively invite people to visit our church and participate in one of the many opportunities offered by the church.

Nancy presented the church's new logo including mission cross which is over the door in the sanctuary. This should serve as a reminder to us all that we are being commissioned to go and spread Christ's word in the next year.

Senior Warden's Report—Ben Smith Ben highlighted the accomplishments of our parish this year including preschool opening including multiple upgrades to prepare for the children's arrival, sanctuary upgrades, and expansion of ministry groups.

**Financial Report—Richard Billings:** Summary of Budget presented with total revenue of \$707,775 (1.1% under budget) and expense total of \$711,634 (2.5% under budget). Ken Parker suggested having a running budget posted weekly in the bulletin to let people know how the church is doing as a running total. Mary Jasmine questioned outreach money distribution as specific giving locations since it is not specified in the annual report. James Swann questioned the difference noted between clergy salary and clergy housing from 2014 to 2015. Nancy explained that in the absence of an Asst. rector the housing line has to be shifted to the clergy salary. A vestry resolution can move the money back to housing for clergy when there is a hire of new Asst. rector. Motion to accept the financial report made by Joe Hunter, seconded by Len Witke, unanimously approved.

**Stewardship Report—Chuck Collier** Presentation on pledges and note of thanks for increasing pledges as people were able. He noted that all of the staff and vestry increased their pledge already and asked the parish to please consider increasing their pledge by \$3/week that would help close the gap between projected budget and shortfall. Chuck presented a slide that indicates the plan to decrease the building fund use for mortgage payment and rely more on General fund until the building fund is exhausted in 2019.

All Saints' Early Learning Foundation—Jackie Whitfield Lockhart Early Learning Center opened in October and is a collaboration with Cabarrus County Schools. This school serves

children in which 75% of the children live below the poverty line. She thanked everyone who made this dream a reality in less than a year.

**Other Parish Reports:** Motion to accept remaining parish reports as written in the annual report made by Mary Jasmine, seconded by John Cline. Unanimously approved.

**Parish Discussion—Ben Smith:** This has been an eventful and pivotal year for All Saints. As we finish one year and begin another, please take a moment to reflect on the following questions:

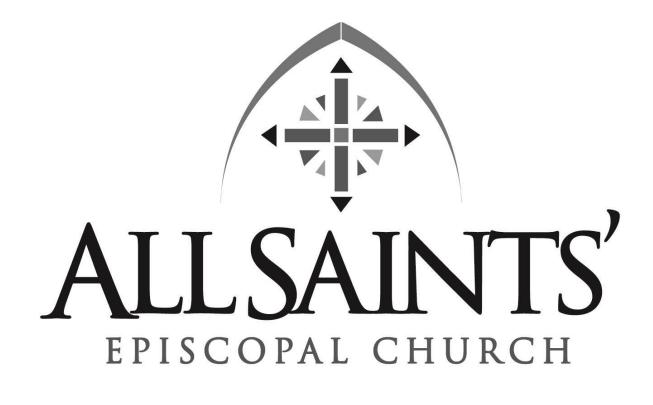
1. What is one story from the past year you would tell people who have never been to All Saints before?

2. Who would you invite to "come and see" and share this aspect of our congregational life that has made difference to you?

# **Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members and Parish Leaders—Nancy**

Mike McDonough, Jackie Whitfield, Bob Simpson, and Ben Smith complete their service today and were thanked for their hard work and time.

Adjournment- with no further business meeting adjourned at 11:38 by Kim Gordick, Clerk of the Vestry.



# Ministry Information

#### **RECTOR'S REPORT**

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 NRSV

As 2015 began, All Saints' (ASEC) had completed two major projects, opening Lockhart Early Learning Center and renovating the sanctuary, and the vestry focus was integrating these more deeply into the life of the parish. At the same time, the work of living into the Great Commission, expressed in our mission statement as "Disciples making disciples for Christ," continued with renewed emphasis.

At its retreat in February, the Vestry committed itself to be a "committee of the whole" in newcomer ministry making All Saints' an *intentionally* inviting community. The Senior Warden offered quarterly updates to the parish and Mary Parmer led a weekend conference "Invite Welcome Connect" grounding this ministry in scripture and prayer. There is no question that God has blessed these efforts. All Saints' has increased its visibility in the community, made welcoming visitors more intentional and is working to help newcomers find ways to use their particular gifts. Each week there are new visitors to All Saints' and many have found God speaking to them in a powerful way and decided to make this their church home. In turn, they are shaping this faith community in new ways that bless all of us. A new offering in 2016, All Saints' After Dark, will offer another way for people to experience ASEC as well as creating a new income stream to support outreach.

Bishop Curry, now Presiding Bishop Curry, has pointed out that Jesus' ministry was primarily one that took place outside of religious buildings and the religious institutions of his time, at the place where faith meets daily life. While many carry an image of "Jesus meek and mild," his ministry to those at the margins of society often put him in conflict with the established order. As uncomfortable as that may make us, we can expect no less as his followers. Our commitment that "All are Welcome" was pressed by the Supreme Court decision legalizing same gender marriage, the actions of General Convention, the Diocese of North Carolina and events in our own church. There were a wide-range of responses, as we would expect and has always been true in a church where different viewpoints are not only welcome, but also encouraged.

Twelve listening sessions were held in May and July with the goal not of convincing people one way or the other, but to provide a time of deeply listening to God through Holy Scripture, the history of the church and our own stories. The Vestry heard clearly that many were encouraged by what was happening. They also heard there were some who disagreed with these developments, but nonetheless remained devoted to the All Saints' and the Episcopal Church. Others decided they could no longer continue to be members of ASEC/The Episcopal Church. They are missed and we pray that they will find what they are looking for and that God will continue to bless them on their faith journey. Of course they are always welcome in this church. In August, the Vestry affirmed our core value of "worshipping in the Episcopal tradition" and went on record supporting General Convention and our commitment to the Episcopal Church.

Events in the wider world also led a group of parishioners (Don and Nancy Foskey, Regina Forsyth and Darryl Noreen, and Debbie Stegman) to come together in support of refugees, recognizing that God has called for special treatment of refugees in our midst. Scripture tells us that Joseph had fled as a refugee to Egypt with Mary and the infant Jesus just as the family of an earlier Joseph had done millennia earlier.

All Saints' is hosting more community meetings. In March, ASEC began hosting AA meetings on Sunday afternoons as well as Wednesday & Friday evenings. Work with the Literacy Council also continues to grow, and more parishioners are participating in these efforts. ASEC hosts monthly meetings of Serenity House Ambassadors and we have been invited to join in that work. The All Saints' Early Learning Foundation celebrated one year and continues to seek ways to support the Lockhart Early Learning Center and expand opportunities for the education of young children with special needs and those living in poverty. Bi-monthly blood drives continue under Bill Biggerstaff's capable organization. I invite you to pray about how you may be called in these different ministries.

VBS in the Park, coordinated in 2015 by Kristin Hornung, celebrated its third year with a significant expansion of participation from outside the parish. The team is looking how our format can accommodate more children in 2016, and we all are excited about the new Carousel coming to Village Park. Common Morning, Common Prayer (CMCP) also in its third year took us out to local coffee shops and breakfast cafes for prayer in Lent. We will continue with CMCP during this Lent.

In May ASEC graduated a new EFM (Education for Ministry) class. Each graduate has found a new ministry. Thank you to Sue Gelarden and Dave Millar for mentoring this class through four years. If you are interested in learning more, Dave will be delighted to talk to you. Recent EFM graduate Gina Simmons teamed up with Judith Wilson to create a Faith Based Community Health Program (also known as the Parish Nurse Program) at All Saints' that will help promote the stewardship of our physical bodies.

In the parish staff, Brian Sapp continues to do excellent work as Director of Music. He completed his Level 2 Orff training, expanding his ability to teach music to young children which not only plants lifelong music skills, but has also been shown to improve math and organizational skills. We bade goodbye to Evette Guine-Page who decided to return to the business world, and Amy Cecil whose six years of work with youth and children have left a legacy of new initiatives and deeper connections to the Episcopal Church. Jennifer Cobb's sudden death was a shock and we continue to miss her bright spirit. God brought Tammy Matula to the All Saints' staff in November and Hannah Crone in January 2016 as we prepare for Virginia Ridenhour's retirement at the end of January 2016. Words are insufficient to express the debt of gratitude ASEC owes to Virginia. Her steady faithfulness and attention to detail have kept the finances in order for twenty-eight years. Thankfully she and Jerry will continue to make All Saints' their church home.

I give thanks for the ministry of Mark Jasmine as a volunteer in the business office for the past four years and Richard Billings who has served as Treasurer for the past two years. We welcome Vic Clark back to the business office (Vic was Treasurer at ASEC for nearly a decade) and Robbo Williams as our new Treasurer.

Thank you to those who completed vestry terms this year: Len Witke, Jerrod Smith, Emily Badgett and Ragan Kearns:

Under the leadership of Len Witke, the Building and Grounds Team saw more regular planning and greater effectiveness in taking on and completing maintenance and repair projects, providing faithful stewardship of our physical plant. A gift allowed us to replace gutters dating from 1971 and add gutters to areas that did not have them. A grant allowed us

to replace nearly 200 lighting fixtures, resulting in a 30% increase in efficiency. 2016 will begin a multi-year project to replace aging HVAC units, again providing a tremendous improvement in efficiency. Len also negotiated with NCDOT regarding their acquisition from ASEC of a small portion of land at the intersection of Country Club and Lake Concord roads under the I-85 corridor improvement project. This project will also see reconfiguring the intersection of Lake Concord and Copperfield Boulevard that will result in abandoning the "cutoff" road, which runs in front of the church. Timing of the project is at NCDOT discretion.

Emily Badgett has served with perspective far beyond her years and helped our communications both internally and externally. Emily has also been working with youth and others on a memorial for Jennifer, an outdoor labyrinth to be completed this spring. Walking the labyrinth was one of Jennifer's favorite spiritual disciplines and her dream was to make this available to at All Saints'. This work will be done by volunteers. Check with Emily if you are interested in participating.

Jerrod Smith has invested hours and hours in his own training and training others in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to ensure that we have a top-notch education program for our youngest members. The result of his efforts can clearly be seen in the comfort and confidence with which these children can articulate their faith.

Ragan Kearns returned to the vestry to fill an unexpired term, bringing experience, leadership and his wonderful sense of humor. Ragan was part of the team that created "Hops for Haiti," the first craft beer festival in Cabarrus County. "Hops" connected ASEC with local businesses and residents in a new way and provided financial resources to our long-term partnership with the development program Haiti, Inc. Ragan also started the Tour de Saints. 2015 marked the third year for TdS, which raised over \$10,000 for CCM.Participation continues to grow and the addition of Bank of North Carolina as a major sponsor means TdS is fast becoming a "must ride" for local cyclists.

*The trouble with accidents is that you can never see them coming-Winnie the Pooh.* I would have never expected that the effects of the concussion sustained in October would have persisted so long. I am grateful for the prayers of this community and the leadership that has kept the ministry of the church moving forward. Chuck Collier, Senior Warden, has provided a faithful and steady hand at the tiller. The Reverend Tricia de Beer has been gracious in commuting to All Saints' to provide priestly and pastoral ministry. The support of The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Pro Tem, and the diocesan staff, particularly The Reverend Canon Rhonda Lee and The Reverend Warren Pittman, is deeply appreciated.

We do not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future. God has carried this community through many and varied changes and God will continue to lead us forward in grace.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy+

#### **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

As I look back at 2015, I recall how we embraced the challenges we faced together as a Christian community. Some of our friends left us, our Youth Director resigned, our dear Jennifer Cobb, Parish Administrator, died suddenly, and Nancy, our Rector, suffered a traumatic brain injury and was on medical leave. Yet through all these challenges, we have come together in Christ an even stronger community, continuing to support one another in

love, while reaching out to others who need our love and support. And many newcomers have felt invited and welcomed into our parish and have joined our parish family.

Although we faced some challenges, we haven't stood still in ministry and mission inside or outside our walls. It's encouraging as we see that along the way we've really stepped up our game in many areas. In 2015 over twenty of us entered into the Bible Challenge in an effort to grow spiritually to become better disciples. This year our Pastoral Care ministry provided hot meals to those recovering from hospital stays. Our Stephen Ministers were busier than ever visiting people in the hospital and in their homes, and began a new training class of four additional ministers to increase their support for our parish. Our stewardship of what God has given us in this building extended further, as we began hosting Alcoholics Anonymous in the multipurpose room three times a week last June. We also hosted other nonprofit groups for their fundraising events and for their organizational meetings. As a result of our focus on becoming an intentionally inviting parish, we held an Invite-Welcome-Connect Conference last fall to help us develop ways to accomplish that. In our effort to becoming more inviting, we created road signs to announce our worship services and personally distributed flyers to our neighbors in our neighborhoods inviting them to worship with us at Easter and Christmas. There are many more examples that you can think of that we've accomplished together this past year.

It's important to consider where we've been, as we look to the future of our parish in this coming year. Although we don't have the financial resources to employ a full time assistant rector focused on youth, we place a high value on youth ministry and will strive to hire a part time director of youth with an emphasis on teens in the next few months. We are currently in an active search. However, we have never lost sight of what we need, an assistant rector with a focus on youth, and we will work toward that priority.

We will continue to maintain our emphasis on being an intentionally inviting church using the Invite-Welcome-Connect model. Once new members come in, it's vitally important to connect them with ministry and mission. As a part of that, we will focus on leader development to prepare folks to lead in new areas, while connecting more parishioners to participate in our ministries and committees.

To be better stewards of our energy consumption, we are undertaking several initiatives to reduce energy consumption in our physical plant that will save on heating and air conditioning costs while reducing the need to build new power plants.

I am convinced that 2016 will be an even better year than the last in increasing our opportunities for mission and ministry as we grow in faith and in numbers. What can you do to make this happen?

"The Church is the Church only when it exists for others...not dominating, but helping and serving. It must tell men of every calling what it means to live for Christ, to exist for others." Dietrich Bonhoffer *Chuck Collier, Senior Warden* 

#### ACOLYTES

All Saints' is blessed to have thirty-three faithful Acolytes. The acolytes are youth of the parish who have volunteered to serve at the altar and in other capacities during the worship services, and we are very thankful for their ministry. Bruce Heckert currently serves as the coordinator for the Acolyte ministry. With the assistance of David Quiroz (9 am) and Mark

Helms (11:10 am) as Acolyte Masters. We have expanded our Acolyte program into the 9:00 am hour during 2015. We are working on establishing schedule with four acolytes at all of the 9 am services and between four and five acolytes at the 11:10 am services. Any youth or parents interested in learning more about the Acolyte ministry can contact Bruce Heckert. Thanks to the staff and congregation of the parish for the training and encouragement provided to our Acolytes. *Bruce Heckert, Acolyte Coordinator* 

David Quiroz and Mark Helms Acolyte Masters

#### ADULT EDUCATION CHRISTIAN FORMATION

What a wonderful year 2015 was for Adult Christian Education at All Saints'. All Saints' prides itself with many offerings and 2015 offered a wide variety of choices.

We had a 6 week series studying the "Pray Practices of the Celtic Saints" rich in history, scripture, and learning of the Celtic culture and how many of these traditions are seen today in worship, fellowship, outreach, and within our community.

The Study of the Gospel of Mark was a journey into the scripture of this Gospel and what makes it unique. We had Sharing Faith Stories in May which was a small group experience that became a journey into what makes each of us walk in faith and choose God as our center.

Ana Hernandez blessed us with a fantastic day of music, finding our own "voice", and how music can cross all cultures and boundaries. The one and only Mary Parmer joined us this fall with her program, "Invite, Welcome, Connect" and the workshop she conducted brought us participants from multiple states.

We also studied the artwork of John Swanson via a series titled "What Wondrous Love" and learned to appreciate Christian Art in a new way and hear from the artist and then have group sessions to learn how each of us interpret what we view and what it means to us. *Woodson Hair, Chair Adult Christian Education* 

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

The ministry of the Altar Guild provides its members the privilege of coming together each week to enhance the gathering and worship of the Parish. If you enjoy handling beautiful silver, brass, linens and flowers, you would enjoy being a part of this group of men and women.

Our ministry encompasses the three services each Sunday and the Wednesday Noon Eucharist, as well as weddings, baptisms, and funerals. The seasons of Advent and Lent provide many opportunities to worship and serve and are very busy times for the Altar Guild.

The guild has five teams, each serving for a week at a time. The members are extraordinary people doing simple tasks with reverence, interest and pleasure. Preparation is started on Friday or Saturday, depending on the team. We have over 200 services a year and are always learning and adapting. Our team captains this year are Jill Trull, Jeanne McCarthy, Jan Millar, Lillian Welch, and Becky Hoyser. Other members are Kay Harris, Bill Harris, Kay Nixon, Brenda Trott, Betty Wiley, Megan Trull, Gabrielle Hollopeter, Joan Williamson, Julie Dwiggins, Pam Novasad, Beth Simpson, Anne King, Barbara Stavitsky, Kathleen Quevedo, Liz Rogers, Carol Bentley, Eileen Lussier, Alisha Watson, Brenda Trott, Gwen King, Jane Liles, Andrea Klauss, Teka King, Buddy King, Cathrine Ackiss, Ruth Bratton, Jo Erickson,

Jane Spangler, Barbara Lewis, Joanne Vance, Mickey Hayes, and Russ Hoyser. We are very grateful to Shane Moore, who takes care of all of our linens.

We welcome anyone to join us and would like to add another team this year. Please consider contacting a member of the guild, letting them know you are interested in serving. Any of our 35 members will be delighted to talk with you.

Brenda Trott, Altar Guild Chairperson

# **CREATING FOR CHRIST GROUP**

#### 2015 "ARTISAN & HOME GOODS, SOUP LUNCH & BAKE SALE"

The craft group this year called themselves the "Creating for Christ" group.

In hopes of attracting more artisans and less "crafts", we changed name of event from a "craft" show to an "artisan" show.

The show was coordinated by Carol Cline (Soup Lunch), Elizabeth Solomon (Publicity), Hilary Smith (Vendors), Teka King (the All Saints' sale table), and Carol Corbin ("over-all everything else").

There were 26 vendors (plus two others who did not show for various reasons). There were many vendors returning, having participated in one of our previous shows. There was a mix of products available: crocheted items, stuffed animals, pottery, jewelry, soaps, with a range of prices as well.

The advertising expenses for the show were \$110 for a new banner (the old one wasn't found until the last minute). Hilary updated the five, smaller, "old" signs and they were used also. Ads were placed in free online locations, posted in various locations, as well as distributed to the vendors to share through other outlets.

Most of the soup lunch items and all of the bake sale items were donated.

Total monies taken in - \$2093:

- \$700 booth fees
- \$531 Soup Lunch sales
- \$533 Bake goods sales
- \$329 All Saints' sale table

100% of our net profit of \$1,793 went to benefit the Outreach Fund.

A follow up meeting of those All Saints' volunteers involved in putting on the show was held right after the show to solicit feedback. Also a survey was sent to the vendors. *Carol Corbin, Chair Creating for Christ Group* 

# **BENEVOLENCE COMMISSION**

The Commission, which was created to deal with special outreach funding outside the normal operating budget, was re-organized a couple of years ago in an effort to streamline decision making and to reflect that fact that extensive funding no longer comes from the Olde Countrie Faire.

Funding comes from three sources, in addition to occasional individual gifts. They are: Christmas and Easter special altar flower events, the Craft Fair and occasional other vestry directed funding.

This year distributions were made in support of the Rector's Discretionary Fund's needs and in the creation of the All Saints' Parish Nurse Ministry.

The balance currently in the account as of the end of October is \$\$8,314.56.

Members of the Commission are the Rector, the Junior Warden, the Vestry, Liaison to Outreach, the Business Manager and an "at large" member named by the Rector from time to time.

Joe Hunter, Acting Secretary

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

This past year has been one of huge changes for the children and youth ministries of our parish. Amy Rose Cecil, our Children and Youth Director resigned from her position, and we are grateful for the time she worked with us here. Daniel Malone, a long-time Sunday school teacher and youth volunteer who did wonderful things during his time with us, chose to move his membership away from All Saints'. Jennifer Cobb, one of our key youth volunteers, passed into fuller life with Christ in September.

Yet this has also been a year marked by welcoming new faces and fresh ideas to the ministry. Kristin Hornung coordinated Vacation Bible School in Village Park the first weekend in August, and that event saw record attendance by children from our parish and the wider community. Mike McDonough took over the leadership of the high school Sunday School class, and Ryan Waters has joined him as well. Brittany Childers, Kay Boland, and Andrea Klauss resurrected the middle school Sunday School class. Bruce Heckert took over leadership of EYC and has successfully invited other adults in the parish to lead lessons at different times.

Kristin Hornung, Donna Copeland, and De Torrey have implemented an exciting curriculum for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class and have seen record numbers in attendance. Jane Armitage has joined as an assistant in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level Two; Hilary Smith has completed the first part of her training to be a certified Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level One catechist, and Jerrod Smith has completed the first half of his Level Two training. Janet Hollopeter has continued to offer her experience and expertise to the Catechesis program as well. Other special events, such as the youth spaghetti supper fundraiser and the revamped St. Nicholas Day activities and pageant were well-attended and well received by the participants.

The youth program is moving forward with increasing the number of service opportunities, like working at the Night Shelter, Operation Christmas Child, and Metrolina Foodbank, among others. A fall retreat with other area Episcopal parishes went well, and there are plans to join those same churches for the summer mission trip. Those looking to join this ministry are welcomed as long term volunteers, providers of meals, chaperones for special events, or teachers of single lessons. Whatever level of commitment someone is able to offer, there is a place for them.

Although there has been great loss, all of the events and offerings that the parish has been accustomed to for children and youth are continuing to occur, and not only that, but also grow! We are grateful for all God has done this year.

Jerrod Smith, Vestry Liaison to Children and Youth Christian Formation

#### COLUMBARIUM

The columbarium, located behind the church office and adjacent to the sanctuary, is available to all church members and their immediate families who prefer cremation instead of burial.

The columbarium garden was beautifully re-landscaped 3 years ago by Michael McCarthy to include a water feature, new plantings and a wrought iron gate at the back entrance. Several benches were added. The grounds and plantings have been carefully maintained. All of the maintenance, upkeep and improvements were made possible by generous donations.

Purchasing a niche ahead of time can help save your family members having to make a difficult decision at a critical time. Niche prices are \$500 for a double niche and \$1000 for a family niche of four. Single niches are no longer available. In addition to the cost of the niche, there is a \$250 charge which covers the cost of opening and closing the niche. The current cost of niche plaques are \$475 for a double and \$630 for a family niche. A new plaque must be ordered each time someone is inurned. All plaque costs are subject to price increase.

In-ground interment of ashes and a scatter area is also available if desired. In-ground cost is \$250 and scattering is \$50. Small plaques are offered. Current prices are \$205. All plaque costs are subject to price increase. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office.

Virginia Ridenhour, Chair of Columbarium

#### COMMUNICATION

#### PowerPoint/Media Desk Ministry

Our team assembles the PowerPoint slides that are used during the 9:00 service, and operates the controls for visuals and audio (microphones) during the service.

Because the 9:00 am service is a more relaxed worship service, the style and flow of the service are more visually dependent. It is a privilege to help worshipers to experience the flow of music and liturgy by projecting the lyrics and liturgy for them. Additionally, the graphics can enhance and deepen the worship experience.

The visual support enables worshipers to enter more freely into the experience of spiritinfused music, prayer, and sacraments. Our hope is that the audio-visual support serves to add clarity, and to free worshipers from self-consciousness in their worship time.

We have added a sound loop to the welcome center, so events there can have a microphone and we can turn it on during services when needed.

#### Website Management Ministry

There are two areas of activity at the same time: maintaining the existing website done by Ken Copeland and creating the new one done by Debby Smith and Emily Badgett. We have been working with Creative Designs to create a template that will bring us into the 21st century. Emily Badgett, Jennifer Cobb, and Debby Smith have created a Google drive account to organize all of All Saints Photos into one place. Debby Smith has been working very hard to write the text for the website. It is now a matter of copy and pasting on All Saints end and a couple coding things on Creative. Once the entail launch happens, we will start with adding bulletins, announcements, and sermons onto the website.

We are looking for a team of about 10 to help with the website, so we can make the website a lot easier to stay updated. Alicante Watson is graciously join and the effort and we hope to gain more in 2016.

#### **Mailers and Business Cards**

This year we did Easter and Christmas mailers and distributed them to more than 4000 homes. We are making this annual event to be a more inviting church.

The business cards were created to give in your pocket, purse or wallet. Whenever you find yourself talking about All Saints, these are a great resource to have.

Emily Badgett, Communications Chair

#### COMMUNITY VBS WEEKEND IN VILLAGE PARK

Imagine a park on a beautiful summer afternoon, filled with the sounds of laughing children, joyful music praising God, and The Good News spoken through the words of scripture. Sounds wonderful, right? It's not your imagination, though; it is the sound of All Saints' Community VBS in Village Park 2015!

The first weekend in August has become a new tradition at All Saints': packing up and moving to the picnic shelters of Village Park in Kannapolis for a parish cook out, Bible stories and activities for children, and a full Episcopal Eucharistic service, all within the span of Friday-Sunday. This third annual ministry event was the largest and most successful yet, serving 42 children from both our parish-family and the wider community, more than the previous two years combined, and the single worship service on Sunday in the park was well-attended by all ages

This year, the theme of VBS was *God's Love in Action* and centered on the verse "In God, we live, move, and have our being", Acts 17:28. Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday, children studied the stories of Moses, Solomon, the friends of the paralytic man, and the healing of Bartimaeus. They took part in eye-opening science experiments. They created liturgical crafts that were used in the Sunday service. They learned music to lead the parish in praise and worship. Of course, according to tradition, there was also the All Saints' train ride and splash pad fun at Village Park after the Sunday covered dish lunch. Many thanks are due to the VBS Coordinator, Kristin Hornung, and all of the other volunteers who continue to make this a wonderful ministry event. Mark your calendars for the first weekend in August of 2016, for wonderful things are in store!

Jerrod Smith, Vestry Liaison to Children and Youth

#### **CURSILLO / TRES DIAS**

Cursillo (Spanish for a "*short course in Christian living*") is a movement of the church, and its origins began as a renewal movement in the Roman Catholic Church in Spain in the 1940's. The Cursillo Weekend experience is designed to help you live out the concepts of Christian thoughts, ideals, and faith through the discovery of your God-given gifts. In addition, the Cursillo method and strategy equips each saint through small group sharing, accountability, and support to live out your unique calling to be a Christian leader in your daily life.

Our own Roxanne Friday was the Weekend Coordinator for the recent Interdenominational Mid Carolinas Tres Dias Women's # 50 Weekend held at Camp Dogwood, Sherrills Ford, NC from November 5-8, 2015. Jane Liles was one of the participants making this weekend, and All Saints' Parishioners serving on the Team for Christ included Carol Corbin, Norma Lockney, Jan Millar, Virginia Ridenhour, and De Torrey.

To learn more about Cursillo or Tres Dias, brochures and other literature are available. Feel free to contact any of the following All Saints' parishioners who have attended Episcopal Cursillo or a parallel movement three-day weekend: Becky Bahn, Richard Billings, Bob and Pat Black, Ruth Carlton, John and Jennifer Carroll, Jeff Clayton, John and Carol Cline, Chuck and Pam Collier, Ken and Donna Copeland, Carol Corbin, Valerie Devine, Wayne Fowler, David and Roxanne Friday, Sue Gelarden, Hyacinth Gilkes, Charlotte Grossman, Dona Gunn, Gwen King, Phyllis Kombol, Dick and Barbara Lewis, Jane Liles, Norma Lockney, Jeanne McCarthy, Dave and Jan Millar, George Monroe, Guy Neal, Darryl Noreen, Jerry and Virginia Ridenhour, Henry Riley, Anna Robinson, Tom Rowlett, Charles and Gina Simmons,

Bob and Beth Simpson, Doug and Denise Spreen, Frank and De Torrey, Dorothy Teeter, Lilian Welch, Jackie Whitfield, Jim Williams, and Donna Wilson.

Periodic gatherings are called ultreyas (a Spanish "*cry of encouragement*"). Episcopal Ultreya has a small but faithful community that meets regularly on the third Sunday evening of the month at rotating Episcopal churches in the greater Charlotte area. All Saints' generally hosts the Sunday afternoon ultreyas, from 5-7PM, in January, June, and September. Contact Dave and Jan Millar for specific location of next ultreya, and to be added to the email distribution list, if you desire. Tres Dias monthly gathering equivalent is sequela ("*sequel to the weekend*"). It meets on the third Saturday of each month at rotating churches in North and South Carolina. All Saints' hosted a breakfast sequela gathering on November 21, 2015.

The ultreya/sequela and regular group reunion gatherings are open to all individuals who are interested. In the past, a small group of parishioners met during Sunday school hour, alternating in format with sharing and accountability, and Bible study. Would someone accept the call to step "*up to the plate*" to re-connect parishioners within this or similar format? There is little preparation that needs to occur; it really "*runs itself*". In fact, the sharing and accountability group process is an excellent way to prepare an individual to attend a Three-Day Weekend. Please check the All Saints' electronic media for additional information on learning more about this unique and powerful opportunity to grow in our personal relationship with Christ (piety), know Christ more fully (study), and make Christ better known in our daily walk (apostolic action and Christian ministry).

It was with great excitement to communicate that the next Episcopal Cursillo Co-Ed Weekend #105 will be held at our own All Saints' physical plant the weekend of June 23-26, 2016. For more information on how to sign up to attend this Cursillo Weekend, please contact Dave Millar at <u>dmillar@carolina.rr.com</u> or cell at 704-796-0536. After seven (7) years, Dave Millar is transitioning the responsibility of Episcopal Cursillo Ministry (ECM) Treasurer to Missi Doyle of Aurora, CO, and I have been eternally grateful for serving the greater Cursillo Ministry in this capacity.

Dave Millar, Liaison to Cursillo / Tres Dias

# ORDER OF DAUGHTER OF THE KING - MARY AND MARTHA CHAPTER

The Mary and Martha Chapter became official at a service of chapter institutionalization and member installation on February 28, 2010. The Order of the Daughters of the King is like those orders comprised of nuns and monks; but rather than taking vows of silence or celibacy, our 14 members have taken vows to pray daily and serve in our parish at the will of the Rector. Our current members include: Catherine Ackiss, Marcia Bremser, Joyce Butler, Roxanne Friday, Janet Hollopeter, Becky Hoyser, Jan Millar, Deborah Monroe, Virginia Ridenhour, Gina Simmons, Hilary Smith, Dorothy Teeter, De Torrey, and Jackie Whitfield. Gina is our Secretary and Jan Millar remains President until a replacement can be 'voluntold'.

The M&M Chapter meets on the third Thursday of each month. This year we have varied the leadership at our meetings with programs presented on a volunteer basis. On a few occasions we met for food, fun and fellowship rather than a structured study or program. I believe attendance is a little better when that sort of gathering takes place.

The Diocesan Spring Assembly was held at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Waxhaw on Saturday, April 18, and was attended by three of the Mary and Martha Chapter members.

Rather than present an Advent Quiet Day at All Saints' this year, we met at the Galilee Center in Charlotte for a morning and part of the afternoon of December 5<sup>th</sup> for prayers, meditations, lunch, and a program celebrating the four candles of Advent -- beautiful reflections of women, waiting for Christ.

We have added four new members in 2015: Catherine Ackiss, Janet Hollopeter, Becky Hoyser, and Hilary Smith. Sadly, we lost seven of our Daughters, who have transferred their memberships from All Saints' and have chosen to either resign from the Order or to become Daughters at Large (those who worship at a church without a DOK Chapter). Judy Armstrong, Mary Lou Fowler, Bette Hudson, Barbara Parker, Jan Patterson, Rachel Towell, and Lynda Waller.

We invite you to prayerfully consider joining our order of prayer and service. Please get in touch with me, and I'll help you get started towards membership.

Jan Millar, President, Mary & Martha Chapter - The Order of the Daughters of the King

# ALL SAINTS EARLY CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION LOCKHART EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The All Saints Early Childhood Foundation (ASECF) has as its goals to build partnerships within Cabarrus County to advocate for and support children and their families who are enrolled in publicly funded preschool programs. Additionally, the ASECF is dedicated to ensuring that every child eligible for such programs be served. The current board members are Debbie Lewallen, Chair, Hilary Smith, Vice Chair, Martin Ericson, Treasurer, and Jackie Elam, Secretary. Additional church members include Bob Simpson, Jackie Whitfield, Nancy Cox, and Chuck Collier. Ann Benfield (Cabarrus Partnership for Children), Trina Wenzel (Cabarrus County Schools, Preschool Director) and Tara Nattress (Cabarrus County Schools) serve as non-voting members.

The Lockhart Early Learning Center (LELC) currently consists of two classrooms supported in the education wing of All Saints Episcopal Church. While these classes are administered through a partnership between the Cabarrus Partnership for Children and Cabarrus County Schools, the ASECF was formed to support this and other programs like it and to nurture partnerships with public schools.

In June of 2015, the Lockhart Early Learning Center (LELC) graduated its first class of children. Thirty-six children were sent off to Kindergarten after a successful year. In August of 2015, a new class of children began at the LELC. They will be the second graduating class.

The All Saints Early Childhood Foundation (ASECF), in a variety of ways, supported the two classes housed at All Saints. Funds were raised through several grants, and private donations. Activities for the 2014 - 2015 school year included:

- 1. Volunteer support for water day (an end of the year activity).
- 2. Books for each child to take home. Additionally, books were provided to the newly formed children's library (separate from the All Saints children religious books).
- 3. Grants submitted and awarded for literacy activities, music training for the LELC, and gardening programs.
- 4. Music classes began and continued through the end of the year.

Activities to date for the 2015 - 2016 school year have included:

- 1. Literacy volunteers trained and first volunteers have begun at the LELC.
- 2. Clothing provided to the school or emergency use.
- 3. Music classes started at the beginning of the school year.
- 4. Dinner served to 70 people for the LELC Open House. At that time each child was given a book to take home.
- 5. Grant submitted to the Diocese of North Carolina to fund efforts of the ASECF.
- 6. Grant awarded to the LELC for a gardening program.
- 7. Community partnerships pursued and solidified to enhance support for the LELC as well as the 8 classrooms at Long School.
- 8. Numerous meetings with community partners to obtain information and support of the efforts of the ASECF.
- 9. Plans for sustainable funding of the ASECF begun.

Deborah S. Lewallen, Chair of Lockhart Early Learning Center

#### **EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM)**

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EFM) program, under the auspices of the University of the South, located in Sewanee, Tennessee, provides people with the education and small group dynamics to discern and carry out that ministry. Lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the Episcopal Church's faith in a complex and confusing world. They need the kind of theological education which supports their faith and which also trains them to express that faith in day-to-day events. Many people think that one must be ordained in order to be "*a minister*". The fact is that all baptized Christians are called to be active participants in the church's total ministry. The EFM program is preparation for the ministry to which each of us is called. It is that vocation for which we pray at the end of the Sunday Eucharist: "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord".

The seminar group is the nucleus of the Education for Ministry program. A group consists of six to twelve students, and trained mentor(s) meeting weekly over the course of the ninemonth academic year (September – May). Beginning this past September of 2015, there is one (1) EFM group that meets on Monday evenings in the all-purpose room on the lower level of the All Saints' education wing. This year's group consists of four (4) parishioners in their third year (Chuck Collier / Russ Hoyser / Jane Liles / Frank Torrey) and three (3) year-one participants (Gigi Guthrie / Roberta Liberti / Ryan Waters) embarking on their new EFM journey, with Dave Millar as mentor. On Sunday, June 7, 2015, we had a glorious celebration as nine (9) parishioners (Mary Lou Fowler / Wayne Fowler / Mickey Hayes / Mark Jasmine / Phyllis Kombol / Barb Lewis / Charles Simmons / Gina Simmons / Dorothy Teeter) graduated from the EFM program, with Sue Gelarden guiding then as their faithful mentor. The purpose of EFM is for Christians to discern their God-given gifts and act upon then in apostolic action and Christian ministry. This is precisely what our newest EFM graduates are doing, as a large majority are involved in the formation and leadership of the Stephen Ministry at All saints'. The weekly meetings last around 150 minutes, with a typical format including on-board or check-in, discussion of weekly study assignment, break, and concluding with group reconvening for the final ninety (90) minutes of small group dynamics and worship. Through study, prayer, and reflection, the EFM group moves toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom. Christian tradition and collective experience are linked by the seminar sessions, where life and study meet. The group is grounded by regular weekly worship, facilitated by each EFM member on a rotation basis, which is so vital to the life of the group.

Participants are given weekly lesson assignments to study with the help of resource guides and the internet. Each is responsible for setting his or her own learning goals. You typically spend between two and four hours in study and preparation each week. During the seminar sessions, students have the opportunity to share their insights and discoveries as well as to raise and discuss questions which the study materials might pose for them. Through discussion and guided reflection, the seminars furnish an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of the reading materials. In addition, participants learn to think theologically through the development of skills learned in a method called theological reflection. Finally, by examining one's own beliefs and its relationship to our present culture and historical tradition of our faith, participants learn what it means to be effective ministers in this challenging world.

Seminar groups work under the leadership of trained mentor(s) who contract to serve as facilitators and administrators. Mentors may be lay or ordained persons. Sue Gelarden and Dave Millar, both past graduates of EFM, have accepted the call to be mentors for any All Saints' groups. You also have the support and encouragement of Rev. Nancy Cox, who has been a past EFM mentor. Tuition for one academic year or cycle in a sponsoring diocese, of which NC is, comes to \$350.00, to be paid in full before the beginning of each academic year. To assist with financial needs, a tuition reduction provision is available on the basis of the total enrollment of the group, along with available discretionary funds.

If any parishioner is considering joining EFM in September of 2016, please contact Sue or Dave or Nancy. But, the best way to learn and know more about EFM is to personally contact any one of our "students" for some one-on-one sharing time. We are working on providing a two-week EFM information session at the Sunday morning education hour, possibly in late April or May. Please consult your weekly Sunday bulletin and other All Saints' electronic media for additional details and information.

Dave Millar, EFM Administrative Mentor

#### **EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY (EYC)**

EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is for All Saints' youth in grades 6-12 and their friends. EYC is the core of All Saints' youth ministry. It is about building relationships. It is about students building relationships with one another and their adult leaders. It is about adult leaders building relationships with students, one another and student's families. Most importantly, youth ministry is about building and being in relationship with God. Therefore it is the goal of All Saints' youth ministry to provide students a Christ centered experience in order for them to grow in Christ, honor God in their daily lives, and serve God and others. EYC meets most Sundays during the academic year from 5:30 until 7:30 pm. Parents of the youth, individual parishioners, and small groups within the parish provide an evening meal. Following the meal there is Middle School programming and High School Programming. The YOUTH hold fundraisers such as The Spaghetti Supper, The Pancake Supper, and Easter Breakfast in order to subsidize mission focused events that take place in the community and beyond.

The EYC group has been working on the Sacraments so far we have learned about Baptism and Holy Eucharist. We plan on covering, Reconciliation, Healing of the Sick, Holy Orders, Marriage, and Confirmation.

During the Fall Retreat the participants took the Myers-Brigg Personal profile test. They learned about how and why they think, act and feel in different way. They also learned of possible careers that would fit best for your personality. This presented the opportunity for an

Art project "Who I Am". The teens made plaster masks of their faces, and decorated their mask to express how they express themselves to the world. *Bruce Heckert, Youth Coordinator* 

#### **EUCHARIST VISITOR MINISTRY**

The Eucharist Visitor Ministry is a ministry that brings the Blessed Sacrament and Communion to All Saints parishioners who are homebound and cannot attend Sunday worship services.

The Eucharist Visitor sets up an appointment for a visit and prepares a Communion kit that is placed on the altar to be blessed. The Eucharist Visitor receives the Communion kit and is commissioned by the Rector and congregation.

We provide those we visit with Sunday's bulletin and begin the visit with a friendly social interaction including a brief update on what is happening at All Saints. During the visit is a time to listen to another's story and discern their needs. The Eucharist Visitor gives the worship leaflet to those receiving and begins the service. The service can last between 20 and 40 minutes.

Those serving in this ministry are: Virginia and Jerry Ridenhour, Doug Spreen, Sue Gelarden, Valerie Devine, Dave Millar, Jane Liles, Jackie Whitfield, Bruce Heckert and Russ and Becky Hoyser.

Eucharist Visitor training consists of two parts. One is the training in the parish by the Rector. The second is the Diocesan sponsored one-day Safe Church Training.

We should never underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word or a listening ear or the smallest act of caring shown to those receiving this ministry. It is a richly rewarding experience for the Eucharist Visitor as well.

If you have a desire to serve in this Ministry please contact the Rector. *Becky Hoyser, Eucharist Visitor Scheduler* 

#### **EVENTS PLANNING**

The Events Planning Team accepts, brainstorms, considers and finalizes fundraising recommendations for approval by the Vestry

This group exists so church members have a central place to present fundraising ideas. We brainstorm potential events, flesh out high level details and identify optimal dates based on the entire church calendar. Strong consideration is given to how fundraisers express who we are as a church and the potential for raising significant funds while balancing that with the amount of effort required

Our ministry contributes to spiritual growth within the church by providing opportunities to do God's work and for fellowship. Within the community, our fundraising events give us the chance to make disciples for Jesus, love like God loves and seek and serve Jesus in unexpected places and/or ways

Early in 2016, we will (with the Vestry) confirm our fundraising events for the year, help secure leadership and volunteers for each event, learn from each experience, grow our Team and begin planning for 2017 and beyond.

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is comprised of several members of the Parish, the Parish treasurer and a vestry person. The committee meets monthly to review the budget and financial statements including cash flow of both income and disbursements. The Committee acts as a resource to the Vestry by providing recommendations for expenditures of funds and management of church assets. The Committee also assists the Church Treasurer in developing the budget for the next year based on projected needs and the amount of anticipated income. The Vestry has approval authority for the budget and any other recommendations made by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee also assists with the completion of the annual audit which is submitted to the diocese.

Members of the Finance Committee often have experience in the financial services industry or in careers that provide experience in the creation and management of operating budgets. Other members may not possess a financial background but are familiar with the missions and needs of the various church ministries that require financial support. The committee provides members with an opportunity to offer their "talents" in the service of the church.

How does your ministry contribute to spiritual growth?

In making budgetary recommendations to the Vestry, the Finance Committee recognizes that the financial support of each ministry is important to the spiritual life and growth of the church. In monitoring the financial transactions of the church, the Finance Committee assures that the physical plant is properly maintained and continues to serve as a place for spiritual growth of the parishioners.

In 2015, the Finance Committee will worked with the vestry to complete several on-going projects. One project was the placement of some of the Church's cash reserves into the National Episcopal Trust Fund for the purpose of generating interest income. Another project was the transfer of our insurance account from an agency in Charlotte to an agency in Cabarrus County. In the process of transferring our policy we were able to make beneficial changes to the coverage.

Thomas W. Dillard, Finance Committee Chairman

# THE GARDENS OF ALL SAINTS

The Gardens of All Saints are lovingly cared for and regularly maintained by 15-20 dedicated gardeners of all abilities and interests.

In 2015, we focused on maintaining the gardens that have already been created, giving special care to new plantings in the Columbarium and around the school playground. In living into our mission and vision statements, we are putting more and more energy into planting native species, which require less water and care. Our church grounds have been designated a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation, requiring that we continue to provide basic habitat elements for wildlife to thrive: food, water, cover and places to raise their young.

We also provided food for people from the kitchen gardens in 2015, using tomatoes, greens, herbs for various church dinners and events and donating approximately 40 pounds of produce to Cooperative Christian Ministries. At Easter, our parish and wider community enjoyed hundreds of daffodil blooms planted on the bank facing the intersection of Branchview and Lake Concord Roads.

Your help in maintaining and enhancing the beauty of The Gardens of All Saints would be much appreciated, whether you choose to pitch in at one of our monthly church work days or join us on a more regular basis. Please contact Shelley Williams at <u>60shelleymwilliams@gmail.com</u> if you'd like to help us live into our mission and vision statements.

Mission: An Episcopal community provides a sacred garden oasis of inspiration and tranquility which is dedicated to feeding, in body and spirit, our community and parish.

Vision: An Episcopal community seeks to create an environment which increases health and wellness for all God's creation, His people and planet by developing a sustainable relationship with the land, parish and local community. Shelly Williams, Gardens of All Saints' Chair

#### **GREETER MINISTRY**

Members, newcomers and visitors continue to comment that All Saints' has a welcoming environment. This welcoming environment is created by each of us when we say good morning to a friend, introduce ourselves to someone we don't know, pass the peace or help someone in need. In addition to these actions, we have 45 greeters who serve at the 9:00 AM and 11:10 AM services. They welcome church goers with a smile that starts our transition from the outside world into this place of Worship. Greeters talk with visitors and provide information they seek, which can include a tour of our building, information about our services, and introductions to our Clergy, Staff, Vestry or other members. Visitors are provided with a bag of information and a small token to express our appreciation for their visit. Many parishioners wrote personalized letters to our visitors, which are included in the welcome bags. If you are interested in serving as a greeter, please contact Amy Spunich at <u>amyspunich@gmail.com</u> or 704-287-7854.

Amy Spunich, Greeter Coordinator

#### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC'S REPORT**

I know that I say this every year, but it always seems such a surprise to me that another year has passed us by so quickly. It has been a year with moments of great sadness and difficulty but ending with great happiness.

Over the summer I continued my certification in Orff Schulwerk with Level II at UNC -Wilmington as my continuing education. With this certification, I have incorporated concepts and practices to introduce our instruments to our children.

A 1930's Steinway Grand piano Model M and adjustable duet bench were graciously donated in 2014 to the parish and now resides upstairs in the church. A dedicatory recital for both the bench and piano was performed by Brian Sapp, who also accompanied Vasily Gorkovoy, violist, on June 6.

A third-octave of hand chimes, which rounds out the two octave set that the Parish already owns, was given in memory of Dianne Ericson by Martin and Margaret Ericson. This addition will allow the entire bell choir to have access to this contrasting instrument. Please look forward to hearing their gentle sound in the New Year!

I continue to lead four groups on a weekly basis. The Resurrection Choir rehearses at 3:00 PM on Saturdays and leads worship on Sundays at the 9:00 AM Renewal/Contemporary Service,

which continued to be benefited by Carol Corbin on guitar, Paul Davison on bass guitar and David Friday on percussion. This community of people continues to grow in number. Together, with their instrumental support and the dedicated and spirit-filled singing of Resurrection Choir, worship is led in a powerful and spirited way that continues to move me.

The All Saints' Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM and leads worship at the traditional service at 11:10 AM on Sundays. This group, quite dedicated and working very hard, continues to increase in number and meet the challenges and goals that are set before them with joy, faithfulness and beauty. Their degree of musicality is what sets them apart from the run-of-the-mill traditional church choir; because of the depth of their musicality they are able to bring the music off the page, turning the black and white into color.

The Bells of All Saints' rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM and play during the 11:15 AM service several times each academic semester. This group continues to develop in technique and expressiveness. They play throughout the year and are a joyful group of folks that continue to grow both in musicality and confidence.

Children Making Music, an evolving group for children of various ages, meets on Wednesdays at 5:15 PM and also sings periodically throughout the academic semesters. They are learning how to help and support one another in community, both musically and in regard to relationships. These children, like sponges, are more than ready to learn more about music and how to be worship leaders. Orff instruments continue to be implemented, allowing each child a chance to have an independent role within the group.

Each growing in membership, All Saints' choirs continue to demonstrate their dedication and deep spirituality each week; I am so benefited by being afforded the gift to work with each of them.

Each ministry at All Saints' continues to be charged to create an individual outreach fundraiser opportunities in lieu of the Country Faire. The Music Ministry put on "Swinging With the Saints!" where folks dressed up in 1940's era costume, sang solos and group numbers from the period, enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Susan Furr-Yelton and her crew, attended a swing dance lesson and were entertained by the Salisbury Swing Band that was pretty amazing in their own right. Donations were collected for RAIN, Charlotte's chapter of the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network.

We celebrated our patronal feast day, All Saints' Sunday, on November 1. During the 9:00 service we celebrated Holy Baptism. During the 11:10 service our patronal feast day was celebrated by the Choir of All Saints', singing a few movements from the upcoming Requiem for 2016.

On December 21st the Service of Light was held again for those that Christmastime is not necessarily a joyful time. Janice Williams, soprano, offered poignant and provocative songs that fit perfectly into the mood of this service.

The tradition of holding the Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols at All Saints' in the evening, at 5:00 PM, continued for the fourth year. At this hour, amid the candlelight and its shadow, the darker atmosphere magnifies the mysticism of the season of Advent. The choir worked most diligently and sang with great professionalism and depth of feeling.

There were three Christmas Eve services again this year. The 4:00 PM included the children singing and playing the offertory. The special music for the 5:30 PM service was two violins in duet; they played absolutely beautifully, imparting a great individual character to this service. The late service's prelude was offered by members of the Choir of All Saints'. I feel that all three services each had their own unique and lovely individual style.

As I look back on this past year, I feel a great sense of accomplishment and pride. I am grateful for the depth of dedication and spirituality that is exhibited by the parishioners of this parish. It makes me look to the future with excitement and hope; 2016 is going to be amazing!

Brian Sapp, Director of Music

#### **NEWCOMER MINISTRY**

In 2015, All Saints' hosted the Invite – Welcome – Connect workshop for parishes in our area. The Workshop was facilitated by Mary Parmer from the Diocese of Texas who developed the Invite – Welcome – Connect ministry as a way to breathe life into the newcomer ministry in her parish. As a result of the workshop, we have created All Saints' invite cards to members to hand to a person in the community as they extend the invite to come to All Saints'. In advent, there were hundreds of postcards distributed throughout our community inviting people to come to our Christmas services. In 2015, we had 3 newcomer meet and greets to provide newcomers an opportunity to chat with a few members, ask questions and get information about All Saints'. There are many other ways that we can all ensure that we Invite – Welcome – Connect people to All Saints'. If you have ideas or interest in being a part of the newcomer ministry, please contact Amy Spunich at <u>amyspunich@gmail.com</u> or 704-287-7854.

Amy Spunich, Newcomer Coordinator

# ALL SAINTS NIGHT SHELTER MINISTRY

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

This text from Matthew 25:40 embodies the spirit with propels the terrific All Saints volunteers who serve those less fortunate in our community at the Center of Hope Night Shelter in downtown Concord.

In 2015 our parish was called upon for two separate weeks of service where approximately 45 volunteers from All Saints (ranging from individuals and families to small groups and our youth group) helped our community's homeless by welcoming 30+/- guests each night to the shelter and preparing and serving over 220 home-cooked meals each week. Breakfast food and supplies were also provided for the week. We plan to continue our service to the Night Shelter in 2016 but will spread our service weeks out a bit more to one week in the spring and one week in the fall. Anyone who wishes to get involved or would like any additional information about serving in this ministry is welcomed to contact Jim Williams. Thank you to all the great volunteers and their service to others.

Jim Williams, Night Shelter Coordinator

#### Faith Community Nursing

This a new Ministry that is being formed and is a work in progress. Judith Wilson, RNC and Gina Simmons, RNC are the Parish Nurses. We are both Certified in our primary areas of Nursing but qualified to serve in all areas of nursing. Judy is Certified in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing and Gina is Certified in Gerontology (Geriatric) Nursing.

As Volunteer Parish Nurses we have completed an extensive course to prepare us to be the best that we can be in this position. We will be providing educational sessions such as training in Family and Friends hands-on resuscitation in times of emergency for the lay person. This is a simple course and not one that provides a card indicating that the person has completed the extensive and expensive course in Basic Life Support. It includes use of the AED. There also will be Blood Pressure checks monthly on a designated Sunday morning for anyone interested after the services. There are other educational opportunities that will be made available and a survey will be conducted in February to see in what areas our congregation would be interested. We will offer spiritual support, referrals and guidance to provide, confidentially, needed resourses for assistance in financial, health issues, medication issues, transportation to medical appontments, medical needs to list a few. Our mission is to serve all in Mind, Body and Spirit. We are not qualified to counsel or prescribe medication. Part of our team will include Volunteer Health Providers that also will require a simplified training program and they will assist us in providing our services. We are in the process of organizing an office, with confidential telephone access, so that the congegration can reach us as needed. We will need and provide at a later date a list of financial needs for the Ministry and we will look forward to monthly meetings to keep all up to date.

Judith Wilson, RNC

#### NURSERY

The All Saints' Nursery is committed to giving quality, safe and loving care to all children ages 0 through 3 years. In 2015 paid attendants, Ms. Katie Adams and Ms. Gabrielle Hollopeter, staffed the nursery. These attendants have been certified in First Aid, Infant/Child CPR and Obstructed Airways, as well as Safe Church Training (Safeguarding God's Children). These women have been faithful and committed servants in that they have staffed the nursery every Sunday throughout the year. We are currently looking for another attendant for Sundays, if you know anyone who might be a candidate please contact the church office. This year Ms. Katie has added Bible Time for those children 2+ and they are enjoying and participating. The nursery is open to children 0 through 3 on Sundays during the 9:00 am and 11:10 am service as well as during the Sunday School hour at 10:00 am. The nursery is also staffed during special parish events. If a nursery is needed for an event you are planning or wish to attend please do not hesitate contact me.

Donna Copeland, Nursery Coordinator

#### PARISH LIFE

We are so appreciative of the many parishioners who shared their time and talents to help with all the Parish Life events this year. The different ministries helped with Lenten dinners and coffee hours, providing many to learn about the many ministries here at All Saints'. The Maundy Thursday dinner was well attended, as were most meals and events throughout the year. We introduced a new experience of Dessert Night this year, with requests for a repeat in the future.

Though Prime-timers was not as active this past year, 2016 should bring a lot more activity with this group, starting with a kick-off luncheon and planning meeting in January. The plan is to have a meal and an activity offered each month. We are hoping to start a group for parents of children under age five, to create a support system for them. A new group for single women will be getting together. The coffee time hosting will continue to be a blend of ministries serving, but we will have one week open a month for parishioners who wish to host. Parish Life is always looking for new opportunities and ideas of ways that we can get together to build our relationships with God and with each other.

Hilary Smith, Parish Life Chair

#### PRAYER AND CHRISTIAN HEALING AT ALL SAINTS

For many people Prayer is a central part of being a Christian. Many opportunities to receive or participate in Christian prayers are present at All Saints Parish. Trained parishioners are available for short intercessory prayer during the 9:00am Sunday Service. Private sessions, 10-30 minutes, for intercessory prayer are available by appointment made through the front office or intercessory prayer team members. The Prayer chain members offer confidential prayers by requests through our All Saints web site, the front office, emails, and personal requests. A Simple healing service lead by lay people and clergy occurs every Wednesdays at noon. If quiet centering prayer is your style then Contemplative Prayer is available on Thursday's at 11am prayer room located in the main church building. Everyone is welcomed to participate in these prayer groups, the subjects of all prayers are always confidential.

Deborah Monroe, Healing Prayer Coordinator

#### **PRIME-TIMERS**

This has been a quiet year for the group. Toward the end of the year we looked at ways to change the way events were coordinated. So looking ahead to 2016, we will have a kickoff luncheon in January to start planning events. Rather than having one person coordinate, members of the group will take turns choosing to plan a monthly activity, or a monthly meal. The meals might be everyone gathering together or breaking into smaller groups at restaurants. We hope that this new structure for the group gets more people involved in the planning, and a larger variety of activities to choose from. An electronic group forum is also in the works to create an opportunity for spontaneous events as well. We are looking forward to revitalizing the Prime-timers group in the year to come!

Hilary Smith, Prime-Timers Coordinator



#### **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

All Saints' Stephen Ministry consists of compassionate and trustworthy parishioners who share a Christ-centered journey with people who are hurting, both in this congregation and in the wider community. They seek the will of God by being non-judgmental listeners who are growing in awareness of the needs of others and offering God's love as He brings healing. Stephen Ministers are rooted in a personal faith in Jesus Christ,

grounded in regular worship and prayer, and guided by confidentiality, respect for healthy boundaries, and a commitment to ongoing training. We do the CARING; God does the HEALING.

Stephen Ministry contributes to the spiritual growth of, not only individual care-receivers, but also our Church and beyond by being an active, inclusive community of all saints, nurturing individuals to grow in Christ, and seeking and serving Jesus in unexpected places (All Saints Core Values).

Stephen Ministry multiplies blessings throughout the church and community:

•Congregations receive a practical and powerful way to respond to Christ's

commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12 RSV).

•Pastors have a team of gifted, trained, and committed lay caregivers ready to minister to hurting people.

•Lay people nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others.

•People who are hurting have a compassionate companion—a caring Christian friend who provides emotional and spiritual support.

A new class has been meeting weekly (Sept., 2015- Jan., 2016) for their 50 hours of initial training. Members are Don Foskey, Nancy Foskey, Debbie Lewallen, and Garen Livingston. They will be commissioned in January, 2016. Current Stephen Ministers meet for on-going training and supervision twice a month. Information on becoming a Stephen Minister can be found in our brochures located throughout the church, or you may ask for more information from Stephen Leaders Wayne Fowler–704-467-1387, Barbara Lewis–704-796-7100, Charles Simmons–704-798-8402, Dorothy Teeter–704-785-4747 and Stephen Ministers Valerie Devine, Mickey Hayes, Gina Simmons, and Doug Spreen. Ask our new trainees about their training classes, too!

Barbara Lewis, Stephen Ministry Coordinator

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

"Every generous act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from God who created the sun, the moon and the stars" James 1:17

In our stewardship efforts this year we focused on the theme of God the Giver, which illustrates the concept that everything we have and even our very lives are gifts from God. So often in our lives we carry the idea that we are not enough; that we cannot do or achieve enough to make up for what we are lacking. And yet the ability for us to be complete and whole rest in God. In recognizing that God gave His Son for us we also begin to realize the abundance that He intends for us.

Just as we acknowledge that we are created in God's image and this includes His generosity so too we must acknowledge and challenge ourselves to act with generosity. As we respond, we grow closer to God in our own spiritual development and work towards spreading God's kingdom. Here at All Saints our mission and ministry are shaped by our core values and given life by our generosity.

This year's stewardship brochure gave wonderful illustration to exactly how All Saints member's generous gifts continue to nurture individuals growing in Christ, to seek and serve Jesus, to worship in the Episcopal tradition, and to offer an active, inclusive community of faith. Several members offered powerful testimony about how their own practices of giving have strengthened their spiritual lives and what it has meant to them personally to be connected into the community of All Saints. Other written and online materials gave opportunity for reflection on what scripture shows us about giving generously in the context of our own lives today.

The stewardship team was very fortunate to have the following individuals helping this year: Sharon and Ragan Kearns, Bob Simpson, Donna Wilson, and Chuck Collier. *Ben Smith, Stewardship Chair* 

#### STEWARDSHIP OF PHYSICAL PLANT MINISTRY

This last year was a very good year for accomplishing a myriad of things that sorely needed to be done. A good deal of work was accomplished both on the interior of the church's facilities as well as outdoors. The results are evident in some cases but not in many others. Outdoors, the Columbarium area was enhanced by the addition of many new plants and trees including those donated by Mike Jones in memory of Jo-Ann. Other work including the installation of a new entrance driveway sign and additional planting in the hillside garden along the small access road from Highway 3 onto Lake Concord Road at the front of the church. Much mulch was spread and bulbs planted for next spring by a cadre of volunteers along with Garden Committee members. In addition, two major problems causing sewer backups in the Education Wing were repaired and new gutters with leaf guard covers were installed around the entire perimeter of the church. Security lighting along the sidewalk to the Bell Tower and the entrance to the Lockhart Center was also installed.

Indoors, a Cannon grant for \$20,000 funded the replacement of all the old florescent light fixtures with new, energy efficient, T8 florescent fixtures. Also included as part of this project was the conversion of the sixteen (16) large pendant light fixtures, in the Welcome Center, to LED lights.

Two of the four dimmer switches in the Parish Hall were replaced and the burned out spotlights in the church nave were replaced as well, with the help of volunteers. A portion of the floor was raised to eliminate part of the elevation changes in the Choir Loft and the Coat Storage Room off the Welcome Center was fully enclosed to allow for more secure storage. Many of the offices in the church Administration offices were painted and new flooring was installed in the Church in the area of the altar as well as in the Prayer Room.

Clearly, much was accomplished through the use of contractors and volunteers. The Buildings and Grounds Committee along with representatives are meeting monthly and a parish-wide work day has been established on the third Saturday of every month. We hope to see more volunteers participate next year in these activities.

In 2016, the following are some of the major initiatives that this ministry plans to undertake-

- A Facilities Assessment will be done for all of the church's facilities so that a strategic capital plan can be developed to use moving forward. This plan will be focused on providing a road map for the timing and funding of routine and long-range building needs of the church including such things as roof repairs and replacements, building systems and equipment repairs, parking lot repaving, outdoor and indoor painting projects, and many other necessary projects. This is needed to maintain our church and insure its ability to continue as a viable house of worship for years to come and for future generations to enjoy.
- A new shingle roof on the Storage Shed due to the fact that it is currently leaking and some of the decking as well as all the shingles need to be replaced on the roof.
- Painting the exterior of the Storage Shed to protect its exterior wall and trim materials and also the replacement of the entrance doors which are badly deteriorated due to weathering.

- Add a brick finish to the outside wall of the Storage Room that is exposed to the Loading Dock. The original doors and frame that were in this opening were removed so that the wall could be fully insulated providing a more weather-tight and warmer space indoors.
- Repairs to three roof leaks that exist in the facility. They are located in the Administration Offices, the Kitchen and the Education Wing corridor.
- Relocation of the existing historical lamp posts to the area along the sidewalk that leads from the Parish Hall to the Shelter and regrading that area to allow for better drainage.
- Replace and/or add weather stripping to all the exterior doors in the church facilities.
- Replace the remaining two dimmers in the Parrish Hall with new, easy on/off and dimmer devices.
- Repair of all damaged plaster ceilings in the Admin offices and the Education Wing corridor and repair and repainting of the plaster on the south wall of the Parlor.
- Planting of additional shrubs and trees as determined by the overall site landscaping and gardens development plan.

Len Witke, Junior Warden

## THE TACKY GIFT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Each year as we ease into Advent, dozens of friends gather for fun in preparation for the season of serious giving. Here is the history of this hilarious annual event. For at least a few decades there have been a few "Saints and Sinners" events which have endured, as others have faded away. In the late 80s and through the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, the Trulls, the Nixons and the Coggins' took turns in hosting this annual Tacky Gift Christmas Party in their homes. With the addition of our parish halls and the initiation of a Welcome Center, we began hosting the party in the still homey atmosphere of the church's family room about eight years ago.

Adults of all ages gather, usually on the second Friday evening in December, for a bit of frivolity. Each guest brings a delicious snack to share and a rather unconventional gift to exchange. Set-up is easy and inexpensive.

The rubber chicken reappeared for the 2015 Tacky Gift party – the one that sounds like a very loud rooster when squeezed! We had the usual coveted selection of headgear. Most hats had a Christmas theme, and two went home with a couple new to the TGP, to be re-gifted to twin grandchildren. What treasures will be re-visited at the 2016 Tacky exchange? Which ones are best stashed away in your attic or basement? The most somber personality just has to giggle a bit as squeals of delight or disappointment ring out with the unwrapping of each package. If you have never been to one, please remember to sign up and join the joyful silliness and true camaraderie of this social event. It's a great way to get to know other members of the congregation in a new and relaxed atmosphere.

Dave Millar, Coordinator

## USHERS

In addition to the greeters, the Ushers are typically the first people who greet you when you enter our church. Our goal is to welcome everyone with a warm smile and a 'good morning' greeting. We provide ushers at each of the three Sunday services on Sunday morning and provide assistance to the clergy and those attending. We also serve at memorial and funeral services

The Usher Ministry consists of five teams, ideally with 10 members per team, making this the largest ministry at All Saints. We ended 2015 with only 43 members, so if you would like to serve as an usher (men, women and youth) contact Henry Riley or David Friday.

We are restructuring for 2016. If you are assigned to Team One, you would serve the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month; Team Two, you would serve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday etc. Team Five would serve 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday and at special services. This format will make for easier scheduling. Again contact Henry Riley or David Friday if you have questions or would like to serve. *Henry Riley, Head Usher* 

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Women's Ministry provides four special programs each year for the women of All Saints and anyone in the community who wishes to attend. We invite women of all ages to our events and provide child care for those who need it.

There are two dessert nights held typically in February and September. These nights are always a nice treat, as we come together to worship and fellowship with each other in a relaxed and fun environment.

Last September, we asked each attendee to bring a gently loved purse from their closet. We filled over seventy purses with the things women typically have on hand, like paper, pens, tissues, lotion, and other necessities, and donated them to CVAN for the women who must leave a bad situation without their personal belongings. What a privilege it was to pray over those purses and be a part of God's caring network.

We also have two day-long programs to begin the Advent and Lenten seasons in the church. These quiet retreat days are the perfect way to set the tone for the holidays.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, we were invited to travel to Charlotte to attend an Advent Quiet Day at the Galilee Center. A group of women from All Saints attended and experienced the Advent lessons in a new way, through art, prayer, discussion, and meditation with new friends. This was an opportunity to grow our network of prayer partners and invite others to join our future programs. All who attended felt blessed and commented on the great experience.

Watch the bulletin for our next dessert night on Friday, January 22, and our Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to attend and bring a friend or two. If you would like to help in planning these events or preparing for them, please contact Roxanne Friday at <u>momentofgrace@hotmail.com</u>.

Roxanne Friday, Women's Ministry Liaison

# WELCOME DESK VOLUNTEER RECEPTIONISTS

Each weekday, volunteers staff the Welcome Desk, answering phones, greeting guests to All Saints' and helping to ensure that the first (or fiftieth) contact with this community has a human voice and friendly face. Volunteers serve four hours shifts, mornings or afternoons and also help with administrative support tasks as needed during their shift. The next time you call All Saints' be sure to thank the person on the other end of the line for being there. Interested in becoming a Welcome Desk Volunteer? Please contact De Torrey (Coordinator) or Hannah Crone at admin@allsaintsconcord.org for information about being a Welcome Desk Receptionist.

Regular Staff:

Katie Adams, Ken Copeland, Fannie Dillard, Jo Erickson, Nancy Foskey, Suzy Riley, Jane Spangler, De Torrey,

Substitutes:

Catherine Ackiss, Barb Adams, Pat Black, Helen Cornett, Jane Liles, Hilda Marshall, Michael Reedy, Dorothy Teeter, John Teeter, Joanne Vance, Pat Wydra

Thank you to all who have served this last year on the Welcome Desk; looking forward to a wonderful New Year! *De Torrey, Welcome Desk Coordinator* 

#### WORSHIP

These ministries are essential to providing meaningful and spiritual worship services for the Parish. The ministries provide lay Chalice Bearers, Paten (Bread) Bearers, Lectors and Intercessors for the 8 am, 9 am and 11:10 am Sunday services, plus weddings, funerals, Holy Week, Christmas and other special events. Under the supervision of the Rector, Fred Weber coordinates the scheduling and training of the members of these ministries. Fred meets on a regular basis with the Rector, Clergy and the heads of the Acolyte, Usher, Music, and Altar Guild Ministries to plan the worship calendar, and provide advice and counsel to the Rector regarding worship.

You may wonder why lay people serve in worship services. Isn't that the responsibility of the ordained clergy? In some churches the clergy performs all of the reading and serving. However, the Episcopal Church encourages the participation of lay people in all aspects of church life, including worship. For Chalice Bearers, Bread Bearers, Lectors, and Intercessors, All Saints' offers the opportunity to grow spiritually by participating directly in the service. As to Chalice Bearers and Bread Bearers, just being at the altar as the Priest prepares the sacramental bread and wine can be a profoundly spiritual experience. More importantly, Chalice Bearers and Bread Bearers can help create a moving and meaningful worship service for the congregation.

Lectors and Intercessors are major players in the worship experience. They bring the scriptures to life by their interpretation of the readings. Voice inflection and emphasis on certain words can literally change the meaning of the scripture in the ears of the listener, and give him or her new insights.

In 2016, these ministries will have two primary objectives. First, increase congregational participation in worship by increasing the number of Chalice Bearers, Bread Bearers, Lectors and Intercessors. "All are welcome" and encouraged to join. Second, have training sessions during the year to orient new participants and build upon the skills of those who currently serve.

Chalice Bearers serve the sacramental wine at the services. They also perform Lector, Intercessor and Acolyte duties as needed. Chalice Bearers may also administer the sacramental bread and wine outside of the church as Eucharistic Visitors. Chalice Bearers must be licensed by the Diocese, primarily because they represent the Church when administering the Eucharist to shut ins "off campus".

Congregants who served as Chalice Bearers in 2015 included: Ruth Bratton, Jeff Clayton, Jo Erickson, Mary Lou Fowler, Wayne Fowler, Sue Gelarden, Jean Gordick, Kim Gordick, Bruce Heckert, Dave Millar, Debby Smith, Matt Smith, Elizabeth Solomon, Dorothy Teeter, De Torrey, Frank Torrey, and Fred Weber.

Bread bearers serve the Eucharistic bread, primarily at the 9 am service. Congregants who served as Bread Bearers in 2015 included: Chuck Collier, Sue Gelarden, Eli Helms, Doug Spreen and Frank Torrey. Lectors read the Old Testament lessons, Epistles, Psalms and other readings designated for each service during the Liturgical year. Intercessors lead the Prayers of the People (intercessions) at each service. There is no licensing requirement for Lectors or Intercessors, but special training is required. Most often the Lector who is assigned to a particular service will be the Intercessor as well. However, the two functions can be performed by different individuals.

Congregants who served as Lectors and/or Intercessors in 2015 included: Ruth Bratton, Amy Rose Cecil, Carol Corbin, Britt Childers, Tim Downing, Valerie Drye, Jo Erickson, Sue Gelarden, Mark Helms, Andrea Holdren, Mary Jasmine, Ragan Kearns, Dave Millar, Debby Smith, Don Smith, Amy Spunich, Frank Torrey and Fred Weber.

A special thanks to Sue Gelarden, Frank Torrey, Dave Millar and Elizabeth Solomon for always being available for extra duty and helping out whenever and wherever needed. *Fred Weber, Ministry Leader* 

## YOUNG ADULTS

The Social Saints, formerly the Young Adults group, consists of folks who enjoy gathering for fellowship, food, and other events as the spirit moves.

In 2015 our group participated in Food Truck Fridays and lunches after Sunday worship. We had compline and hymns in March. The annual Pentecost/Pool party in May was a colorful and fiery gathering.

2016 poses some challenges for the group to continue activities in the wake of Jennifer Cobb's passing. We will have informal gatherings at various church events throughout the year. Periodic Sunday lunches will continue. Plans for some to attend the Wild Goose Festival in July are beginning. Our group is always open to suggestions for community events and activities.

Please contact Jennifer Cook (704-796-0129, jesmith0712@gmail.com), Michelle Malmquist (540-327-4219, su04grad@yahoo.com) or Brian Malmquist (847-528-0463, sunset01ss@yahoo.com) if you would like to know more. Formal gatherings and events will be shared in the bulletin announcements. *Michelle Malmquist, Social Saints Coordinator* 



# Financial Account Information

# SUMMARY REPORT – GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT Year ended December 31, 2015

# **SUMMARY**

All Saints started the year with planned budget deficit of \$24,138, however through a reduction of budgeted expenses of \$52,757, the year ended with a positive gain on budget of \$20,219, thus an overall \$44,357 better than expected. (Revenue was \$8,399 lower than budget).

**REVENUE:** Total of \$731,934 which is 1.1% under budget of \$740,333.

- 1. Pledged income was \$6,627 less than budgeted.
- 2. Unpledged income was \$5,768 lower than budget.
- 3. Trust income was \$881 lower than budget.

4. Other categories contributed to the remainder of the difference, including Plate offering and General and Miscellaneous.

**EXPENSE:** Total of \$711,714. This was 7% under budget of \$764,471.

Categories that were significantly different to budget included:

- 1. Assistant Rector, of \$32,000. (Assistant Rector left employment at the end of 2014).
- 2. Youth Director, of \$21,000, (Youth Director left employment at end of August, 2015).
- 3. Finance and Admin, of \$9,000. (Telephone costs, office supplies).

## **Building Fund Report – 2015**

Balance as of December 31, 2014

Less, net of the following:

- 1. Individual donations to the Building Fund of \$4,746.
- 2. Amounts used to support monthly loan payments of (\$63,536).
- Transfer to a separate investment a/c of (\$30,000). This transfer was made in order to earn more interest in 2015. Thus, total available for Building Fund at the end of 2015 is \$82,636.

Balance as of December 31, 2015

\$141,426 (88,790)

\$ 52,636

# GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT REPORT 2015

# **Income Comparison**

2014 Actual	INCOME	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Variance
\$581,646	Pledged Income	\$608,472	\$601,845	(\$6,627)
\$36,781	Unpledged Income	\$37,000	\$31,232	(\$5,768)
\$3,999	Unpaid offering prior year	\$2,000	\$ 875	(\$1,125)
\$7,627	Plate Offering	\$8,500	\$6,760	(\$1,740)
\$18,741	General and Miscellaneous	\$5,500	\$2,801	(\$2,699)
\$35,523	Trust Income	\$38,500	\$37,619	(\$881)
\$13,000	Special Fund(Outreach)	\$23,061	\$23,061	\$0
\$8,037	Designated Gifts	\$1,000	\$7,583	\$6,583
\$1,300	Rental Income	\$1,300	\$4,190	\$2,890
\$1,121	Lockhart Reimbursement	\$5,000	\$9,734	\$4,734
\$0	Investment Income	\$10,000	\$6,234	(\$3,766)
\$707,775	Total Income	\$740,333	\$731,934	(\$8,399)

For income category, brackets ( ) indicate lower income.

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Plate offering does not include canonical "First Sunday" offerings.

# **GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT REPORT 2015**

# **Operating Expenses Comparison**

2014 <u>Actual</u>	<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	2015 Budget	2015 <u>Actual</u>	Change
\$182,559	Clergy salaries, taxes & benefits	\$180,096	\$151,343	\$28,753
\$198,358	Lay employees' salaries & benefits	\$211,802	\$177,673	\$34,129
\$67,974	Diocesan & Seminary Assessment	\$70,422	\$70,422	\$0
\$158,029	Property & Debt Service	\$183,490	\$183,514	(\$24)
\$53,688	Office & Information Expenses	\$50,300	\$53,186	(\$2,886)
\$19,235	Outreach	\$23,060	\$23,061	\$0
\$15,729	Ministries	\$18,000	\$24,886	(\$6,886)
\$15,373	Christian Education	\$13,750	\$13,324	\$426
\$6,925	Music	\$8,550	\$9,088	(\$538)
\$0	Lockhart learning Center	\$5,000	\$5,219	(\$219)
\$717,870	Total Expenses	\$764,471	\$711,714	\$52,757

(\$10,094)	<u>Total Income less Expenses</u>	(\$24,137)	\$20,219	\$44,358
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# FINANCIAL PLAN – GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT Year ended December 31, 2016

# **SUMMARY**

The Plan calls for a deficit of \$9,763 for 2016

**REVENUE:** Total of \$700,407 which is 5.5% less than 2015 budget revenue of \$740,333. (A difference of \$39,926). In addition, this is \$31,527 less than 2015 actual revenue.

- 1. Pledged income is \$38,800 less than 2015 budget.
- 2. Unpledged income is \$5,000 lower than 2015.
- 3. Other categories contributed to the remainder of the difference, including income from the Lockhart Learning Center (an increase of \$6,000 and Rental Income (an increase of \$2,200).

**EXPENSE:** Total of \$710,170. This is \$54,301 lower than 2015 budget expense and \$1,544 lower than 2015 actual expenses.

Categories that are significantly different to 2015 budget expense include:

- 1. Assistant to the Rector, a decrease of \$37,000.
- 2. Reduction of Youth Director payroll and benefit costs, of \$42,500. (Replacement expected to start in April, 2016).
- 3. A reduction in Admin payroll & benefit costs of \$20,000 for the office personnel changes.
- 4. An increase in payroll & benefit costs to accommodate a change in hours worked by the Music Director, budgeted for June 2016. (From 30 to 40 hrs. per week \$16,000).
- 5. Increase in Loan funding of \$18,000.
- 6. Outreach costs decreased by \$6,500.

# FINANCIAL PLAN FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY 2016

## **INCOME**

Diadaad Income	<u>2016</u> <u>Plan</u> \$568 725
Pledged Income	\$568,735
Unpledged offering	\$32,000
Unpaid offering prior year	\$2,000
Plate offering	\$7,000
Gen & Miscellaneous	\$4,000
Trust Income	\$39,000
Investment Income	\$10,000
Special Funding (Outreach)	\$21,068*
Designated Gifts	\$2,000
Rental Income	\$3,500
Lockhart Learning - Reimbursement	\$11,104**
Total Income	\$700,407

\* Income from 2014 events "Additional Outreach to be disbursed in 2015/16"

\*\* Reimbursement from School Board for utility expenses associated with Lockhart

Early Learning Center

# FINANCIAL PLAN FOR MISSION and MINISTRY EXPENSES 2016

	<u>2016</u>
	<u>Plan</u>
Clergy Salaries, taxes and benefits	\$147,520
Lay employees' salaries & benefits	\$ 166,403
Diocesan and Seminary Apportionment	\$67,097
Property Costs & Debt service	\$203,540
Office Costs and Information Expenses	\$51,080
Outreach	\$21,067
Ministries	\$19,510
Christian Education	\$14,300
Music	\$8,550
Lockhart learning Center	\$11,104

**Total Expenses** 

\$ 710,170

**Total – Income less Expenses** 

(\$9,763)

## 2015 GENERAL ACCOUNT BUDGETED LOCAL OUTREACH DISBURSED IN 2015

# ACCOUNT #18600

Amount Budgeted:	\$20,755
Amount Disbursed:	\$20,755 as follows:

All Saints' Episcopal Church	Early Childhood Foundation \$3,500
ARC	\$100
Cabarrus County Crop Walk	\$944.49
CCM	\$6080.63
CVAN	\$1,900
Community Free Clinic	\$1,268
Farmers/Hunters	\$750
Habitat Cabarrus	\$750 (General Donation)
Habitat Cabarrus	\$500 (Building on Faith)
Harvest for Hospitality	\$2,133.88 (Episcopal Farm Workers Ministry)
Meals on Wheels	\$1,300
Regional Aids Network	\$1,028
Salvation Army	\$500

Total:

\$20,755.00

## 2015 GENERAL ACCOUNT BUDGETED FOREIGN OUTREACH DISBURSED IN 2015 – ACCOUNT #18667

All Total 2015 General Account Outreach:		\$23,061
Total Budgeted Foreign Outreach:		\$2,306
ERD – South Sudan St. Andrews Episcopal Cl	\$250 hildren's School Haiti	\$2,056
Amount Budgeted: Amount Disbursed:	\$2,306 \$2,306	

## 2016 PLEDGE UPDATE

A total of 275 pledge cards/packets were distributed.

To date, we have received back 158 pledge cards with 156 pledges for \$568,736 and 2 "No Pledge" cards

Breakdown:

68 remained the same for a total of \$235,022

52 increased for a total of \$235,666 (Increase of \$18,508)

16 decreased for a total of \$52,356 (Loss of \$27,536)

16 new for a total of \$41,612

4 returning for \$4,080 (Did not pledge last year but pledged in prior years)

### ADDITIONAL OUTREACH & ALMS GIFTS FOR 2015 First Sunday Loose Plate Offerings

January: February:	Rector's Discretionary Account Rector's Discretionary Account	\$250 \$302
March: April:	Theological Education Offering Rector's Discretionary Account	\$201 \$864
May:	ERD Napal Earthquake	\$920
June:	ERC Texas Flood	\$680
July: August:	Burned Out Churches ERD Diocese of Cyprus & Gulf	\$612 \$249
September:	ERD Syrian Relief	\$482
October:	Rector's Discretionary Account	\$897
November:	Liberia Building of Village School	\$534
December:	Rector's Discretionary Account	\$694

## **Total First Sunday Offerings:**

## \$6,685.32

## **Additional Outreach Gifts During 2015**

Advent Collections Boxes St. Andrew's Society Feeding the Hungry	\$21.41
Good Friday Offering Domestic Foreign Missionary Society	\$138
Lenten Collection Harvest for Hospitality	\$868.81
Penick Home Village Mother's Day Offering	\$281
Men for Change – CVAN	\$131
Thompson Home Thanksgiving Offering	\$279
Seinway Concert ASEC Early Childhood Foundation	\$638
Total Additional Outreach Gifts:	\$2,357.22
Rector's Discretionary Fund Disbursed Alms & Donations 2015:	\$9,626.80
Total First Sunday Offerings:	\$6,685.32
Total Additional Outreach Gifts:	\$2,357.22
Total Rector's Discretionary Fund Alms/Donations	\$9,626.80

## Total All Gifts: 18,669.34

# ADDITIONAL 2015 OUTREACH TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN 2016

Total Above Gifts:	\$21,067.92
Craft Fair – November 2015	\$423.00 (Haiti Mission Fund)
Wednesday Night Dinners 2015	\$806.16
Tour de Saints' – August 2015	\$9,557.32 (CCM)
Music Concert – June 2015	\$1,937.00
Hops for Haiti – May 2015	\$2,098.42 (Haiti Fund, Inc.)
Wine Tasting - January 2015	\$6,246.02

# The following gifts will be transferred to All Saints' Suspense Benevolence:

Craft Fair November 2015	\$1,275.19
Christmas Greenery & Poinsettias December 2015	\$2,300.00

## **REPORT ON TRUST FUNDS**

## **Trust accounts consist of:**

	2015	2014
J.H. Williams Trust (All Saints' – one third)	\$393,069	\$430,321
A.B. Palmer Trust	\$136,471	\$149,494
Total investments at Market Value	\$529,540	\$579,815

The following is a summary of activity for 2015 on these accounts:

Balance as of 12/31/2014	<b>JH Williams</b> \$430,321	<b>AB Palmer</b> \$149,494
Income distributions received	\$11,250	\$7,139
Change in market value	(\$19,053)	(\$8,381)
Distributions	(\$29,449)	(11,781)
Security Deposit Contributions	-0-	-0-
Balance 12/31/2015	\$393,069	\$136,471

# Note: January 20, 2020 All Saints' will receive principal on Williams Trust

## JOHN AND CINDY BARNHARDT TRUST:

All Saints' has a one-fifth (1/5) interest in this trust. 3/20/2015 income produced was \$8,420.47. This trust is managed by the Foundation of the Carolinas.



Join us today as we honor and thank Virginia Ridenhour for her faithful service at 12:30 in the Welcome Center. Virginia has served six rectors and interims and over a thousand parishioners. We will certainly miss her in the office and we are delighted she will continue to worship with us in her retirement!