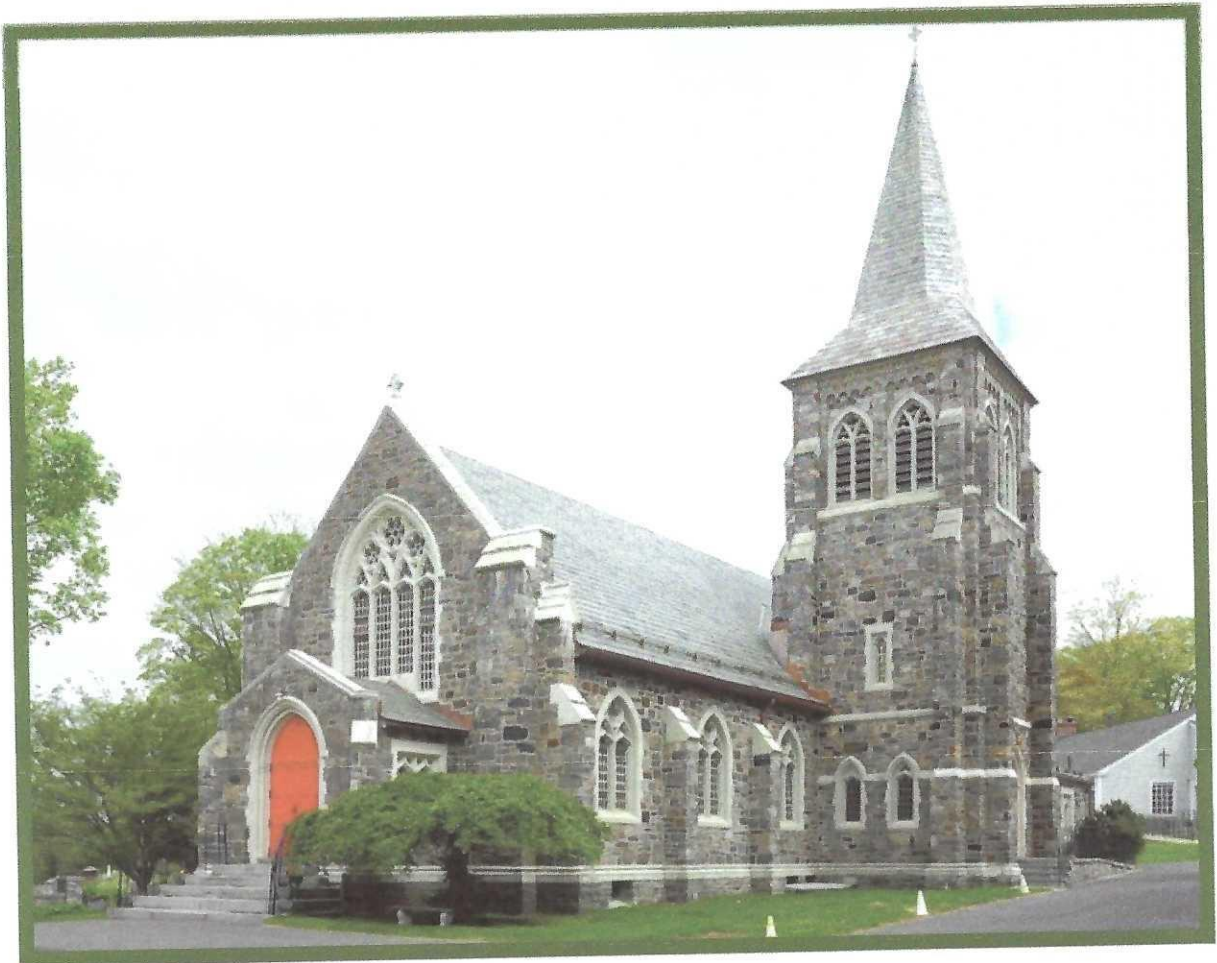


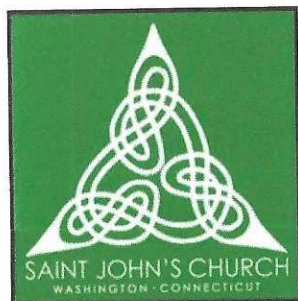
St. John's Episcopal Church



Annual Report 2020 January 24th, 2021

78 Green Hill Rd, Washington, CT 06793

ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT



St. John's understands it's Mission as an obligation to respond creatively and faithfully to the emerging and evolving needs of the parish, the wider Episcopal Church, and the community of Washington.

St. John's Mission is to fulfill its commitment in its word and actions by...

- ☐ responding to the needs of those around us with our hearts and hands and financial resources;
- ☐ striving for justice and peace among all people and respecting the dignity of every human being;
- ☐ providing a spiritual home for all who join us in worship in keeping with the Anglican tradition according to the Book of Common Prayer;
- ☐ serving Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

St. John's understands its Mission as an authentic expression of its unique gifts which together define its spirituality identity as a community of faith, specifically

- ☐ its instinct for open and inclusive hospitality, extending God's welcome in broad and diverse ways;
- ☐ its deep and long-standing commitment to music as an important and integral expression of worship;
- ☐ its diverse intellectual resources

Thank you to all who have made pledges to support St. John's Church for 2021

Mr. & Mrs. William Bardel
Dr. & Mrs. James Bauer
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bent
Miss Tillie Page Laird & Mr. Hunter Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Campbell
Ms. Kathleen Clynes
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Coles
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Daly
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Daniels
Ms. Mary Davis
Ms. Claudia Di Fabrizio
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dulack
Ms. Natalie Dyer
Ms. Emily Fitzhugh
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Futh
Mr. & Mrs. David Gillespie

Fr. Geoffrey Hahneman
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hecken
Ms. Kathryn Coe & Mr. Thomas Hollinger
Ms. Sarah Lee Martin & Mr. Andris Kalnins
Dr. & Mrs. Herbert Keating
Mrs. Kirsten B Knutson
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Littlefield
Mr. & Mrs. John Magee
Ms. Holly Flor & Capt. Rudy Mangels
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Markert
Ms. Susan McFeely
Ms. Nancy A Miller
Mr. Alec Purves
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Sauser

As of 1/14/2021

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WASHINGTON, CONNECTICUT**

ANNUAL MEETING

January 24, 2021

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

REVIEW OF THE GUIDELINES FOR MUTUALITY

APPROVAL OF THE VOTING ROLL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

PRESENTATION OF THE SLATE FOR ELECTION

ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS AND DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

WARDENS' REPORT

**PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 BUDGET AND FINANCIALS OTHER
REPORTS**

QUESTIONS ABOUT REPORTS PRESENTED

STATE OF THE PARISH ADDRESS BY THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

ADJOURNMENT

CLOSING PRAYER

Guidelines for Dialogue

(developed by VISIONS, Inc)

“Try on”

Just like shopping for clothes, try on new ideas. You don't have to buy them and you might learn something.

It's okay to disagree

We can love each other as Christians and not hold the same opinion on everything. We disagree with ideas, not people.

It is not okay to blame, shame, or attack, self or others

Disagree with ideas, not people. Don't say “This is a stupid idea, *but* . . .”

Practice “self-focus”

Pay attention to what is going on with you. *Speak in “I” statements.*

100% responsibility for own learning

What you get out of this experience is up to you.

Practice “both/and” thinking

Try holding seemingly contradictory ideas simultaneously. *See if you can use “and” in place of “but.”*

Notice both process and content

Be attentive to how things are said as well as what is said. Also notice what may be missing.

Be aware of intent and impact

Well intended comments are not always received as such. We need to be mindful of the impact we can have on others. *Say “ouch” when someone says something that hurts, or “wow” when someone says something that surprises you.*

Maintain confidentiality

What is said here stays here. *It is not appropriate to tell someone else's story.*

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 2021

Voting Members

To be a voting member of St. John's, one must be at least 16 years of age or older, active in the parish for a period of time greater than 6 months, receive Communion at least three times in the last year (Spiritual Communion counts), and support the ministry and mission of the congregation. If your name should be on this list, but is missing, please call the Parish Office. Thank you.

Mary Elizabeth Adams
Penny Bardel
Bill Bardel
James Bauer
Joanne Bauer
Joan Beattie
Nick Benson
Edward Bent
Rebecca Lambert Bent
Darcy Beyer
Treacy Beyer
Hunter Brown
Ann M. Burton
Joseph Claro
Chris Campbell
Darcy Campbell
Shelley Caroe
Kathleen Clynes
Kathy Coe
Bob Coles
Sara Coles
Roberta Connolly
Laura Daly
Tim Daly
Betty Daniels
Thomas Daniels
Mary Davis
Claudia Di Fabrizio
Larry Di Fabrizio
Sophia Sutton Drubner
Jeffrey Drubner
Tom Dulack
Veronique Dulack
Charles Dubow
Natalie Dyer
Lili Dyer

Emily Fitzhugh
Holly Flor
Robert H. Futh
Sally Futh
Camille Gillespie
David Gillespie
Geoffrey Hahneman
Diana Hardee
Anne Hayes
Nikko Hayes
Audrey Hecken
Ken Hecken
Tom Hollinger
Douglas Holtquist
Andris Kalnins
Bert Keating
Mary Jo Keating
Thomas Knox
Kirsten Knutson
Henry Kunhardt
Cliff Kye
Tillie Page Laird
Constance Littlefield
Lawrence Littlefield
Jesse MacDonald
John Magee
Susie Magee
Rudy Mangels
Philip Markert
Susie Markert
Sarah Lee Martin
Susan McFeely
Julia Metcalf
Nancy Ann Miller
Charles Morgan
Justin Ormand

Rod Pleasants
Alec Purves
Lee Reese
Richard Reese
Robert Reynolds
Virginia Reynolds
Jill Sauser
Marty Sauser
Chris Smith
Marlene Smith
Jerry Strawbridge
Suzi Strawbridge
Caroline Thompson
Richard Thompson
Ann Belford Ulanov
Hedda von Goeben
Carter Walker, III
MB Witt
Tom Witt
Darby Wright
Harry Wright

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
Washington, Connecticut
January 26, 2020

The meeting marks the 225th year of St. John's Church in Washington, Connecticut.

The meeting was well attended with more than a quorum present.

Father Geoffrey Hahneman opened the meeting with a prayer.

Fr. Hahneman reviewed the Guidelines of Mutuality provided by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

Father Hahneman presented the Voting Roll for approval. The Voting Roll was approved.

The Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting were accepted and approved.

The slate of officers and Vestry members and diocesan delegates was presented by Ms. Bardel, the chair of the Nominating Committee, and it was approved by a vote of those in attendance. The elected slate was as follows:

For Clerk for one year: Joan Beattie

For Treasurer for one year Larry Littlefield

For Assistant Treasurer for one year: Hunter Brown

For the Vestry for three years: Sara Coles, Mary Davis and Andris Kalnins

For Delegates to the Diocesan Convention for one year: Sara Coles and MB Witt

Mr. Gillespie summarized some of the highlights during 2019 at St. John's, including the appointment by Bishop Douglas of Fr. Hahneman as Priest-in-Charge.

Mr. Littlefield presented the proposed budget for 2020, as approved by the Vestry and entertained questions from the floor.

Reports were submitted for the Altar Guild, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Flower Committee, the Greeters Committee, the Hospitality Committee, the Lectors & Eucharistic Minister Committee, the Music Program, the Outreach Committee, the Stewardship Committee and the 2019 Bazaar Committee. The committee members entertained questions from the floor.

Following the dismissal by Fr. Hahneman, the meeting was adjourned.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS, DIOCESAN DELEGATES AND NEW MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY FOR 2021

The Nominating Committee presents its slate with the following observations:

We propose a return to the former practice of staggered terms for wardens, so one warden is elected each year for a two-year term, and thereby one new warden can be elected every year.

We propose to continue the present officers and diocesan delegates as is from 2020 to 2021, noting that this group has worked well together in 2020 and that in the continuing Covid era, the less change the better.

We thank the three Vestry members in the Class of 2020 who have completed their three year terms, Darcy Campbell, Charles Dubow and Rebecca Lambert; and nominate three new members for the Vestry class of 2023, Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack and Joseph Claro. None of the new members has previously served on the Vestry, and biographical paragraphs for each are reproduced after the slate below.

WARDENS

David Gillespie, *for a two year term*

Susan McFeely, *for a one-year term*

OFFICERS

Larry Littlefield, Treasurer

Hunter Brown, Assistant Treasurer

Joan Beattie, Clerk

for one-year terms

DIOCESAN DELEGATES

Sarah Coles

MB Witt,

for one-year terms

NEW MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY, CLASS OF 2023

Laura Daly

Veronique Dulack

Joseph Claro,

for three-year terms

Respectfully submitted

Ted Bent

Penny Bardel

Constance Littlefield

for the Nominating Committee

January 2021

CANDIDATES BIOGRAPHY INFORMATION

Joseph Claro Bio

Joseph and his husband Justin moved to Washington Depot in 2018 after spending many weekends here visiting their friends Laura, Tim, Nick and Agnes Daly. They have been parishioners of St. John's since moving to Connecticut. Joseph grew up in Los Angeles and is a graduate of UCLA and New York Law School. He has been a litigator in New York since 2007 and, after years of law firm practice, formed his own firm in New York City in February 2018. He has served as board members for the LGBT Bar Association of New York ("LeGaL") and is a current deputy of the Hispanic National Bar Association, New York chapter. In this capacity, Joseph has raised considerable sums by organizing fundraising events for both organizations. As a member of St. John's Church, Joseph's ministries have included performing liturgical assistant duties, organizing and assisting with food drives for the Washington Council of Congregations, and hosting Sunday coffee hour with his husband. He is also Safe Church certified. Joseph is an avid fan of theater and classical music and is a member of the Metropolitan Opera's Young Associates program.

Laura Daly Bio

Laura Daly has been a resident of Washington with her husband, Tim, since 1989 either as weekenders or full-time residents. A member of St. John's since 1995, she joined the choir that same year. She oversaw the Christmas Bazaar for many years during the 1990's and continues to volunteer for the event. Over the last 7 years she has been a Liturgical Assistant, Reader and Eucharistic Minister and has been trained to lead Morning Prayer. Since the outbreak of Covid-19, she has been an active participant in food drives/deliveries for Washington and neighboring towns. Since the church has been holding online services, she has been a reader, soloist and, most recently, veejay. She considers the growth of the Church's active membership to be key to its future robust health and will work to discover ways to help achieve this with the help of other parishioners. A graduate of Vassar College, Laura is a consultant to MediaPost, a publishing and conference company serving the advertising/marketing industry. She has also held senior executive positions at various advertising agencies. While a full-time resident of Washington, she was the manager for MOMIX and continues to handle music licensing for the company. Laura is a member of the National Arts Club in NYC where she is Co-Chair of the Roundtable and Dance Committees, responsible for producing events to "stimulate, foster, and promote public interest in the arts."

Veronique Dulack Bio

Veronique has been connected with St Johns ever since she moved to Washington in 1987 when she lived just across the street from the church on Parsonage Lane with her husband Thomas and her daughter Natacha. Belgian born, she obtained a Master's Degree in Art History from the Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium. She has worked in the Unites States as a Research Associate in the Department of European Paintings of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (1988-2000), and Adjunct Professor at the University of Connecticut (2000-2017). She is also a graduate of the Appraisers Studies of the University of New York (1995) and is a Certified Appraiser of Fine and Decorative Arts of the Appraisers Association of America. She is presently the head of St John's Outreach Committee whose activities, in addition to the contributions to the Warren Food Bank serving the local community also include the *Christmas and Angel Tree*, the *Easter Baskets* and the *Back to School Backpacks*, in partnership with *The Covenant to Care for Children*, an organization based in Hartford, Ct. Participating in the flower arrangements of the church is her "Feng Shui". P.S. Despite the restrictions imposed because of the Covid 19 pandemic, and thanks to everyone's contribution, we have been able to fulfill the Outreach calendar with great success.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2020

Lawrence Littlefield, Treasurer

Hunter Brown, Assistant Treasurer

Operating income in 2020 totaled \$288,203 and expenses totaled \$268,244 creating a surplus of \$19,958. The 2020 budget approved in January 2020 projected a deficit of \$19,766. As we all know 2020 was a trying year and there should be no surprise that total income was \$20,000 below our budget. Pledge, plate, and fundraising were all below plan. However rental income helped offset those losses. Saint John's received two grants in 2020. We applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Plan ("PPP") grant of \$19,700 and a \$2,000 grant from ECCT which offset a portion of the costs associated with upgrading our streaming capabilities. As the year progressed, we took a few cost saving steps such as a reduction in staff. Looking ahead to 2021, projected income is \$239,000. At the time of this writing, 2021 pledge income is 20% lower than 2020 actual. We project a conservative plate income based upon 50% of 2019 actual, and our Endowment Fund Disbursement will remain at 4.5%. Rental income and usage fees will help offset this loss as well as continued diligence on expenses. The 2021 expense budget of \$255,900 is 5% lower than 2020 actual. This will result in a 2021 deficit of \$16,795.00. Keep in mind that when we get back to "normal" we may need to revisit all these assumptions and we communicate any modifications.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR 2020

Lawrence Littlefield, Treasurer

At the direction of the Diocese and our Vestry, we took a lighter approach for our 2021 Stewardship Drive. There were significant financial and emotional challenges for many of our parishioners this past year and we expect those challenges will persist in 2021. We mailed pledge cards to 73 families/individuals which is in line with our 2020 drive. At this time, we have received 35 pledges totaling \$157,780, hopefully we will continue receive pledges as the New Year unfolds.

A breakdown of pledges is as follows:

- 36 pledges for a total of \$158,280
- 27 parishioners remained at same level.
- 7 parishioners increased their pledge total by \$6,560.
- 2 parishioners decreased their total by \$1,700.

I would like to thank the Vestry members for their support in reaching out to our parishioners.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Income & Expense
January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
A - Weekly Collections	
1 Pledge Income	189,204.09
2 Non-Pledge Offerings	21,410.09
3 Loose Plate	3,988.64
Total A - Weekly Collections	214,602.82
Grants	
Diocese Grant	2,000.00
PPP Forgiven Loan	19,700.00
Total Grants	21,700.00
Endowment Fund transfers	19,324.99
Fundraiser Prior Year	
1 Fundraiser Income Prior Year	2,106.00
2 Fundraiser Exp Prior Year	(4,616.98)
Total Fundraiser Prior Year	(2,510.98)
Fundraisers	
1 Fundraiser Income	3,098.50
2 Fundraiser Expenses	(656.53)
Total Fundraisers	2,441.97
Interest Received	26.14
Miscellaneous Income	
Liturgical Income - Flowers	247.36
Miscellaneous Income - Other	145.42
Total Miscellaneous Income	392.78
Rental use of Property	32,220.00
Unbudgeted Income	5.57
Total Income	288,203.29
Gross Profit	288,203.29
Expense	
Clergy	
Professional Expenses	1,119.29
Salary	36,781.06
SS allowance	3,718.45
Supply Priests	429.90
Total Clergy	42,048.70
Episcopal Church	
Diocesan Pledge	36,738.00
Total Episcopal Church	36,738.00

4:39 PM
01/19/21
Cash Basis

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Income & Expense

January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20
Music	
Music Director Wages	12,099.57
Music Expenses	3,958.38
Organist Wages	10,250.00
Supply Organist	250.00
Total Music	26,557.95
Office & administrative	
Bank Fees	485.20
Online Processing Fees	1,086.64
Audit	355.86
Communications	
Donor Database	384.00
Internet	2,648.24
Communications - Other	7,329.70
Total Communications	10,361.94
Computer & Copier Expenses	10,859.57
Office Supplies	1,110.15
Office wages	37,073.82
Payroll Expense	1,905.13
Payroll taxes	4,159.20
Total Office & administrative	67,397.51
Program Expenses	
Christian Education	390.25
Evang./Publicity	744.43
Outreach	5,612.21
Parish Life	571.84
Web Page	90.81
Total Program Expenses	7,409.54
Property	
Alarm Fee	2,665.48
Bldgs. & Grounds	
Church Supplies	852.91
Building Rental Use Expense	6,355.98
Bldgs. & Grounds - Other	15,446.80
Total Bldgs. & Grounds	22,655.69
Custodial Wages	8,750.00
Property & Liab. Ins	22,401.00
Utilities	30,285.35
Total Property	86,757.52
Worship	
Altar Supplies	1,335.43
Total Worship	1,335.43
Total Expense	268,244.65
Net Ordinary Income	19,958.64
Net Income	19,958.64

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01/19/21
Cash Basis

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31, 20
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
PayPal	0.00
USB #6401 Church Ops Ckg	80,673.86
USB #5603 Transition	0.00
USB Savings #3167	12,542.70
Total Checking/Savings	93,216.56
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	0.00
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Wells Fargo -4627	1,909.13
Inventory Asset	0.00
Investments - D&B Endowment	
D&B Endow. Loan to Foundation	15,000.00
Investments - D&B Endowment - Other	486,446.68
Total Investments - D&B Endowment	501,446.68
Investments - Schwab #9211 Hull	78,807.46
Total Other Current Assets	582,163.27
Total Current Assets	675,379.83
Fixed Assets	
Building Improvements	0.00
Furniture & equipment	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	0.00
Other Assets	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	675,379.83
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	0.00
Credit Cards	
Mitchell Oil Budget Credit	(3,063.64)
Total Credit Cards	(3,063.64)
Other Current Liabilities	
Hull Scholarship Loan 2019	0.00
Prepaid Pledge Income	7,496.12
PPP Loan	0.00
Restricted Investment Funds	
D&B Endowment Fund	501,446.68
Hull Scholarship Fund	78,807.46

4:35 PM
01/19/21
Cash Basis

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
As of December 31, 2020

	Dec 31, 20
Restricted Investment Funds - Other	0.00
Total Restricted Investment Funds	580,254.14
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
Restricted & Reserve Funds	
Security Deposit Fund	3,200.00
Accounting Fund	0.00
Capital Campaign Fund	0.00
Davis Memorial Fund	1,500.00
Emergency Center Fund	7,600.00
Church Loan - Emergency Ctr	0.00
Music Fund	0.00
Rector's Discretionary Fund	241.62
Transition Fund	0.00
Restricted & Reserve Funds - Other	0.00
Total Restricted & Reserve Funds	12,541.62
Total Other Current Liabilities	600,291.88
Total Current Liabilities	597,228.24
Long Term Liabilities	0.00
Total Liabilities	597,228.24
Equity	
Fund balance	63,950.85
Retained Earnings	(5,757.90)
Net Income	19,958.64
Total Equity	78,151.59
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	675,379.83

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01/16/21

Accrual Basis

St. John's Foundation
Balance Sheet
 As of December 31, 2020

	<u>Dec 31, 20</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10030 · Charles Schwab	110,111.99
Total Checking/Savings	110,111.99
Accounts Receivable	
1150 · PLEDGES RECEIVABLE	19,148.40
Total Accounts Receivable	19,148.40
Total Current Assets	129,260.39
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>129,260.39</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
25000 · LOAN from D&B Account in 2011	15,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	15,000.00
Total Current Liabilities	15,000.00
Total Liabilities	15,000.00
Equity	
3140 · UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	116,139.52
Net Income	-1,879.13
Total Equity	114,260.39
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>129,260.39</u>

2021 Budget - Forecast 12-15-2020

	Monthly Total	Annual total
pledge income		\$ 157,780.00
non-pledge income	\$ 500.00	\$ 6,000.00
loose plate	\$ 1,833.00	\$ 10,998.00
endowment transfers	\$ 1,572.75	\$ 18,873.00
Fundraisers	\$ 833.33	\$ 10,000.00
Interest received	\$ 3.00	\$ 36.00
Misc Income	\$ 50.00	\$ 600.00
Rental use of property	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 32,400.00
Unbudgeted income	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00
Total Income		\$ 239,087.00
Clergy Professional expenses	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,500.00
Salary	\$ 3,076.50	\$ 36,918.00
Clergy medicare supplement	\$ 144.33	\$ 1,732.00
SS allowance	\$ 311.00	\$ 3,732.00
Supply Priest	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,500.00
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 1,814.00	\$ 21,768.00
Music	\$ 2,666.67	\$ 32,000.00
Audit	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00
on line processing fees	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00
Bank Fees	\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00
Donor Database	\$ 32.00	\$ 384.00
Internet	\$ 219.00	\$ 2,628.00
Computer and Copier Expenses	\$ 930.00	\$ 11,160.00
Office Supplies	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00
Office Wages	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 45,000.00
Payroll Expense	\$ 168.00	\$ 2,016.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 439.00	\$ 5,268.00
Office and Admin other		\$ -
Outreach	\$ 833.00	\$ 9,996.00
Parish Life	\$ 60.00	\$ 720.00
Web Page	\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00
alarm fees	\$ 222.00	\$ 2,664.00
Program expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00
Church supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,000.00
Building Rental Use Expense	\$ 416.00	\$ 4,992.00
Bldgs & Grounds Other	\$ 1,333.00	\$ 15,996.00
Property & Liability insurance	\$ 1,414.00	\$ 16,968.00
Utilities	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 25,800.00
Altar supplies	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,500.00
Total Expenses		\$ 255,882.00
Net Income		\$ (16,795.00)

WARDENS' REPORT FOR 2020

David Gillespie and Susan McFeely

Although 2020 was in many respects an *annus horribilis*, many great things happened at St. John's this past year, and, on behalf of the parish, we want to thank everyone who contributed to the life of St. John's over the past year. In particular, we would like to recognize our outgoing vestry members, Charles, Darcy and Rebecca for their service through what has been a period of challenges for St. John's. Their presence on the vestry will be missed. And, of course, we can't be thankful enough for the engine that has kept us moving ahead through the past year: our Priest-in-Charge, Father Hahneman, aka Geoff. His leadership has pulled and pushed us into new frontiers that will remain with us after the pandemic is only a painful memory. Who could have predicted at last year's meeting that this year we would be celebrating the ministry of a group of VJ's (indeed, who had even heard of a VJ?) to run the video streaming of our services? Special thanks go to Geoff, Larry, Laura and Justin for answering this new call. Indeed, special thanks to all of those who have enabled our services to continue, especially to Jon, who has so successfully addressed the many obstacles that have arisen with music, as well as to the readers, greeters and the flower guild members who have facilitated some vestiges of normality. And of course we are grateful to Veronique and the Outreach Committee for continuing with their many efforts over the past year. The Finance Committee, with Larry, Hunter, Mary and Andris, has done remarkable work in obtaining a PPP loan/grant under the Covid relief legislation, transitioning the parish to a new accounting firm, as well as transitioning to new accounting procedures that dovetail with reporting requirements of the ECCT and more generally with updated best practices. Special thanks also go to Penny, Ted and Constance for serving on the nominating Committee. And last but not least, we are extremely thankful to Joan for agreeing, on short notice, to take over the administration of the parish office. We are sure that we have neglected to offer some well-deserved special thanks, so we will conclude by once again offering thanks for all of those who contributed to the life of St. John's over the past year.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT FOR 2020

Buildings:

- (1) Thanks to Rod Pleasants, St. John's received, thru one of his former clients, a substantial amount of furniture which we were able to use to redecorate the Rectory while in turn replacing older items in the Library and Music Room;
- (2) Thanks to Regine Laverge, St. John's was given the opportunity to rent the Rectory as of March 21, 2020 thru June 30, 2021 to a couple from New York, earning \$3,200 per month plus utilities, all as additional income to the Church.
- (3) As part of St. John's charitable outreach and with the guidance of Father Hahneman, St. John's offered the Church cottage as temporary housing during Covid to a Guatemalan couple, Francisco and Marjorie, who had been living in an over-crowded one-room boarding house in New Milford. We were able to fully furnish the cottage with a lot of the leftover furniture from the December 2019 Bazaar;

(4) As part of St. John's continued spiritual and physical outreach to our community, we have extended the use of the Parish Hall to AH Yoga weekly classes and the Town of Washington's quarterly Red Cross Blood Drives.

Grounds & Property:

- (1) Although the Church has been basically shut down due to Covid, we have been fortunate that the property grounds were maintained on a regular basis, I.e., seasonal and storm clean-up, weeding, raking and mulching, thanks to Francisco and Marjorie who donated their time to give back to St. John's;
- (2) As a result of the August hurricane, St. John's lost one of its large trees on Parsonage Lane when it fell on the roof of the Rectory. We were able to get the tree removed after a couple of days with no damage to the roof or the Rectory;
- (3) As Covid continued through 2020, and after the departure of our longtime Sexton, Jorge, St. John's took major steps to have the Church professionally cleaned on a weekly basis, we added substantial stand-alone air filters and a new state of the art camera system to record the Sunday service to all parishioners and non-parishioners who wanted to dial in. In addition, we had a locksmith secure all of the Parish Hall and Church doors with new locks including the repair of the front Parish Hall doors;
- (4) The Church cottage grounds were cleaned up, rotten wood planks were replaced in the back, and all window and door trim was scraped clean and repainted.

Thanks to the Committee and all parishioners for helping to maintain St. John's during a very difficult year. Susan McFeely, MB Witt, Regine Laverge, Rod Pleasants, Charles Dubow, Bob Futh, and Robert Reynolds.

MUSIC PROGRAM REPORT FOR 2020

Hunter Brown

The St. John's Church Choir remains on hiatus until conditions related to the Covid virus subside. We look forward to resuming full choral offerings later in the year when we are able to gather safely in the church again, as reflected in the 2021 budget. Meanwhile, Jon Lafleur, our Organist, accompanies each online service with guest soloists from St. John's community. We are grateful for his service and theirs.

OUTREACH REPORT FOR 2020

Véronique Dulack

Despite the many restrictions imposed by the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the mission of Outreach did not stop. On the contrary. We are happy to report that thanks to everyone's generosity and participation our *Outreach Calendar* activities have been met with great success. Our monthly food drive has merged with the **Hunger Outreach** initiated by Rev. Geoff Hahnemann in collaboration with the Washington Council of Congregations, including:

- Our monthly presence during the summer and early fall at the Washington Depot Farmer's market gathering grocery and monetary donations which were given to the Community Culinary School of Northwest Connecticut chefs to prepare meals for the hungry,

- Coordinated by Laura Daly, needy residents have received every two weeks a menu of frozen meals which were cooked by parishioners.

In addition:

- ***The Christmas Angel Tree***, chaired by *Marlene Smith*

The Angel Tree project was accomplished for Christmas 2020 with some changes to simplify and make safer what was being asked of parishioners. First, at the suggestion of Covenant to Care, parishioners were asked to purchase gift cards for the toys requested rather than actual toys. Second, the Angel Tree was located outdoors outside the Parish House office where people could choose their child. The gift card was returnable to a secure mailbox near the tree so there was no danger of contagion by Covid-19. In this way, 20 families received help in making Christmas brighter for their children and no one was unnecessarily endangered by shopping.....a creative solution.

- ***The Back to School Backpacks***, chaired by *Veronique Dulack*

On October 2nd, 2020, five boxes filled with a large variety of school supplies, destined to students whose parents were financially affected by the pandemic, They were delivered to the social worker for the town of Kent, Leah Pullaro. (socialservices@townofkentct.org).

- ***22 Thanksgiving pies*** were delivered to the town of Washington to supplement their Thanksgiving food basket

ALTAR GUILD REPORT FOR 2020

MB Witt

The Altar Guild as we have known it, pre Covid 19, is on hiatus until we can begin to do church without any risk to our dedicated members. In the meantime, Fr. Hahneman and I have managed to keep things going by streamlining all procedures and severely limiting the time spent in the Sacristy. I come mid-week, before the cleaning service on Friday, to organize everything for the on-line Streaming Sunday service. If anyone feels comfortable and would like to help until we can reorganize, please call or email me. Best Wishes to Caroline and Rich Thompson who have resigned from their Altar Guild positions. Caroline served as the Altar Guild Director for several years and worked tirelessly on the Altar Guild Manual and recruited several new members. We also want to thank Douglas Holquist and Charles Dubow for their dedicated service. Thanks to the Altar Guild Members for their continued service: Joanne Baurer, Sara Coles, Camille Gillespie, Susie Magee, and Ginny Reynolds.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2020

Tillie Page Laird

The Hospitality Committee ceased operations in early March when the Episcopal churches in Connecticut stopped in-person worship to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus. In late October, Coffee Hours returned under the porch outside the Parish House doors and were gratefully received by those attending services again, but as the Second Wave of infections hit the state, in-person worship was suspended for the second time in mid-November, when the church was again closed to the public. Once parishioners come back to public services, we will re-form a "committee" and have "real" coffee hour inside the Parish Hall again, but I fear that may not be till much later this year.

READERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS REPORT FOR 2020

Holly Flor

St. John's Church suspended the Readers' and Eucharistic Ministers' rota and formed a limited "quaranteam" of participants as part of our Covid virus safety measures. We look forward to resuming full participation of the congregation later in the year when we are able to gather safely in the church again. Meanwhile, we are grateful for the service of Hunter Brown and Laura Daly who fulfilled these responsibilities in the meantime.

FLOWER COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2020

Susie Markert

The Flower Guild consists of a wonderful group of talented, dedicated and joyful individuals who willingly cooperate to create floral decorations to enhance our worship. Without them we would not have the beauty that adorns St. John's each week. We welcome anyone who is interested in getting involved with this aspect of St. John's life and service. It is very gratifying, and we have a wonderful group of volunteers who are very supportive and also fun! This past year the weekly floral arrangements have been varied depending on the time of year, availability of flowers and 'careful spending'. When possible we have sourced our flowers from our own and other parishioners' gardens, being most appreciative of these floral contributions. We look forward to parishioner's continued generosity and we are particularly indebted to the Fuths who always permit us to cut flowers and greens from their properties or provide us with plants. Additionally, we have been very fortunate to receive donations earmarked for St John's Flower Guild to 'honor' or to 'celebrate' a family member or friend or for a special occasion. We thank those in the congregation who have made such contributions and hopefully we will receive many more! At Christmas and Easter, the congregation gave generously and the St John's Flower Guild decorated for the occasions within the limits of volunteer availability and financial contributions received. Many thanks to Veronique Dulack, Julia Metcalf, Alec Purves and Lee Reese for their wonderfully positive attitudes and willingness to help all year long. We have been ably assisted by Constance Littlefield and Shelley Caroe, whom we're hoping will become more active participants, time permitting. Thanks also to Susie Magee, MB Witt, Marlene Smith, Barbara Blake, Ginny Reynolds, Rebecca Bent and Hedda von Goebben, Francisco, with both floral arranging and general set up and clean up. This help is especially appreciated on special occasions. Finally, we want to thank Sarah Eyre and Joan Burgess who are always so willing to assist.

THE REPORT OF THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE FOR 2020

*St. John's is a church in transition, from
a congregation led by a priest and supported by the lay leaders,
to a congregation led by the lay leaders and supported by a priest!*

Who could have imagined at last year's Annual Meeting, what this year has wrought: a devastating pandemic that has killed 400,000 Americans and sickened many more; violent civil unrest in the streets protesting systemic racism in our country; and a brutal election season that resulted in a mob of insurrectionists taking over the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

as the Electoral College votes were counted. St. John's like Christian churches throughout the world, has struggled with how to respond to these crises, and yet remain the Church, with its stated mission of the reconciliation of all people to each other and to God through Christ Jesus Our Lord.

Public worship services were cancelled in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) on March 15th to help mitigate the spread of the virus, but within a week our Sunday Morning Worship was live-streamed to the St. John's Facebook page, with more viewers than our average Sunday attendance. Even so there were stumbles as we learned new software and purchased new permanent video equipment. We instituted safety protocols and briefly returned to in-person worship during the summer, and by September numbers attending approached 30, and an outside, socially distant Coffee Hour returned to widespread appreciation for several weeks just before the Second Wave of virus infections hit Connecticut. Services were suspended again on November 11th. While live-streaming our services has kept us together in worship, it is no substitute for gathering together in person, and we expect to return to in-person worship at both 8:00 and 10:00 Sundays as soon as it is safe later this year.

Meanwhile the work of the Church to care for our community was amplified as our neighbors and friends quarantined at home where many fought loneliness and fear, as workers were furloughed or laid off struggling to make ends meet, as restaurants and retail struggled to survive. The seven established religious congregations in Washington joined together as the Washington Council of Congregations to work together for the benefit our town. Food Drives were organized over the months to support our local Warren/Washington Food Bank, gathering more than 4 tons of food stuffs and \$14,000. A table was 'manned' at the Farmers' Market to support the Community Culinary School, making 700 meals a week for the New Milford Senior Center. Three Blood Drive were coordinated with the Red Cross to support our local hospitals. A community-wide discussion was had with Amy Julia Becker to discuss her book "*White Pickett Fences*" and the problems of racism in our nation. In addition to these interfaith efforts, members of St. John's read Debby Irving's "*Waking Up White*" and Jim Wallis' "*Christ In Crisis*" to discuss amongst ourselves the politics of our time. Adult Bible Study and Reading groups continued online, as did Vestry Meetings mostly. While some of these innovations may change things in the future, we all long for a return to 'normalcy' in the year ahead.

But alas, the absence of in-person worship, small group discussions, coffee hours, fellowship events, and conversational chatter with one another before and after services and events has been keenly felt by most of us. So we continue our prayers for recovery and reconciliation, for care and concern for one and another, and for peace and stability in our nation. May God bless us all!

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road

Washington, CT 06793

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*

Jon Lafleur, *Organist*

Susie Markert, *Altar Flowers*

MB Witt, *Altar Guild*

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St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

VESTRY

David Gillespie, *Warden*; Susan McFeely, *Warden*

Joan M. Beattie, *Clerk*

Larry Littlefield, *Treasurer*

Hunter Brown, *Assistant Treasurer*

Class of 2021

Rebecca Lambert Bent, Darcy Campbell, Charles Dubow

Class of 2022

Bob Futh, Larry Littlefield, MB Witt,

Class of 2023

Sarah Coles, Mary Davis, Andris Kalnins