St. John’s is a community transformed by the Love of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is to love the Lord God, to love our neighbors as ourselves and to live out our Baptismal Covenant so that we build a community transformed by the love of Jesus Christ.

St. John’s Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Gregory H. Rickel
Bishop of Olympia

2016 Vestry

Class of 2016
Troy Atwell
Barbara Kincaid
Gerry Apple
David Little

Class of 2017
Mary Conley Law (Clerk)
Ron Leo
Elaine Ross
Laura Tayne

Class of 2018
Michael Clifthorne
Denise Hammer
Tracie O’Brien
Bill Van Hook

The Rev. Robert C. Laird
Rector

Barbara Kincaid
Senior Warden

Troy Atwell
Junior Warden

The Rev. Terri Lolecama
Deacon

The Rev. Don Maddux
Associate for Hispanic Ministry

The Rev. Dr. Doug Dornhecker
Deacon

Dr. Curt Sather
Organist & Choirmaster

Kary W. Hyre
Organist Emeritus

Sergio Gómez
Musician for Hispanic Ministry & Sexton

Don Duncan
Treasurer

Michelle Lozar
Parish Secretary
1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Opening Prayer  Fr. Robert C. Laird
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting
3. Introduction of 2016 Vestry
4. Thanking the Vestry Class of 2016 (and 2015)
5. Election of Vestry Members
6. Appointment of Senior Warden
7. 2016 Budget Review  Don Duncan & Lance Avery
8. Thanking Don Duncan
9. Report from the Discernment Leadership Team  Allen Ziegler
10. Update on Hispanic Ministry  Fr. Don Maddux
11. Adoption of Parish By-Laws
12. Open Discussion, Questions and Answers, etc.
13. Closing Prayer and Sending Forth  Deacon Terri Lolcama
Minutes of the 151st Annual Meeting  January 31, 2016

OPENING: Mtr. June Johnson opened the meeting with prayer at 9:15 a.m.

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER: Fr. Robert C. Laird called the meeting to order and offered commendations to the congregation for an outstanding ten months.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The motion to approve the minutes of the 150th Annual Meeting was made and seconded. The motion passed. Minutes were approved.

INTRODUCTION OF 2016 VESTRY AND CANDIDATES: Senior Warden, Randy Hammer introduced the nominated vestry class of 2018. They are Michael Clifthorne, Denise Hammer, Tracie O’Brien and William (Bill) Van Hook.

ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS: Fr. R.C. opened the meeting to additional nominations. There being no other nominations it was moved and seconded that the nominated be elected unanimously.

2015 BUDGET REVIEW: Treasurer Don Duncan reported that the 2015 budget review looked very good. Total income is 102%. He thanked the tellers, auditors, Sue Michie and Mary Jane Hancock for assistance with accounting work. He thanked Mary Law for updating and maintaining the data base. Randy thanked Don for his hard work.

2016 BUDGET PRESENTATION: Randy indicated we have a significant number of new pledges although there is a net loss in total pledges. We will be using the “windfall” surplus balance of $16,600 from the 2015 year into the 2016 year’s budget to help balance it for this swing year. We should note that there is an increase in the amount of the pledge per person/family. See page 10 of the 2015 annual report for more information.

RETIRING VESTRY MEMBERS SERVICE RECOGNITION: Fr. R.C. recognized retiring vestry members, Randy Hammer, Kathryn McLeod and Michael Ambrogi for their dedication and service. It has not been an easy year and they are part of a great group of leaders. Special thanks to Randy and Troy Atwell, Junior Warden for hard work. New challenges have been thrown at them and they have served the interest of the church well.

Fr. R.C. continued to thank the congregation at St John's. He has been happy working in with the members of the church and the vestry. Among the many accomplishments is the celebration of the nine years of service given by Kary Hyre as organist and choirmaster and the calling of Dr. Curt Sather and his talents and expertise as interim organist/choirmaster.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2016 SENIOR WARDEN: Fr. R.C. announced that Troy Atwell will continue as Junior Warden. He has done an outstanding job this year and has projects in the works that need his talents to complete. Barbara Kincaid has agreed to serve as Senior Warden.

Work for the vestry will include contract work with Wetherholt and Associates to assess the work needed to seal the envelop of the building. Wetherholt needs four straight days of sunshine to complete the assessment. Both Barbara and Troy are on board.

REMARKS: Mtr June reports that the Pastoral Care program and the core team meets monthly there are 14 members. The Wednesday morning Eucharist continues with great participation. We are serving our parish and many from outside our worship community coming to this ministry. Wednesday Bible study is growing.

UPDATE ON HISPANIC MINISTRY: Fr. Don Maddux reports that there is a very devout community that loves to worship together. They share and support one another. Gustavo and Charo are going through training with the bishop on their way to formation of Holy Orders. There are lots of acolytes at the 6:00 p.m. service. Terri and Darren Chidister are helping with the acolytes. More adults are training to serve in the ministry. Members of the community are assisting with payment for lawyers to help the Hispanic community with legal issues.

OPEN DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: Laura Tayne answered questions on behalf of the Search Committee, and referred the congregation back to the printed report of the committee.

Fr. R.C. recognized Ric Weatherman for his remarkable dedication and work for the church, including but not limited to regular maintenance, the jack hammer removing of concrete step in the chancel, replacement of lamps in the ceiling of the sanctuary while perched in the basket of a cherry picker with the help of Don Duncan and Bill McClarty. The recognition was met with a standing ovation from the congregation.

CLOSING PRAYER AND SENDING FORTH: Deacon Terri Lolcama closed the meeting in prayer.
Rector’s Report

The Rev. Robert C. Laird

2016 was an incredibly exciting year for all of us at St. John’s! I am incredibly grateful and honored to be writing as your rector this year, having moved with my family to this fabulous city, and to be seeing the amazing transformation at work in our faith community.

In 2016, your Vestry and I set three main priority areas for our work together: children and families, music programs, and welcoming and incorporating new members. We took great strides in each of these areas of our common life as a congregation.

In music, we took great strides toward completing our organ project, and hired Dr. Curt Sather as our permanent organist & choirmaster. Both the organ & Dr. Sather will be featured prominently in 2017, as Bond Organ Builders of Portland, Ore. continue the installation of our new organ, and Dr. Sather undertakes a recital of all of J.S. Bach’s known organ works in 24 hours, in commemoration of his 332nd birthday. This will be a great opportunity for outreach to our community, and a brilliant fundraising opportunity for St. John’s! We even have a website for the event, www.BachAroundtheClock.net!

Our ministries with children & families is undergoing a thoughtful and thorough retooling, with input from families and congregational stakeholders. We had a special day of formation in Advent for families, which was a good first step toward a revitalized program for children. We are continuing that work in 2017, and are looking forward to continuing the renewal of our ministries with children & families.

Finally, our focus on welcoming new members to our community continues to develop and bear fruit. We have 13% more pledging households in 2017 than we had in 2016, and our congregation is growing at a sustainable pace. We continue to see many new people join us on Sundays, and our outreach efforts are bearing fruit. Most importantly, more people are experiencing Christ’s love, hope, and joy at St. John’s; it is evidence of our living the Great Commission, that we spread the Gospel around the world, making disciples and baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

It was also a year for engagement with our neighbors and our diocesan family. Our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Greg. Rickel, joined us several times, including at a joint summer mass at Tumwater Historical Park held jointly with St. Benedict’s in Lacey, and St. Christopher’s on Steamboat Island. It was a glorious Sunday, with fabulous food and fellowship. Our bishop also joined us to officiate our annual Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols, which has quickly become a highlight of the holiday season for many in the greater Olympia area. We held our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper jointly with St. Benedict’s as well, just as we will again this year. We have used our central location and welcoming facilities to bring folks together from around the region and the diocese, which has been a blessing to them, and to us.

In 2016, we laid the groundwork for the important work we will do in 2017. Through our discernment process, led with the help of the Episcopal Church Foundation, we gathered an exhaustive amount of data as a community about what we feel God calling us to do and to be, and we will use that data to create a vision for St. John’s, along with a plan for how to build that vision. We will present the data we have collected and the vision that we have created together with the entire parish in the coming months, and then begin to plan for funding and implementing that plan. In 2017, we will take the next steps toward fixing our roof once and for all, and to making our physical space as welcoming as our people are.

This has all been possible through the hard work of so many people! Our Vestry and wardens, our staff, and the efforts of each of our many organizations and committees has made all this possible. There are too many to name; rest assured, we are grateful to each of you!

This is an incredibly exciting time to be a part of St. John’s. The Holy Spirit is moving here, and the people are responding! I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else in all of Christendom; I give thanks to God for you all every time I pray. Thank you for being such an amazing community, and for responding so vigorously to God’s invitation to new life and new ministry here in Olympia!
Hispanic Ministries

The Rev. Don Maddux

Our Hispanic Ministry at Saint Johns (San Juan) continues to evolve.

Thanks to Dr. Curt Sather and Father R.C. Laird we have shared several multilingual services and social events. Including a wonderful outdoor eucharist at Street Fest in August, Holy Week services, and a joyful church family celebration for the Day of the Kings, this January 5th.

Our “Fiesta Latina” (dinner and auction) brought in need funds, and helped build community. Thank you all for your faithful support. Our sales of Lynch Creek Farm wreaths at the parish “Christmas Faire” were the biggest ever. We cleared over $1,000. Your support does a great deal to keep the ministry strong.

Our growth in lay leadership has been good, including Brenda Portaro’s participation in Diocesan Convention. Columba Fernandez was part of the search committee for our new rector. Charo and Gustavo Portaro continue in the education process for ordination. Charo has been assigned to work at Saint Joseph-Saint John Church in Lakewood for most of the past year. Both participate in the bishop’s Iona School weekends. The Reverend Michael Beaton, a Presbyterian Minister from Cuba is now part of our congregation, and preaches and teaches with us. Michael will be teaching a Bible Class during lent.

Bishop Rickel will be here at 6:00 P.M. today to confirm and receive a group of children and adults. We are also planning several baptisms in the coming months also.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry.

Deacon’s Report

The Rev. Terri Lolcama

St. John – Apostle and Evangelist – “…those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.” They will soar on wings like eagles…” Isaiah 40:31

John our patron saint, was known to be a wise man; one who “soared like an eagle” encouraging many to know, love, and follow Jesus. The eagle is a symbol in our church of unending strength and courage to take risks. We are invited to be “eagles” embracing the messages of Jesus, taking risks, sharing our faith, and bringing others into the flock. St. John’s Church has many “eagles” within the church and those serve beyond the walls.

I am very thankful to serve St. John’s as your Deacon. My focus has been to support, embrace, and enhance leadership in all the various ministries; but especially the leadership and participants on the Outreach Committee as they work to bring our attention to serve the needs of our community. Our faith draws us into living out our Baptismal Covenant; and St. John’s has strived in many ways to show the love of Jesus Christ to newcomers, friends, and neighbors. Many have stepped up and taken leadership roles this past year or been a part of a ministry reaching out to those who live on the margins of our society. “I was hungry and you gave me something to eat…” Matthew 25:35

Our weekly birthday and thank offerings continue to support the needs of our community and the greater world in a variety of ways. Your generosity throughout the year has been a huge help to Cambodian Families, Rest Stop, Interfaith Works – Shelter Program, Salvation Army Community Kitchen monthly dinners, KAIROS Prison Ministry, Little Red School House, Olympia medical/dental clinics, and much more! Check out the Ministry Vine on the south wall of the parish hall – you too can be an “eagle” sharing God’s love with others.

The Ministry Faire in the fall invites newcomers and reintroduces us to the many ways we can become a part of the church. Becoming a part of a church is often the hardest part for newcomers. “How do I fit into this web of people?” “Why would I come to a place where no one talks to me?” It is not always easy to feel welcomed into a parish family. Everyone who enters our doors has something to offer and they enter our doors with a hopeful heart. We are growing by our hospitality which in turn supports newcomers to then extend a helping hand in the many ministry opportunities. We continue to extend our hands and hearts and with God’s help “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” Baptismal Covenant – BCP pg. 305

I look forward to serving side-by-side with Deacon Doug Dornhecker in 2017; pursuing new and different outreach to our community and the world; participating in worship services, preaching, and supporting pastoral care. I am very thankful for all the, prayers, support, and love extended to me by the vestry, the parish family, the staff, and especially the clergy.

“Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.”

Thanks be to God!
Deacon’s Report  

The Rev. Dr. Doug Dornhecker

I began calendar year 2016 undergoing the General Ordination Examination (January 4-7)—the most challenging academic test I’ve ever taken, and I ended the year being ordained as a Transitional Deacon in the Episcopal church (December 17 at Diocesan House). It was my most Episcopalian year ever.

Bishop Greg has assigned me to continue serving here at St. John’s. Since this report covers only the period ending on December 31, 2016, I can truthfully say that my work as your new Deacon was one of the most exciting fourteen days of my life. I’m surprised how different it feels to be functioning as an “insider” for the first time. I wouldn’t trade my experience over the last dozen years as a weird “ecumenical presence” for anything, but having now an identifiable role and a cogent set of expectations beats it by a mile. Now if I fail, I’ll know what I’m failing at.

It’s probably been a very Episcopalian year for you, too. I think St. John’s is in an exciting place these days. Our staff is great—and great fun to work with. Our on-going programs are varied and life-giving. Our future—one marginal—now sees itself being creatively transformed. I have high hopes for 2017.

See you here!

Warden’s Report

Troy Atwell

As one of your wardens, along with Barb Kincaid, 2016 was a very exciting year. As the elected officers of the parish, we were responsible for negotiating the Letter of Agreement with Fr. Laird after Vestry elected him our rector, and we began the work of shaping the beginning of this new pastoral relationship.

A big part of that welcome was an all parish work day, in which we de-cluttered, cleaned, and prepared for the Rector’s First Sunday on July 10. It was a tremendous day, with over 30 volunteers helping, and the church hadn’t looked so good in years. Many thanks to everyone who participated!

The Vestry has worked hard in the last year to streamline our process for meeting, communicating effectively before and after meetings in order to keep our meeting time as productive as possible. Our average meeting time is now under two hours, a major accomplishment.

2016 saw the Olympia Community School move into our space upstairs, when they found themselves without space on short notice before the school year began. That relationship has been a blessing to both the school and St. John’s, and we are grateful that they will be on our campus at least until the end of this school year.

2016 also saw a number of building issues arise. In February, water damaged the ceiling and walls outside the Chapel of Thanks, which resulted in thousands of dollars of repairs. Thankfully, our insurer, Church Insurance of Vermont (a part of the Episcopal Church’s Church Pension Group), were incredibly helpful and generous in both disaster mitigation (the clean-up process), as well as restoring the ceiling and walls to perfect working order. While it was unfortunate to have to deal with the mess, we couldn’t have hoped for a better resolution.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee has been working this last year on creating a total building program for St. John’s, in order to be able to track all the ongoing maintenance expenses that come up in the course of owning and operating a building like ours. This will make it possible for the Vestry to begin long-term planning for capital improvements like replacement boilers & roofs, as well as knowing what the annual requirements are for upkeep of our worship and program spaces.

Centering Prayer

Dr. Curt Sather

A weekly Centering Prayer group was formed in September 2016. As many as 30 people meet each Thursday at 12 noon in the Parish Hall for an hour which includes instruction, a 20-minute silent prayer sit, and time for reflection and sharing. Sandwich boards on the sidewalk have attracted several non-St. John’s people to the group. A Centering Prayer Quiet Day retreat was held in October 2016.
Reports to the Annual Meeting  
February 12, 2017

Income for the year was 98% of the budget for a total of $371,839. Pledge income was 98% of the pledge goal. Income from pledge amounted to 84% of all income.

Open Plate income was 198% of budget reflecting, in part, new attendees. Christmas and Easter Special Giving were both under budget. We have been blessed with a bequest from the estate of Princess Jackson Smith for the Endowment Fund.

Expenditures for the year were 99% of the budget for a total of $375,797. Unlike last year when we posted an operating gain for the year of $17,745. We ended with a loss for the year of $3,958.

The treasurer’s job is made easier by good people who help. Thanks to Sue Michie and her capable sub Mary Jane Hancock who devote hours to entering individual giving into our membership data base and to Mary Law for maintaining it. Thanks also to our dedicated tellers who continue to give up part of their Sundays to accurately count and record congregational giving.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Fund</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Percent of Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Building User Donations</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$9,885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions/Open Plate</td>
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<td>$27,768</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
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<td>$10</td>
<td>128%</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIF/Securities</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>Pledges</td>
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<td>Reimbursements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
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<td>Total Income</td>
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<td>$371,839</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
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<td>Assessment</td>
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<td>Building Maintenance &amp; Security</td>
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<td>Children &amp; Youth Ministry</td>
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<td>Altar Consumables</td>
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<td>Clergy Continuing Education</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$379,717</td>
<td>$375,797</td>
<td>99%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Music Program**

The Parish Choir (formerly Chancel Choir), Jubilate Choir, Spiritus Dance Ensemble, and Contemporary Instrumental Ensemble have continued to lead the music at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service and for special services, and the Compline Choir, led by Bill Unbehauhn, continues to sing each Sunday evening at 8:00 p.m. Worship services have also included the participation of the Trumpet Quartet, the Olympia Sacred Jazz Ensemble, and guest instrumentalists and vocalists. The Wednesday 7:00 a.m. service now includes music.

The Sunday 6:00 p.m. Spanish service continues to be led by Sergio Gomez, but now with a choir, El Coro.

Taizé-style services have taken place in Lent and Advent.

The St. John’s Concert Series, organized this 2016-2017 season by Warren Guykema, has included returning groups Seattle Pro Musica and the Esoterics, as well as new instrumental ensembles, and in October 2016 we held our first Jazz Cabaret dinner.

The installation of the Schlicker pipe organ came to a halt in August 2016. St. John’s has ended its contract with Rene Marceau, organ builder, and a new firm has been selected to finish the installation in the first part of 2017.

**The Church Library**

The Library Ministry keeps the adult and children’s libraries up to date and in order. There are books, DVDs, music and reference materials for use by anyone who wishes to check them out.

Our books are purchased with monies raised in the June Jumble, the Christmas Faire, donations in the form of money or books and an occasional raffle. We have a wish list of books to buy compiled by requests from parishioners. Anyone wanting to add to the list can leave the name and author in the checkout box in the adult library or they can buy the book and donate it. Gently used books are always welcome!

The library is always open unless a group has scheduled the room for a meeting or when the church is closed. If the library doors are closed, please check with the office or knock to see if the room is occupied. To check out books or other items take the card out of the envelope inside the front cover. Fill out your full name and the current date, including the year. Put the card in the drop box on the wall by the Library door. When you return the books put them in the basket under the drop box. There is no time limit, but if you keep books too long a volunteer will call with a reminder to return the book.

The Children’s library does not have check out cards and can be taken out at any time. Just remember to bring them back so other children can enjoy them.

Once a month some of our volunteers read to the children in a Sunday School class. Any one from the congregation can assist in this. If you are interested in reading please check with a church staff member.

Our library volunteers are members of the Pacific Northwest Association of Church Libraries, an ecumenical group with members from Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Our South Puget Sound Branch meets 8 times a year at hosting churches. Volunteers learn about other books recommended to be added to the libraries and learn of new authors. This year our Puget Sound Branch is sponsoring the 50th Anniversary Conference at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA. The dates are July 14-15, 2017. If you would like to attend, contact a Library Volunteer for more information.

The Library features a display of art by a St. John’s artist every quarter. The wall is located in the library to the left of the door. We are always looking for a volunteer to post their art, poems, pictures, sewing and more. Please contact any librarian or volunteer if you wish to have your art on display!

Library volunteers meet monthly on the third Monday at 1:00 in the Library. We always welcome new members or visitors. Janice Jackson and Diane Russell, Co-Librarians. Mary Knotts, Jennifer Jones, Noreen Meyer, Jane Bradbury, and Nicki Weeks, Volunteers.

**Piece Keepers Quilting Group**

Piece Keepers Quilt Group meet in the church Parish hall Monday afternoon starting at 12:30 pm. Our group is open to anyone wanting to learn about quilting or to those that have experience. Our quilt group members are Kathleen Greenman, Laura Tayne, Margaret Scheppke, Mary Ann Mahurin, Sharon Wallace and Dorn Barr.
Sunday School & Camp Michael

Denise Hammer

Sunday School continued with Year Two of the Weaving God’s Promises curriculum. Last year the focus was on Weaving Our Faith and the Gospel of Matthew. The second program year focus is on Weaving Together the Family of God and the Gospel of John.

Sunday School continues to have a shortage of available teachers to study and teach the curriculum. Average attendance has been 4-6 students each week from September to June. Student ages range from preschool to early middle school.

Camp Michael had a successful 44th year of camp with the theme of May the Faith Be With You. Approximately 85 campers attended the five day overnight camp in July. St. John’s had many campers attend and was well represented. A new and popular activity added to the camp was an archery program. This was in addition to swimming, photography, arts and crafts, camp fire, and of course daily worship, prayer and fellowship. Additionally, providing an online registration and payment option proved a success.

The Camp Directors are already busy planning for the 45th year of camp. The proposed theme is Fruit of the Spirit. Camp is scheduled for July 18-22, 2017. Fundraising opportunities are also being developed. Currently, the Board is seeking a Volunteer Coordinator and a Fundraising Coordinator to better spearhead these efforts.

Daughters of the King - QUINN NEAL CHAPTER

The Order of the Daughters of the King is a religious order for women in the Episcopal Church. We invite women of all ages who are seeking a more structured path of discipleship. Our mission is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others and to become reflections of God’s love throughout the world. The Order was founded in 1885 and as Daughters of the King, we follow a Rule of Life which consists of a Rule of Prayer and Rule of Service.

As a chapter, each member prays daily for those on our prayer list, attends monthly meetings, and serves as a volunteer at St. John’s or in the community. We provide the “blue” cards in the pews in the church for prayer requests which are given to a member to add to our list. We also receive prayer requests through the St. John’s website.

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 11:30am in the Guild Annex. Our meetings are open to women who wish to join us for our meetings, in praying with us for others or exploring more about the Order. For more information, please contact Kathryn Ness or Fawn Hacker.

C.H.A.T. (COFFEE HOUR AFTER TEN THIRTY)

Carolyn Maddux

Many thanks to the many wonderful people who have hosted coffee hour after the main service each week. St. John’s takes the concept of Holy Hospitality seriously, and coffee time is a great time to get acquainted with newcomers and other friends we haven’t met yet. Whether it’s a voluminous spread or a simple setout of crackers or fruit, it’s good to have something to munch on before everyone disperses to the rest of their Sunday. In the past year there’s been a trend toward an informal provision of munchies at the early service as well.

New in 2017 will be a Lenten reversal. Instead of coming to the table for goodies in Lent, we’ll come to the table in the parish hall bringing something (food offering or cash offering) for the hungry served by the Thurston County Food Bank and other outreaches. (There will still be something very simple for children.)

For the rest of the year, we’ll go on snacking as usual. Please consider signing up with a friend or two to provide coffee hour goodies, and please remember, too, that this is a time to make newcomers feel welcome, so take a few moments to get acquainted with someone you don’t know yet.

Spiritus Dance Ensemble

Helen Johnston & Donna Pallo-Perez

Spiritus, the liturgical dance troupe at St. John’s has been busy performing during 2016. Many dances were performed at the 10:30 service and at Block Fest. In addition several dancers performed their own choreographed dances at the Eagles Hall during the spring Art Walk. We were asked to be a part of the Lutheran Women’s spring retreat at the Dumas Bay Retreat Center in Federal Way. Several individual dances were performed from Women of the Bible as well as the troupe performing together. We then led a workshop in liturgical dance for the women at the retreat. In December we performed at the service blessing the new organ. We are working on several dances for 2017. We welcome new participants!
**Office Volunteers & Communications**

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

Office volunteer duties include but are not limited to: answering phones, making calls, maintaining the Sunday service book, copying, mailings, preparing children’s bulletins for service, general office duties.

Thanks to Michelle Lozar for her guidance, assistance, and patience.

Volunteers for 2016: Rod Baldwin, Pam Burdick, Kay Cooper, Mary Knotts, Mary Conley Law, Linda Madison, Mary Ann Mahurin, Edith Pill.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications at St John’s has been a topic of many discussions with lots of questions in 2016. In attempt to address the questions several steps have been taken.

**THE CHRONICLE** is published once a month and mailed to all active members and others on request. The Chronicle includes articles about events and people at the church and of interest to this population. The monthly calendar of events is included. Mary Jane Hancock (maryjanehancock@gmail.com) serves as editor and requests articles monthly from the various interests of the church. She compiles the articles and submits them to Christie Kruger Guydish (Christie.couger@gmail.com). Christie prepares the articles for printing and publication on the St John’s Web Site.

**OUR WEBSITE** (stjohnsoly.org) is updated and maintained by Christie Kruger Guydish. The website provides internet access worldwide to St. John’s, the organization and activities. Links are maintained to activities and reports directly related to what is going on at St. John’s and provides information of interest to folks interested in knowing more about us.

**OUR FACEBOOK PAGE** (facebook.com/stjohnsolympia) is maintained by Judy Williams. Regular posts of articles of activities and events at St. John’s and other events in the Diocese and articles of interest to St. John’s are maintained.

**ON TWITTER** (twitter.com/stjohnsoly) St. John’s joined Twitter in September of 2016. Here you can find short posts and links to articles that may be of interest to the community.

**OUR DIRECTORY** is maintained by office volunteers, and available by request in the office.

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**The Welcome Team**

Scheduling Greeters to be at the entrances to the church on Sundays and other important events is essential in providing a welcoming atmosphere and a good first impression of St. John’s. However, greeting at the doors is just the first step in the process of welcoming existing members and visitors. Follow-up is necessary to let visitors know that they are important and can become part of our church family.

Greeters attempt to provide a good experience with a smile, a handshake, and opening the door to the church. In the cold months of the year, opening the door is a very positive action, well received by both visitors and parishioners.

At the end of the service, those attendees identified as visitors should be approached and welcomed by the assigned greeters as well as by current members. This follow-up works well after the service at Chat. The initial greeting and the follow-up after the service, hopefully, provides the visitor with a positive experience at St. John’s.

Remember, everyone at St John’s is an Ambassador of Hospitality. Take time to introduce yourself to visitors and escort them to CHAT.

I began attending St. John’s in the summer of 2008. Even though there was no Greeter/Welcome Team, I was impressed by the warmth of the congregation. Because of that reception, I have been pleased to be part of St. John’s and the Welcome Team.

I appreciate the efforts of the following Greeters and Welcome Team volunteers in 2016: Michael Ambrogi, Dorn Barr, Daren Chidester, Christine Fleming, Meg Jones, Barbara Kincaid, Tonia McClanahan, Carolyn Maddux, Mary Ann Mahurin, Norine Meyer, Chuck Moore, Julia Moore, Tracie O’Brien, Maria Prado, Phil Rupp, and Nancy Vineyard.

The team is looking for volunteers, who would enjoy welcoming visitors to our church! There is a shortage of Greeters at this time. Additional help is needed at the 10:30 AM service and after the service during CHAT.

Greeting is a good experience and a great way to meet new people!
Busy Bees

A group of women from St. John’s and St. Benedict’s, with one token Lutheran, the Bees have as their mission the support and encouragement of girls and young women who are lacking adequate or traditional support from their own families. We began, many years ago, working mainly with girls at Brentwood Home for Girls. We continue to provide birthday parties and gifts and back to school parties and supplies for them, as well as Christmas stockings and Easter baskets, and baskets of self-care items like shampoo when they enter the Home. In addition, we have been giving money to support the work of Community Youth Services (CYS).

In the past year, we have expanded our ministry to assist the Young Women’s Christian Association’s “STEAM” camps for young girls; the money we give allows “the Y” to provide scholarship help to girls who are interested but who cannot afford the fees. In these summer and winter (and also weekend) “camps” the YWCA trains and motivates the girls to increase their understanding and interest in the five fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics (“STEAM”). Finally, we stretched our involvement again by contributing money for additional machines for the sewing classes at CIELO. We’re also, with help from the rest of the parish, contributing scarves, hats, and gloves for CIELO’s school-age (and younger) clients who receive help with homework (or baby-sitting) there, and for those who attend classes in English at CIELO.

In order to do these things, we raise money twice a year. The Bees assist in the running of the June Jumble, and are given a share of the profits for doing so. In the fall, we work (like the Busy Bees we are!) for months to produce the things we sell at the Xmas Faire: flavored honeys, beeswax candles, honey fudge, and so on.

We meet monthly, except during the summer, on the second Tuesday of the month at St. John’s from noon to 1 p.m., to plan our activities and for fellowship. Twice a year, in June and in December, we have a special luncheon, generally a potluck in the Parish Hall at St. John’s, for fun and to celebrate. The Bees are a friendly, as well as industrious, group of women, and we welcome newcomers warmly!

Parish Nurse

As the primary caregiver for her Mother, the parish nurse has not been as active in 2016. However, she has consulted with many of our parish regarding health issues, helped individuals through the complexities of our health care system, and made a few home/hospital visits.

Men’s Group

We are a group of a dozen or so men from this congregation and several others in the community. We have met almost every Saturday morning from 8:30 to 10am this past year, discussing books, chapter by chapter, and reflecting on our lives as Christian men.

Our reading has Living Buddha, Living Christ by Thich Nhat Hanh, and Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life by Karen Armstrong. We heartily invite men who are exploring what faith means to join us. Contact Bill Unbehaun at unbie1@comcast.net.

St. Mary’s Guild

St. Mary’s Guild is committed to raising funds for the purpose of enhancing the worship and common gathering place of St. John’s. Our main project this year was the purchase of the chimes for the new organ.

Our meetings are currently held in the Guild Room the 3rd Thursday of every month at 12:30 pm. Our main fundraising event is the Christmas Faire held each November. We have put on hold any new projects until the new organ installation is complete.

Monday Morning Crafters

We meet Monday morning 10 am in the Parish Hall to share skills, patterns, fellowship, laughs, talents, hugs, a tear now and then and worship. Some come to begin a project, some to finish a project, maybe they need help figuring out a pattern or maybe they found a pattern some one in the group has been looking for. Yes, we help each other, enjoy being with each other and learn from each other. “Come and See” you just might like what you see and join us!
2016 StreetFest

STREETFEST 16 DREW BIGGER CROWDS

StreetFest at St. John’s has become a tradition. Under the leadership of Gerald Apple and David Little, the event grew with more vendors and participation from a wider base.

Our format remained basically the same as our St. John’s Sesquicentennial Block Party, an outreach experiment in 2014, with food, music and dance, and activities for kids, but with the time frame introduced in 2015, starting at 3 p.m., adding displays by public service groups, and continuing with an outdoor misa en Español.

This year saw the addition of food served after the misa, which encouraged more people to stay for Compline. Entertainment was provided by our own bagpiper, Ann Hall; the Artesian Rumble Arkestra; and organist Curt Sather. Mary Alice Olson added a dance element to one of the organ selections.

Women’s Spirituality Group

The Women’s Spirituality Group normally meets on the 1st Saturday of the month. All women of the parish are invited to attend. If you have a friend that you think would be interested invite her, too. Perhaps you will meet someone new, get to know someone better and talk about things that matter. laughter and tears are sometimes part of the group

The main features are 1) Holy Table, 2)Meditation, prepared ahead by a member with discussion following, 3) refreshments and 4) taking turns reading from the book, We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren and discussing issues that it raises for us. This is a continuation of last year.

For more information contact Judy Williams (943-2326 or joyfulpond@aol.com) or Mary Law (maryconleylaw@gmail.com).

Adopt a Cambodian Family Project

In November 2016, Tithia and Yanny had a chance to make a last visit to Cambodia while visiting there they had chance to distribute basic food supplies, such as dried noodles, fish sauce, rice, and medicine, to about 60 impoverished families in several different villages in western part of Battambang province along Thai Cambodian border. Our volunteers organize food distribution each quarter from the funds they received from us. This is a huge benefit, minimizing travel costs to families, and helping those with no transportation to receive these packaged foods.

Tithia was able to talk by phone to three other families who received seed grants from the first quarter. They sell vegetables in a small market in their community. Their profit from the business was never stable, but the grant support gave them hope and faith. Each of these families is very grateful for the help they received from the Adopt a Family Program which enables them to begin supporting their families.

There are also 15 destitute and disabled families with children who still receive funds from Adopt a Family Relief. The relief fund is $60 every quarter for each family.

Our annual funds were distributed and spent as below:

Relief fund and Package

- food supplies: $3,100.00
- Seed grant: $900.00
- Other cost/admin: $300.00

We welcome donations, suggestions or participation in this ministry by anyone interested in joining us. Please see Tithia Sum or Sherry Sullivan.
Events Committee

The Events Committee dedicates its energy to specific parish functions:

**Easter Vigil Celebration** — This takes place after the Easter Vigil service, and celebrates the Resurrection with parish donated deviled eggs and sweet and savory treats.

**June Jumble** — The Events Committee takes the laboring oar to coordinate the Library, Busy Bees and Events in offering parish donated items for sale to the public. The proceeds are shared, and unpurchased items donated to Value Village. The proceeds support parish outreach and committee mission.

**C.H.A.T.** — In the summer The Events Committee hosts C.H.A.T. twice during the summer: once for a ice cream social and once for a root beer float extravaganza.

**English Tea** — Usually done in concert with the Daughters of the British Empire, the Tea occurs in May or June and provides outreach to the community.

**Italian Dinner** — This event is dedicated to bringing our parish together, and while ticketed, is not based on profit pricing. Our hope is that the Italian dinner allows us to come together as a parish and enjoy one another’s company. This is a 17 year tradition at St. John’s.

**Christmas Faire** — The Christmas Faire raises funds for any St. John’s groups & guilds that wish to participate. The Events Committee performs the set up and contracts with all vendors. In addition, the Olde English Pub offers soup, savories and sweets for Faire attendees.

**Bishop’s Receptions** — The Events Committee has funded three receptions attended by the Bishop, and ensured that the food, drink and ambiance were appropriate for a Bishop’s participation.

**Revision of St. Anne’s Pantry** — New shelving and organization of the St. Anne’s pantry was undertaken in December.

The Events Committee designates its mission as “Providing the St. John’s Parish with a welcoming and hospitable reception for special and designated events.”

We look forward to the participation of other Parish groups in planning events and CHATs, and hope that we can combine our resources to offer the parish meaningful Events that build our sense of community.

Sunday Service Participants

St John’s Service Participants assist in the regular worship services at St John’s. The participants are volunteers giving their time to help make the various services of worship meaningful and hopefully smooth flowing.

We have 5 audio engineers; 13 acolytes; 11 Eucharistic Ministers/Chalice Bearers; 22 Lectors; 9 tellers; 17 ushers. As some of these volunteers serve in more than one capacity we have 48 parishioner volunteers.

During the last year as scheduling program “Master Scheduler Pro” was purchased and used to facilitate the scheduling of the volunteers. With practice and some adjustments it will help streamline the process.

If you are interested in becoming a service participant please contact Mary Conley Law at maryconleylaw@gmail.com.

Thank you to each of you who volunteer for your contributions to the worship at St John’s.

Altar Guild

St. John’s Altar Guild assists our clergy by preparing the church for all services and special occasions with communion feast. What are these occasions one may ask?

Services on Sunday 8 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm (Spanish), Wed. 7 am, Baptisms, Confirmations, Memorials, Christmas, Easter, The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Ordination, a visit from our Bishop, or many more that could come up.

We have 4 teams working one week each month. Each team has a Captain, a flower person and team members who set up the Altar for communion, clean the vessels after communion, wash and press the linens and set the table (altar) for the next service. This is done each and every week of the year.

Mary Alice Olson is the person that keeps our Faire linens beautiful and ready for Christmas and Easter. Thank you Mary Alice!

Mary Ann Mahurin, director; Dorn Barr, Co-Director; Pat Jacobs, Treasurer.
El Hogar Mission in Honduras

Sue Michie

We at St. John’s continue to support El Hogar, The School of Love and Hope, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Our student Arnol Josue Lopez Gonzalez will be entering 3rd grade in February, as the new school year begins in Honduras. He is doing well and continues to enjoy the happy, and safe, atmosphere at El Hogar.

The Mission of El Hogar is to transform and empower abandoned and hopelessly poor children in Honduras by providing a loving home and education. The goal of El Hogar is for the children to fulfill their ultimate potential as productive, caring and independent Honduran citizens.

St. John’s committed $1,800 to support Arnol in 2016, thanks to you—his sponsors—and your generosity. As we approach the 2017 school year, we have managed to collect enough to raise our pledge of support to El Hogar to $2400. We are proud that we are able to send a check to El Hogar as the school year begins. For many years it took until September to reach our goal (which has been a much smaller amount over the years).

Your support for El Hogar is outstanding. Please continue to save your loose change for every 2nd Sunday. Father RC has been exceptional at informing the congregation on each 2nd Sunday that change, as well as dollars and checks that have El Hogar written on them, deposited in the colorful offering plates go entirely to El Hogar.

Please keep Arnol, the other students, and the staff at El Hogar in your prayers. El Hogar continues to offer hope for a bright future for the many children who are lucky enough to call El Hogar “home.”

Outreach Committee

Mission Statement: The Outreach Committee of St. John’s is entrusted by the congregation to disperse funds to those people and organizations that compassionately attempt to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our local community—and beyond.

Sherry Sullivan

In 2016, with your support, the Outreach Committee continued meeting basic needs of those in our local community—and beyond. We began the year with a balance of $4,291.25 from fund-raising the previous year. St John’s volunteers raised approximately $1,140 at the August Scatter Creek Rest Stop (with generous donations of bakery items from Wagner’s Bakery). A total of $595 was contributed for Little Red Schoolhouse in Ruth Furman’s memory. Sunday service “Thanks Offerings” of nearly $2,000 this year were used primarily to purchase ingredients for the monthly Community Kitchen (Salvation Army) dinner which St John’s volunteers prepare and serve to 150-175 hungry men and women. The offering of over $700 from St John’s “Lessons and Carols” Advent service was dedicated to the YWCA “Other Bank.” Many parishioners also made “in kind” contributions of supplies to the Thurston County Foodbank, the YWCA “Other Bank,” and Rosie’s Place throughout the year.

The following non-profit organizations also benefited from St. John’s financial support: The Olympia Free Clinic ($520); the Union Gospel Mission No-fee Dental Clinic and Medical Clinic ($520 each); KAIROS Prison Ministry ($250); Chaplains of the Harbor ($500); and Episcopal Relief & Development ($200) for Louisiana flood relief. Finally, more than 50 residents at Evergreen & Roo-Lan transitional and extended care facilities, lacking family support at the holidays, received personal Christmas gifts from St. John’s members.

Outreach ministry balance at the end of the year was a surprising $4,669.70! In response, the Outreach Committee immediately met to allocate additional funds to Interfaith Works Warming Center; the Cambodian Ministry; CIELO; the Olympia Free Medical & Mental Health Clinic; UGM’s Free Dental Clinic; and the Rector’s Discretionary Fund here at St. John’s. These allocations will be reflected in next year’s Annual Report.

Please note the various ways of continued giving through the year: “Thanks Offerings” in Sunday service; any purchase at Ralph’s or Bayview Thriftway stores using Thriftway Rewards card (1% of your total purchase goes to St John’s); donations of personal hygiene and cleaning supplies to the YWCA “Other Bank”; checks or non-perishable food to the Thurston Co. Food Bank; and healthy snacks to Rosie’s Place. Thank you, St. John’s!

Outreach Committee: Sherry Sullivan, Judy Williams, Mary Helen Hansen, Julia Moore, Tonia Morrison, Bill Van Hook and Anne Hall, and Terri Lolecama. We meet irregularly and conduct most business via email. We welcome new members, visitors, and any suggestions from the