

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Annual Report 2017



Annual Meeting
January 28, 2018

Revised 1/18/18



Prayer for the Parish

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Meeting

Almighty and ever living God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in the annual meeting of St. Mary's church for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
PARISH OF
ST MARY'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH, BONITA SPRINGS
DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

Sunday, January 28, 2018

The Official Meeting will begin within
the Eucharist in Church.

The Official Meeting will continue in
the Parish Life Center to hear reports,
conversation, questions and comments
will follow.

Agenda

Meeting in Church

1. Opening of the Eucharist and Call to Order the Annual Meeting
2. Approval of the Minutes for the 2017 Annual Meeting
3. Report of the Nominating Committee
4. Election of Vestry members
5. Commissioning of the Vestry

In the Parish Life Center

6. Report of the Treasurer
 - a. 2017 Statement
 - b. 2018 Budget
7. Report of the Senior Warden
8. Presentation to retiring Vestry members
9. Questions and discussion
10. Closing Prayer
11. Closing of the Meeting and Adjournment

Please note:

The new Vestry meets briefly in the Church after the Eucharist before going to the PLC.

**The Constitution and Canons
of the
Diocese of Southwest Florida**

CANON VII

Congregational Governance

Section 1. Annual Meeting. *A Congregation shall hold an annual meeting every year. Unless otherwise specified in the Congregation's bylaws, the annual meeting of the Congregation shall be within one hundred twenty (120) days before or on the twenty-eighth (28th) day of February.*

Section 3. Electors. a. *As used in these Canons, an elector is a lay communicant member of a Congregation who is sixteen (16) years of age or over, whose name is duly enrolled as such in the Register of the Congregation, who is regular in attendance at divine services, and who makes stated contributions of record to the general support of the Congregation. A qualified elector of a Congregation is entitled to vote in all congregational elections and on all matters that come before the Congregation for a vote.*

Section 4. Congregational Council. a. *Each Congregation shall have a congregational council, which may be called a vestry or board of trustees or similar name, according to the choice of the Congregation. To be qualified to serve on the congregational council, a person must be an elector of the Congregation and eighteen (18) years of age or older.*

e. Wardens. *The Congregation's bylaws shall provide for the selection of wardens of the Congregation. The Congregation's bylaws shall provide that the term of office for the wardens is one (1) year, and that a person may not serve as a warden for more than three (3) consecutive terms. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, the selection of wardens shall take place at the first meeting of the congregational council after a congregation's annual meeting, as follows:*

1. *The member of the clergy in charge shall appoint one (1) member of the congregational council to serve as the Senior Warden. If the Congregation does not have a member of the clergy in charge, the members of the congregational council shall select the Senior Warden in the same manner as it selects the Junior Warden.*

2. *The members of the congregational council shall select one (1) member of the congregational council to serve as the Junior Warden. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, the selection of the Junior Warden shall be by majority vote of the members of the congregational council.*

f. Officers.

1. *The congregational council shall annually select a secretary, who need not be a member of the Congregation. The secretary shall ensure that the minutes of congregational council's proceedings are taken and reported, attest to the public acts of the*

Congregational council, preserve all records and papers belonging to the Congregation, perform such other duties as shall be legally assigned, and faithfully deliver into the hands of a successor all books and documents of the Congregation that may be in the secretary's possession.

2. *The congregational council shall annually select a treasurer, who need not be a member of the Congregation, to perform the duties incumbent upon that office. The treasurer shall furnish a bond of suitable amount. The books and accounts shall be audited annually and at any other time the congregational council may direct. The offices of secretary and treasurer may both be held by the same person.*

**ANNUAL MEETING OF
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
BONITA SPRINGS, INC.**

Sunday, January 29, 2017

**Beginning at the
10AM Eucharist in the Church Building
and concluding in the Parish Life Center**

Minutes

Fr. Rowe opened the meeting with a prayer at 10:10AM

Renee Osborne moved and Gail Goggin seconded that the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting (January 31, 2016) be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

Senior Warden, Bob Foltz, gave the report of the Nominating Committee. Members leaving the Vestry are Brian Cleary and Moe Courchesne. Nominated for the Vestry by the Nominating Committee for three-year terms were Dann Battina, Jim Howard, Jesse Roberts and Les Rooker. There being no further nominations from the floor, the persons so nominated were all elected by the voice vote of the congregation.

The 2017 Vestry was commissioned by Fr. Rowe with prayer and promises to serve in Christ. The congregation promised to support the Vestry in the various commissions through prayer, encouragement and help.

Dan McClean gave the Treasurer's report that is also published the 2017 annual report. Dan reported that the final revenues were \$781,509, up slightly from what was published in the annual report. This is due to the fact that there were additional revenues and expenses that needed to be accounted for after the annual report was completed. Expenses in 2016 were up about 9% to \$799,716. Our three biggest sources of revenue besides pledges were Pennywise, the annual fundraiser event and endowment releases. Pledges were down but offset by a 50% increase in contributions with envelopes. Our provisional 2017 budget of \$846,404 is ambitious and will depend greatly on the pledge commitments of the parishioners. Dan thanked the Counting Team and the Deposit team for their efforts and welcomed others to volunteer to help, especially in the summer months.

Senior Warden, Bob Foltz, gave his report on the state of the Parish, which is also found in the 2017 Annual Report booklet. He reminded us that the state of the parish was very good as we embark upon our 40th year of many good works. He mentioned the important addition of Fr. Douglas to the clergy as well as the addition of a new ministry, the Veteran's Ministry. The faith of the people of St. Mary's motivates their work. We are a devout parish living in faith, hope and love to do the good work of Jesus.

At the conclusion of the Eucharist, the meeting continued in the Parish Life Center.

The following resolution was made by Bob Foltz, seconded by Tim Blaicher and unanimously approved by those present at the meeting.

RESOLUTION OF THE MEMBERS OF ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BONITA SPRINGS, INC.

RESOLVED by the Members (the "Members") of ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BONITA SPRINGS, INC., a Florida not-for-profit corporation (the "Parish"), acting at the Annual Meeting of the Members held on January 29, 2017, as follows:

1. The Members hereby repeal the existing By-laws of the Parish in full.
2. The Members hereby adopt the By-laws presented to this Meeting as the By-laws of the Parish.
3. All previous Resolutions of the Members, which are inconsistent with this Resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Adopted on January 29, 2017.

Dann Battina addressed those assembled by introducing the work of his committee, Capital Development. As part of the committee's work, they have joined with the Jeanette McDonald of the Episcopal Church Foundation who will lead us in the discernment process that will take place over the next few months. Jeanette spoke about the discernment process and encouraged all to think about what the Lord is calling us to be and be doing at St. Mary's. Several parishioners have undergone special training to be facilitators for cottage meetings that will take place over the next months in the PLC or private homes. Persons interested in hosting a cottage meeting should please contact Dann Battina.

Fr. Rowe asked for questions and comments from those members present. There was a call for those interested to volunteer at Penny Wise. Fr. Rowe advised that Yolanda Naimoli would no longer be in charge of Penny Wise. He thanked her for her many years of devoted service to Penny Wise. Vivian Curt asked who won the raffle tickets at the annual fundraiser. Renee Osborne provided those details. Fr. Rowe reminded us to take a 40th anniversary mug home as a kind gift of a parishioner. Renee Osborne also introduced Stephanie English and thanked her for taking the minutes of the Vestry meetings and the Annual Meeting.

Fr. Rowe deeply thanked Moe Courchesne and Brian Cleary for their service to the Vestry and presented them with a prayer book in recognition of their service.

Fr. Rowe concluded the meeting with a closing prayer at 12:10PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie English

228 present

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee appointed by the Vestry is pleased to report that the following ladies and gentlemen have agreed to be nominated for three-year terms on the Vestry at the Annual Meeting of the parish on January 28, 2018, and to serve on the Vestry for such terms if elected by the members of the parish at that Meeting:

Ruth Davies

Hilton Jervey

Paul G. Judkins

Jill Rock Smith

Respectfully submitted,

C. Robert Foltz, Senior Warden and
Chairman of the Nominating Committee

Ruth Davies

Ruth has been a member of St. Mary's since January 2014.
Ruth grew up in the United Methodist Church but has been an Episcopalian for over 35 years.

Ruth is a Registered Renal Dietitian and also a Professor at FSW University. Ruth graduated from the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minnesota; received her Masters from the University of Minnesota; and Doctoral studies at Auburn University. She also studied Biochemistry at the University of Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom where she met her husband, Chris.

Ruth and Chris have lived in Southwest Florida since January 1985. They have two children and two grandsons (from their daughter) and expecting a granddaughter (from their son's wife) on January 28!

In her spare time, Ruth likes running and long walks and occasionally some golf. Her favorite place for rest and relaxation is at the lake in northern Minnesota.

Ruth is willing to serve on the Vestry in whatever capacity the Lord provides.

Hilton M. Jervey, CFA

Hilton Jervey was born in Omaha, Nebraska but from an early age lived in New Jersey where he graduated from The Pingry School. He then attended Princeton University, graduating with an AB in Architecture, followed by attending the Graduate Division of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania where he received an MBA in Finance. He then joined Manufacturers Hanover Trust in New York in their investment research department, rising to head that area and then moving on to management responsibilities in institutional portfolio management. During his twenty-four years at Manufacturers Hanover, Hilton earned his Chartered Financial Analyst designation and also served a term as president of the New York Society of Security Analysts. In 1987 he started work for the Summit Bank, which became the largest bank in New Jersey, as their Chief Investment Officer and continued in that position until Summit was acquired by Fleet Bank in about 2000 and was retained as a regional manager by that organization. He retired in 2002 but became the Chief Investment Officer for one wealthy family for the next six years.

Hilton and his wife Georgia are lifelong Episcopalians and were members of St. Andrews in New Providence for forty-five years during which time Hilton served either as Treasurer or Senior Warden several times and they both sang in the choir for the last twenty-five years of their membership. In 2009, they sold their house in New Jersey to live in a family house in Chatham, Massachusetts where they joined St. Christopher's and sing in the choir and also became residents of Florida, living in a condo they purchased in 1994. They also became members of St. Mary's and joined its choir. While in New Jersey, Hilton also became very active in the Diocese serving on the Diocesan Investment Trust as well as other committees and chairing for two years a commission that the bishop created to explore new ways of stimulating parish giving to the diocese. Hilton currently serves as Chair of St. Mary's Endowment Commission and has been a member of the Stewardship Commission.

Hilton and Georgia have two daughters, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Paul G. Judkins

Paul is a native of Alexander, NY, a small town between Buffalo and Rochester. After graduation from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, later applying for and being accepted for flight training. Upon completion of flight training in Pensacola, he was designated a Naval Aviator and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

Paul continued his career as an aviator and Marine officer, serving two tours of duty in Vietnam, and being promoted to the grade of Colonel. During his time in service he completed his college education at Auburn University. He retired after 33 years of active duty in 1988.

After retirement from the Marine Corps, Paul became a high school teacher for twelve years as a senior instructor for the Junior ROTC program. He then returned to his native town in New York State and spent another twelve years as a full-time volunteer for the local Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Paul was married and had three sons with the late Alice Smithwick Judkins who passed away in 2009. Subsequently, he met and married Annette Leahy-Judkins and they relocated permanently to the Bonita Springs area where they currently reside. They have been active in St. Mary's Episcopal Church since 2015.

Jill Rock Smith

Jill Rock Smith was raised in Newtown CT. She is a life long Episcopalian serving as a teen on the junior altar guild and president of the Young People's Fellowship.

She is a graduate of SUNY in Dental Hygiene and continued for an advanced degree at Fairleigh Dickson University. Later in life she received a massage therapy degree specializing in Temporal Mandibular Therapy.

She and Rick have just celebrated their 11th anniversary. She has one daughter Sarah and, along with Rick's two sons, have 7 grandchildren.

Her summer home is in New Hartford CT where she is still active at St. John's Episcopal Church. She has served on the vestry, fundraising, altar guild and the gardening committee.

Jill has been a Florida resident for six years. She has been on the board of ECW in charge of outreach, an active member of OSL and the garden weeders.

She looks forward to serving you and Christ as a member of the vestry.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN 2017

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

The year of Our Lord 2017 was another good year for our beloved parish – a jubilee year in which we celebrated our fortieth anniversary. It was again a year in which, by the Grace of God, many of us worked long and hard and well in the service of Christ. Among the many tasks we undertook, the following were, to me, of particular note:

1. We fed the poor by delivering food through our Outreach Commission to several charities.
2. We cared for the sick through our Pastoral Care Ministry.
3. We gave to the needy through the profits engendered by parishioners working at Penny Wise.
4. We pledged generously to the parish through our Stewardship Campaign.
5. We helped the victims of Hurricane Irma through a separate disaster fund to which many of us contributed.
6. We generously supported our annual fund-raising event.
7. We managed the affairs of the parish well through our Vestry.
8. We had great fellowship through ECW and the foyer groups
9. We had great bible study and other religious education groups.
10. Our choir continued to sing joyously despite having various Music Directors.

11. We worshipped well under the able leadership of our Rector, Father Bob and other priests and heard some moving sermons.

12. We celebrated our fortieth anniversary in many ways, culminating in a magnificent Feast of Founding.

We also wrestled with the problem of finding a new Music Director, a problem that has been temporarily solved through the hiring of an interim Director. In addition, we faced financial challenges which, as of this writing, we have weathered to some extent but are still facing.

As you can see, our positive activities for 2017 far outweighed our problems. It is this which makes me love and respect our parish.

My term as Senior Warden now ends. It has been a joy and an honor to serve you these past three years.

Bob Foltz

REPORT OF THE PRIEST ASSOCIATE 2017

The Reverend Bob Douglas

It is a great honor to serve and work with the good people of St Mary's. Everywhere I look, I see people living lives of true discipleship of Jesus. I see hearts on fire to know God more intimately as well as a desire to serve others in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is a special place that encourages and exhorts all people to follow in obedience to the call that has been placed on their lives. I am grateful to participate in the equipping of the saints to do the work of the Kingdom.

2017 has been a time of growth and confidence in my call to the priesthood. I have had the opportunity to expand my role of leadership; with emphasis in pastoral and healing ministries. On the mission side, Elaine and I took the healing ministry to the Dominican Republic as part of an ecumenical team. On the teaching side, bible studies, including: teen, Wednesday @ 10:30, and Bentley, have been vibrant and fulfilling. Additionally, it was wonderful to be an assistant spiritual director on Cursillo 137 and to participate in a ministry that is near to my heart.

I look forward to what God has in store for all of us as we move forward in love and obedience to Jesus.

Fr. Bob+

TREASURERS REPORT 2017

St. Mary's had a good, but a mixed year as is reflected in the financial reporting.

Revenues	2015	2016	2017	Budget 2018
Contributions	644,373	697,509	699,016	706,680
Activities	74,017	52,686	67,141	52,320
Other Income	40,505	10,124	33,663	11,000
Other Offerings	19,733	12,238	17,920	10,000
Total Revenues	778,628	772,557	787,741	780,000

Expenses	2015	2016	2017	Budget 2018
Clergy	236,339	279,195	299,231	311,507
Lay Staff	199,727	182,208	175,329	162,761
Communication	73,29	12,022	14,168	13,000
Diocese	75,501	87,049	84,684	87,135
Other Admn	70,277	70,910	77,740	72,300
Property	106,833	112,094	94,485	115,800
Music	23,317	30,687	44,879	29,000
Christian Formation	12,238	12,175	29,643	17,700
Other	0		16,372	
Total Expenses	731,561	799,045	836,743	809,203

Clergy compensation is the largest single line item in the budget.

The Diocese tracks our spending and the annual apportionment is based on the prior two years spending and thankfully will go down in 2018.

Lay staff is within planned expenditures

Communications is also within planned expenditures.

Other Administration will increase slightly.

Music was well overspent in 2017 but as we enter 2018 is at a comfortable level.

Christian Formation was virtually the same as last year.

Total Expenses in 2017 were at plan.

Capital expenditures were way up due to Hurricane Irma. That prior Vestries had the foresight to build "rainy day funds" was most fortunate as \$100,000 was used in 2017. In future years, these funds will need to be replaced.

We made progress with some debt reductions in 2017. The \$100,000 Line-of-Credit was paid in December and not carried in the following year. This will be helpful in 2018.

Informal discussions were initiated with the Rector regarding Sabbaticals and a solution crafted. The Wardens find tuned this concept and the result in our Rector has plans to pay off his loan to the Endowment in the next few years.

The property mortgage is now \$128,449 and will be due in the summer of 2019.

The Outreach Funds began the year with a balance of \$5,432 received \$80,142 and spent \$76,485.

PennyWise provided \$40,000 for outreach activities.

We did an internal audit under the expert guidance of Wendy Scheible with assistance from Bob Foltz and John Osborne.

We broke new ground in the Diocese by establishing an IRA for St. Mary's in order to receive an IRA to IRA bequest.

To accomplish the business of the church requires over 100,000 transactions per year i.e., depositing checks and paying bills. St. Mary's is fortunate to have a skilled and dedicated staff of volunteers to do the necessary financial duties.

Many thanks to Jim and Sara George, Les Rooker, Jim and Barbara Howard, Peter Justus, Moe Courchesne, Beryl Chickerella, and Jim Fowler.

Finally, a big thanks to Renee Osborne and Ian Mitchell for their special help in 2017.

It has been an honor and my pleasure to be your Treasurer for these past two years.

ENDOWMENT COMMISSION 2017

Report to the 2018 Annual Meeting

The Endowment Commission is charged with investment management of St. Mary's Endowment Fund as well as educating our parishioners about the importance of participating in keeping the Fund healthy and growing. Our Endowment Fund provides the means to ensure the financial vitality of St. Mary's by providing a resource to sustain the church's affairs when confronting adverse conditions. Over the last several years, the Endowment Fund has made an annual contribution of \$16,400 to the church's operating budget. In 2018, thanks to the growth of the assets, the Fund will be contributing \$20,000. In addition, through a portion of the Fund that is restricted in its use, the Fund pays a substantial portion of the expense of maintaining and enhancing our landscape.

As can be seen from the table below showing the yearend value of the assets, the Endowment Fund has shown positive growth over the last five years. The growth has been the result of contributions and good investment returns with a particularly strong increase in 2017 from both sources. The totals shown are for the portion of Fund invested in publicly held securities and exclude a \$50,000 second mortgage. The current composition of the invested assets is 16.3% in cash equivalents, 15.7% in fixed income and 68.0% in equities. The assets are held in two custody accounts at Northern Trust and a checking account at the same institution.

2012	\$490,779
2013	\$554,422
2014	\$599,092
2015	\$578,403
2016	\$665,011
2017	\$886,431

We hope that many more of our parishioners will make the decision to join our Legacy Society, which is composed of members of St. Mary's who have either given significant immediate gifts to the Fund or who have made provision in their financial affairs for a future donation of any size. For any of you that would like to participate either way, the steps needed to do so are relatively simple but should probably include legal advice.

Currently, the members of the Commission are Joe Daniele, John Osborne and Rick Smith. Ex officio members are Father Rowe, Bob Foltz, our Senior Warden and Dan McClean, our Treasurer. Joanna Wragg has been a member this past year but has resigned due to the demands of the Stewardship Commission, of which she is the chair. Bob Foltz will stay on in 2018 as a regular member. Please thank them all for their dedicated service.

Hilton Jervey
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Stewardship Report to Vestry & Annual Meeting, as of Jan. 8, 2018.

To date: pledges received (cards/on-line/checks received w notation for 2018 pledge/verbal via telephone)

Total pledges to date: 156 @ \$458,249

Previous pledgers who have not yet reported: est. 60 +/-

Of the previous pledgers who have not pledged to date, at least 12 have picked up the new Offering Envelopes, as have 2 others who were not on last year's list.

A total of 58 sets of Offering Envelopes have been signed out to date. *Last year, fewer than 95 were checked out and many of them were never used. This year we cut the printing order in half and reassigned the numbers in sequence, for significant savings. We anticipate the order can be reduced further next year.*

Calls and/or emails have been made to those who have not yet responded.
Joanna Wragg, 2017-18 Stewardship Chair

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION

The Christian Formation Committee

Chair of the Commission	Father Michael Rowe	297-7245	rector@stmarysbonita.org
Incoming Chair	Jill Smith	718-619-0678	rdh71@aol.com
Vestry Liaison	Jill Smith	718-619-0678	rdh71@aol.com
Bible Study Programs	Father Bob Douglas	992-4343	rdouglas@stmarysbonita.org
Family Life	Denise Wallace	947-5197	denise@premierlandtitle.net
Youth Coordinator	Courtney R. Crosby		youthcoordinator@stmarysbonita.org
Adult Formation	Father Michael Rowe	297-7245	rector@stmarysbonita.org
Cursillo	Brian Cleary	265-1238	bpc13771@gmail.com
Men's Ministry	Brian Cleary	265-1238	bpc13771@gmail.com
Library	Diane E. Dearth	591-6120	dianadearth@gmail.com
Members:	Cherrill Cregar	498-1925	clcregar@gmail.com
	Jim Howard	908-3915	wjh1@comcast.net
	Nancy Vaughn	989-3389	nancylv57@gmail.com
	Joan Croteau	774-275-1935	joancro@yahoo.com

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20a)

Paul wrote, "Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." (Ephesians 4:15)

St. Mary's has a rich and varied Christian Formation ministry that serves every age group and stage of Christian discipleship. The Commission strives to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to be taught all that Christ has commanded (Matthew 28:20) and to grow into Christian maturity (Ephesians 4:15).

In addition to the Eucharist and its preaching, which provides the heart of Christian formation, our regular growth is nurtured in several weekly studies:

- Mother Bobbie's Book Club on Mondays
- Fr. Bob's Bible Study on Wednesday mornings
- Women's Bible Study on Wednesday evenings
- Bentley Bible Study on Thursdays.

In addition, 2017 saw Confirmation classes, special evening presentations, a Lenten Retreat for men, participation in the Bonita Christian forum and much else. We welcomed Bishop Andy Doyle for a Lenten Day and our own Mother Gail provided for *Women of Worth* in Advent.

Family Ministries and the Order of St. Luke offer specific formation in their respective areas, covered in their reports. At the end of the year The Order of St. Luke was moved to the Pastoral Ministries Commission.

St. Mary's has wonderful Christian formation resources and offerings. The challenge is to coordinate and publicize them so that members of St. Mary's and others can take full advantage of them. If you might be drawn to this, please speak with Fr. Rowe or Jill Smith.

Father Michael Rowe

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Report of the Junior Warden 2017

The Facilities Management Commission is charged with maintenance, operation and improvements of the buildings and grounds of the St. Mary's campus. This includes signage and safety as well as new construction.

The FMC meets monthly on the second Saturday of the month at 9am in the Parish Life Center to discuss the progress of current projects and to get input on future projects. Having construction and repair knowledge is helpful, but not essential, and new members are welcome and invited to become a part of this ministry.

FloraLinda Garden Committee supervises and maintains the plantings in the FloraLinda Garden which surrounds the church building. The committee also plans, plants and maintains flowerbeds to provide seasonal color for the garden. It is a "hands-on" ministry. Those willing to get their "hands dirty" are invited to join at any time.

Columbarium and All Souls' Memorial Garden: Located within the Chapel with its beauty and inherent dignity, the Columbarium provides an ambiance of spiritual togetherness, a place where one may come to meditate and pray. It offers comfort to the family by having a memorial to the deceased within the church and affirms our faith that those who die in the Lord remain in communion not only with God but also with the living.

The Memorial Garden was completed in 2016 and provides a beautiful area for the interment of the remains of a loved one in a garden-like setting for which the plantings are changed with the seasons. This has been maintained throughout the year with recovery work completed after hurricane Irma.

The Junior Warden is responsible for the Columbarium and All Souls' Memorial Garden and may be reached through contact with the Parish Office.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

Rick Smith

2017 Accomplishments and 2018 Priorities

The Communications Commission was restructured in early 2017. The primary objectives for the year were a redesign of St. Mary's website, a reevaluation of our advertising program and budget and an effort to streamline operations.

Website Redesign

We retained a website development firm in 3Q17 to redesign our website.

The major benefits of the redesigned website are compatibility with the new generation of laptops, hand held devices and new website software that are more widely used. The new software will enable us to enter into a services agreement whereby our uploads to the website can be done by a third party. This reduces our dependence on qualified volunteers.

We expect that the redesign of the website will be completed in January 2018.

Advertising Budget

Prior to 2017 the vast majority of the Communications Commission's budget was spent on print advertising. Given 2016 expenses paid in 2017 and prior commitments for 2017, print advertising has amounted to \$8,000 or 67% of the 2017 budget. All advertising was suspended for 2017 with the exception of publishing our Christmas services schedule in Spotlight and the deanery ad. 2018 advertising expenses are expected to be limited to publication of Easter and Christmas schedules.

Efficiency Opportunities

The Communications Commission defines efficiency as limiting the number of volunteers needed to meet its objectives, using technology and the judicious use of our budget. In 2019 we will have the opportunity to review the production of Tidings. We are currently using sophisticated software with a steep learning curve and have decided to convert to Word as it is well known and most people are familiar with its workings.

Opportunities

The use of social media (Twitter, Facebook etc.) by churches is a popular theme but how successful this marketing channel will be is still not clear. Advertising is certainly cheaper but as with print advertising there is little or no data to suggest that it will have a significant positive impact. However, in 2018 we intend to explore the use of social media to increase the awareness of St Mary's by active users of social media.

We want to thank everyone who serves on the Commission or has assisted us in 2017.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH - 2017

2017 Annual Report

Women of the Episcopal Church are joined together to serve and do God's work. All women who are members of an Episcopal Church are considered members of ECW. Through ECW there are a host of opportunities for spiritual growth, leadership, volunteerism and development of lasting friendships with fellow St. Mary's women as well as ECW members from other parishes.

Since reorganizing and rebuilding in 2015, St. Mary's has continued a rejuvenated ECW organization. There are exciting opportunities for leadership on the Executive Board working in partnership with the current leaders. There has continued to be positive and increased participation in ECW events. In addition, there is also increased representation in the Diocese of SW Florida and Naples Deanery, including the hosting of Deanery and Diocesan events. We are expanding the scope of ECW's Ministry at St. Mary's beyond Outreach to include Personal and Spiritual Development, Hospitality and Fundraising.

Ministry- Weekly inspirational book studies include reading, reflection and meditation with Priestly direction, ECW is committed to strengthening both the personal and collective spiritual journey.

“Reaching Out”- This committee for ECW reaches out to more areas for charitable donations and involvement such as “Irma Relief Fund”, “Angels for Irma” and other missionary related causes as they arise.

Hospitality-ECW volunteers spend countless hours planning special receptions for Baptisms, Confirmations, Retirements, Deanery Meetings and Minister Luncheons. Foyer Groups which offer fellowship during dinners at member’s homes or nearby restaurants are also planned by ECW. Additionally, ECW hosted a lovely luncheon in July for our new Priest Associate and an indoor picnic for St. Mary’s Day.

Programs- Interesting faith-based and informational programs as well as day trips provide opportunities to reflect on Christ’s love in a variety of settings such as nature, art or history are planned and held monthly by ECW.

Fundraising-Devoted volunteers work diligently to help support the many ministries of St. Mary’s through efforts such as the “Stay at Home Tea” and other fundraising events.

The Christmas Giving Stockings-Through annual Christmas gifting to local children in need, ECW sponsored the opportunity for St. Mary’s members to donate gifts to The Golisano Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida.

The Chrismon Tree-The precious tradition of decoration and display of the Chrismon Tree in the Chancel continues to spread joy and peace throughout the Advent and Christmas season.

The Annual Christmas Tea-This splendid annual tradition is hosted by ECW. Hostesses sponsor and decorate their tea tables expressing their unique tastes and invite guests to share in a lovely tea experience full of graciousness and delights.

United Thank Offering (UTO)-This is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole Church. Through United Thank Offering, men, women and children nurture the habit of giving daily offerings and thanks to God. These UTO monies are used to support mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church and the invited Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world.

Lunch Bunch-Through monthly outings, the Lunch Bunch offers a casual environment for women to share time together and embrace God’s love with fellow Christian women.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Battina and Renee Osborne

ECW Co-Presidents

MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION 2017 Report

Membership's goal is to grow our membership and overall church attendance. This is accomplished by the Membership Commission, Ushers, Greeters and Worship Commission working together in making St. Mary's Church a place that visitors will find warmth, friendliness and a desire to make this their parish home. Membership is constantly seeking creative ways to welcome visitors and new members. Greeters at the door welcome everyone at all services and encourage visitors to fill out a visitor’s card and a name tag. Invitations are extended to visitors on Sunday for refreshments, conversation and fellowship in the Parish

Life Center. They are accompanied by a member of the church to introduce and make the newcomer comfortable and welcomed. The Membership Commission hosts three Newcomers Orientation receptions throughout the year for visitors and newcomers. At these functions various representatives of the clergy, Senior and Junior Wardens and Commission Chairpersons provide information on the life of the parish and volunteer opportunities for the ministries. These are very popular with the visitors, giving them an opportunity to meet other newcomers and explore the ministries which are of interest to them. Great credit and thanks are given to the members of Membership, which has now grown to ten members. They are the first faces to welcome newcomers and make them feel at home.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Turansky
Chair

WORSHIP COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

Gail Goggin co-chairperson

Mission Statement: The Worship Commission is a committee of staff and lay people of St. Mary's Episcopal Church who serve the church by supporting and promoting the use of sound principals and practices. The Commission ensures that these principles and practices are consistent with the Canons, By-Laws and Regulations of the Episcopal Church of the United States.

As required by the Canons, the chair of the Worship Commission is the Rector. All other Commissions may be chaired by a layperson. Membership on the Commission comprises of representation by the Clergy, Music Ministry, Altar Guild, Pastoral Care, and scheduling coordinators from the regular worship services, the weekday services and special services.

The Commission plans and discusses all the special services for the liturgical seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter etc. In addition, the Commission reviews and discusses changes and protocol for all worship services and special services at St. Mary's throughout the year. The Commission meets monthly with the exception of August.

One key Committee within the Worship Commission, Altar Guild (Sandie Beihl) has filed a separate report for the Annual Report. The Altar Guild provides the support and services needed for meaningful and appropriate worship throughout the year including all special services.

The Music Ministry provides an expressive interpretation of the parts of the worship service provided by our organist, cantors and choir. In addition, the Music Ministry and the choir have provided special events for the enjoyment of St. Mary's and the community at large including two Concert Series events. In the spring, our long-time organist resigned. A search committee was formed to locate a new Music Director. After an exhaustive search, we hired a new Music Director. Unfortunately, while a most accomplished musician, he turned out to not be a good fit for St. Mary's. As it was close to the Christmas season, it was felt that we would not be able to begin a new search at this time but would, instead, seek an interim Music Director. Kathleen Pignato has been hired to fill that spot and her first Sunday was January 7, 2018.

The following persons have served on the Worship Commission this past year.

Staff:

Father Michael Rowe,	Rector and Commission Chair
Father Bob Douglas,	Priest Associate
Ian Mitchell,	Office Administrator

Lay Persons:

Gail Goggin,	Co-chairperson
Sandie Beihl,	Altar Guild
Elinor Foltz,	Pastoral Care
Jim Howard,	Ushers and Greeters
Gail Goggin,	10am Sunday service coordinator
Robert Raubolt,	5pm Saturday service coordinator
Jenny. Schwerdtfeger,	8am Sunday Service coordinator
Paul Greene,	weekday and special services coordinator
Christine Julander,	Stations of the Cross coordinator
Otis Wragg,	Vestry Liaison

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Goggin

**OUTREACH COMMISSION
2017 Annual Report**

Commission Members:

Fred Cable, Chair	Paul Way
Brian Cleary	Joyce Peterson
Anne Dodge	J A Rautio
Elaine Douglas	Juliette Shaheen
Dave Eifert	Dave Smith
Mary Hagan	Jill Smith
Barbara Howard	Jeanette Turansky
Jim Howard	Dave Wallace

The Outreach Commission has had another successful year, thanks to the support of the St. Mary's congregation, the Episcopal Church Women and our Pennywise Thrift Shop. We strive to make St. Mary's a source of help to the needy of our parish and our community. Through our efforts we hope to make St. Mary's more widely known as a provider of material and spiritual help.

2017 Pennywise Outreach Grants

The Commission receives numerous requests for funds from organizations in Lee and Collier counties, as well as requests from agencies worldwide. After reviewing applications, the Commission awards grants each December with funds provided by Pennywise Thrift Shop. In 2017 these funds totaled \$40,000! Below is a listing of these grants:

Bonita Springs Assistance	\$8,000
Café of Life (Bonita Springs)	2,000
Gabriel House of Fort Myers	1,000
Harvest Time Ministries (Bonita Springs)	4,000
Love INC (Bonita Springs)	4,000
Meals on Wheels (Bonita Springs)	2,000
Ministry of Dave & Daphne Smith (India)	4,000
Naples Deanery Dominican Republic Ministry	4,000
Our Mother's Home of SW Florida (Ft. Myers)	1,000
Haitian Orphanage "Place of Hope"	2,000
New Horizons (Bonita Springs)	2,000
After the Rain of SW Florida	3,000
Senior Community Resource	1,000
TBA	<u>2,000</u>
	\$40,000

2017 OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

One Blood Drive
Two Food Drives (Harvest Time Ministries and Bonita Springs Assistance)
Ten Harvest Time Ministries team visitations to migrant worker camps
Smith Ministries Sunday
United Thank Offering (Episcopal Church Women)
Forty-One Sponsorships for Dominican Republic School students
Children's Giving Tree (ECW)
Two Day of Change collections for outreach projects – Doctors Without Borders
- Irma Relief Fund
"Souper Bowl" Sunday soup collection for Bonita Springs Assistance
Episcopal Relief & Development donations

2017 OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED

January	Harvest Time Ministries Team Visits Smith Ministries Bloodmobile
February	Harvest Time Ministries Team Visits "Souper" Bowl Sunday United Thank Offering Collection (ECW)
March/April	Harvest Time Ministries Team Visits "Day of Change" Collection Spring Food Drive Bloodmobile
May-Oct.	Food Collection for Bonita Springs Assistance
November	Fall Food Drive Harvest Time Ministries Team Visits "Day of Change" Collection
December	Harvest Time Ministries Team Visits Dominican Republic Sponsorships

Respectfully Submitted, Fred Cable, Chairman

**PENNYWISE THRIFT SHOP
ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

The thrift store had another very successful year helping the local community donate and purchase great products. This branch of St. Mary's church was able to donate \$40,000.00 to local and global outreach programs and provide the parish capital fund with \$40,000.00.

Bonita Springs Assistance	\$8,000
Café of Life	2,000
Gabriel House, Inc.	1,000
Harvest Time Ministries	4,000
Love, INC	4,000
Meals on Wheels of Bonita Springs	2,000
Pioneers/Ministry of David & Daphne Smith	4,000
Dominican Republic School	4,000
Our Mother's Home of SW Florida	1,000
Place of Hope in Haiti, Inc.	2,000
New Horizons	2,000
After the Rain/SWF	3,000
Senior Community Resource, Inc.	1,000

This was the first full year operating at a reduced schedule of 11 am to 2pm. The shorter schedule has not greatly affected the overall sales and has increased the flexibility for managers and staff. Sales were lower than previous years due to natural disasters and plumbing leaks. We lost approximately 20 days of sales and customer discretionary income was reduced due to the hurricane. The store continues to need quality donations year-round in order to reach sales goals.

Improvements were made to the surrounding landscaping this year and some additional space was found in the store. The unexpected weather events of 2017 prevented some projects from being completed, more improvements are going to be made in 2018.

The following members from the board of directors will be completing their terms in 2017: Susie Almy, Betty Cable and Mike Brookings. We thank them for their service to the board and their continued dedication to the mission moving forward. We are happy to welcome to the board in 2018: Mike Brookings, Pam Stamper, Diane Daniele, and Kelvin Niles.

The Thrift Store is always in search of new members to join our team, please contact Brian Cleary at 239.265.1238 if interested.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Cleary, Chairman St. Mary's Thrift Shop

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE – Chaired by Bob Raubolt / Fr. Bob Douglas

St. Mary's has a devoted Pastoral Care Team consisting of faithful members of our church whose spiritual gifting's and sense of call is evidenced in the compassionate care of others. Each team member is dedicated to daily prayer for each person on our list, visitation of those not able to attend church services (in hospitals, nursing homes, Care Centers or places of residence), in addition to the study and devotion appropriate as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Our Licensed Eucharist Visitor's bring the Holy Sacrament to the homebound and to those who are unable to attend Sunday Eucharist due to extraordinary circumstances. In 2017, the EV's conducted 175 of these private outreach services.

Expanding beyond the walls of the buildings the pastoral care committee hosts monthly celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at local continuum of care communities. Each month, two services are held at the Care Center in Bentley Village and one at the Renaissance at the Terrace's.

Order of Saint Luke – Chaired by Cherrill Cregar / Laura Ransom

The International Order of St. Luke – Induction Ceremony

Six students completed The International Order of St. Luke nine-week course this summer as taught by Laura Ransom. Denise Wallace, Elaine Douglas, Barbara Bateman and Bob Raubolt, from St. Mary's with Russell Tuff and Kaydee Tuff, from Trinity by the Sea were inducted into OSL on Tuesday, October 10th at 7pm. On Sunday, October 15th at the 10am Service, the Induction continued, with an anointing and blessings of the hands. A small reception was held after services. We are blessed that the new member of St. Mary's Ecclesia Chapter of OSL has begun to take an active role in the ministry.

OSL Winter Study

The training continues this winter with a 9-week OSL study program Tuesday's at 3pm from January through March. The 26 gospel accounts of Jesus' miracles are the center of the study as required for induction into The International Order of St. Luke. Induction will take place in the Spring.

Heart to Heart

Two members of St. Mary's OSL team attended the Heart to Heart Seminar at St. John's Episcopal Church early December. The four-hour study was aimed at strengthening your faith through a series of questions regarding the goodness of God. First Presbyterian Church is hosting this event on January 6th. Our members are hoping to attend.

St. Martin's Ministry – Chaired by Elinor Foltz

What a joy the Recovery Eucharist offers, now finishing 3rd year, to the community. A steady attendance of 14 to 30 persons, a few regulars, and some just in need, and some curious. We are grateful to Mother Bobbie, continuing her leadership and compassion, and to Ian Mitchell, who, along with Mother Bobbie, prepares the paperwork for this first Tuesday, monthly, service.

The St Martin's Team consists of 10 members (6 yearly, 4 seasonally) We ask nonmembers as much as possible to participate, encouraging continued attendance as each is gifted in speaking.

So far, we have been privileged to have a different speaker at each service. All willingly and very eloquent in delivery. All say, "speaking here has changed my life". Well, they have changed the audience as well.

All St Martin's members (belonging to AA and/or Al-Anon,) are available for personal conversation.

Walking the Mourner's Path – Chaired by Jeanette Turansky

WMP is a Ministry to help those who are in grief, be it a loss of someone recent or a past grief that has not been resolved or overcome. It is an eight-week workshop to share your pain with others, and it is a Christ-centered grief program to be with others who also know your pain and wish for healing.

Father Bob, together with three laity, took the workshop mid-2017 and are convinced it will be a truly comforting and growing experience for those who are feeling disconnected because of their loss of a loved one. St. Mary's would truly benefit from such a program and facilitators who are trained and have the desire to help those in their grief. In 2018 St. Mary's is embarking on getting this program and undertaking realized.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Chaired by Barbara Williams

Approximately 30 shawls were blessed over the summer. Since then we have given out 20, the thank you notes that have been received by these individuals are on the door of the prayer shawl cabinet, as of right now we only have 15 left that are blessed.

At the January 13 5:00 pm Eucharist we will be having two baskets of shawls blessed. January is going to be a very exciting month for the Prayer Shawl Ministry as we will be meeting once or twice a month and any parishioner who is interested in learning how to crochet a shawl for this ministry one of our parishioners has offered to teach those who want to learn.

Veterans Ministry – Chaired by Bill Gilmore / Joe Daniele

Here are the accomplishments of 2017

- χ The Roll Call book listing St Mary's and other veterans, deceased and living
- χ Held A Memorial Day Veterans Eucharist Service, great turn out, will be an annual event. The Service included the Final Roll Call military ceremony.
- χ Joe Daniele and Bill Gilmore conducted the Final Roll Call at the Terraces, on Memorial Day with Joe speaking.
- χ Joe Daniele presented at the Terraces Veterans Day ceremony with Bill speaking
- χ Instituted a Terraces monthly service, which became open to all Terraces residents and patients
- χ Made Veterans visits to Terraces veterans. This program has slowed down as we lost two of our visitors. VITAL THAT WE GET A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS.

Family Ministries 2017 – Chaired by Denice Wallace

Sunday School – We continue with the “Living the Good News” curriculum led by Elaine Polus, assisted by volunteers during the 10 AM Sunday service.

Teen Bible Study – Led by Fr. Douglas, this initiative began in the fall on Tuesday evenings concurrent with the adult program. The material used is “The Bible Project”, a very young, leading edge program which consists of a 6-minute video and worksheets for each discussion. The teens participate in a question and answer session and group discussion.

Messy Church – continues on a quarterly basis and is well attended.

Family Fun Night – continues on Saturday evenings. Families participate in activities such as roller skating, going to the movies, cookouts and game nights. We have also attended some live performances of musicals at Center for the Arts Bonita Springs in which some of our youth participate. We were also treated to an interpretive dance performance by one of our own during church.

Women's Bible Study - There have been two 11-week sessions attended by approximately 20 women. The Beth Moore programs "Jesus, the One and Only" and "Esther, It's Hard Being a Woman" were presented and well received. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other and build relationships while learning. This program will continue in 2017.

Men's Ministry 2017

Brian Cleary

The Men's ministry is now at the start of 2018 experiencing a resurgence in fellowship after the pressures of 2017 still had men doing work in every corner of the church but not in meeting together in fellowship. Many men volunteer in the various financial committees, outreach, prayer ministry, coffee hour, altar duties, choir, and ushering. We are working to keep St. Mary's vibrant and financially stable.

Last year's retreat in Venice, Florida, with approximately 12 men experiencing a two-day retreat to get closer to God and each other. Friendships grow on this retreat and the weekend has helped inspire new support for the ministries at St. Mary's.

The Men's Commission held the Lenten Fish Fry in 2017 and will host it again in 2018. If you have a passion for men's ministry, have a great idea for an event, or would like to join please contact Brian Cleary at 239.265.1238

St Mary's Church Library Renewal Project

Diane Dearth

Plans are afoot to update the church library with the goals of completing cataloging of all library materials and ensuring that this facility supports church activities, remains up to date, and is a welcoming and user-friendly resource. To that end, we have acquired ResourceMate library automation software and have upgraded the library computer. This will allow us to catalog all library materials in the Dewey Decimal system and to keep an organized and up-to-date inventory of the library collection. Library users will be able to access the library collection on the computer, much as one does in the county library system. Initially, check-out and check-in for borrowed materials will be a simple sign-out sheet, but the new software will eventually allow us to automate borrowing as well.

The library is represented on the Christian Formation Commission so that resources supporting the needs of these activities can be included in the library collection. It is hoped that eventually a group of volunteers will be able to update and monitor the library collection, keep parishioners informed of new acquisitions, and promote the use of the library.

To date the ResourceMate automation software has been installed and work on automated cataloging has begun. A sign-out sheet has been placed in the library to record borrowing and return of books so that we can monitor book circulation and keep track of inventory. Library resources related to forthcoming events, such as The Reverend Brett Cane's visit and presentation on Worship and Space (January 20/21) and The Good Book Club's focus on Luke (Lent) and Acts (Easter), will be displayed in the Parish Life Center.

You will be seeing some moving around of library materials as we tackle this project. These will be identified and it will still be possible to use the library. Watch for updates on our progress

ALTAR GUILD 2017

As we close the door to 2017, Altar Guild looks back on a busy year of preparing the church and the Lord's table for 312 regular weekend and weekday services in addition to funerals, baptisms, major feast days and even monthly on-site services at Bentley Village and The Terraces.

This year, we happily welcomed Elaine Douglas and Barbara Williams to our merry roster bringing our current total of team members to twenty-three not counting the husbands who generously and good-naturedly pitch in to assist with preparations when time is of the essence between the weekend services. I think of these noble gentlemen as our "Special Forces" who have become quite adept especially at refilling candles.

We are grateful for generous benefactors who (wishing to remain anonymous), provided funds for two dozen linen purificators, two dozen communion kit purificators, and an additional post communion veil. The thoughtful gift of two lovely nativity sets from Michiko Fox and her late husband, Tom, graced the Parish Life Center front entry table and library throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. We thank you.

One of the highlights each year is the Altar Guild-sponsored Palm Cross Workshop open to all parishioners who enjoy fun, fellowship and discovering or re-vitalizing latent creative skills. It is held on the Saturday morning before Palm Sunday in the PLC, and thanks to Co-chairs Juliette Shaheen and Mollie Anderson, it is an event to which many of us look forward. Lots of laughs and high spirits.

A heartfelt thank you to all who sign-up to sponsor weekly altar flowers and to those who donate toward the poinsettias and lilies that grace the sanctuary at Christmas and Easter, respectively. Thank you, too, to all who contribute plants/flowers during Holy Week that we may re-create a Garden of Gethsemane setting for the Maundy Thursday vigil in the Flora Linda garden. We are grateful.

In closing, I would be remiss if I didn't commend Altar Guild for performing a bit of a miracle themselves this immediately past Holy season. With Christmas and Advent sharing the same weekend, the task of observing the last day of Advent on the same day we celebrate the birth of Christ seemed at first daunting and undoable with so many Guild members away for the holidays. But thanks to Barbara Phocas' leadership and those members still in town, the challenge was met head-on with a seamless transition through all six services. No small feat. Just huge devotion. And, a nice way to end the year.

As always, I remain totally in awe of this very rewarding ministry and the women and men who keep all the oil lamps lit!

Sandie Beihl
Directress

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The CDC was formed in late 2016 with Barbara Wallace, Twinky Otis, Joanna Wragg, Bob Pierpont, John Osborne, Tim Blaicher, Dan McLean, and myself as members.

The Committee, with Vestry approval, engaged the services of the Episcopal Church Foundation, with the assignment of their local advisor, Jeannette McDonald to begin the process for a Capital Campaign.

The CDC conducted 5 meetings for development of the ECF's Discernment phase for SMEC. Subsequently 11 volunteers were recruited and trained for Cottage Meetings. 12 Cottage Meetings were conducted with over 120 participants. These Cottage Meetings explored 3 primary questions relative to: What Do We Do Well at SMEC? What Are the Desires for the Future of SMEC? And, What Potential Facility and Property enhancements should be considered? A summary of those Cottage Meeting outcomes was then prepared and distributed by the CDC.

The Discernment Outcomes Report was presented to the Vestry during the March 27th Vestry Meeting. It was decided that the report would be submitted to each Commission for further input that fell within their respective responsibilities. Feedback from those Commissions was reported back to the CDC at various Vestry meetings over the summer.

The CDC summarized the Commission inputs for the Vestry at their October meeting. By then some of the recommendations had been modified, or deleted, and others lacked specificity for details and costs. Given the fluidity of the projects, and the upcoming Stewardship Campaign, the CDC suspended further activity until such time as the Vestry's Executive Committee could meet with the CDC Chairperson.

In early 2018 a Phase II Feasibility Study could be conducted to determine the likelihood of success for a Capital Campaign, through a series of personal interviews by the CDC with selected parishioners. Prior to the Feasibility Study the CDC will need to be restructured to include new leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Dann W. Battina-Chairperson

Cottage Meeting Outcomes

Question 1: *What do we do well at St. Mary's*

- Worship & Music - different liturgy, multiple services, excellent organist and choir
- Welcoming to all - at services, after services, dinners, ECW, Foyer groups
- Outreach - local, national, global
- Education - sermons, bible study, book groups
- Pastoral Care - prayers, visits, cards
- Opportunities to volunteer - something for everyone

Questions 2: *What would we do with our ministries or facilities if we had unlimited resources?*

1. 1. Attract young families and youth:

- contemporary service with music
- fulltime youth minister (Hispanic speaking?)
- youth activities
- nursery/preschool/daycare/after school services.

1. 2. Facilities improvement:

- Penny Wise update and enlarge
- Expand PLC & refresh
- New building on East side of church (this would be for a new PLC & offices, with PW moving into the old PLC).
- Landscaping and visibility improvements on Bonita Beach Road
- Larger choir room with sanctuary acoustic improvements

1. 3. More service:

- Provide support services to elderly (weekly services at retirement facilities, local transportation)
- Educational programs (exercise, music, widows/widowers)
- Food distribution (soup kitchen, year-round food distribution program)
- Mission work (local housing, extend walls of church into the community, global programs)

Question 3: *What do you think God's one big audacious goal is for our parish? What do you think he is calling us to be?*

1. Worship/ Ministries:

- Grow the congregation with new retirees and youth/families. Hire youth minister
- Offer alternative service, i.e. Hispanic Mass, Contemporary (Folk, Beach, Guitar) mass
- Develop/sustain worship programs, i.e. Pastoral Care, Centering Prayer, Prayer Stations, Taize Services, and Outreach. Add Stephen Ministry program

Question 3: *What do you think God's one big audacious goal is for our parish? What do you think he is calling us to be?* (continued)

2. Education:

- Commit resources to establish youth and families' programs (summer programs; music and art programs; Sunday school/education hour).
- Offer programs to public and advertise them (music; guest speakers; forums, etc.)
- Recruit more volunteers to sustain new and existing programs. Recognize volunteers often.
- Enhance social media presence. Update, expand and keep current website, events calendar, Facebook.
- Offer/build preschool education programs to serve as church feeder program for families and youth

1. 3. Outreach:

- Grow and manage Pennywise by recruiting a permanent manager, more volunteers and donations from parishioners and friends
- Establish food ministry/feeding programs for needy in the community
- Ask priests to join community organizations to promote St. Mary's to community at large
- Provide missionary sponsorships and refugee sponsorships

1. 4. Facilities/Improvements:

- Expand PLC for additional office, meeting rooms, Sunday school rooms, new kitchen, new flooring, and music/art room
- Replace or refurbish Pennywise building to enhance visibility & sales
- Upgrade church grounds facing Bonita Beach Road, i.e. new landscaping, new pavilion, new signage, and parking
- Improve acoustics in sanctuary and improve choir room and choir loft
- Purchase church van for transportation to worship & other church activities
- Make improvements to Garden Pavilion (rear) to enhance utilization
- Pay off the church mortgage of \$135,000

Conclusion:

The above comments reflect the sentiment of active parishioners at St. Mary's. From this feedback the Vestry will further discern what the Lord is calling St. Mary's to be in the future.

3/27/17

STATUS OF THE FOUR POSTULATES

Anne Hartley is finishing her second course of the hybrid distance learning Masters of Pastoral Ministry program at Nashotah House. Will take this Epiphany term off, then resume studies in April, Introduction to Christian Theology. Her goal is still to apply for a Masters of Divinity program to begin full-time in-residence studies in Fall 2019.

William Gilmore is starting his second year of study to become a deacon at Dayspring. The studies this term will be on the Old Testament. He is also doing his second term of field training at St. Hillary's in Fort Myers.

Brian Cleary has become a Postulate to become a priest. He is currently planning on visiting three seminaries before making a final decision on which school to attend.

Robert Raubolt is starting his first year of study to become a deacon at Dayspring. The studies this term will be on the Old Testament. He is planning on doing his first term of field training starting in May or June.

REPORT OF THE 40th ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE

To the Members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church...

This ad hoc Committee was charged by Father Michael Rowe and Vestry with responsibility for creating programs and activities which would acknowledge and celebrate the Church's important milestone of 40 years as an important member of Southwest Florida's faith community.

Committee Members who accepted the opportunity included:

Cherrill Cregar	Renee Osborne
Yvonne Graff	Barbara Phocas
Annette Judkins – Co-Chair	Bob Pierpont
Paul Judkins – Co-Chair	Les Rooker

One of the Committee's first action items was selecting a tagline which would be used on all anniversary materials throughout 2017. The unanimous choice of ***Celebrating 40 Years of Christian Caring...*** was designed onto two large professional banners which were installed both outside the Church and in the Parish Life Center (PLC) at the onset of 2017.

Early in its organizational work, the Committee established goals to focus its variety of directions:

- To recognize church members who were long-time parishioners (20+ years)
- To showcase St. Mary's important mission/outreach work
- To involve all three services and to include newer members
- To celebrate the Church's growth and history since 1977
- To highlight St. Mary's importance in the community
- To acknowledge seasonal Church members

With the support of Father Michael and the Vestry, the Committee launched a calendar of activities which spanned a period from January through November:

- | | |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January | Anniversary kick-off luncheon was held as part of Annual Meeting, and, over 350 commemorative coffee mugs were given to members and guests. |
| February | Information table was available at the Ministry Fair. |
| April | -Snowbird Farewell was held at all 3 services and a total of 115 gifts were given to individuals and couples.
-Time Line Banner was installed in the Parish Life Center. |
| May | -Fr Robert Schriber, first Vicar of St. Mary's, was invited as guest preacher and welcomed with his wife to a PLC reception in their honor.
-Mother's Day flowers attached with special messages were given to all mothers. |
| June | Father's Day discount gift cards from Ace Hardware – Bonita Springs were handed out to all fathers in special enclosures. |
| July | Independence Sunday was celebrated with an Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Vestry and Pastor Doug Pratt, Rector of First Presbyterian Church, was guest preacher. |
| August | St. Mary's Day activities included a display of 40 years of St Mary photos, memorabilia and publication scrapbooks. |
| November | -Harvest Pie Sunday was planned with Outreach Partners as special guests.
-A celebration of Long-Time Parishioners was held at all 3 services (42 individuals were identified as members of St. Mary's for 20+ years).
-A Festal Eucharist with Bishop Dabney Smith as primary celebrant was followed by an anniversary luncheon attended by nearly 160 parishioners, the Mayor of Bonita Springs and special guests from Trinity-by-the-Cove and First Presbyterian Church. |

At the Feast of Founding luncheon, a good will offering was solicited for St. Mary's Outreach Programs and more than \$1,000 was collected.

On November 12th, Fr Michael and Bob Foltz, Senior Warden, were invited to participate in Trinity-by-the-Cove's Eucharist Mass, on behalf of St. Mary's Church. A commemorative pewter plate, engraved with a message of gratitude for Trinity's generous assistance in helping establish St. Mary's Episcopal Church over 40 years ago, was presented to Trinity. The Anniversary Steering Committee personally funded this gift as a remembrance of its work.

The 40th Anniversary celebration was concluded in early 2018...

Fr Michael was invited by Mayor Peter Simmons to accept a *Certificate of Recognition* for St. Mary's Episcopal Church at a bi-monthly meeting of the Bonita Springs Town Council in mid-January. In February, a special article about St. Mary's 40-year history and anniversary year will be published in the *Southern Cross*.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul and Annette Judkins
December 31, 2017



St. Mary's Episcopal Church
*"Where Word and Sacrament
come together
in celebration and service."*

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Michael G. Rowe, Rector
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The Rev. Canon Dr. Al Salt, Assisting Priest
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The Rev. Gail Tomei, Assisting Priest
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Ian Mitchell, Office Administrator
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Sandy Gunger, Sexton
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Outgoing Vestry members as of January 29, 2017
Bob Foltz, Jeanette Turansky, Otis Wragg

If the vote of the Parish is in concurrence, the membership of the Vestry would be:

Class of 2018: Tim Blaicher, Renee Osborne, Denise Wallace, Dan McClean
Class of 2019: Dann Battina, Jim Howard, Les Rooker, Marjorie Klein
Nominated Class of 2020: Ruth Davies, Hilton Jervey, Paul Judkins, Jill Rock Smith

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