

Congregational Meeting 2014—"New Directions of Ministry"



"Godly Play" At Advent 1

New Direction

"Take a new direction
in the way time is spent
Let love be the infection
Finally live like its meant
Have some fun with empty
nights
Let faith rule over frights
Chances set mystery for days
Look past the confusing haze
Set free the inner pain
And dance in the rain."

-Leah Harlow



Singing the Psalms



"Feeding the Team" outreach

Port Royal, Virginia's
CHARTER DAY



Expanding the Community Dinners



Raising money for Haiti



A new sexton and acolyte



The Thirteen Concert



"Feasting with Jesus" Adult Ed

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Priest in Charge, Annual Report, 2014

The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

“Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.”

This collect for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany reminds us that we are to be Christ’s light in the world as the people of God. We’ve been Christ’s light in the world in many ways here at St Peter’s Episcopal Church in Port Royal, VA, during the year of 2013.

Dr. Barbara Ann Fisher, from the Diocese of Easton (in Maryland), led our Vestry retreat in April of this past year. (See Senior Warden’s report for more information about this retreat.)

An initiative that grew out of this time of discernment was the subsequent decision on the part of the Vestry to establish a one year position, The Children’s Ministry Coordinator, so that we could put the Godly Play curriculum into place for our children from preschool to second grade and train others to carry on this program in the years to come. Thanks to Amy’s work and this new curriculum we have been able to provide quality education for the young children in our church during the second half of 2013, and continuing through May of 2014. Amy has blessed our community not only with the teaching of Godly Play, but also the help she has provided with those Sunday morning responsibilities that must take place for worship to proceed smoothly (helping to assemble bulletins, for instance). She has also preached and celebrated the Eucharist and made the 9AM Rite I Eucharist possible when Catherine has been away. In addition, Amy has provided pastoral care for the children, visiting the hospital to see one of our young people who was hospitalized for a few days. (See more about Godly Play in Amy’s report.)

This past fall we moved adult Christian Education from Sunday morning to various evenings during the week and also tried an internet study. My goal is to continue to work with this parish to figure out what will be the most helpful and accessible way to provide Christian education for adults throughout the year.

New Mission, Outreach and Community Witness for 2013

Trailer Park Bible Study

This warm weather Bible study takes place outside in the trailer park. St Peter's provides lunch and people gather to discuss scripture and share food and fellowship. This project began in September, has taken a break during the winter, and will resume in the spring of 2014. This Bible study is a visible way to show our care for the community of Port Royal.

Dinner for the Caroline County Football Team

Many members of St Peter's cooked and served a delicious meal for the Caroline County football team before one of their home games. We were one of several churches in Caroline County who participated in this project. Coach Jeremiah Ross declared that our meal and the presentation of it was the best of the season! This project is a way of reaching out to young people in our community and working together with other churches to make a positive difference for the people of Caroline County.

The Thirteen

In October of 2013, in a joint effort with St Asaph's Episcopal Church in Bowling Green and Historic Port Royal, St Peter's sponsored a concert featuring a choral group, The Thirteen, at St Peter's. People from Fredericksburg and the surrounding counties packed our church for the concert. Our hope is that the people who came from a distance not only enjoyed the music, but also enjoyed being at St Peter's and in Port Royal.

International Projects—Tools for the Sudan and Toilets for Haiti

We supported two Region One initiatives. St Peter's provided \$1300 to help purchase tools for farmers in South Sudan. In addition, we raised money to help fund the Toilets for Haiti project for the Episcopal school for children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The new bathroom for the over 300 children at the school is currently under construction. St Peter's also donated \$750 of the John Hines Preaching Award money to The VTS Missionary Society, which provides financial support to international projects through grants.

Blessing of a stole for Army chaplain in Afghanistan

Barbara Porterfield, the mother of the Rev. Amy Turner, joined with the 27 other stole makers to make 41 stoles for U.S. Army chaplains serving in Afghanistan. In addition to making a stole that was blessed by the congregation at Zion Episcopal Church in Charles Town, Barbara also

made a stole to be blessed at Trinity Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg; a stole that we blessed here at St Peter's and then sent off to be given to an Army chaplain serving in Afghanistan.

Ongoing Mission, Outreach and Community Mission during 2013

Community Dinners and food donations

We received a gift from the Diocese for \$250 to continue our community dinners in Port Royal. For our Easter and Christmas Community Dinners, we partnered with Caroline's Promise and also with Caroline County Parks and Recreation. People from all over Port Royal and the surrounding area came to these dinners and enjoyed food, fellowship and entertainment. We had over 100 people at the Christmas dinner. (Please see Evening ECW report for more details about the Community Dinners.)

Food donations to the Caroline Department of Social Services food pantry are a year round project at St Peter's, and continued throughout 2013.

Peumansend Creek Regional Jail Bible Study

Our monthly Bible study at PCRJ continued throughout 2013. Our Bible study begins with scripture and includes scriptures study, prayer, and discussion and opportunities for the prisoners to share their insights with one another. Parishioners continue to support this ministry not only through the volunteering of their time, but also with gifts of Bibles that we provide to the prisoners.

Christmas Projects

The congregation carried on its traditional outreach to the community by adopting a family through the Caroline County Department of Social Services and providing gifts for that family. In addition, we continued our tradition of filling shoeboxes with gifts for children around the world through the Samaritan's Purse program. (Please see ECM report for more details regarding Christmas projects.)

FredCamp

FredCamp is an ecumenical Christian work camp for high school youth working to change hearts and homes in the Fredericksburg area since 1999. St Peter's supports this group financially. This year, many of us ate together at Ruby Tuesdays and in doing so provided a donation to FredCamp. Several of us provided some hands-on support and prepared and delivered lunches for a FredCamp work team during their week of work on a trailer in the Dogue area of King George.

ECW

The ECW continued its fundraising activities and gave generously to many organizations that carry on outreach in our community, our state, and the world. Two UTO offerings were taken during the year. See the ECW report for more information.

Worship

Worship at St Peter's is shaped by the lectionary and the church year calendar. In 2013, the Epiphany fell on Sunday and so we observed this feast day in our Sunday morning worship service. The Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and the Ash Wednesday evening service began our observance of Lent. We observed Palm Sunday with a drama featuring the events of Holy Week with readings by Alan Gayle, who portrayed Jesus. During Holy Week, our service of Tenebrae on Wednesday was a newer version of the service that focused on Passion Week readings from the Gospel according to Luke. On Thursday night, before the Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist, we participated in a 2nd century Seder meal and worship service. We also had an evening Good Friday service. Easter Day began with the community Easter Sunrise Service, followed by the lighting of the Paschal fire and our Celebration of Holy Eucharist at St Peter's. We celebrated the feast of Pentecost. Advent included the lighting of the Advent wreath each Sunday by the children of St Peter's. Our Christmas play in 2013 was written from the perspective of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Christmas Eve included special music by our choir and the final worship service of 2013 was Lessons and Carols.

During 2013, we experienced a 2nd century Eucharist at our congregational meeting in January. In this past year, we have begun the periodical practice of singing the Psalms during worship. This year we have also had the Prayers of the People written specifically for the particular scriptural themes of the day and for the concerns of our community rather than constantly to use the generic forms in the Book of Common Prayer, which are provided there as guidelines for congregational Prayers of the People. We have also used three of the Eucharistic Prayers from Enriching our Worship when they've been especially appropriate for seasonal themes, or to emphasize particular themes in the lectionary readings for a particular Sunday. BJ Anderson has continued to bake the gluten free bread that we all share on Sundays.

Our worship this past year included the gift of the wisdom that three speakers shared with us during worship. Warrington Tripp visited and witnessed regarding the work of the Gideons throughout the world. The Rev. Charles Mumbo, a Baptist preacher from Kenya, brought us evangelical perspective on the Psalms, and Ms. Susan Mitchell, a hospice chaplain, preached on All Saints' Day and reminded us of the blessing of the Communion of Saints. We also had the

opportunity to hear from Helmut Linne Von Berg on contemplative prayer, and Ben Hicks, who shared wisdom from one of our early rectors, The Rev. Sigismund Ware.

(Please see the Music report for more details on the role of music in our worship during 2013.)

Rob and Marsha Dobson were received as members of St Peter's when Bishop Shannon Johnston made his visit to St Peter's in June. We also welcomed Owen Patrick Long into our church family through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Christian Education

During the first half of 2013, we continued our pattern of Christian education programs on Sunday mornings at 10AM. Becky Fisher worked with the children, and Ben Hicks provided adult education classes, including a series on the emerging church and a look at climate change. Catherine did a Lenten Sunday morning adult education class on forgiveness--Letting Go: Five Steps to Forgiveness. In addition, during Lent, Catherine, with the help of many parishioners, did an evening study series based on the book The Food and Feasts of Jesus. We ate the kinds of food that Jesus and his contemporaries would have eaten while we learned about worship, customs and the history of the Jewish people in the time of Jesus.

New initiatives in Christian Education in 2013

During the fall of 2013, after a Vestry survey of the congregation, we moved our adult education classes from Sunday mornings to evening hours. We finished The Food and Feasts of Jesus by offering two evening studies which were held in September and in October. In December, during Advent, we had an evening study based on the art work of John August Swanson. In addition, we held a half day retreat that included bread making and the viewing of the movie The Way.

Vacation Bible School

This week long venture in August included an early evening simple supper followed by study. Becky Fisher put together the children's program and I led a Bible study for adults on Paul's Letter to the Galatians. The week ended with a community dinner.

Beginning in September of 2013, we implemented the Godly Play curriculum for our children from age three up to second grade. This class for children is held during the 11AM worship hour under the direction of The Rev. Amy Turner. (See Amy's report for more information about the Godly Play curriculum.)

Catherine created an on-line Facebook Advent study, based on the writing of The Rev. Barbara Crafton. This method allows us some flexibility in “gathering” online for study. The implementation of this study provides some insight into continuing on-line studies during 2014.

St Nicholas (Helmut Linne von Berg) made an appearance on the first Sunday in Advent at a special breakfast, and provided some information about his history of compassion and care for those in need.

Ongoing Christian Education

The Ecumenical Bible Study continues to meet every Wednesday morning from 10Am until noon. This group studies and discusses the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday each week.

Continuing Education and updates on other responsibilities and activities

This fall, I attended three day long workshops spanning Sept-November and became **certified in the Godly Play curriculum** that we are using with our young children. The final week of continuing education known as **The Second Three Years** took place at VTS in June. This program is funded through VTS and the Lily Foundation.

I am continuing as a **Spiritual Director** at Virginia Theological Seminary, where I meet with eighteen students and two staff people individually once a month. Beginning in September of 2012, I became the **“Chapel Coordinator”** at the seminary, a job which will continue through May of 2014. I plan three midday Eucharists each week, and schedule the people who will preach and serve at the services. I am also on the preaching and celebrant rotation for these services. I also schedule for two Morning Prayer services each week.

In 2013 I had the honor of being the recipient of the **John Hines Preaching Award**. This award is presented annually to the outstanding preaching entry “where prophetic voice is central within the sermon.”

We tried our best to shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory during 2013. For a small church, we have done an amazing amount of mission, outreach and witness this past year. We have been diligent in worshipping together as the family of God, and we have worked hard to continue to grow in the knowledge and love of God. God has truly blessed our congregation. Thanks be to God for all of the blessings from the past year, and I pray that God will continue to bless our worship, study, mission and our witness to God’s love in the world in the year to come.

Senior Warden, Annual Report, 2014

Eunice Key

This is the 3rd year of my three year term serving on the St. Peter's Vestry. This last year I served in the capacity of your Senior Warden. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent the congregation and getting to know the people that I have worked with on the vestry over the past 3 years has been very rewarding. Working with Catherine and experiencing first hand her dedication to our parish, the community and most of all to serving God's kingdom has been most uplifting to witness.

I served as delegate to the two day Annual Council held at the end of January in Reston, Virginia. The theme for the 2013 event was "Setting God's Table" in the Diocese of Virginia. The various "courses" of setting God's table included:

- Multicultural and Ethnic Ministries
- Evangelism and Proclamation
- Mission Beyond Ourselves
- Youth and Young Adult Ministries
- Strengthening Existing Congregations

Once a month, the vestry meets for approximately two hours to discuss business necessary to operate and maintain the ministries of St. Peter's. During the past six months, Catherine has begun each meeting with a 10-15 minute bible study or a centering exercise.

What I consider one of the most rewarding activities of the vestry, as a group, is the Vestry retreat. The facilitator for this years' retreat was Dr. Barbara Anne Fisher and it was held at Fall Hall on Tuesday, April 30. The roots or foundation of the church were discussed and from there a tree was formed and the branches/canopy of the tree was added. As a group, we brainstormed every single thing that we could think of that our church was doing and at the end we were all at a loss for words as we gazed at the enormity of what our little church was accomplishing. Each branch of the tree included leaves – on the leaves were written specific ministries that our church does. The leaves were taped to its specific branch such as mission, fellowship, worship, scriptural formation, hospitality, outreach or pastoral support. From there we discussed what areas might need strengthening or what branches might be weak. One of

the items identified was the need to grow or strengthen a children's program and another was to strengthen our presence in the community. From these discussions, several activities were initiated in 2013.

- A vacation bible school was held
- Community dinners were continued
- A bible study was started in the trailer park

I coordinated a trip to see the show Noah's Ark, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on July 16. Fourteen persons traveled to Sight and Sound Theatre in a rental van, saw the show, and afterward enjoyed dinner, a smorgasbord which included many Amish favorites.

Minor revisions were made to Catherine's Letter of Agreement and Compensation Package. Contracts were drafted for persons who perform paid tasks for the church (Brad, organist and choir director, Amy-children's ministry, Judy -child care during church service, Charles-cleaning of the church and the Parish House and Travis Minter, grounds maintenance)

In August, we implemented a "Good Neighbor Program". The idea is to encourage members to take action on some of the ideas that occur to them. For example, if you are constantly thinking of calling or sending a card to someone-do it. If you think of sending a meal or visiting a home bound person-do it. Each time you do one of those types of "good neighbor" type actions, put a slip of paper in the collection plate and only note thereon the Month. These will be counted and the hope is that the counts will increase over time. JUST DO IT!

The Everett's opened their home to the St. Peter's family on December 8 for a covered dish meal. Good fellowship was enjoyed as well as the abundant Christmas village and other decorations.

The vestry decided unanimously to honor Ben Hicks with a Amazon gift card for the myriad of talents that he gives freely to St. Peter's (photographer, Sunday bulletins, web site, store web-page, historical research and writings, service as a Sunday bible study teacher and the list could go on).

Junior Warden, Annual Report, 2014

Cookie Davis

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Junior Warden for the past two years. I have been happy to oversee our church buildings and grounds, and to represent St. Peter's in the community.

Major projects include:

- Repairing the pedals and the trackers on our 1859 Steven's organ by Mark Thompson, a specialist in Steven's Organs at a cost of \$3900.
- Selecting and replacing the flooring in the kitchen and bath of Fall Hall. (This was a gift of the Royal Caterers of St. Peters.)
- Locate, frame and hang pictures of all former rectors of St. Peter's in Fall Hall.
- Work with Ron Dobson & Co. in enlarging, painting and making the bathroom in Fall Hall more handicap accessible. (Ron donated the new sink & cabinet as well as much of his time).
- Worked with the ECM to plan a Fall Yard Cleanup Day.
- Spent the whole day representing St. Peter's and managing the Moon Bounce and Slide at Port Royal's Charter Day.
- Located bulbs, a ladder & 2 volunteers to replace the 3 twenty feet high recessed lights over the altar in the church.
- Met with a representative of Virginia Dominion Power about the power lines crossing the cemetery. Found the expense of going underground at this time to be too costly.
- Served as the Vestry representative on the Long Term Planning Committee charged with prioritizing repairs needed at St. Peters. Learned that the paint is peeling on the outside window trim at the church and some minor repair is needed there.
- Met with the Pitts Brothers to survey needs in Fall Hall. Found windows in need of repair, one pane missing, storm windows loose & in need of cleaning on the inside, paint peeling off of the kitchen walls, cabinet doors that do not latch and drawers that are hard to open. We also found a board broken in the upstairs floor that should be repaired.

Minor projects include:

- Repair one cabinet that was in danger of falling from a kitchen wall.
- Replace old light fixture in Sacristy.
- Arrange furnace repair in Fall Hall replacing defective blower and capacitor for a total of \$712.13.
- Work with Travis Minter in overseeing yard work, spraying the walks, cutting the grass and getting the riverbank cut back in the fall.
- Had volunteer clean and repaint the sign in front of the church.
- Organized and transported food to Football players at Caroline High.
- Purchased 2 additional folding tables with money donated to the church.
- Get volunteers to repair pole light before Christmas Eve Service.

Treasurer's, Annual Report, 2014

Clarence Kunstmann

The Cash & Investment Summary shows the accounts for the monetary assets of St. Peters.

Sections I and II on page 14 identify the locations of the monetary assets.

Section III, the Restricted Funds (designated funds) section on page 14, identifies those amounts that have been donated or set aside from the funds available for the general operation of the church, the Non-Restricted Funds.

Section IV (page 14) shows the Operating Fund Total. The sum of this total plus the total of the Restricted Funds equals the Cash & Investments Grand Total.

Under section II (page 14), Investments, is the Trustees of The Funds Account which has had an improvement in spite the market's ups & downs. Monies invested there are from the Cemetery Fund and the EC Davis Memorial Fund for Building & Development.

Within section III (page 14) the earthquake account was closed out with a write off of \$3,598.37 after donations and support from the Diocese. Total cost was \$19,850.00.

The Fund Activity chart at the bottom of page 15 displays those restricted funds having activity during 2013.

On page 16 The Operating Income Statement has been placed on the same page with FY2014 budget in order to facilitate comparing the FY2014 Budget with the FY2013 budget and expenditures.

Attention is called to the Receipts section of the Operating Income Statement and that contributions exceeded the estimate for loose offerings. Also note the increase in your pledges for 2014. This made it easier to develop the 2014 Budget to include the Godly Play program for the children as well as to address the costs, such as utilities, that continue to rise.

As usual there have been a lot of "hidden" contributions in the form of time and material, including the little things such as providing food or flowers.

I will be pleased, any time, to answer any questions you may have.

Clarence Kunstmann
Treasurer

Cash & Investment Summary
As of 31 December 2013

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
I. Bank Accounts - Union Bank & Trust Co		
General Checking Account	\$26,151.71	\$14,546.37
Money Market Checking Account	125,629.34	45,810.91
Cash on Hand	15,711.00	0.00
Discretionary Fund Checking Account	499.17	499.12
ECW Checking Account	4,615.40	3,933.12
Total Checking Accounts	\$172,606.62	\$64,789.52
II. Investments		
Abbott Laboratories (50 Shares)	2,657.50	1,328.75
AbbVie (50 Shares)	0.00	1,328.75
STAMP Account (\$100,000)	0.00	99,379.33
Trustees of The Funds Account*	45,784.42	51,958.63
Total Investments	\$48,441.92	\$153,995.46
Cash & Investments Grand Total	\$221,048.54	\$218,784.98
III. Restricted Funds		
Cemetery Fund*	\$15,969.69	\$ 17,378.86
EC Davis Memorial Fund for Building & Development*	32,357.57	36,563.61
Building Fund	35,000.00	35,000.00
Emergency Operating Fund (Rainy Day)	23,000.00	23,000.00
ECW Fund	4,615.40	3,933.12
Laura Hayes Memorial Education Fund	1,544.22	1,544.22
Discretionary Fund	2,262.65	558.33
Earthquake	(4,627.02)	0.00
Parish House Fund	4,005.02	4,071.45
Organ Fund	1,065.00	910.00
Memorials	1,159.00	1,159.00
Memorial Garden Fund	740.00	770.00
Miscellaneous	7,192.30	5,637.60
*Funds with part or all monies in investments		
Total Restricted	\$124,283.83	\$130,526.19
IV. Operating Funds	Total Available ⁽¹⁾	\$96,764.71
		\$88,258.38

¹ Total Operating Funds includes \$440.34 for altar flowers.

Fund Activity during 2013

ECW is reported separately

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Paid Out	Ending Balance
Discretionary Fund	2,262.65	4,148.61	5,852.93	558.33
Earthquake	(4,627.02)	1,041.00	12.35	0.00
Parish House Fund	4,005.02	200.00	133.57	4,071.45
Organ Fund	1,065.00	4,775.00	4,930.00	910.00
Memorial Garden Fund	740.00	30.00	0.00	770.00
Cemetery Fund [Cash on Hand]	1,998.92	595.63	0.00	2,594.55
Miscellaneous	7,192.30	11,851.32	13,406.02	5,637.60
Alter Flower Non-Restricted Fund	412.45	42.89	15.00	440.34

Miscellaneous Fund Balances

ECM	56.22
Royal	948.62
175th	1,859.84
Mustard	237.74

Ladies	1,096.50
Concert	988.68
Table	100.00
Poinsettia	200.00

Rev C Mumbo	150
Total	5,637.60

**Operating Income Statement
for the Period
1 January thru 31 December 2013**

	Budget	Actual To Date
RECEIPTS		
Pledges	70,820	70,533
Loose & Other Offerings	10,000	13,307
Interest Earned	0	20
Other	0	407
Total Receipts	80,820	84,267
DISBURSEMENTS		
Salaries:		
Salaried Clergy		
Base Salary	30,300	30,300
Pension	5,454	5,454
Life Insurance	156	0
Health Insurance	5,676	6,071
Telephone & Travel	500	107
Professional Allowance	500	0
Continuing Education	500	190
Net Compensation	43,086	42,122
Supply Clergy	300	200
Children's Ministry Coordinator	3,400	3,200
Organist	10,000	11,400
Supply Organist	200	600
Total Salaries	56,986	57,522
Outreach:		
Charities & Community Outreach	1,500	1,471

FY 2014	
RECEIPTS	
Pledges	85,124
Loose & Other	10,000
Interest Earned	0
Other	0
Total Receipts	95,124
DISBURSEMENTS	
Salaries:	
Salaried Clergy	
Base Salary	30,300
Pension	5,454
Life Insurance	156
Health Insurance	5,676
Telephone & Travel	500
Professional Allowance	500
Continuing Education	500
Net Compensation	43,086
Supply Clergy	300
Children's Ministry Coordinator	4,000
Organist	10,400
Supply Organist	600
Total Salaries	58,386
Outreach:	
Charities & Community Outreach	2,000

	Budget	Actual To Date
Pledge to Diocese of Virginia	3,100	3,100
Pledge to Region I	350	350
Total Outreach	4,950	4,921
Administrative:		
Admin & General Supplies	1,500	1,368
Liturgy Supplies	500	495
Diocesan Council & Clergy Conf	1,200	1,488
Christian Education	500	714
Music	100	500
Misc Expenses	200	1,260
Nursery Services	1,600	1,450
Cleaning Services	1,500	1,971
Total Programs	7,100	9,246
Church Properties:		
Insurance	4,000	4,869
Utilities	5,500	6,596
Reg Maintenance Bldgs & Grounds	4,500	4,724
Building Repairs	0	712
Total Church Property Expense	14,000	16,901
Total Operating Disbursements	83,036	88,590
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	-2,216	-4,323

FY 2014	
Pledge to Diocese of Virginia	3,500
Pledge to Region I	400
Total Outreach	5,900
Administrative:	
Admin & General Supplies	1,500
Liturgy Supplies	500
Diocesan Council & Clergy Conf	800
Christian	1,000
Music	100
Misc Expenses	700
Nursery Duty	1,600
Cleaning Duty	2,000
Total Programs	8,200
Church	
Insurance	4,000
Utilities	7,000
Reg Maintenance Bldgs & Grounds	4,500
Building Repairs	5,000
Total Church Property Expense	20,500
Total Operating Disbursements	92,986
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	2,138

Music, Annual Report, 2014

Brad Volland

2013 was another great year for St. Peter's Episcopal Church's Music Ministry. The church is blessed with dedicated choir members who share their talents with enthusiasm and love. We are a small choir wholly committed and dedicated to serving our church and community, praising God through Christ the Son.

The choir presented many new anthems, hymns and service music to the congregation throughout 2013 and enjoyed receiving, with humble thanks, many compliments from our church family.

We are most thankful for the friendship and talents shared by Paige Martindale. Paige has continued to share his vocal and organist talents with us many times and his support greatly enhances our music ministry and worship.

Blessings continued with the support and talents of our choir members and especially, Helmut Linne von Berg and his violin and Marilyn Newman and her harp. We enjoyed their talents on multiple occasions during 2013. We were once again delighted to have Marilyn Newman and Eunice Key join our choir for Advent and Christmas.

We were truly blessed to have the wonderful choral group, The Thirteen, perform a concert in our church last fall. This delightful concert was made possible by the generous gifts of our parishioners and lots of work by our gracious Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks.

We continued to enjoy the benefits of our very talented organ technician, Mark Thompson, who rebuilt our pedal organ, which helped to greatly reduce the clicking noise made when executing music requiring the pedals. This work was expensive and made possible through the generosity of our parishioners and a rather large monetary gift made by an anonymous parishioner. Mark continues to maintain our pipe organ in a dedicated and professional manner and we are most thankful.

Looking forward to many musical blessings in 2014! Thanks be to God!

Godly Play, Annual Report, 2014

The Rev. Amy P. Turner

Godly Play began on Sept. 8th and continued through until Dec. 15th. It has been an exciting few months as The Rev. Catherine Hicks and I completed Godly Play certification across three Saturdays by attending workshops in Falls Church, VA. Our classroom is slowly being built up with more stories as the year goes along and I gather supplies for each new story we share together in the Godly Play classroom.

We had a total of 7 children attend Godly Play, along with two younger siblings in the nursery with Judy. We have had two adults and one teenager serve in the position of Doorkeeper during the Godly Play sessions.

We primarily focused on lessons from the Old Testament: the story of Creation, Noah and the Flood, Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the Ten Best Ways to Live (10 Commandments), and the People of God being led out of Egypt on dry land. Children learned about the Good Shepherd and World Communion in preparation to join church for an intentional communion experience with Catherine and myself behind the altar rail. During Advent we learned about the four weeks of Advent leading up to the Mystery of Christmas and Jesus' birth.

During the season of Advent the children helped light the Advent candles at the beginning of the service prior to heading to the Godly Play classroom. Also, Catherine and I switched places one Sunday so she could lead Godly Play and I could preach and celebrate in the church.

In 2014 I look forward to sharing Parable stories as we move towards Lent, and during Lent talking about Jesus' life and the mystery of Easter and the Cross. We are also planning another intentional communion where the children join in the Holy Eucharist.

Stewardship, Annual Report, 2014

Kenneth Pogue, Chair

Introduction

The duties of the Stewardship Chairperson of St. Peters Episcopal Church were assigned to Kenneth Pogue circa November 2013. As such, Mr. Pogue acknowledged his new role, and during his initial remarks to the congregation, he provided a cursory outline of his objectives. They included a year long, sustained effort to cultivate the time, skills and talents of the membership to motivate and enhance the contributory spirit of the membership in order to support and sustain a myriad of Church sponsored, outreach activities and administrative functions.

Objectives

In that regard, as Stewardship Chairperson, I have proposed a strategic plan that includes three primary objectives. Each objective is designed to ensure that St. Peters Episcopal Church is able to meet its current obligations and expand on its efforts to provide spiritual guidance and secular relief to those who are of greatest need; in and around our local and global community. The objectives for CY 2014 are:

1. To increase the awareness and sense of gratitude/appreciation for St. Peters and The Episcopal Church; its teachings, its missions and its works;
2. To initiate and foster a youth-based outreach effort in order to achieve more frequent and positive, interactive activities between St. Peters and the immediate communities within Port Royal, VA that increasingly result in shared and mutually beneficial, long term outcomes/actions; and
3. To promote and eventually increase the membership of St. Peters Episcopal Church and thereby increase the pool of potential participants who are fully engaged in the mission of the church and its charitable activities.

Performance

In the last quarter of FY 2013, the following activities or initiatives were implemented in furtherance of the aforementioned objectives:

Objective 1 – as a means to increase awareness and a sense of gratitude and appreciation...

An intra-congregational activity was launched which provided membership with an anonymous way to acknowledge the spiritual, informational or tangible way that the St. Peters has been beneficial to their lives, family, etc. Members were asked to provide brief testimony in writing and to place those “spiritual” notes in the model church to the right of the altar, and that a sample of 1 or 2 notes would be anonymously “shared” (read aloud) during services once a month. This remains a work in progress.

Objective 2 – as a means to initiate and foster a youth-based outreach effort in order to foster more frequent, positive and interactive activities ...

A caroling activity was launched around the Christmas season which recruited children ages 5 to 16 years of age to participate in Christmas caroling throughout the areas of Port Royal, VA, with proximity to St. Peters and its neighboring multi denominational churches. Practice sessions were coordinated with the generosity of the Port Royal Fire Department at their facility with snacks donated by congregational members of St. Peters. While this remains a work in progress, the immediate success and its potential expansion will rely on a sustained effort that will hinge on continued access to the Fire Station and continuous recruitment. The Stewardship Chairperson believes, based on interactions with the children and a distant, but interested parent, that there is tremendous potential for this program, inclusive of additional parental involvement, especially as the weather breaks in early spring 2014.

Objective 3 – as a means to promote and eventually increase the membership of St. Peters Episcopal Church.

The Stewardship Chairperson has used several activities inclusive of the holiday church services to introduce members of the community to St. Peters. These activities were designed to reach out to new members of the greater Port Royal community in a more secular setting to welcome them to Port Royal and introduce them to the love, generosity and diversity within St. Peters. While we did experience the sporadic attendance of a few non-members during the holiday months, this continues to be a work in progress.

Conclusion

It has been reported that we have experienced an increase in donations pledged over CY 2013, however, as a new Stewardship Chairperson with a bit of a learning curve to overcome, I pledge my commitment continuing a robust effort throughout CY 2014.

Evening ECW, Annual Report, 2014

Barbara Wisdom, President

1. Our first meeting for 2012 was held on January 14, 2013. The ECW was given a gift of \$250 from the Diocese to be used at our discretion. We reviewed our 2012 community events and decided to continue the Community Dinners. In January, we collected cat food and filled a basket for a lady living in Port Royal.
2. During Easter our Community Dinner included an Easter egg hunt for the area children. We partnered with Caroline's Promise and Caroline County Parks and Recreation. The event was very successful with over 100 children in attendance. The ECW joined with the local churches to offer a sunrise service (St. Peter's took the lead in 2013).
3. In May, the ECW visited the Bowling Green Nursing Home for an Ice Cream Social and hymn singing. Tom Guthrie led us in songs. Also in May, Elizabeth Heimbach suggested we collect new books, as a reward to grades 3-5 children, for the taking the SOLs. Elizabeth delivered the books to the school. This became a project involving the entire church. A get-well basket was provided to Oliver and Gladys Fortune.
4. We met on August 5, 2013 to plan the next Community Dinner. As a sponsor for Vacation Bible School, we held a cookout at the Parish House on August 16, 2013. Community attendance was low. In the future we'll hold the cookout at the Firehouse (a neutral location).
5. We met October 7, 2013 to plan our Christmas Holiday Community Dinner. The Town Council chose December 13 as the date for the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Our menu consisted of soup, breads, vegetable tray, punch, cake and hot chocolate. Santa was played by John Symonds (highly recommend him in the future!!). Gifts for the children and photos with Santa were provided by Caroline's Promise. Games were supplied by Caroline's Parks and Rec. The Town provided two cakes and hot chocolate. Ben Hicks took photos for the church's website. The Caroline County Board of Supervisors was invited to the Community Dinner. Board of Supervisor member, Calvin Taylor, and County Administrator, Charlie Culley, attended the event.

Comments: Our membership has fallen by half since we began the Evening ECW meetings. Fortunately, our attending members work really hard on each event to make them successful.

ECW, Annual Report, 2014

Marion Mahoney, President

Other Officers: Eunice Key, Vice President; Betty Kunstmann, Secretary and UTO Chairperson; Crystal Pannell, Treasurer and CPC Chairperson.

2013 was a busy and productive year for the ECW. We are grateful to Crystal for her continued excellent stewardship of the altar guild and to Carolyn Davis for the lovely flower arrangements which grace the altar week after week. In 2013, we provided new fair linens for the altar, as well as beautiful red altar hangings made by Eunice Key. Thank you, Eunice! Thanks also to Betty Kunstmann, our UTO chair, who reported a total of \$682.00 collected last year.

The ECW participated in several fund-raising activities last year, including “clean sweep” in Bowling Green on June 1st, food service at the 4th of July celebration in Port Royal and the October Harvest Festival, also in Bowling Green. Two new fund-raisers were introduced in 2013: a mug depicting scenes of St. Peter’s and a brass Christmas ornament featuring a cut out of the church.

Eunice Key and her dedicated team (Cookie Davis, Betty Kunstmann, Cindy Fields, Catherine Hicks and occasionally others) continue their very popular Village Dinner, which in addition to being an opportunity for social outreach, also provides a large part of our income. They have our heartfelt thanks.

All of these activities contributed to our various charities.

In June, some of the women enjoyed a visit to Ginter Gardens and in December, we celebrated with a Christmas luncheon at La Petite Auberge in Fredericksburg. The women continue to host the monthly coffee hours.

The evening ECW had a very productive year; their activities greatly expanded our ability to interact with and to help the Port Royal Community.

I want to express our gratitude to the ECM, whose members always stand ready to assist us with all of our projects. We couldn’t do it without them! A special thank you also to our wonderful pastor, Catherine Hicks, for her unfailing support and leadership and to Ben Hicks who was invaluable in preparing the layout of our St. Peter’s mugs.

In 2014, we will pray for God’s guidance and blessings as we explore new ways to serve him by serving our church and community.

ECM, Annual Report, 2014

Bill Wick

The ECM had a very good 2013, providing for the needy, raising money for the Vestry to use addressing Church needs, tending to the church property and facilities, and sharing the Lord's word with each other in our monthly meetings.

The Group met each month on the second Saturday at Horne's and averaged a little over ten guys each month. At every meeting, the Group had a Devotional given by a volunteer and then the volunteer lead the group discussion based on the reading. After breakfast, the discussion usually centers on issues and plans for various activities the Group sponsors. The monthly meetings are meaningful, enjoyable, and, through the activities, accomplish a lot of goodwill both at St. Peter's and the community.

For example, in 2013, we accomplished the following:

- Had two church yard clean-ups, one before Easter and the other after the leaves had fallen in the fall;
- The Women's Night Out fund raising function netted \$520 that went to cover needs of the Church in addition to everyone having a great time;
- The ECM raised \$1,395 which supported the sponsorship of two very special events. The first was to provide Christmas dinners and gifts for two families selected by the Department of Social Services (DSS) and living in the Port Royal area who otherwise would not be able to enjoy the Holiday. Additionally, one group member took a Thanksgiving dinner to another needy family selected by the DSS so they could enjoy that Holiday as well. The second special event was the sponsorship of a wonderful crab dinner with all the right accompaniments in which all members and friends of the church were invited. The crab dinner was held in the barn belonging to Cookie and Johnny Davis and everyone there ate too much and had a great time;
- The Group revised the Transportation Availability list and updated it so anyone without transportation to a doctor's office or hospital can obtain this service by calling anyone of the volunteers on the list; and
- The Group is continually looking for opportunities to help school systems to improve student's learning by volunteering to participate to help individual students having difficulties with learning, adjustments in the process, or just being there to support students having problems.

All in all, 2013 was a good and productive year for the ECM. The Episcopal Men's Group is looking forward to making it even better in 2014!