



**2017**

**The Cathedral Church of St. Paul**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

## **Vestry Members 2017**

### **2017 Executive Committee**

<i>Senior Warden</i>	Greg Merhar
<i>Junior Warden</i>	Linda Sheridan
<i>Clerk of Vestry</i>	Pamela Van de Graaf
<i>Treasurer</i>	Peter Jones

### **Terms Ending January 2018**

Greg Merhar  
Thomas Saylor  
Linda Sheridan

### **Terms Ending January 2019**

Timothy Parker  
Alice Winn  
Lisa Schnell

### **Terms Ending January 2020**

Martha Churchill  
Mari Richards  
Paul Van de Graaf

### **Terms Ending January 2021**

Brad Minor  
Maureen Ramos  
Jenny Sisk

### **Ex Officio**

The Very Rev. Jeanne Finan, *Dean and Rector*  
Alice Rouleau, *Treasurer*

## **Board of Trustees 2017**

### **Terms ending January 2018**

Christopher Davis, *Chair*  
John Montross

### **Terms ending January 2019**

Barbara Comeau  
Debra Leonard

### **Terms Ending January 2020**

Ann Guillot  
Alice Rouleau

### **Ex Officio**

Greg Merhar, *Senior Warden*  
The Very Rev. Jeanne Finan, *Dean & Rector*  
Peter Jones, *Treasurer*

## **Cathedral Staff 2017**

The Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Ely, *Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont*

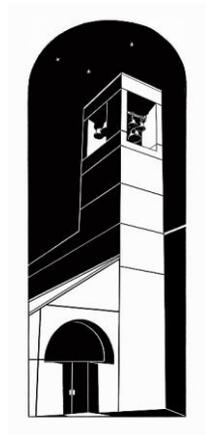
The Very Rev. Jeanne Finan, *Dean and Rector*

Mark Howe, *Canon Precentor and Director of Music*

The Rev. Deacon Stannard Baker, *Deacon*

Jennifer Sumner, *Office Administrator*

Barbara Comeau, *Financial Administrator*



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# 2017 Annual Report

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THE Cathedral   
Church OF St. Paul  
LOVING | EXPLORING | SERVING

January 2018

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,



I am so grateful to serve as your Dean and Rector and to continue walking this ever-amazing faith journey with you and the Cathedral community. This has been an interesting year as we have joined together to discern what it means to be an urban cathedral, to read the Bible together and, to use the language of our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, to explore what the Jesus movement looks like here at 2 Cherry Street in Burlington, Vermont and beyond. I continue to be amazed at your generosity, compassion and creativity in all aspects of ministry—worship, formation, outreach and community.

**What does it mean to be an urban Cathedral?**

This is the question that kicked off 2017 at last year's Annual Meeting and has been my primary focus this year in the shared discernment with the Urban Cathedral Study Group. You will be hearing more from this group at our Annual Meeting when their year-end report will be presented.

**Into the household of God...**

In 2017 it was my great joy to baptize the following people:

*Anjay Glenn Mital-Skiff*

*Jane Elizabeth Malinowski*

*Benjamin Ignatius Kelly*

*Susanne Abuk Deng*

*Matthew David Price*

*Merrett Daniel Price*

*Michael Paul Wolf*

*Ellen Parker Gay*

At the Easter Vigil, Bishop Ely baptized:

*Brittany Lee Ballard*

*Madelyn Parker Ely*



**Strengthen, O Lord, your servants...**

The following individuals were confirmed, received or reaffirmed into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Thomas C. Ely at the Easter Vigil in 2017:



*Holly Francis  
Devin Grandchamp  
Rachel Kaupilla  
Maureen Ramos  
Marianthe (Mari) Richards  
Cynthia (Suki) Rubin  
Jennifer (Jenny) Sisk*

**Dearly Beloved...**

In 2017, *Mari Richards* and *Terrence Landberg* were joined in Holy Matrimony at the Cathedral in a lovely ceremony over which I presided.

**For Those We Love But See No Longer...**

Burial and/or committal serves were held in 2017 here at the Cathedral for these beloved saints of God:

*Janet Staples Munt  
Dennis Jones  
Bertha "Becky" Curley  
Luis Cesareo Garcia-Maura  
Jeremy Adam Garcia  
Marilyn B. Stout*

**Pastoral Care Team**

We have a devoted pastoral care team that visits parishioners and others in the hospital, nursing homes and home settings. The Sacrament of consecrated bread and wine is taken out so that even those who cannot travel to be with us on Sunday morning may still share in the Eucharist with the Cathedral Community.

**Christ Church Presbyterian**

Christ Church Presbyterian continues to find a home here at the Cathedral. This year they moved into our Undercroft after Bookstore owner Dinny Adamson retired and Hopkins Bookstore moved out to Trinity Episcopal Church in Shelburne.



### **Guest Preachers**

Excellence and diversity of preaching has been one of my priorities as the Dean and our Urban Cathedral discernment offered us excellent opportunity to invite these outstanding preachers to preach and to engage in conversation with us about what it means to be an urban cathedral:

*The Rev. Kevin Johnson, St. Alban's, Arlington, Texas*

*The Rev. Anne Bonnyman, retired, having previously served at Trinity, Copley Square, Boston, and Wilmington, Delaware*

*The Rev. Brian Cole, Good Shepherd, Lexington, Kentucky*

*The Very Rev. Gail Greenwell, Dean, Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati, Ohio*

*Bill McKibben, noted climate justice advocate*

We also enjoyed the preaching of:

*The Rev. Scott Gunn, Forward Movement, Cincinnati, Ohio, who kicked off our *The Year of Reading Biblically*.*

And two fine preachers who spoke about Cristosal as part of the preparation for the SPY trip to El Salvador: *The Rev. Susan Copley* and *The Rev. Todd McKee*.

### **Celtic Eucharist**

Working collaboratively with the Rev. Kim Hardy (St. James, Essex Junction) and the Rev. Deadra Ashton, (Christ Church Presbyterian), two Sunday evening Celtic Eucharist services were offered in 2017.

### **Community, Diocesan and National Involvement**

I continue to serve on the Board of Cathedral Square Corporation and was delighted to be involved with their 40th Anniversary Celebration this year. I also continue to serve as a Trustee for Rock Point School.

In November I was elected at Diocesan Convention to serve a 4-year term on the Diocesan Standing Committee. Little did I know at the time of my nomination and election, that the work of the Standing Committee would include overseeing the discernment process for our next bishop, as Bishop Ely announced his retirement at my very first meeting on the Standing Committee.

### **Conferences**

I attended the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in February and the North American Deans Conference in Chicago in April. Both the plenary sessions and the workshops, as well as the developing friendships with colleagues, benefit our work here at St. Paul's.

### **Stellar Staff**

I am blessed to work with a truly stellar staff—Stan Baker, Barbara Comeau, Mark Howe and Jennifer Sumner-- who are incredibly devoted to this Cathedral community. I share in their excellent work, their willingness to take on far more than is in their job descriptions and their superlative sense of humor even in challenging times and situations.

And I am blessed to work and worship and follow Christ with each and all of you. Meister Eckhart is credited with saying, "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough." I believe he had it exactly right. Thank you.

Jeanne+

The Very Reverend Jeanne Finan  
Dean and Rector  
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington, Vermont



**The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle  
January 21, 2018**

9:00 a.m.     Holy Eucharist  
10:15 a.m.     Coffee Hour  
10:30 a.m.     Annual Meeting called to order

*Listen for the singing bowl to call us to take our place in the Nave.*

10:30     Prayer for the Annual Meeting and Call to Order  
*The Very Reverend Jeanne Finan, Dean and Rector*

10:35     Approval of the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes  
Approval of the 2017 Annual Report  
*Pamela Van de Graaf, Clerk of Vestry*

10:40     Election of Vestry and Diocesan Convention Delegates/Alternates  
*Greg Merhar, Senior Warden*

10:45     Cathedral Square Corporation Report  
*Kim Fitzgerald, CEO, Cathedral Square Corporation*

10:55     Financial Reports  
Annual Giving                     *Lisa Schnell, Annual Giving Chair*  
Year End Financial Report     *Peter Jones, Treasurer*  
2018 Budget Presentation     *Peter Jones, Treasurer*

11:05     Trustees Report  
*Ann Guillot, Trustee*

11:10     Urban Cathedral Report  
*Lisa Schnell and Paul Van de Graaf, Co-chairs*

11:30     Recognitions, Thanks and Celebrations

11:50     Appointment of the Senior Warden for 2018  
*The Very Reverend Jeanne Finan*

11:55     Concluding Prayer and Hymn  
*The Rev. Deacon Stan Baker*  
*Mark Howe, Canon Precentor and Director of Music*

12 noon     Adjournment

*Both the current and the newly elected Vestry members should proceed immediately to the chancel steps for photographs. Then new and continuing Vestry will convene their first Vestry meeting of 2018 in the Commons Room at 12:15 PM*

## NOMINEES FOR ELECTION AT THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee (Greg Merhar, Lee Williams, Linda Sheridan, and Dean Jeanne Finan *ex-officio*) presents this slate of nominees:

### For Vestry (Term 2018-2021)

**Jennifer Sisk:** I came to the Episcopal Church from the United Methodist Church, the denomination in which I was baptized and confirmed, and the church in which I received my earliest Christian formation. A period of spiritual wandering followed my Methodist upbringing, during which (always curious) I explored many manifestations of contemporary Christianity and also experimented (unsuccessfully!) with being “secular.” Eventually I recognized how much I need church and how powerfully I’m drawn to liturgical worship and to the values and politics of the Episcopal Church. With the encouragement of my friend Anne Clark, I first came to the Cathedral in February of 2016. St. Paul’s quickly became a meaningful spiritual home, both for me and for my son Zach. My time here has enriched my life immeasurably, and I’ve tried to give back in ways that fit my abilities and work schedule. I’ve found many opportunities to be involved: participating in the Urban Cathedral study group, speaking at the SPY dinner about “why I bother with the Bible,” attending the adult forum, singing in the choir, ironing and hanging dossals with Judith, and rearranging chairs for the changing liturgical seasons and Cathedral Arts. But my most significant involvement, I believe, is simply showing up, returning week after week, and day by day, for the communal worship and daily prayer that strengthens and sustains me. At the Easter Vigil in April of 2017 I was formally received into the Episcopal Church in what was one of the great moments of joy in my life. Although Henry Maciejewski says I still look like a Methodist when I sing (oops—sorry, Mark!), I feel very much at home as an Episcopalian, and I’m grateful every day to be a part of this wonderful community. It’s an honor to be nominated to help care for the church I love by serving on its Vestry.



**Brad Minor** grew up in the Methodist church at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky. Immanuel remains a special place for Brad, as he enjoys many life-long friendships that have endured time and distance. After graduating from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, he moved to Burlington to work in Human Resources at Burton Snowboards.

In early adulthood, Brad joined Shelburne United Methodist in Shelburne, where he served on the Finance Committee and Christian Education Committee. He also taught Sunday School grades 3-5, which was a learning experience for teacher and students alike!

Brad and his wife Joanna found Saint Paul's when seeking a permanent church home for their forming family. As Christians from different denominations, they were blessed to find the Episcopal Church and specifically Saint Paul's. They were confirmed in 2016, and have enjoyed the opportunity to welcome others to our church family. So far at Saint Paul's, Brad has enjoyed serving on the Audit Committee and the many interesting volunteer opportunities that arise.

In his everyday life, Brad is a commercial real estate appraiser at Allen, Brooks & Minor. He is a proud father of 8-year-old John, who LOVES Sunday school at Saint Paul's. Brad, Joanna and John live in the New North End, and enjoy running, biking, and swimming in Lake Champlain.

**Maureen Ramos** grew up in Manchester, New Hampshire, one of 13 children in a large Irish Catholic family. She and her husband moved to the Burlington area 27 years ago where he worked in the airline industry and Maureen worked in retail management. After many years in South Burlington, they moved to the Old North End five years ago. Maureen has two children and four grandchildren. Two of her grandchildren, Tyler who is 10 years old and Robert who is 17 years old live with Maureen and her husband. When Robert's piano teacher told Maureen about the chorister program here at the Cathedral, Maureen brought Tyler to join the program. Little did she know that she would fall in love with the Cathedral, too, and was received by Bishop Ely at the Easter Vigil. Tyler continues to sing and Maureen offers her weekly support to the program as a choir parent. She loves the welcome the Cathedral offers, especially to those who are newcomers.



### To Fill a One Year Term Ending January 2019



**Lisa Schnell** has been blessed to have been a member of the Cathedral parish since 1997. Over the years, she's led the Adult Forum, been on the Vestry, chaired the stewardship committee, taught the middle school Church School class, been involved with SPY in a number of wonderful ways, done some dishes, driven a chorus of choir kids to and from practice, baked a lot of muffins, and *worshipped*. When she's not at church, she is an English professor at UVM and Interim Dean of the Honors College.

### 2018 Diocesan Convention Delegates – Nominees

Greg Merhar  
Linda Sheridan  
Paul Van de Graaf

### 2018 Diocesan Convention Alternates – Nominees

Josh Brown  
Marti Churchill  
Gabe Dixon

**The Cathedral Church of St. Paul**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**January 22, 2017**

**Prayer for the Annual Meeting and Call to Order**

The Dean opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Annual Meeting of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul was called to order at 10:33AM.

**Approval of the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes and Approval of the 2016 Annual Report**

**Debra Leonard moved that the Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting be approved.**

**Penny Pillsbury seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

**Debra Leonard moved that the 2016 Annual Report be approved. Rick Robinson seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

**Election of Vestry and Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternates - Bert Cicchetti**

Bert explained that the nominating committee for the Vestry and the delegates for Diocesan Convention consisted of the three members of the Vestry whose terms were expiring--himself, Jennifer Green, and Barrie Savage--the Dean, and Peter Frechette from the congregation. The nominating committee had an abundance of wonderful applicants making for a difficult discernment. They feel they have an outstanding slate of nominees for Vestry. For three year terms they have nominated Marti Churchill, Mari Richards, and Paul Van de Graaf. To fill the one year of an unexpired term they have nominated Lisa Schnell. **Gerry Davis moved that the entire slate of nominees for Vestry be approved. Penny Pillsbury seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

The nominees for Diocesan Convention Delegates are Pat Elmer Saylor, Thomas Saylor, and Linda Sheridan. **Sylvia Knight moved that the nominees for Diocesan Convention Delegates be approved. Sandy Zabriskie seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.** The nominees for Diocesan Convention Alternates are Betsy Emerson and Greg Merhar. **John Montross moved that the nominees for Diocesan Convention Alternates be approved. The motion was seconded by Penny Pillsbury, and all voted in favor.**

**Cathedral Square Corporation, Kim Fitzgerald, CEO**

Dean Finan introduced Kim Fitzgerald, the CEO of Cathedral Square Corporation. In her introduction she noted that Three Cathedral Square was the first building in Vermont to provide affordable senior housing. Cathedral Square Corporation has now expanded far beyond that one building. The Vestry in the last few months has several discussions regarding Cathedral Square Corporation, and how important it remains to the Cathedral. It shows what having a vision can do! Kim now has the hard work of continuing that vision.

Kim's comments:

Good Morning, thank you for having me here today. I appreciate the opportunity to come and talk with you and to thank Cathedral Church of St. Paul's for creating Cathedral Square. This year marks our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary! In those 40 years, we have been involved with 57 affordable housing communities around the State with over 1600

units of housing. About half of those are CSC communities, and the other half we helped develop or manage at some point in their history. We have provided technical assistance around the State, we have open our first licensed assisted living, as well as pioneering SASH – Support And Services at Home model. Although we do not have the cumulative total of residents we have housed through the years, we currently house over 1,200 residents at our communities.

Looking forward to 2017, we are getting ready to open our Elm Place property in Milton. Elm Place will have 30 units of tax credit housing – and yet we have hundreds that would like to move in. EP will be the first MF Passive Housing in the State – so it will be highly energy efficient, which should save in operating costs. Construction is about 92% complete, and should open in early March. We plan to have an open house in May.

We continue to see a growing need for affordable senior housing, with over 700 people on our waitlist. As resources are dwindling, it is getting harder and harder to find the funds to build more affordable housing. 2016 was the first year we applied for tax credit funding and were denied – there is just not enough funding. As the aging demographics in VT continue to grow, this will continue to be an ongoing problem and we will fall further behind each year. We are also seeing a need for more subsidy, because even tax credit rents are not low enough for many of our elders who are on fixed incomes.

We are applying again this year for tax credits to build City Center in South Burlington, which is off Dorset Street by the DMV. If funded, City Center would offer 39 units of age restricted housing.

We continue to work on the Burlington College location, now called Cambrian Rise. We hope to build 2 phases of housing there to have up to 70 more units of senior housing, if funding is available.

I am happy to report we did receive continued funding for SASH under the APM for the next 6 years. However, we are unsure how secure that will be under the new administration. We are moving forward with a housing organization in RI to replicate SASH in their elderly housing, and then if funding comes through they hope to replicate SASH throughout RI. In addition, HUD is piloting a SASH influenced model in 8 states around the nation at 40 different housing locations (CA, MI, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, NJ, and SC) that we are consulting on.

Other new initiatives we are working on include piloting a telehealth project with UVMMC, and a survey with AARP and HomeShare VT on the needed services for elders to remain in their homes. We will also need to increase our fundraising activities due to the lack of resources to support our work. I did bring our annual appeal letter if you know of anyone who would like to support our work.

In closing, I'd like to give a special thanks today to Alice Rouleau and Barbara Gay who served on the Cathedral Square board for the past 6 years. Barbara served as our secretary and Alice served as both VP and Finance Committee Chair. Their support and guidance was very valuable – and we will miss them! We are glad Chris Davis has continued on our board and we are happy to have 3 new members: Erik Hoestra who is a local developer, Dr. William Pendlebury who specializes in memory care, and Polly

Nichol, who has worked in affordable housing her entire career. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

### **Financial Reports:**

#### **Annual Giving - Alice Rouleau for Jennifer Green**

Alice reported that \$287,553 was pledged for 2017. Fewer people pledged, but the pledges were higher. She pointed out Jen's report on page 30 in the Annual Report for 2016, noting that several consistent pledgers moved away or died. Alice complimented Barb Comeau for being such an excellent caretaker of our finances.

#### **Year End Financial Report - Alice Rouleau**

The Cathedral's finances changed through the year because of staff changes. Alice urged the parish to read through the Building and Grounds report to learn about the ways the building was taken care of through this year. Alice noted that although we are losing some income from the closing of Hopkins Bookstore because of Dinny's retirement, and a music grant from the Diocese that we are no longer receiving the revenue from the parking lot is helping. Alice introduced Peter Jones, the new treasurer.

#### **2017 Budget Presentation – Peter Jones**

Peter is delighted to fulfill the role of treasurer and hopes he can fill Alice's shoes. He pointed out several big changes for 2017. The budget for 2017 is a big step forward towards ensuring the long-term financial stability of the Cathedral. Income and expenses are about \$100,000 less than in 2016. The income drawn from the Trust is going from 5% in the 2016 budget to 4% in the 2017 budget. With the fees from parking and a small surplus from the 2016 budget the Cathedral will be in good shape. The great news is that our ministry spending increases by 30% in the 2017 budget. Peter thanked Jeanne for bringing in a balanced budget. He thanked Alice Rouleau for helping him transition to the job of treasurer over the last few months, for all the years she served as treasurer, and for her confidence in him.

#### **Trustee Report - Alice Rouleau for Chris Davis**

The trustees were hoping to get more attention from our trust fund managers. However, we have a very small amount of money compared to their other clients. The trustees decided to invest locally and have more direct involvement in managing the funds. In December the Vestry approved the decision to move the trust funds from Bessemer Trust to Hansen and Doremus and to the Diocesan Unit Fund, managed by Hickok and Boardman.

#### **Looking to the Future - Dean Jeanne Finan**

Jeanne thanked Alice Van Buren for keeping meticulous records and knowing where everything is when needed.

#### **The Dean's address:**

In so many ways, the Annual Meeting is about recognizing and celebrating all that happens behind the scenes. The people that keep the church going day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, decade after decade, generation after generation.

Just to get ready for a Sunday takes a village—the choir rehearsals, the bulletins printed and folded, the chairs set, the sidewalks swept or shoveled, the bathrooms cleaned and supplied, the lessons prepared for Church School and Adult Forum, the goodies baked for coffee hour, the preparation of the Action Table, the reading and study that precede the actual sermon writing, the altar prepared, the prayers prayed....the list is long, long, long. And the people are many, many, many.

Thank you. Thank you for all you have done and for all who are willing to keep serving God in these ways. If you are sitting here thinking you aren't involved, trust me. We have a fast cure for that! Knock and the door will be opened unto you.

I am truly privileged—and I know this— to serve God as a priest and in my role as your Dean and your Rector. I am blessed to work with and continually learn from all of you and with this amazing staff—amazing is not an exaggeration.

I want to sincerely thank the staff. They make it a joy to come to work each day. And yes, as much as we all love Jesus, it is still work and often the work is demanding.

Vestry, Trustees, and Staff have worked hard this year, knowing that if we are to exist beyond our own short lifetime, we must be good stewards and operate the Cathedral with a budget that is sustainable, that is not endowment depleting, that is a match for the amount which is pledged and one that allows us to put more and more of our resources into our ministries. This increased funding for our ministries is being put into action with this 2017 budget.

My hope and expectation is that we will continue and increase the good work we do within the walls of this Cathedral community and beyond our walls, into the community, both local and global.

As we look to the future, I have identified one overarching priority. It is to approach, explore and study the question of what it means to be an urban cathedral. What does it mean to be an urban Cathedral here in Burlington, Vermont? What does this mean to our future and to the future of the city? How will we influence and be influenced? I believe this study is the foundation for our future.

I have asked Lisa Schnell and Paul Van de Graaf to co-chair this study group. I have asked them to speak directly to us this morning so I now turn the floor over to Lisa and Paul.

### **Urban Cathedral Conversation**

Paul explained the origin of the Urban Church Study Group. It grew from the work done by the feasibility study group, exploring possible new construction on the Cathedral property. After the work of the feasibility study group ended Paul felt there were three conclusions that he was left with: he was struck by Burlington's plans to grow as a vibrant city, he realized that change was coming, and he thought the Cathedral's place as an urban Church posed exciting possibilities. He talked with Jeanne and the Vestry about beginning a conversation with the congregation about the future of the Cathedral. Jeanne asked him to form a study group. Lisa Schnell is co-chairing the group with Paul. Others members of the group include Lee Williams, Josh Brown, Jenny Sisk, John

Rouleau, and Jeanne. They have just begun their work figuring out the questions they should explore and how they will fashion the conversation with the congregation.

Lisa went on to explain the metaphor they fastened upon that Jesus often used to communicate his own message. Their "mandate for the year is not to plant a new crop; it is to turn over the soil, thoughtfully consider the seed catalogue, and then identify some of the things that we think might productively and sustainably grow here." She further explained that the study group very much wants the congregation to be part of a larger conversation that will take place over the year. The group will be issuing several invitations throughout the year inviting people to be part of a larger discussion.

The Study Group has committed to doing a lot of reading. In the past few weeks they read *Tribe*, by Sebastian Junger. They intend to be intentional in approaching "ideas and each other with truly open minds."

Lisa issued the first two invitations to the congregation. "Keeping in mind that a primary set of questions that will guide us in our year-long exploration is "How will we influence the world? & How will the world influence us?"—or, more locally, "How will we influence Burlington? And How will Burlington influence us", we'd like your suggestions for issues you think we should investigate, or things we should read, or people we should talk to. Are there communities that have gone through a thinking process like this one that you know about and whose stories we should hear?" Second, the Study Group wants to hear everyone's St. Paul's stories. The Study Group encourages people to write a few paragraphs sharing their story. Throughout the year the stories will be published in the weekly e-news.

### **Recognition, Thanks and Celebrations**

Jeanne thanked the three outgoing members of the Vestry. In addition to being on the Vestry Jeanne highlighted all the wonderful ways they offer their time and talent at the Cathedral. Barrie has often served at the altar and heads the Community Cluster. Jen Green headed the Annual Giving Campaign. Jeanne also appreciated the interesting viewpoint Jen brought to the Vestry because of her expertise and excitement about the development of downtown Burlington. Bert is a great listener. Bert has offered wisdom, a balanced view, a sense of history, faithful attendance in worship, and care for the future that is much appreciated. Bert was presented with a framed photograph of the church taken by Gerry Davis in appreciation for his service as Senior Warden. Jeanne defined the roles of the senior and junior wardens. Being a warden is like having an additional part time job!

While accepting his gift Bert asked to say a few words. He reflected briefly on the remarkable achievement of Dean Finan in making a sustainable budget. He noted that she had to make difficult decisions and thanked her for her wonderful leadership. He also thanked the Vestry for their role in the budget making process. He is thrilled that instead of drawing down on the corpus of the Trust we can now, not only sustain it, but build on it after it reaching a critical low level.

Jeanne also thanked Greg Merhar for his work as Junior Warden, especially on Building and Grounds. He has accomplished so much in the building. He works very hard to help things run smoothly. He worked tirelessly to make the parking a success and work

through issues that arose. He puts the photos together for the flat screen in the south porch, and he helped with the technical aspects of making the sermon podcasts. Jeanne noted that Greg does much, much more.

Another person that Jeanne wanted to thank today was Estelle Deanne. However, instead of surprising Estelle, she surprised us by having to leave after the service. Everyone is immensely grateful for Estelle's service as a vergger and her training of others. Estelle will be given her gift next Sunday when she returns. All present greatly enjoyed checking out her present, a bear dressed as a vergger!

Lastly, Jeanne thanked Alice Rouleau for her years of dedication and hard work as treasurer. Alice fills many roles at the Cathedral such as usher, lector, bow maker for the wreath project, and baker of communion bread. In her role as treasurer Alice worked hard to make the finances clear and easy to understand for the Vestry and the Parish. Jeanne presented Alice with a framed triptych by artist Sabra Field. Alice received a standing ovation from all those present.

### **Appointment of the Senior Warden for 2017**

Jeanne announced that she appoints Greg Merhar as the Senior Warden for 2017. In the Dean's absence Greg would run the Vestry meetings. The Vestry elects the Junior Warden.

### **Concluding Prayer and Hymn**

The meeting joined in singing hymn 594. Deacon Stan Baker closed with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 11:35.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Van de Graaf, Clerk to the Vestry

**Cathedral Square Corporation**  
**Minutes of the Presentation at the March Vestry Meeting**  
**The Cathedral Church of St. Paul**  
**March 8, 2017**

Present: the Very Rev. Jeanne Finan, the Rev. Deacon Stan Baker, Peter Jones (treasurer), Senior Warden Greg Merhar, Mari Richards, Thomas Saylor, Lisa Schnell, Pamela Van de Graaf (clerk), Alice Winn  
Guests Present: Kim Fitzgerald (Cathedral Square Corporation CEO), Tim Gutchell (Financial Officer of CSC), Heidi Dinco (replacing Tim when he retires)  
Absent: Marti Churchill, Tim Parker, Linda Sheridan, Paul Van de Graaf

Opening Prayer/Reflection

Jeanne read an excerpt from The Lenten Labyrinth by Edward Hayes.

Call to Order (Jeanne)

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

Cathedral Square Corporation Report (Kim Fitzgerald, Tim Gutchell)

Tim reports that 2016 was one of the best years ever. The financial report includes assisted living operations, Heineberg Senior Housing, Whitney Hill Housing, SASH, and the management of other properties. Two properties are in development. SASH takes a lot of time and is doing very well. The financial report shows a net profit of \$1.245 million. That is somewhat deceptive since \$500,000 is recognized as profit, but passes through to the partnerships. It is not part of the cash flow. They also received an endowment of \$800,000 from the Sisters of Mercy, which does not provide income for CSC, but rather the interest can just be used at McCauley Square. When these two items are backed out, there was a profit of \$19,000 for the management partnership; \$9,000 had been budgeted. The goal as a non-profit is to budget to break even. There were challenges throughout the year, but they saved on some expenses, which offset the challenges. The balance sheet is very strong. Last year Cathedral Square achieved the goal of having three years of operating expenses in reserve. It was not touched this year. They also have a \$200,000 SASH reserve. They have about \$12 million in total assets. The strength of Cathedral Square Corporation's balance sheet helps them develop properties. Two-thirds of corporate costs are personnel costs. One-third of the budget is operating expenses. They changed auditors this year after putting out an RFP. They received 4-5 bids and went with Otis Atwell who also does the audits for their partnership properties.

Kim updated the Vestry on SASH (Support And Services at Home). As baby boomers continue to age there will be more and more of a need for SASH. People are able to live independently longer and longer. SASH started at Heineberg. The residents helped design it after they were asked what would be most helpful to them. CSC worked with community partner organizations. One huge impact has been made by the SASH coordinator providing coordination between agencies involved in a person's care. This helps give the SASH participants the best care possible. All the agencies involved share information. The program is now funded by Medicare. There are over 5,000 SASH

participants across the state. A participant does not need to be in a congregate housing situation. They just need to be on Medicare. The program has undergone a third-party evaluation for two consecutive years. They are now in their third year of evaluation. The evaluation has shown that SASH reduces costs. CSC is working to spread SASH nationwide. Rhode Island is in the process of replicating SASH. CSC is also talking to Minnesota. They hope to get trademark fees from these states. CSC is also consulting with HUD, who is doing a similar program at forty sites across three states for the next three years.

Lastly, Kim reminded the Vestry that the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Three Cathedral Square was coming up in September. We need to be thinking about how we would like to be involved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Van de Graaf, Clerk to the Vestry

THURSDAY,  
**SEPTEMBER 21**  
2017

SAVE THE  
DATE AND  
JOIN US TO  
CELEBRATE!

**CATHEDRAL SQUARE**

**40** YEARS  
1977 - 2017

*Advancing Healthy Homes,  
Caring Communities & Positive Aging*

Light Bites | Cash Bar | Entertainment | Silent Auction

**5-7:30 PM**  
Sheraton Burlington

## **Senior Warden Greg Merhar**



The primary duty of the Senior Warden is to preside in the rector's absence. Gladly that didn't happen this year, but there are other duties that go along with this title.

Attendance at all monthly Vestry meetings is required, as well as attendance at monthly Executive Committee meetings. The Senior Warden also serves as ex-officio at quarterly Trustee meetings, as well as quarterly Cathedral Chapter meetings. The wardens, both senior and junior, also act as advisors to the Dean and Rector on all sorts of parish matters. I was also appointed as an alternate delegate for the 2017 Diocesan Annual Convention. Because of two vacancies in our delegate contingent this year, I was called up to attend the

convention as a delegate. I will also attend the 2018 convention as a delegate.

## **Buildings and Grounds Committee Linda Sheridan, Junior Warden and Chair of B&G Committee**

As this year's Junior Warden, I attended all Executive Committee, Vestry and Cathedral Chapter meetings. In addition, I am available with the Senior Warden to discuss and counsel the Rector. As the Junior Warden, I bring concerns from the congregation to Rev. Jeanne Finan that have not been taken to her directly. I was a delegate to the 2017 Diocesan Convention.

I became a participant on Building and Grounds this year. My interests and efforts were in improving the flower beds and maintaining the Memorial Garden. We have successfully put together a Memorial Garden committee from the congregation and have a long term plan for grounds maintenance that is fiscally sound.

I continue to serve on Pastoral Care and as a Eucharistic Minister.



## Deacon's Report 2017

### Stannard Baker

This is my eighth full year as Cathedral Deacon. I was ordained here at the Cathedral on Epiphany 2009. For some who may not fully understand the diaconate, here is an explanatory paragraph from the Association for Episcopal Deacons: *A deacon is a baptized person called and empowered by God and the Church to be a model of Christ's servant ministry for all people. As agents of God's compassion and reconciling grace, deacons are missionaries to the world and messengers to the Church of the world's needs, hopes, and concerns. In the Church, deacons call forth, empower, and inspire the*



*baptized to respond to these needs. The role of the deacon in liturgy mirrors this role of the deacon in Church and world. Deacons are living symbols of Christ's presence as they embody Christ's servant ministry and point to the presence of Christ in those they serve.* You see me setting the altar table, assisting our Dean and Rector, reading the Gospel, welcoming children to the altar, and dismissing you to do God's work in the world. Following are some other things that I have done this year.

At St. Paul's, I serve as clergy/staff liaison to our Jubilee Social Justice Committee. Our committee grew in the last year with the addition of two new members. We have been a representative group, with participants from each of St. Paul's social justice ministries, with reports in from each group. We are beginning discussion aimed at trying to understand how we might think and respond as a Cathedral to the many new and emerging needs in our community. The Annual Report contains a Jubilee section that will outline what this group has done over the year.

Some of my work as deacon takes place outside of St. Paul's. I serve the Diocese of Vermont as a member of the Commission on Ministry, which works with people in the diocese who are in the process of discerning Holy Orders. This is good and rich work, and I enjoy bringing a diaconal perspective. I am also a Safe Church coordinator and trainer in our diocese. In this role, I work closely with Deacon Peggy Mathauer and Canon to the Ordinary, Lynn Bates, to keep our Manual, *Honoring Our Relationships: Building a Safe Church Community*, up to date, plan trainings, and train the trainers.

I also serve the wider church. I am a member of The Episcopal Church's Task Force on the Study of Marriage, chairing the Pastoral Workgroup. This involved meetings in Baltimore and Salt Lake City this year as well as several e-meetings. Our job was to look at how our church supports marriage and other non-married but committed relationships of *fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, careful, honest communication, and the holy love which enables those in such relationships to see in each other the image of God*, especially as new cultural patterns emerge. Our report will be in the "Blue Book" that details all the work of the church's "interim bodies" during the

three-year triennium. It will be available before General Convention 2018 in Austin, Texas. I will be going to that as a Clergy Deputy and will report on it in next year's Annual Report and in a forum before then.

In March of 2017, Karen Mikkelsen and I coordinated the Trinity Institute, live-streamed at the Cathedral. Several Diocesan Deacons attended and out of that came a Deacon's Resolution on water justice at Diocesan Convention in November. With some debate, our resolution passed. I am proud to be part of this active group of deacons, sometimes referred to as "A Disturbance of Deacons." And I am honored to serve at The Cathedral Church of St. Paul as your deacon.

## Canon Precentor and Director of Music's Report Mark Howe



### 2017 Highlights

- January: The **organ** underwent major and long-needed work in January, at the hands of A. David Moore. We offered Evening Prayer in the style of the Communauté de **Taizé** in France.
- February: The Adult Choir offered **Choral Evensong**
- March: Treble-Canterbury **Choir Weekend**, with the choir of St. Stephen's, Ridgefield, Conn. Peter Stoltzfus Berton was our guest director and led the combined choirs in Choral Evensong. Later in the month I participated in the now-annual **Bach Organ Marathon** at Christ Church, Montpelier.
- April: As happens every **Holy Week and Easter**, the choirs (or subsets thereof) led the music at eight different sung services. One of these, Taizé Evening Prayer on

Monday of Holy Week, was officiated at jointly by the Episcopal and Roman Catholic bishops.

- May: Small though it was, we offered our seventeenth annual interfaith service for runners in the Burlington City Marathon.
- June: We held the first service of Noonday **Prayer Against Gun Violence**, and two days later offered the third of the year's four **Taizé Evening Prayer** services.
- August: Allan Day revoiced the Steinway **piano's** hammers. Three young singers – Sylvia Richards, Paige Comeau, and Nelly Johnson -- participated in **choir courses** either in Newport, R.I. or at St. Thomas', New York. Judith McManis presented the Cathedral with eight framed chant manuscript leaves, which now hang handsomely in the choir room. (Stop by and see them.)
- September: The Adult Choir had a **choir day** at Rose Bacon's house in So. Hero. A week or so later, we welcomed Wrensong to sing **Choral Evensong**.
- October: There was a good delegation of Adult Choir members at the **Diocesan Choir Day** in Woodstock. The next day, the Adult Choir sang **Choral Evensong**.
- November: We offered **Taizé** Evening Prayer.
- December: By the time this report is published, we'll have offered our annual service of The **Great O Antiphons of Advent**, and the choirs will have led the music at the **Christmas Eve** services.

## People

New members of the Adult Choir this year: Viena Grenier and Jenny Sisk

New members of the Canterbury Ensemble: Henley Baker, Morgan Baker, Cassie Beste, Nicolas Brenneman-Ochoa, David Francis Lutz, and Julia Neubelt.

New Trebles: Nyankor Ateny and Miranda (Mo) Brown.

New Novice: Addie Gillim.

## Other things

- The Bishop has appointed me to the Taskforce to Re-Imagine Diocesan Convention.
- Sarah and I traveled to Winchester, U.K., for the annual Conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians, of whose *Journal* I serve as Editor.
- My mother, who'd been a fan of St. Paul's Cathedral since 1973, died in late April, at the age of 93; at that time I experienced a great deal of kindness and concern from our parishioners, for which I remain grateful.

## Gratitude

Thanks to

- My magnificent colleagues Jeanne, Stan, Jennifer, and Barb
- Maureen Ramos and Zoe Richards, who faithfully sit in on Treble Choir practices every Tuesday and Thursday
- Bob Wright and Ken Honick, who keep the ~~Augean stables~~ choir room library neatly ordered.
- Generous contributors to the music fund and music endowment.

## Office Administrator Jennifer Sumner

Highlights of 2017 from the office administrator's perspective include: changing copiers and copier service companies, retaining a new cleaning service, taking the process of lay liturgical minister scheduling in-house, updating our parish directory, publishing a piece in the diocesan parish administrator's communications manual, re-keying the external doors to the building, coordinating the replacement of broken slate tiles throughout the nave and south porch, and continuing to learn about the many activities of the parishioners, staff, and volunteers at St. Paul's. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the dedicated efforts of our many volunteers.

I would like to thank our amazing front desk volunteers who served this year: Barbara Gay, Sue Gilbert, Peter Frechette, Tom Eshelman, Joan Braun, and Joann Stanfield. They brighten the office. Our Tuesday morning counters are always here and willing to wade through offering plate contents, cathedral arts concert sales, and other donations: thank you to Judith McManis, Neil Stout, Barbara Gay, Al Carpenter, Bob Wright, John Montross, and Sylvia Knight.



Alice Van Buren and John Grinnell do diligent work taking care of the building so that services can happen without a hitch, and were gracious enough to step in when our cleaning service became unavailable temporarily. Judith McManis and her team of dedicated volunteers manage the dossals, making changing them with the seasons seem easy! Jenny Sisk's taking on of rearranging the chairs with grace and cheer is so appreciated.

Thank you to Greg Merhar for his work with all things building, grounds, parking, and key related; Viena Grenier for her dedication to the directory project; Mark Howe for his mentorship on Sunday bulletins; Stan Baker for always being willing to explain the Episcopal church to me; Barb for her guidance and valuable insight; and Jeanne Finan for her leadership, kindness, and sense of humor.

## **Board of Trustees**

### **Christopher Davis**

2017 was a significant year for the board. The board transferred the funds that it manages from Bessemer to a local financial planning firm Hanson & Doremus (H&D). H&D is now managing the Parish Trust plus three designated funds.

Thus far we have been very pleased with H&D. It has provided us with quarterly performance reports and in person explanations regarding the trust performance that are understandable and informative. The total value of the funds being managed at the beginning of 2017 was \$2,219,288. They now total \$2,403,611.

In order to build the endowment to provide financial security for many future years the vestry has been committed to keeping the distribution to a rate closer to 3.5% to 4% which is more in line with the rates used by most non-profit and educational institutions. Just several years ago the distribution had been as high as 6%.

In 2017 the Trust recommended a distribution of \$85,301 to the Cathedral's operating budget for the Cathedral's yearly programs and operations which represented a 3.5% distribution.

I greatly appreciate the considerable and dedicated service of the Trustees to the board: Greg Merher, Alice Rouleau, Peter Jones, Ann Guillot, Debra Leonard and John Montross and particularly to Jeanne Finan and Barbara Comeau for their considerable efforts in preserving the endowment and the overall financial management of the Cathedral.

## Treasurer's Report for 2016 and Budget for 2017

Peter Jones

My first full year of being the treasurer at St Paul's Cathedral has been a great learning experience as well as a rewarding one. It has been my pleasure to work with the many good people who come together to make St. Paul's a special place. It has been a great pleasure to work with Alice Rouleau, my predecessor, and Barbara Comeau, our Financial Administrator, both of whom willingly and capably answer all my questions and make my job much easier.

2017 proved to be a good year for controlling expenses as well as creating new sources of income to serve the community. The conversion and implementation of a church management software program, Power Church, in 2016 expanded this year as we upgraded to an on-line version that provides multiple backups and more security. Another electronic advance was to scan all bookkeeping and store it electronically.

With these changes in accounting practices, a professional review of the books by the St. Albans accounting firm A. M. Peisch was conducted in the spring. In the accountants' professional opinion, they found no exceptions with the church's processes and procedures. Naturally, all involved were pleased with the report. Throughout the year, the Staff is always looking for ways to increase efficiencies in running the office and the Church. In this vein, refining and redoing contracts to reduce expenses has continued.

The 2018 budget, approved by the Vestry, has a 5% increase over 2017. This budget has been buoyed by continuing increases in the total pledges for 2018. Committing 3.5% of the 12-quarter rolling average value of the parish trust (a drop from 5% in 2016) has been successful in 2017, allowing the trust to grow for the first time in several years. The Church's income and expenses have evolved in many positive ways since cutting the 2016 budget by \$100,000. The plan is to keep these initiatives going well into the future.



Cathedral Church of St. Paul  
**Income and Expense Statement**

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
Contributions	322,598	302,295	309,820
Investment Income	168,973	117,175	128,830
Other/Rental Income	31,716	39,859	34,900
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>553,287</b>	<b>459,329</b>	<b>473,550</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Personnel	335,352	257,922	279,489
Diocesan Expenses	77,111	71,127	76,268
Administrative	27,230	30,760	30,780
Building and Grounds	75,824	68,863	69,580
<b>Departments/Committees</b>			
Christian Formation	1,960	6,177	2,000
Music Program	3,134	3,541	3,000
Parish Life	1,880	1,910	1,500
Jubilee Outreach	7,000	6,175	6,000
Liturgy	2,376	2,088	2,500
Subtotal Departments/ Committees	16,350	19,889	15,000
Other Expenses	21,420	10,767	2,433
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>553,287</b>	<b>459,329</b>	<b>473,550</b>

## 2017 Outreach Ministries

In 2017 our Outreach Ministries were funded by variety of generous sources - The Cathedral's operating budget, the fundraising efforts of the silent auction, heavenly parking and the wreath project, discretionary funds, designated gifts from individuals and families, honorariums, memorial gifts, the cycle of prayer group, and grants.

350 VT-Climate Change	1,500
Alleluia Fund	600
Cathedral Square Corporation	4,200
UVM Campus Cooperative Christian Ministry	300
Conversations from the Open Road	500
Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	100
Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)	8,550
The Janet S. Munt Family Room	616
DFMS-Good Friday Offering Diocese of Jerusalem	285
Holy Cross Monastery	50
Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital Chaplaincy	50
Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP)	16,319
Lake Champlain International	106
Lost Shul Mural-Ohavi Zedek Synagogue	100
International Student Assistance	50
Migrant Justice	375
Northern Friends of Haiti	100
Rock Point School	250
Spectrum Youth Services	100
SSJE-Society of St. John the Evangelical	50
Steps to End Domestic Violence	150
No. American Dean's Conference-Hurricane Relief	500
United Thank Offering (UTO)	60
VT Interfaith Action (VIA)	5,100
VT Interfaith Power and Light	100
VT Foodbank	40
<b>Total 2017 Outreach</b>	<b>40,151</b>

## **Urban Cathedral**

### **Lisa Schnell and Lee Williams**

The urban cathedral study group has been meeting weekly for the past year, undertaking both a wide and a deep examination of several important questions we felt were pertinent to what it means to be an urban cathedral.

For more information, you can read the result of this year of study by clicking [here](#), or requesting a paper copy from the Cathedral office.

## **Community Cluster**

### **Barrie Montross**

The mission of the Community Cluster group is to enrich the lives of our congregation through community fellowship. Our focus is to organize and provide refreshments for weekly coffee hour and special celebrations throughout the church year. Our intention is that everyone (especially newcomers and visitors) feels welcome at St Paul's. We meet monthly to plan and discuss upcoming events. Sign-up sheets on the narthex table provide an opportunity for parishioners to participate in this important part of life at St Paul's.

Annual Events include:

Welcome Back Sunday

Newcomers' Welcome Dinner

Epiphany: Undecorating the church

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Agape Dinner-Maundy Thursday

End of the Church School Year Picnic

On-going Activities:

Providing Coffee Hour after the 11:00 o'clock Sunday Service is an integral part of our fellowship mission.

Foyers, coordinated by Lee Williams, allows members to share dinner in small groups and get to know one another outside of the church setting.



The committee appreciates the many volunteers who assist throughout the year in all aspects of providing hospitality, including composting and recycling. The success of these events does not happen without many loving hands and hearts.



The committee consists of Nadine Carpenter, Suki Rubin, Deborah Altemus, Vieva Grenier, Penny Pillsbury, and Barrie Montross. If you would like to join in, please speak to one of us.



## Church School Anne Clark

Church School continues its mission to provide a joyous place for children and youth to experience and learn more about God's love and their role in the world as members of God's family. Pre-K/Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders meet together, taught by Holly Rees, Ann McKay, and Carol Moran-Brown. The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are taught by Karin Davis. Middle-schoolers meet with Terri Donovan and Anne Clark. Stories, songs, art projects, sermon quizzes, and movies are some of the ways the teachers engage the students in this learning. Stan regularly drops in on each of the classes, tuning in to the different dynamics of each age group. This fall, we are following *The Path*, a student version of the Bible curriculum that the Adult Forum is also pursuing, although we suspend it for school breaks, Advent wreath-making, and Christmas pageant practice. And we always greatly appreciate the feast, graciously coordinated by Lynn and Thomas Sutton. We teachers regularly reflect on the sweetness of the young people in our midst, their earnest questions and often startling insights, and their genuine desire to do good in the world.

### **SPY –St. Paul’s Youth Group** **Marti Churchill, Raquel Aronhime**

St Paul’s Youth consists of 12 high school youth. The middle school SPY was less active



in the spring due to lack of adult leadership but has been rejuvenated this fall with 8 active members. Marti Churchill continues to be the Lead SPY mentor with Terri Donovan, Peter Jones, Jen Green, Peter Van Buren and Jean-Andre Debedout taking active roles this year as well.

We had our three main fundraisers – Start-up Sunday Car detailing, SPY Spaghetti Dinner with speakers in the Fall and Super Bowl subs in February. Many families contributed with special donations to SPY as well. We were also able to secure \$5000 from the McClure Grant for our Education trip to El Salvador.

We had two guest speakers speak with SPY about Cristosal and El Salvador: The Rev. Susan Copley (priest at Christ Church, Tarrytown, NY) and the Rev. Todd McKee (priest at Gethsemane Church in Proctorsville, VT). This led into a very worthwhile trip to El Salvador and attending the Global School with Cristosal. Eight youth and two adult chaperones spent a week learning about human rights. The group learned about the historical oppression and government’s atrocities of the 70’s and 80’s. This created a vehicle for discontent which has led to the human trafficking that occurs now to escape drug violence and gang warfare. The Cristosal mission is to learn about the impact globally and then act locally.

After learning about these various methods of violence, SPY asked, “How does that apply to our community here in Burlington?” They drew up a plan to work more closely with the Refugee Resettlement Community here in Burlington and Steps to End Domestic Violence – as these two organizations represented needs here in Burlington around Human Rights.

This has shaped our Fall plans – to work with STEPs: We plan a monthly dinner for their shelter, support their gift exchange at Christmas for needy families, learn about personal safety for women, have an educational session about dating violence and how social media affects this, and plan a cell phone drive for the women who use STEPs services.

This is a very powerful ministry for our youth. It gives them the opportunity to make a difference in a world that can be filled with chaos and despair. It is a message of hope, peace and compassion. The greater congregation benefits from seeing & supporting the active involvement of their youth in the community and the nation.

Our group prepares for 2018 with dual trips for the Middle School and High School to Nightwatch at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City.

## **Adult Confirmation**

**Sarah Howe**

This year there were 9 participants in the Adult Confirmation class. The class prepares adults to be confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church from another Christian tradition, or to renew their baptismal vows. We met at church on Wednesday evenings from the middle of January until Easter to read the Bible, study the Book of Common Prayer and our baptismal vows, and examine our faith practices and participation in the life of St Paul's. We welcome all interested participants for the class of 2018.

## **Adult Forum**

**Lisa Schnell and Betsy Beaulieu**

It has been a successful and remarkably varied year for the Adult Forum. We are grateful for the parish's openness to the innovations we have introduced over the year in how we imagine and plan for the Forum's program year. It's been exciting for those of us organizing the Forum to engage in some new things, and that same energy seems evident in the people attending the Forum as well.

Through the winter of 2017, we continued our exploration of the theme of dignity that we had begun the previous fall. We were fortunate to have Dana Walrath as our guest to the Forum, whose book *Aliceheimers* we read in January. And in February we welcomed as our visitor to the Forum Mira Niagolova, whose film *Welcome to Vermont*, about the refugee experience in this state, we had watched the previous two Sundays.

For four Sundays of Lent, we moved the Forum to the Nave, where we were joined by four guest priests— The Rev. Kevin Johnson of St Alban's Episcopal Church, Arlington, TX (March 12), the Rev. Anne Bonnyman, formerly of Trinity-Copley Square, Boston

(March 19), the Rev. Brian Cole of Good Shepherd, Lexington KY (March 26), and the Very Rev. Gail Greenwell of Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati OH (April 2). These visits were part of the year-long conversation we have had examining our role as an urban cathedral in the twenty-first century in Burlington. After Easter, we continued this exploration with members of our own parish who helped us to understand the history of the current St. Paul's and its role as Cathedral. Joining us for those conversations were Dottie Darling, Barbara Gay, Pat Wheeler, Estelle Deane, and other.

In September, with the new program year, we launched "The Year of Reading Biblically" with the entire parish—adults and children alike. In the Forum for the entire year, we are reading and discussing the entire Bible with the help of a book of well-chosen excerpts from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible called "The Path: A Journey Through the Bible." Free copies of the book were available to anyone who wanted one.

This has not been "Bible study" in the way we might normally think of that practice in a church setting—where one proceeds verse by verse, reflecting deeply on individual words and phrases. Instead, what we have been doing Sunday mornings has been more like a "Bible as Literature" course that allows us to get familiar with some of the main stories in the text while also employing a wide-angle lens to view the book as a whole.

It has been gratifying to see so many people at the Forum – old faces and new—and we look forward to continuing the rich and stimulating conversation that is well underway as we move into 2018.

### **Jubilee Justice Cluster** **Heidi and Tim Parker**

*This has been a productive year for the Jubilee Cluster -- the committee that oversees social justice ministries at St. Paul's Cathedral. Ongoing goals include making known the justice work pursued by parishioners and focusing our collective energies as effectively as possible. We continue to seek broader parish involvement -- both on the committee itself and in social justice, and to this end have added a new member to the Committee in the latter half of this year. The Action Table -- hosted by members of the Jubilee Justice Committee in the narthex -- is one way that social justice action items are highlighted bi-weekly in the parish.*

During **Migrant Justice's** Milk with Dignity campaign, connections between food, farm labor injustices and immigration came to light. Folks from St. Paul's and the cathedral itself committed themselves to Migrant Justice this year in a variety of ways: marching with our Mexican neighbors, attending rallies, signing petitions, donating funds, writing postcards requesting policy change, and praying. In particular, the in-house card-writing action on September 10 helped persuade CEO Jostein Solheim to sign a historical contract on October 3rd focused on human rights for farmworkers.



**Vermont Interfaith Action's (VIA) local organizing ministry** continued to work on the issue of criminal justice reform. This year's focus was on helping ex-offenders' reentry into the work force. A forum was held with the Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility. An ex-offender detailed her difficulties with finding a job, Green Mountain Harley Davidson described their efforts to accept and integrate ex-offenders into their business, and the head of Working Fields spoke of the work of his organization in giving support to people returning to the work force. Another focus this year for VIA was **Affordable Housing**, which continues to be a major issue in the urban core of Burlington. VIA (through the Committee on Affordable Housing) is advocating for the University of Vermont to revise its housing policy to provide more student housing which will, in turn, open housing in the neighborhood and lead to a decrease in currently inflated rent rates.



This year, the **Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP)** -- which helps local families with food, utilities, clothing, laundry and more -- served approximately 1500 households. Besides contributing cash annually, the Cathedral is directly involved with soliciting food donations from parishioners -- weekly amounts and once/year by asking parishioners to fill a grocery bag with specific non-perishables. This year we filled with non-perishable items over 50 large grocery bags for JUMP. In addition to cash and food items, there are a number of Cathedral parishioners

who volunteer weekly at JUMP; another parishioner is a past board member. The Annual "Walk & Run for JUMP" was advertised at the Cathedral again this year and a small group of parishioners were able to participate directly by walking and/or donating personal funds.

**The Episcopal Relief and Development** ingathering in February raised a record amount, close to \$6000. In a year with major disasters in the US and abroad and a mushrooming refugee crisis, along with development projects, St. Paul's has been a part of this national church effort toward "healing a hurting world".

## Wreath Project Penny Pillsbury and Maureen Rees



Over fifty years have passed since Hal and Mabel Mayforth decided that they would cede to St. Paul's their list of wreath customers. First to lead the Project was Mary Stewart, followed by Dottie Darling and Maggie Maurice on to Carol Walters with Maureen Rees and Edie Templin adding Penny Pillsbury three years ago. It is a labor of artistry, fellowship and love, all to help our outreach ministries.

The greens from NEK Balsam in West Glover were better than ever in 2017. We took orders for 350 wreaths with net support for outreach about \$5000. Skills from data entry, database maintenance, bow making, taking orders, making the wreath shelter, schlepping delivered wreaths, creating working charts, chopping cones, coning

the wreaths, feeding the wreath team, counting and recounting for accuracy, and the fun of handing beautiful balsam wreaths to our customers gives us joy every year. The list of "seasoned" and new workers is getting too long to relate; we thank you all for being part of St. Paul's wreath team. Blessings!



## **Silent Auction**

### **John Montross and Barrie Montross**

The Silent Auction 2017 was held on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. It had been previously determined by a group of key people that the Spring date would conflict with Lent and Easter quite a bit this year and that a fall date would give us a little more room to breathe and plan.

The event this year was different in a few ways than those that have gone before. We actively solicited businesses on Church Street for donations of goods or services. We had 20 positive responses including: Leunig's, Phoenix Books, Athleta, Istanbul Kebab House, David's Teas, Vermont Distillers, Simon Pearce and (not from Church Street) Vermont Teddy Bear. With the Church Street donations and those from other members of the congregation we had 26 gift certificates to auction off!!! This is almost double what we've had in the past.

We had beautiful photos donated by our Parish photographers: Gerry Davis, Greg Merhar and Paul Van de Graaf. There were many donations of specialty pottery items this year – many “one of a kind” funny and beautiful. As always we received donations of hand crafted items guaranteed to keep you warm through one of our Vermont winters, classic furniture, and specialty jewelry items combined with donations from local jewelers.

The food table was far and above what we could ever expect. The donations from our supporters in the congregation literally took our breath away. It was fantastic! The desserts – to die for! Everything was heavenly.

The bottom line – we added \$7500 to the purse that is shared by the outreach ministries supported by the Cathedral.

**THANK YOU ALL !! BLESSINGS !! – John & Barrie Montross**



## **Cycle of Prayer** **The Ven. Catherine Cooke**

The Cycle of Prayer group offers daily intercessory prayers for the ill and those with special needs, for the parish, the diocese, the community and the world. It has been part of the Cathedral community for many years.

We meet once a month at noon on the first Tuesday of the month to update the prayer list and to join in prayer and meditation. The usual format of the meeting is to open with noonday prayer and another prayer or two, updating our prayer list, giving our reflections on something we have read, most recently we have been using the readings from *Forward Day by Day*, sharing some event from the past month or something from our personal reading during the month, and closing with prayer.

Through this sharing we have not only a greater understanding of each other and the way we think, but also of the unique ways God is made known in our lives.

We are always open to new membership. If you are unable to attend the actual meeting, but would like to participate in this intercessory prayer, we will provide you with a list each month. Names of people or concerns to be prayed for can be left in the church office.

## **St. Paul's Flower Guild** **Pat Wheeler**

The St. Paul's Flower Guild has the great good fortune to welcome Maureen Rees to be its next chairman. Her talents in flower arranging and her attention to detail, coupled with her knowing how to get a job done.

With fewer flower arrangers this year, we have experimented with using flowering plants. Christmas and Easter continue to highlight our talents and gifts to St. Paul's.



## **Sacristan and Archivist**

### **Alice Van Buren**

#### **Sacristy**

The focus of the sacristan's duties is the maintenance of items both past and present for the purpose of worship including vestments, vessels, crosses, candles, linens, altar books, wine, communion bread and wafer supplies. This work involves preparations and clean-up for various services held not only on Sundays but also for special occasions. The sacristan is assisted by Altar Guild members on Sunday mornings.

During 2017 the following were accomplished:

- An unused frontal of the Cathedral was re-purposed for Grace Church, Sheldon, Vermont.
- Nursing home communion basket was replenished weekly.
- New vestment garment bags were put into use.
- Unused kneelers were inventoried and stored under the guidance of Judith McManis.
- Set-ups for weddings, funerals, O Antiphons, Christmas Eve and Day, Lent, Ash Wednesday, Easter Vigil, and choral evensong were completed.

#### **Archivist**

The focus of the archivist's duties is the collection, organization and preservation of the historical documents and records of this congregation as required by the canons and policies of this diocese and the national church. User-friendly topical files and binders are available.

During 2017 the following were accomplished:

- Researchers who were seeking historical information and materials were assisted.
- The Diocesan archivist was assisted on a weekly basis in sorting, filing and creating inventories for archival materials.
- Documents pertaining to the Cathedral were added to the archival collection.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Van Buren

## **Taizé Ministry**

### **Judith McManis**

The Taizé Ministry at St. Paul's has been a part of our parish life (and the greater community) beginning in Holy Week of 2007. Taizé can be encountered in many formats; here at St. Paul's we use the structure of Evening Prayer, in a schedule of four services annually with themes being taken from the date on which they fall and featuring music, icons, a reading and other appropriate elements.

Singers/instrumentalists from within and outside of St. Paul's rehearse before each service.

A Taizé Planning Team (TPT), under the direction of Canon Precentor Mark Howe has been responsible for the content and all details of these services. Members of the Team this year included Rose Bacon, Henry Maciejewski, Judith McManis and Liz Thompson. Currently Liz is Coordinator of Taizé Planning, with Rose, Henry and Judith taking on various roles to support that leadership. Mark is kept in the loop as liaison to the Cathedral Staff.

The Taizé Planning Team meets four times each year and looks forward to our Annual Retreat (usually in August). In addition, Team members consult with others outside the walls of St. Paul's Cathedral in creating Taizé services. Team members attend other Taizé services in the area whenever possible. The "Taizé in Vermont" Facebook page has 80 "friends" and invites anyone in Vermont holding a Taizé service to post it there. An email "Reminder List" is maintained.

Beginning in 2014 and continuing this year the TPT began writing Customaries for each service. These help us in directing volunteers in set up/take down as well as in long-term preparations.

Taizé Ministry funding includes donations from members of the team and a line item in the Cathedral's budget. The line-item designation helps to track income (offerings and gifts), allow for re-supplying consumables (candles, etc.) and the purchase and framing of more icons as needed. We encourage anyone who would like to "Sponsor an Icon" (pay for its purchase & framing). The Team has, over time, adapted the printed programs into a format that uses as little paper as possible, yet guides and informs those in attendance.

Taizé Ministry has been acknowledged as an important outreach tool at St. Paul's; it is rewarding to see robust attendance by parishioners as well as members of the broader community. At each Taizé service, we see new people – people who may have never previously walked through the doors of St. Paul's! 2017 saw the celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> year (Monday in Holy Week) of offering these services.

Taizé Statistics for 2017:

January 15, 2017 (Martin Luther King, Jr.): Deadra Ashton, Officiant – 65 in attendance

April 10, 2017 (Monday in Holy Week): Thomas Ely & Christopher Coyne, Co-Officiants – 177 in attendance

June 5, 2017 (Pentecost): Nancy Wright, Officiant – 57 in attendance

November 12, 2017 (Christ the King): Stan Baker, Officiant – 78 in attendance

Respectfully submitted,  
The Taizé Planning Team (members listed above)

## **Cathedral Arts ~ Concerts** **Elaine Greenfield**

Cathedral Arts has been a ministry of the Cathedral since 1973. It continues as a highly successful community outreach.



Highlights of 2017 included consolidation and refinement of the Cathedral Arts committee and its operation, plus limiting the number of concerts on our two popular series, beginning with the 2017/18 season. As of fall 2017, *Tuesdays Noon to One* presents eight free concerts per season, and the *Weekend Series* offers four ticketed concerts. This reduction in the number of concerts has resulted in the printing of only one Arts brochure for 2017/18. We have also discontinued using FlynnTix for pre-concert ticket sales. Tickets are sold at the door only, on the day of the concert.

These changes have thus far proven to be extremely successful, with easier operation for people involved. The concerts are of the highest caliber, and well attended. Tuesday concerts average 40-50 attendees, weekend concerts are attended by anywhere from 75 people, to house capacity.

*Weekend Series* concerts featured: Counterpoint; Kevin Ayesch, pianist; Oriana Singers; Greenfield Piano Associates; Martin Poppe Memorial Concert; and the Vermont Choral union.

*Tuesdays Noon to One* featured: Young Artists Showcase; Trio Music of the Ages; Melissa Dickerson, Soprano; Nancy Osborne, organ; Syrinx; Champlain Consort; Bach in Church (LCCMF); The Good Times Trio; Kevin Lawrence, violin; and the Catamount Singers.

Also under our auspices, the Burlington Branch of the VT Music Teacher's Association presented its annual winter student recital in February.

## **St Paul's Cookbook Project** **Keith and Penny Pillsbury**

Out of Vermont's Kitchens and Vermont Kitchens Revisited, cookbooks containing recipes from St Paul's cooks, are showing up in more and more Vermont bookstores and gift shops this season. We have travelled throughout the state to promote and distribute the books. We are increasing our clientele and have sold more than 300 books.

If you are in a Vermont store that you think our cookbook would sell well in, please ask the manager if she/he would carry the book(s) on their shelves and let us know so we can contact the store.

## **Cathedral Square Corporation**

### **Report from Kim Fitzgerald, CEO**

2017 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Cathedral Square Corporation, and we thank you! Cathedral Square would not exist today if it were not for the forethought of St. Paul's Cathedral. Your members took a tragedy, the fire of 1971, and turned it into growth and opportunities. You recognized the need for affordable housing and took action by forming Cathedral Square, and building the first section 202 senior housing property in the state. And you've continue to steward us through board participation since 1977. Thank you to all St. Paul members for seeing this vision and nurturing it.

From this one property in Burlington, we have expanded to almost 30 properties with over 1,200 residents. We opened the first licensed assisted living at our flagship property, and created SASH®, which now serves over 5,000 participants around the state.

A few highlights from 2017:

- We opened Elm Place in Milton – which provides homes to over 30 residents who are 55 and older. Elm Place is the first multifamily residence in Vermont built to “passive house” energy standards.
- Through fundraising efforts, we purchased the former Respite House in Williston. We are on schedule to open the first affordable memory care assisted living residence in the state, called Memory Care at Allen Brook. Renovations are under way now and we plan for the first resident to move in by the end of December. We appreciate the Cathedral's financial support of this critically important residence.
- We have broken ground on our latest community, Allard Square located on Market Street in South Burlington. Allard Square is named in honor of Doris Allard, one of our first residents to move into Three Cathedral Square 38 years ago. Allard Square is scheduled to open next fall and will have 39 one and two bedroom apartments.
- We have replicated SASH in Rhode Island at St. Elizabeth Community's The Place in Providence, home to over 150 people.
- We are working with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to replicate a SASH-like model, now called IWish, in 7 other States.
- Our third evaluation continues to show positive results in our early panels, with a Medicare savings on average of \$1,227 per person per year. We have increased the number of participants with advanced directives, that have controlled hypertension, and that have received their shingles, flu, and pneumococcal vaccinations. We have reduced the number of falls by SASH participants, and we have increased their quality of life!
- This is our first full year with a staff volunteer program, where staff receive 4 hours a year to volunteer with or for residents in some way.

- We have piloted telehealth visits at our Cathedral Square Senior Living property. We are also working with Northwestern Medical Center to pilot telehealth visits in St. Albans and Milton.

A special thanks to the current St. Paul members who serve on our board, Chris Davis and Jeanne Finan, and to all who have served on the Cathedral Square board previously.

## Parish Statistics

### 2010-2017 Attendance

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Average Sunday Attendance	177	197	167	188	196	191	179	172
Sunday/Saturday evening services	134	167	123	124	126	114	122	123
Weekday services	60	58	57	61	52	152	209	252
Marriages	1	3	1	6	3	1	1	1
Burials	7	4	7	8	7	14	6	6
Baptisms	8	2	2	3	4	6	5	10
Confirmations	1	1	5	0	5	8	5	3
Received by Bishop	1	1	3	1	1	4	3	4

### 2010-2018 Pledge Comparison

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of pledges	131	134	133	127	125	136	134	119	124
Total pledged \$	272,278	279,282	287,900	277,346	283,857	328,585	313,127	287,553	297,722
Average pledge \$	2,078	2,084	2,165	2,184	2,271	2,416	2,337	2,416	2,401
Total collected \$	261,725	276,556	274,435	282,860	287,100	317,764	295,644	294,128	
Amount defaulted \$	10,562	2,726	13,465	0	4,763	10,820	17,983	0	
Percent defaulted	3.8%	1%	4.6%	0	1.6%	3.3%	5.7%	0	

### 2010-2018 Pledge Distribution

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
\$1-300	15	15	12	10	13	17	13	13	12
\$301-500	14	13	12	13	10	12	20	8	13
\$501-1000	28	29	31	28	24	23	19	17	14
\$1001-2000	27	31	30	30	30	31	33	34	34
\$2001-4000	25	24	26	25	25	26	22	25	30
\$4001 and above	22	22	22	21	23	27	27	22	21
Total # of pledges	131	134	133	127	125	136	134	119	124

### 2010-2018 Pledge Analysis

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
New pledges	6	8	13	13	5	16	19	9	13
Returning pledges	7	7	3	4	9	5	3	3	5
Increased pledges	57	44	41	38	41	57	58	54	48
Decreased pledges	13	23	12	10	15	10	21	14	14
Discontinued pledges	20	12	18	23	18	19	20	28	14
# with same pledge	44	47	61	56	49	41	36	39	44
Most common pledge \$	1,200 – 2,000	1,500	1,500	520	1,500	1,200	500	3000	2,400
Median (middle) pledge \$	1,300	1,275	1,400	1,320	1,320	1,440	1,500	1,500	1,603
Average pledge \$	2,078	2,084	2,165	2,184	2,271	2,416	2,337	2,416	2,401

