

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



## 2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING REPORT

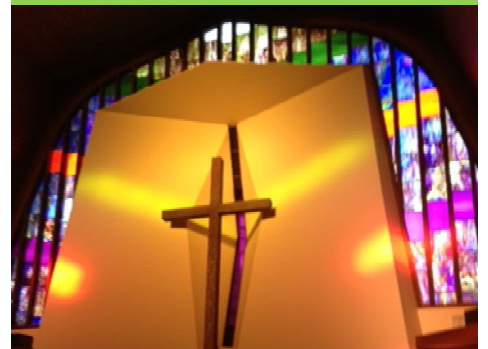
The Annual Parish Meeting in the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas is held during the month of January at a time and place within the Parish specified by the Clergy.

All adult communicants in good standing as determined by the Clergy who are members of the Parish, as defined by Canon 1.1, shall be entitled to vote at any Parish Meeting.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention and the Convocation in which the Parish is located shall be elected as provided by Canon II.2 at the Annual Parish Meeting and such other business as authorized by the Parish Bylaws shall be conducted.

**The Third Sunday  
after Epiphany**

**January 22, 2017**



## OUR CORE VALUES

- \* *A spirit of inclusion*
- \* *Spiritual growth and development*
- \* *Worship in the Episcopal Church tradition*
- \* *Laity and clergy working together*
- \* *Reach out to others with the Good News*
- \* *Quality Christian education for all*
- \* *Intentional ministry for those in need*
- \* *Stewardship for all God's resources*

## OUR MISSION

*St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
is called by God to be  
a Christ-centered caring community,  
living out the Gospel for all people.*

## OUR VISION

*To be a thriving community  
that grows in Christ  
through the discernment  
of God's will for our lives  
and the world.*



## 2016 Vestry Members

<b>Senior Warden</b>	Joe Johnson
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Tom Steele
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Attwater III
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Susan Gaskill
<b>Clerk</b>	Marty Wells

Anne Elsworth  
Linda Floyd  
John Rothwell  
Linda Stewart  
Ben Winters

The Rev. Dr. Mary J. Korte, Rector  
The Rev. Deacon Barbara Gibson

## Staff

Bookkeeper	Debra Butler (Retired) Bryan Nelson
Intermediate Sunday School	Julia Hart (Volunteer) Cheryl Navarro (Volunteer)
Music/Choir Director	Ashely Winters
Music/Choir Section Leader	Aubrey Brassler
Nurse	Megan Crane Lise Van Arsdale Hansen
Organist	Aubrey Watson
Parish Administrator	Vera Aikman
Primary Sunday School	Hazel LeVardi (Volunteer) Mary Sinclair Samantha Stephens
Youth Ministry Director	Sydney Runyan,
Youth Ministry Assistant	Derek Kruger

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Annual Parish Meeting  
January 22, 2017**

**Lunch**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

**Opening Prayer—The Rev. Dr. Mary J. Korte**

**Clerk of the Vestry—certify voting member list and assure presence of quorum**

**Acceptance of Minutes from last year**

**Introduce and thank Nominating Committee: Announce Nominees. Any discussion of Nominees?**

**Thank outgoing Vestry**

**Tellers for Ballots—*Al Higdon and Mike Ceramella***

**Casting of Ballots**

**Vestry Election (*see page 16*)**

**Deanery Delegates Election (*see page 16*)**

**Nominating Committee Election (*see page 16*)**

**Reports:**

**Rector's Report (read during church service)**

**Parish Statistics**

**Senior Warden's Report (*brief summary of written report*)**

**Junior Warden's Report (*brief summary of written report*)**

**Treasurer's Report (*brief summary of written report*)**

**Reports: (*printed copies and by Parish E-Blast*)**

Acolytes

Altar Guild

Book Club

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Children's Ministry

Daughters of the King (DOK)

EpiscoPals

Finance Committee

Music and Choir

Nursery

Ushers

Vacation Bible School

Youth Ministry

**Election Results**

**Prayer for New Vestry—The Rev. Dr. Mary J. Korte**

*Dear Lord, today we are new-new members, new leadership, new year, new sense of vitality. Help us to do the difficult work of embracing the new, allowing new faces into the circle and new energy into our midst. Help us to know you as a God who makes all things new and see each day as a new creation. Help us to know our history, but then to accept your call to leave what we know and press onward. Help us to sort out our relationships, and then to ground ourselves in your love and not our preferences. Help us to trust our leaders, knowing that a servant's heart will give them stature. All this we seek in the Name of One who took common stuff and made saints. Amen.*

**All Committee Chairs stand for recognition**

**Acceptance of reports for inclusion in Annual Parish Report**

**Proposed Budget for 2017**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**Statement of Activities**

**Dedicated Accounts**

**Adjournment—Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

## Annual Parish Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2016

### I. Call to Order

The 2016 Annual Parish Meeting was called to order by The Reverend Dr. Mary J. Korte, Rector. A quorum was present. A booklet of the following written reports was presented to each person: Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Acolytes, Altar Guild, Book Club, Children's Ministry, Daughters of the King, EpiscoPals, Finance Committee, Music and Choir, Nursery, Ushers, Youth Ministry, and Nominating Committee. Reverend Mary opened the meeting with a prayer.

II. The Vestry Clerk certified membership – sixty-five (65) members present.

### III. Minutes

**Barbara Fizer motioned to accept the minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting as presented. Lora White seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### IV. The Nominating Committee

2015 Nominating Committee was recognized and thanked.

Announce Nominating Committee for 2016: Al Higdon, Peter Caldwell and Janice Knox.

**Marty Wells motioned to accept the nominating committee as introduced. Chuck Shield seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Rev. Mary prayed for the Vestry members and thank them for their service to St. Stephens.

### VI. Annual Reports

- A printed copy of the annual report containing all the reports, budget and financials was distributed.
- Karen Norton, Senior Warden presented her annual report.
- Susan Gaskill, Junior Warden, presented her annual report and passed the "mousetrap" to the 2016 Junior Warden, Tome Steele.
- Jerrod Bishop, Treasurer, presented the highlights of his report.

**Joe Johnson motioned to approve the annual reports as written. Chuck Shield seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

VII. Rev. Mary thanked the 2015 Vestry for their hard work and for being a working vestry.

VIII. Tellers distributed the printed ballots:

#### **VESTRY NOMINEES ARE**

Joe Johnson, Linda Stewart and Marty Wells - 3 year terms (2016, 2017, 2018)

Joe Johnson, Senior Warden

Tom Steele, Junior Warden

Lou Ann Robertson, Treasurer

Susan Gaskill, Assistant Treasurer

#### **CONVOCATION/CONVENTION NOMINEE IS**

Leland Sinclair, Alternate

IX. Tellers collected and counted the ballots. Sixty four (64) affirmation of new Vestry and Convocation/Convention Delegate as presented on the ballot.

- X. Committee Chairs and Members stood and were recognized.
- XI. Rector, Rev. Mary, reflected on the past year.
- The “Year in Pictures” in the annual report represents a small dose of activities throughout the year.
  - Bishop Wolfe recognized that our past newsletter was the best newsletter he has seen in the past thirteen (13) years.
  - Rev. Mary profusely thanked Vera Aikman for all her work.
  - Proposed Budget, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activities and Dedicated Accounts for 2015 are presented the annual report booklet.
  - We are a very healthy parish./
- XV. **Jim Lawing motioned to formally thank Fr. Jim Davis and Fr. Steve Mues and to present them a copy of our annual report. Joan Jaedicke seconded the motion.** Asked that motion be amended to include Mtr. Laurie Lewis, Fr. Bob Hutchinson and Fr. Jim Mitchell. **Al Higdon called the question, motion carried.**
- XVI. Joe Johnson, new Senior Warden, “Thank you for trusting him as Senior Warden. Please be generous and help us continue with our good work.”

**Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted: Anne Stephens, Clerk of the Vestry

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING REPORTS 2016**

### **Rector’s Report**

Include ✚ Develop ✚ Worship ✚ Work

Dear People of God,

Within these pages we will encounter God’s abundant blessings at St. Stephen’s in 2016 and that is Good News! This report highlights the spirit of inclusion, working, spiritual growth and development and our worshipful work together. This year we took another step in the history of this church as we joined together in faithfulness to use our time, talents and treasure to the Glory of God. These are some ways we included, developed, worshipped and worked:

Our church community has grown. Some found us through the website and the NextDoor Woodlawn. Some brought family and friends to Vacation Bible School or the Piggy Pork Roast BBQ. Some came through outreach to our local Price Harris Elementary School or a worship service.

The “Itty Bitties” have gained strength in numbers as new life was born and entered in our midst. Spaces were enlarged and ministries moved to larger spaces to accommodate their growth.

An additional clergy person came to answer the call to serve our church part time in The Rev. Deacon Barbara Gibson and to support this parish in education and outreach to the vulnerable of our community. Thank you Jesus for the hands and heart of a Deacon.

A desire to continue with adult forums was led ably once again by our volunteers in ministry covering topics from Art and Religion, Fundamentals of the Faith, St. Francis, and Kansas to Kenya.

As we grew we continued to bring Christ to our community. The Alternative Gift Market was a new endeavor for us this year and personally 30 years of supporting this outreach for me. Ministries to the homeless and marginalized through Episcopal Social Services were served by many of us from serving on

their board to donating time, skills and dollars to the vital and unique programs they provide to Wichita. We continue to host AA and OA groups and an extended education program for NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness).

You will read in this report and experience it as you use the building and facilities the work that was done to repair, restore, maintain and improve the physical plant where we gather to be inspired and become transformed.

Our outreach in print continues to expand in bulletins, newsletters, e-blast announcements, and letters and birthday cards to parishioners; a looping video of pictures during our primary Stewardship Sundays; as well as welcome cards to visitors and Church School children and youth. We utilize Face Book and Tweets and we have wireless hearing aid devices for our worship services in the Sanctuary.

Our Director of Music and our Organist continue to successfully lead our choir members so that we can continue to offer music and anthems to enhance our services! Our life's milestones have included four Baptisms, two Burials, one Marriage, a Bishop's visitation and an Installation service of a Rector. Our special musical ensembles have included music with evening services for The Stations of the Cross, Enriching Our Worship and the Iona Worship service, Christmas Eve, Easter Vigil, The Shrove Show music fund raiser, most Sundays throughout the year and a musical! Our instrumentalists have been both in house and at times hired for special worship services; including, but not limited to, pianists, violinists, trumpets, cello, drums, hand bells and bag pipes! The bag pipes have always been provided to us as an expression of thanks to St. Stephen's.

Our acolytes help our services to be holy and inspiring and we always have room for more of you to participate in this ministry. Our roster of lay readers continues to be strong and our Lay Eucharistic Ministers are growing in numbers. I am immensely grateful to their outreach to the infirm. The altar and flower guild have teams and welcome additional people to join as they assist setting the altar, maintaining and caring for church linens, silver, brass, candles, flowers and delivery of bouquets to the homebound, and vestments, etc.

The Daughters of the King pray for the needs of the parish, individuals, and any who request their ministry. They sustain your Rector on a daily basis.

Our Faith and Formation with Church School, Nursery, Junior and Senior Youth Groups, and Adult Forums continues to care, educate and send people forth with new insights. Our Book Club discussions provide connection, fun and comradery. EFM has grown and meets on Monday evenings in the Fireside Room which now includes a working fireplace! Preparation for Baptism precedes each Baptism for Parent(s) and individuals. We continue to serve the Episcopal Campus ministry as hosts of space and food with other Wichita parishes on an as needed basis.

Our pastoral care ministry meets quarterly to provide and share information and support to our parish by friendly visits, meal delivery in times of great need, post-surgery, trauma and in times of celebration. A prayer shawl ministry has begun in order to provide physical comfort to a variety of recipients. Episco-pals connects us one to another through epicurean delights!

We support our Diocese through apportionment and delegates to convention for both the local Diocese and General Convention. I serve as the Bishop's representative to Episcopal Social Services and The Chair of the Examining Chaplains for those in the Ordination process for Holy Orders.

Our Building and Grounds, Finance, and Ushers Committees, along with the Vestry, have diligently supported this congregation. Our special Ice Cream Social and Rummage sale continue to raise funds that contribute to the building and the kitchen renovations or replacement needs. Dillon's Dollars has been a super easy way to contribute to the church and tangible updates this year are the youth room and the new 'up to code' exit door in the AA room. Our Columbarium for cremains was expanded this year and additional niches have been sold. Some new plantings and much needed tree pruning was accomplished outside. We continue to address our roof damage challenges, leaks and repairs. A Capital Campaign may be needed to address our aging building.

For 2017 we have some remaining challenges: to raise funds for an updated sound system to help enhance our Worship. Next steps will be explored to form a much needed legacy committee. We will strive to update our by-laws and abide by them as the vital practices of the Episcopal Church Foundation recommends and the Canons of the Church require. We are in need of furthering our education and communication in Appreciative Inquiry. Our website needs some tweaking and a new pictorial directory has been requested. We are trying to implement pay pal on line for donations through the office, CPR training will be scheduled in the Parish Hall. And we can look forward to an Annual Picnic with an outdoor Eucharist in May at a site offered by a parishioner.

Pray for the continued use of our time, talents and treasures to further the Gospel and the work of God on our earthly home.

Peace be with you, Rev. Dr. Mary J. Korte

<b>Parish Statistics 2016</b>	
<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Confirmations</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Marriages</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Burials</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Committals</b>	<b>2</b>

### **Senior Warden's Annual Report**

Our parish continues to be in decent shape financially and pastorally. However, in the coming year, we need to increase our financial commitment. One of the highlights of 2016 was a silent "special ask" that was focused on giving for a new roof for the flat portion of our church. All of the families that were asked gave generously. The health of our parish seems to be very good, but we must continue to provide opportunities in all areas for our members. I was pleased to have served you in the capacity of Senior Warden for the last year.

Thank you for all those that took a leadership position for each of our committees. All of you served with dedication and enthusiasm. A special thank you to Tom Steele who went above and beyond as our Junior Warden. Good luck to Tom as our new Senior Warden, as he continues to face the challenges of St. Stephens.

*Dear Lord,  
 As we come together to do Your work, help us to be thoughtful and deliberate.  
 We ask that you open our hearts to the concerns of each other.  
 Help us set aside our individual desires for the benefit of our church as a whole.  
 In thy Holy Name, we pray. Amen.*

Respectfully Submitted: Joe Johnson



## Junior Warden's Annual Report

A brief synopsis of the Building and Grounds Committee performance for 2016:

### Exterior work performed (not in chronological order):

- A. Mud-jacking and some concrete removal and replacement on sidewalks and island area at north entrance parking lot. This work was performed to help correct existing tripping hazards.
- B. Playground area was refurbished with a new containment enclosure, playground material, as well as, a new (used slide); it was also stained for weather protection.
- C. There was one large tree removed which was dying and causing possible hazard at north entrance, also twenty-seven (27) other trees were thinned and trimmed as needed.
- D. A new LED floodlight was added at the northwest corner of the church to assist lighting of the parking area.
- E. The light pole at the northeast corner of the parking lot was replaced by Westar.
- F. The flat portion of the roof received a complete overlay of reflective material, which will improve energy consumption, as well as, waterproof the area; it is covered with a ten (10) year guarantee.
- G. Additional caulking and repairs have been made to the stain glass window casements.
- H. Trash receptacles were returned to the fenced compound at the southeast corner of the church and a concrete sidewalk was constructed to facilitate the moving of the containers.
- I. An additional sixteen (16) unit of niches were added to the existing columbarium.
- J. A special thank you to all who helped with the semiannual spring and fall clean up days.
- K. A special thank you to those who attend to a designated area and do a fine job throughout the year.

### Interior work completed (not in chronological order):

- A. The Music Department Office was moved to the Parish Office. Creating a better use of existing facilities, creating much needed space. The former Music Department Office is now being used for overflow supplies for the kitchen and altar supplies which had been stored in the Sacristy.
- B. The Youth Director's Office was moved to a newly repainted space in the Parish Office.
- C. All three Sunday School classrooms received fresh paint. Currently we have a nursery, Primary (preschool), Intermediate (school age) and a Children's Chapel.
- D. The unusable safe in the Sacristy was removed. Much needed altar cloth racks and sliding shelf's in the storage area were installed.
- E. The outdated, seldom used library was updated and consolidated. Two bookcases were altered and moved to the new Music Department Office. Altar and table cloth racks were installed in their place.
- F. Minor painting and repairs were done to the church restrooms on the upper level. The lower level restroom was painted and the floor also was painted.
- G. A semi-major renovation was undertaken for the new Youth Room, this was accomplished with our Buildings and Grounds crew. A nonbearing wall was removed and a new, much larger space was created. New painting, flooring and furniture are in place and in use, thanks to Dillon's Community Rewards dollars.
- H. The previous youth room was designated to use by community groups and a much needed new exit door was installed which brought us up to code.
- I. All the exterior doors were rekeyed and we eliminated key access to those doors which were not being used.
- J. An accent wall was painted and chair rails were applied to the Parish Office.

I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to all those responsible for helping to accomplish these endeavors. There is no doubt in my mind that we have saved 10's of thousands of dollars in labor and donated materials in our efforts to accomplish these tasks.

THANK YOU and GOD BLESS.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Steele

## **Treasurer's Annual Report**

We started 2016 with a projected deficit of \$41,000, but thanks to several new and increased pledges we were able to close the deficit to \$20,343. Total income was \$319,314 and expenses were \$339,657. In addition to the regular budgeted expenses the church also raised \$37,000 through a special request to provide funds for specific capital needs including our new roof and specific exterior upgrades. The church also incurred additional one time expenses associated with required building maintenance and Rector relocation expenses. While we have accomplished a great deal, we still have certain capital needs that will be discussed further in 2017.

As we plan our 2017 budget we are projecting income of \$313,420 and expenses of \$327,328 for a deficit of \$13,908. This deficit amounts to approximately a 4 ½ % shortfall. Staff and finance committee have reviewed the expense side very carefully. While further cuts maybe possible if required, it would mean cutting or eliminating some programs. St Stephens is blessed to be supported by a generous and supportive congregation. We wish to thank everyone who has sent in their pledges and to everyone who has made a first time pledge. Your pledges are critical to our planning & budgeting process.

Last, it is clear that the Dillon's Community Rewards program has made a difference to our ability to fund a few small but valuable projects. These funds add up over the course of the year and we know that we have only scratched the surface. If you have not enrolled your Dillon's Plus card in the Community Rewards program, call the parish office for assistance.

The finance committee will continue to monitor expenses and parish income.

Respectfully submitted: Paul Attwater III, Treasurer

## **Acolytes Annual Report**

With the changes to the youth program and the addition of a Primary Sunday School program, the number of available youth to serve as acolytes has drastically diminished, however, we are very pleased that they are actively involved in other areas of parish life. Many thanks to all of the adults who have volunteered their services over the past year to fill in.

A sincere thank you to both those who have stepped up to help serve and to the congregation for allowing us the flexibility to work through these changes. It has been a pleasure working with you and I look forward to continuing to serve in the future. As always, if anyone has an interest in seeing the view from the other side, please contact either myself or Vera and we will get you trained to serve at the altar.

Submitted: Blessings, Anne Stephens

## **Altar Guild Annual Report**

The Altar Guild has been running at a steady speed this year. Joan Jaedicke and myself took over as co-chairs in January of 2016. As always we are looking for new members. We welcome anyone who would like to join us. Men and women alike. We prepare for weekly services, weddings and funerals. We look forward to 2017 going as smoothly as 2016.

Respectfully submitted: Audrey Kramer

## Book Club Annual Report

The Book Club has had a great year of reading. We have read the following books: "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" by Jennifer Chiaverine, "Book of Ruth" from the Bible, "Pearl in the Sand" by Tessa Afshar "Pope Joan" by Donna Woolfolk Cross, "Have a little Faith" by Mitch Albom. Plus, we read the "Big Read" for 2016, "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury.

Our next book starting January 5, 2017 is "Dark Enough to see the Stars in a Jamestown Sky" by Connie Lapallo. We meet each Thursday at 12:00. Some of us bring a small lunch and sometimes we all go out to Lunch. We encourage you to join us. We have a good time with each other and of course there is always something to talk about along with solving the world's problems.

God Bless, Submitted: Liz Steele & Wanda Rogers

## Buildings and Grounds Committee

Your Building and Grounds Committee was quite busy during 2016, repairing and replacing many items to keep St. Stephen's running smoothly and looking good, and improving the safety of the building. Thank you, congregation of St. Stephen's for your suggestions and your help on our work days and every day. And many thanks to a very involved Building and Grounds Committee: Tom Steele, John Rothwell, Marty Wells, Amy Staples, Joe Johnson, Lee Sinclair, and Susan Gaskill.

Some of the major improvements were:

**Roof:** We replaced the entire flat portion of the roof, and the areas causing water leaks near the organ and piano areas in the sanctuary. The new roof surface is state-of-the-art "Uniflex," a white solvent elastometric system which is seamless and will reflect ultraviolet rays from the sun. It will keep the water out and the temperature cooler inside the building. This roof has a fifteen year warranty on materials and workmanship from Precision Construction Services.

**Trash Cart Path Sidewalks:** A new sidewalk connecting the trash corral to the parking lot was built by AAA Mud jacking Co. Also, sagging, sloping and broken sidewalks around the exterior kitchen door were made level and safe. The sidewalks at the bottom of the steps leading to the church and around the lawn furniture area were torn out and replaced with new concrete. Looking good and much safer!

**Infant Nursery:** Tom Steele suggested how to convert the old library room to the new infant nursery. We are now more able to care for all the new babies that St. Stephen's has been blessed with. Nice!

**Playground:** The playground area was given a much needed new look. A new border was installed, and small rock has replaced the sand. A spiffy yellow, twisting slide was obtained by Amy and John Staples and installed by Tom Steele and Lee Sinclair during a work day in April. Thanks to all who helped make the playground look new and refreshed that day. It makes you smile to watch the kids at play!

**Columbarium:** We have added 16 spaces to the columbarium.

**Lower-level Restrooms:** Both the men's and women's restrooms were updated with new paint.

**New Metal Signs:** Parking signs at the office entrance of the church were replaced.

**Youth Room:** The wall between the AA/Outside user's room and the Youth Director's office was taken down to make a larger space for the youth to gather for meetings. The entire new space was attractively painted, and a new durable floor was installed. Make sure you check out this new exciting space. AA took a different room to meet.

**Defibrillator:** A new defibrillator was purchased and installed in the fellowship hall to the right of the opening to the kitchen. We are thinking ahead in case of emergency.

**Lower Level Exit Door:** The exit door across the hall from the AA room was replaced with a Fire Marshal approved metal door. Again, we are thinking ahead in case of an emergency, and we now meet all fire code requirements.

**Tree Trimming:** We hired a tree trimming company to do everything from cleaning out dead wood in healthy trees to removing unhealthy trees altogether. This was much needed, and gave us a cleaner, improved look.

**Fireside Room:** The fireplace was inspected and made operable once again. If you use it, enjoy--but remember to turn it off when you leave.

**Keys:** The entire church was re-keyed for safety.

**Miscellaneous:** Gutters and downspouts were cleaned out and now work properly. The auto on/off lighting under the portico was repaired and is now working. We installed a new LED spotlight on the north side of the church, lighting the sidewalk leading toward the parking lot. Protective brick edging was put around young bushes by the office door.

Again, many thanks for your support. Submitted: Michael L. Mann, Committee Chairman

## **Children's Ministry Annual Report**

2016 was a very exciting year and growth in Sunday School. The goal to increase our Sunday attendance was fantastic. We started with the usual "The One Room Sunday School", which included a Nursery with the Preschool children and ages 3 to 10 together in another class. By the end of the year, we were able to have the Nursery, Preschool, ages 5 to 10 in one class, a chapel, plus the Youth Group with their own class. It seems to be working well.

I finally got an Assistant, Julia Hart, which was way over due. She was great and so helpful. Some of our activities: Coloring Easter Eggs and Easter Egg Hunt, Bubbles with Mom's, Donuts with Dads, Blessing for the Animals, and yes, some were plush pets on St. Francis Day.

After much deliberating I decided it was best for me to retire effective November 1st. I have experienced many special moments with the children and teachers. We now have two wonderful ladies in charge, Julia Hart and Cheryl Navarro. They are in charge of the Intermediate Sunday School (6—10 year old's). They are doing a great job.

I want to thank the teachers, assistants, grandparents and parents for making this a special year. Keep up the good work friends.

Respectfully submitted: God Bless, Liz Steele, Retired Children's Ministry (Volunteer)

The Sunday School program experienced exciting growth in 2016. There was a consistently good turn out and enthusiasm from the young members of our parish. This resulted in moving from the "one room Sunday School" model to breaking out into a Primary Sunday School class (3-5 year old, "the Littles"), an Intermediate Sunday School class (1st—4th grade) and a Junior Youth Group (5th—8th grade). Dividing up into 3 classes has resulted in being able to get more in depth with the materials in a more specific age-appropriate way. It also resulted in smaller class sizes that encourages participation from all children.

In the spring of 2016, St. Stephens offered "Safe Church Training". This training educated members of the church to prevent, spot the signs of sexual abuse or exploitation and how to properly address it if it is discovered in our church. Attendance was required by all Sunday School teachers and those working with the youth of the church. This program was attended by folks that were renewing their previous training, and several first time attendees.

In the fall of 2016, our longtime Sunday School director, Liz Steele announced she was stepping down. This resulted in Julia Hart and Cheryl Navarro agreeing to take over programming as co-directors. We are excited to continue on the good work that Liz did and continue to grow and improve the Sunday School program.

Submitted: Julia Hart and Cheryl Navarro, Co-chairs

## **Daughters of the King (DOK) Julian of Norwich Chapter Annual Report**

It has been a blessed year for SSEC's Julian of Norwich Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King. As part of an international religious order for women and girls, ours is a ministry of prayer, service and evangelism. We pray daily for the needs of our congregation and others on the prayer list.

Our service projects include providing meals monthly for Campus Ministry, delivering altar flowers to our shut-ins, and delivering the contents of the "red wagon" to Episcopal Social Services. In addition, DOK made more than \$200 for ESS by selling Jane Taylor's beautiful handmade Anglican rosaries at the diocesan meeting. And, as part of our evangelism efforts, in April, we hosted a diocese-wide DOK Spring Assembly, which was well attended and spiritually uplifting.

We welcome all women of St. Stephen's to look into joining DOK as you seek to deepen your prayer life within the company of other women. Your role may be small, medium or large. What is important is that you feel ready to seek a more committed prayer life. Some of our 25 members are housebound, but they are fulfilling a serious need by praying for others. In 2016, we installed three new members and welcomed the transfer of another. We meet once a month on the 3d Sunday from September-November and from January-May.

Respectfully submitted: Melanie Shurden

## **EpiscoPals Annual Report**

EpiscoPals originated in the same year that Father Steve Mues came to St. Stephen's as the Rector. We were talking in his office about activities that parishioners might like to have to help get better acquainted with each other. He mentioned a group in his former church named EpiscoPals that was responsible for planning those activities. As I like to plan fun activities, I offered to spearhead the group. Dinners for Eight is the main activity of the group and it lasts throughout the year. This is somewhere about the twelfth year of its inception. Two dinners for a group of eight parishioners meet and dine in April/May and again in June/July. The third dinner includes all who participated. The Shield's have graciously invited us to their home for that dinner as they have a large house and yard, and the enthusiasm for doing it. Last year, I mentioned to Chuck that we're getting too old for this big group dinner. He said, "I'm not too old. I'll do it next year!" The favored place to sit is around the fire pit in the center of seating for six. The hosts entertain themselves by going out to eat dinner together at the end of the season.

Game night was tried a time or two but was not as popular as the dinner groups. Groups of theater goers have also enjoyed attending theatrical productions together. If you have a suggestion for a group activity that you think others would enjoy, please talk to Linda Floyd or myself. And, participate and have a grand time with us Pals!

Submitted by: Janice Adams and Linda Floyd, Chairs

## **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee includes the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Bookkeeper, Parish Administrator, as well as, members of the parish at large. The committee meets monthly to review the monthly financial statements and any monetary needs of the church. They make financial recommendations and suggestions to the vestry. Annually, they prepare the proposed annual budget for vestry review and submission and approval at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Vera Aikman, Parish Administrator

## Music and Choir Annual Report

In 2016 the Music Department at St. Stephen's has continued to be a very active program and we had another great year of music for all in our parish. We've maintained solid musical programming and extended the number of offerings we present. I spend a great deal of time programming music for each Sunday's 10:30 service and I hope that each week as you pull out your hymnal you find joy in our community of singing, extension of the message from the lessons of the day, and comfort in our joint worship.

The St. Stephen's choir continues to serve faithfully with congregational volunteers including Reta Caldwell, Jason Hart, Barbara Kice, Tim Korte, David Olson, Dan Walton, Owen White, Ben Winters and Ashley Winters. Our Alto section leader, Aubree Brassler, has served us very well and we look forward to her return in the spring after her new baby arrives. There is always room to add to the choir and with the vast age differences represented by our volunteers, we hope it's obvious that ALL are welcome to participate. We are grateful to Lise and Megan for being available in the nursery early on Sunday mornings which allows us all to participate as they minister to 4-5 kids during rehearsals.

Aubrey Watson continues in his role as Organist and we are ever grateful for his presence at our main instrument. It has been a blessing throughout the year to have his constant and faithful presence available for the multiple funerals we've had this year as well as weddings and other additional services.

In February, the second annual Watson, Winters and Winters "Shrove Show" was produced to a completely full house. Solos, duets, and several ensemble numbers including children and the choir all told the story of Love. This exciting night of frivolity is coming up again on February 28th. We hope to see you there! The free will offering taken serves as the major annual fundraiser for the music department. We used funds for our section leaders, special musicians at Easter, for the children's music and have designated funds to aid with the continued cataloguing of the music library.

I continue to work with the children in our congregation, to sing songs that pertain to the lessons they are learning, the liturgical season, or for special upcoming events. This year we were delighted to present the first children's musical "*Sunday School: The Musical*" which was a great success and look forward to doing a new show after Easter. The Christmas pageant had participation by over 35 children and youth, poetry and carols sung, as we revisited the story of Jesus' birth. Other highlights with the children and youth includes the 2 weeks of preparation and presentation of Vacation Bible School. All the youth enthusiastically participated in singing songs, learning hand motions, and sharing the Surf Shack with all our attendees this year.

The music department headlined multiple special services throughout the year. Holy Week was highlighted by our sung Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday, which was beautiful, moving and a very unique way to experience the Via Dolorosa. Other special services this year included many baptisms, the Blessing of the Animals and Pentecost services.

We continue to have significant issues with our sound system. It is aging and failing in certain aspects. A major overhaul of the system is needed as so much of our current equipment is unreliable or has already failed. Redesign proposals have been requested from 3 local companies and I am in the process of reviewing those now with the Vestry and Rector as we consider options to finance this crucial and necessary piece of our church's infrastructure.

The Music Department is appreciative of all the support and encouragement that we receive on a weekly basis.

*"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation!"*

Respectfully Submitted: Ashley Winters, Director of Music and Choirs

## Nursery Annual Report

It has been a great year for the nursery. Our general week to week responsibilities have stayed the same with the exception of splitting out to form the primary classroom which was formed to assist in transitioning our older participants for Sunday School. We typically have 1-5 participants and engage in exploratory play, early manners, requesting of items, reading time, snack time, language acquisition, fine and gross motor skills and interpersonal sharing. We happily serve during the 8:30 am and 10:30 am services, Vacation Bible School, and choir practice, as well as, special services, funerals and weddings as needed.

Submitted: Lise Van Arsdale Hansen and Megan Crane

## Usher's Annual Report

This past year we lost a dedicated volunteer from this group of individuals. Felix Adams had been an usher for more years than I can remember. In addition to his terms on the Vestry and as Senior or Junior Warden, he would always be one of the first to reply to the request for an usher at the occasional funeral service, or to substitute for someone who would miss their usual Sunday. He will be sorely missed.

### First Sunday

John Alefs, Joe and Devon Rothwell

### Second Sunday

Rick Gaskill, Ron Meyers

### Third Sunday

Jerrold Bishop, Chris Graham (still looking for another volunteer for this Sunday)

### Fourth Sunday

Mike Ceramella, Al Higdon, Bill and Carolyn Whitaker

### Fifth Sunday & Alternates

Don Norton, Steve Stephens, Chris Schulz, Joe Johnson

Thanks once again for everyone's devoted service to our Parish. This is a pretty self sufficient group who greet all but particularly newcomers who are visiting our Parish. We can always use new volunteers, (*definitely could you two more ushers!*) so if you are interested, please contact me at church, or by email [norton75@swbell.net](mailto:norton75@swbell.net)

Faithfully submitted: Don Norton, Coordinator, 683-1104

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### Catching the Wave of God's Amazing Love

Vacation Bible School is HUGE and GROWING at St. Stephen's. Every year we serve more kids and families in our church and our neighborhood. The power and impact this ministry has on, not only the children, but, their entire families should never be underestimated. Kudos to the St. Stephen's family at large for making a difference in this ministry and impacting our community.

With the resignation of Youth Director, Teresa Rogers, VBS changed leadership to Ashley Winters, Director of Music and Choirs. **Surf Shack** rolled into St. Stephen's at the end of July. We were excited to see and experience all the ways we could "catch the wave of God's amazing love."

We are thankful for the many donations we receive every year from the congregation: apples, oranges, chicken nuggets, corn dogs, beach towels, crabs, seashells, buoys, boogie boards, umbrellas and baby pools. Dozens in the congregation freely give and to be honest, it's the only way we can afford to do this program. Special thanks to Linda Stewart's willingness to go shopping! To Vera for keeping our constantly

increasing registration up to date, ordering supplies, answering all questions, keeping the building secure and the million other things she does.

To transform the church into a tropical beach, seaweed ocean, and luau huge thanks are due to Hazel LeVardi and her granddaughters, Mykayla and Alexis Brandt, Mallory Floyd, Ramsey girls and Staples boys, Ellen, Justin and Tim and the many others who gave their evenings to decorate the week before.

Pat Barbara Fizer on the back for stepping in immediately when our usual kitchen captain, Carolyn Whittaker (who had already invested much time organizing menu and needed food supplies) took ill the day before we started. During the week our Kitchen Krew served hundreds of snacks and lunches to our record 45+ Surfers and 30 volunteers for five days. Thanks to all (Mike, Suzie, Linda, Tim, Carol, Nhi, Susan, Cheryl) who prepared, served, cleaned up, did whatever I told them to and shared God's amazing love to all the kids.

We had a solid group of youth and adults teach and guide throughout the week. We need every hand that gives and we are grateful to our teachers and guides: Johnny and Casey, Linda, Reta and Joan, Wanda and Jorinda, Janice, Bill, Hazel and all our youth volunteers. Additional shout out to all the parents who give of their time in hidden ways, getting their kids to participate at all levels.

In 2017, we expect to keep growing the VBS program. It has become too big for one person to manage individually and I have requested that Sydney Runyan fills a needed Assistant Director position. We anticipate continued growth in our number of attendees, volunteers and service staff to get it all done as we look forward to being **God's Heroes** as we **"Do good, seek peace and go after it!"** (*We get to wear CAPES!! It's going to be AWESOME!!!!*)

Respectfully Submitted: Ashley Winters

## Youth Ministry Annual Report

The youth program at St. Stephen's has seen a lot of change this year! We have switched/transformed rooms, transitioned directors, split up into two separate groups, and added new meeting times. Our youth have done so well and brought so much excitement into this year. Derek and I have worked hard to create lessons based around what the youth are interested in, and quarterly we do a large event that both youth groups attend. Currently, we have an Escape Room event planned on January 29<sup>th</sup> after the service. In the youth program, we like to promote team building and giving back. Every meeting we start with our youth sharing something positive that happened the week prior, and we do a team building exercise so we get refocused and reenergized to look closely at scripture and explore the Word of the Lord.

We currently have around twelve total in our youth program, five seniors and seven juniors. Derek and I have the privilege of working with so many talented and engaged kids, it is truly a blessing. Our youth regularly attend our Sunday youth group meetings: 10:15 am to communion time for the junior group and 12pm-1:30pm after the service for our senior group. The youth regularly attend EDOK events, as well. In September, we had one youth attend the Fall Fun Fest, November we had two attend YouthTide, and coming up we have four attending MIQRA. Our youth have many other opportunities coming up that include Happening #92 and Mustard Seed Music Weekend.

Our youth are so involved and dedicated to serving St. Stephen's and the Episcopal Church community. Every year, they put on a spectacular show for the Christmas Eve pageant, with much help from the Sunday School and Music Director. They also transform the Parish Hall and upstairs classrooms into fun scenes for our themed Vacation Bible School for a week every Summer. Many serve as acolytes, help on the altar, lecture, and usher from time-to-time. Derek and I are so excited to see the youth engagement during the service, and look forward to seeing (and helping) these kids grow over the years.

Respectfully Submitted: Sydney Runyan, Youth Director and Derek Kruger, Assistant Youth Director



## Report of the Nominating Committee for 2017

### NOMINATED (to be elected)

Senior Warden:	Tom Steele	One Year Term	(2017)
Junior Warden:	Linda Floyd	One Year Term	(2017)
Treasurer:	Paul Attwater	One Year Term	(2017)
Assistant Treasurer:	Susan Gaskill	One Year Term	(2017)
Secretary/Clerk:	Mary Sloan	One Year Term	(2017)

Vestry:	Richard Samaniego	Three year term	(2017, 2018,2019)
	Ben Winters	Three year term	(2017, 2018, 2019)
	Charles Shield	Three year term	(2017, 2018, 2019)
	John Staples	Two year term	(2017, 2018)

#### Continuing Vestry Members:

John Rothwell	One year term remaining	(2017)
Linda Floyd	One year term remaining	(2017)
Tom Steele	One year term remaining	(2017)
Joe Johnson	Two year term remaining	(2017, 2018)
Linda Stewart	Two year term remaining	(2017, 2018)

#### Convocation/Convention Delegate:

Leland Sinclair	Delegate	Three Year Term	(2017, 2018, 2019)
Anne Stephens	Delegate	Three Year Term	(2017, 2018, 2019)
Jorinda Brant	Alternate	Three Year Term	(2017, 2018, 2019)
Charles Shield	Alternate	Three Year Term	(2017, 2018, 2019)

#### Nominating Committee for 2017

Jorinda Brant  
Anne Elsworth  
Don Norton

### Required

### Vestry Orientation Retreat

**Friday, February 3rd, 6:00 pm —9:00 pm**

Parish Hall, Dinner  
and Orientation

**Saturday, February 4th, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

Parish Hall, Continental Breakfast and Event  
Lunch  
Closing Eucharist

<b>PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET</b>	<b>2015 Actual</b>	<b>2016 Budget</b>	<b>2016 Actual</b>	<b>2017 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Plate Income	4,443	2,000	3,880	4,000
Current Year Pledged Receipts	274,268	285,218	274,263	278,000
Prior Year Pledged Receipts	2,828	-	2,029	
Pre-paid Pledge Receipts		-		
Non-pledged Receipts	50,979	15,000	32,985	25,000
Interest/Investment Income	18	50	19	20
WCF Endowment Distribution	2,332	2,200	2,258	2,200
In-Kind Non Cash Contributions	1,084	-	710	-
Community Group Donations	3,315	2,400	3,170	4,200
<b>Income Totals</b>	<b>339,267</b>	<b>306,868</b>	<b>319,314</b>	<b>313,420</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Rector Salary	42,504	43,250	43,250	43,250
Parish Administrator Salary	21,465	22,000	25,335	25,335
Music Director Salary	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Music Dept. Section Leader	-	-	2,050	1,800
Youth Director	14,003	12,000	10,335	12,000
Payroll Taxes	3,637	3,700	3,978	3,800
Rector's Travel Expenses	1,010	2,500	629	2,500
Rector's Continuing Education	2,068	1,200	988	1,200
Rector's Pension Fund	13,500	13,500	13,500	13,500
Rector's Health Insurance	-	10,000	7,500	10,000
Rector's Housing Allowance	32,496	33,250	33,286	33,250
Rector Other	1,370	1,500	4,903	500
Youth Director Health Insurance	3,460			
Youth Director Travel Expense	304	400		300
Bookkeeper	600	3,000	1,600	2,000
Supply Priest	3,664	3,600	2,926	3,600
Nursery Staff	4,759	6,550	5,564	6,000
Children's Program Staff	-	-	781	2,050
Music Dept. Organist			5,980	6,500
Music Dept. Supply/Special				200
VBS Director/Asst. Director			2,000	2,000
Assistant Youth Director	-	-	120	1,200
Supplies	3,725	4,000	3,981	4,000

	2015 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Proposed Budget
Postage	2,083	3,000	1,436	2,000
Telephone/Internet	2,725	3,000	4,308	3,500
Advertising	1,298	1,800	1,536	500
Leased Equipment/Maintenance	8,867	8,764	8,566	9,300
Printing	1,522	1,100	1,294	1,000
IT Support/Software/Hardware	654	1,896	4,709	2,000
In-Kind Contribution Expense	-	-		
Diocesan Apportionment	42,599	48,000	56,973	44,568
Convention Expense	1,092	1,000	900	1,000
Professional Fees	358	1,000	40	1,000
Dues/Subscriptions	15	100	-	100
Bank Service Fees	454	500	535	500
Workers Comp Insurance	-	-	811	825
Miscellaneous	270	-	237	-
Adult Education	54	200	524	400
Youth Ministry	580	500	558	500
Children's Ministry	676	450	679	400
Nursery Program	47	200	22	100
Library/Periodicals	125	200	267	200
Fellowship Program	3,638	1,200	3,041	2,000
EDOK Youth Events	191	850	1,143	1,500
VBS	1,990	2,000	2,051	2,000
Community Awareness/Outreach	399	500	246	250
Altar Supplies	3,532	1,500	2,047	1,500
Music Program Supplies	6,439	8,000	535	150
Worship Program	386	500	857	500
Stewardship	-	300	195	300
Lawn Maintenance	5,552	5,350	5,887	7,500
Utilities	19,231	22,300	16,784	18,000
Insurance	14,506	13,230	14,668	14,000
Maintenance/Repairs	7,888	10,000	16,477	12,500
Supplies	1,138	1,800	1,829	1,800
Snow Removal	425	650	-	650
Janitorial Service	10,650	10,400	9,600	9,600
Building/Equipment	-	-	196	200
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>299,949</b>	<b>322,740</b>	<b>339,657</b>	<b>327,328</b>
Surplus/(Deficit)	39,318	(15,872)	(20,343)	(13,908)



## **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

**7404 E. Killarney, Wichita, KS 67206  
316.634.2513 316.634-2580 fax**

**Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday  
9:00 am-1:00 pm**

**Email: [ssec@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ssec@sbcglobal.net)**

**Web Site: [www.ststephensec.org](http://www.ststephensec.org)**



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

### **Our Service Hours**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite One, 8:30 am in the Holy Spirit Chapel  
Adult Forum, 9:30 am in the Fireside Room (most Sundays)**

**Children's Church School, 10:15 am in the Classrooms**

**Junior Youth Group, 10:15 am in the Youth Room**

**Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, 10:30 am in the Sanctuary**

**Senior Youth Group, Noon in the Youth Room**

**Larksfeld Place Service, 2:00 pm, 2nd and 4th Sundays**

**"WE" Wednesday Holy Eucharist, 5:30 pm**

**SAINT  
STEPHEN'S**



**WICHITA**