

Church of The Apostles

Tenth Annual Meeting

Minutes taken from January 24, 2016

The Tenth annual meeting of Church of The Apostles (CoTA) was called to order by Archdeacon Bill Sexton at 1:00 PM.

Forty-four members were present.

Elder Blessing Jacobs opened the meeting in prayer.

Archdeacon Bill Sexton read the necrology.

He also advised that Elder Rob Geoffrey needs some time off from active ministry for a while, after which Rob and Sharon will return to us.

Canterbury Mission Society (CMS): There was no activity for Canterbury for 2015. The council meetings are a potential time to discuss anything pertaining to CMS if the need arises. Bob Bickerstaff filed the CMS annual report with the secretary of state.

Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff thanked all the Sunday counters and Erin Mead for their work throughout the year.

He reported that as we concluded 2015 with a \$521.50 deficit we will need to be careful with our spending. He also stated that one of our bigger expenses this year was a new roof for part of the church building. Looking ahead, the memorial fund could be used toward the costs of obtaining new prayer books to be put into pews. The costs of Rev. Mark Galloway's retirement party was \$5,270.00, which is paid from the "miscellaneous fund" and covered by donations that were received and designated specifically for the party.

The budget for 2016 was reviewed and passed by the Church Council. The Treasurer expressed thanks to all who participated in the Budget meeting. A 3% raise in salary was approved for all staff, and \$60,000 was budgeted to be the annual salary package for the new Superintendent.

Archdeacon Bill Sexton highlighted some information from each of the Deacon's reports. He also stated that the Deacons are there to encourage one another and the Congregation.

Outreach Minister Kathy Kettle discussed the Outreach Discretionary Fund. 10% of all offerings to the church are designated for Outreach, 35% of which are deposited monthly into the Outreach Discretionary Fund. She added that working with other ministries to assist people in need doesn't always mean writing a check, as there are many ways to help.

Building and Grounds Deacon Doug Stomberg thanked all members of the building committee for their help and hard work with various decisions over the past year.

Elder Blessing Jacobs highlighted some of last year's unexpected happenings and how God used members to help us move forward. He reminded us that whenever we are discouraged the enemy attempts to attack and weaken us, but going through a crisis and leaning on the Lord

means we are going to come to through it to something good. If we are doing what we are supposed to, we can know our God is with us and we are founded upon a Rock that cannot move.

Barbara Bickerstaff thanked everyone who contributes to Church Notes and for helping her keep the communication flowing in the church family.

Linda Jones thanked the wonderful group of dedicated teachers who have served this past year.

Barbara Battey thanked everyone who has helped with Altar Guild. She feels your love all year long.

Ed Farrell stated there are many different ministries within our church family that interact together, and all are done to the glory of God. He thanked everyone who is involved in any of those ministries. He also thanked everyone involved in the Holy Couples ministry then reported this ministry has run its course for now. He said the aim will be to add new ministries so that everyone can be involved.

Bill Sexton reported that the Call Committee meets on a regular basis and that it will take time to find a new Superintendent. He said that if they are in a hurry they may make mistakes, but they are determined to listen carefully to the Holy Spirit to make good decisions.

There being no other business to discuss, Elder Blessing motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Linda Greco seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM, then Kathy Kettle closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Mead,
Clerk, Pro-tem

SACRAMENTS & PASTORAL ACTS FOR 2016

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF BAPTISM

No Baptisms in the year 2016

REGISTER OF THE COMPLETION OF HOLY EUCHARIST INSTRUCTION

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION/REAFFIRMATION

Haley S. Worden

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

No Marriages in the year 2016

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF BURIAL

Gladys M. Doyle
Frances L. Duffy
James F. Quinn

SUPERINTENDENT STEPHEN GAMMON

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ of “Church of The Apostles”, two primary themes of my first Annual Report as your Superintendent are Thankfulness to God and Faith that His Vision for our Church Family may increasingly be realized.

THANKFULNESS– As Paul wrote to the Church of Colossae I also affirm to you: “*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.*” (Colossians 1:3-5a)

There are so many things for which we are very thankful. Here are four things for which I am often thanking God:

1. I thank God for bringing Helen and me here. As you were praying and trusting the Lord to bring you a leader of His choosing, Helen and I were praying too. We too were asking the Lord for His will to be made clear. I thank God for answering this prayer. Helen and I feel much at home among you, and we are grateful that God has put us in such a loving family. I thank God and thank you for this opportunity to serve our Lord together.
2. I thank God for His faithfulness and answered prayer throughout the years. Looking back over the history of this Congregation, and as each of us reflect on the course of our own life, I know you can attest as Helen and I do, that God is ever faithful. Day by day, year by year, and from generation to generation He is faithful. He is a prayer-answering, miracle-working God. I thank God for His faithfulness and for answered prayer this year, and through all the years.
3. I thank God for all current members and for the Church of The Apostles team of leaders and those who will yet join us. The annual reports that follow in this booklet reflect the dedication of leaders God has given us. In God's family, there is room to grow, so may our arms of welcome always be open wide, inviting, loving, and reflecting the love of Jesus. We thank God for our church leaders, members and attendees and for all those He will yet bring to us.
4. I thank God too for His purpose and plan for CoTA. As the Lord said through Jeremiah to the exiles in Babylon, so does He now say to us, “*I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future*”(Jeremiah 29:11). We too can have much confidence that the plan the Lord has for us is very, very good.

The 2nd primary theme of my report, is:

FAITH – As Paul wrote to the Church of Philippi, I also affirm to you: *“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”*
(Philippians 1:3-6)

I am believing God that His Vision for Church of The Apostles will be increasingly realized in and through us, and I ask you to believe with me. As I have previously shared with our Church Council and in our Adult Education classes I now share with you - a picture of what I believe the Lord’s vision includes for our shared ministry.

About a year ago, before I was approached about becoming your Superintendent, the Lord began revealing that He intended for me to serve Him once more as a local church shepherd. Soon after this my conversations with your Call Committee began. As time went by the Lord began revealing a picture of key emphases in His vision for His Church. Perhaps in part because I have spent a fair amount of time around the sea, you will see a nautical theme to this vision, and I am reminded that we are after all in “The Ocean State.” Though I believe these 7 aspects of God’s vision for us are to some degree already true I am in faith believing God and I ask you to pray with me in faith that these will increasingly be realized in and through us:

1. I believe in faith that Church of The Apostles has been commissioned by God and is fully His, and increasingly it will be so. Like a commissioned ship, we have been built by and for Jesus. We are unique in His Church, one in a fleet of diverse congregations carrying out His purposes together. We are not on a pleasure cruise, though we do have fun together. We are on a mission. We have no sense of ownership of this Church, for we know we are the Lord’s.
2. I believe in faith that we are empowered by God’s Love through the Holy Spirit, and increasingly it will be so. Without God’s power, we are dead in the water, but with the power of His love and anointing of the Holy Spirit we have all we need to go anywhere He steers us to do far above all we ask or imagine.
3. I believe in faith that we are facilitated by Prayers of Faith, and increasingly it will be so. As Jesus taught us, and the Apostles modeled, the Church must be devoted to prayer. Jesus Christ is our great High Priest and our mediator and He invites us to cast all our cares upon Him. Prayerfulness must be and will be an integral part of our DNA as a church.
4. I believe in faith that we are being directed by Jesus Christ, our ever-present Lord and Captain, and increasingly it will be so. Knowing that Jesus is always with us fills us with expectation, confidence and peace. We will not usurp His authority. Leaders will

prayerfully determine to discern in unity and then carry out His orders with faith and without objection.

5. I believe in faith that we are characterized by Love for One Another, and increasingly it will be so. Love for one another is already our culture in Church of The Apostles. This is the most important part of our reputation and we will prayerfully aim to get better at it, thus reflecting the character of Jesus.
6. I believe in faith that we are Motivated in Mission as Fishers of Men Together, and increasingly it will be so. We understand that being disciples of Jesus Christ means sharing His mission. Because His mission is, “*to seek and save the Lost*” (Luke 19:10) or be “*fishers of men*” (Matthew 4:19), this is our mission too. We will increasingly look beyond ourselves with hearts of compassion for those who don’t yet know Him, so they might know Him too.
7. I believe in faith that we share an eternal perspective, knowing our Destination is Heaven and we want others to join us, and increasingly it will be so. Because of this, we will invest our lives and time and resources with Heaven in mind. We are excited about the journey and our destination, and along the way our aim is to bring with us as many as possible who will trust in Christ Jesus.

Thankfulness and Faith are the primary themes in my heart as I look back on 2016 and look ahead with you to 2017. I pray that the Lord will have His way in my heart and yours and in the life of our Church Family. I thank God for each of you and pray that the Lord will bless you richly and bless us together, all for His glory.

“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.” (Jude 24-25)

In the love of Jesus,

Stephen A. Gammon, Superintendent

ELDER ROB GEOFFREY

“The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our fortress.”

(Psalm 46: 7, 11)

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?”

(Psalm 27: 1b)

Amid changing times and the turbulent journey of life it seems that nothing is certain, nothing lasts; this reality grips us more as the years pass. Nothing is certain except our Lord, of course. He is like a fortress set on a rock, like light to a ship at sea. In the Changeless One we put our hope, and he is faithful.

By His plan of love He has given us free will; but blinded by sin we tend to take this to mean that we can be independent. We take the charge to rule over creation as license to ignore his sovereignty, and as a result we may fail to see his holy hand in the events of our lives. We view change as trouble rather than opportunity.

In fact, changing times are a testament to God’s vast love. What amazes me is that he continues to work out his plan for the Church (and his local congregation, Church of The Apostles) despite our angst and fear of new horizons. I think the picture of God as the loving Father is archetypical. Our relationship to him as a body will always be in the Father-to-son/daughter realm. Parallels can be made on the basis of authority, as well as development from infancy to maturity in his Son.

As the Father, he is our Creator, Sustainer, Teacher and Protector. As such, he is there always – whether we admit it or not. He is there to encourage us during time of opportunity and to teach in time of woe. He uses our hardship to strengthen us and our fears to draw us closer. What great love is this!

These are not just words – there is proof. 2016 has brought many changes to Church of The Apostles; and God’s love is in all of them.

For example, Church of The Apostles remains a vibrant Gospel-centered entity in one of the most secular parts of the country, during a period of precipitous decline in moral and religious culture. This is a testament to God’s love for our community, especially for the lost. Church of The Apostles is here to stay, as long as there are lost sheep in the Valley. But there have been some changes.

There have been changes in leadership. God's plan included the provision of new people with fresh perspectives, as well as well-earned rest for those who have worked so hard. Some were given the task to build out God's plan, others now raise it to the next level.

We all have necessarily spent many years in training for the times that are upon us. I believe that God is asking us to take what we have learned and begin to use it in a bigger and more universal way. As children, we stayed at home (in church), being prepared for adulthood. Now we are being sent outside our doors to make disciples.

Our numbers have decreased; a necessary part of God's plan, I believe. As some of our greatest brothers and sisters go on to Glory, we are forced to carry the load ourselves, to grow up and multiply the blessings with which we have been bestowed. As sojourners, this is encouraging – it speaks of renewal and reinvigoration. In another way, God has pared us down in much the same way as he did with Gideon's army in Judges 7. The Lord accomplished two mighty things by the defeat of the Midianites by Gideon's small band: 1) he proved that he was sovereign and faithful to do even the impossible IF they were to trust him and 2) the conquest served as a sign of the Lord's power to other camps, emboldening them to join with Gideon. Could this be God's plan for us in the Valley?

“The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?”

Need more proof? Consider the way God has showered his loving kindness upon us and protected us this year in the absence of a superintendent and other clergy. The proof is in how Church of The Apostles GREW under these circumstances.

Thanks be to God for our Archdeacon, who, without hesitation or fear fulfilled his role of primus during a prolonged and trying period in our history. Through his devotion to Christ, Bill Sexton was filled by the Spirit, who enabled him to govern effectively with charity and wisdom.

Thanks be to God for our Deacons. In perfect harmony with the example set by the early Church, they stepped up to fill voids in the Sunday services, pastoral care and administration. I believe our Diaconate has been changed by this experience, perhaps being given the tools they will need for the next part of our journey.

Throughout all the changes of 2016 there has been a steadiness as well; sort of a gyroscopic effect upon our bearing. Thanks be to God for our Staff, who day in and out, preserve those things that maintain momentum and give a sense of security. Our God is a God of order and our staff has thoughtfully and diligently continued to provide a sense of civility amid the ebb and flow, in the way a good Father would establish a peaceful household for his family.

I am encouraged by the way that our various ministries (music, Christian education, Bible study, mens' breakfast, prayer groups, visitation, kitchen, dancing –my apologies for not mentioning them all) have been able to adapt and flourish. Clearly the saints who are involved have been motivated by the example of Love found in their Savior. They fear not, for they have the Lord as their light and salvation.

I give thanks to God for my brother Blessing, for his pastor's heart, for his knowledge, for his love of the Congregation and for his support and encouragement to me personally. We have a long history, and you can see that we are truly brothers in Christ. A man is blessed if he can say he has such a friend to share the journey.

In the Lord's eyes, I believe this local Congregation has found favor. And according to his promise, by devotion to our Head, Jesus and commitment to a life of corporate prayer it will remain so. Because of this we have nothing to fear. We have no earthly fortress against the push of our culture, but in him our soul and mission is secure. We fear not the darkness for our light is the Light of Truth; *"The darkness is not dark to you, O LORD, the night is as bright as the day"*(Psalm 139:12). He has set himself as a fortress in a wilderness; a point in the frontier is his Church. He has set himself as head over it and it shall not perish but prevail!

Peace be with you, Beloved; and may the God of Jacob always be our fortress.

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now." (Philippians 1:3,4)

Elder Robert Geoffrey

ELDER BLESSING JACOBS

What shall we call this church?

One of the subjects I teach in the army is Resiliency. This training is designed to equip Soldiers with tools to help them return to normalcy from life's ordeals, be it in their personal lives or the grueling and arduous environment of the military. The phrase best used to understand resiliency is to "bounce back." To help understand this subject a tennis ball and cooked or raw egg is utilized for demonstration purposes. When a tennis ball is tossed at a chalk board, it bounces back to the thrower because of its resiliency- its ability to bounce back. On the other hand, when an egg is tossed at a chalk board, not only will it splash and make a huge mess but it doesn't bounce back- it falls to the ground and stays there.

As I was driving home from work and thinking about what to present to you in this annual report, my mind went straight to this subject. I started pondering on how to describe Church of The Apostles over the past two years, and I came to the conclusion that the term resiliency will be the most fitting.

Saints, this past two years presented us with trials and challenges that caused significant fear and almost made some among our ranks, both at the leadership and at congregational level, feel like sheep without shepherd, with the sudden retirement of the former superintendent, and the ranking Elder taking a leave of absence. In the contexts of my preaching, I always encouraged you to be of good cheer, because God is in control and He will in His timing give us a man of His choosing at the appointed time to be our chief pastor. God is faithful and He never abandons those who put their trust in Him to their own devices. Look at what the Lord has done for this body today by bringing Pastor Steve to be our chief shepherd! Isn't God Good? *"It is the LORD's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes, this is the day that the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!"* (Psalm 118:23-24).

As your Elder, I understand challenges, trials and disappointments. I have had my share of trials, abandonment, and disappointments. But for every seeking heart, difficult moments and trials also present opportunity for growth. In fact, I have always wondered if most of our spiritual growth and understanding of spiritual truths come during sufferings and trials. It seems to me that during lonely and helpless moments, we turn to God for help. During those difficult moments, we seek God's face more, and when we do, we come back with fresh understanding of God's holy Writ and we have more insight into God's holy mysteries.

When we seek God's face and lay down our burdens on Him at the foot of the cross, we become resilient (1 Peter 5:8). We bounce back! Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians is one of the four prison

letters of Paul: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. When I started studying the Bible newly, I used to think that the prison Epistles were written to people in jail. I guess one can say so, since we are prisoners for Christ! But no! Paul was in prison when he wrote these letters. Paul was a very learned man. He was a scholar if we are to use a contemporary term. He talks about how the mystery that was hidden from the sons of men in generations past has now been revealed to Apostles and Prophets, but he was writing from prison in stocks and chains (Ephesians 3:1-12). The passage does not tell the audience how Paul knew that this mystery has been revealed to the Prophets and the Apostles. However, since Paul wrote from prison, it seems that his experience in stocks and chains must have informed his reflections in his letter to the Ephesians. If that is the case, we can then infer that trials and challenges do bring us closer to God and help us to penetrate the sacred mysteries of the Triune God.

Going back to the tennis ball and the egg, the tennis ball always bounces back to the thrower each time it is tossed at the chalk board or any hard surface. But the egg always splashes and makes a mess or it falls to the ground and remains there. The church of God falls under these two categories unfortunately, but thank God for Church of The Apostles. By the special grace of God and not of our making, we are a resilient bunch and we always bounce back when fierce storms of life throw us around. This is because our foundation is strong. It is strong because it is built on the solid rock that cannot be moved.

This brings me then to the Psalter's question in Psalm 11:3: "*If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?*" The Hebrew rendered in this translation "if" could also be rendered "that," "for," or "when." I prefer the rendition "when" because challenges will come. It is not a matter of *if* trials will come, but *when* they will come. The question is when they come, what will the righteous do? The Psalmist did not ask where the righteous will go or what the righteous will say, when the foundations are "shattered" (the Hebrew used for "destroyed" in this passage). He simply asks the question: what will the righteous do? We at Apostles know the response to this question. It is to seek God! When foundations are shattered, we pray. When the foundations are destroyed, we bombard the heavens with supplications, and surely God responds.

I also want to admonish you that just because we have overcome these odds, this does not mean we will not face other storms. I am well aware that some members of this body have been afflicted in different ways such as through sickness, loss of loved ones, and in other ways. Be encouraged, God is with you. As we continue along this pilgrimage, be assured that God is on our side and all is well. Thank you!

Your brother in Christ,

Blessing+

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTER

“The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.”(John 17:22-23)

As the year 2016 began, the Call Committee was busy fulfilling their mandate to select and present a candidate to replace our retired superintendent, Mark Galloway. We (all of us as the Body of Christ) prayed and waited for God to answer our prayers. Scripture tells us that when we pray for anything we should not doubt but trust. God answered our prayers and today we share in the ministry that He has predestined for us to accomplish. With Pastor Steve as our new shepherd, we journey together not knowing fully what lies ahead but with faith and trust in God.

My experience over the past year and a half has (once again) confirmed for me that God answers prayer. Even though I made mistakes, God used them to strengthen my faith and trust in Him and in others. I am so thankful for the Call Committee and Council members and especially for the 81 members of our church who attended a special meeting on May 8th and voted unanimously to call The Reverend Doctor Stephen A. Gammon to be our superintendent.

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”(Mark 5:16)

I want to take this opportunity to thank my Brother in Christ and fellow laborer, Tom Bourn. Tom accepted the call to be our Archdeacon way back in February 2007 when the deaconate was being formed. Although Tom has recently stepped down from the deaconate, his calm, unwavering, gentle leadership style will continue to be a godly example for us to follow.

There are so many members of our church that I wish to thank. Dave Swann who shares the Eucharistic Ministry with me. Together Dave and I visit members who are not able to worship and receive the Eucharist on a Sunday morning. Thanks to the kitchen crew who cook up a great breakfast at the men’s monthly gathering where we break bread, fellowship and share God’s Word and our lives. Thanks to all the men who faithfully attend and contribute to the success of our time together.

I thank the office staff, Barbara, Erin and Kerri for their good work and assistance. Also Barbara and Erin who volunteered to be recording clerks at council meetings during this interim period. To Bob Bickerstaff for sharing your financial expertise. Mike Edwards for putting in extra duty to keep our facility in order. I thank you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, for your prayers and faithfulness, for your patience and trust as we journeyed together through 2015/2016. You have no idea how much your understanding, encouragement and love meant to me and to your leadership.

What will be in 2017? Only God knows. But I know this; all we have to do is keep Jesus' commandment in the forefront of our minds and daily do our best to; *"Love one another as I have loved you"*(John 15:12).

In closing, I pray: *"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God"*(Romans 15:5-7).

Bill Sexton, Archdeacon

OUTREACH MINISTER

"God has given us two hands- one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing." –Rev. Billy Graham

It has been over 6 years that I have been called to serve as a deacon at Church of The Apostles and what a privilege it has been! I work alongside people who understand that God has blessed us with so much and that blessing is to be shared with others.

It has been thrilling to see God's Spirit at work here, to know that we are part of his plan and that His promises are true. God has so graciously given us gifts for the work of ministry at Church of The Apostles and throughout our community. Through God's grace and your receptiveness to God's call, wonderful works of outreach flow out of this church on a regular basis touching the lives of people in our own church and people you may never meet.

The role of the Outreach Deacon is to serve the Congregation and a specific task I have been charged with is managing the Outreach Discretionary Fund. Thirty-five percent of the total church Outreach Fund is directed to the Outreach Discretionary Fund. It is the responsibility of the Outreach Deacon to manage this money as needs arise.

Financial assistance is given to individuals, families, organizations and other churches that have needs that have been brought to our attention. Working together with the Church Council, we strive to be good stewards of the finances but also understand that money is not always the answer to the problem.

If you refer to the financial report that is found in this booklet you will find a detailed account of how the monies have been distributed.

This past year we continued to show that sharing Christ with the world involves more than just words, it involves action. Through prayer and financial assistance, we support two missionaries in Haiti (Dave and Deb Kreyssig) in their operation of a transition house called Espere Kay. Also, this past Christmas, our Congregation responded to the call to financially support several women in Nigeria in their microenterprise ministries (Hands of Hope). This is tangible evidence that God's blessings upon Church of The Apostles continue to flow out.

Church of The Apostles is filled with people full of enthusiasm and love for the gospel and I am thankful, honored and blessed for the opportunity to work alongside you for the love of the Gospel. As we continue to grow in the Word and remember the ultimate sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ, may the love we have for Our Lord show clearly in every aspect of our life.

In His Service,

Kathy Kettle

STEWARDSHIP MINISTER

“And I tell you, ask, and it will be given unto you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”(Luke 11:9)

It’s hard to believe another year has come to a close! It always seems fitting to gaze back on the past year and count one’s blessings. Have you thought about what you are thankful for in your walk with Jesus Christ during this past year? Was there a moment or event in your life where you felt the hand of God? He was there because He is there every moment of every day!

He was there when we prayed privately and then collectively each week for the Holy Spirit to stir the heart of the man who would be led to answer the call to be our new Superintendent. We prayed for patience and peace. We asked the Lord to let our faith and trust in Him grow each day.

As I look back, we did wait patiently upon the Lord (most of the time), and tried to be at peace, not anxious (very hard!) and the Lord has answered our prayers mightily. We walked by faith, not by sight. The yearlong process to call a new superintendent strengthened our Congregation by unifying us as the body of Christ, first by thanking him for all our blessings and thanking him for the trial, and then seeking His wisdom. God will make a way where there seems to be no way! *“In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths”*(Proverbs 3:5).

We give thanks to God for bringing Pastor Steve and his wife Helen to Church of The Apostles. We are excited to see our new shepherd lead the flock in making disciples for Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to the Elders and fellow Deacons and the many others who pitched in during this past year to keep God’s church moving forward.

Throughout it all, most of our various ministries continued on! Some changed leaders, some added members, some lost members, but as the Lord instructs us, we continued to *“use our gifts as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”*(1Peter 4:10).Our commitment to honor God with our time, talent and treasure doesn’t change no matter the trial. We, as Christians are called to glorify God, especially during times of trial. If anything, our time without a shepherd strengthened our dependence on the Lord. *“Count it pure joy whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance”*(James 1:2, 3).Thank you, Lord for the trial.

As we start the New Year, I pray that each one of us will take pause, and reflect on how the Holy Spirit, living in us, may be unleashed this year. How will he continue to shape you into the image of Jesus Christ? Every person has an important part in God’s plan for his church. I look forward to the new year to see how God will use each of us as we respond to Jesus' call, *“Come,*

follow me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). Jesus Christ assures us that the one who seeks, finds. If we knock on his door, it will be opened.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Deborah Adams

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

2016 was a good year for the interior of our building. Coming off 2015, when we saw water damage due to ice damming, repair of the water damage was performed in 2016 with the help of insurance coverage and not to mention the Lord's blessings.

Repairs were made in all affected major areas, mainly the ladies room. Aside from a complete remodel of the ladies room, we had the narthex ceiling painted, a new floor and paint in the side corridor, floor and paint in Marianne's office, and complete paint in the superintendent's office.

I must say, there was some apprehension upon contractor quotes versus the work needed to be done, especially if surprises arose. So, when it was discovered the floor drain in the ladies room was clogged solid and needed to be jack hammered up, it gave me a sinking feeling. But the Lord was with us when the contractor gave us a price for the repair which fell within budget.

For 2017 the building committee would like to focus on the exterior of the building, mainly the landscape. We plan on some tree removal and other overgrowth removal around the building. There will be more revealed about plans as the building committee meets in the coming weeks and months.

I would like to take advantage of this report to express my affection for Jim Quinn. He was a member of the building committee, a good friend and will be sorely missed around "This Old House". I am truly blessed to have known him as long as I did.

I would like to thank Mike Edwards for all that he does. His commitment to Church of The Apostles is a blessing to us. He truly has a servant's heart.

Also, I would like to thank the members of the building committee, Erin Mead, Bob Singleton, Charlie St Martin, Chuck Donnelly, Tom McMullen, and Don Pillsbury. They make this job easy.

Above all, I thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For I know He makes all things possible and that I cannot do anything without Him. "*But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you*" (Matthew 6:33).

"Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matthew 6:34).

May the peace and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

Deacon Doug Stomberg

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”(Isaiah 40:31)

This past year has been a year of many changes here at Church of The Apostles and in my own personal life. We have invited a new brother and sister in Christ to join our church family. Pastor Steve and Helen Gammon have quickly become part of our church family in faith. They have welcomed us into their home and hearts openly. Even though we miss Fr. Mark, Sharon and the Galloway family in church and in the office, this is all in God's plan for all of us. Bill Sexton and the deacons were wonderful support in time of need this past year.

During my maternity leave, Kerri McMahan filled in for me and what a blessing she has been. She has now joined our church staff team and has wonderful and creative ideas to spread the word of our church family and help us to grow. I look forward to working with her in this upcoming year. Thank you, Barbara Bickerstaff, for your help with editing the Annual Report and all your continued help throughout the year. Thank you also to Bob Bickerstaff for your devotion to the position as treasurer, for creating the yearly budget and daily financial decisions.

My father, Ron Swanson, has been a weekly volunteer helping in many daily office duties, I'm sure this is not what you originally planned for your retirement but I enjoy working with you and appreciate your help. Paulette Donovan, who helps with mailings, I appreciate your time and help getting mailings out in a timely fashion. I have also had the pleasure of working with Linda Jones, Joan Clarke and Linda Quinn, thank you all for your time and assistance. I would also like to thank Mike Edwards for all the little things he does each and every day to help myself and other church family members.

In my personal life, God blessed Aaron and me with a beautiful and healthy baby girl. Aubrey has become the love of my life, and each and every day is a blessing to spend with this wonderful gift from God.

I look forward to challenges and changes in this upcoming year knowing it is all in God's plan.

God Bless You!

Erin Mead

Church Administrator and Financial Secretary

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

“You will show me the path of life”. (Psalm 16:11)

One of my favorite psalms is Psalm 16. The psalmist begins the song by boldly proclaiming in whom he puts his trust: *“Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, ‘You are my Lord, my good above all other’”* (Psalm 16:1). He quickly asserts his reasoning for following the LORD: *“those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied”* (v. 3). Then in each successive verse the writer affirms his relationship with the LORD. *“O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot”* (v. 5). *“I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night”* (v. 7). *“My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope”* (v. 9). But it is verse 11 that speaks to me the most clearly: *“You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.”* If we seek the Lord’s will for our lives through prayer and daily devotion and affirm our relationship with him by word and deed, he will guide us on our journey along the pathways of life. Best of all, *“in his presence there is fullness of joy”* and *“pleasures for evermore.”* What could be better than that?

When seeking direction in times of doubt or indecision, in and out of the workplace, I often return to verse 11 of this Psalm: *“show me the path of life.”* As in all aspects of life, seeking God’s will for our communications must be the lifeline of the communication process. *“The word that goes forth from my mouth; it will not return to me empty”* (Isaiah 55:11). When our publications are motivated by something other than God’s Word and our ministries and activities by something other than his will, we become like *“those who run after other gods (who) shall have their troubles multiplied.”*

It has been an honor and privilege to work with a leadership team who patiently and methodically sought the will of God in the search for our new Superintendent. Throughout this transition year of 2016, the work of the Gospel abounded and the evidence was packed into each edition of Church Notes. The words of the psalmist, *“You will show me the path of life”*, rang truer than ever for me this past year. Indeed, it is with great joy and anticipation for what the future holds, that I join in welcoming Pastor Steve and Helen Gammon to our Congregation! I am excited, too, that Kerri McMahan has joined the Church Staff as Communications Assistant. Welcome Kerri!! Kerri has ably taken over the weekly printing of the Sunday liturgy booklets, preparation of the Sunday inserts, *Church Notes*, maintenance of the website (apostlesri.org), and more. Her addition to the staff will allow me to concentrate on formatting and preparing the long-awaited Prayer Book for publication. It is my goal to complete this project in 2017.

As I say each year, much of the production work that comes out of this office is accomplished through the efforts of many hands. Thank you to all those who “pitch-in” and help with the folding, stapling, stuffing and sticking. I am confident that you join with me in believing that we are always called to be ever mindful that *“whatever you (we) do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him”* (Colossians 3:17).

Your sister in Christ,
Barbara Bickerstaff

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said ‘I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’” (John 8:12)

This year our Little Lights and Followers learned more about simple, ordinary people who God chose to do great things for his Kingdom: Noah, Moses, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Esau, Leah, Rachel, the 12 sons, to name a few. Through crafts, songs, role playing and readings from their children's bibles they have found that God is always with us. Thank you, Beth Sexton, Donna Stomberg, Scarlett St. Martin and Rebecca Craig for leading these children.

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us."(2 Corinthians 5:20)

This year our Ambassador class has spent much of the year studying books of the bible using a new activity book: Bible Basics for Kids: An Awesome Adventure through God's Word. It's filled with a brief summary of every book, puzzles (don't miss this section) which direct them to important verses, and jokes. Here's an example. "What time of day was Adam created? Answer: A little before Eve."

Thank you, Doug Stomberg for teaching these Ambassadors with me.

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is huge. But there are only a few workers.’” (Matthew 9:37)

This year our Workers and Disciple classes have combined under Roger Hall, Cathy Morgan, Matt Felice and Ed Habershaw. They've continued discussions on books of the New Testament.

Please continue to pray for our youth that what they learn at home and in Sunday School will give them the strength to tell people about Jesus.

Special thanks to those who encourage our youth to participate in the service as ushers, sound technicians, readers and singers.

Linda Jones

Director of Christian Education

ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

The various musical groups here at the Church of The Apostles have continued in 2016 to offer their talents as we join in worshiping our Lord through the medium of music. We are blessed with Spirit & Truth (our Praise Band), the Men's Chorus, the Women's Group presenting acappella music, and the Handbell Ringers, including our young Spirit and Youth Ringers. Many thanks to the leaders and participants in all these groups, and also to our accomplished soloists.

It also seems appropriate at this time to compliment our largest musical group: You, The Congregation. In many churches the Congregation does not seem to sing; but through the years you have made your organist very happy upon hearing you raise your voices to the Lord in music.

I do have two requests for 2017. First, all of our musical groups could use additional people. Therefore, if you play an instrument or like to sing, please consider joining an appropriate group. My second request is made because I hear that some of our parishioners are unable to hear our Handbells, even with the more recent use of a microphone. I am told that we need a mike that will pick up a wide group, not just the person in front of the mike. It is my understanding that such equipment is expensive, but if there are any funds budgeted for music, I would like to discuss this further.

In closing, thank you to the members of the Church of The Apostles, and their ancestors, for providing a wonderful place to be the organist. I came to St Philip's Episcopal Church never intending to stay. Because of you, I look forward to celebrating 50 years as your organist on the first Sunday in June 2017.

Together let us continue to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne H. Salisbury

Organist & Music Director

ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild was for me and still is after 18 years a quiet time to reflect on God's love for us.

When we set and prepare the holy Table, I thank God for giving us his only Son who was sent to save us.

Altar Guild is a once a month or 1 week commitment to set the holy Table for weekly service. On Saturday we prepare the Altar, fill the candles and do some light dusting. After each service we wash vessels and put them away. It is not a difficult job but it is rewarding. Imagine setting the table fit for our King!

Easter and Christmas we like to have as many of our teams work together so we can do a big clean and decorate the church. Our Flower Guild is also a big part of these two holy days as we work together.

This past fall Barbara Battey stepped down as Sacristy Minister. We thank her for her dedication and the wonderful job she did in leading our teams. However, she still serves as a team member and my guide. I was humbled when Pastor Steve asked me to take over as Sacristy Minister. I know I have a lot of wonderful women to work with and who do their jobs so well.

Our long-time member Beverly Brown has stepped down from this ministry. We thank Beverly for a long and dedicated time doing her share in setting the Table. Thanks Bev!

We are always welcoming new members. If you would like to see what is done please let me know and I will welcome you to join us after a service and see for yourself. You may decide on your own if this ministry is for you.

Paulette Donovan

Sacristy Minister

MEN'S CHORUS REPORT

2016 was another year of singing for the Men's Chorus (AKA Bob and the Boys). We would like to extend our appreciation to the late Bob Brewer for getting us started and of course, the versatile Marianne Salisbury for putting up with us. Like Spirit and Truth, Spirit and Youth, Women's Chorus and the many gifted instrumentalists, we were able to use our voices for the Glory of God. We were especially happy to lend our voices to the Easter Pageant as well as our annual salute to those who serve or have served in our Armed Forces.

It is really our pleasure to enhance the service, but it is for God's Glory and applause is not needed. If you feel moved, a word after the service is nice.

USHER REPORT

The people who participate in the Usher Ministry enjoyed another year of service to our Lord at Church of The Apostles. These are the first people visitors and congregants meet on their way in to worship. A smile, handshake and "good morning" shows that all are welcome here.

The ushers range in age from high school to college to working to retired. Thanks to the innovative Linda Jones, this past year we added a "Junior Usher" program for the late service. Aiden Felice, Alana Asan, Amber Courtney, Blessing Jacobs Jr., Emma St. Martin, Harrison McMahon, Levi Jacobs and Nick Kanaczet are the members of this ministry. Not surprising, they perform their duties in a timely and serious manner. Thanks to our "Senior Ushers" for helping with the training as well as teaching the importance of the liturgy and flow of the service.

Ed Farrell

**Our Mission is to
Obey, Follow and Bear Witness to Jesus Christ**

2016

Ministries

Altar Guild	Loaves and Fishes
Building and Grounds	Men's Bible Study
CD / Sound System	Men's Breakfast
Counters	Men's Chorus
Crossroads	Ministry Board
Digital Prayer Group	Mission Board
Financial Counseling	Office Volunteers
Flower Guild	Pocket Prayer Shawl
Food Donations	Shepherd's Table
Galatians 6:10	Short Term Missions
Hand Bell Choir	Spirit and Youth
Health and Wellness	Sunday Brunch
Instrumentalists	Sunday School
Intercessory Prayer	Ushering
Joyful Women	Video Study Group
Kitchen Ministry	Women's Bible Study
Lay Visitation	Women's Chorus
Worship Services (Crucifer, Acolyte, Readers)	

TREASURER'S REPORT

God has continued to bless us with favorable finances at Church of The Apostles. As we came to the end of 2016, we had a surplus in our General Fund of over \$45,000.00, mainly because we didn't pay a Superintendent until September. The Church Council voted in December to transfer most of the surplus to our Capital Reserve Savings Fund so that we will have funds available for large property expenses in the future. The operating income for 2016 was \$297,227.00 (plus expense reimbursements of \$1,614.42), and the operating expenses totaled \$297,666.71. Our General Fund surplus at the end of the year was \$653.21, which has been carried forward into 2017. Thank you for your committed giving of tithes and offerings, as well as for your prayers of praise and thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness.

The Operating Budget for 2017 anticipates total budget income of \$295,600.00 and total budget expenditures of \$295,398.00. The Church Council approved this budget on November 17, 2016, accepting without change a budget proposal prepared by a Finance Committee consisting of Superintendent Steve Gammon, Elder Rob Geoffrey, Archdeacon Bill Sexton, Deacon Doug Stomberg, Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff, Financial Secretary Erin Mead, and Active Members Lynne Habershaw and Jim Bethel. The income projection in the budget is quite conservative, and we believe that we can keep our expenses within the budget. The salaries of our Superintendent, Elders, and staff have been increased by about two percent, and the new staff position of Communications Assistant will be funded by our New Ministries Fund.

Once again, I want to extend my thanks to Erin Mead, our Church Administrator and Financial Secretary. Erin maintains our payroll, contributions, and other accounting records, providing me with accurate information for my reports to the Church Council and Congregation. Thanks also to Kerri McMahon for her assistance while Erin was on maternity leave.

I would also like to thank our Sunday counters, especially our lead counter Sue Clarke. Our other counters during 2016 were Beverly Brown, Joan Clarke, Linda Greco, Lynne Habershaw, Trish Meitner, Barbara Miller, Sue Pillsbury, and Jane Venditto. Beverly Brown retired from her counting duties at the end of 2016 after many years of service. Many thanks to all our counters for their dedication to this ministry!

The following pages contain a detailed look at our 2016 finances and the 2017 budget. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time with questions, comments, or concerns about the finances or financial reports of our Congregation.

Your servant in Christ,

Bob Bickerstaff
Treasurer

Financial Summary

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2016		\$107,861.47
Checking Account Balance	\$19,944.16	
Statement Savings Account Balance	\$57,916.99	
Certificate of Deposit Account Balance	<u>\$30,000.32</u>	
Total	<u>\$107,861.47</u>	
 Receipts		
General Fund Offerings & Donations	\$297,227.00	
General Fund Reimbursements	\$1,614.42	
Restricted Fund Income/Receipts	<u>\$25,917.66</u>	
Total		\$324,759.08
 Disbursements		
General Fund/Operating Expenses	\$297,666.71	
Operating Expense Transfers to Restricted Funds	(\$74,722.72)	
Restricted Fund Expenses/Disbursements	<u>\$70,825.71</u>	
Total		<u>(\$293,769.70)</u>
 Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2016		 \$138,850.85
Checking Account Balance	\$22,260.24	
Statement Savings Account Balance	\$56,590.29	
Certificate of Deposit Account Balance	<u>\$60,000.32</u>	
Total	<u>\$138,850.85</u>	
 Investment Assets		
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Common Stock		
Donation of 68 Shares received on April 8, 2015		
Market Value as of January 1, 2016		\$4,677.72
Market Value as of December 31, 2016		\$3,973.92
 Indebtedness		
Mortgage Loan from Centreville Bank (6/1/2010)	\$586,000.00	
Principal Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$474,147.28
Payments during 2016: \$46,682.32		
Applied to Interest	\$22,209.59	
Applied to Principal	<u>\$24,472.73</u>	
Total	<u>\$46,682.32</u>	
Principal Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$449,674.55

Checking Account

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$19,944.16
General Fund/Operating Income	\$297,227.00	
Reimbursements to General Fund/Operating Expenses	\$1,614.42	
Income/Receipts for Restricted Funds	\$25,571.69	
Transfers in from Savings Accounts	<u>\$16,672.67</u>	
Total Receipts into Checking Account		\$341,085.78
General Fund/Operating Expenses		
Total Expenses	\$297,666.71	
Minus Transfers to Restricted Funds		
To Outreach Fund	(\$29,722.72)	
To Capital Reserve Savings Fund	<u>(\$45,000.00)</u>	
Expenses Disbursed from Checking Account	<u>\$222,943.99</u>	
Disbursements from Restricted Funds	\$70,825.71	
Transfers out to Savings Accounts	<u>\$45,000.00</u>	
Total Disbursements from Checking Account		<u>(\$338,769.70)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$22,260.24

Savings Accounts

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$87,917.31
Statement Savings Account Balance	\$57,916.99	
Certificate of Deposit Account Balance	<u>\$30,000.32</u>	
Total	<u>\$87,917.31</u>	
Interest Income		\$345.97
Transfers in from Checking Account		\$45,000.00
Transfers out to Checking Account		<u>(\$16,672.67)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$116,590.61
Statement Savings Account Balance	\$56,590.29	
Certificate of Deposit Account Balance	<u>\$60,000.32</u>	
Total	<u>\$116,590.61</u>	

Fund Balances

Fund Name	Balance 1/1/2016	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 12/31/2016
Outreach Fund *	\$8,091.15	\$0.00	\$26,217.14	
Transfers from General Fund		<u>\$29,722.72</u>		
Outreach Fund Totals	\$8,091.15	\$29,722.72	\$26,217.14	\$11,596.73
Capital Reserve Savings Fund *	<u>\$16,815.21</u>	\$125.44	<u>\$17,750.00</u>	
Transfers from General Fund		<u>\$45,000.00</u>		
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Totals	\$16,815.21	\$45,125.44	\$17,750.00	\$44,190.65
New Ministries Savings Fund	<u>\$53,975.93</u>	\$255.38	<u>\$0.00</u>	
From School Savings Fund		<u>\$13,450.00</u>		
New Ministries Savings Fund Totals	\$53,975.93	\$13,705.38	\$0.00	\$67,681.31
School Savings Fund	<u>\$13,408.54</u>	<u>\$41.46</u>	\$0.00	
To New Ministries Savings Fund			<u>\$13,450.00</u>	
School Savings Fund Totals	\$13,408.54	\$41.46	\$13,450.00	\$0.00
Altar Guild Fund *	\$1,327.88	\$2,120.00	\$1,906.66	\$1,541.22
Missions Fund *	\$4,026.47	\$2,271.00	\$3,097.17	\$3,200.30
Memorial Fund *	\$5,054.05	\$2,166.28	\$484.33	\$6,736.00
Superintendent's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$205.00	\$205.00	\$0.00
Youth Group Fund	\$1,656.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,656.35
Designated Offerings Fund *	\$2,872.25	\$13,607.62	\$16,043.12	\$436.75
Miscellaneous Fund *	\$65.91	\$5,114.71	\$5,122.29	\$58.33
Ann Livsey Fund	\$1,089.23	\$10.77	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
All Restricted Funds	<u>\$108,382.97</u>			<u>\$138,197.64</u>
Income		\$25,917.66		
Transfers from General Fund		\$74,722.72		
Transfers between Restricted Funds		<u>\$13,450.00</u>	\$13,450.00	
Expenses Paid Out			<u>\$70,825.71</u>	
Totals for All Restricted Funds	\$108,382.97	\$114,090.38	\$84,275.71	\$138,197.64
General Fund *	<u>(\$521.50)</u>			
Income		\$297,227.00		
Reimbursements		<u>\$1,614.42</u>		
Expenses Paid Out			\$222,943.99	
Transfers to Restricted Funds			<u>\$74,722.72</u>	
General Fund Totals	(\$521.50)	\$298,841.42	\$297,666.71	\$653.21
Totals for All Funds	\$107,861.47			\$138,850.85

* See Separate Report

Note: The Ann Livsey Fund was created by a bequest and can only be used for the maintenance and repair of the church's stained glass windows.

General (Operating) Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		(\$521.50)
Income		
Weekly Offerings & Pledges	\$285,580.85	
Loose Offerings	\$2,129.35	
Initial Offerings	\$328.00	
Birthday Offerings	\$167.00	
Ash Wednesday Offerings	\$477.00	
Maundy Thursday Offerings	\$445.00	
Good Friday Offerings	\$400.00	
Lenten Offerings	\$404.00	
Easter Offerings	\$1,718.00	
Thanksgiving Offerings	\$549.00	
Advent Offerings	\$370.00	
Christmas Offerings	\$1,661.00	
Special Offerings	\$1,947.00	
Youth Offerings	\$230.80	
Group Donations	<u>\$820.00</u>	
Total	\$297,227.00	
Reimbursements		
For Christian Education Expenses	\$265.00	
For Fellowship Expenses	\$1,227.00	
For Administrative & Office Expenses	<u>\$122.42</u>	
Total	\$1,614.42	
Total Receipts		\$298,841.42
Expenses		
Total Payroll Expenses *	\$116,225.46	
Transfers to Restricted Funds *	\$74,722.72	
Other Expenses *	<u>\$106,718.53</u>	
Total		(\$297,666.71)
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$653.21

* See Budget Report for Details

Outreach Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016	\$8,091.15
Receipts	
Monthly Transfers from General Fund Outreach Line Item	\$29,722.72
Disbursements	
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference	\$10,000.00
Outreach Discretionary Account *	\$10,302.00
Superintendent's Discretionary Account **	\$4,415.14
Haiti Orphan Support Payments	\$1,200.00
Donation to The Station Fire Memorial Foundation	<u>\$300.00</u>
Total	<u>(\$26,217.14)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016	\$11,596.73

* Thirty five (35) percent of each month's Outreach Fund income is transferred (after the first of the next month) to the Outreach Discretionary Account, to be administered by the Outreach Deacon at her discretion. See separate financial report.

** Fifteen (15) percent of each month's Outreach Fund income is transferred (after the first of the next month) to the Superintendent's Discretionary Account, to be administered by the Superintendent at his discretion. See separate financial report.

Altar Guild Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016	\$1,327.88
Receipts	
Offerings for Flowers, Wine, & Sanctuary Lamp Candles	\$770.00
Offerings for Easter Plants & Flowers	\$725.00
Offerings for Christmas Plants, Flowers, & Greens	<u>\$625.00</u>
Total	\$2,120.00
Disbursements	
Christmas Plants, Flowers, Greens, & Supplies (2016)	\$728.40
Easter Plants & Palm Sunday Palms	\$583.39
Weekly Altar Flowers	\$374.12
Sanctuary Lamp Candles	\$99.90
Communion Wine	\$101.88
Vestment Hangers	<u>\$18.97</u>
Total	<u>(\$1,906.66)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016	\$1,541.22

Capital Reserve Savings Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$16,815.21
Receipts		
Year-End Transfer from General Fund	\$45,000.00	
Dividends from Bristol-Myers Squibb Stock	\$103.36	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$22.08</u>	
Total		\$45,125.44
Disbursements		
Water Damage Repair Project		<u>(\$17,750.00)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$44,190.65

Memorial Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$5,054.05
Receipts		
Donations in Memory of Gladys Doyle	\$1,145.00	
Donations in Memory of Jim Doyle	\$100.00	
Donations in Memory of Jim Quinn	\$905.00	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$16.28</u>	
Total		\$2,166.28
Disbursements		
Vestments for Superintendent		<u>(\$484.33)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$6,736.00

Missions Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$4,026.47
Receipts		
Chicken Dinner Receipts	\$2,221.00	
Individual Contributions	<u>\$50.00</u>	
Total		\$2,271.00
Disbursements		
Chicken Dinner Expenses	\$297.17	
To Helping Haiti's Orphans/Espere Kay (Hope House)	\$1,700.00	
To Helping Haiti's Orphans/Loving Hands Orphanage	\$750.00	
To Elmwood Ave Church of God/For Haiti Mission Work	\$250.00	
Offering to Nigerian Guest Speaker	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$3,097.17)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$3,200.30

Designated Offerings Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$2,872.25
Funds for Outreach/Missions	\$2,839.91	
Funds for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$10.00	
Funds for Haiti Orphan Support	<u>\$22.34</u>	
Total	<u>\$2,872.25</u>	
Receipts		
Donations for Mortgage Principal Payments	\$10,000.00	
Donations for Hand of Hope Ministry	\$3,085.00	
Donations for Outreach Projects	\$175.00	
Donations for Haiti Orphan Support	\$134.62	
Donations for Outreach Discretionary Account	\$100.00	
Donations for CareNet Rhode Island	\$63.00	
Donations for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$25.00	
Donations for CCCC Women's Ministry	<u>\$25.00</u>	
Total		\$13,607.62
Disbursements		
Mortgage Principal Payment	\$10,000.00	
Hand of Hope Ministry Disbursements	\$3,085.00	
Ministry Training Network Course Subsidies	\$845.00	
Individual & Family Assistance Outreach	\$737.69	
Galatians 6:10 New Year's Eve (2015) Dinner Expenses	\$510.90	
CCCC Women's Ministry Italian Dinner Expenses	\$245.53	
Galatians 6:10 Lawn Concert Expenses	\$178.88	
Haiti Orphan Support Payment	\$100.00	
Check to Outreach Discretionary Account	\$100.00	
Check to CareNet Rhode Island	\$63.00	
Check to United In Faith Account for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$35.00	
Purchases for CCCC Women's Ministry	\$25.00	
Prayer Shawl Ministry Expenses	\$71.53	
Congregational Care Ministry Expenses	\$35.00	
Hand of Hope Ministry Expenses	<u>\$10.59</u>	
Total		<u>(\$16,043.12)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$436.75
Funds for Outreach/Missions	\$379.79	
Funds for Haiti Orphan Support	<u>\$56.96</u>	
Total	<u>\$436.75</u>	

Miscellaneous Fund

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$65.91
Funds for CCCC Women's Ministry	\$65.91	
Receipts		
Reimbursements from Outreach Discretionary Account	\$2,256.31	
Reimbursements from Superintendent's Discretionary Acct	\$286.00	
Ministry Training Network Course Payments	\$755.00	
Event Receipts for CCCC Women's Ministry	\$697.00	
Event Receipts for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$630.00	
Event Receipts for Station Fire Memorial Foundation	\$200.00	
Transfer from Canterbury Mission Society	\$141.42	
Property Expense Reimbursements	\$40.00	
Electric Bill Refunds	\$57.34	
Payments for Hall Use Sexton's Fee	\$50.00	
Personal Expense Reimbursement	<u>\$1.64</u>	
Total		\$5,114.71
Disbursements		
Spending for Outreach Discretionary Account	\$2,256.31	
Spending for Superintendent's Discretionary Account	\$286.00	
Payment to Ministry Training Network	\$755.00	
Purchases for CCCC Women's Ministry	\$704.58	
To United In Faith Acct for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$630.00	
Donation to Station Fire Memorial Foundation	\$200.00	
Admin/Office Expenses (from Canterbury Transfer)	\$141.42	
Property Expenses	\$40.00	
Electric Bill Payment	\$57.34	
Sexton's Fees	\$50.00	
Personal Expense (Reimbursed)	<u>\$1.64</u>	
Total		<u>(\$5,122.29)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$58.33
Funds for CCCC Women's Ministry	\$58.33	

Superintendent's Discretionary Account

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$2,308.25
Receipts		
From Outreach Fund	\$4,415.14	
Individual Contributions	<u>\$205.00</u>	
Total		\$4,620.14
Disbursements		
Individual and Family Assistance	\$962.00	
Ministry Expenses	<u>\$286.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$1,248.00)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$5,680.39

Outreach Discretionary Account

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$5,162.85
Receipts		
From Outreach Fund	\$10,302.00	
Individual Contributions	\$100.00	
Reimbursements	<u>\$1,125.00</u>	
Total		\$11,527.00
Disbursements		
Individual and Family Assistance	\$5,316.31	
Donations to CareNet Rhode Island	\$700.00	
Donations to the Providence Rescue Mission	\$350.00	
Donation to Grace Family Church	\$300.00	
Donation to the Ministry Training Network	\$280.00	
Purchase of Books from Nigerian Guest Speaker	\$50.00	
Annual Partnership with "The Good News Today"	\$270.00	
Payments Subsequently Reimbursed	<u>\$1,125.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$8,391.31)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$8,298.54

United In Faith Account

Balance as of January 1, 2016		\$2,473.02
Funds for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$2,473.02	
Receipts for Galatians 6:10 Project		
Receipts from 2015 New Year's Eve Celebration	\$640.00	
Summer Lawn Concert Receipts	\$278.50	
Individual Donations	<u>\$25.00</u>	
Total		\$943.50
Disbursements for Galatians 6:10 Project		
Air Mattresses (4) and Air Pump		<u>(\$66.29)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2016		\$3,350.23
Funds for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$3,350.23	

Operating Budget for 2017 With Comparison to 2016

	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Income			
Weekly Offerings & Pledges	\$280,000.00	\$285,580.85	\$283,600.00
Other Offerings & Donations	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$11,646.15</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
Total Budget Income	<u>\$292,000.00</u>	<u>\$297,227.00</u>	<u>\$295,600.00</u>
Expenses			
Outreach *	\$29,200.00	\$29,722.72	\$29,560.00
Capital Reserve Savings *	\$0.00	\$45,000.00	\$2,000.00
New Ministries Savings *	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$16,000.00)
Superintendent's Salary & Housing	\$60,060.00	\$19,640.00	\$61,260.00
First Elder's Salary & Housing	\$6,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,630.00
Second Elder's Salary & Housing	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,630.00
Retired Bishop's Salary & Housing	\$0.00	\$4,800.00	\$0.00
Church Administrator's Salary	\$23,062.00	\$23,062.00	\$23,530.00
Communications Officer's Salary	\$23,569.00	\$23,569.00	\$24,050.00
Communications Assistant's Salary	\$0.00	\$5,115.00	\$15,600.00
Organist's Salary	\$10,893.00	\$10,693.00	\$11,082.00
Assistant Organist's Salary	\$5,425.00	\$5,587.50	\$5,516.00
Sexton's Salary	\$8,411.00	\$8,411.00	\$8,580.00
Payroll Taxes	\$5,460.00	\$5,847.96	\$6,760.00
Superintendent's Business Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,219.22	\$1,500.00
Leadership Continuing Education	\$1,000.00	\$183.60	\$1,000.00
Ministerial Expenses	\$7,000.00	\$15,947.25	\$7,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$504.58	\$800.00
Music Ministry	\$1,500.00	\$913.07	\$1,000.00
Christian Education **	\$4,000.00	\$2,781.59	\$4,000.00
Youth Ministry	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Fellowship ***	\$5,000.00	\$3,810.54	\$5,000.00
Administrative & Office Expenses ****	\$14,000.00	\$13,867.13	\$14,000.00
Postage	\$2,500.00	\$1,720.83	\$2,200.00
Telephone & Internet Service	\$2,000.00	\$1,958.73	\$2,000.00
Property Expenses	\$9,500.00	\$7,886.20	\$12,000.00
Snow & Ice Removal	\$3,500.00	\$1,673.63	\$3,000.00
Gas (Heat, Hot Water, Etc.)	\$7,000.00	\$5,573.70	\$6,000.00
Electric	\$5,500.00	\$5,004.64	\$5,500.00
Mortgage	\$36,700.00	\$36,682.32	\$36,700.00
Insurance	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>\$6,991.50</u>	<u>\$8,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$291,980.00</u>	<u>\$297,666.71</u>	<u>\$295,398.00</u>
Tentative Budget Surplus (Deficit)	\$20.00	(\$439.71)	\$202.00
Reimbursements Received		<u>\$1,614.42</u>	
Actual Budget Surplus		<u>\$1,174.71</u>	
Surplus (Deficit) from Prior Years		<u>(\$521.50)</u>	
Surplus to Carry Forward		\$653.21	

* Transfers to (or from) Restricted Funds

** The Christian Education line item was partially funded in 2016 by reimbursements of \$265.00.

*** The Fellowship line item was partially funded in 2016 by reimbursements of \$1,227.00.

**** The Administrative & Office line item was partially funded in 2016 by reimbursements of \$122.42.

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

Evangelical Anglican

170 Fairview Avenue • Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Church Office: (401) 821-7609•Superintendent’s Residence: (401) 397-5703

website: apostlesri.org • email: office@apostlesri.org

The Holy Eucharist Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Christian Education Sunday 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Brunch Sunday 12 noon
Evening Prayer Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Morning Prayer Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.

Church Staff

Superintendent The Rev. Dr. Stephen A. Gammon
Church Administrator Erin Mead
Communications Officer Barbara Bickerstaff
Communications Assistant Kerri McMahon
Director of Christian Education Linda Jones
Organist and Music Director Marianne Salisbury
Assistant Organist Shyanne Slinko
Sacristy Minister Paulette Donovan
Sexton Mike Edwards
Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff
Clerk Barbara Miller

Board of Elders

The Rev. Rob Geoffrey 943-4661
The Rev. Blessing Jacobs 588-0006
The Rev. Chad Tvenstrup(Licensed Presbyter)
The Rev. Conrad Ruppert(Elder Emeritus)
The Rev. Mark Galloway (Bishop-retired)

Ecclesiastical Dignitaries

Lady Linda Greco 228-3060
Lady Sue Pillsbury 884-2947

Board of Servants

Archdeacon Bill Sexton, Congregational Care Minister 726-4549
Deacon Kathy Kettle Outreach Minister 573-0773
Deacon Deb Adams Stewardship Minister 828-7998
Deacon Doug Stomberg Buildings and Grounds Minister 397-5508

Deacon Emerita Cathy Morgan

