

Church of the Good Shepherd
Granite Springs
Episcopal Diocese of New York



2015 Annual Report

Of the Church of the Good Shepherd
For year ending December 31, 2015

Annual Meeting: January 31, 2016*

*snow date

2015 CLERGY & STAFF

Rector January 2015-May 2015: The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead
Interim Pastor October 2015-Present: The Reverend Gwyneth Murphy
Choir Director & Organist: Cecilia Sparacio
Sexton: Bernie Sotter, Joyce Levy, Phil Levy
Child Care Provider: Sharen McKenna

2015 VESTRY

Rector:

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead

Interim Pastor:

The Reverend Gwyneth Murphy

Wardens:

Maria Kaprielian (1st term ending in 2016)
Rick Vesperman (2nd term ending in 2017)

Clerk (appointed):

Nancy Haensch

Treasurer (appointed):

Paul Miller

Assistant Treasurer (appointed):

Sally Stevens

Financial Secretary (appointed):

Chris Palmer

Class of term ending in 2016

Nancy Haensch
Eric Parsons
Bernie Sotter (resigned June, 2015)
Jeff Donaldson

Class of term ending in 2017

Diane Buschel
Jose Trinidad
Fay Wright

Class of term ending in 2018

Vernon Alexander
Phill Pinkney
Megan Whalen

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AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

1. Invocation and Call to Order – The Interim and the Senior Warden
2. Nominations
 - a. Nominations are open for 1 hour.
 - b. **Vilma Mulholland, Vito Rizzi, and Luis Delahoz** have been nominated to serve on the Vestry for three-year terms. Additional nominations accepted from the floor.
 - c. **Maria Kaprielian** has been nominated to serve as Warden for a second two-year term. Additional nominations accepted from the floor.
 - d. Nominations for Delegate and Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention.
3. Table Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
4. Breakfast
5. Review & Approval of the Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting (January 2015)
6. Interim's Report
7. Wardens' Reports
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Search Committee Report
10. Reports of Organizations & Committees
11. Election
12. Congratulations to those who are newly elected!
13. Thanks to 2015 outgoing leaders
 - a. Nancy Haench for service as Clerk
 - b. Nancy Haench, Eric Parsons, Bernie Sotter and Jeff Donaldson for service on the Vestry
 - c. Glenn Hintze for service as Sunday School Chair
 - d. Wilfried Haench for service as Stewardship Chair
14. Appointments and new positions
 - a. **Paul Miller:** Treasurer (appointed by Vestry for a third year – max of six consecutive years)
 - b. **Chris Palmer:** Financial Secretary (appointed by Vestry for a second year – max of six consecutive years)
 - c. **Diane Buschel:** Clerk (appointed by the Senior Warden for a first year – max of six consecutive years)
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Benediction and Adjournment – The Interim and the Senior Warden

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, GRANITE SPRINGS: JANUARY 11, 2015

1. Father Matthew Mead called the meeting to order and offered an invocation.
2. The minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting were reviewed. Upon a motion by Rick Vesperman, seconded by Jose Trinidad, the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Father Matthew Mead presented the slate of nominations at 11:02am.
 - a. Vernon Alexander, Phill Pinkney, and Megan Whalen to serve on the Vestry for three-year terms.
 - b. Bernie Sotter to serve on the Vestry for a one-year term.
 - c. Rick Vesperman to serve as Warden for a second two-year term.
 - d. Vernon Alexander to serve as Delegate and Fay Wright to serve as Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention.
4. Father Matthew Mead presented the Rector's report.
5. Warden's reports.
 - a. Maria Kaprielian presented the Financial Warden's report.
 - b. Rick Vesperman presented the Property Warden's report.
6. Committee reports were printed in the Annual Report for review.
 - a. Paul Miller presented the Treasurer's report.
 - b. Eric Parsons presented the Stewardship Committee report.
 - c. Cecelia Sparacio presented the Music Ministry report.
 - d. Arleen Flury presented the Altar Guild report.
 - e. Amanda Slattery presented the Outreach Committee report.
 - f. Nancy Haensch presented the Community Center of Northern Westchester report.
 - g. Jan Corning presented the Carpenter's Kids report
 - h. Father Matthew Mead presented the Indaba report.
 - i. Chris Palmer presented the Pastoral Care Ministry report.
 - j. Glenn Hintze presented the Sunday School report.
 - k. Father Matthew Mead presented the Confirmation Class report.
 - l. Fay Wright presented the Youth Group report.
 - m. Lorne and Christine Robbins presented the Awards Dinner report.
 - n. Leslie Fulton presented the Memorial Garden Committee report.
 - o. Gwen and Bill Greene presented the Seniors Group report.
 - p. Scott Jones presented the Poetry Group report.
 - q. Maria Kaprielian presented the Women's Group report.
 - r. Phil Levy presented the Men's Group report.
 - s. Nicole Mead presented the Good Shepherd Vegetable Garden report.
 - t. Amanda Slattery presented the Communications, Advertising, and Publicity Committee report.
7. At 12:03pm there had been no further nominations to the Vestry. As clerk of the Vestry, Nancy Haensch cast a single vote for the proposed slate of nominations.
8. Father Matthew Mead and the parish offered their congratulations to the newly elected church leaders.

9. Father Matthew Mead and the parish thanked the outgoing 2014 leaders.
 - a. Bob Bubeck for service as Financial Secretary.
 - b. Scott Jones, Phil Levy, Chris Palmer, and Tom Rubino for service on the Vestry.
 - c. Eric Parsons for service as Stewardship chair.
 - d. Nancy Anderson for service as Birthday Card Committee Chair.
10. Father Matthew Mead announced appointments and new positions for 2015.
 - a. Paul Miller is appointed by the Vestry as Treasurer for a second year. He may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
 - b. Chris Palmer is appointed by the Vestry as Financial Secretary for a first year. She may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
 - c. Nancy Haensch is appointed by the Rector as Clerk of the Vestry for a second year. She may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
11. There was no old business.
12. There was no new business.
13. Father Matthew Mead gave a benediction and adjourned the meeting at 12:15pm.

2015 PARISH REGISTER & ATTENDANCE

SERVICE NUMBERS & ATTENDANCE FOR 2015

Total Sunday Attendance: 4755

Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) for 2015: 90

Christmas & Easter for 2015: 470

Total Weekday Attendance: 832

Total Sunday Holy Eucharist services: 105

Total Sunday Daily Office services: 24

Total Weekday Holy Eucharist services: 14

Total Weekday Daily Office services: 81

Total Private Communion/Reserved Sacrament: 19

Total Baptisms under age 16: 4

Total Baptisms over age 16: 0

Total Confirmations under age 16: 0

Total Confirmations over age 16: 0

Total Receptions: 0

Total Marriages: 0

Total Burials: 4

Active Baptized Members (end of year 2015): 185

Communicants for 2015: 223

Communicants under age 16 for 2015: 54

Sunday School registration for 2015: 30

INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT

I begin by thanking the Vestry for calling me to be your Interim Pastor, and thanking the congregation – children, teens and adults – for welcoming me so warmly. It is never easy when a priest leaves, especially in a one-priest parish. It is never easy to have a new priest, with her/his new and different ways of doing things. Thanks for working with me. After three months, I can honestly say: So far, so very good. The parish is strong, focused, and the Spirit is very much alive. You care for each other, you reach out to your neighbors locally and globally, you are good stewards of your buildings, grounds and finances. (Special personal thanks to all who have kept the Rectory in such good shape.)

The State of Good Shepherd is very good.

Ministries and Volunteers When I arrived, I was truly amazed at how, for a parish this size, there are so many active ministries here, so many parishioners who volunteer on an ongoing and as-needed basis to ensure that all of these ministries are effective. I am still learning about things that people do. And I know that there are folks who do things anonymously and behind the scenes as well. Yes, we have the usual perception that a few people are doing everything. I think that actually most people are contributing as much time and talent as they can; the problem here, as at all parishes, is that people in general are much busier and so have less time to volunteer but we want to continue all ministries, programs and events we have done in the past.

Finances I know that there is some concern about finances. Please know that relative to other parishes in the Episcopal Church, not only is GS in good financial shape, your vestry has adopted and put into practice sound financial practices upon which to build a solid future. These include **not** drawing down the endowment, having a sustainability fund to maintain liquid cash flow, and not using restricted funds such as “Capital Improvement Fund” to pay other bills. While these may seem obvious, not all parishes have such practices. It is not unusual for a parish to pass a deficit budget at the start of the year. Finally, the fact that there is concern indicates that folks are paying attention to the budget, and this, in and of itself, is a positive sign of financial health.

The Search Committee has done a remarkable job in the first major part of the Search Process, which is preparing the parish profile – requesting, listening, reading, compiling, synthesizing, analyzing, presenting, and finally putting into writing the parishioners’ thoughts, opinions, experiences, dreams, hopes, and concerns about the parish and Rector.

Worship We continue with the parish regular worship schedule. I understand that after Christmas 2014, the question was raised: should we change the Christmas Eve service time? The question got lost until it was too late to discuss a change for 2015. So, we’ll have that discussion in plenty of time for 2016. (Many parishes have moved the later service to 8, 9 or 10 pm.) I am planning to add a weekly service of “Celtic Morning Prayer and Meditation”, which includes prayers, *lectio divina* (sacred reading, where we reflect on a passage in silence and then as a group) and silence. Depending on the level of interest, we may offer this daily during Lent.

Adult Ed (“Formation”) The word “Formation” captures what we do at church – it is not just study of a book or text; it is also discussion and reflection from a faith perspective, asking how it affects how we live our lives outside of church, and bringing prayer to our gatherings, consciously inviting the Spirit to participate with and through us. There is usually laughter as well as serious conversation, a good sign.

- Jeff Donaldson leads a weekly Bible Study between the two Sunday services. The group reads one book of the Bible at a time. Feel free to join whenever you can. Thanks, Jeff, for starting this vital ministry.
- In Advent, we began “Food for Body and Soul,” a Wednesday noon Brown Bag Lunch and Bible Study. Interest was strong and so we are continuing it. As with Bible Study, you need not come every week.

Pastoral Care While I of course cannot give details about pastoral care and counseling, please know it is an honor and privilege to be your Pastor, and to receive the gift of trust from individuals, couples and families who speak with me, and whom I visit. Especially as a newcomer, I am not always aware when someone is in need, and I thank parishioners who have let me know when this is the case. Please never hesitate to call me (845.633.4395) if you or a family member is in need. When I am out of town, one or two of my local colleagues provides coverage. Special thanks to Bill Doubleday, Rector of St. Mark’s (Mt. Kisco), and Mary Gregorius, Rector of St. John’s (Pleasantville).

Looking Forward

- We’ll be welcoming our Suffragan Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin, for an Episcopal Visitation on Sunday, June 19th. Bishop Shin will Confirm eight of our teens; (at this point we don’t know how many adults will be Confirmed, Received into the Episcopal Church, or Renew Baptismal Vows.) He will also visit with the congregation and meet with the Vestry.
- Parishioners who are licensed by the Diocese to make home communion visits (Lay Eucharistic Visitors or LEVs) will begin taking communion to home-bound or ill parishioners, supplementing my visits.
- During Lent, we’ll offer an additional weekly Adult Formation program; and I’ll offer a Saturday “Lenten Reflective Day.”

With gratitude for our shared life in Christ, our calling to walk together at this time and in this place,

Respectfully submitted,
Reverend Gwyneth

DIOCESE OF NEW YORK 2015/2016

At the national church's General Convention in Salt Lake City in June 2015,

1. The Convention elected The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, to be the new Presiding Bishop; Bishop Curry was installed as Presiding Bishop in November. He is the first African-American to hold this position.
2. The Convention adopted new canons which provide for the marriage of two people without regard to sex. While this did not change the policy in our Diocese allowing clergy to officiate at "same-sex" marriages, it established this as normative throughout the Episcopal Church USA.
3. The convention received the report of the Task Force to Review and Revise Policy on substance abuse, addiction and recovery, and passed resolutions addressing parish, diocesan and national policies and practices with regard to alcohol. (See "2" Below under Diocese)

The Diocese of New York

1. Convened a group of laity and clergy to work with the Bishop to develop a Strategic Plan for the Diocese as we move into the future. The Strategic Plan is not only looking at finances, though that is certainly a significant factor in the "post-crash" economy. It is also looking at the changing face of main-stream religion in the 21st Century, addressing how we can best spread The Word in the world of today and tomorrow. The work of this group is based in part on information gathered during the Indaba Process, in which Good Shepherd participated in recent years.
2. Following General Conventions' resolutions re: alcohol (see "3" above), the Bishops met with the clergy, and there was a special workshop at Diocesan Convention, to discuss the policies and practices with regard to serving, selling and consuming of alcoholic beverages at parish and diocesan events. I have discussed this with the vestry, and shall be discussing it at annual meeting. While there is not an absolute ban on alcohol at parish functions, there are now more restrictive guidelines than there have been in the past.

Respectfully submitted,
Reverend Gwyneth

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

A Time of Transition.

It's been quite a year. In March 2015, Father Matt announced his call to become Rector of Christ Church, Pelham and my education on how to lead a parish through the Search process formally began. With Matt's guidance prior to his departure in May, and with the help of Deb Tammearu, the Diocese's Canon for Transitional Ministry, Rick Vesperman and I learned the steps we would need to take to find a new Rector. With some good fortune and many phone calls and emails, supply priests were found to cover all the Sundays between Matt's departure and the hiring of our Interim in October. With the help of many volunteers, all of Good Shepherd's programs continued throughout the summer months without hesitation. The Search Committee was formed and started their important work of updating the Parish Profile, which was just posted to the Diocesan website last week. After several candidates were interviewed for the position of Interim Pastor, the Vestry decided that Reverend Gwyneth would be the ideal person to lead us into 2016 and our Search. Even with all of these changes, I remain very optimistic that Good Shepherd and its congregation will thrive in the coming year.

Good Stewardship.

Our Stewardship campaign, while not as lucrative as last year, was robust, with a projected income of \$155,000.00. As always, it's important that every family that is able to do so, make a pledge to the church. The Vestry is committed to practicing good stewardship with every penny that is donated. We've directed the Treasurer to put 40% of all money from fundraisers into a Sustainability Fund to help pay bills when cash flow is tight. In 2014, we decided to stop drawing down our Endowment Fund, and now only withdraw the monthly interest we generate with this fund. We're also paying very careful attention to our projected costs for the coming year, especially our future Rector's compensation package. Paul Miller's presentation later in this report will outline the details of the budget for 2016. On the income side, several parishioners have approached the Vestry about future fundraisers for the church and a committee has been formed to make these events happen.

And so Good Shepherd moves forward....

We are in good shape. Our bills are paid (for now), we have a great Interim Pastor in place, and the Search process is on track to find our best fit in a permanent Rector. As the Diocese sees us, we are an "anchor" parish in a sea of local and state-wide churches that are struggling just to stay solvent and whole. I want to thank every member of the congregation for their dedication to Good Shepherd over the past year. God shines through each of us as we struggle and persevere through times of adversity as well as prosperity.

Thanks You's for 2015: Please forgive me in advance if I forgot to thank you for this past year – you are a valued part of a group of people who give an extraordinary amount of time and talent to the church:

1. Officers

- a. Paul Miller – Treasurer
- b. Chris Palmer – Financial Secretary
- c. Nancy Haensch – Clerk

2. Vestry

- a. Nancy Haensch – Vestrymember (Class 2015)
- b. Eric Parsons – Vestrymember (Class 2015)
- c. Jeff Donaldson – Vestrymember (Class 2015)
- d. Bernie Sotter – Vestrymember (Class 2015)
- e. Rick Vesperman – Property Warden
- f. Gwyneth Murphy – Interim
- g. Continuing Members of the Vestry

3. Staff

- a. Cecilia Sparacio – Music Director
- b. Bernie Sotter, Phil Levy, Joyce Levy – Sextons
- c. Chris Palmer – Office Volunteer/Bulletins
- d. Megan Whalen – Office Volunteer/Newsletters and Annual Report
- e. Sharen McKenna – Child Care

4. Fundraisers

- a. Glenn Hintze – Wine Tasting
- b. Arleen Flury – Tag Sale and Christmas Bazaar
- c. Scott Jones – Arts Jam
- d. Lorne and Christine Robbins – Annual Dinner

5. Heads of Committees

- a. Stewardship – Wilfried Haensch and Eric Parsons
- b. Outreach and Advertising – Amanda Slattery
- c. Sunday School – Glenn Hintze and Megan Whalen
- d. Youth Group – Fay Wright and Vernon Alexander
- e. Search Committee – Fay Wright
- f. Seniors Group – Bill Greene
- g. Writer’s Group – Scott Jones
- h. WOCOCS – Arleen Flury
- i. Prayer Group – Chris Palmer
- j. Memorial Garden – Leslie Fulton
- k. Events Committee – Megan Whalen and Eric Parsons
- l. Coffee Hour – Diane Buschel and Bernie Sotter
- m. Acolytes – Rick Vesperman
- n. Altar Guild – Arleen Flury
- o. Church Property Improvement Committee – Lorne Robbins and Pat Mulholland

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Kaprielian

PROPERTY WARDEN’S REPORT

First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for their help and support in keeping the church property and grounds up and running. As the Property Warden, it is my responsibility to see that repairs are made and that the church and the grounds are properly maintained. However, I would not be able to accomplish this without all of you pitching in, as you always have. This past year was a rather easy year for property maintenance and repair.

Pat and Vilma Mulholland generously donated the materials to upgrade and beautify the Men’s room in the Parish Hall; and with the expertise of Lorne Robbins and Pat, that room is now just as wonderful as the Ladies’ Room.

We had no issues with the well system, appliances or buildings and grounds in general. We were finally able to get the proper size lenses for the fluorescent lights in the Parish Hall which really brightened up the room. Our biggest project this year was the painting of the interior of the rectory in preparation for the arrival of Reverend Murphy as our Interim Pastor, and as usual, the members of the Parish came out to assist. We held one “workday” for general outdoor cleanup and hanging of the Christmas lights, and the Youth Group along with several other members of our Parish Family came out and did a marvelous job.

As always, I look forward to working side by side with all of you over the next several years, either as the Property Warden or just as a member of this wonderful Parish, to help keep Good Shepherd a beautiful and inviting Church.

Remember, as with anything else, it takes all of us to make this happen. If you see something, say something. I am always available via email, text or telephone.

Thank You for your continued support and may God bless us all.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Vesperman
Property Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

2015 Financial Results and 2016 Proposed Budget

From a financial perspective 2015 was a year in flux. We were faced with a deficit of \$11,120 to overcome if we were to break even for the year. At the end of May Father Mead left us to serve as the next Rector of Christ the Redeemer in Pelham Manor. We were then without a full time priest until mid October when Reverend Murphy joined Good Shepherd as interim pastor.

All of this flux resulted in producing General Operating Income of \$194,548 and Operating Expense of \$178,035. This produced Net Operating Income of \$16,513 instead of a deficit of \$11,120.

When compared to our budget our Operating Income was under budget by \$13,660 while our Operating Expense was better than budget by \$41,293. This resulted in our Net Operating Income being better than budget by \$27,633.

Our Operating Income was under budget as a result of lower congregational donations than planned. Our Congregation Donations were under budget by \$19,067. This happened as a result of families moving and envelope giving being lower than expected. This was partially offset by our Rental Donations, Fund Raisers and Miscellaneous Income being better than budget by \$2,671.

Our Operating Expense being better than budget was a result of Father Mead leaving in May resulting in Compensation and Benefits being \$50,014 lower than budget. This was slightly offset by an increase in Worship expense of \$6,105 for supply priests until our interim pastor joined us in October. The other expense area that was over budget was Maintenance by \$3,102 due to snow removal, rectory repairs and well and water line maintenance.

As you can see 2015 was both an Income and Expense story as we are transitioning and searching for a new rector in 2016.

Before we look at the 2016 Stewardship Campaign, let us look at the Balance Sheet chart which shows our Current Assets, Liabilities and Total Restricted Accounts. The next chart shows by account name what makes up our Total Church Restricted Accounts of \$1,578,217. Excluding the Yandersitz Fund Investment Account of \$206,654 and the value of our Land, Building & Equipment Account of \$1,290,560 this leaves us with \$81,003 in Church Restricted Funds. Included

in the \$81,003 is our General Operating Fund with the \$16,513 of Net Operating Income we generated in 2015. The remaining balance of \$64,490 is available for our use in 2016.

Now turning to the results of our 2016 Stewardship Campaign, as of this report, it is expected we will have 62 families giving \$155,244. Additionally, there are 18 families who have provided sporadically in the past.

Now let's look at the proposed 2016 budget that the Vestry has approved. The 2016 budget is based on this transitioning and our response to the 2016 Stewardship Campaign. The primary assumption as in 2015 is that we will be faithful givers at 100% of our regular envelope giving of \$155,244. All of the other assumptions for both Income and Expense are based on history and last year's actuals.

As you can see, it takes \$211,452 just to operate the church and our Income at this time is projected to be \$178,252 leaving us with a \$33,200 deficit to overcome in 2016. Our Operating Expenses are primarily all fixed expenses, meaning we are unable to cut costs. This is a bare bones budget. As such, it allows us to keep our doors open. However, we are unable to expand our Outreach and Current Church Programming for our youth, Sunday School and adult education just to name a few.

All of this results in us needing to raise additional Operating Income as opposed to reducing expense. There are different ways this can be accomplished but it requires everyone to be involved as they can. One way is to continue using fund raisers. Other ways include special congregational appeals, new rental income sources and / or pledging growth either through new families or currently within Good Shepherd.

I am sure with God's guiding force we will successfully overcome this deficit in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul H. Miller
Treasurer

Church of the Good Shepherd Annual Meeting January 24,2016

2015 Financial Results & 2016 Proposed Budget

2015 Net Income Summary Chart

2015 Income Key Individual Line Chart

2015 Expense Key Individual Line Chart

2015 Balance Sheet Chart

2015 Restricted Funds Chart

2016 Stewardship Summary Chart

2016 Proposed Budget Net Income Summary Chart

2016 Income Key Individual Line Chart

2016 Expense Key Individual Line Chart

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2015 Financial Results of the General Operating Fund Net Income

<u>Account Name</u>	Year To Date December Income & Expense Actual & Budget			YTD 2015 Actual Better / (Worse)	
	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual
<u>Income - General Operating Fund</u>					
<u>Total Income General Operating Fund</u>	\$ 194,548	\$ 208,208	\$ 224,357	\$ (13,660)	\$ (29,808)
<u>Expense - General Operating Fund</u>					
<u>Total General Operating Expense</u>	\$ 178,035	\$ 219,328	\$ 223,607	\$ 41,293	\$ 45,572
<u>Total Net Operating Income</u>	\$ 16,513	\$ (11,120)	\$ 750	\$ 27,633	\$ 15,764

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2015 Financial Results of the General Operating Fund Income

Income Year To Date December Actual & Budget					
<u>Account Name</u>				<i>YTD 2015 Actual Better / (Worse)</i>	
	<i>2015 Actual</i>	<i>2015 Budget</i>	<i>2014 Actual</i>	<i>2015 Budget</i>	<i>2014 Actual</i>
<u>Income - General Operating Fund</u>					
<u>Endowment Gifts</u>	6,600	6,600	9,600	0	(3,000)
<u>Congregation Donations</u>	169,100	188,167	176,108	(19,067)	(7,007)
<u>Regular Envelope Giving</u>	159,297	177,542	151,460	(18,245)	7,837
<i>Pledged Giving</i>	150,062	156,482	137,120	(6,420)	12,942
<i>Non Pledged Giving</i>	9,235	21,060	14,340	(11,825)	(5,105)
<u>Special Envelope Giving</u>	9,803	10,625	11,247	(822)	(1,444)
<i>Easter Giving</i>	1,931	1,900	1,900	31	31
<i>Christmas Giving</i>	3,317	2,400	2,415	917	902
<i>Other Special Giving</i>	4,555	6,325	6,932	(1,770)	(2,377)
<u>Congregational Appeal</u>	0	0	13,400	0	(13,400)
<u>Rental Donations</u>	5,840	4,650	13,640	1,190	(7,800)
<u>Fund Raisers</u>	7,085	6,500	12,929	585	(5,844)
<u>Other Income</u>	5,923	2,291	12,080	3,632	(6,157)
<i>Koegel Fund Income</i>	0	1,900	2,811	(1,900)	(2,811)
<i>Capital Improvement Fund (Katz)</i>	0	0	8,362	0	(8,362)
<i>Income Miscellaneous</i>	1,257	361	312	896	945
<i>Income Other (Includes Pass Thru)</i>	4,666	30	594	4,636	4,072
<u>Total Income General Operating Fund</u>	\$ 194,548	\$ 208,208	\$ 224,357	\$ (13,660)	\$ (29,808)

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2015 Financial Results of the General Operating Fund Expense

	Expense Year To Date December Actual & Budget				
<u>Account Name</u>				<i>YTD 2015 Actual Better / (Worse)</i>	
	<i>2015 Actual</i>	<i>2015 Budget</i>	<i>2014 Actual</i>	<i>2015 Budget</i>	<i>2014 Actual</i>
<u>Expense - General Operating Fund</u>					
<i>Rector's Compensation</i>	41,369	66,009	62,426	24,640	21,057
<i>Rector's Stipend</i>	37,254	59,410	54,068	22,156	16,813
<i>SECA (FICA) Allowance</i>	3,906	6,099	5,598	2,193	1,692
<i>Non-Accountable Allowances</i>	208	500	2,760	292	2,552
<i>Rector's Benefits</i>	33,627	59,001	59,353	25,374	25,727
<i>Medical / Dental Insurance</i>	16,902	33,588	30,864	16,686	13,962
<i>Rector's Pension</i>	7,065	16,121	15,336	9,056	8,272
<i>Rector's Travel Allowance</i>	2,031	2,260	2,374	229	343
<i>Child Care, Health Club, Cell Phone</i>	2,111	4,536	8,196	2,425	6,084
<i>Rector's 403b Church Contribution</i>	94	0	0	(94)	(94)
<i>Rector's Discretionary</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Other Benefits</i>	5,424	2,496	2,583	(2,928)	(2,841)
<i>Staff Salaries & Expense</i>	18,711	18,036	18,385	(675)	(327)
<i>Utilities</i>	14,170	20,334	22,776	6,164	8,607
<i>Maintenance</i>	18,186	15,084	17,565	(3,102)	(621)
<i>Office Expense</i>	9,868	9,420	8,837	(448)	(1,032)
<i>Diocesan Assessment</i>	12,219	12,219	10,861	(0)	(1,358)
<i>Church Insurance</i>	7,180	6,321	5,902	(859)	(1,278)
<i>Church Programs</i>	3,740	4,625	3,783	885	43
<i>Worship Expense</i>	8,855	2,750	2,562	(6,105)	(6,293)
<i>Church Roof Loan Expense</i>	4,063	4,063	8,666	(0)	4,602
<i>Auditor Fee</i>	700	500	600	(200)	(100)
<i>Other Expense</i>	5,348	966	1,891	(4,382)	(3,457)
<u>Total General Operating Expense</u>	\$ 178,035	\$ 219,328	\$ 223,607	\$ 41,293	\$ 45,572

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2015 Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2015
Assets, Liabilities & Restricted Accounts

Account Name	Current Year to Date Change to Prior Year		
	December 31, 2014 Actual Balance	December 31, 2015 Actual Balance	December 2015 2015 Change to December 2014
<u>Church Asset Accounts</u>			
Checking Account	44,962	73,874	28,912
Organ Fund CD	7,030	7,128	98
Investments - Yandersitz Fund	215,456	206,654	(8,801)
Land, Building, Equipment Valuation	1,290,560	1,290,560	0
Capital Improvements			
Church Roof	22,054	19,238	(2,817)
<u>Total Church Assets</u>	\$ 1,580,061	\$ 1,597,454	\$ 17,393
<u>Church Liability Accounts</u>			
Loans Payable			
Church Roof	22,054	19,238	(2,817)
Accounts Payable	0	0	0
<u>Total Church Liabilities</u>	\$ 22,054	\$ 19,238	\$ (2,817)
<u>Total Church Restricted Accounts</u>	\$ 1,558,007	\$ 1,578,217	\$ 20,210
<u>Summary of Church Balance Sheet Accounts</u>			
Total Church Assets	\$ 1,580,061	\$ 1,597,454	\$ 17,393
<u>Total Church Liabilities & Restricted Fund Accounts</u>	\$ 1,580,061	\$ 1,597,454	\$ 17,393

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2015 Year To Date December Restricted Funds Activity

<i>Account Name</i>	<i>Current Year to Date Change to Prior Year December Fund Balance</i>				
	<i>December 31, 2014 Fund Balance</i>	<i>2015 Fund Income</i>	<i>2015 Fund Expenditures</i>	<i>2015 Fund Change From December 31, 2014</i>	<i>December 31, 2015 Fund Balance</i>
<i>Church Restricted Funds</i>					
<i>General Operating Fund Balance</i>	(0)	194,548	178,035	16,513	16,513
<i>Capital Improvement Fund Balance</i>	31,241	0	0	0	31,241
<i>Capital Improvement - Carpeting Fund Balance</i>	0	2,120	2,120	0	0
<i>Capital Improvement - Generator Fund Balance</i>	795	175	0	175	970
<i>Capital Improvement - EDNY Mission Grant Fund</i>	2,652	500	1,338	(838)	1,814
<i>Rectory Improvement Fund Balance</i>	0	950	0	950	950
<i>Rector's Discretionary Fund Balance</i>	(130)	678	548	130	0
<i>Outreach Fund Balance</i>	502	1,915	665	1,250	1,752
<i>Outreach - Carpenter's Kids Balance</i>	1,954	0	1,954	(1,954)	0
<i>Outreach - Bishop's Fund Balance</i>	30	0	0	0	30
<i>Outreach - Episcopal Charities Grant for CCNW</i>	0	5,100	5,100	0	0
<i>Adult Education Fund Balance</i>	73	0	0	0	73
<i>Fulton Children's Education Fund Balance</i>	1,730	806	1,209	(403)	1,327
<i>Vacation Bible School Fund Balance</i>	0	130	0	130	130
<i>Altar Guild Flower Fund Balance</i>	1,097	1,184	1,453	(269)	827
<i>Parish Support Fund Balance</i>	1,045	0	300	(300)	745
<i>Senior Group Activity Fund Balance</i>	50	113	0	113	163
<i>Fellowship Fund Balance</i>	88	1,205	844	361	449
<i>Flagpole Fund Balance</i>	320	0	60	(60)	260
<i>Sustainability Fund Balance</i>	0	12,679	0	12,679	12,679
<i>Fund Raiser's Current Year Fund Balance</i>	0	5,276	5,276	0	0
<i>Memorial Garden Fund Balance</i>	2,402	200	0	200	2,602
<i>Organ Fund Balance</i>	7,030	98	0	98	7,128
<i>Investment Fund Balance</i>	215,456	(2,051)	6,750	(8,801)	206,654
<i>Land, Building, Equipment Valuation</i>	1,290,560	0	0	0	1,290,560
<i>Memorial Fund Balance</i>	1,113	235	0	235	1,348
<i>Helen Moore Fund Balance</i>	0	300	300	0	0
<i>Total Restricted Funds Activity During 2015</i>	\$ 1,558,007	\$ 226,162	\$ 205,952	\$ 20,210	\$ 1,578,217

Church of the Good Shepherd
2016 Stewardship Campaign Status As of January 3, 2016

	2015 Budget Base		2015 Families Departed		2015 Base For 2016	
	Number Families	Budget Amount	Number Families	Budget Amount	Number Families	Budget Amount
Pledge						
E Pledge	19	\$ 60,740	1	\$ 6,500	18	\$ 54,240
Envelope Pledge	42	\$ 95,742	3	\$ 5,720	39	\$ 90,022
Total Pledge	61	\$ 156,482	4	\$ 12,220	57	\$ 144,262
Non Pledge						
Used for Budget	9	\$ 21,060	0	\$ -	9	\$ 21,060
Not Used For Budget	23	\$ -	4	\$ -	19	\$ -
Total Non Pledge	32	\$ 21,060	4	\$ -	28	\$ 21,060
Total Envelopes	93	\$ 177,542	8	\$ 12,220	85	\$ 165,322
	2016 Pledge Year To Date		Families To Hear From		2016 Pledge Projection	
	Number Families	2016 Budget Amount	Number Families	2015 Budget Amount	Number Families	2016 Budget Amount
Pledge						
E Pledge	19	\$ 61,400			19	\$ 61,400
Envelope Pledge	32	\$ 74,444			32	\$ 74,444
New Pledges (8 Non & 1 New)	9	\$ 17,060			9	\$ 17,060
Total Pledge	60	\$ 152,904	0	\$ -	60	\$ 152,904
Non Pledge						
2015 Pledges Used for Budget	0	\$ -	2	\$ 2,340	2	\$ 2,340
2015 Pledges & Non Pledge Not Used for Budget	0	\$ -	24	\$ 2,714	24	\$ -
Total Non Pledge	0	\$ -	26	\$ 5,054	26	\$ 2,340
Total Envelopes	60	\$ 152,904	26	\$ 5,054	86	\$ 155,244

Notes:

Pledge & Non Pledge Analysis of Families left to hear from is based on their donations through 12/31/2015.
Of the 26 Families to be heard from it is extremely doubtful if we hear from 6 of them as they did not give in 2015.
Of the remaining 20 Families to be heard from two are pledging Families from 2015 and we expect them to do the same in 2016.
Of the remaining 18 Families to be heard from they only gave occasionally in 2015 and we expect them to do the same in 2016.
Our real potential pledging base is somewhere between 80 and 62 Families if you consider only those who gave something in 2015.

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2016 Proposed Budget For General Operating Fund Net Income
With Financial Results For Comparison of the Previous Year Of The General Operating Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	2016 Proposed Budget			2016 Budget Better / (Worse)	
		2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget
<u>Income - General Operating Fund</u>					
<u>Total Income General Operating Fund</u>	\$ 178,252	\$ 194,548	\$ 208,208	\$ (16,296)	\$ (29,956)
<u>Expense - General Operating Fund</u>					
<u>Total General Operating Expense</u>	\$ 211,452	\$ 178,035	\$ 219,328	\$ (33,417)	\$ 7,876
<u>Total Net Operating Income</u>					
	\$ (33,200)	\$ 16,513	\$ (11,120)	\$ (49,713)	\$ (22,080)

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2016 Proposed Budget For General Operating Fund Income
With Financial Results For Comparison of the Previous Year Of The General Operating Fund Income

<u>Account Name</u>	2016 Proposed Budget	2016 Proposed Budget Assumptions	2015		2016 Budget Better / (Worse)	
			Actual	Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget
<u>Income - General Operating Fund</u>						
<i>Endowment Gifts</i>	6,600	\$550 Monthly Endowment Check	6,600	6,600	0	0
<i>Congregation Donations</i>	164,504	Assumptions Below + Other	169,100	188,167	(4,596)	(23,663)
<i>Regular Envelope Giving</i>	155,244	2016 Stewardship Campaign	159,297	177,542	(4,053)	(22,298)
<i>Pledged Giving</i>	152,904	Pledge Status As of 1/3/16	150,062	156,482	2,842	(3,578)
<i>Non Pledged Giving</i>	2,340	Pledge Status As of 1/3/16	9,235	21,060	(6,895)	(18,720)
<i>Special Envelope Giving</i>	9,260	Sum of All Special Giving	9,803	10,625	(543)	(1,365)
<i>Easter Giving</i>	1,925	Pledge Status As of 1/3/16	1,931	1,900	(6)	25
<i>Christmas Giving</i>	3,300	Pledge Status As of 1/3/16	3,317	2,400	(17)	900
<i>Other Special Giving</i>	4,035	Pledge Status As of 1/3/16	4,555	6,325	(520)	(2,290)
<i>Congregational Appeal</i>	0	No Assumption	0	0	0	0
<i>Rental Donations</i>	4,650	AA & Polling Donations	5,840	4,650	(1,190)	0
<i>Fund Raisers</i>	0	No Assumption	7,085	6,500	(7,085)	(6,500)
<i>Special One Time Gifts</i>	0	No Assumption	0	0	0	0
<i>Other Income</i>	2,498	Assumptions Below + Other	5,923	2,291	(3,425)	207
<i>Coegel Fund Income</i>	1,900	Assumed Annual Draw EDNY	0	1,900	1,900	0
<i>Capital Improvement Fund (Katz)</i>	0	No Assumption	0	0	0	0
<i>Income Miscellaneous</i>	550	Based on 2015 Actual	1,257	361	(707)	189
<i>Income Other (Includes Pass Thru)</i>	48	2015 Actual Excluding Pass Thru	4,666	30	(4,618)	18
<u>Total Income General Operating Fund</u>	\$ 178,252	See Individual Income Assumptions	\$ 194,548	\$ 208,208	\$ (16,296)	\$ (29,956)

The Church of the Good Shepherd
2016 Proposed Budget For General Operating Fund Expense
With Financial Results For Comparison of the Previous Year Of The General Operating Fund Expense

<u>Account Name</u>	2016 Proposed Budget	2016 Proposed Budget Assumptions			2016 Budget Better / (Worse)	
			2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget
<u>Expense - General Operating Fund</u>						
Rector's Compensation	66,552	Assumptions Below	41,369	66,009	(25,183)	(543)
Rector's Stipend	60,000	Based on Agreement	37,254	59,410	(22,746)	(590)
SECA (FICA) Allowance	6,552	Based on Agreement	3,906	6,099	(2,646)	(453)
Non-Accountable Allowances	0	No Assumption	208	500	208	500
Rector's Benefits	38,234	Assumptions Below	33,627	59,001	(4,607)	20,768
Medical / Dental Insurance	10,659	Based on Agreement	16,902	33,588	6,243	22,929
Rector's Pension	21,485	Based on Agreement + 4Q 2015	7,065	16,121	(14,420)	(5,364)
Rector's Travel Allowance	2,300	Based on Agreement	2,031	2,260	(269)	(40)
Child Care, Health Club, Cell Phone	1,320	Based on Agreement (Cell Only)	2,111	4,536	791	3,216
Rector's 403b Church Contribution	450	Based on Agreement	94	0	(356)	(450)
Rector's Discretionary	500	Based on Agreement	0	0	(500)	(500)
Other Benefits	1,520	Agreement (Cable & Cont Ed)	5,424	2,496	3,904	976
Staff Salaries & Expense	18,770	Based on 2015 Actual	18,711	18,036	(59)	(734)
Utilities Rectory & Church	17,185	2015 Actual + Additional Oil Delivery	14,170	20,334	(3,015)	3,149
Maintenance Rectory & Church	18,959	2015 Actual & Budget for Shrubs	18,186	15,084	(773)	(3,875)
Office Expense	2,300	Based on 2015 Actual	2,282	2,000	(18)	(300)
Copier Expense	7,600	Based on 2015 Actual	7,586	7,420	(14)	(180)
Diocesan Assessment	13,747	Based on 2016 Assessment	12,219	12,219	(1,527)	(1,528)
Church Insurance	7,454	Based on 2015 Actual	7,180	6,321	(274)	(1,133)
Church Programs	5,900	Programs on 2015 Actual & Budget	3,740	4,625	(2,160)	(1,275)
Worship Expense	4,460	Actual Excluding 2015 Supply Priests	8,855	2,750	4,395	(1,710)
Church Roof Loan Expense	4,063	Based on 2015 Actual	4,063	4,063	0	0
Auditor Fee	700	Based on 2015 Actual	700	500	0	(200)
Other Expense (Includes Pass Thru)	5,529	Includes Search Expense \$5,000 Excludes 2015 Pass Thru Expense	5,348	966	(181)	(4,563)
<u>Total General Operating Expense</u>	\$ 211,452	See Individual Expense Assumptions	\$ 178,035	\$ 219,328	\$ (33,417)	\$ 7,876

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Search Committee was commissioned in September by Rev. Deborah Tammerau and began its work to call a new Rector for COGS. Led by the Holy Spirit, the Committee has met at least weekly to develop a parish survey (for adults and youth), met in person with every ministry group of the parish and to make themselves available for feedback, suggestions and ideas from the parish. We have presented the overview of the search process and the results of the parish survey to the parish family in meetings after the 10am service and during breakfast with the 8 o'clock service attendees. The parish profile was completed and approved by the vestry on January 10, 2016 and the Rector position was posted on January 15, 2016. We pray for God's continued guidance of the process for we who search and for those who choose to apply.

Respectfully submitted,
Fay Wright

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Our pledge income from 2014 to 2015 increased by 10% as can be seen in the Treasurer's report. This increase was to a large degree due to the adoption of an external Stewardship program. This program dictated a very rigid process that borrowed very heavily from basic principles of marketing. When I agreed to lead the Stewardship program I wanted to pick elements of that approach that worked and disregard the rest. My goal was to clearly communicate the challenge that our parish faces and what our role as stewards is and not to engage in a marketing campaign. The first Stewardship Letter was sent to the parishioners on September 27th with an invitation to consider our role as stewards:

"Stewardship is in its essence a relationship building with God. It is not about pleasing God by doing the "right" things. It is about having the courage to listen to find out what God has intended for you."

The second letter followed on October 26th and on November 15th we came together to celebrate our commitment to The Church of the Good Shepherd at the Stewardship Luncheon. I am not sure what the measure of a successful Stewardship Campaign is. However, if I reflect on the result of the incoming pledges, I have to say that we as a community of Christ did very well. We did not reach an increase of 10% compared to last year's pledges. With \$153k we fell 2% short of last year's results at 60 pledges compared with 61 pledges the year before; however, this is just part of the story. Five families that pledged in 2015 moved away, and we added four new pledges for 2016. This is remarkable and attests for the health of the parish. The last year was hard and brought a lot of changes and the community of Good Shepherd stepped up to the plate and for that I full heartedly thank my church family. I also would like to thank Eric Parsons who was my co-chair and helped me to focus on the essence of this campaign. Chris Palmer deserves special thanks to tally the pledges and follow-up with the last stragglers. In particular, however, I like to give a shout-out for the youth group which had the courage to tell us why Good Shepherd is important for them. After all, to large extent Stewardship also means to provide for those who come after us!

Respectfully submitted,
Wilfried Haensch

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

This past year the music ministry in our parish life looked like this:

- Our choir of 8-10 members led our services in song, presented stirring anthems, and brought us into the Christmas season with a 1/2 hr intimate musical offering with instrumental trio accompaniment.
- Our Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas Eve services highlighted our young singers and instrumentalists, eleven in total.
- The Arts Jam brought together the musical talents of Good Shepherd members of all ages.
- The Sunday School presented both a program of musical and literary selections, and gave us a new rendition of the pageant.
- Jack McKeown, bringing his talents to the keyboard, has begun to assist me, from time to time, at the organ. Thanks, Jack!

Expenses: The budget of \$300 was used toward new music, study CDs for Sunday School, incidental expenses and payment for musicians. Balance of payment for musicians was supplied by donations to the Helen Moore Fund.

Historical choir notes: Marshall and Mary Lou Kidder, and Nancy Anderson, members of the choir for decades, relocated to New Jersey and Virginia. Their joy of singing and music, input, humor, and fellowship is missed.

I embrace the subtle changes in music for the service that have been suggested and implemented by our Rev G. As we look to try some fresh ideas, I encourage you to participate with an open heart. Be assured that the musical traditions of the hymns we know and love will still remain a cornerstone in the Good Shepherd music ministry.

Thanks to every member of the choir who inspire me with their words, thoughts, humor, spirit and energy each Sunday. Thanks to Rev G for being a flexible, caring and supportive leader.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia Sparacio

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The Altar Guild at Good Shepherd is a group of dedicated people who are responsible for preparing the altar for the worship service and assisting the clergy before and after the services each week. Throughout the year we are responsible for the care of the altar linens, priest's vestments, brass, silver, candles and flowers.

We prepare the altar for regular Sunday worship services and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We also prepare the church for all special services such as Lent, Easter, Harvest Festival, Christmas, Baptisms, weddings and funerals. It is our privilege to help to make worship as meaningful as possible for our congregation and visitors to Good Shepherd.

Altar flowers are donated by parishioners during the year in recognition of special events in their lives, in memory of loved ones, or in thanksgiving for special blessings. A sign-up sheet is posted in the hallway to request a specific Sunday for dedications. The requested donation for the flowers is \$35.00. Please contact Arleen Flury with any questions.

Currently there are three full-time members. We are looking to welcome more people to join us in this ministry, including teens. There is not a huge time commitment or training involved. I would be happy to talk with you and answer any questions. We would love to have you join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Arleen Flury

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Good Shepherd's outreach directs time, talent and treasure to local, national and international causes. We are encouraged by the following quote from Andrew McGowan, President of the Berkeley Divinity School on January 15, 2016: "We should redouble our efforts to have strong relationships with other national Churches and their members, and be thankful for the opportunities we have to engage with Anglicans of other cultures and traditions."

In 2015 our members supported the following activities:

Relay for Life: On Friday, May 29th the Youth Group, led by Fay Wright, participated in the Somers event. About 25 people from Good Shepherd participated and raised about \$400.

Support Connection: On Sunday, October 4th, The Good Shepherd Sheep team, led by Diane Buschel, participated in the 5K Support a Walk. To date the team has raised \$1000.

CCNW: Our thanks go to Nancy Haensch who, after initiating and now several years of leading our outreach to the Community Center of Northern Westchester, has stepped down and handed the role over to Cathy Trinidad. Cathy would like a volunteer to assist in leading a dedicated team of volunteers who collect groceries donated weekly by parishioners and deliver these monthly to CCNW. We collected school supplies, and participated in both the Holiday Food drive and the Share the Warmth drive. In 2015, we collected and delivered 1658.3 lbs. of food, 8.1 lbs. of clothing, and 45.8 lbs. of school supplies. The CCNW mistakenly had two accounts for Good Shepherd last year. When these were combined it was discovered that contributions for 2014 were nearly 2,500 lbs. Good Shepherd negotiated a grant from Episcopal Charities of \$5,500 for the Community Center of Northern Westchester and has provided support for the renewal of this grant.

Friends of Karen: Lorne Robbins and Jan Corning participated in the 150 mile bike ride in September.

AFEDJ: We have tried to increase our international outreach by introducing a Giving Tree during Advent covered with gift tags requesting donations to support children in the schools run by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. AFEDJ received 11 gifts totaling \$475. Thank you to all who participated.

In 2015 we made the following distributions:

- Mite box collection from Christmas 2014: \$250 donated to AFEDJ. The actual collection from the mite boxes was lower than in previous years, but the committee decided to apportion some of the general Outreach Fund in order to make a more significant donation.
- Episcopal Charities: Maundy Thursday collection of \$232 and Episcopal Charities Sunday collection of \$118 were sent to Episcopal Charities.
- Boy Scouts: \$25 (1 Eagle Scout)
- CCNW: \$500 line item in church budget

Future Plans

A battered women's shelter is being added to the local organizations supported by Good Shepherd. Parishioners were asked to bring baby supplies to the recent 12th Night Celebration.

A heartfelt thank you to all who contributed their time, talent and treasure to our outreach program this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Slattery
Outreach Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY REPORT

The Pastoral Care ministry was created in 2014 to help care for parishioners in need and to support and enhance the loving and compassionate community of Good Shepherd. In this transition year, our focus has been on prayer. The Prayer Group continues to pray for our parish family and everyone on the prayer list every single day of the week, and in 2015 we began meeting one evening a month for Evening Prayer, fellowship, and Compline. This is a wonderful time for us to connect and refresh. Our Prayer Group grew to 13 people in 2015, but sadly, we lost one of our most active members when our beloved Jackie Ringer passed away in November. We miss her every day.

We look forward to continuing to work with Rev. Gwyneth in 2016 to expand our understanding of prayer, the forms it may take, and to see where the Holy Spirit leads us. We would be delighted to welcome you into this ministry, and see Good Shepherd's prayer network continue to grow and flourish. If you are interested in learning more about the Pastoral Care Team, or if you'd like to join the Prayer Group, please contact Chris Palmer.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Palmer

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Sunday School program experienced currents of change along with the rest of the Church of the Good Shepherd in 2015. After 18 years Glenn Hintze stepped down as the chair of the Sunday School Committee. Megan Whalen assumed the role in June. The Committee also welcomed five new members. We said goodbye to two retirees and continue with the support of four veterans making us a team of ten.

The Sunday School was excited to welcome one new family in 2015. Four children "graduated" from 8th grade. We have 25-30 children attending Sunday School regularly, from pre-kindergarten through 8th grade. In September 2015, we began our third year of teaching three levels of classes---grades pre-K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. However, due to attendance, PreK-2 and 3-5 classes were combined occasionally.

The most recent example of the change in our Sunday School Program was a new format for the Christmas Pageant and 12th Night Celebration. For the first time in 7 years, the events were separated. First, the children performed a simple narrative of Jesus' birth on December 13th in lieu of the homily for the 10am service. The Twelfth Night celebration was held on January 9, 2016. This was our first 12th Night Prayer Service, Potluck Dinner and BINGO Night. The "Magi" brought gifts for the children, the adults brought charitable donations for the Women's Shelter and the children's Saint Nicholas Mite Boxes were collected.

Gwen Greene and Cecilia Sparacio again worked with the children to present the Spring 2015 Concert. This year the children sang in small age-based groups, rather than one large group. The concert also included pieces of spoken word integrated with the songs for the first time. Lastly, 2015 marked the first performance of the COGS children's orchestra. We made joyful noise to the Lord!

Sunday School is in its 10th year of a "lectionary-based" curriculum, which means the children are learning the same lessons (at their level) that the rest of us are learning in church. For the younger groups, each Sunday starts with a worship service, followed by a lesson, activity and craft. For the older children, the group reads from the bible together followed with a lively discussion. We had several "Family Sundays" where the children perform duties at the 10am service. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who taught Sunday School.

We were proud to hold the 2nd Annual Vacation Bible School, from August 24-26 2015. We increased our numbers from 10 children in 2014 to 17 children in 2015. We also added 5 teen counselors giving us a total of 22 participants. There were 4 teachers. For three hours each morning, the children enjoyed many activities. New this year was a visit from a music teacher and a trip to Hilltop Hanover Farm. A profit of \$130 was made which will be applied to camp costs in 2016. We hope to share our camp with Westchester Episcopal Churches in 2016.

One thing that has not changed in Sunday School is our need for volunteer teachers. In 2016 we especially need teachers for Grades 6-8 from March-June. Please remember that you do not have to teach for an entire 6-week session. We will take any time you can offer. Wonderful lessons are provided by Living the Good News website and if you need help adapting them, the Sunday School Committee is always there for you. We also need folks to do crafts (or other activities) every Sunday during the summer. Please consider sharing your talents with the children.

Many thanks to all of you from the Sunday School Committee (which by the way welcomes new members anytime!)

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Whalen for: Glenn Hintze, Charlotte Jones, Kerry Irwin, Maritza Rosso, Cathy Trinidad, Reverend Gwyneth Murphy, Arleen Flury, Suzanne Bracken and Fran DiBernardo.

CONFIRMATION CLASS REPORT

We have six youth in grades 7-10 who are participating in confirmation class. The classes are led by Rev. Gwyneth with support from lay leaders of the parish. Classes take place on the last Saturday or Sunday of the month. Saturday classes include preparing dinner, worshipping together and discussion over the dinner we prepared. We have met 4 times this year, learning about our Baptismal Covenant, How to practice outreach and live our faith. We look forward to our continued learning and confirmation in June 2016 with Bishop Shin at COGS.

Respectfully submitted,
Fay Wright

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

It's been another exciting year for the Youth Group!

We continue to meet after the 10am service to discuss our lives and our relationship with God. The youth who have been confirmed attend the 10 am service and share their thoughts on the readings and sermon with the group. We also do many fun activities, like going to the Community Center of Northern Westchester, having lunch together, and attending meetings outside of the parish. We attended a meeting sponsored by the Charles Breithwait Center about youth violence and working toward peace. We spoke at the 8am and 10am services about what the parish means to us to support the stewardship campaign. However, the highlight of the fall was attending the Diocesan Youth Leadership Training that was also attended by Suffragan Bishop Allen Shin. During the day, our youth leaders and the adult coordinators of the Youth Group learned about Diocesan events and how we can be more involved. At the end of the workshop and Eucharist, Bishop Shin commissioned all of us as Youth Ministers! As we continue on our journey of fun and faith, we invite all youth grades 7-12 to join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Fay Wright

SENIORS GROUP REPORT

The CGS senior group's mission is to develop and implement fellowship among seniors. There is no specific age requirement for the group, but generally we focus on individuals 65+. However, all are welcome but members must deal with issues pertinent to seniors and their special concerns.

We plan and attend activities and outings, such as trips to the Hudson River Museum, movies and luncheons, but we also are interested in more than simply entertainment and recreational activities. We invite speakers to educate us on a wide range of topics as well as medical and social welfare issues, such as Social Security, Medicare, Estate Planning, and what it feels like to be elderly in a society dominated by youth culture. Our members enjoy camaraderie and experiences through shared conversation.

The Senior Group meets at 11:30am on the first Sunday each month. We welcome new members. Please contact Bill or Gwendolyn Greene.

Respectfully submitted,
Gwendolyn and Bill Greene

AWARDS DINNER REPORT

December 4, 2015

RAFFLE SALES \$2,290

We exceeded last year's sales of \$1,830. Sales by the congregation were in line with last year with about 25% selling any tickets. Our major sales effort this year was at Somers Celebration Day where we sold \$800 at the event.

DONATIONS \$1,890

Well above last year's donations of \$765, donations from the congregation were \$795 (8 members) with \$1,095 from invited guests who could not attend but made a donation.

SILENT AUCTION \$2,370

We were slightly below last year's number of \$2,833 but this is a good number overall. Thanks to the members of the congregation, who requested and obtained solicitations from our communities of Somers, Yorktown and Mahopac.

DINNER \$2,556

Attendance was up by 38 from last year to 108 in attendance. Total revenue was \$7,200 less dinner cost of \$4,644 (our only expense) resulted in improved revenue from last year's number of \$1,618. The attendance this year consisted of 28 members of the congregation and 80 guests.

TOTAL INCOME \$9,106.

We wish to express our congratulations to our 2015 honorees and also a special thanks to all who have supported us in making the COGS dinner this year the most successful ever.

Respectively Submitted,
Lorne and Christine Robbins

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE REPORT

The Memorial Garden continues to be a valuable addition to Good Shepherd's grounds and ministry. We gather there for special celebrations such as Palm Sunday.

Presently there are two of us (Flo Barber and me) on the Memorial Garden committee. Our resolution for 2016 is to recruit some new helpers and get back to work! It would be wonderful to have a few more committee members and many more hands to tend the planting, watering and

weeding. If there are any among us who like dirt on our hands and the expectation of green growth to come...please consider joining us. We welcome new ideas for improving this lovely spot.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Fulton

COMMUNICATIONS, ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Communications, Advertising and Publicity Committee has the important responsibility of raising the visibility of the Church within the communities of Somers and Yorktown. It is charged with the following five major tasks:

1. Identify and implement ways of publicizing weekly services and ongoing church activities (e.g. CCNW).
2. Identify and implement ways of publicizing special church events (e.g. Wine tasting; Tag Sale; Blessing of the Animals; Christmas Bazaar).
3. Identify community activities in which the church can participate (e.g. Relay for Life Somers and Yorktown; Yorktown Grange Fair; Celebrate Somers; Support Connection FDR Park walk; Yorktown Street Fair).
4. Identify and implement ways of supporting the above – advertising, signs, banners, newspaper articles, online, church website.
5. Encourage church members to be identified by wearing and using church merchandise – sweatshirts, T-shirts, pens, beer mugs.

We successfully operated a booth for the Celebrate Somers event in October. Thanks are due to Rick Slattery, Dorothy Baeder and Christine Robbins for making this so successful.

Advertisements for the Tag Sale and Christmas Bazaar were placed in the Pennysaver. Twelve lawn signs were placed on the roads leading to the church advertising these events. Many thanks to the Cornings for doing this.

Currently this is a committee of one and help is needed to tackle all the tasks. If you would like to help please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Slattery

WRITERS' GROUP REPORT

Well, what another great year it has been for the Writers' Group! We have thoroughly enjoyed the participation of some new members, explored short stories and playwriting in addition to poetry, and who can forget the great experience of putting together the 2nd Annual COGS Arts Jam on September 20th, 2015 with increased participation from the whole congregation. Blessed with fantastic weather this year, we had a great day of sonic, visual and performance art with great assistance from Cecilia, Maria and many others. What a fun, collaborative experience! And what a talented group!

It should be abundantly clear from the Arts Jam that there is a wealth of talent in our church just waiting to be tapped and expressed. Our ministry in the Writers' Group is to help facilitate this growth and development. Creativity is a key component in personal, educational and spiritual growth – and we ALL possess the tools to shine in one area or another.

If you feel inclined to get involved in the Writers' Group or future Arts Jams, don't hesitate to contact Scott Jones or any other member of the Group. We meet generally on a monthly basis. You may write your own material, share your favorites – or both! We would love to have you join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Jones for the Writers' Group

EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Events Committee was formed at the Vestry Meeting in April 2015 after the news of Father Matt's departure. The mission of the Events Committee is to ensure that all of the wonderful events at COGS run smoothly in the absence of a rector. Eric Parsons and Megan Whalen chaired the Committee with the assistance of active members Chris Palmer, Diane Buschel and Arleen Flury. We also welcomed the addition of Cecilia Sparacio and Reverend Gwyneth Murphy later in the year.

First the Committee met with Father Matt to create a master list of events at COGS. Using this master list, the Committee met approximately every other month during the year. We assigned one Committee member to each event as a liaison between the organizer of the Event and the Committee. Responsibilities of the Events Committee include: advertising, procuring resources, purchasing supplies and generally supporting each event. The Committee also worked with the vestry to reschedule or rework certain events that were not a good fit for COGS this year.

The Committee is proud to report the following events, which were celebrated at COGS in 2015:

- Tag Sale
- Sunday School Graduation
- Father's Day BBQ
- Vacation Bible Camp
- Arts Jam
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Awards Dinner
- Holy Cross Day Chickenfest
- Oktoberfest
- Support Connection Walk
- Sunday School Halloween Party
- All Saints Day Slow Cook Luncheon
- Christmas Bazaar
- Christmas Pageant
- Twelfth Night Celebration, with Evening Prayer, Potluck dinner & Bingo
- Vestry Dinner

In addition to bigger events, the Committee also ensured that Holy Days and smaller prayer services were honored in a way that was aligned with traditions at COGS, such as the Thanksgiving Service and Christmas Services.

The Committee will continue to meet in 2016. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 31 after the 10am Service. New members are always welcome. When a new rector is commissioned, the Committee looks forward to familiarizing him/her with the events at COGS and transitioning the role back to the rector.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Whalen for: Eric Parsons, Diane Buschel, Chris Palmer, the Reverend Gwyneth Murphy, Cecilia Sparacio and Arleen Flury

WOMEN'S GROUP REPORT

WOCOCS, the Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd is primarily a fellowship group open to all women at Good Shepherd. We enjoy spending time together sharing our joys and lending support in the down times. We participate in many aspects of church life including a Book Club which meets the second Friday of the month at church. This past year we also ran the Tag Sale and Christmas Bazaar, which together raised over \$2,500 in additional funds for the church. If you have any questions regarding WOCOCS, I am happy to speak with you. Watch the Newsfeed for announcements of Book Club meetings and other upcoming events.

Join our email list at <http://groups.google.com/group/wocogs>

Respectfully submitted,
Arleen Flury

MEN'S GROUP REPORT

The Brotherhood (Men's Group) welcomes all men at Good Shepherd to participate. Our activities focus on buildings and grounds projects and making and eating food.

Join our email list at <http://groups.google.com/group/gs-brotherhood>

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Levy

GOOD SHEPHERD VEGETABLE GARDEN REPORT

Jane Rothchild planted tomatoes in the vegetable garden in the summer of 2015. The crop was harvested by the Sunday School children for the Oktoberfest dinner. The delicious tomatoes were enjoyed by all in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Whalen

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT 2015

The Newsletter Committee was formed at the Vestry Meeting in April 2015 after the news of Father Matt's departure. The mission of the Newsletter Committee is to ensure that a quarterly newsletter is published in the absence of a rector. The Newsletter will keep our parish family informed about the search process, events at COGS and other relevant information. Megan Whalen and Chris Palmer make up the Committee. We are proud to report that two newsletters were successfully published in 2015: September – Mid-November 2015 and Mid-November – February 2016. The Committee will continue to publish quarterly newsletters in 2016. When a new rector is commissioned, the Committee looks forward to familiarizing him/her with the process for creating the Newsletter at COGS and determining how it will be generated long-term.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Whalen and Chris Palmer