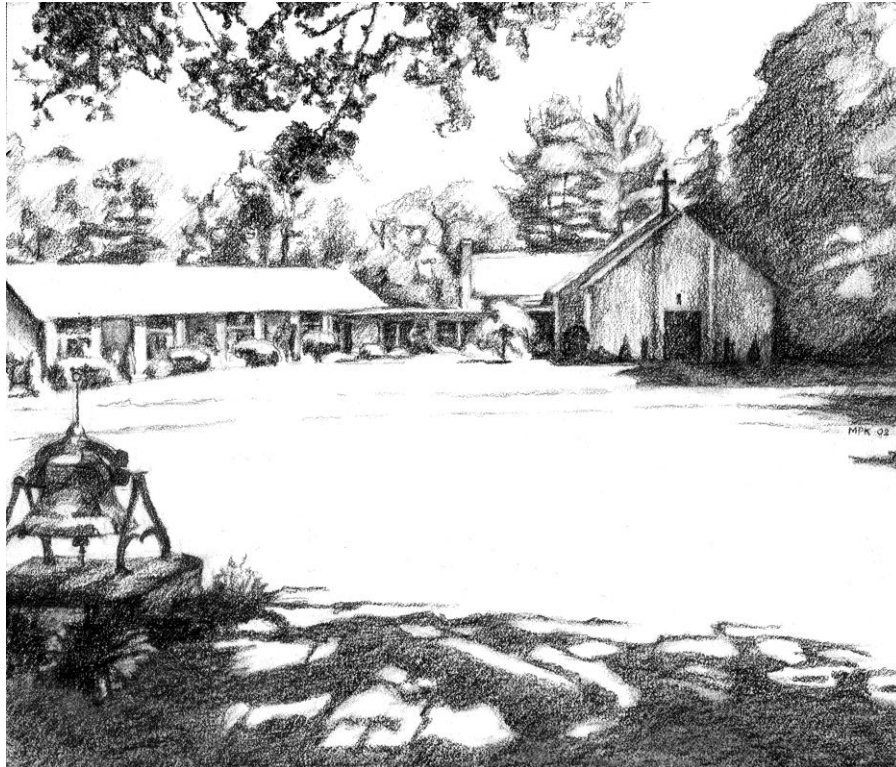


Church of the Good Shepherd
Granite Springs
Episcopal Diocese of New York



2017 Annual Report

Of the Church of the Good Shepherd
For year ending December 31, 2017

Annual Meeting: January 21, 2018

2017 CLERGY & STAFF

Rector: The Reverend Hal Roark III

Music Director: Cecilia Sparacio

Office Support: Chris Palmer

Bookkeeper: Megan Whalen (August 2017 – present)

Sextons: Phillip Pinkney, Phil Levy, Joyce Levy (January – June 2017),
Zachary Palmer (Summer 2017), Scott Brieant (September 2017 – present)

Child Care Provider: Sharen McKenna

2017 VESTRY

Rector:

The Reverend Hal Roark

Wardens:

Maria Kaprielian (2nd term ending in January
2018)

Rick Vesperman (2nd full-term ending in
January 2019)

Vestrymembers – term ending in 2017

Vernon Alexander

Phill Pinkney

Megan Whalen

Vestrymembers – term ending in 2018

Luis Delahoz

Vilma Mulholland

Vito Rizzi

Vestrymembers – term ending in 2019

Jim Corning

Donna Nygard

Courtney Velzy

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Clerk:

Vernon Alexander (January – August 2017)

Leuda Forrester (September 2017 – present)

Treasurer:

Paul Miller (January – August 2017)

Maria Kaprielian (September – October 2017)

Financial Secretary:

Chris Palmer

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

1. Invocation and Call to Order – The Rector
2. Review & Approval of the Minutes of the last year's Annual Meeting on January 22, 2017 for the year ending December 31, 2016.
3. Nominations
 - a. Nominations are open for 1 hour.
 - b. **Leuda Forrester** and **Kerry Irwin** have been nominated to serve on the Vestry for three-year terms. Additional nominations accepted from the floor.
 - c. **Leslie Fulton** has been nominated to serve as Warden for a first two-year term. Additional nominations accepted from the floor.
 - d. Nominations for Delegate and Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention.
4. Rector's Report
5. Wardens' Reports
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Reports of Organizations & Committees
8. Election
9. Congratulations to those who are newly elected!
10. Thanks to 2017 outgoing leaders
 - a. Maria Kaprielian for service as Warden
 - b. Paul Miller for service as Treasurer
 - c. Vernon Alexander for service as Clerk
 - d. Vernon Alexander, Phill Pinkney, and Megan Whalen for service on the Vestry
 - e. John Kaprielian for service as Stewardship Chair
 - f. John Kaprielian for service as Leader of the Writers Group
 - g. Phil & Joyce Levy for service as Sextons, and Zack Palmer as a summer sexton.
11. Appointments and new positions
 - a. **Glenn Hintze:** Treasurer (appointed by the Vestry for a first year – max of six consecutive years)
 - b. **Chris Palmer:** Financial Secretary (appointed by Vestry for a fourth year – max of six consecutive years)
 - c. **Leuda Forrester:** Clerk (appointed by the Rector for a first full year)
12. Old Business
13. New Business
14. Benediction and Adjournment – The Rector

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, GRANITE SPRINGS: JANUARY 22, 2017

1. Reverend Hal Roark offered an invocation. Maria Kaprielian, Senior Warden, called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.
2. The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting held on January 31, 2016 were reviewed. Upon a motion by Phil Levy, seconded by Thelma Barlow, the minutes were unanimously approved. Hal asked for nominations for attendees for the Diocesan Convention.
3. Maria Kaprielian presented the slate of nominees.
 - a. Courtney Velzy, Donna Nygard and Jim Corning to serve on the Vestry for three-year terms.
 - b. Rick Vesperman to serve as Warden for a second two-year term.
 - c. No additional nominations were made from the floor.
4. Reverend Roark presented the Rector's Report.
5.
 - a. Maria Kaprielian presented the Senior Warden's Report.
 - b. Rick Vesperman presented the Property Warden's Report.
6. Paul Miller presented the Treasurer's Report and Maria Kaprielian presented the 2017 Budget. Please see the 2016 Financial Results & 2017 Proposed Budget for details attached.
7. Committee reports were printed in the 2016 Annual Report for review.
 - a. John Kaprielian presented the Stewardship Committee Report.
 - b. Fay Wright presented the Search Committee Report.
 - c. Norm Fulton's report on the Fundraising Task Force is in the Annual Report.
 - d. Cecilia Sparacio presented the Music Ministry Report.
 - e. Arleen Flury's report on the Altar Guild Report is in the Annual Report.
 - f. Amanda Slattery presented the Outreach Committee Report.
 - g. Chris Palmer presented the Pastoral Care Ministry Report.
 - h. Megan Whalen presented the Sunday School Committee Report.
 - i. Fay Wright presented the Confirmation Class Report.
 - j. Brittany Alexander and Sindey Rosso presented the Youth Group Report
 - k. (Fay Wright's Youth Group Report is in the Annual Report).
 - l. Bill and Gwen Greene's report on the Seniors Group is in the Annual Report.
 - m. John Kaprielian presented the Writers' Group Report.
 - n. Arleen Flury's report on the Women's Group is in the Annual Report.
 - o. Chris Palmer presented the Newsletter Committee Report.
 - p. Leslie Fulton's report on the Memorial Garden Committee is in the Annual Report.
 - q. Phil Levy's report on the Men's Group Report is in the Annual Report.
 - r. Megan Whalen presented the Events Committee Report.
 - s. Amanda Slattery presented the Communications, Advertising and Publicity Committee Report.
8. There were no further nominations to the Vestry. As clerk of the Vestry, Diane Buschel cast a single vote for the proposed slate of nominations.
9. The parish offered their congratulations to the newly elected church leaders.
10. The parish thanked the outgoing 2016 leaders.
 - a. The Reverend Gwyneth MacKenzie Murphy for service as Interim Pastor.
 - b. Diane Buschel for service as Clerk of the Vestry.
 - c. Fay Wright, Diane Buschel and Jose Trinidad for service on the Vestry.
 - d. Fay Wright for service as Search Committee Chair.

- e. Scott Jones as head of Writers Group.
- f. Bill and Gwen Greene as heads of Seniors Group.
- 11. New appointments were announced.
 - a. Paul Miller is appointed by the Vestry as Treasurer/Bookkeeper for a fourth year. He may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
 - b. Chris Palmer is appointed by the Vestry as Financial Secretary for a second year. She may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
 - c. Vernon Alexander is appointed by the Senior Warden as Clerk of the Vestry for a first year. He may serve a maximum of six consecutive years.
- 12. There was no old business.
- 13. There was no new business.
- 14. Reverend Roark offered a benediction. Maria Kaprielian adjourned the meeting at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Buschel
Clerk of the Vestry

2017 PARISH REGISTER & ATTENDANCE

SERVICE NUMBERS & ATTENDANCE FOR 2017

Total Sunday Attendance: 4633
Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) for 2016: 86
Christmas & Easter for 2016: 400
Total Weekday Attendance: 1056
Total Sunday Holy Eucharist services: 103
Total Sunday Daily Office services: 3
Total Weekday Holy Eucharist services: 20
Total Weekday Daily Office services: 49
Total Private Communion/Reserved Sacrament: 81
Total Baptisms under age 16: 2
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: 5
Active Baptized Members (end of year 2017): 146
Communicants in good standing for 2017: 203
Communicants in good standing that pledged for 2018 but are not members: 33
Communicants under age 16 for 2017: 46
Sunday School registration for 2017: 24

RECTOR'S REPORT

A priest's activities are typically grouped around the core tasks of preaching (worship), teaching, and pastoral care. Rectors have the additional duty of administration. Thus, I shall organize my report and reflections as your rector around the four headings of administration, worship, teaching, and pastoral care. First, however, a few quick "thank you" acknowledgements are in order.

Thank you

Lori and I want to thank everyone for their warmth towards us and Lily, expressed in so many ways throughout the year -- emails, cards, notes, gifts, conversations, invitations, and more... thank you. We love being here and being a part of this community. Good Shepherd has become home for us, and your love is a big reason for that. Thank you! (And keep it comin'! ☺)

I want to thank you, the parishioners of Good Shepherd. I am deeply grateful to God for you, for many reasons. Your faithfulness, your maturity, and your engagement in worship and in dozens of programs and activities throughout the year make us the vibrant community that we are. Please be sure to note the Thank You section in our weekly Sunday service bulletin inserts to acknowledge the individual participants and ministry leaders who in beautiful and diverse ways live out Christ's call to be love in the parish and in the world. Thank you also for all the hard work and unseen tasks you do that may never get named or noticed, but that are instrumental to our life together. Thank you. You are a blessing.

I want to thank our three outgoing vestry members: Vernon Alexander, Phill Pinkney, and Megan Whalen. Thank you for three years of service. It's a big job, you did it well, and the parish owes you a debt of gratitude. Thank you! But – your job is not done. Your job now is to help the rest of the parish understand and appreciate the time, effort, and thoughtfulness required to make this community work so well. It's a big job and it's so much more work than what we do on Sunday mornings alone! Go forth now to spread the word... and to recruit folks to serve on the vestry in the future. ☺

Thank you, also, to the two new vestry members who shall be joining us for a three-year term: Dr. Leuda Forrester and Ms. Kerri Irwin. Both bring much interest and talent to the position as a newer and as a more established member of the parish, respectively. Thank you for discerning and answering the call; we are grateful to have you and look forward to your service on the vestry.

I want to thank Glenn Hintze and Leslie Fulton for heeding the call and responding to our need for a new Treasurer and new Financial Warden, respectively. Both bring wisdom, outstanding skills, a deep knowledge and commitment to our community and to Christ, and a desire to do their new jobs well. Excellent! I – along with the rest of our community – look forward to working with you both in your new roles. Thank you both!

I also want to thank Paul Miller who served as Treasurer at Good Shepherd for many years and who retired from the position in 2017. Paul left us on great footing with detailed and accurate records, a history of clean audits, and lots of wisdom in managing the finances of the parish. Paul was also invaluable in training Megan Whalen, our new Bookkeeper, so that our new system would be quickly stable and successful. On behalf of all of us: thank you, Paul. We owe you a huge debt of gratitude. Thank you! Additionally, Lorraine Miller, along with Paul, was instrumental in the creation of the

New Member Welcome Committee, which designed the process to welcome visitors to Good Shepherd. Lorraine and Paul also personally drove and dropped off our new welcome bags to all the visitors who requested more information about our community. I credit Lorraine and Paul significantly for the 17% increase in pledging units for 2018, as more of our visitors became members as a result of the total efforts of the New Member Welcome Committee. Thank you Paul and Lorraine! These are just two of the many ministries they were involved in at Good Shepherd. We miss them, we pray for them, we wish them well, and we hope to see them again some day in the future.

Thank you to The Reverend Deacon Norman Fulton. While Norm is retired as a deacon, once a deacon, always a deacon! Thanks be to God! Norm engages in weekly pastoral care with parishioners, assists me liturgically throughout the year, and is generous sharing his deep wisdom with me. Thank you, Norm. You are a blessing to me and the parish.

I would also like to thank our excellent paid staff, whose generosity of time and spirit allows us to perform in ways that constantly astonish me. We do more with less than any organization I've ever known. Phill Pinkney and Scott Briant clean the facility twice weekly on a part-time basis so it is ready for our Sunday services, our weekly committee meetings, three AA meetings weekly, regular Boy Scout meetings, and more. Chris Palmer is paid to produce our Sunday service leaflets but is here Tuesday through Friday mornings on a volunteer basis, helping me with many administrative tasks. Megan Whalen has jumped into the new, paid four-hour-a-week Bookkeeping role with enthusiasm, intensity, and an eye for detail and she is doing a great and accurate job. Cecilia Sparacio stays in close touch with me and the office weekly via email and phone calls and drives up early on Sundays from the Upper West Side of Manhattan to work with the choir and produce music for us. She and I are excited about exploring how music at Good Shepherd could be different under my rectorship, and I appreciate her enthusiasm, love of music, experience with our parish, care for others, and the genuine spirituality she brings to our music ministry. I'm excited to see where the Holy Spirit leads us in 2018. We simply could not function as well administratively without these parishioners who – yes, are paid small salaries– but who truthfully give so much more of themselves than they get paid for. They are a pleasure to work with, and I look forward to working with them in 2018. We all owe them all a huge debt of gratitude! Thank you!

I also want to thank Maria Kaprielian, our outgoing Financial Warden. Maria has served four years as Financial Warden, and during that time she not only had all the normal Financial Warden tasks and responsibilities, but she also had to oversee the hiring and support of an interim priest for a year, the search and hiring of a new rector, and the adjustment to a new management style of a new rector. She has carried a heavy load for a long time and she has done it well, out of love for our community and for God. I know that we all are extremely grateful to her for her tenure, commitment, quality service, and the outcomes of her leadership. Thank you, Maria! May you enjoy your new role as a regular parishioner with great joy!

Last but not least, I want to thank God for this call in my life. It is the fulfillment of a long and deep dream and there are so many moments throughout the day when I truly think to myself, "I'm the luckiest priest in Christendom." It's truly how I feel. Thank you, God, for bringing me to this fabulous parish and for the daily support you give me so I will grow ever more deeply into the loving person you created me to be. With all my heart and all my life, I thank you.

Administration

As of 2017, on Tuesday mornings at 9 am, Chris Palmer as Office Support and the Financial Secretary, Megan Whalen as the Bookkeeper and the Sunday School Coordinator, Cecilia Sparacio (via phone) as our Music Director, Maria Kaprielian as the Financial Warden, and I meet for our new weekly staff meeting. Each week, we review what is happening that week, during that month, and during that quarter in order to ensure that we are prepared. We contact relevant ministry heads who are involved in activities during those times to make sure they have the support they need and we begin to do the weekly work: getting ready for Sunday services, paying bills, attending committee meetings, answering phone calls, emails, diocesan requests, etc. We also seek to get ahead of longer-term projects: reworking the Parish Directory and producing it twice annually; preparing the monthly vestry binder; sending parishioner notices; creating marketing materials for the ministries; creating marketing materials for the Parish Hall bulletin boards and the church pews; redesigning the website; designing and implementing new Rite 3 worship services; getting prepared early for busy liturgical seasons like Advent and Lent; collaborating with local Episcopal and interfaith ministers; and more.

As mentioned, a new administrative development in 2017 was the hiring of Megan Whalen to work four hours a week as our Bookkeeper. Megan pays bills, enters all the data into our Church Windows software, files records, produces reports, works with Chris Palmer as the Financial Secretary to record the Sunday collections, and more. Hiring Megan ensures the Treasurer is not burdened with the double roles of Bookkeeping and Treasurer, which Paul Miller was willing to do, but which is not a viable expectation or solution for us long-term. Splitting the duties into the two roles of a paid part-time Bookkeeper and a volunteer Treasurer is standard within Episcopal churches and allows us to recruit Treasurers from the parish who can give a more normative 2-4 hours of volunteer work a month.

Megan is not the only new hire. When Phil and Joyce Levy moved to Massachusetts to live next to their daughter, a part-time sexton position became available. Scott Brieant was hired. Phill Pinkney continues to clean the facility early in the week and Scott comes on Saturday evenings, after any Saturday events, so the facility is clean and ready for our use on Sundays. Scott has also joined the parish and attends the 10 am service. Along with Phill, he is doing an excellent job.

I am very happy with the performance of the vestry. Because of the excellence of the ministry leaders, we feel no need to micromanage any of our programs. We don't sit around and discuss, for instance, how to fix this and so program; we trust the ministry leader of that program, along with her/his volunteers, to do that best. Instead, we focus on "getting into the balcony," getting a view from above, so we can get the big picture of how the parish is performing overall. To be on the vestry is to concern oneself with the church as a whole system and not with the individual ministries. The vestry is doing a very good job of this, and of encouraging a spirited diversity of opinions, and for this I am very grateful.

In 2017, we launched the "Join a Group" initiative, providing banners, flyers, and contact information so new and longer-term parishioners could easily join one of over 30 groups at Good Shepherd. This especially helped the new members become more involved in the parish. (For a full list of the Good Shepherd ministries, see the end of this Annual Report.) As always, consider joining (or starting!) a ministry yourself. It's never too late and you are always welcome.

In 2017, we also began to train parishioners in the required diocesan Safe Church abuse prevention program. We shall continue that push in February 2018 until all who need to be trained are trained.

So – what new administrative developments should we expect for 2018?

- We shall continue to assess our operations to discern how they can be more productive, responsive, and efficient and to make cost-effective, feasible improvements.
- We shall continue to certify, as per diocesan requirements, that all who need to attain Safe Church certification have done so.
- In the Spring of 2018, we shall implement the Constant Contact email and marketing system. Constant Contact allows us greater flexibility in using our email data to use social marketing more effectively and to grow our exposure, programs, and attendance. More on this soon.
- In 2018, we shall update the look and feel of our website, along with more current data about our community.

Worship

Our liturgical celebrations intentionally accommodate many tastes and needs.

Our Sunday services at 8 and 10 am offer traditional Rite 1 and Rite 2 services, respectively. Throughout the year, we celebrate a number of important Holy Days with fun social events afterwards – Candlemas (and Chilifest), Michaelmas (and Oktoberfest), the Ascension (and Steakfest), and more. (For a full listing, see our 2018 Calendar of Events in the back of this Annual Report). Also, we have added a number of “Rite 3” creative Eucharists permitted by the *Book of Common Prayer* (pages 400-405), including our Friday “Deepening Our Relationship with God in Advent” and “Deepening Our Relationship with God in Lent” series. We enjoyed an excellent Holy Week in 2017. We also repeated our “Quiet Advent” evening prayer service on Friday, December 8, 2017 for those persons going through loss during the Christmas season. Amanda Slattery, with Cecilia’s help, led us again this year in a beautiful Lessons & Carols service on December 31, 2017.

Indeed, we offer lots of spokes for folks to find Christ at the hub of our wheel. It’s up to us to invite friends and family to our various joyous, positive worship experiences (and coffee hour!) so they, too, can experience what we find valuable at worship at Good Shepherd.

In 2017, an interesting, unexpected development emerged at the 8 am Rite 1 worship service. Independent of one another, a number of parishioners asked me privately if we could wirelessly pipe in some instrumental music like Fr. Mead used to do for them. When I brought the idea to the 8 am attendees for discussion, it turns out that all of them welcomed an experiment with recorded music during different parts of the service. So, since November 2017, we have been experimenting weekly with recorded music of different styles, duration, and volume to determine what works best and what the community likes. We have also been experimenting with our speakers, amps, and tech options to make this possible. Two things clearly emerge from our ongoing experiments: 1) the community unanimously wants recorded music regularly at their worship service; it enhances the service beautifully; 2) we have some tech issues with old equipment that make this delivery challenging.

Cecilia Sparacio, our Music Director, and I have been talking about making some changes to the 10 am music. We welcome your input about what you like and what could be done to enhance your worship experience. We shall hand out an anonymous survey form at this annual meeting so we can collect your ideas. Thank you for any input you can provide to us.

I am inclined to create a Music Task Force to brainstorm the 8 am worship issues, especially the tech issues and how we can cost-effectively solve them. Depending on the feedback we receive for the 10 am survey, I may widen the scope of the task force to include music issues at the 10 am service as well. This Music Task Force shall convene from February till May 2018 and make recommendations to the rector and vestry in June so they can be decided on and implemented for the new program year in September 2018. More on this as it unfolds.

In 2017, Good Shepherd hosted the Yorktown Interfaith Council's annual Thanksgiving prayer service on Sunday, November 20, 2017. This was a new interfaith prayer service created over many months by a handful of people from Good Shepherd, Temple Beth Am, the Hudson Valley Islamic Community Center, and Yorktown's First Presbyterian Church. It was a great success and will serve as a potential model for future services. In addition to the wonderful fellowship and sharing that took place that evening, there was an unexpected event as well: a visitor from Temple Beth Am collapsed in cardiac arrest. Dr. Fay Wright and Bill Rothschild performed CPR for over 20 minutes, and he was kept alive until the ambulance arrived. He subsequently received a pacemaker and is now back to his regular life. He sent us a lovely Christmas card and donation, thanking us for the Interfaith service and for those who saved his life. Thank you to all who responded, especially Fay, Bill and Rick Vesperman.

So – what new worship developments should we expect for 2018?

- A Music Task Force to determine how to cost-effectively deliver recorded music during our Rite 1 and Rite 3 services.
- A retreat to Holy Cross Episcopal Monastery in West Park, NY to 1) introduce those unfamiliar with monastic spirituality to Holy Cross; 2) to determine the feasibility of an annual Good Shepherd retreat to Holy Cross; 3) to learn more about programming at Holy Cross and how it might benefit the parish.
- I shall be introducing a new Sunday Christian meditation evening prayer service for those interested in learning more about and developing contemplative prayer practices in their life. More on this as it develops.
- In 2018, I shall seek to become a diocesan-approved trainer for Lay Eucharistic Visitors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers so we can easily and cost-effectively train more of both for our parish.

Teaching

Sermons are important weekly teaching opportunities. So are the weekly Bible studies at Good Shepherd on Wednesdays from noon till 1:30 pm. At our Bible study, we bring our own lunches and discuss the upcoming Sunday Gospel reading. We intentionally read from different English translations with different study Bibles to get different interpretations. We seek to understand more clearly what the passage is trying to say and how it relates to our lives today. It's fun, relaxed, open,

and presumes no past experience. Come give it a try if you have the time. We meet in the Guild Room.

One of the new teaching mechanisms created during 2017 was the Community Forum series. The Community Forum is an education time on Sundays from 9 to 9:40 am and it can be led by anyone in the community. The purpose is to present a topic to the community and invite those with an interest in the topic to participate. The timing of the Forums makes it easy for people to participate immediately before or after their 8 or 10 am Sunday worship services. In 2017 we had a number of Community Forums that helped us to learn more about Support Connection Walk, to discern whether or not to change our Christmas Eve service times, and to discern changes we should (or should not) make to our Sunday School/Middle School Youth/High School Youth/Confirmation programs. Wilfried Haensch led a series of Community Forums during Lent on the Swiss play “The Physicists” by Friedrich Dürrenmatt and how it related to our modern lives. The Forums are off to a good start. If you are interested in providing a Community Forum for any topic, contact our office to make sure there is availability of time and space on the master calendar and we shall help you promote it to the parish. The more Community Forums we do, the better!

As mentioned elsewhere in this Annual Report, our conjoined curriculums of Sunday School (grades k-5), Middle School Youth (6-8), and High School Youth (9-12) programs, including our new confirmation program, were refocused in 2017. (See the Sunday School Committee report, The Middle School Group report, the High School Group report, and the Confirmation report in this Annual Report for more details). The bottom line is we seek to ensure in those curriculums that the children and youth are gaining more knowledge and learning skills as they progress through our Christian education programs. We also want the participants to enjoy the experience as much as possible. While we feel good about the programming for the Sunday School and High School, we shall need to continue to experiment with the Middle School and Confirmation curriculums until we find the right mix for our needs and kids.

So – what new teaching developments should we expect for 2018?

- Continued experimentation with the Middle School and Confirmation programs until all – parish, students, and parents – are deeply satisfied with the programming. We are well on our way but some modifications and experiments for improvements in 2018 should be expected.
- More parishioner-led Community Forums.
- A greater promotion of educational opportunities for parishioners on our bulletin boards and through our new Constant Contact email system.

Pastoral Care

I kindly refer you to the Pastoral Care section of this Annual Report, where I have given more detail about the emerging pastoral care ministry at Good Shepherd. Let me reaffirm, though, that providing high quality pastoral care is central to my role as your priest and rector. Along with administration, teaching, and leading Sunday worship, providing high quality pastoral care that is sensitive, responsive, and theologically grounded in the Anglican tradition is of prime importance to me. I am very grateful that we are making improvements to our pastoral care initiatives to directly include others who feel called to this work. In 2017, Bruce Barber, for instance, was trained and

licensed by the diocese to join Deacon Norm and me in providing pastoral care at Good Shepherd. Growing this ministry will allow us to respond to parishioners not only in times of crisis but on a preventive basis as well. I am very excited about these developments and look forward to collaborating in this growing ministry.

So – what new pastoral care developments should we expect for 2018?

- The continuation of our wonderful Prayer Group ministry, along with our terrific Ride Support and Food Support ministries.
- The recruitment, training, and utilization of lay parishioners who will serve as pastoral care responders along with Deacon Norm, Bruce, and myself. If this is something you are interested in, please contact me directly.

In Summary

A year and a half ago, in September of 2016, I arrived to this parish, which was already a highly functional, growing community. These qualities exist because of the psychospiritual maturity of our parishioners and the leadership of past clergy who served here. My focus my first year was to understand and deeply join this parish culture, to build relationships with all parishioners, to assess our administrative and programmatic operations, and to start building collaborative teams to address any areas of concern.

As we have all discovered, my management beliefs are apparently very different than some of the clergy who have served here in the past. That's natural, and that's news to you and me. There is absolutely no one, right management style for a rector – there are lots of legitimate ways to do this well – other than perhaps consciously knowing one's own style (and its strengths and weaknesses) and implementing it consistently. My style is that of a spiritual midwife: it is to help give birth to the new Life gestating in others and to support that new life. And then it's my role to get out of the way and to let that new Life discover experimentally its own wings, and to fly.

My management, for example, will never centralize most decision-making and power in the rectorship. I believe in consensual decision-making. While it takes more time and can be less efficient on the front end, by the time a group clarifies, prioritizes, and implements its collectively discerned and approved idea, a powerful force for action is unleashed on the back end. And this action is hard to stop. And it unleashes people's gifts and talents and happiness. Potential church conflicts are reduced and great stuff – Spirit inspired stuff – gets done. It's a very good thing (although seemingly “inefficient” on the front end, it is not, I would argue, inefficient over the course of the whole process. It's actually the most efficient process overall). Social scientists call this the generation and implementation of social capital. I call it **mutual ministry**, and I believe in it 100%. It's the primary way I do and shall lead as your 8th rector and I am able to do it because of your maturity and the successful foundations past rectors and interim priests have laid.

Practically, this means that we shall sometimes make errors and mistakes, as there is less of a centralizing, controlling hand. We shall sometimes drop the ball, miss opportunities, and disagree on priorities. We shall sometimes have open differences of opinion and even conflict. Wonderful! That's real, mature church. And the tough times of disagreement and even conflict are outstanding opportunities to engage in patience, generosity, perspective sharing (decentralizing of our primary

point of view and adoption of the perspective of another) and forgiveness – all cardinal Christian virtues. Lucky us!

Thus, as I look forward as your rector into 2018, I am (to use a financial metaphor) very bullish on Good Shepherd. We enjoy great maturity and diversity in the parish, we have an excellent campus and facility in good working order, we have outstanding ministries with outstanding leadership, we have effective vestry leadership, we have money in the bank and an effective strategy to grow our community and erase our budget deficits, and we have great people coming into leadership positions in 2018. I am very, very bullish on our future.

Last – but not least! – we have God. The Holy Spirit *is* at work, in us and amongst us. Thanks be to God! It is our job to faithfully discern God's presence and call in our personal and collective lives, and to faithfully follow.

I close with a quote from the book of Ephesians in the New Testament (3:20-21), one of my favorite prayers from Morning Prayer in our *Book of Common Prayer*.

Glory to God,
Whose power, working in us,
Can do infinitely more
Than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church
And in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

Amen!

With love and gratitude,

Hal
The Reverend Hal Roark
Rector

FINANCIAL WARDEN'S REPORT

As I end my second term as Senior Warden, I'm happy to see the parish doing so well. I thought Father Hal's first full year at Good Shepherd went very smoothly and I'm thankful for all of the positive energy he's brought to our parish. We've had several families join the church as a direct result of the many programs he's added, including his College Financial Aid talks and "Quiet Advent" masses. New members also seem to appreciate the Welcome Packets he's encouraged. Hal's also shown that he is willing to take on non-pastoral challenges such as improving our physical plant and streamlining our accounting system. I think I speak for all of us when I say we are truly blessed to have him as our Rector.

Also, it's good to report that our financial situation is stable and we're heading into the New Year in a good state. Don't get me wrong, it's a perennial hurdle for a church to match its income with its expenses and 2018 will be no different. However, our deficit budget for 2017 was significantly reduced through increased giving, fundraising, and rental income (see Financial Report). We also received a sizeable bequest from a former parishioner, Deacon Polly Marran. The Treasurer's job, once an onerous position for one person to handle, has been streamlined and divided among several individuals. Pledge Sunday yielded good results (see Stewardship Report) despite the loss of several pledging families due to migration to other climes and churches. God was good to us last year and I have no doubt He will continue to bless us in 2018.

Some notable policy changes also occurred in 2017. Community Forums were held on reducing the size of the Vestry and changing the time of our Christmas Eve services. Based on the results of these assemblies, the Vestry voted to decrease the number of new vestry members elected each year from three to two members. This change will gradually reduce the total number of vestry members from nine to six members, resulting in a smaller and more manageable Vestry. Similarly, based on input from the congregation, the Vestry voted to change the earlier Christmas Eve family service time from 5:00 pm to 4:30 pm, and the later Christmas Eve service time from 11 pm to 8 pm. It's hard to predict a trend from one season of data, but this year more people attended the 8 pm service than attended the 11 pm service last year.

So the future looks bright for Good Shepherd. I'm honored to have held the position of Senior Warden and been privy to the changes affecting our parish for the past four years. Leading a church through a transition period is never easy but I'm very grateful for the help and support I've received from the Vestry, heads of committees and the rest of the congregation. Our ability to work together is nothing short of miraculous. May we always be willing to check our egos at the door and work to promote the goodness that is our Faith and our Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Kaprielian
Financial Warden

PROPERTY WARDEN'S REPORT

First and foremost let me say what an honor and a privilege it has been to once again serve as the Junior / Property Warden for this wonderful community. The many talented volunteers that are always willing to pitch in make this job extremely easy, and having a pair of Sexton's as dedicated and efficient as Phill and Scott means I never have to worry about our property looking it's best. That being said, we have had a rather uneventful year as far as our campus goes. There have been no major repairs needed or projects undertaken. We held two general "cleanup" days which were well attended and productive. I look forward to another year of working side by side with all of you again this year.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Vesperman
Property Warden

FINANCIAL REPORT

The projected 2017 Budget deficit decreased from \$14,000.00 to \$5,653.00. Substantial increases in giving, fundraising and rental income helped outpace moderate increases in expenses for the year. The 2018 Budget projects a deficit of \$12,751.00 and was based on actual income and spending known at the time of Vestry approval on December 14th. Some line items, such as Rector Medical and Dental, Heat, Light and Power and snowplowing costs may be underestimated. Pledging income may also be underestimated, based on last year's response. See both the Treasurer's Report and Budget Report on the following pages of this booklet for further information.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Kaprielian
Financial Warden

The Church Of The Good Shepherd - Granite Springs NY
Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2017 for General Operating Fund Balance

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
INCOME				
4.102.01	Pledges	171,690.00*	164,376.00	7,314.00
	<u>Total Pledges</u>	\$171,690.00*	\$164,376.00	\$7,314.00
4.102.02	Loose Plate	4,163.66*	2,000.00	2,163.66
4.102.03	Easter Donations	1,799.00	2,000.00	(201.00)
4.102.04	Christmas Donations	1,785.00	3,200.00	(1,415.00)
4.102.05	Thanksgiving Donations	340.00	350.00	(10.00)
4.102.06	Other Special Offerings For Holy Days	697.00	1,000.00	(303.00)
4.102.07	Sunday School Income	92.78	0.00	92.78
4.102.08	Ash Wednesday Donations	161.00	200.00	(39.00)
4.102.09	Prior Year Pledges	568.00*	200.00	368.00
4.102.10	Congregational Appeal	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.102.13	Mite Box Offering	170.00	0.00	170.00
4.102.14	Income - Initial / Birthday Donations	145.00	225.00	(80.00)
4.102.15	Non Pledges	5,722.00*	4,160.00	1,562.00
4.102.16	Maundy Thursday	200.00	0.00	200.00
4.102.17	Good Friday	87.00	0.00	87.00
4.103.04	Donations To Support Worship	2,395.24*	1,500.00	895.24
4.103.05	Contributions To Parish Fellowship Events	385.00	1,000.00	(615.00)
	<u>Total Other Congregation Donations</u>	\$18,710.68*	\$15,835.00	\$2,875.68
4.130.01	Income - Taste of Somers Event	4,453.00*	3,800.00	653.00
4.130.02	Income - Antiques & Arts Jam Event	1,303.15	3,500.00	(2,196.85)
4.130.03	Income - Movie Fund Raiser	1,327.00*	1,200.00	127.00
4.130.04	Income - Christmas Bazaar	1,922.27*	1,500.00	422.27
4.130.10	Income - Misc Fund Raisers	2,933.50	0.00	2,933.50
	<u>Total All Fund Raisers Income</u>	\$11,938.92*	\$10,000.00	\$1,938.92
4.103.00	Donations For Use Of Space	440.00	0.00	440.00
4.103.01	Alcoholics Anonymous	5,900.00*	3,600.00	2,300.00
4.103.02	Bright Beginnings	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.103.03	Polling Place Income	700.00	1,050.00	(350.00)
	<u>Total Rental Donations</u>	\$7,040.00*	\$4,650.00	\$2,390.00
4.101.01	Yandersitz Fund Income	6,600.00	6,600.00	0.00
	<u>Total Endowment Gifts</u>	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00	\$0.00
4.101.03	Koegel Fund Income	0.00	1,545.00	(1,545.00)
4.102.00	Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.105.00	Restricted Funds Net Income to Gen Operating Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
4.105.01	Restricted Funds Closed to General Operating Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total Special One Time Gift</u>	\$0.00	\$1,545.00	(\$1,545.00)
4.100.00	Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.101.00	Interest Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.101.02	PCSB Checking Interest	67.75*	48.00	19.75
4.102.12	Income-Miscellaneous	494.00	761.00	(267.00)
4.108.00	Income - Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.120.00	Income-Acolytes	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.126.00	Income - Regular Outreach Appeals	321.00	0.00	321.00
4.126.01	Income - Special Outreach Appeals	1,510.52	0.00	1,510.52
4.126.02	Income - Pass Through Funds	558.00	0.00	558.00
	<u>Total Other Operating Income</u>	\$2,951.27*	\$809.00	\$2,142.27
TOTAL INCOME		\$218,930.87*	\$203,815.00	\$15,115.87
EXPENSE				
5.115.00	Rector's Compensation	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.115.01	Rector's Stipend	46,999.98	47,000.00	(0.02)
5.115.02	Rector's FICA	5,638.02*	5,638.00	0.02
5.115.12	Rector's Non-Accountable Allowances	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total Rector's Compensation</u>	\$52,638.00	\$52,638.00	\$0.00
5.115.03	Rector's Housing Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.115.04	Rector's Insurance Medical & Dental	35,393.00*	31,752.00	3,641.00
5.115.05	Rector's Pension	15,408.56*	14,402.00	1,006.56
5.115.06	Rector's Cable Service & Telephone	2,512.12*	2,400.00	112.12
5.115.07	Rector's Travel Allowance	889.14	1,605.00	(715.86)
5.115.08	Rector's Equity Replacement Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.115.09	Rector's Continuing Education	260.82	500.00	(239.18)
5.115.10	Rector's Moving Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.115.13	Rector's Cell Phone	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
5.115.14	Rector's 403b Church Contribution	1,410.00	1,410.00	0.00
5.115.15	Rector's Discretionary	520.00*	500.00	20.00
	<u>Total Rector's Benefits</u>	\$57,593.64*	\$53,769.00	\$3,824.64
5.111.00	Payroll Expenses	738.00	864.00	(126.00)
5.116.00	Staff Salaries	93.75	0.00	93.75
5.116.01	Office Administration	5,540.00*	3,900.00	1,640.00
5.116.02	Maintenance Sextons	4,368.75	4,500.00	(131.25)
5.116.03	Music Organist	9,649.92	9,650.00	(0.08)
5.116.04	Program Administration Childcare	100.00	1,560.00	(1,460.00)
5.116.05	Bookkeeper	345.00	0.00	345.00
5.116.06	Staff FICA	1,472.22	1,501.00	(28.78)
5.116.07	NYS Unemployment	96.21	99.00	(2.79)

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
5.116.08	NYS Workmen's Compensation	1,152.00*	1,009.00	143.00
5.116.09	Disability Insurance Premium	99.24*	54.00	45.24
	<u>Total Staff Compensation & Expenses</u>	\$23,655.09*	\$23,137.00	\$518.09
5.105.00	Diocesan Assessment	15,465.00	15,465.00	0.00
	<u>Total Diocesan Assessment</u>	\$15,465.00	\$15,465.00	\$0.00
5.130.01	Expense - Taste of Somers Event	765.73*	750.00	15.73
5.130.02	Expense - Antiques & Arts Jam Event	1,126.00*	750.00	376.00
5.130.03	Expense - Movie Fund Raiser	518.34*	500.00	18.34
5.130.04	Expense - Christmas Bazaar	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
5.130.10	Expense - Misc Fund Raisers	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>Total All Fund Raisers Expense</u>	\$2,410.07	\$2,500.00	(\$89.93)
5.104.00	Worship Supplies	1,411.45*	1,200.00	211.45
5.104.01	Altar Flowers	1,831.00*	1,200.00	631.00
5.106.00	Choir Music	323.71	0.00	323.71
5.106.01	Music Honoraria - Singers & Instrumentalists	50.00	725.00	(675.00)
5.106.02	Music Sheets & Supplies & Equipment	268.70	300.00	(31.30)
5.106.03	Organ Maintenance	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
5.108.00	Supply Priests / Supply Organists	960.00	1,350.00	(390.00)
5.108.01	Supply Priest Travel	66.55	250.00	(183.45)
5.120.00	Acolytes	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
5.125.00	Yandersitz Memorial Flowers	170.00	170.00	0.00
	<u>Total Worship Expense</u>	\$5,081.41	\$5,545.00	(\$463.59)
5.102.00	Birthday Cards	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.103.00	Church Receptions - New Members, etc.	1,311.91*	1,145.00	166.91
5.109.00	Outreach Donations To CCNW	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
5.109.01	Outreach Donations To AFEDJ	500.00	1,300.00	(800.00)
5.109.02	Outreach Donations To Womens Shelter Center	650.00	0.00	650.00
5.109.03	Outreach Donations To Support Connection Walk	300.00	0.00	300.00
5.109.04	Outreach Donations To Episcopal Charities of EDNY	356.00	0.00	356.00
5.109.05	Outreach Donations To Bishop Curry Requests	87.00	0.00	87.00
5.109.06	Outreach Committee Designated Other Donations	100.00	0.00	100.00
5.119.00	Pastoral Care	100.45	0.00	100.45
5.119.01	EDNY Parishioner Training	800.00	0.00	800.00
5.121.00	Sunday School Christian Education	979.72	1,200.00	(220.28)
5.122.00	High School Group	1,582.92*	1,000.00	582.92
5.122.01	Youth Confirmation Classes	299.73	500.00	(200.27)
5.122.02	Vacation Bible School	385.92	525.00	(139.08)
5.122.03	Middle School Group	232.18	500.00	(267.82)
5.122.04	Adult Education	31.61	75.00	(43.39)
5.122.05	Senior Group	0.00	175.00	(175.00)
5.122.06	Retreats	200.00	250.00	(50.00)
5.122.07	Mission Trips	0.00	25.00	(25.00)
5.126.00	Expense - Regular Outreach Appeals	170.29	0.00	170.29

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
5.126.01	Expense - Special Outreach Appeals	1,417.52	0.00	1,417.52
5.126.02	Expense - Pass Through Funds	525.00	0.00	525.00
	<u>Total Church Programs</u>	\$11,030.25*	\$7,695.00	\$3,335.25
5.101.00	Advertising	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
5.107.00	Stewardship	1,279.82	2,000.00	(720.18)
5.107.01	Website / Web Technologies	1,175.00	1,500.00	(325.00)
5.110.00	Office Expense	2,445.20	2,500.00	(54.80)
5.110.01	Copier Expense	9,467.56*	7,800.00	1,667.56
5.113.00	Insurance	7,378.75	7,946.00	(567.25)
5.115.11	Convention & Diocese Committee Expense	600.00*	400.00	200.00
5.117.00	Auditor Expenses	700.00	700.00	0.00
5.118.00	Search Committee Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.123.00	Miscellaneous	30.00	74.00	(44.00)
5.123.01	Expense Parish Committees	114.88	0.00	114.88
5.123.02	Sunday Coffee Hour	42.99	200.00	(157.01)
5.123.03	September Parish Picnic	460.81*	250.00	210.81
5.123.04	Oktoberfest Michelmas	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
5.123.05	Twelfth Night Celebration	15.00	100.00	(85.00)
5.123.06	Ascension Day Steak Fest	370.20	400.00	(29.80)
5.123.07	Pentecost Picnic	32.77	400.00	(367.23)
5.123.08	Yorktown Inter Faith Service	361.83*	250.00	111.83
	<u>Total Church & Office Expense</u>	\$24,474.81	\$26,270.00	(\$1,795.19)
5.112.00	Heat, Light & Power	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.112.01	Heat, Light & Power - Church	8,623.27*	6,955.00	1,668.27
5.112.02	Heat, Light & Power - Rectory	4,081.37*	2,815.00	1,266.37
5.112.03	Telephone-Church	1,673.71*	1,595.00	78.71
	<u>Total Utilities</u>	\$14,378.35*	\$11,365.00	\$3,013.35
5.114.00	Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.114.01	Maintenance General Expenses	96.69	400.00	(303.31)
5.114.02	Maintenance Janitorial Supplies	515.01*	400.00	115.01
5.114.03	Expense - Capitalized Church Roof Loan	3,047.49	4,063.00	(1,015.51)
5.114.04	Maintenance Snow Removal	6,230.00*	6,000.00	230.00
5.114.05	Maintenance Lawn Care	2,190.00	2,625.00	(435.00)
5.114.06	Maintenance Carting	2,374.00*	2,364.00	10.00
5.114.07	Maintenance Pest Management	1,178.00*	979.00	199.00
5.114.08	Maintenance Church	1,276.33*	700.00	576.33
5.114.09	Maintenance Trees & Shrubs	0.00	200.00	(200.00)
5.114.10	Maintenance Rectory	420.75	1,000.00	(579.25)
5.114.11	Maintenance Well & Water Line	529.04	700.00	(170.96)
	<u>Total Maintenance</u>	\$17,857.31	\$19,431.00	(\$1,573.69)
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$224,583.93*	\$217,815.00	\$6,768.93
Income - Expense (Deficit)		Actual YTD (\$5,653.06)	Budget (\$14,000.00)	

The Church Of The Good Shepherd - Granite Springs NY
2018 BUDGET REPORT TO THE VESTRY

Thursday, December 14, 2017

INCOME

Account #	Account Name	2018 BUDGET	2017 BUDGET
4.102.01	Pledges	\$160,000.00	\$164,376.00
4.102.02	Loose Plate	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
4.102.03	Easter Donations	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
4.102.04	Christmas Donations	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00
4.102.05	Thanksgiving Donations	\$300.00	\$350.00
4.102.06	Other Special Offerings For Holy Days	\$800.00	\$1,000.00
4.102.07	Sunday School Income	\$50.00	\$0.00
4.102.08	Ash Wednesday Donations	\$180.00	\$200.00
4.102.09	Prior Year Pledges	\$200.00	\$200.00
4.102.10	Congregational Appeal	\$0.00	\$0.00
4.102.14	Income - Initial / Birthday Donations	\$150.00	\$225.00
4.102.15	Non Pledges	\$5,300.00	\$4,160.00
4.103.04	Donations To Support Worship	\$2,800.00	\$1,500.00
4.103.05	Contributions To Parish Fellowship Events	\$400.00	\$1,000.00
4.126.00	Income - Regular Outreach Appeals	\$350.00	\$0.00
4.130.01	Income - Taste of Somers Event	\$5,080.00	\$3,800.00
4.130.02	Income - Antiques & Arts Jam Event	\$1,880.00	\$3,500.00
4.130.03	Income - Movie Fund Raiser	\$1,880.00	\$1,200.00
4.130.04	Income - Christmas Bazaar	\$2,580.00	\$1,500.00
4.130.10	Income - Misc Fund Raisers	\$3,580.00	\$0.00
4.103.00	Donations For Use Of Space	\$300.00	\$0.00
4.103.01	Alcoholics Anonymous	\$6,000.00	\$3,600.00
4.103.03	Polling Place Income	\$700.00	\$1,050.00
4.101.01	Yandersitz Fund Income	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00
4.101.03	Koegel Fund Income	\$1,800.00	\$1,545.00
4.101.00	Interest Income	\$60.00	\$0.00
4.101.02	PCSB Checking Interest	\$60.00	\$48.00
4.102.12	Income-Miscellaneous	\$400.00	\$761.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$209,650.00	\$203,815.00

EXPENSES

Account #	Account Name	2018 BUDGET	2017 BUDGET
5.115.01	Rector's Stipend	\$47,900.00	\$47,000.00
5.115.02	Rector's FICA	\$5,707.00	\$5,638.00
5.115.04	Rector's Insurance Medical & Dental	\$32,752.00	\$31,752.00
5.115.05	Rector's Pension	\$14,635.00	\$14,402.00
5.115.06	Rector's Cable Service & Telephone	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
5.115.07	Rector's Travel Allowance	\$1,605.00	\$1,605.00
5.115.09	Rector's Continuing Education	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.115.13	Rector's Cell Phone	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
5.115.14	Rector's 403b Church Contribution	\$1,437.00	\$1,410.00
5.115.15	Rector's Discretionary	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.111.00	Payroll Expenses	\$800.00	\$864.00
5.116.01	Office Administration	\$3,900.00	\$3,900.00
5.116.02	Maintenance Sextons	\$4,290.00	\$4,500.00
5.116.03	Music Organist	\$9,650.00	\$9,650.00
5.116.04	Program Administration Childcare	\$1,000.00	\$1,560.00
5.116.05	Bookkeeper	\$4,160.00	\$0.00
5.116.06	Staff FICA	\$1,700.00	\$1,501.00
5.116.07	NYS Unemployment	\$100.00	\$99.00
5.116.08	NYS Workmen's Compensation	\$1,300.00	\$1,009.00
5.116.09	Disability Insurance Premium	\$125.00	\$54.00
5.105.00	Diocesan Assessment	\$17,000.00	\$15,465.00
5.130.01	Expense - Taste of Somers Event	\$300.00	\$750.00
5.130.02	Expense - Antiques & Arts Jam Event	\$350.00	\$750.00
5.130.03	Expense - Movie Fund Raiser	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.130.04	Expense - Christmas Bazaar	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.130.10	Expense - Misc Fund Raisers	\$500.00	\$0.00
5.104.00	Worship Supplies	\$1,300.00	\$1,200.00
5.104.01	Altar Flowers	\$1,600.00	\$1,200.00
5.106.00	Choir Music	\$175.00	\$0.00
5.106.01	Music Honoraria - Singers & Instrumentalists	\$0.00	\$725.00
5.106.02	Music Sheets & Supplies & Equipment	\$300.00	\$300.00
5.106.03	Organ Maintenance	\$0.00	\$250.00
5.108.00	Supply Priests / Supply Organists	\$1,350.00	\$1,350.00
5.108.01	Supply Priest Travel	\$250.00	\$250.00
5.120.00	Acolytes	\$0.00	\$100.00
5.125.00	Yandersitz Memorial Flowers	\$170.00	\$170.00
5.103.00	Church Receptions - New Members, etc.	\$1,200.00	\$1,145.00
5.109.00	Outreach Donations To CCNW	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5.109.01	Outreach Donations To AFEDJ	\$500.00	\$1,300.00
5.109.02	Outreach Donations To Womens Shelter Center	\$650.00	\$0.00
5.109.03	Outreach Donations To Support Connection Walk	\$350.00	\$0.00
5.109.06	Outreach Committee Designated Other Donations	\$100.00	\$0.00
5.119.00	Pastoral Care	\$125.00	\$0.00
5.121.00	Sunday School Christian Education	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
5.122.00	High School Group	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5.122.01	Youth Confirmation Classes	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.122.02	Vacation Bible School	\$400.00	\$525.00
5.122.03	Middle School Group	\$500.00	\$500.00
5.122.04	Adult Education	\$75.00	\$75.00
5.122.05	Senior Group	\$150.00	\$175.00
5.122.06	Retreats	\$250.00	\$250.00
5.122.07	Mission Trips	\$25.00	\$25.00
5.101.00	Advertising	\$800.00	\$1,500.00

5.107.00	Stewardship	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
5.107.01	Website / Web Technologies	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
5.110.00	Office Expense	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
5.110.01	Copier Expense	\$7,800.00	\$7,800.00
5.113.00	Insurance	\$8,000.00	\$7,946.00
5.115.11	Convention & Diocese Committee Expense	\$600.00	\$400.00
5.117.00	Auditor Expenses	\$700.00	\$700.00
5.123.00	Miscellaneous	\$220.00	\$74.00
5.123.02	Sunday Coffee Hour	\$100.00	\$200.00
5.123.03	September Parish Picnic	\$250.00	\$250.00
5.123.04	Oktoberfest Michelmas	\$250.00	\$250.00
5.123.05	Twelfth Night Celebration	\$50.00	\$100.00
5.123.06	Ascension Day Steak Fest	\$400.00	\$400.00
5.123.07	Pentecost Picnic	\$150.00	\$400.00
5.123.08	Yorktown Inter Faith Service	\$0.00	\$250.00
5.112.01	Heat, Light & Power - Church	\$7,500.00	\$6,955.00
5.112.02	Heat, Light & Power - Rectory	\$3,800.00	\$2,815.00
5.112.03	Telephone-Church	\$1,600.00	\$1,595.00
5.114.01	Maintenance General Expenses	\$200.00	\$400.00
5.114.02	Maintenance Janitorial Supplies	\$400.00	\$400.00
5.114.03	Expense - Capitalized Church Roof Loan	\$0.00	\$4,063.00
5.114.04	Maintenance Snow Removal	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
5.114.05	Maintenance Lawn Care	\$2,500.00	\$2,625.00
5.114.06	Maintenance Carting	\$2,400.00	\$2,364.00
5.114.07	Maintenance Pest Management	\$1,200.00	\$979.00
5.114.08	Maintenance Church	\$1,300.00	\$700.00
5.114.09	Maintenance Trees & Shrubs	\$1,500.00	\$200.00
5.114.10	Maintenance Rectory	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5.114.11	Maintenance Well & Water Line	\$700.00	\$700.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$222,401.00

\$217,815.00

DIFFERENCE INCOME VS EXPENSES

-\$12,751.00

-\$14,000.00

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

This was my second year as head of the Stewardship committee. The Committee is comprised of Fr. Hal, Jan Corning, myself, and my wife (and Senior Warden!), Maria. We decided once again to run a modified and looser version of the “New Consecration Sunday” program we started three years ago, and to again focus on helping parishioners try to discern “what God is calling on them to give.” Our program ran for a bit more than a month before Pledging Sunday.

Stewardship is about supporting the Church and keeping it functioning so that it can perform its mission, but it is also about giving generously, giving in gratitude for all that we have, giving in proportion to what we have received, and looking to God to guide us in our pledging of treasure, talent, and time. In this, as in so many other things, our congregation excels. This year our stewardship campaign returned 68 pledges, for a total of \$157,062. That is an increase of 4 pledges but a decrease of \$7,314 over last year. While that seems disappointing, we have lost several pledging families this year. Also, 10 of those 68 pledges were First-time pledgers, and 24 of the pledges were E-pledges, both of which are excellent trends; however that also means that 6 families that pledged last year did not pledge this year. We are still accepting pledge cards (they are in the back of the church) if you intended to pledge but never managed to; you can put it in the offering plate or give it to Chris Palmer.

On Pledging Sunday we once again had a lovely Stewardship Breakfast for those attending the 8am service, and a Stewardship Brunch for the 10am parishioners. I would like to thank everyone who helped to set up and clean up for those events; everyone’s teamwork in making these events go smoothly is another gift with which our church is blessed.

Jan Corning did a wonderful job organizing the Stewardship Prayer Vigil, back in 16-hour form this year! I hope that all those who participated had a prayerful and powerful hour in the church. The Youth Group took over the final hour, and culminated the vigil with breakfast at the Olympic Diner. Thanks, Fay Wright, for organizing that!

As always, I would like to thank my fellow members of the committee who supported me with their input, criticism, and ideas. It is very hard to do a job like this without help, and theirs was invaluable. Having chaired the committee for 2 years I am retiring from the position and look forward to assisting a new chairperson who can bring energy and new ideas to keep our stewardship program vibrant and strong.

Stewardship does not end once the pledge cards are signed; we must fulfill our pledges cultivate a spirit of giving both of talent and treasure, and to support our congregation and strengthen it so that we can continue to be the strong and vibrant church we have always been, and can keep doing the good works God calls us to do.

Respectfully submitted,
John Kaprielian

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT

2017 was a very successful year for Good Shepherd and the Fundraising Committee. We increased our net income by 31% and ended the year with a net income of \$9,849.00. For 2018, our goal is to raise a net income of \$15,000 or a 53% increase over 2017. This is an aggressive plan, but I am reminded of Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:13) "I can do all things in Him who strengthens me." This year's Silent Auction will offer a Condo for one week in Hawaii. The minimum bid will be \$1,000. You have a year to think about making a bid and if you have the winning bid you will have 2 years to use the Condo. Details are available upon request. Other surprises are planned to help meet our goal.

The Fundraising Committee is outstanding! What makes them so good is that when a committee member commits to do something, no repeated follow-ups are necessary. They do it because of their commitment to Christ and the church. During the month of February the committee will send you a list of our 2018 events. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact any member of the committee:

Diane Buschel, Arleen Flury, Amanda Slattery, Megan Whalen, Dr. Fay Wright, Courtney Velzy, Cecilia Sparacio, Fran DiBernardo, Glenn Hintze, Maria Kaprielian, Sharen McKenna, Phill Pinkney, Rick Vesperman, Sybil Barnett and The Rev. Hal Roark, Rector.

God's blessings,

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Deacon Norman Fulton, Chair

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

The music ministry continued to evolve in 2017.

The hymns we sang were not only from the 1982 Hymnal. Other Christian sources were chosen, reflecting more styles and varied texts.

The Sunday School added a new hymn at each Family Service. The final Family Service of the season included all the songs learned. Guitarist Scott Brieant brought his skills and style not only to the coffee hour, but to the Sunday School, accompanying the children both at the Family Services and at the Pageant.

The Choir continued to learn new songs and lead the congregation during the services. The two big modifications for the Choir were the time change of the late Christmas Eve Service from 10:30 to 7:30, and the omission of the hired instrumentalists. Together we created a strong and intimate offering of *a capella* (unaccompanied) choral selections, accompanied anthems, vocal solos and instrumental presentations.

Of note were the services covered by Jack McKeown at the organ and piano, substituting for me on selected Sundays and a funeral. Throughout the year, we continued to have parishioners of all ages sing and play the organ, piano, guitar, cello, flute, trumpet, and clarinet enhancing our worship.

The Arts Jam brought together the many talents of Good Shepherd members of all ages.

Expenses:

\$300 was used towards sheet music, a set of bongos, and some incidental expenses.

Historical note:

In March, our longtime beloved Marshall Kidder passed away. He will be remembered for his warm baritone voice, inspirational trumpet playing, leadership as musical director and dear friend.

Thanks to all the members of the choir who continually inspire me with their dedication, humor, attention to detail, enthusiasm, suggestions, spirit and love of music.

With Rev. Hal's leadership and Chris Palmer's organizational wizardry, the Music Ministry was both strengthened and invigorated.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia Sparacio

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The Altar Guild at Good Shepherd is a group of people who are dedicated to 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 \$40.00. Please contact Arleen Flury with any questions (afgranite@aol.com).

Currently there are four 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
Altar Guild Director

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Good Shepherd's Outreach aims to support local, national and international organizations with regular ongoing support and emergency support where possible.

In 2017 our members supported the following activities and organizations:

Support Connection: 5K Support-A-Walk on October 1. The Good Shepherd Sheep team was led by Diane Buschel and raised over \$900.

CCNW: Good Shepherd continued to support the Community Center of Northern Westchester as a Community Partner with our ongoing food drive. We actually collected and delivered 1,654 lbs of food and 258 lbs of clothing in 2017. Cathy Trinidad led a dedicated team of volunteers who collect groceries donated weekly by parishioners. Cathy has now stepped down, with our thanks for a job well done and we are pleased to welcome Courtney Velzy to this role.

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.

Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center: Baby items collected at the Epiphany party in January 2017 were donated to this organization. In Advent 2017 we adopted a family of a mother and two teenage children and fulfilled their Christmas "needs" and "wants" lists. Yolanda Alexander and Maritza Rosso, our representatives to this organization, did a terrific job of ensuring that every item requested was supplied. During 2017, Bruce Barber and Amanda Slattery attended an Episcopal Charities webinar on grant applications. A grant application was submitted to Episcopal Charities by Good Shepherd on behalf of the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center. We are awaiting the outcome.

AFEDJ: For the third consecutive year we placed a Giving Tree covered with gift tags in the breezeway during Advent requesting donations to support children in the schools run by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. As a result of this, American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem received gifts totaling \$240. Thank you to all who participated. Mite boxes were distributed to Sunday School children at the beginning of Advent for collection at the January Epiphany party.

In 2017 we made the following distributions:

- Mite box collection from Christmas 2016: \$500 donated to AFEDJ. The actual collection from the mite boxes was lower than last year, but the committee decided to apportion some of the general outreach fund in order to make a more significant donation.
- Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center: \$500
- Episcopal Charities: A total of \$356 was sent to Episcopal Charities.
- Boy Scouts: \$125
- CCNW: \$1,000 line item in church budget

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

We offer a diverse array of services for pastoral care support. Our Prayer Group prays for those on the prayer list every day. Our Ride Support Group helps those who cannot drive get to important meetings. Our Food Support Group cooks meals temporarily for those who could use an extra hand during a difficult moment. Ride and Food support are on an as needed basis, while Prayer Group members pray from home at least one consistent day a week so that, as a team, all on the prayer list are prayed for every day. If you would like to join any of these ministries, please contact Fr. Hal to learn more.

In addition to these ministries, the Pastoral Visit Group responds to those in need who have requested assistance. Currently, there are four members of the team: Deacon Norman Fulton, Bruce Barber, Dr. Fay Wright, and me. Bruce discerned a call to this ministry as a lay Eucharistic visitor and completed the Safe Church training and the diocesan lay Eucharistic visitor training and is now licensed by the diocese. Fay assists the Team in understanding medical complications, in hospital visits, and in prayer and problem solving. All four of us respond to crisis situations. Bruce, Deacon Norm, and I also visit parishioners who are not in crisis but who can not come to church regularly for a variety of reasons. When we visit someone who is homebound or facility-bound, we bring Communion to them and socialize and pray with them. They are lovely visits and deeply appreciated by all.

We have also been planning on expanding the team, based on our experiences and our parish need. Our goal is not just to respond quickly and appropriately when people are in acute crisis but to provide continuous ongoing care to all who are dealing with long-term, chronic situations. The latter is rarely done in a parish; with a well-trained Pastoral Visit Team, however, Bruce, Norm, Fay, and I feel confident that we can provide responsive, ongoing, quality care to all, no matter what their pastoral need.

All four of these ministries – The Prayer Group, Ride Support Group, Food Support Group, and the Pastoral Visit Group – provide pastoral care. They are *all* pastoral care, in four different forms. Some parishioners request only one of the groups; others request more. The level of care received is based on the needs and requests of the care seeker. Parishioners are encouraged to request as much support as needed, as often as it is needed. If you could benefit from any of these ministries, please don't ever hesitate to call the office at 914-248-5631. We are here to support you.

Likewise, if you would like to be a member of the Pastoral Visit Team, please call the office. We shall offer a training sometime in the Spring of 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Fr. Hal Roark

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Sunday School program evolved and thrived during 2017. In June 2017, 4 children “graduated” from the Sunday School Program to the High School Youth Group. In addition, based on a church policy decision, in September of 2017 the Middle School Youth Group split from the Sunday School program to become its own identity. Therefore, an additional 9 Sunday School children “graduated” from Sunday School into Middle School Youth Group. Sunday School is now comprised of two

levels of classes – grades preK-2 and grades 3-5. In Fall of 2017 we had 15 children registered for Sunday School with 8-12 attending regularly.

In 2017 we continued with the new tradition of splitting up the 12th Night Celebration and the Christmas Pageant. The children performed “The Symbols of Christmas” on December 17th with help from the Middle School and High School Youth. The Twelfth Night celebration was held on January 6, 2018. We prayed, ate, played BINGO, 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.

The spring of 2017 was an active time for the Sunday School Group (K-8). The students participated in Father Hal’s institution, celebrated Mardi Gras with a family service, reflected about Lent, made Easter baskets for less fortunate children, enjoyed a fantastic Easter Egg Hunt, attended the COGS Anniversary Party: May the Force Be with YOU, and went on an educational trip to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC.

Cecilia Sparacio again worked with the children to make music in the Spring of 2017. In lieu of a Spring Concert we held a Family Service with a Celebration of Music. The younger children sang songs and the service marked the third performance of the COGS children’s orchestra. We made joyful noise to the Lord!

Sunday School is in its 12th 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. Each Sunday starts with a worship service, followed by a lesson, activity and craft. We had several "Family Sundays" where the children perform duties at the 10am service. The Sunday School could not be successful without the committed core of volunteer teachers. These people are: Kerry Irwin, Teresa Larsen, Susan Ackerman, Maritza Rosso, Amy Baisley, Fran DiBernardo, Suzanne Bracken and Megan Whalen.

We were proud to hold the 4th Annual Vacation Bible School (VBS), from August 22-24, 2017. We increased our numbers from 10 children in 2014, 17 children in 2015, 22 children in 2016 to 23 in 2017, including 4 teen counselors. There were 6 teachers. For three hours each morning, the children enjoyed many activities. This year VBS was restructured around the theme of “Making Good Choices” and included a special Wizards and Superheroes day that was well received by all. We were thrilled that many children attended from the community. We hope to continue to share our camp with Westchester Episcopal Churches and the Westchester community this summer.

One thing that has not changed in Sunday School is our need for volunteer teachers. Please remember that you do not have to teach for an entire 6-week session. 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 volunteers 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, Amy Baisley, Kerry Irwin, Maritza Rosso, Cathy Trinidad, Father Hal, Arleen Flury, Suzanne Bracken and Fran DiBernardo

CONFIRMATION CLASS REPORT

The confirmation curriculum evolved this year through collaboration between Fr. Hal and Fay. The title of the program, “Journeying with God in Christ: A Good Shepherd Confirmation Curriculum” truly describes the focus of the classes. The classes are designed to help the confirmands start their adult journey in the Episcopal Church. The discussions focus on providing the confirmands key information to inform their choice to be confirmed or not. The content can be summarized as providing the basic knowledge about key areas of Episcopal Christian life that provides a basis for continued lifelong Christian learning.

Topics include: Who is God?; Who is Jesus?; our Anglican and Episcopal heritage; the Book of Common Prayer and its catechism; the Bible; Anglican Biblical interpretation; Episcopal worship; basics about prayer; discernment (how to identify our unique gifts and talents); the importance of loving service; a discussion of theodicy (“Why do evil and suffering exist if God is good?”); an appreciation of other faiths; and more.

Two key changes happened this year to support a robust discussion and align more fully with our current Sunday School structure. 1) Confirmation is offered for 9th graders or older; 2) the incorporation of adult mentors. Since Sunday School ends after 8th grade, confirmation for 9th graders makes sense, as the next step in their formation. The mentors are adult members of our church community who share their personal faith journey with the confirmands, discussing the scripture, and supporting the confirmands as they develop their personal theological reflection.

We have 4 confirmands. We started in September and we meet the third Sunday of every month until confirmation with Bishop Dietsche on June 24th. We meet at the rectory from 4:30-7:00pm, cook dinner, have the lesson of the session and then discussion over dinner. Every session, the confirmands use the beautiful Bibles and BCP that the parish gave them.

We are continuously evaluating the program and will use our work this year to form the program for next year’s 9th graders. Please keep the confirmands and mentors in your prayers as the journey with God in Christ.

Respectfully submitted,
Fay Wright

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Discussions began in the Spring of 2017 to officially form a Middle School Youth Group. After meetings with Father Hal, Megan Whalen (Sunday School Leader) and Fay Wright (Youth Group Leader), it was determined that the Sunday School for grades 6-8 would evolve into the Middle School Youth Group for grades 6-8 in the Fall of 2017. The Middle School Youth Group would meet in the Youth Group room during the 10AM Service and serve as a pathway to the High School Youth Group. A community forum was held on September 17, 2017 to discuss any objections to this change in format and there was no attendance other than Megan Whalen and Father Hal who took this as a sign that there was no opposition to the new format. In addition, a letter was sent to all Middle School Youth families to inform them of the new exciting things to come for Middle School Youth in 2017-2018.

The school year began with 11 students registered for Middle School Youth Group. Two students' families either left the church or never began attending after the first week, leaving 9 students. On a weekly basis 3-6 students generally attend the Middle School Youth meetings. The Middle School Youth achieved the following accomplishments in the Fall of 2017:

- November 2017: Led the Veterans Coat Drive with the Senior Group
 - Made the boxes for coat collection
 - Communicated the coat drive to the parish via email and announcements
 - Helped to collect and package the coats for delivery
 - Delivered to coats to the Veterans Hospital
 - Toured the Veterans Hospital
- December 2017: Performed the Symbols of Christmas Pageant as
 - Narrators
 - Symbol Bearers
 - Dressed Actors
- Ongoing: Participated in weekly lectionary-based discussions at their academic level to learn about the gospel and apply it to their lives.
- Ongoing: Played important roles in our periodic Family Sundays where children and youth perform duties at the 10AM service.

The Middle School Youth could not be successful without the committed core of volunteer leaders. These people are: Courtney Velzy, Lori Kennedy, Catalina and Jose Trinidad, Jeff Donaldson, Glenn Hintze, Bruce Barber and Megan Whalen.

On the horizon for the Middle School Youth in 2018 are Game Night and Bowling with the High School Youth Group, a Middle School Youth trip to NYC to climb the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and plans for more outreach opportunities in our area.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Whalen

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

What an amazing year filled with transitions and growth! Youth Group experienced two developmental changes that would support the group's mission: to be a place where the transition to young adulthood can be based in Christian ethics, Episcopalian faith, and growing through questioning and application to everyday life. After much discussion and prayerful reflection, the two changes were 1) Youth Group membership is 9th -12th grade; and 2) Adult leaders are not parents of 9th-12th graders. These two changes are developmentally supported. The discussions are now at a high school level, where the group can bring their thoughts and ideas into discussion as independent individuals, or as one of our youth put it, "learning adulting". The decision to have non-parent adult leaders meant losing one of the founding adult leaders, "Mr. Vernon", who is much beloved. We appreciate his kindness and leadership, and look forward to his continued participation once his daughters age out of Youth Group. While change is difficult, the feedback from the Youth Group about the changes has been positive.

Additional Youth Group happenings in 2017 were a formal commissioning of our youth leaders: Sindey Rosso and Brittany Alexander. These amazing young women are exemplars of caring, respectful leadership. Sindey and Brittany helped plan the year's schedule of meetings and events. One important change to our schedule of events was adding the COGS parish events and planning some of our activities at the same time as our parish events. For example, we enjoyed the interfaith service and pizza with the youth groups from the other churches. We are planning an interfaith bowling event with these youth groups to continue to grow our connections. We again thank the Fulton Fund for the financial support of our annual trip to NYC! It was great to have Miss Leslie and Deacon Norm with us as we toured the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). The Youth Group also planned several events with the Middle School group to continue our connections and mentor fellowship.

We welcome Theresa Wienecke as an adult leader. Together, Fay, Jan, Theresa and Father Hal try to encourage the youth to explore their faith and apply it to their daily lives. The Youth Group is flourishing and we are blessed with this ministry and our amazing youth.

Respectfully submitted,
Fay Wright

SENIORS GROUP REPORT

2017 was a very active year for the seniors. The Group coordinated trips to the New York Botanical Gardens, the Eleanor Roosevelt Historic site, a Fall Hudson River cruise and the play Miracle in 34th Street at Yorktown Stage.

The seniors built and also purchased wooden bird houses which were painted and customized by the children who attended our church Vacation Bible School in August. In October, the Seniors Group fostered a wonderful partnership with the church Middle School Youth Group who together collected 106 coats and sweaters generously donated by our parishioners. The coats and sweaters were delivered to the Veterans Hospital in Montrose, NY on the Wednesday before Veterans Day. After the coats and sweaters were delivered, members of the Seniors Group and Youth Group were given a tour of the hospital food pantry and clothing store and learned about some of the challenges our veterans face.

During the Holiday Season, the Seniors Group decorated the parish hall for the Christmas Party held by the Putnam Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center which is a local organization that assists abused women and children. The group also helped to set up the parish hall for our annual church Christmas Bazaar.

Our year was completed with our Christmas luncheon held in the guild room.

The Seniors Group wishes to acknowledge and remember the work of former parishioners Bill and Gwen Greene for their wonderful and thoughtful leadership of the Seniors Group in prior years. Your legacy lives on in all of us.

The Seniors Group generally meets the first Sunday of each month after the 10:00 am service and is open to everyone.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Barber

WRITERS GROUP REPORT

The Good Shepherd Writer's Group met for about half of 2017. Since the departure of nearly all of our founding members, attendance grew very sparse at our monthly meetings, so this fall I decided to disband the group, at least temporarily. If interest grows, I'm sure someone can bring it back to life, and I will be happy to support it. The group's remnants include me, Vernon Alexander, Laura Traynor, Jean Barber, Josephine Connor, Efrain Rosso, and Fr. Hal.

The group met on the first Monday of the month at 7:30. We read our own poetry and prose, elicited feedback from each other, read and discuss the works of other writers, and occasionally just talked for hours about whatever happened to interest us at the time. It was a very supportive, easygoing group, and we welcomed visitors and new members. We also participated in the Arts Jam, reading poems before an appreciative audience.

I am sad to see the group go on hiatus, but I hope it can come back stronger in the future.

Feel free to speak to me or any of the other former members listed above if you have any questions about the group, or interest in bringing it back!

Respectfully submitted,
John Kaprielian
Good Shepherd Writers Group

WOMEN'S GROUP REPORT

WOCOGS, 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 Christmas Bazaar, which helps to raise additional funds for the church. If you have any questions regarding WOCOGS, 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

In 2018, the Brotherhood/Men's Group will be getting off the ground again. We'll build stuff, break stuff, eat stuff, and imbibe stuff. All men at Good Shepherd are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact Fr. Hal or Rick Vesperman to join the fun!

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE REPORT

Each year our Memorial Garden increases in meaning and value to Good Shepherd. Not only is the sacred space in the center ring being used more and more for cremated remains of our loved ones, but the outer rings are being used for gathering our congregation for religious celebrations, and the space itself is a precious place for quiet reflection.

In order to insure the future of our Garden, the Committee is in the process of considering some upgrades that will enhance the beauty and functionality of the space. We are financially self-sufficient at this point and will make every effort to accomplish this proposed work within our means.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Fulton, for the Memorial Garden Committee

VEGETABLE GARDEN COMMITTEE REPORT

Once again, the Youth Group, with much help from Bruce Barber, planted the small garden on the church grounds. Bruce organized a garden based on "square foot" gardening to maximize the output of the garden. Using the square foot gardening principal, the garden is divided into square foot segments, into which a single type of plant is planted. Some larger plants, like tomatoes or peppers, utilize the square foot for a single plant. Other plants, like beans, utilize the square foot for four. The marigolds had two plants per square foot. We had 36 square feet, which would yield quite a lot!

The garden was planted in May, and each member of the youth group signed up for a week of tending, including watering and weeding. The steady ration of rain in the early summer certainly helped minimize onsite time. Again, Bruce was instrumental in teaching us how to weed and water.

The garden grew and thrived, and the harvest was upon us. Ah, the harvest. Fall is a busy season, and like in other years, we fell short in scheduling the harvesting of the garden. But we learned so much!!

A huge thank you goes to Bruce Barber for his help and support! We look forward to next year, when we hope to build on the knowledge that we have learned, the coordination of manpower to maintain the garden, and finally harvest the fruits, and vegetables, of our labor!

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Corning

DIOCESAN RELATIONS

For lots of reasons, it is important that we maintain very good relations with the diocese. As you likely know, as a Christian denomination, we are not solely congregation-focused, just interacting with ourselves. As Episcopalians, we are part of a wider diocese and we both contribute to that larger group as well as benefit from it. To learn more about what is going on at our diocese, regularly visit our Diocesan Bulletin board in our kitchen hallway and visit our diocesan website, <https://www.diocesenyny.org>. To learn more about our national Episcopal Church, visit their website: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org>.

On a financial level, we are in full compliance with our annual diocesan assessment payment and thus are in good standing with the diocese. That's important. Second, as rector, I participate, along with Deacon Norman Fulton, in our monthly Clericus meetings with local Episcopal priests and deacons to learn about what is happening at both diocesan headquarters as well as in our local Episcopal churches. We share a meal, prayers, ideas, and resources with one another for the good of each other and the Church. Third, Bishop Shin visited us for Michaelmas in 2017 and Bishop Dietsche shall perform our confirmation service on June 24, 2018. Two bishop visits in one program year is awfully good! The Church of the Good Shepherd enjoys an excellent reputation with the diocese.

Fourth, we started a new tradition in 2017: sending our High School Youth leaders to Diocesan Convention. It's great for them to see how their church works and to participate in the process. Bishop Shin and I are working to propose a resolution to Convention 2018 that parishes be allowed to send youth delegates to Convention for free starting in 2019. We both like the idea a lot and we think Bishop Dietsche will, too.

In summary, our diocesan relations on every front are excellent, healthy, and strong.

Respectfully submitted,
Fr. Hal Roark, Liaison

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH MINISTRIES

Ministry	First name	Last name
Admin	Hal	Roark
Marketing	Hal	Roark
Newsletter	Chris	Palmer
Events	Hal	Roark
Diocesan relationships	Hal	Roark
Stewardship	OPEN	
Financial Planning Committee	Hal	Roark
Fundraising	Deacon Norman	Fulton
New Members	Hal	Roark
Vestry	Hal	Roark
Worship	Hal	Roark
Altar Guild	Arleen	Flury
Choir	Cecilia	Sparacio
Ushers	Rick	Vesperman
Acolytes	Rick	Vesperman
Lectors	Rick	Vesperman
LEM	Diane	Buschel
Coffee Hour	OPEN	
Nursery	Sharen	McKenna
Sunday School	Megan	Whalen
Middle School Youth Group	Megan	Whalen
High School Youth Group	Fay	Wright

Ministry	First name	Last name
Confirmation Class	Hal	Roark
Bible Study	Hal	Roark
Outreach	Amanda	Slattery
PNNWWRC Women's Resource Center	Yolanda	Alexander
Support Connection	Diane	Buschel
CCNW	Courtney	Velzy
AFEDJ	Amanda	Slattery
12 Step Liaison	Hal	Roark
Boy Scout Liaison	Thelma	Barlow
WOCOGS (Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd)	Arleen	Flury
Men's Group	Rick	Vesperman
Seniors Group	Bruce	Barber
Writers Group (on haitus)	OPEN	
Prayer Group	OPEN	
Food Support	OPEN	
Ride Support	OPEN	
LEV	Bruce	Barber
Sustainability	Bruce	Barber
Memorial Garden	Leslie	Fulton
Interfaith Group	Hal	Roark
Education for Ministry (EfM)	Chris	Palmer

COGS 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The point people for each event are in parentheses.

January

- 6, Saturday: Epiphany Rite 3 Eucharist & 12th Night Celebration at 5:30 pm. (Megan)
- 7, 14, 28, Sundays: The Reverend Deacon Norman Fulton leads three Community Forums on the history of Anglicanism at 9 am in the Guild Room. (Deacon Norm)
- 10, 17, 24, 31, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 12, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm in the Guild Room.
- 12-14, Friday-Sunday: Retreat to Holy Cross Episcopal Monastery in West Park, NY. (Hal)
- 21, Sunday: Annual Meeting after the 10 am service. The Men's Group provides breakfast.
- 21, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)
- 25, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 27, Saturday: parishioner Theresa Wienecke, Life Mastery Consultant, offers a free workshop, The Vision Workshop, in the Parish Hall from 9-11 am. (Theresa)

February

- 2, Friday: Candlemas Rite 3 Eucharist (6:30 pm) & Chilifest afterwards; This day is also Fr. Hal's 1 year institution anniversary. Middle School Group and Youth Group game night.
- 4, Sunday: Superbowl Potluck at the rectory starting at 5:30 pm. (Hal and Lori)
- 7, 21, 28, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 9, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm in the Guild Room.
- 11, Sunday: Family Sunday with Mardi Gras theme (Hal & Megan)
- **14, Wednesday: Ash Wednesday.** Services at 8 am, noon, 6 pm. (Hal)
- 18, 25, Sundays: 2018 Lenten Book Study: *Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer* by Rowan Williams at 9 am in the Guild Room with Fr. Hal.
- 18, Sunday: Casual Visitor Welcome after the 10 am worship service in the Parish Hall. (Hal)
- 22, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 25, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)

March

- 2, 9, 16, 23 Fridays: Deepening Our Relationship with God & Each Other in Lent.
- 6:30 pm Rite 3 Eucharist & 7pm food.
- 4, 11, 18, Sundays: 2018 Lenten Book Study: *Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer* by Rowan Williams at 9 am in the Guild Room with Fr. Hal.
- 7, 14, 21, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 9, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 15, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)

- 18, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)
- 24, Saturday: High School Youth Group sleepover at church.
- **25, Palm/Passion Sunday** (Hal)
- **29, Maundy Thursday: Mediterranean Night food (6:30 pm) & Maundy Thursday service (7:30 pm)** (Chris & Diane)
- **30, Good Friday: Soup & Bread Potluck (6:30 pm) and Good Friday Service (7:30 pm)**
- **31, Saturday: Pizzafest (6:30 pm) and Easter Vigil (7:30 pm)** (Fay & Youth Group)

April

- **1, Easter Sunday: 8 am Rite 1 Eucharist; 10 am Rite 2 Eucharist with hymns, followed by our annual Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt** (Megan and Diane)
- 4, 11, 18, 25, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 13, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 15, Sunday: Family Sunday
- 15, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)
- 19, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 22, Sunday: Good Shepherd Sunday, our parish feast day! Potluck Coffee Hour. Bring a favorite dish to share, perhaps from your family's ethnic group or culture.

May

- 2,9,16,23,30, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 10, Thursday: Ascension Day Eucharist (6:30 pm) followed by Steakfest (Hal, Chris, Rick).
- 11, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 13, Sunday: Mother's Day & Episcopal Charities Sunday. Men's Group provides breakfast afterwards. Plant Sale fundraiser in the Parish Hall. (Hal)
- 17, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- **20, Sunday: Pentecost, Family Sunday with concert with BBQ feast afterwards.** Beginning of hotdog season.
- 20, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)
- 27, Sunday: Trinity Sunday & Memorial Day weekend.

June

- 1, Friday: Somers Relay for Life at Somers Middle School (MS & HS Youth Group)
- 6, 13 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal). Last Bible Study: June 13 till September 2018.
- 8, Friday: Yorktown Relay for Life at Jack Devito Memorial Field (MS & HS Youth Group)
- 8, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 10, Sunday: Last Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7:00 pm. (Hal & Fay)

- 10, Sunday: Family Sunday; Sunday School graduation. (Megan) New Visitor welcome in the Guild room after the 10 am service.
- 17, Sunday: Father's Day
- 21, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 24, Confirmation Sunday: Bishop Dietsche visits.

July

- 1, 8, 15, Sundays: Hal here to celebrate Sunday services.
- Fr. Hal on vacation, July 17 – August 15
- 22, 29, Sundays: supply clergy
- No Vestry meetings this month.

August

- 16, Thursday: Fr. Hal back.
- 30, Thursday: vestry meeting 7:30 pm (Hal)
- 21, 22, 23, Tuesday – Thursday: Vacation Bible School? (Megan)
- 30, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)

September

- 1-3, Labor Day Weekend
- **9, Sunday: Start of the 2018-2019 Program Year:** Blessing of Backpacks, Grandparent's Day recognition, Sunday School Registration, & parish BBQ picnic thrown by COGS (Hal, Megan, Rick). Bring neighbors & friends!
- 14, Friday: Holy Cross Day Rite 3 Eucharist (6:30 pm) followed by Chickenfest (Hal & Chris). Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship!
- 14, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 16, Sunday: Sunday School and Middle School Group start (Megan).
- 19, 26 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading resumes in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal).
- 20, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30 pm (Hal)
- 23, Sunday: Confirmation class meets at the rectory 4:30-7 pm.
- 29, Saturday: Michaelmas Eucharist (6:30 pm) followed by our annual Oktoberfest (Hal & Chris).

October

- 3, 10, 17, 21, 31, Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal).
- 7, Sunday: Support Connection Support-A-Walk at FDR Park. Join the COGS team!
- 7, Sunday: Noon Blessing of the Animals
- 12, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 13, Saturday: Good Shepherd Arts Jam?
- 18, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30 pm (Hal)

- 28, Family Sunday: Halloween theme at the 10 am Worship Service, with youth taking important roles in the liturgy. Halloween party afterwards. Kids are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes to 10 am worship and the party afterwards. (Megan W) (Stewardship)

November

- 3, Saturday: Stewardship Prayer Vigil, 8 am – midnight.
- 4, Sunday: All Saints Sunday. 10 am service starts in the Memorial Garden (Hal). Pledge Sunday.
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal).
- 9, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 10, Saturday: Diocesan Convention (Hal, Fay, HS Youth)
- 11, Sunday: New Member Ice Cream Social in the Guild Room after 10 am service.
- 15, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30 pm (Hal, Maria, Rick)
- 16, Friday: Taste of Somers Fundraiser 7-9 pm?
- 18, Sunday: Yorktown Interfaith Community Prayer Service
- 23, Thursday: Thanksgiving Day Rite II Eucharist at 10 am.

December

- 2, Sunday: Advent begins. St. Nicholas visit; Mite boxes distributed (Amanda, Megan)
- 5, 12 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal). Last Bible study: December 12.
- 7, Friday: Quiet Advent Prayer Service (Hal). 6:30 pm Simple Soup and Bread Supper; service begins at 7:00 pm.
- 8, Saturday: Christmas Bazaar from 10 am to 4 pm (Arleen).
- 9, Sunday: Vestry potluck Christmas party at the rectory 5-7. (Hal & Vestry)
- 13, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30 pm (Hal)
- 14, Friday: Deepening our Relationship with God in Advent, Eucharist & Simple Soup and Bread Supper, 6:30 pm (Hal).
- 14, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm.
- 16, Family Sunday: Christmas Pageant at the 10 am Worship Service (Megan)
- **24, Monday: Christmas Eve**
 - **4:30 pm Christmas Eve Family Service**
 - **7:30 pm Carols & Anthems**
 - **8:00 pm Christmas Eve Eucharist with choir**
- **25, Tuesday: Christmas Day 10 am** Rite 2 Eucharist.
- 30, Sunday: Lessons and Carols 10 am (Amanda & Cecilia).