



ST MARY'S
IN-THE-HILLS
Episcopal Church

2013 Annual Report

Annual Report

The Rev. Laurel Dahill



“All things come of thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given thee.”

That quote that we say each Sunday as we offer up the gifts of our selves, our souls and our bodies, comes from 1 Chronicles 29:14. It says that God is the original gift-giver. We have nothing to offer to God that God doesn't already have or need. All the things we have: money, health, resources, talents, etc., were already God's to begin with. All we're doing is giving God back what was always God's.

So if we're simply giving back to God what God has already given us, does that make our offering a re-gift? I don't think so. In what would otherwise be a socially awkward moment, we find a sign of God's relationship with us.

Think of this give-and-re-give like playing cards with God. God has the whole deck, and has dealt each one of us a hand. In the course of the game we give a card back, and God gives a new one. Back and forth we go, giving God back what God has given us. We're not re-gifting. We're in a divine conversation; a give-and-take that links the two of us together.

What St. Mary's In-The-Hills has done in 2013 has continued this divine conversation. God has given us many gifts, and we in turn have given those gifts back to God in the form of our ministries. To name just a few: Pub Theology brings theology to life with a growing number of participants in a downtown location. The Stewardship Committee invited us to consider our relationship with money. The new Emergency Food Pantry links us to those in need in our community as well as other communities of Christ's disciples that help us. Our liturgies have expanded to include outdoor worship. And there are so many more. We have certainly played a good game of cards with God in 2013.

The deck has been shuffled for 2014, and God is ready to deal us in again. How shall we play the cards we're given this year? What holy conversations in the divine interchange will emerge over each hand? The best part about playing cards with God is that we always get a winning hand. It's up to us to play our cards right. I look forward to working together with you in 2014 to offer up to God all that we have been given.

St Mary's-in-the-Hills

2013 Treasurer's Report

My first Thank You goes to Janis and Marguerite for all the work they have done during 2013.

My second Thank You goes to our faithful counters: Brian Kelly, Chris Beach, Viki Toll, Peggy Wenk, Paul Henderson and Carl Myhalyfi.

Last, but certainly not least, A big Thank You to the Vestry and to the congregation for the response to the appeal that was made for those who had not pledged to pledge and for those who had pledged to consider an increase to their pledge. Their efforts and your responses narrowed the deficit by more than \$9,000.

The 2014 budget has been approved by the Vestry and will be presented to the congregation at the annual Meeting on January 19, 2014.

I have submitted the 12/31/2013 Balance Sheet and the 2014 Budget.

On 12/31/13 the checking account had a balance of \$140,937.32. Total Assets including our investment accounts are \$258,621.73. Our net unrestricted assets (the general fund) are \$225,333.48.

Investment income received in 2013 totaled \$14,579.77. Investment increases/decreases were previously recognized on an annual basis during January of the following year. \$6,173.19 of that total represents the investment increase for 2012 taken in January of 2013. Increases/decreases are currently being recognized on a quarterly basis on the closing of the quarter. \$6,571.10 of the total represents the investment increases for 2013. (An additional \$884.64 should have been recognized as an increase to the Growth and Income Fund but was not taken during 2013.) The remaining \$1,835.48 is bank interest and dividends earned from our Growth and Income Fund.

Total pledge money received was very slightly behind what was pledged. Total expenses were under budget by \$4,500 with total income, including investment gains \$13,400 above budget.

We received \$47,300.36 of funds pledged for the Fellowship Hall, bringing the two year total received to \$106,767.55.

St Mary's-in-the-Hills

2013 Treasurer's Report

The current balance on our new fellowship hall loan is \$231,904.49. In addition to our monthly loan payment of \$1,936.38, four principal payments of \$2,000 were made during the year.

The fellowship hall checking account has a balance of \$ 5,468.88 with an additional \$11,000 to be transferred from the general fund. There is also a balance of \$35,451.33 in a money market account for the fellowship hall.

Despite continued economic weakness, St Mary's has maintained a sound financial condition in 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Patton, Treasurer

Warden's Report

John McKenna



Serving on the Vestry during the past year were: Lisa McGeen, Jim LaSovage, Dough Shelton, Joe Shively, Nancy Gutelius, Mike Beam, Ann Kovel, Deb Lunney, Brad Spear, Stacy Tines, Bree Schultz, and John McKenna

John McKenna and Bree Schultz served as Wardens, with Bobbi Patton transitioning in as Treasurer, taking over from Marty Tretheway. Marty has served the parish in this position for a number of years, our many and warmest thanks to Marty for all of his years of outstanding service. Sheri Hart served as clerks of the Vestry, responsible for taking the minutes of Vestry meetings.

We thank all for their dedicated service over the last year.

This was a transitioning year in the life of St. Mary's, marked by the first full year with Pastor Laurel as our fulltime Rector. Pastor Laurel has made a big impression on all of us and her energy and spirit is contagious as she moves St. Mary's forward. We all look forward to her continued work at St. Mary's.

There have been a number of baptism and wedding ceremonies performed in 2013 and this has added wonderfully to our moderate growth in parishioners

Pastor Laurel and the Vestry worked to continue initiatives that had begun in the previous year, particularly in the areas of evangelism, communication, and outreach. We note the parish's ongoing support for the work of Love INC., which maintains a clothes closet in former classroom space of the undercroft as well as the 5th Monday community meal which St. Mary's prepares at Lake Orion United Methodist Church. St. Mary's continue sits ongoing support of Crossroads Soup kitchen in downtown Detroit with our annual pilgrimage to help out the less fortunate. There was also the establishment of an emergency food pantry established in the old kitchen in the undercroft. The Youth Group and the Boy Scout Troop, two of our youth outreach ministries, continue to thrive with outstanding adult guidance.

The choir, under the direction of Keenan, continues to fill our Sanctuary with wonderful and joyous sounds. The bell choir also continued to grow and thrive under the guidance of Keenan, the bell choir continues to amaze all who have the pleasure of hearing them perform.

The Fellowship Hall has also gotten increased use through an increase in events and activities planned and organized by the Fellowship Committee as well as the parish Youth Group. We continued to make our facilities available to the community, including serving as a polling place for local elections.

One of the highlights of the year was the installation of a new boiler. The new boiler means that we are secure in knowing we will have a warm place to worship each Sunday as well as the parish will realize a cost savings through energy efficiencies each month.

As we enter 2014, St. Mary's in-the-Hills Episcopal Church is well positioned for the next stage of our life together. Pledges received during the fall of 2013 were not as high as those received the previous year but were very close. The parish really pulled together to make up most of the shortfall. Average weekly attendance is up slightly over the course of the year, and attendance on Christmas Eve topped 350.

Sunday School 2013

Cathy Flanders



Curriculum

We continue to use the Weaving God's Promises curriculum. This curriculum offers many options for teachers and continues to focus on how we look at our relationship as holy People of God – to one another and the world.

Class Room Setting

We gather together as a group (pre K – 5th grade). We share a snack and discuss the happenings of the past week. At this time we usually get a visit by Rev. Laurel. We complete an activity related to the lesson for the day. We then move to the quilt we made which was blessed by Rev. Laurel on January 6th, 2013. After sharing thoughts of thanks and prayers, we separate into two groups; lower and upper elementary.

Teachers

We are blessed to have not only qualified, but a devoted group to teach our youngest members. They are ; Jen Cawley, Holly MacMahon, Lisa McGeen, Stacy Tines, Dan Tines and Sheila Thomason. They bring energy and enthusiasm. The teachers provide consistency and a thread which creates connectivity. The children respond and sometimes the planned lesson is left behind!

Outreach

Every Second Sunday of the month the Sunday School children present the elements. Also on this Sunday, the children are welcome to stay behind the altar to worship and receive communion alongside Rev. Laurel.

During lent the children collected items to be donated to the Oakland County Animal Shelter. This included food, cat and dog toys, kitty litter, and blankets the children made. We went as a group to deliver the items and were able to tour the facility. This project was enjoyed by the children, parents and those that joined us for the tour. Many thanks to the congregation for providing donations for this outreach project. It was very much appreciated by the animal shelter.

Extra's

Stacy Tines took the lead of a St. Nicolas celebration on Dec 8th with the assistance of Chris Beach.

The Sunday School presented a Christmas Pageant on December 29th, 2013.

Youth Group

Ann Spear



Serving as Youth Group leaders were Bree Schultz, Nancy Gutelius, Emily Munro, Ann Spear, and Brad Spear.

For the 2013 year, the Youth Group continued use of the Re:form curriculum purchased in the fall of 2012. The curriculum consisted of leader books for guiding discussions and activities, student workbooks containing the various activities, and a DVD of entertaining short informative segments. Each week we focus on a new question or topic about the Bible (Old Testament), the activities and DVD segment fall into this same topic or theme.

Youth Group attendance maintained a healthy average throughout the year, with a regular attendance of about 12 from our core group of kids. While we have seen that our older Youth Group member population has shrunk somewhat in size as the older teens are busy with their high school activities, we have also seen a surge in our 6-8th grade membership which has brought a fresh spirit to our group.

Throughout the year we did both onsite and offsite events; we made blanket forts and watched a movie in the Fellowship Hall in the spring, and we had an evening activity with Reverend Laurel for Maundy Thursday. As Good Friday is no longer a school holiday, it will be difficult to host a Maundy Thursday overnight in the future, so an evening activity in preparation for the holiday will be observed instead. Several teens participated in CROP walk this year as well.

In the fall, we have had a trip to the apple orchard in October hosted by Emily Munro and Ann Spear. The youth had fun apple picking, going on a hayride, scouting through a corn maze, and enjoying fresh cider and donuts. In December the Youth Group had its annual New Year's Eve overnight, hosted by Nancy and Ken Gutelius. The youth played games, watched movies, and rang the church bell at midnight to welcome in 2014.

We've seen our teens band together to bolster one another under tough circumstances, and that compassion continues to be a source of inspiration. The group is looking forward to coming together to develop a community service project in 2014 that will help them broaden their awareness of their impact in our congregation and the larger communities in which they live. We also look forward to encouraging the youth to have a greater level of participation with the church on a diocesan level through events being hosted through the spring and summer.

Outreach

Ann Kovi



Commission: Outreach

Committee: Love,INC; Comm. Free Meals; Relay for Life; Pub Theology;

Purpose/mission/vision: Fundraising/Community Events

Leaders: Include Bobbi Patton, Showey Howey, Pete Trumbore, Marge Sullivan

Meeting or activity frequency: As needed

Meeting venue(s): Hamm Room/Bell Tower Room/Fellowship Hall/CJ's Sandbar (Pub)

Accomplishments for 2013:

5th Monday Meals – April, July, September, December – fed about 300 people

Crop Walk – May 5

Relay for Life – June 1 & 2

Crossroads – June 9

VBS - August

Dragon on the Lake – registration support – Aug 24 & 25

Pub Evangelism – began in August, meets every Tuesday evening

Love, INC Emergency Food Pantry in undercroft – September dedication

Blessing of the Animals – October 5

Angelfish Holiday Gift Event – December

Brief Tree Holiday Collection - December

Outreach

Bobbi Patton

AngelFISH: Once again St Mary's parishioners provided Christmas gifts for local children. We had fewer names this year than any year I recall. FISH was thrilled that they had so many generous donors. Parishioners also provided many bonus gifts for the children. Bonus gifts provide the children with something that was not on their wish list. Thank you Paul for transporting all the gifts to St Joe's.

FISH: The third Sunday of the month is still the day we collect non-perishable grocery items for FISH's pantry on Thomas Road. These goods are then shelved grocery-store-style so clients of FISH can shop for things they need to provide meals for their families. Please keep this ministry in mind when you shop. The "10 for \$10" sales are a great way to make donations. This is one of very few food pantries in our community. This is not to be confused with the Emergency Pantry that we have in the undercroft. Clients use that *only* when they do not yet have access to FISH.

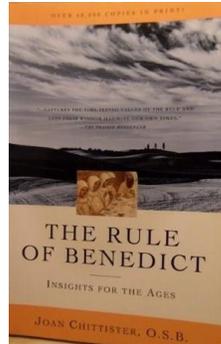
Love INC: Tuesday and Thursday are still the days that the Clothes Closet operates in the undercroft of St Mary's. Donations can be dropped off in the morning. The morning crew sorts and sizes clothing and restocks the shelves and hanging racks. The afternoons on those days are when clients can make their selections. We currently have enough volunteers to have two person teams for each day of operation but are always in need of a couple of people to fill in when the regulars are unable to make it. Please contact me (248 628-4428) if this is of interest to you. Bed, Blessings and Beyond, a household goods ministry, and Little Luxuries, a personal products ministry, are at Christ the King Church on Drahner Road. BBB will take donations of all household items up to and including microwave ovens. No TVs please. Crock Pots are always in high demand. Little Luxuries is always looking for donations of personal care products, jewelry, and toilet paper. Both ministries take donations on Tuesday and Thursday morning. Free community meals are served from Lake Orion United Methodist on Mondays. Tuesday they are served at Immanuel UCC on Hovey in Oxford, Wednesday at Oxford UMC on Burdick in Oxford and Thursday is at Christ the King Church on Drahner in Oxford. Our Gas Can Ministry collects change (or folding money) to provide gas cards for our clients. St Mary's Gas Can is located in the Gathering Space. Our Laundry Ministry pays for our clients to wash their clothes at the Wonder Cleaners & Laundromat on M-24 just south of Drahner. We can always use detergent and fabric dryer sheets for this ministry since we provide those for the clients. Just bring them to church, leave them by the gas can and I will see that they are taken to the Laundromat. Love INC is has moved its clearinghouse to a new location on Clarkston Road. If you are interested in volunteering at the office as a receptionist, intake worker or "Love Note " writer, Please call the office at 248 693-4357 (HELP).

Crossroads: June 2^h of 2013 was this years date for serving lunch at Crossroads. Many hands, including some first timers and several young people, made light work of 1400 sandwiches and 120 gallons of soup to feed almost 700 people. Our menu consisted on Split Pea Soup, Salami and cheese sandwiches, bananas, cookies and candy and a beverage. This is a great opportunity to really serve as Jesus has asked us to do and an excellent opportunity for teens to get community service credits.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Sue Sanna



Tuesday morning Bible Study meets faithfully every Tuesday morning from 10-noon. Coffee and tea are provided and often a baked good also appears! We do take the summers off from early June to Labor Day. This year we were thrilled to have our new parish priest, Rev. Laurel Dahill, with us and to guide us. She is a great teacher and we benefit from all she shares with us.

Those who have joined us at various times this year are:

Holly Stephens	Melissa Breckenridge	Kathy Spearin-Hurst
Judy White	Fran Masek	Trudy Zelezic
Rose Marie Frazer	Dolores Kelley	Holly MacMahn
Bobbi Patton	Madelyn Peruski	Susan Suter
Doreen Spearin	Maxine Henderson	Sue Sanna
Vicki Joy	Mary Beth Weichert	

Our studies included the following:

Jan. - Discussion of Sunday Lectionary Readings

Feb. 6th 7 12th - ***Prayers for a Privileged People*** by Walter Brueggemann

Feb. & Mar. - Lenten Study: ***The Rule of Benedict: Insights for the Ages*** by Sister Joan Chittister, OSB

April - Study of our Eucharistic Prayers

May - Discussion of Sunday Lectionary Readings

Summer Break

Sept/Oct - Studied ***I & II Peter and Jude*** written by Donald P. Senior, C.P. and Daniel H. Harrington, S.J. - all taken from the ***Sacra Pagina*** Series.

Nov. - Studied Adam Hamilton's DVD and study guide called: ***Why? Making Sense of God's Will***

Dec. 3 & 10 - An Advent Study prepared by Rev. Laurel Dahill

Easy Readers Book Club

Sue Sanna



This marks the 10th year of our book club! We try to meet the 3rd Tuesday afternoon of each month from 12:30pm to 3pm-ish. What started at church very casually as a "brown bag" lunch/meeting, then moved for a bit to a Lake Orion Book Store - and has now become a very nice, monthly luncheon at different member's homes. With much guidance from our leader, Susan Suter, we have pushed ourselves to read a diversity of topics, though most of all we enjoy just being together to share ideas and thoughts. Newcomers are always welcome! The books we have read this past year are:

- January - *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks
- February - *Same Kind of Different Then Me* by Ron Hall
- March - *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles
- April - *Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman
- May - *The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity* by Cynthia Bourgeault

Summer Break

- September - *Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett
- October - *Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom
- November - *Annie's Ghosts* by Steve Luxenberg

Music

Keenen Thomason



The St. Mary's music program has continued to grow and thrive in 2013. This is shown by the growth of the vocal choir which is currently 17 members. **Choir members:** Melissa Breckenridge, Janice Dalglish, Mike Dalglish, Rose Marie Frazer, Sarah Kielinen, Holly MacMahon, Emily Munro, Sara Munro, Bree Schultz, Viki Toll, Peter Trumbore, Sarah Trumbore, Peggy Wenk, Anne Spear, Brad Spear, Kathy Spearin Hurst and MaryBeth Wiechert. The choir is directed by Keenan Thomason. The St. Mary's Choir performs at every 10:00am Sunday service throughout the year as well as all of the Holy Week and Christmas Eve services.

Once again this year the choir is thankful for the generosity of Victoria Shively who has offered her talent to accompany the choir several times throughout the year on the piano. Also, the choir now has brand new music folders that were donated by Brad and Ann Spear.

Another exciting development for the choir in 2013 is that we have more members than we have choir robes. This has led us to begin to look at purchasing new choir robes for the first time in over two decades. We hope to have new robes sometime in early 2014!

The choir rehearses every Wednesday evening from 7:00pm-9:00pm. The choir continues to be a valuable asset in support of the church worship services and outreach.

In addition to the vocal choir St. Mary's bell choir continues to flourish thanks to efforts of director Carol Maine and assistant director Bernie Hetrick. The bell is currently in its second season. I would like to thank Carol and Bernie for their many generous donations of resources and time so that the bell choir can continue to thrive. The bell choir performs at services throughout the year. The bell choir rehearses every Sunday from 12-1pm in the choir loft. **Bell Choir Members:** Judy Bishop, Janice Dalglish, Bruce Fedewa, Sue Fedewa, Fikara Fultz, Sheri Hart, Showy Howey, Nancy Guteius, Bernie Hetrick, Bobbi Patton, Peggy Wenk.

In addition to the vocal choir and bell choir, we welcomed a brass quintet once again that performed at Easter and Christmas Eve services.

Many thanks to all who all work to make the music program a delight and great success at St. Mary's.

Stewardship

Jim LaSovage



The Stewardship Commission sought to present stewardship as a lifestyle throughout 2013. Elements of that lifestyle are stewardship of body, mind, spirit, time and gifts as well as finances. Facets of the campaign included: sermon coverage; articles in Glad Tidings and News from St. Mary's; a series of cottage dinners featuring discussion on family patterns of using money; personal witnesses on Sunday morning (Thanks, Bree Schultz and Chris Beach.); and announcements to keep the congregation up-to-date.

Stewardship is one of those areas in which the numbers do the talking, and that talking takes place at the end of the campaign. Leading up to the numbers, however, are the actions of faithful parishioners. Over the years, St. Mary's has been blessed with folks whose generosity speaks to the big picture of parish vitality. Again, response to the campaign reinforces that ideal.

THE NUMBERS

Category	2013	2014
Total pledges received	63	70
Total amount pledged	\$173,734	\$172,724
No. of pledges showing growth	30	30
Amount increased	\$11,510	\$11,661
No. of pledges showing decrease	6	10
Amount decreased	\$6,334	\$10,075
Number of new pledges	7	4
Amount of new pledges	\$13,340	\$4,280
Pledges unchanged	20	26
Average pledge amount	\$2,757.88	\$2,467.49

The committee The Rev. Laurel Dahill, Jim LaSovage, Bree Schultz, and Dan Tines

CROP Walk

Maxine Henderson

Although we did not earn the “Golden Shoe” award in 2013, St. Mary’s raised \$3,676 for the worthwhile fundraiser. With a goal of \$3,000, the \$676 increase put us 3.5 percent over the 2012 total.

Thirty-two energetic adults, teens and children (even a few of our furry friends) participated in the walk on May 5.

Twenty-five percent of all the money raised stayed within the local community for Fish and Love INC.

The committee (Maxine Henderson, Deb Lunney, and Erika West) thank you for all of your support.



Evangelism

Nancy Gutelius



Charge: To promote an active and community-conscious congregation supporting the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Goals: Help St. Mary's provide a living example of Jesus Christ to our community through creating and maintaining active ministries and supporting community based ministries.

This year the evangelism commission worked spread the message that evangelism was not about gaining more parishioners or more money but to bring others to know and love Christ. Many of the Ministry Areas of St. Mary's, such as Outreach, Fellowship, and Inreach, overlap, and help get St. Mary's name out in the community with the services they provide. Here are some areas that St. Mary's was able to be visible within the Lake Orion/Orion Township/Oxford area:

- Open Mike Night invites members & non-members for Fellowship.
 - Placed Facebook Ads for Easter Services at St. Mary's.
 - Pub Theology Discussions at local restaurants for members & non members.
 - Provided Walkers/Sponsors & Walkers for Crop Walk (Famine Charity) in Orion.
 - Sponsored Relay for Life (Cancer Charity) Oxford/ Lake Orion .
 - Manned the registration table at the Dragon-On –The-Lake Boat Races.
 - Sponsored Crossroads Soup Kitchen.
 - Held Vacation Bible School for church members & non-members to attend.
 - Blessing of the Animals for members & non-members to attend.
- Invited friends to Advent to Candlelight.

What's going well? Pub Theology appears to be going well, as does our Facebook Postings.

What needs improvement? Building Bread Committee needs to be re-formed. Greeters need to be educated, as do Ushers, in directing new people through our service & to coffee hour. Invite-a-Friend-Sunday Plans need to be made to prepare the congregation.

Any upcoming plans for 2014: Changing the focus of our committee from Evangelism to "Visibility", to change the congregation association with the term and activities.

Need committee heads (and committees) for:

Building Bread (New Visitor)

Local Newspaper Updates

Invite a Friend Sunday

Find out what members of our congregation do out in the great, big world & how they are already helping people in so many ways (so we can thank them!)

Training of Greeters and Ushers.

Pastoral Care

Deb Lunney



Members: Maxine Henderson, Madelyn Peruski, Carolyn Birch, Deb Lunney, and Bobbi Patton

The committee would like to thank the many members of the parish who send cards and words of encouragement to varied recipients. The people who receive the cards are often surprised and very pleased that someone is thinking of them when they need it the most.

Mission: The Pastoral Care Committee meets on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30 AM to discuss and act on the pastoral needs of our church family.

The pastoral care commission involves three types of ministries:

We provide pastoral care needs such as providing funeral service luncheons and/or coffee and dessert following the service. In 2013, the committee organized and provided refreshments for the Bishop's visit as well as the food for a funeral service.

We also actively send Get Well, Sympathy and Thinking of You cards to fellow parishioners.

We provide meals to members and families during difficult times. Again, we would like to thank Bobbi Patton, Maxine and Paul Henderson, Sue Sanna, and to all those that have volunteered their time to make meals for those in need.

Fellowship

Lisa McGeen



Members: Ann Spear, Lisa McGeen, Stacy Tines, Trudy Zelenik, Viki Toll, Erika West

We appreciate everyone coming out and sharing time together as a church family. We had many fun events over the last year and tried some new events and brought back some well loved events.

January—Open Mic Night—always a fun event where we get to share our talents with the rest of the parish

February—Dinner and A Movie—this was also a returning event. It gives the adults a night evening out without the kids.

March-Maundy Thursday Seder - This was a new event this year and we really enjoyed putting it on and learning as a group. What a great way to start this season.

April—Flower Arranging Class— This class was a blast! We all see beautiful flower arrangements and one of our own members took time out to teach us how to make our own arrangement.

June-Prayer Labyrinth-This was a nice way to wrap up before the summer break. It was our opportunity to learn a new way to pray.

September-Birthday Celebration-A great way to start back celebrating the birthdays within the parish.

October-Harvest Party-Many things got in the way of this event but we were able to have a small get-together with dinner and pumpkin painting

December—Advent by Candlelight and Holiday Movie Night-Both events were a great way to start advent and share fellowship together.

We hope that we can continue to bring great events to the church family. We are always looking for new members and new ideas. We want to hold events that you want to attend so please come share your ideas or let us know.

Property

Sue Sanna

The Property Committee is a sub-committee under the Vestry. However, it is made up of Vestry members as well as other interested members of our congregation. Anyone can join at any time.

This past year our official liaison with the Vestry has been Deb Lunney. Deb has been very involved with this group. She rarely misses a meeting and immediately communicates any requests from Vestry to us. Deb could not have done more to help this committee, and we so appreciate her organization, logic and hardwork!

Those involved with the Property Committee for 2013 were:

Paul Henderson (aka our chief "Mr. Fix It")	Deb Lunney	Mike Beem
Nancy Gutelius	Viki Toll	Sara Munro
John McKenna	Sue Sanna	

We started out the year with a long list of things needing to be accomplished. Along the way we picked up more - there is never a dull moment on the Property Committee! Some of the items we dealt with were:

- +Obtaining quotes and selecting a new boiler system
- +Purchasing and installing a new intercom for the church office
- +Obtaining a rebate for the boilers from Consumers Power
- +Door stopper for fire door
- +Host Spring and Fall Clean-ups and provide lunch
- +Paint outside railings (tbc)
- +New shade in Rev. Laurel's office
- +Fix sensor lights at front corner (near nursery windows) of church
- +Add shoe moldings in Hamm Room
- +Hang Vestry Photo Board, as well as 2 lithographs donated by Carolyn Birch which are in our Hamm Room and Bell Tower Room
- +Arrange for huge stump to be ground in backyard
- +Provide a new outside metal hanging sign in front of our church (replaces old one)
- +Replace end caps on many black chairs in Fellowship Hall
- +Fix light switch in Sanctuary
- +Major tree trimming provided by Kristian Toll, Viki's son, around church, esp. near outdoor chapel
- +Back door of Fellowship Hall was not operating correctly, Paul Henderson solved issue!
- +Fix fencing around garbage bins (fell down during storm)
- +Installed new Stations of the Cross (#12) that was broken



I would be very remiss if I did not say that Paul Henderson has had a hand in doing a good portion of the aforementioned projects. We are so fortunate that Paul cares so much and gives his time to make sure things continue to work at the church. If there is a light bulb out or the furnace sounds "odd" - or his favorite - checking the sump pump - he's on it! He checks the "repair list" on our bulletin board and does all that he can. We thank you, Paul, for your stewardship to St. Mary's.

We have an amazing group on our committee. We all enjoy doing what we can, when we can. We have different talents, and they all get called upon at various times during the year. We already have some new projects for 2014 as well as the completion of some old ones. If you like to get your hands a bit dirty, please consider joining our committee in 2014 - all you need to do is come to a meeting and see what we're about!

Acolytes

Peggy Wenk

Twenty-one (21) young people and four (4) adults at St. Mary's faithfully served the minister and the congregation in 2013 by being acolytes or crucifers. They did this at both services on every Sunday, and at all special services, such as Christmas Eve, Holy Week and funerals.

Junior crucifers processed those in the congregation carrying the Eucharist and financial offerings to the altar area, and led the priest to the back of the church at the end of the service.

Senior crucifers processed the priest, eucharistic ministers and choir, as well as distributed the alms basin to the ushers, and handed the wine, water, wafers and financial offerings to the minister.

Senior acolytes turned helped the priest in preparing the communion table, processed the Gospel book, and lit and extinguished the altar candles.

These young people and adults did this service to help the priest and the congregation in their worship. They did this quietly, respectfully, and without calling attention to themselves.

During 2013, six (6) young people left the service of acolyte/crucifer because they either graduated high school and left for college, or their family moved. Two (2) new young people became acolyte/crucifer at the 10 am service, and new four (4) adults became acolytes at the 8:30 am service.

Thank you to the following people who faithfully served at any time in 2013:

8:30 AM SERVERS		10 AM SENIOR CRUCIFERS	
Rachel McKenna	Andrew Tyler	Fikara Fultz	Hannah Gutelius
Paul Henderson	Susan Suter	Danielle Gutelius	Dillon McCallum
Sheri Hart	Deb Lunney	Anthony McGeen	Landon Shively
		Madison Sweat	Levi Trumbore
10:00 AM JUNIOR CRUCIFERS		10 AM SENIOR ACOLYTES	
Kwanzeil Fultz	Andrea McCallum	Corey Flanders	Shannon Flanders
Brendan McGeen	Jessica Rock	Alex Kelly	Ian Kelly
Kaitlyn Rock	Abigail Warner	Sara Trumbore	



Website and Newsletter

Lisa McGeen

Members: Dan Tines, Kim Trumbore, David McGeen, Lisa McGeen, Brad Spear

This year saw a redesign in the website to a format that is more mobile device friendly. It was a complete change and has increase traffic to our website and earned us compliments on how well we keep it up to date. Rev. Laurel's blog was also launched as another way to keep viewers coming to the website and encouraging new members.

The St. Mary's Facebook page has remained one of the strongest ways we use to communicate current and coming events within the parish. We have also been able to use this site to help promote other outreach events such as Pub Theology.

The web committee has also used Facebook to advertise for Easter and Christmas services as well as vacation bible school to encourage new members.

The newsletter has moved to mostly online edition with just a few paper version going out which save us some money.

We have been working through ensuring that all of the information on the website stay up to date and easily used across both mobile and standard devices.

Administration

Brad Spear

The Administration Committee (Maxine Henderson, Bradley Spear, Catherine Beem, Bobbi Patterson and Peter Trumbore) meet to complete employee reviews.

The review process was moved from mid year (ie, school year ending) to end of year to line up with the annual meeting and budget review.

