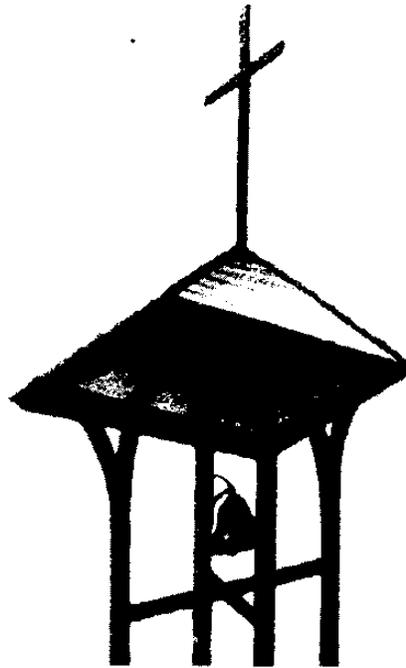


2016 ANNUAL REPORT

February 5, 2017



Parish Mission

*The Church of the Good Shepherd
is a Christ-centered community sharing God's love.*

Parish Vision

We strive to Strengthen Faith, Build Community, Serve Others

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The Church of the Good Shepherd
2016 Annual Meeting
February 5, 2017

AGENDA

Meeting Called to Order

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary – Claire Elser, Office Manager

Acceptance of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

Gratitude for retiring Vestry members: Karen Geier-Smith, Bob Hall, Gaela Hime, Cindy Thomas

Election Discernment Committee Report – Karen Geier-Smith

Recognition of New Vestry members: Rich Allen, Bill Chambers, Susan Generazio, Doug Price

Installation of New Vestry by Sr. Warden

I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation;

I do yield my hearty assent and approbation to the doctrines, worship and discipline of the Episcopal church;

I promise to faithfully execute the office of Vestry member of The Church of the Good Shepherd, in Region VII, in the County of Fairfax, according to my best knowledge and skill.

Reports

Search Committee Report

Treasurer's Report – Linda Kay

Finance Committee Report/2017 Budget – Charlie Biele

Remarks by Sr. Warden

Q&A

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Minutes of the Annual Meeting, January 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order by John Morris, Senior Warden, at 11:25 a.m.

Opening Prayer was offered by our supply clergy, The Rev. Gideon Pollach.

A motion carried to confirm Martha Allen Godin, Registrar, and Recording Secretary for this Annual Meeting.

A motion carried to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2015 Annual Meeting.

John Morris expressed gratitude for the service of the four (4) retiring Vestry members: Martha Allen Godin, Roger Libby, Howard Lincoln, and John Morris.

John Morris presented the Vestry Election Discernment Committee Report on behalf of Karen Geier-Smith (chair). He reported that, after an excellent discernment period, six (6) parishioners ran and the four (4) elected Vestry members are: Michele Braithwaite, Mary Helman, Cappy McMurtray, and John Sniegowski. John thanked the other two (2) candidates and encouraged them to put their names up for Vestry next year as well.

Installation of the New Vestry: John Morris administered the oath of office to the continuing and newly-elected Vestry members: Anne Allen, Tom Appich, Michele Braithwaite, Karen Geier-Smith, Jeff Greenfield, Bob Hall, Mary Helman, Gaela Hime, Charley Hoffman, Cappy McMurtray, John Sniegowski, and Cindy Thomas.

“I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation;

I do yield my hearty assent and approbation to the doctrines, worship, and discipline of the Episcopal church;

I promise to faithfully execute the office of Vestry member of The Church of the Good Shepherd, in Region VII, in the County of Fairfax, according to my best knowledge and skill.”

Reports:

1. 2015 Finance Committee Report – Linda Kay thanked Dave Cooper for his years of service as Treasurer and the smooth transition into her duties as current Treasurer.

Linda reported that every three years we have an audit and this year's GAP audit was "clean and accepted". We finished the year with \$12,000+ in our Restricted Fund. 2015 pledges were up 1% but we had fewer pledges. All ministries were careful with their budgets and some contributed to our budget: ESOL with \$4500, Good Shepherd Preschool with \$4500, and Shop the Shepherd with \$3500. The 2007 Vestry took the remainder of our Building Fund and created the TOTF (Investment Fund) which has earned \$112,000 since 2007 with a value of \$380,000. Well-invested and diversified

2. 2016 Budget – Charlie Biele (Finance Committee) reported that the requests from Programs were well over our budget but that, with the help of John Morris and the Vestry, we were able to streamline expenditures. Also, Love Finds a Way and the surplus from 2015 was used to balance our budget. We have an austere budget for 2016, with \$60,000 less than in 2015.

John Morris remarked that many parishioners are here at this meeting and that so many of them volunteered in the last 12 months making possible so much of what our church has been able to do. They are the ones, along with more volunteers, who determine who we are today and who we are as we go forward.

3. Good Shepherd in Transition – John Morris presented a PowerPoint presentation bringing us up to date beginning with our conversations in July 2014 regarding change, our size, pledging, geography, comfort, demographics, and more change ahead as an in-between church.
 - a. Interim priest update:
 - i. Objectives: (see our transition website www.cogsintransition.net)
 - ii. Progress: The Diocese gave us the "cream of the crop" in two (2) individuals. We've narrowed them down to one and have a Letter of Agreement (LOA) in hand. We are awaiting signatures (candidate, wardens, bishop).
 - iii. Our Candidate: Has been an interim priest for 8 parishes (experienced. His first career was in banking/finance. His wife is an Episcopal Rector. "We are a medium-size church with a large church mentality."
 - iv. Next: We should hear back by the end of February; hoping for arrival on April 1st. In his first 60 days, he will meet with many individual parishioners and Vestry.
 - b. In the meantime: we have Supply Clergy in place through March.
4. Our Over-Arching Obstacle – John Morris presented the state of our mortgage. In 2008: \$2,500,000. Today: \$2,198,182. Paid \$300,000 of principal and \$1,119,166 in interest in five years (finished year 5 of 25-year note). On the first of each month,

we write a check for \$8,800 (zero benefit of holding a mortgage). Forward: we need to get out from under our mortgage. The whole congregation needs to be thinking “outside the box” to come up with smart, creative ideas.

Charley Hoffman, Junior Warden, presented John Morris, Senior Warden, with a gift in appreciation for all his service on the vestry and as senior warden to a standing ovation by the congregation.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Questions and comments:

The “rent” is pretty good for a plant of our size for worship and to spread the Good News

How many active family units/individuals? 265 (222 pledged 2015, 199 pledged 2016)

Possibility of selling property? Dove property – 2.5 acres. Zoned R-1 – 1 house/acre

When will “big search” committee be chosen? Wait for interim rector to lead us. Expect to form search committee 2-3 months after April 1st

When to expect to have Rector? God’s time Form parish profile → possibly 25-40 resumes → then, interviews → call = 1 ½ -2 years

Diocese helps to vet? Yes

Bell tower? AT&T put on their back burner

Reports

From the Interim Rector

What a great privilege it has been for me to be with you for the past nine months! Good Shepherd is a sprawling church with so much happening all the time. It is a blessing to be part of the fun. There are lots of highlights from the past 9 months, too many to remember. But here are a few of mine in no particular order:

- The summer Choir Camp educated and entertained 25 children last August.
- The Outreach Committee continued and broadened its important work. During Thanksgiving they, the people of Good Shepherd, and fellow shoppers they met at the Giant delivered a record 180 Thanksgiving baskets.
- A wonderful Advent Festival of Lessons & Carols with a tremendous turnout and standing room only on Christmas Eve.
- A revitalized Sunday School with 25 – 30 children registered, the beginning of a wonderful and important trend.

- The addition of the Rev. Leslie Chadwick to the staff and the extension of Claire Elser to full time status.
- Jazz Vespers at Good Shepherd, hopefully the first of many to come.
- The creation of a “Mom’s Ministry” complete with Monday morning play group.

There’s so much more and all of it says that the Church of the Good Shepherd has a bright future. Part of the future is owing to the fact that visitors really are made to feel welcome when they come to church. A lot of churches say that, but it really happens here. This is an important part of who we are. No sermon that Leslie or I preach has more power than the openness with which we welcome others; making room in our favorite pew, embracing the sound of crying babies and inviting other to participate fully in the life of the church.

Good Shepherd has a bright future in part also owing to the fact that young people are beginning to find their way back to church wherever community life is vital, meaningful and inspiring. In a few short months, Good Shepherd will have a new Rector. Between now and then it is our job, working together to make sure that Good Shepherd is all of those things and more. The church, and every church needs to be a seminary in which its members are students of Jesus Christ and all that he taught and all that he did.

You are a blessing to me and to this community.

Bruce+

Associate Rector

Calls never come when you expect them. On September 2, my family and I were on our way to a family reunion when I received an email from the Diocesan Director of Transition Ministry, inviting me to contact the Rev. Bruce McPherson about assisting him with worship on Sundays at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Even though I was not expecting a call, I had visited Church of the Good Shepherd on a number of occasions and was intrigued by this talented congregation and rector visioning ministry together in transition. My family and I have been through a time of transition ourselves. In 2013, my husband Jay left a large law firm to start his own law firm. In May 2015, I concluded my nine-year tenure as Associate Rector at St. Timothy’s in Herndon, Virginia, to reset our family rhythm and to spend more time with our children Jay and Eleanor (now ages 8 and 5). I accepted a 20-hour-a-week job at Virginia Theological

Seminary helping seminary professors launch a new preaching program funded by a grant from the Lilly Foundation.

The past year has been a great blessing for my family, but I have missed leading worship regularly in a congregation. Several congregations that I love have gone through transitions recently: my home congregation in Valdosta, GA; St. Timothy's in Herndon, and St. Anne's in Reston. I have observed both the difficulties and the blessings that come from times of change, and I'm eager to learn what God has to teach all of us as we walk together through it.

My family and I are delighted that you have called us to worship and walk with you during this Interim period. When my children and I visited Good Shepherd in September, we were moved by your genuine welcome and immediately felt at home in your church family. Worshipping with you for the past four months has confirmed for me the depth of this community's welcome. I've seen it on Sunday mornings, at the ESOL Dinner, and in the note attached to a donation of groceries and clothing from one of our Muslim neighbors. She wrote: "I hope this small donation impacts people in need, as it did for my family many years ago. My mother would bring us here to get groceries, and even though we were of the Muslim faith, we were never discriminated against or looked down upon. Rather, the people of the church would see a single mom just trying to provide for her children." May we at Good Shepherd, continue to see, love, and receive all people as valued brothers and sisters in the family of God.

Leslie Chadwick

Senior Warden

We at Good Shepherd started 2016 with great uncertainty. We did not know who our new Rector would be. We didn't know who our Interim Rector would be. Some weeks we were not even sure who would be in the pulpit on Sunday. However, the good people of Good Shepherd rose to meet that uncertainty and made great progress during the year.

The fog of uncertainty began to clear a bit in April when Bruce McPherson arrived as our Interim Rector. I think you will agree with me that Bruce has brought a wealth of experience, wisdom, and a sense of calm that helped immensely during this period. And his preaching has brought us each insights as we all continue on our faith journey. A few

months later, Leslie Chadwick arrived to be our Associate Rector and has contributed not only to our worship service but to our Sunday School programs.

In spite of the uncertainty, we had an increase in attendance, positive financial results, and a very successful Stewardship campaign as you will hear from our Treasurer. And all of the ministries that work so hard on all of the various programs at Good Shepherd continued that hard work with very positive results. Even a brief review of our Annual Report indicates the breadth and depth of ministries at Good Shepherd.

Even more important in my mind, however, is the fact that we are beginning to see more and more new faces both young and old at Good Shepherd. I attribute this partly to Good Shepherd having become a very welcoming place. Bruce's constant reminder that we should introduce ourselves to someone we do not know has certainly helped in this regard.

We have made much progress in our search for a new rector. The Search Committee, under the guidance of Roger Libby, has completed the parish profile, which describes our parish and what we think is important. This profile will be published on our website in a few days. It will serve as the foundation for the search for a new rector. The Search Committee will now move forward to begin accepting resumes and start the process of determining who is the best match for Good Shepherd.

In spite of all the positive developments, the next year will continue to be one with some uncertainty. Sometime during the year, perhaps as early as late summer, Bruce will depart and we will welcome a new Rector. While we do not know who that will be, we look forward to embarking on a new journey with that person and with all of the wonderful people of Good Shepherd. With the tremendous talent in this congregation, we have a very bright future.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as your Senior Warden over the past year and to be a part of this exceptional parish family.

Charles Hoffman
Senior Warden

Treasurer

Overall:

The Church concluded 2016 with a major surplus of over \$68,000 owing primarily to reduced personnel costs due to the later than expected arrival of the Interim Rector, and decisions to not hire a Parish Administrator or replace the Youth Minister, deferring those decisions until the new rector has sufficient time to assess staffing needs. An AUP (Agreed upon Accounting Principles) audit was conducted in October. It resulted in a “clean” report and was accepted by the Vestry at their January 2017 meeting.

Revenue:

Regular giving (pledge and other regular offerings) exceeded budget predictions. Pledge fulfillment was outstanding at 99.4% and other Regular Offerings were \$20,000 above budgeted mounts. In addition, we had an increase in Special Offerings. The generosity of the Parish was commendable.

Income from our rental properties (the “Dove Property” and the “Parish House”) and the Rental Ministry met budget. Several ministries contributed to the general fund. Most notable were the Good Shepherd Preschool contribution which was increased in 2016 to \$9,670 and the ESOL contribution of \$4,767.

Expense:

All budgeted needs were successfully funded. The annual surplus was due primarily to less than expected personnel costs. All ministries managed their budgets very carefully which also helped keep expenses much lower than expected.

TOTF:

In 2007, the Vestry voted to invest the remaining building fund cash plus additional contributions with the Trustees of the Fund (TOTF) of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia. The Vestry authorized that a portion of the TOTF annual earnings be used to partially offset our mortgage loan interest payments (Including \$14,910 this year), thereby reducing impact on the annual operating budget. As of 31 December 2016, the market value of our holdings in TOTF was \$403,989.

Mortgage:

In 2011, we refinanced our commercial mortgage with John Marshall Bank. This spring we successfully negotiated a loan rate readjustment, which reduced the interest rate from

4.625% to 4.25%. Six years into this loan, our unpaid balance as of 31 December 2016 was \$2,131,519. The annual payment for 2017 is \$161,805 (\$13,484/month).

Personnel:

At the end of 2016 we had three full-time employees and 12 other employees. All have letters of employment. Their names and positions are:

Full-time

The Rev. W. Bruce McPherson – Interim Rector
Claire Elser – Office Manager/Parish Secretary
Carleen Dixon Webb – Director of Music Ministries

Part-time

The Rev. Leslie Chadwick – Interim Associate Rector
Keow Essig – Interim Formation Minister for Children
Gary Havran – Bookkeeper
Margaret Przybylski – Administrative Assistant for Music
Walter Todenhoft – Director of Brass Ensemble, Director of Ring and Rejoice Handbells

Hourly

Brian Appich – Event Manager
Tiffany Jones – Event Manager
Kimberly Lanning – Event Manager
Donald Pitcock – Rental Coordinator
Zach Sauter – Event Manager, Assistant for Event Setup and Takedown

Paid by Projects Performed

Lizhette Collarana – Assistant Nursery Attendant
Sonia Rodriguez – Head Nursery Attendant

Finance Committee

The 2017 church budget, prepared and approved by the Vestry, is a constrained budget. It is larger than the 2016 budget and covers the transition period including using the funds from the 2016 surplus to augment our normal revenues. Because pledge and plate income normally provide at least 75% of our revenues the Vestry recognizes that even with the

2017 pledge revenue over 6% higher than 2016 we still need a broader pledging base to continue to meet our budget needs into the future.

Key comparisons between the 2016 and 2017 budgets are:

	2016	2017
Total Budgeted Current Year Pledge Revenue	\$619,469	\$659,732
Total Revenue from all Outside Sources	\$909,809	\$936,157
Total “Revenue” from Reserve Accounts transfers	\$46,487	\$39,280
Total Expenses	\$915,663	\$932,506
Total Budget Surplus (Deficit)	(\$5,854)	\$3,650

We want it to continue to be clear to the Parish that our operating budget is currently subsidized by withdrawals from our investment account with the Diocese and cash surplus from the end of 2016. In 2017 the planned withdrawal amount is \$39,280. Transition expenses are being met using \$10,000 transferred from the New Initiatives restricted fund. Given the size of our capital reserve and our projected capital and facilities-related expenditures over the next ten to twenty years, the Vestry feels we must break the habit of using reserved to supplement the operating budget. Increasing revenue through growth in our pledge base or making modifications to our physical plant/property, or a combination thereof, is the way forward.

On the Revenue side, final pledge figures for 2017 were 6.1% higher than the 2016 figures. The reduced expenses for the Interim Rector and reduced Formation staffing, as well as significant increased contributions were key contributors to an approximate \$68K surplus at the end of 2016. Other Regular Offerings were significantly above budget in 2016 (\$22,628 or +54%). The 2016 surplus was used to subsidize the 2017 budget as well as increase our Operating Support and Capital Reserve restricted funds. The \$70,000 from the Rental Ministry and approximately \$44K from leasing the two homes on our property are key parts of our revenues.

The Vestry carefully evaluated Expenses across the board in all areas. For 2017, clergy support to the Parish, including pastoral care, will be met with a combination of our Interim Rector followed by a new rector later this year as well as our current Interim Associate Rector on Sundays, supply clergy, and our Pastoral Care Associates. There will be additional part-time office assistance. Almost all program areas that use fees to offset expenses (e.g., retreats, trips, etc.) require these fees to cover all expenses with no general operating fund subsidy. Our “new” building is 10 years old and there are many upkeep items that continue to need attention. New initiatives will be a primary topic of concern with the new Rector later in the year. The amount of money pledged to the Diocese of Virginia was increased to \$27,000, or 3.5% of our pledging and offering income, well below the Diocesan expectation for tithing.

Buildings and Grounds

The focus in 2016 was to enhance the physical security of our church. For several years, we've spoken about a comprehensive video surveillance system, but the high cost provided an opportunity to approach the problem from a different, less expensive direction. The first item of business was to regain control of the access to our building with master keys, both inside and outside. A locksmith was engaged to re-key 29 exterior doors and seven interior office spaces, providing three layers of exterior entry protection (main church entry, preschool entry, and exit only doors) and isolating seven key interior office spaces with unique locks. Instead of passing out master keys, we installed lockboxes at key entrances and those individuals that needed access were provided the lockbox code. The codes will be periodically changed and authorized users will be notified by the Office Manager.

The second focus item was being able to capture video surveillance of key entry points. Instead of numerous cameras, we opted to install a video doorbell activated via motion detection at the front church entrances and the preschool. Video clips are automatically sent to the "cloud", recorded, and stored for review. This system safely allows our Preschool Director to see who is at the preschool doors prior to allowing entry during school hours.

Lastly, we replaced all the old incandescent, high wattage parking lot lights with low wattage LED fixtures. The results dramatically increased the ground illumination in our parking lot and provide a safer walking environment.

Other major expenses this year include ridding the Parish House of a mice infestation, removal of numerous dead and fallen trees, completion of the rooftop safety walkway for HVAC maintenance, repairing a boiler leak, and repairs to two natural gas leaks.

Minor repairs, many of which were DIY, revolved around keeping the physical plant (heating, cooling, lighting, electrical, and plumbing) in a good operating condition for everyday use.

Most of our landscaping is cared for by parish hands. It is a year-round job and any assistance provided to the B&G team is much appreciated.

We continue to be mindful of the obsolescence of our nave lighting system. Besides being configured with high wattage bulbs, the relay panel through which all the lights are wired is no longer supported with spare parts. This is a focal area over the next two years.

We thank all parishioners who lent their hands in and around the church this year. Volunteers are always welcome as it truly takes many hands to keep our church welcoming and running smoothly! Contacts: John Morris, jtsmgb@verizon.net, Peggy Morris, peg.morris@verizon.net, and Bob Wilcox, bobwilcox995@gmail.com.

Action, Worship and Formation Ministries Reports Found on Website

Committee

Acolytes
Altar Guild
Breakfast Committee
Children's Christian Education
Coffee Ministry
Daughters of the King
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
Flower Guild
Library
Music Program
Not So High Tea
Outreach
Rental Ministry
Text in Community
Ushers
Welcome and Newcomers' Ministry
Youth Group

Submitted by

John Merchant
Mary Helman
Charlotte Hinkle
Mike Essig
Cappy McMurtray
Susan Generazio
Carol St. Germain
Peggy Morris
Kathy Straight
Carleen Dixon Webb
Kathy Straight
Sharon Holcombe and Gail Calabrese
Donald Pitcock
Kathy Straight
Ed Post
Kathy Moore
John Merchant

Acolytes

The acolyte program is building rapidly. We have a corps of seven veteran young people, have added seven new young people this year, and have two additional young people who have expressed interest and will be starting soon. These individuals add color and ceremony to the service and actually serve the priests at the altar during Eucharist. With more people we can begin to think again about adding flags and additional participants to the processions. Any young people old enough to sit by themselves for the service are welcome to explore becoming an acolyte. Contact: John Merchant, 703-256-3650, merchantj@verizon.net.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is a dedicated group of 23 women and men making up five teams who prepare the Altar for all worship services, both on Sunday and as needed at other times. This includes weddings, funerals, and any other services that take place in the Nave, such as the ordination that took place in December. We also make certain the sanctuary, the linens, the silver, and the brass are clean and ready for the services. The teams serve on a rotating basis (about once a month) and work together to serve the Lord and the parish. We welcome anyone who would like to serve with us. Contact: Mary Helman, 703-323-8495, maryberghelman@gmail.com.

Breakfast Committee

Last year, the Breakfast Committee held eight breakfasts and one parish picnic. The Breakfast Committee continues to hold breakfasts following the 10:15 service, working to bring the parish together to connect over a freshly prepared meal. In 2017, the committee plans to continue to hold monthly breakfasts and a summer parish picnic. The committee also plans to work to include brunch items in the monthly breakfasts. Contact: Charlotte Hinkle, 614-352-8058, cehinkle@gmail.com.

Children’s Christian Education

Category	January 2016	May 2016	January 2017
Total Number of Students	14	8	27
Pre K – K	2	1	5
1 st -3 rd grade	7	4	12
4 th -5 th grade	5	3	10
Average weekly attendance	9	4	15

We began 2016 with three classes and five teachers (three regulars and two roving spares). We would have to ask parents to stay to ensure we had two adults in each class at all times. We were using a patchwork of curricula from a teacher developed study of GENISYS for the 4th-6th grade class, *Living the Good News* for the 1st-3rd grade class, and a teacher developed hands-on curricula for the pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten class. We had a successful partnership with the Daughters of the King to provide a labyrinth program for the first Sunday of Lent. We finished up the school year on Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2017. At the end of the season we had dwindled down to two classes with an average of four students each week.

Over the summer, with approval from the Interim Rector and through goal-setting with the Rite 13/J2A instructor, we developed a new bible study based curriculum with the following goals:

1. Build an understanding and familiarity with the Bible including how to find texts within the books of the bible.
2. Build a catalog of key bible stories and characters throughout the entire Bible (Old and New Testaments).
3. Have all three classes learning the same lesson but tune the activities, crafts, and lessons to the age/aptitude of the students.
4. Build a 3-year spiraling curriculum which will cover key topics/characters each year but from different perspectives.
5. Match the liturgical calendar and lectionary whenever possible.

We began the new program in mid-September with a capstone activity for the 2nd week of Advent – The Jesse Tree, in which we created 12 ornaments depicting each of the lessons from the week before and the Christmas Pageant. The lessons have been very well received by students and teachers alike, which helps to explain the consistent attendance each week in class. Favorite lessons include: GENESIS – Esau, Jacob, and the Birthright in which we made lentil soup; ISAIAH, MICAH – Messiah Quest in which we became Bible detectives

and explored the prophecies of Jesus as the Messiah; and Baptism of Jesus, where parents provided loving messages of trust and reassurance that were read aloud to the students when we recreated the moment God spoke and said that Jesus was God’s son, the beloved, with whom he was pleased. We plan to continue through the school year learning about Jesus’s works and miracles during Epiphany, the Parables during Lent, the Acts of the Apostles and Paul during the Easter season, and ending with a part at Pentecost. We intend to walk the labyrinth again during the first week in Lent.

Children’s Chapel

Category	January 2016	May 2016	January 2017
Total Number of Students	12	12	14
Average weekly attendance	8	6	8

We continue to explore and explain parts of the worship service each week with special attention paid to prayer, baptism, and communion. We have added a focus on mindfulness to increase our attention toward communicating with God. We make a joyful noise about once a month in which we break out percussion instruments and march around to Bible songs. Contacts: Keow Essig, 571-244-0795, thavaradhara@yahoo.com, Mike Essig, 571-244-0795, essigmw@gmail.com.

Coffee Ministry

The responsibilities of the members of the coffee ministry have multiplied this past year. We now come in early to set up the pots so there is coffee and tea for the folks after the 8:00 service. It is basically a self-serve operation for the early attendees and the folks coming for the adult forum. We have always supplied regular coffee, decaf coffee, tea, lemonade (apple juice), and water for the folks after the main service but now have been asked to move the pots from the Parish Hall after the adult forum to either the front hall or the parlor unless there is a parish breakfast. The Vestry has been supplying the donuts, but it has been our responsibility to plate them and move them along with the pots after the 10:15 service. We pre-pour a lot of the hot liquids to make things more efficient. We are also a supporting group for the receptions and funeral ministry. Contact: Cappy McMurtray, 703-250-4155, cappymc@aol.com.

Daughters of the King (DOK)

The Daughters of the King is an international religious order of Episcopal, Catholic, and Lutheran women who have taken a vow to follow a Rule of Life which includes daily prayer, service, and evangelism and to support the rector of our parish in the spiritual up-building of the church. >We celebrated our 10th anniversary in June 2016 and our sister Anne Eastman passed away in January 2016. Our 2016 activities in support of our mission included a monthly study of forgiveness, based on the story of Joseph in the Spring and Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible* in the fall, which is open to all church members. Additionally, we hosted a Seder Supper for the church on March 15, had a DOK Interest Tea at the home of Anne Allen on October 9th. Our sister Elvira Beracochea started a Walking/Health Ministry, we participated in the November 2 All Soul's Service, and helped with the Diocesan Ordination on December 10 at the request of the rector.

Outside of COGS we donated \$490 worth of supplies to Fairfax's Ronald McDonald House throughout the year. A number of our members attended the Province III DOK Retreat in Maryland in April as well as a Diocesan DOK meeting at St. David's in the fall. In 2017 we are continuing our *Making Sense of the Bible* study, which is open to all on the first Thursday of the month in the parlor and will hold a Discernment class for new members. Contact: Susan Generazio, 703-451-3285, 703-989-9686, generzaios@yahoo.com.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

The ESOL program provides morning and evening English classes at the church for our neighbors whose primary language is not English. This past semester, students came from 14 different countries of origin on four continents.

During 2016, ESOL offered 36 class sessions over a 12-week period each semester, from January 18 to April 28 and from September 20 to December 8. Both morning and evening classes were held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays each week. (The winter session had to be extended for two weeks, because classes were cancelled due to bad weather.) The winter session enrolled students in five morning classes and three evening classes, staffed by volunteers. The fall session enrolled students in four morning classes and three evening classes, staffed by volunteers. Students received books, workbooks, notebooks, classroom instruction, and (in the morning sessions) the opportunity to use the Rosetta Stone English computer program. A Saturday luncheon honoring our students' achievements was held at the end of the first semester and a dinner at the end of the second

semester. In addition, we held a free, informal Coffee and Conversation session in the Spring.

The ESOL budget is supported solely by student fees. This year we had to replace our office computer, depleting our ESOL grant. We purchased additional white board cleaner to share with others who use the boards. At the end of 2016 we contributed \$4767.25 to the church's general fund.

In 2017 we will continue to offer the same schedule of classes at the levels needed, provided enough volunteers continue to be available and we have enough students for each level. Volunteers are always needed as team teachers for morning or evening classes. No experience is necessary – just the ability to speak English and the desire to help others. Training is provided. Contact: Carol St. Germain, 703-978-0823, earthcarol@verizon.net.

Flower Guild



The Flower Guild was established in 1992 to create beautiful flower arrangements weekly for the nave and children's chapel. The Guild also adorns the entire church for Christmas and Easter and, upon special request, does flower arrangements for parishioner



weddings, funerals, and receptions. We love using fresh garden flowers and greens, so please call if you have something to donate!



The Flower Guild is funded solely by generous donations throughout the year. Multiple donations are needed each week to cover flower purchases. Please mark birthdays, anniversaries, and deaths of loved ones by donating Sunday flowers. The signup sheet is in the Narthex or contact Jennifer Burns at jennifer.burns@verizon.net. Suggested donations are \$25 for the main altar and \$20 for the children's chapel. Make checks payable to Church of the Good Shepherd and indicate Flower Guild in the memo section. Please leave checks in the Flower Guild mailbox in the Volunteer Office.

The Flower Guild is divided into five teams with each team responsible for a week on a rotating yearly basis. At Christmas and Easter, all teams work together to decorate the

church. **We are always actively seeking additional members. No experience is required.** New members work with an experienced team leader learning how to design, purchase, condition, and arrange flowers for the church. Come be part of this active ministry to God and the faithful parishioners of Good Shepherd! Contact: Peggy Morris, 703-426-2496, peg.morris@verizon.net.



Library

Purpose: The Good Shepherd Library mission is to foster and encourage spiritual growth, Christian education, and Christian fellowship.

2016 Activities/Accomplishments: The Library donated:

- 1) \$200 to the Good Shepherd general operating fund
- 2) \$1,000 to the Outreach educational programs
- 3) \$100 seed money to Saint Peters in the Woods Children's Library.

The library:

- 1) hosted monthly Not So High Tea in the Shepherd's Nook
- 2) hosted a GS book forum on Facebook
- 3) held occasional small Sunday book sales.



The Library netted \$1,824.24 during seven days of the October Used Book Sale. Using an average cost of the books, we figure we sold 900 books.

The library purchased a new desk assembled by one of our ESOL students with the help of Bill Straight.

The library is a member of the Congregational Area Library Association.

2017 Plans: The library plans to:

- 1) continue to add books to its collection;
- 2) make the library computer database available to parishioners in the library as well as on the church web site;
- 3) continue occasional short studies as needed;
- 4) sponsor the tea once a month;
- 5) hold small Sunday book sales to support the educational programs of Good Shepherd
- 6) respond to the needs of the Good Shepherd parish.



The Library can always use volunteers. Contact: Kathy Straight, 703-425-0850, katestr8@gmail.com.

Music Program

The music program at Good Shepherd provides organ, choral and instrumental music at Sunday services and other major services throughout the church year. The ensembles include four choirs, two bell groups, brass ensemble, as well as individual instrumentalists. Director of Music Ministries – Carleen Dixon Webb, musicdirector@good-shepherd.net 703-323-5400, ext. 107

2016 Accomplishments:

1. The concert series continues to be an artistic success featuring outstanding artists from the DC metropolitan area. The 2015-2016 season included concerts by the Washington Bach Consort Chamber Ensemble, with special organ works played by the late J. Reilly Lewis, and a return appearance by the dynamic WPAS Children of the Gospel Choir in May. The 2015-2016 season also included a “cabaret” concert in the Parish Hall during Valentine weekend. The concert series has been enthusiastically supported by the Good Shepherd community.
2. The youth choirs (Junior Choir and Carol Choir) continue to use the curriculum of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) Voice for Life series to improve their musical skills.
3. A member of the Junior Choir attended a summer RSCM music camp at Kings College, Pennsylvania. Her tuition was supported, in part, by a scholarship from the Good Shepherd Music Program.
4. The newly reorganized bell group (Hallelujah Handbells), geared to beginners, was directed by Mary Helman and Meg Przybylski. The group meets on Wednesdays prior to Junior Choir rehearsals.
5. A summer Music Camp was held for the first time in August and was a highly successful week. A total of 25 children and youth, ranging in age from 7 to 17, participated in the week’s activities, and presented a musical sermon the following

Sunday. The Music Camp included a diverse group of young people, some of whom are now participating in the youth choirs. Based on the success of this new venture, plans are being developed for an annual summer Music Camp.

6. The Director of Music Ministries continued the plan of performing a major work each year with the presentation of Vivaldi's *Gloria* in May at a special 10:15 service. The performance was supported, in part, by funds from the June Lepthien Memorial Fund.
7. Other special services, including All Souls Choral Evensong and Advent Lessons & Carols, were held as a way to integrate the music and worship experience and to provide challenging musical opportunities for the choirs. Attendance at Advent Lessons & Carols increased significantly this past year.
8. Regular music staff meetings were held each month to coordinate and plan musical activities at Good Shepherd.
9. Ring & Rejoice, Hallelujah Handbells, and the Brass Ensemble continued to provide music at special services during the year, and enhanced the worship experience for the congregation.
10. Carol Choir continued to sing preludes at some services throughout the year.
11. A Music Ministries Celebration was held in May 2016 in which participants in the music program gathered for food, fellowship, awards, and recognition of all the many contributions made by individuals to enhance the music ministry at Good Shepherd.

2017 Goals:

1. The Good Shepherd Concert Series continues to be an artistic success. New marketing strategies, including a possible expansion to include a "gala" concert, will be explored to increase attendance and visibility. Online ticket sales are being added.
2. The Director of Music Ministries will continue to plan special services in which the Good Shepherd choirs will participate, such as Choral Evensongs and Lessons & Carols. In addition, a Jazz Ensemble made up of talented parishioners, will continue providing music for special events such as the Jazz Vespers.
3. The Senior Choir and Lightshine will again present a major work as part of the Good Friday service on April 14 with support from the June Lepthien Fund.
4. The music staff will continue to discuss strategies for increasing the number of participants in the youth choirs
5. The Director of Music Ministries will continue to improve the quality and music repertoire of the choirs.
6. The bell and brass ensembles will continue to work on recruiting new members.
7. The Good Shepherd Music Program will continue to present a summer Music Camp for area youth. The registration fee will be slightly increased in order to adequately cover the costs of the camp. This summer's camp will be held on July 10-16.

8. The Director of Music Ministries, in collaboration with another music colleague, will be taking a group of singers to England and Wales in the summer of 2017. The choir will be in residence at Lichfield Cathedral and St. David's Cathedral in July/August. This significant musical and spiritual experience will increase the skill level of those Good Shepherd singers who are on the tour.
9. With the increased funding for the Music Program budget, additional professional singers and instrumentalists will be engaged to participate in worship services.

Not So High Tea

The Not So High Tea is sponsored by the church library. Its purpose is to encourage use of the library and to promote fellowship among parishioners. The tea is held the 1st Thursday of the month in the Shepherd's Nook, 3-5 pm. Contact: Kathy Straight, 703-425-0850, katestr8@gmail.com.

Outreach

Christmas Boxes

There are many families in our community who do not have the resources to celebrate Christmas with gift giving. To reach out to these families, our congregation generously provided 75 Christmas boxes filled with specially chosen gifts for children in the care of two charitable organizations. Thirty-five boxes of gifts were distributed to Britepaths in Fairfax and 40 boxes went to Jubilee Housing in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Our church preschool families provided 75 dozen homemade cookies which were distributed with the gifts, and the Sunday School children provided cards for each box. Our parishioners were very generous and enthusiastic in their giving, and many families helped deliver the boxes to the children. This ministry was led by Lisa Libby and Ingrid Sides. Contact: Ingrid Sides, 703-250-3688, isides@verizon.net.

Christmas Tree Sales

This year the Outreach Committee fundraiser was handled as it was in the previous year. Sharon Holcombe led the fundraiser with the help of Dottie Wimberly, Mary and Dave Helman, and many other COGS volunteers. While we sold only those trees and wreaths that parishioners pre-ordered, we profited \$1451. This amount goes to Outreach's Compassion Fund and benefits Outreach's many local, national, and international programs and projects. We also provided the opportunity to send wreaths to friends and family via UPS. We are grateful for all those who purchased a tree and/or wreath, for our volunteers who transported trees and manned the pick-up lot, parishioners who gave us donations and for Rick Miller who paid all the transportation costs in 2016. The Outreach Committee has determined that 2016 will be our last year of our Christmas Trees Sale

fundraiser. It is being supported by fewer and fewer parishioners and for the time and effort expended by our committee and volunteers it is no longer an effective fundraiser. We thank all those who have purchased and helped in our past sales. Contacts: Gail Calabrese, 703-425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net and Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net.

El Hogar, Home of Love and Hope, Honduras

El Hogar is a home and school centered in Tegucigalpa, Honduras that provides a home and Christian education, including career skills training, to about 250 children ages six to eighteen. The children who come to El Hogar are the poorest of the poor; many have never known a toothbrush or indoor toilet. El Hogar is financially supported by US and Canadian churches and individuals and is sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras, part of the American Episcopal Church. Good Shepherd has had an ongoing relationship with El Hogar since 2006. In 2016, one of the students Good Shepherd has been sponsoring, Marlon Rigoberto Briceno, graduated from the Agricultural School of El Hogar. We continued to sponsor our second student, Rene Sanchez Oliva, who is a fourth grader at El Hogar elementary. Other students at El Hogar are sponsored by individual parish families. The children send Christmas letters and the school sends progress reports so sponsors can see how the children are doing. Contacts: Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net and Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

ERD is an international relief and development agency offering a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of The Episcopal Church of the United States. Their work to heal a hurting world is guided by principles of compassion, dignity, and generosity. ERD programs work toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals which aim to cut extreme poverty. In 2016, Good Shepherd supported ERD with a contribution of \$2000. This is in lieu of voicing a call for response to specific disaster situations as they occur. Contacts: Gail Calabrese, 703-425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net and Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net.

FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian and Emergency Transitional Services)

FACETS works locally to build strong families and safe communities by improving the quality of life for impoverished men, women, and children through programs addressing their physical, emotional, and educational needs. Good Shepherd parishioners are involved in the work of FACETS in a variety of ways such as Hot Meals, contributing to supplies drives, and attending FACETS fundraising function. The church, through the Outreach

Committee, provides \$4000 annually in financial support. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Baby Supplies Drive

Our parishioners contributed nearly 500 diapers, along with baby wipes, food, and clothing. These donations enable FACETS to address the needs of families to have necessary supplies to care for their babies. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Back to School Drive

Parishioners donated 12 backpacks and a wide variety of school supplies for the 2015 back to school drive. These donations helped FACETS serve 230 school age children. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Benefit Breakfast

Six parishioners attended the FACETS Benefit Breakfast, an annual networking and fundraising event held this year at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel. Attendees were invited to hear the story of how FACETS changes lives from the mouths of the people served along with enjoying a wonderful breakfast. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Hot Meals

Healthy food is a top priority in the FACETS program. Hot, healthy food is a key component of improving the quality of life for impoverished men, women, and children through programs addressing their physical, emotional, and educational needs. Of all the participating churches in Fairfax County, Good Shepherd continues to be the leader for the FACETS Hot Meals program. We have six teams of parishioners that provide hot meals to from 60 to 110 homeless people on 40 nights throughout the year. Meals are prepared in the Good Shepherd kitchen and parishioners distribute the food to three sites: a motel where the homeless are provided shelter by the county, and two locations where people who live in the woods come to get dinner. The team leaders include Kathy Moore, Steve and Jacki Lowe, Judith Bell and Packy Daniels, Arline Easley, Dottie Wimberly, and Gail Calabrese. We added several new volunteers in 2016 but more are welcome. Thanks to all who participated in this FACETS program. Want to get involved? Contact: Charley Hoffman, 703-425-9236, hoffman.charley@gmail.com.

FACETS School Lunches

Healthy lunches are provided by FACETS on non-school days to those children who receive free or reduced price lunches and whose families are in the FACETS or county homeless programs. FACETS gathers these lunches by calling upon individual volunteers at their partner churches and other organizations. In 2016, Good Shepherd lunch teams provided 65 lunches on six of these out of school days, using the Hot Meals team approach. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc@cox.net.

FACETS Taste of Fall and Silent Auction

This annual FACETS fundraiser was again an outstanding success. Gail Calabrese prepared the Italian gourmet food gift basket that Outreach donated for the auction. Several Outreach members attended the event and a good time was had by all supporting the FACETS cause. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

Faith, Hope, and Joy Scholarships, Honduras

In 2016 Good Shepherd continued a scholarship program for 16 needy, deserving children who are attending the Episcopal school at the Faith, Hope, and Joy community in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. COGS helped build this community by sending mission teams near San Pedro Sula, Honduras following the devastation of Hurricane Mitch. Then in 2005 COGS team members began this scholarship program to maintain its relationship with the families and children that attend the school in this community. The program is recommended by the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund and is run by the Episcopal Bishop of Honduras. Our point of contact in the Bishop's office is the Rev. Jackie Ruiz. Fourteen parish families participated in the program in 2016 giving almost \$4300 to fund these scholarships. Rev. Ruiz and the children have sent their thanks for this support in the form of thank you letters and report cards. We give thanks for that continuing support. Contact: Jim Connally, 703-978-7116, mandjconnally@cox.net.

Father Cunning

Father Augusto Cunning retired and his son, Father Willis Cunning of the Mountain Province in the Philippines, is now priest for scattered Episcopal congregations in the Philippines. Father Augusto Cunning's congregations were divided up among four Episcopal priests. His son, Father Willis, now travels to several missions that his father served until he retired. The funds Good Shepherd sent in 2015 helped to complete the new church, St. Cyrian in Mabalite, started in 2013. After completion of St. Cyrian, Good Shepherd funds were used for enlarging St. Ambrose in Suquib. The building was built for a congregation of 100 and there are now 400 parishioners at the church. In 2016, Good

Shepherd sent \$1000 to replace wooden buildings at St. Bebe's and St. Luke's with earth block buildings which will protect them from fire. Both churches were enlarged as well. This has been a year when Good Shepherd has continued to improve the infrastructure of the Episcopal Church in the Mountain Province and there is more to do. Contact: Arline Easley, 703-323-1875, bobarleasley@verizon.net.

FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help)

FISH is an ecumenical outreach program comprised of 16 churches in the area which provide funding and volunteers to serve local citizens who are in temporary need of assistance with rent, utilities, food, prescriptions, gasoline, or transportation. Good Shepherd is one of these churches. We work through Fairfax County Office of Coordinated Services. Outreach supports FISH with a donation of \$2600. Contact: Jane Wiedhahn, 703-978-5458, jane_wied@cox.net.

House of Hope (HOH) and the Ste. Croix Episcopal Secondary School in Haiti

The leadership role at the House of Hope in Haiti by Alice's son, Frantz Belizaire, resulted in helping two women born in Haiti but living in the US to set a foundation to replace in 2016 the funds provided by Canadian Feed the Children in 2015. In addition, another group started refurbishing chicken coops and provided funds to reestablish chicken and egg production on the school property. Only two HOH students continued to attend Ste. Croix Episcopal secondary school in Leogane for the 2015-2016 school year and Good Shepherd parishioners sent \$2000 to pay for their senior year's tuition. The foundation now plans to move the orphanage from its site in Gressier to another site north of Petionville and closer to Port-au-Prince. Two of the HOH students attending college in the DR have graduated in 2016. This is the best outcome we could have hoped for. Expatriate Haitians from the US are taking responsibility for caring for poor and orphaned students in Haiti without help from US organizations. Contact: Arline Easley, 703-323-1875, bobarleasley@verizon.net.

Inova Blood Drives

COGS blood drives for Inova are held to help provide safe and adequate blood supply for the community. Fifty units of blood were collected last year and they were able to give blood to 150 people in Northern Virginia. Thanks to all the donors. We hope additional folks will volunteer this year because more blood is always needed. This year COGS will be sponsoring three Blood Drives: March 26, June 11, and October 28. Contact: Lois Lightfoot, 703-978-2867, loiselightfoot@verizon.net.

National Rebuilding Together Day

On Saturday, April 30, 2016, 17 members of COGS converged on a townhome in Springfield as part of National Rebuilding Together Day. Major work areas included carpet removal/laminate flooring install, numerous ceilings painted, hallway painted, minor electrical work, and many “odd jobs”. The weather held out and the work lasted until the early evening. The homeowner was so moved; she couldn’t find the words to express her gratitude for all we did. Good Shepherd clearly made a difference in the life of a member of our community! Many thanks to the Rebuilding Together Team: Sharon Brown, Perry Brown, Robert Buckley, Duncan McNeill-Burton, Sam Calabrese, Jim Connally, Arline Easley, Bill Ezekiel, Tom Godin, Jeff Lavalley, Roger Libby, Dick Nugent, Steve Sides, Christine Sniegowski, Matthew Sniegowski, Meaghan Sniegowski, and John Sniegowski. Contact: John Sniegowski, 571-529-6868, stickusn@gmail.com.

Ronald McDonald House

The Daughters of the King offer support for the mission of providing meals and a warm, clean, welcoming place for their guests who are the family members of patients of Inova Fairfax Hospital. Ronald McDonald House continually expresses extreme gratitude for our help each month in providing great comfort to these families. In nine (9) collection months this year, the individual members of Daughters of the King provided more than \$490 in items that ranged from paper towels, foil, Swiffer wet pads and refills, disinfecting wipes, dishwasher detergent pods, laundry detergent pods, boxes of large 30-gal. garbage bags and tall kitchen garbage bags, and reams of copy paper to sets of bed sheets, towels, hand towels, and washcloths. In 2017, we plan to continue our monthly goal of choosing the most-needed items from the Ronald McDonald House special “wish list” and provide as much as possible through the generosity of the individual members of Daughters of the King.

Special Treasures Sale

The Special Treasures Sale held in October 2016 raised more than \$3500 for the Compassion Fund after all receipts were received thanks to very generous parishioners. Good Shepherd families brought “treasures” after cleaning out their houses, and neighbors purchased reasonably priced goods for their households. More than 40 volunteers sorted, priced, and sold items at the Special Treasures Sale and most unsold items were given to Value Village for its charitable activities. However, we received a sterling silver sauce bowl which was sold at the Baltimore Antiques Show and a Victorian pin and earrings set sold at Weschler’s Auction in Washington; these two items alone netted more than \$1000 for the Compassion Fund. We hope you enjoyed supporting this Outreach Compassion

Fund event no matter how you participated, and we appreciate your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Contact: Arline Easley, 703-323-1875, bobarleasley@verizon.net.

Spring Fling Silent Auction (SFSA)

The Outreach Committee sponsored this evening of fellowship and fun on April 2, 2016 to raise money to support outreach ministries. The evening featured dinner, wine, live music, live and silent auctions, raffles, and fun games. Approximately 130 parishioners and guests attended. This event raised over \$15,500 which was allocated to be used over three years (2016-2018) to support outreach ministries. Contacts: Gail Calabrese, 703-425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net and Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net.

Thanksgiving Baskets



In November, Good Shepherd delivered a record 180 Thanksgiving Baskets to our neighbors in need. Thanks, Good Shepherd, for donating baskets of food, cash, gift cards, **and** shopping, packing, and delivering. It was truly a united effort by many hands, veteran and new, young and old! Because of the congregation's extreme generosity, we also donated pounds of food to FACETS and had cash remaining to donate to other Outreach

Ministry projects.

Baskets were distributed as follows:
Fairfax County Social Services – 5
Prince William Free Clinic – 35
FACETS – 58
Safe Haven – 24
Yorkville, Fairfax City – 44
Parkwood Baptist Church – 2
Others – 12



We gratefully thank the preschool children for their food donations, the many volunteers throughout the day, the youth who helped assemble baskets, and the families helping with the Giant Food collection day. This Thanksgiving Basket outreach is only one of the many ways our church family shares its many blessings with those less fortunate. Well done!

Our goal for 2017 is to continue Good Shepherd's long tradition of providing bountiful Thanksgiving meals for those in need in our own community. Contacts: Jan Wilcox, 703-550-0616, jhwilcox@aol.com, and Judy Caddell, 703-425-8585, judycaddell@verizon.net.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

UTO is a ministry of The Episcopal Church nurturing the habit of giving daily thanks to God; leading to a daily gift in recognition of the blessings that we receive; and using these gifts to support grants for ministries at home and overseas such as kitchen equipment for a homeless shelter, a dental clinic for the poor, a school in the Dominican Republic, handicap access in churches and service buildings, and more. The UTO Grant Application information is available to applicants at the Episcopal Church website, www.episcopalchurch.org/uto. All information for grant preparation is available there. UTO's focus this year was "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth." Total contributed this year (2016) from COGS was \$1,216.62, which was a combination of a UTO ingathering conducted by the Sunday School and donations by parishioners. This amount represents a \$621.62 increase over our 2015 contribution. Contact: Gail Calabrese, 703-425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net.

Rental Ministry

The Rental Ministry had a very busy and successful year. This was a team effort that included the rental manager, meeting managers, office managers, rector, and vestry. IN 2016 the Ministry had a total of 352 events which included returning clients, non-profit and for-profit agencies, new clients, educational institutions, members, and religious organizations.

The Ministry in 2016 had projected income of \$70,700, of which \$68,800 was received and the balance of \$1900 will be received in early 2017. Also, at present the ministry has projected income for 2017 of \$21,800, of which \$4700 has been received.

Goals for 2017:

To meet our projected budget, if not exceed it.

Hire a replacement Meeting Manager by March, 2017.

Continue to provide services to our members, present clients, increase business within both the non-profit and for-profit community, as well as individuals.

Obtain marketing materials for the Rental Ministry and Grand Hall.

Contact: Don Pitcock, 703-323-5400, ext. 112, rentalministry@gmail.com.

Search Committee

The first phase of the Search Committee process to gather information about who we are as a church community going forward and what we need in our new rector has come to a close. The Committee held several Focus Group sessions as well as a parish wide survey, and we will be presenting the results of that process to the full parish during an upcoming Adult Forum. The Search Committee does want to express our appreciation for the responsiveness and support we have seen so far and to say that each and every parishioner of the Church of the Good Shepherd should be immensely proud of the way we do God's work. We ask that you continue to pray for this process and for our next rector. Contact: Roger Libby, 703-272-7424, rogerlibby7@hotmail.com.

Text in Community

Text in Community was started in 1990 to provide an opportunity for parishioners who like to read to come together in Christian fellowship and to encourage spiritual growth through the reading of literature. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month for a potluck dinner followed by a discussion of a book recommended by participants. We met 12 times this year to discuss 12 books. We plan to do the same in 2017. We do not require church funding. Contact: Kathy Straight, 703-425-0850, katestr8@gmail.com.

Ushers

Ushers provide support for all Good Shepherd services when required. Support includes seating, greeting, and assisting members of the congregation as needed before, during, and immediately after the service. The 2016 highlights included extensive usher preparation in all of the Easter and Christmas services, participation in the Bishop's annual visit, and the Diocesan Ordination at Good Shepherd on 10 December. In 2017 our mission remains the same. As older ushers retire and move away, we need to increase our efforts to maintain a constant flow of new and younger ushers into our ranks. At the midpoint of 2016 we moved to two services: an 8:00 a.m. service and a 10:15 a.m. service. We have adapted to the new usher schedule that supports just two Sunday services as we await our new rector. Key usher leaders are Dick Nugent and Pete Jouannet, respectively. The two service usher support will continue into 2017.

Welcome and Newcomers' Ministry

The Welcome Ministry is a dedicated group of greets who provide a warm welcome to all who enter the doors of Good Shepherd on Sunday morning. We assist visitors, offer name tags, answer questions, and make introductions. Newcomers' receptions are held periodically to treat recent members to good food, conversation, and a chance to learn more about this community. At our last reception this fall, we hosted 14 new members. We ask everyone in the parish to please wear a name tag; an important way to show that you are open to getting to know others. Contact: Kathy Moore, kmooreslp@yahoo.com.

Youth Group

With the graduation of a core group of youth leaders and the departure of our Youth Minister this past summer to a land of more opportunity, the Youth Group is in a rebuilding mode. We had a very successful retreat in September and we have had a number of successful programs throughout the fall. This spring we are attempting to combine with other churches to offer some more ambitious programs. Keep an eye on the website and the ESS for Youth Group program and event information. We have scheduled two activities for each month through the spring. All young people in grades 6 through 12 are invited and encouraged to join us for fellowship, education, service, and fun. Contact: John Merchant, 703-256-3650, merchantj@verizon.net.