



Saint Joseph's Episcopal Church



2017 Annual Report

Annual Meeting January 26, 2018

Agenda

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary for Annual Meeting

Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting of January 2017

Official Appointment of Committee on Challenges

Vestry Elections

- Official Appointment of Election Inspectors
- Introduction of Candidates for the Vestry for 2018
- Nominations from the Floor

Annual Reports

- Rector's Report
- Treasurer's Report/Ratification of 2018 Budget
(distributed at the Annual Meeting)

Reporting of Election Results (and further balloting if required)

Closing Prayer

Annual Parish Meeting Adjourns

2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church – 2017 Annual Meeting

Friday, 01/27/2017 Dinner 5:30PM, Meeting 6:30PM

Opening

Rev. Marty Zlatic opened the meeting at 6:30PM with prayer.

Karen Haney, Vestry Clerk, was appointed secretary for the Annual Meeting.

Minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting on 01/22/2016 were presented. Katherine Metzger made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Shirley Goodrich, approved unanimously.

Vestry

Committed of Challenges & Election Inspectors were appointed: Hewlis Dillon (outgoing Vestry), Bobbie Smith, and Rachel Adaszak.

Byron Cameron resigned from the Vestry with two years remaining on his term. The vestry previously approved Dianne Williams to fill the Evangelism Ministry position for the remainder of the term.

The Vestry terms of Sam Mancuso, Donna Pulda, and Hewlis Dillon are expiring.

2017 Vestry nominees are Ric Filer, Jennifer Gomez, and Bob Moore. A motion was made by Cheryl May to close the nominations, seconded by Paul Wegner, approved unanimously.

The nominees were unanimously approved to the vestry by voice acclimation.

Church Life

Fr. Marty Zlatic gave the Rector's Report. He reviewed 2016 highlights of events and activities, including a memorial of those we lost in 2016 and a slideshow of parish activities. He reviewed the upcoming calendar events, attendance, and commitment. Attendance was down in 2016. Commitment is up, with the highest average pledge, with increases for 2017 up and average 23%. He spoke to growing our parish from the outside in and the "business" of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Fr. Marty also reviewed a number of ministry transitions during 2016.

Treasurer's Report

John Port presented the Treasurer's report.

A motion was made by Bobbie Smith to ratify the Vestry's budget, seconded by Sally Antonelli, approved unanimously.

Rector's Awards

Fr. Marty presented Rector's awards: Pam & Arnold Sterling, Ruth Mayhew, Elaine Anderson, Marie Pierre, Sue Oakes.

Closing

Fr. Marty closed the meeting with prayer.

Dennis Paul made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting at 8:20PM, seconded by Noreen Naughton, approved unanimously.

Vestry Biographies



Michael McLemore

My name is Michael McLemore. I was born and raised in Savannah, GA, where I graduated from Savannah State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Until recently, I worked in the telecom industry for 18 years which also brought me down to South Florida in 2004. The experience also led me to meet my beautiful wife Jessica who I have been with for 12 wonderful years. Since joining the church we have grown our family

with the addition of our 2 beautiful daughters, Mackenzie and Makayla.

Together, we along with my brother in law and sister in law, the Oommens, found this amazing church. We knew we had truly found a church home when our then 1 year old daughter Mackenzie would run down the aisle after Unplugged into the welcoming arms of Rev. Wendy. Not only did she say "all are welcome", we knew she meant it.

Additionally, my wife and I have become candle lighters for Unplugged and I have been an Usher for the last several months. I truly feel blessed to have been called to this church and called to serve in the vestry. I'm looking forward to my most recent experience as an exclusive agency owner with Allstate to help me with my duties as a member of the vestry. Should I be voted in, I will serve my stewardship to St. Joseph's dutifully.

Vestry Biographies

Jane Mills



Originally from New Jersey, my husband Ray and I moved to Florida in 1991 and to Boynton Beach in 1999. We moved to Palm Beach Leisurville 3 months ago and are almost ready for our HGTV close-up.

Wanda Brady introduced us to St. Joe's when Ray worked in her building complex. We've been members for 14 years.

I've been a member of the Hospitality Committee for years, helping out at various events. I've become the unofficial Egg Captain for the Easter Brunch, with the motto that it's a sign of good fortune to find an eggshell at Easter. It's a joy and a blessing to be a part of the choir. I sat in at the open rehearsal after the Brotherhood Spaghetti Dinner when David first came, and have been there ever since. This was the first year I was able to help with VCC and look forward to next year. I also became active in the ECW and began filling in posting pledges.

I have a BA in English from Kean College and an MBA in Accounting from Seton Hall University. I taught High School English briefly, and then decided to focus on business. I became Assistant Controller and Associate Vice President at Harmonia Savings Bank in New Jersey where I supervised the Accounting Department and was responsible for regulatory reporting. After moving to Florida, I became Accounts Payable Manager for the Mark Group, a multi-channel clothing and household goods retailer. I retired last year from Palm Beach State College. As Budget Manager, I was responsible for a \$120,000,000 operating budget that encompassed 4 campuses and all administrative departments. I also managed the Facilities and Plant Budget, which covered building construction and major maintenance projects. The last major project I was involved with was the construction of the new Loxahatchee Groves Campus.

I enjoy old movies, show tunes, mysteries, Netflix, dance and cruises – which kind of includes all of the above. Ray and I RV'ed for years and may decide to return to it some day.

Now that I've retired, I would be happy to share my time to serve on the Finance Committee.

Vestry Biographies



Marcos Boronat

My name is Marcos Boronat and it would be a privilege to serve as a member of the Vestry at Saint Joseph's.

I was born in Miami FL and left Florida after I graduated High School. I wanted to explore the world and encounter new cultures and traditions. I lived in Tennessee briefly, then moved to Long Island for my undergraduate studies. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and remained in the New York City Area until 2007 when I moved back to South Florida.

I was raised Roman Catholic, however once I left South Florida my religious participation was limited. A sister of mine was Episcopalian and on occasions that I would

visit her in Philadelphia, I would attend services with her. This practice continued after our respective returns to South Florida and after moving to Boynton Beach, Saint Joseph's was a natural place to begin. I felt ready and was in a position to give back to my community and to live a more prayer centered life

I remember attending my first 7:45 service (and still do) and being invited to coffee hour by Elliot and Dianne. It was a warm and sincere invitation to become part of a family, St. Joseph's. It didn't take me very long to realize that I was in the right place.

I have worked in technical positions (Operations, LAN, Computers & Networking), retail sales and since 1998 as a Licensed Funeral Director in New York and now Florida since 2007. I work with families at the worst possible time of their lives, and be a diplomat, a grief counselor, an emcee, a audio visual guru, a computer geek, an event planner, word smith, motivational speaker and sales person. While there are easier ways to make a living, my vocation has been spiritually satisfying, helping those who cannot help themselves and bringing a small measure of peace to those left behind.

I have served on the Blessing of the Animals since 2012, been an usher and lector since then at the 7:45 service, participated in the Reveal Workshop and Discernment Committee, am an Ambassador for the Green Team, have assisted the Tech Ministry in multimedia presentations at 7:45, updated our landscaping along Swinton, have repaired or maintained office equipment or ice making machines saving the Church funds. I enjoy helping others and my talents have been welcomed.

Since joining Saint Joseph's, truly I have felt loved and challenged by this Church. I have been supported in difficult times, and felt love here. If my being on the Vestry is another way I can serve my family and make a positive difference, then I accept this privilege.

Senior Warden Paul Wegner



Wow, another three years have come and gone.

It has been an honor and an absolute pleasure to have served as your Senior Warden for another term. I have truly been blessed by the support of the Vestry, Father Marty, the staff and congregation. I want to thank all those whom I have served with for not just the past three years, but all twelve years that I have served on your Vestry. Saint Joe's is an amazing place and we have had amazing Vestry members to guide our journey together.

It is not only the Vestry that makes this place great but actually Father Marty, Rev. Wendy, Rev. Mary and the rest of Saint Joe's wonderful staff. But it does not stop there. The people who serve as ministry leaders or serve on and support the many ministries at Saint Joe's are incredible. To me, what makes this place great are the people, all the people. Everyone's willingness to serve God, Saint Joe's, our community and folks throughout the greater community for all of God's Kingdom. We have accomplished so many wonderful things over the past years and I know we have many more wonderful goals to meet, some that we are not even aware of.

The Vestry has recently started to reevaluate some of what we do here, looking to support your needs at Saint Joe's and to make sure each dollar pledged is used to better Saint Joe's, including our outreach activities. I request your continued support for those who will be serving on your Vestry as they work through the process for our future.

I would like to leave you all with this final thought. I used two key words in my report, **service and people**. Please don't forget that it is the service of all the dedicated people at Saint Joe's that have gotten us to where we are today and will continue to move us forward. If you are not part of the active community here at Saint Joe's it is not too late. There are, and will continue, to be many great opportunities to serve Saint Joe's and the greater community of God's Kingdom in 2018 and beyond.

Paul Wegner,
Senior Warden

Prayer For The Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on Earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Junior Warden Ric Filer

Our church facility is kept operational by a team of many, many volunteers and several dozen paid contractors. Without them, our doors would not open and we would not be able to accomplish all our good works.

LET THERE BE (MORE) LIGHT

You may have noticed last summer that several of our parking lot lights were not working. The fixtures were old, corroded and requiring a lot of expensive maintenance. We replaced 9 with brighter, more directed, LED heads. Typical energy savings are as high as 80% and the lamps last many times longer than incandescent, saving on maintenance as well. Payback should happen within 3 years... AND we can now feel safer at night!



HURRICANE BEES

During the re-lamp process, we found a bee colony that had relocated in one of the lamp posts after the hurricane. Baxter's Bee Removal came the next morning to rescue and relocate the swarm.

A few days later we discovered another migrating colony in an irrigation control box near the youth house, Baxter's to the rescue again! Sadly, no honey to share...

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMPANY CHANGE

In spring 2017 the vestry decided to take a more proactive approach to our landscape maintenance and future planting plans by moving to a new contractor. Several quotes were gathered and Ringler Landscape Design, a company that services other religious properties with maintenance, design and planting, was chosen. An initial cleanup was performed and we expect 2018 will bring a continued higher level of maintenance, irrigation refurbishments/upgrades, and plantings to make our grounds more attractive. We will also be working to satisfy our commitment to the city of Boynton Beach of a 15-year plan to upgrade the campus landscape, made back when we started our building improvements.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE FORMED

In order to guide the future landscape improvements and to continue with the 15-year plan a landscape committee has been formed that will make recommendations to help accomplish the vestry's goals.

PLANTINGS COMPLETED

The Garden Angels have worked very hard to keep our gardens looking good. There have been several new plantings around the campus like the Blue Daze along the walk near the front of the church. More to come.

A CLEAN SWEEP

Over the last several months we had been feeling that our cleaning company was not doing the job we expected. After quotes were solicited from several companies we settled on a new company, Stratus Building Solutions, that will be starting February 2018.

PLUMBING REPAIRS

When we refurbished the sexton's house, we kept the old appliances. Unfortunately, the dishwasher and clothes washer did not last. Replacements were installed. We were also able to resolve some routine plumbing issues such as an automatic toilet valve repair and a new kitchen faucet in the youth house.

EXTERMINATOR CHANGED

We gathered several quotes for a new exterminator during the summer and chose Home Town Pest Control as the best fit. They started in the fall 2017.

DEPOSIT SAFE IN OFFICE

In order to improve the security of money collected while the office is closed on weekends and after hours, such as coffee hour money and event signup, we have installed a deposit safe. It has a drop drawer that anyone can use and deposits can only be accessed by a limited number of office staff.

KEEPING OUR COOL

The office HVAC, long past its expected service life at 17 years old, was no longer able to be repaired and we replaced it last fall by Coastline, our main maintenance provider. It was a challenging installation as space was extremely limited in the ceiling over Dee's office. Travis Air, who originally installed the music building HVAC systems, has been awarded the annual maintenance contract for that building.

BACK HALL ROOF LEAK REPAIRED

The back hall near Rev Wendy's office has long been plagued by an elusive roof leak. We had called the roofer several times and each time were told it was fixed. We asked parishioner Tony Pedic to take a look and he quickly discovered the actual problem and repaired it. Thanks Tony!!

COLUMBARIUM GATES SUCCESSFULLY INSTALLED

Thanks to a generous donor, Creative Metals along with CK Locksmith installed our new columbarium gates last January. The new configuration is stronger and more secure and the gates now swing outward, allowing complete access to the niches during an interment ceremony.

NOW WE'RE COOKING WITH GAS

Our parish hall electric range was almost 30 years old, parts were becoming difficult to find and service was becoming expensive. Since we have a LP gas generator behind the parish hall, a Chef Marty-friendly gas range seemed possible. After many months of challenges working with the city of Boynton Beach, it's finally installed! Thanks go to The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the ECW, and Bill and Nancy Swaney for their donations that made this possible. Thanks also for the many others who helped to clean and organize to get the kitchen ready for the new range.

Stop by for the tour...



PARTIAL FACILITIES WISH LIST FOR 2018

Pick your project to help see it done

Choir room riser reconfiguration
Broken curb repairs
Parking lot repair, reseal and restripe
Accordion shutters for Church and Youth House
New nursery kitchenette cabinets
Re-build youth house volleyball court
Re-key youth house to master key system
New fence around sexton's house yard
Replace parish hall fluorescent light fixtures with LED
Genie lift for inside high work around the church
Irrigation extended to areas not serviced and grass planted
Additional outside lighting and security camera north side of church

IN CONCLUSION

The vestry of St. Joseph's thanks all who have helped with church projects this past year; please know that your efforts are greatly appreciated. You have helped in so many ways to ***Keep-the-Doors-Open*** for our St. Joseph's family. We look forward to accomplishing many more church facility projects in 2018; if you have an idea or wish list project you'd like considered, a donation towards a project, a skill to provide or a desire to be part of the church facilities team, please let me know. I'm available anytime by phone, email or through the church office.

LET'S KEEP-THE-DOORS-OPEN IN 2018

Respectfully submitted,
Ric Filer, Junior Warden
RicFiler@Outlook.com
757-504-5396



*"Trust God from the bottom of your heart;
don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in everything you do,
everywhere you go; he's the one that will keep
you on track. Proverbs 3:5-7 (msg)*



Dear St. Joseph's family and friends,

Sunday, January 21, 2018

The above text from Proverbs has guided me for the last fifteen years. To really listen for God in all we do, takes being in a relationship, which means spending time with God, like you would to deepen any relationship. Makes sense, right? In Episcopal 101 we explore many different options for daily disciplines of doing just that and these are just part of the many contemplative practices that are available. This year, I pray we'll all be listening for our Lord to guide us, not only in our personal lives but for the life of this parish, and to really discern how God wants to utilize us for God's mission in this place.

Here are some highlights from 2017:

Our Centering Prayer group continues to meet on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 and is growing. This ancient spiritual discipline grounds us in consenting to God's presence and action within us and through us. Join us! An anonymous donor from our group gifted me with a scholarship to attend a Centering Prayer Formation training/retreat. This training will enable me to lead full day introductions to Centering Prayer under the auspices of Contemplative Outreach for the wider community as we did in 2017. At that event a leader from Contemplative Outreach led about fifty of us some coming from as far away as Orlando & the Keys.

This past year, in order to save money, it was decided by the vestry to cut funding for our Communication Manager for Unplugged. We would really benefit from someone willing to take this on as a volunteer ministry i.e. the website, Instagram and Twitter facilitation. The website that Jaime Legagneur created is beautiful and the opportunity now is great. Skilled and willing? Email me.

Our Bring a Friend to Church Sunday for the parish and spearheaded by folks from Unplugged was a big success.

Our Human Trafficking Awareness and Action Committee, as part of the grant we received from Episcopal Charities, sponsored the second of two events to raise awareness. Experts from the FBI and The Human Trafficking Coalition of the Palm Beaches gave sixty of us an excellent presentation.

Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic – Twenty-five of us served there from March 19-25/2017. It was decided that for 2018, given the devastation following Hurricane Irma, that we would stay and serve in the Middle Keys. We have 29 people who will be going March 18-24. Thank you for your support, as always.

Big thanks to our many volunteers (some 35+) and to Charles Milling and Live Hymnal as well as our youth band for leading Unplugged in worship each week.

I am excited to see how God will be guiding all of us in God's mission for St. Joseph's in 2018 and give thanks for the privilege of serving in this joyful and sacred place.

In Epiphany hope and joy,

Legacy Saints

Thanks to St. Joseph's good steward, Nancy Flinn, our church was introduced to a new concept related to legacy giving last year. Parishioners who choose to provide a bequest to the church upon their death will now be known as St. Joseph's Legacy Saints. To become a "Legacy Saint" any church member need only provide in their personal estate planning documents, prepared according to Florida Law or the law of the state where they reside (that's very important to be effective), a bequest, which is a gift to the church to occur upon their death. In fact, the member need only commit to do so at their earliest convenience, to officially become a "Legacy Saint".

The first year of this new ministry was 2017. It was highlighted by a fantastic dinner prepared by our own Father Marty, who, when not running the church, is a fabulous gourmet chef. It was held for the sole purpose of honoring our saints who now number in the twenties. Additionally, be on the look out for a beautiful plaque honoring current and future saints planned for display in the narthex.

Heading up the St. Joseph's Legacy Saints is our own Bobbie Smith. If you're interested, which hopefully you are, please call her at 736-5642 or the Church office at 732-3060. Attorney church members will be happy to assure that your documents are prepared properly regarding your legacy gift at no charge to you. The next move is yours.

Johnny Eastham



Stewardship



Stewardship in our Church is about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. The tradition of giving back to God and to the Church comes from the Biblical practice of "tithing," which means to give back a tenth of our earnings to God (Numbers 18:26). We believe that our contributions are more than simply contributing money to the

Church; it's also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It's about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.

Thankfulness and stewardship are practiced all year round, not just during Autumn Pledge Campaigns and Holidays. We worshippers want to feel our funds are making a difference. We share in our on-going culture, context, momentum, and potential of our Congregation.

Begun in 2016 and continued in 2017, we have shared our Church Members' stories of how our Church has transformed their lives. Most of these have never been heard before and have drawn people closer together in the life of our Parish. In 2018, perhaps we will extend our theme of joyfully loving one another, building on our Lenten Study about, basically, LOVE!

Bob Moore, Chris Metzger, Charles Milling

Outreach Committee

The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to determine the distribution of the income (\$60,000) from the Benevolent Fund, set up many years ago by a generous parishioner. Half of the yearly proceeds is earmarked for "outreach". The monies are to support missionary work and community charities that serve the disadvantaged. The committee presents its recommendations to the Vestry for final approval. The committee for 2017 was Gail Drane, Jennifer Gomez, Barbara MacKenzie, Christine Pedic, Matthew Phillips, Linda Sorenson, and Fr. Marty Zlatic.



Church members are involved in volunteer work throughout our area. We participated in the C.R.O.S. Ministries "Walk to End Hunger" in October and raised over \$11,000 for their feeding programs throughout the county. Several of the committee members attended a fund-raising event for the McGregor's held in Boca Raton. We reached out to each of the programs this year to ascertain the need for and stewardship of the contribution.

The Vestry has approved the following recommendations:

Bishop Todd and the Rev. Patsy McGregor, Madagascar	6,000
Caridad Center, Health Care	1,000
CROS Ministries, Feeding, after-school, summer-camp programs	2,000
Family Promise, Homeless program for families	2,000
Pastor Lynne's Pension at St. Joseph's School (remainder of this academic year)	4,500
Holy Redeemer Church, Lake Worth (pending)	8,000
Hurricane Irma Relief, St. Columba in Marathon, FL, Family sheltering	2,000
Kairos Prison Ministry (pending)	2,000
Nursing Home, Boca Chica, D.R., Staffing salaries + travel expenses	7,000
For nurse consultation, if needed	1,000
Our Little Roses Home for Girls, Honduras	1,000
Parish Mission Trip to Florida Keys for hurricane remediation	8,000
People Reaching People, Toliara Endowment Fund (Madagascar)	2,000
St. Joseph's Episcopal School, Scholarship Fund	5,000
Fr. Marty's Discretionary Fund	8,500
	\$60,000

Respectfully submitted by,
Linda Sorenson

Rev. Mary Naughton



Some years ago I overheard a conversation between two members of a parish where I was then serving as a lay Pastoral Associate. "I'd be lost without my calendar," said one. "Calendar? What calendar?" said the other, "I don't need a calendar; I just wander up to Church every night after supper and something will be going on."

That conversation could take place at St. Joseph's today!

In addition to all the wonderful offerings provided by Fr. Marty and Rev. Wendy, I have been privileged to succeed Fr. William Stomski in leading Bible Study, first on Monday nights and then, as time went on and some people stopped driving at night, on Tuesday mornings as well. During 2017 we focused on the New Testament and read and reflected on some of Paul's letters, The Acts of the Apostles, and all four Gospels.

During Lent, in response to some parishioners who asked for it, we offered Friday evenings of Taize *Prayer Around the Cross*. This was a contemplative way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter with silence, chant, and prayer.

While studying the Scriptures it became clear that people really wanted to pray with them but didn't know how to do it or where to begin. In August and September, a small group met weekly in a Retreat based on Scripture and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola.

So, this is a small part of why you don't need a calendar! Just wander up to St. Joseph's - and invite a friend to come along. Every offering is open to all. We are the "Beloved Community," welcoming all and incorporating all. What a blessing to belong to St. Joseph's!

Rev. Mary

Altar Guild



We are happy to welcome back a former Altar Guild member, Nancy Hykel. Nancy attends the Unplugged service and is now active in Altar Guild ministry for that service. We have also added Ellen Newell, who has long been assisting and is now officially a member.

As we welcome the new members, we also acknowledge some painful losses. Last year we lost Susan Brand and most recently our beloved Jean Thayer. We also have one member who is temporarily unable to serve due to family obligations.

We continue to seek new members for all services.

Ruth Mayhew,
Altar Guild Directress



Minister of Worship Music



As I sit in my office writing to you, I am amazed that we've been together for almost 5 years – 5 Easters, 5 Christmases, the 5th *Word Beyond Words* coming in a few weeks; in other words, 5 of everything. Even after 5 years I continue to be filled with anticipation as I travel each day from my home in Fort Lauderdale, and I do a lot of thinking and decompressing every time I take the drive back home at the end of the day.

It would come as no surprise for me to say, because so many of you also say it, that St. Joseph's is an amazing faith community and a place where the Holy Spirit works in and through each person. I feel blessed to be in ministry with all of you and honored to work with Fr. Marty and the staff.

The members of the Parish Choir continue to be the musical backbone for our worship. Between Thursdays and Sunday, most of our choir members give 5 hours a week of their time! I recently had a colleague visiting from Connecticut who was able to attend a Thursday rehearsal and was amazed at the fun the choir was having from 7:30 until 9:09 (BTW – that was a subtle way of saying it's a great place to be and you're all invited anytime!). AND – he was blown away by the fact that different sections of the choir wanted to have their own special rehearsals.

Some highlights of this past year were:

A profound worship experience with the "Word Beyond Words" service on the First Sunday of Lent – meditation, chanting, singing, instruments, drama and "The Lord's Prayer" in sign language.

Young people – singing on key and with joyful hearts, including an excerpt from Handel's *Messiah* on Christmas Eve.

Music enhanced by vocal soloists and instrumentalists on trumpets, trombones, timpani, violin and cello at special services.

Choir music that is led more by the Holy Spirit than the Director of Music – with a wide range of meaning-filled moods and texts.

Choir presentation of "Worthy Is the Lamb" from Handel's *Messiah* on Easter, a difficult musical work that took regular rehearsals on Thursdays and many sectional rehearsals in small groups.

The 4th Shrove Tuesday Koko Konzert, featuring Koko The Gorilla, Gloria The Swan, a handbell solo, 200 monkeys with parachutes flying through the air and poetry written by Koko and read by members of our JAM! Choir. I was there, too.

30-Minute piano preludes on Saturday afternoons and Sunday morning piano preludes before the organ prelude.

Attendance at the all-inspiring convention of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), in Montreal.



Minister of Worship Music



Our “JAM! Choir” (JAM stands for Joy And Music!) children have continued to sing on a monthly basis and are now beginning to be intentional about teaching some of their songs to the congregation so that everyone can enjoy singing them. The choir program offers two different times for rehearsing – Wednesdays at 5 o’clock for 60 minutes and some Sundays at 11:00 for 20 minutes. The Sunday experience allows many to participate by focusing on just the music of the current month. The Wednesday experience allows more time for vocal

instruction and song learning, especially songs that will be sung in future months – AND – the children are all learning to play basic melodies on the piano! But even more important, the longer time frame on Wednesdays allows time to do what we actually pray for each week when we start our rehearsal: “God, help us to know you better, to know Jesus better, to get to know each other better and to learn our music.” Whether it’s a Wednesday or a Sunday, we take time to read a brief passage from the Bible and talk about what it might mean in the context of our lives.

On a personal note, thank you, people of St. Joseph’s Parish, for continuing to support me in my ministry. You humble me with your friendship and love. Thank you to the many people who traveled to my home town in Vermont in June – and endured the 40-degree rainy weather – to help me celebrate 50 years of being “on the bench.”

I look forward to another great year with many more new, different and surprisingly delight-filled opportunities for ministry in the name of Christ.



Blessings,

David

David Clyle Morse,
Minister of Worship Music

Ministry Reports



2017 Angel Tree Outreach

We had, yet again, another successful Christmas outreach program with Holy Redeemer Church in Lake Worth. This year, with the advice of Holy Redeemer's Junior Warden, we ran a two-pronged program: Angels for children, and sneakers and work boots for adults.

We had 57 children's Angels this year, from 21 families. Amazingly, all 57 Angels were snatched from our little tree before the start of the 11:45 service on the first weekend! All the gifts were returned on time for us to deliver them to Holy Redeemer on Sunday, 12/17. I was actually overwhelmed by volunteers to deliver the gifts. The fun part is that we actually get to meet the families when they pick up the gifts.

We also collected about 50 pairs of sneakers and work boots. These were delivered by Rev. Lynne Jones and her crew of students from St. Joseph's Episcopal School during the Christmas dinner they host at Holy Redeemer. If you have ever worked on your feet, you know the value these shoes have to those who cannot afford to buy their own.

Thank you to all.

Karen Haney

St Joseph's Acolytes



Did you know?

The word acolyte means "attendant" or "one who helps". Acolytes have helped with the worship service since the early Christian church. Some say that acolytes have an even longer history - that Samuel, who assisted Eli in the Old Testament, was really the first acolyte.

1 Samuel 2

"And the boy became the LORD's helper, for he assisted Eli the priest and wore a linen robe"

Saint Joseph's Acolytes assist the clergy at the altar and in processions, carrying the crosses (crucifer and priest cross), candles (torches), banners and flags. Being an acolyte provides children grades 3 and up and young adults with the unique opportunity to more fully participate in the worship service and to assume a leadership position in our Parish, learn our traditions, and to actively participate in our services in a very unique and memorable way.

I am so blessed to work with 25 dedicated youth and young adults who participate in the Ministry of Acolytes. I am so grateful for their service to our Lord and our wonderful St. Joseph's Church and family.

We are always looking for new acolytes; they usually serve once every 2 months. If you have a child that wants to be an acolyte please e-mail me at sst33483@gmail.com.

Christ's Peace and Love
Sherry Thomas
Acolyte Master

Ministry Reports

Newcomer Bread Ministry

The Newcomer Bread Ministry is to welcome those persons who have come to one of our worship services actively seeking a new church home and to help integrate them into the life of our St. Joseph's community.

We have a number of volunteers who bake loaves of fruit/nut breads which are then delivered personally by other volunteers to those who have visited our parish. Thirty-five loaves of this homemade bread were delivered in 2017. We pray this extra touch of welcome will emphasize our hope that those who visit will know how much we wish to share Christ's love and fellowship with them at St. Joseph's and join us in our walk of faith.

In Christ's love, Bobbie Smith



Healing Prayer Shawl Ministry

In February 2006, our parish launched the "Healing Prayer Shawl Ministry" under the leadership of the Daughters of the King. This ministry invites parishioners to prayerfully knit or crochet beautiful warm, cuddly shawls which are blessed by Fr. Marty, Rev. Wendy, or Rev. Mary and then given to persons who are in treatment for and recovering from various ailments and/or surgeries, new mothers, those who have suffered the recent loss of a loved one, etc. – those needing a tangible touch of God's love and comfort in their lives.

By the close of 2017, 20 (twenty) healing prayers shawls had been given. Many in our parish have been busy making shawls for those in need. You are invited to participate in this ministry by knitting or crocheting a shawl. Just call Bobbie Smith (827-3109) for the easy instructions.

Requests for shawls for our parish family members will be filled before requests for persons outside St. Joseph's; therefore, we invite your requests. If you wish to request a Healing Prayer Shawl, please call Bobbie Smith (827-3109) or Lynda Shaffer (432-9930).

Hopefully, after reading this, you will feel lead to participate in the Healing Prayer Shawl Ministry in some way. Please contact Bobbie Smith or Lynda Shaffer, to let us know how you would like to join us in this worthy ministry as another way of "Outreach" to many with God's unconditional, healing love.

In Christ's love, Bobbie Smith

Holy Redeemer Dinners

Luke 2:10-11 *The crowds asked him "What then should we do?" He answered, "Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same".*



On the second and fifth Friday of each month a rotating

group of volunteers from St. Joseph's serve a hot and healthy meal to needy, often homeless, people at Holy Redeemer Church in Lake Worth.

The volunteers meet at 3:30 p.m. and begin to heat the meatballs and lasagna, slice and butter the bread, plate the desserts and prepare the hearty salad. At 4:30 p.m. we gather our guests to bless and then serve the meal. We usually serve 25-40 people, both adults and children.

We are fortunate to have a truly dedicated group of volunteers and are pleased that several young people have joined us this year when they are able. Their cheerful presence brightens the day of all who attend. More hands are always needed and we welcome all who feel called to help. We are especially grateful in 2017 for several parishioners who cannot be physically present on Fridays and support us with donations of funds, fresh fruit, desserts and most of all their prayers.

For His Sake,

Christine and Tony Pedic

Daughters of The King



The **St. Margaret of Scotland Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King**, had a very full and fulfilling year.

We installed four new Daughters and have had three transfers in to our chapter. We are now 59 Daughters strong.

We have Daughters in the Lady Chapel during Communion at all three Sunday services, and we coordinate the Coffee Hour on the first Sunday of the month.



Our Young at Heart Luncheon, on January 29th was a joy to behold. The food was great, our Church children, made favors and provided musical entertainment, and David Clyde Morse led us in a singalong. Everyone enjoyed the festivities, and we love doing it.

Our Chapter prepared a Lenten Devotional for the 10th year, to use by our parishioners as a part of their Lenten devotions each day. The 2018 Devotional will be available on Ash Wednesday.

We held our Advent Quiet Day on December 2nd led by Rev. Mary Naughton. It was relaxing and helped us remember that Advent is a season of waiting, and preparing for the birth of The Christ child. No noise, be still and listen.

In keeping with this theme, we decided to do reverse Advent Calendars. Instead of opening tiny windows each day, we placed an item in our own bins, to be sent to St. Columba's in the Keys.

Many were collected, as well as toys from our ECW. Rev. Wendy made sure all were picked up and delivered before Christmas!

We look forward to a prayer filled 2018.

FHS,
Gail Drane
President

*I am but one, but I am one
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do?*



Voices in Bronze



Each year as we prepare to start our bell ringing season a Bible quote and a prayer or poem are selected to represent the focus for the coming season. For 2017 our quote selected was *"Mountaintops are for views and inspiration, but fruit is grown in the valleys."*

Billy Graham

Handbell choirs are unique in the musical world simply because it takes the entire team to play "the instrument," which is not complete if someone is missing. We welcome new ringers Patty, Monica and Dennis who have all just started ringing bells. We are so fortunate that we have been given the opportunity to enhance the worship service in offering musical selections that will compliment worship and the liturgical seasons of the church year. Our music selections try to encompass many different musical styles from traditional hymn tunes to contemporary praise music.

Lent saw us being part of the silent service as we opened with the plaintive "Appassionata" to set the tone to start the service to Spring when we played the rousing Kingsfold and heartfelt "On Eagles Wings". We are blessed that we have been given the opportunity to grow musically even if that means we have a few hiccups along the way. This past Advent we set our goals high with pushing our ringing abilities with the energetic "The Holly and the Ivy". It was one of the hardest songs we have done to date both in tempo changes and technique! We are looking forward to an exciting and growth filled year as we welcome and **RING IN 2018**. This year will see us heading to the Florida State Handbell Festival with David Harris, Director of the professional performing group The Raleigh Ringers... what a great opportunity to work and study with one of the best in our field!!

In the movie "It's a Wonderful Life", they say, "Every time a bell rings an angel gets their wings" ... **It's time to join the Few, the Proud, the ringers of St. Josephs!** Come join our Voices in Bronze!! No experience necessary and we will teach you to read music. We range from very beginner to the more advanced ringers in an intergenerational choir setting. We meet on Monday nights from 7:15-8:30pm. For further information please ask any Voices in Bronze member or call at 561-714-6254.

Sue Tiller



Children's Ministry Report

Children's Ministry serves the needs of all children from birth to 5th grade and their families.

Sunday School is for children from Nursery through 5th grade and occurs during the 9:30 am service. Children are escorted back to their families in church before Communion. Curriculum is from Godly Play, Living the Good News, and Weaving God's Promises.

2017 Statistics

Children on Database: 138

Sunday School Teachers: 19

Children's Ministry Team: 58

Baptisms: 11 children and 2 adults



Dee Zlatic

Superintendent Luanne Varn is in her seventh year as Sunday School Superintendent.

Sunday School teachers teach the first two Sundays of each month using Weaving God's Promises curriculum. Returning teachers are Michelle Ashley, Colleen Fritts, Tom Handy, Stacey Kern, Jennifer Marangos, Jennifer Power, and Chris Reisert. Beth Hill returns to teaching preschool Sunday School, and Tami and Justin Oommen and Joan Therien join the Sunday School team this year.

Godly Play - every third Sunday in Sunday School for preschool through first grade. Using the Episcopal curriculum Godly Play, children experience "the holy" through storytelling techniques. Returning facilitators are Sarah Barnes, Gail Drane, Barbara MacKenzie, and Christine Pedic.

Gospel Play - every third Sunday during Sunday School, second through fifth grade students learn about the Gospel by experiential learning using creative drama, art & movement. These creations are displayed at 4th Sunday All Ages Worship. Gospel Play Sunday School Teachers are Joan Therien and Dee Zlatic.

Shepherds assist children in church and alert Sunday School classes when to return to church. Shepherds for 2017-18 in order of Sundays are the Flynns, Franklins, and Marsha Farmer.

All Ages Worship - every fourth Sunday, students attend All Ages Worship with their families. JAM! Choir sings. Students serve as lectors. Gospel Play provides an illumination to that Sunday's Gospel. Although there is no Sunday School, childcare is offered in the Nursery for young ones whose parents feel may not be ready to attend a full church service.

Family Ushers serve every fourth Sunday. Our families in 2017-18 are The Haddads, and Reisert/Cianciolo families. The Flynn family also serves every fifth Sunday and as needed.

Children's Choir:

JAM! (Joy and Music) choir is directed by David Clyde Morse for 2nd grade through 5th grade students. Nicole Saperton is Choir Parent and assists David with rehearsals. There are currently 8 members of the choir.

Children's Ministry Report

Toddlin Together Classes

Designed for babies through children "not-in-preschool yet" and their caregivers, Parishioner Nancy Jones and Dee Zlatic facilitate this group that meets weekly. This program serves church families as well as the community outside our church.

Additional Children's Ministry Information:

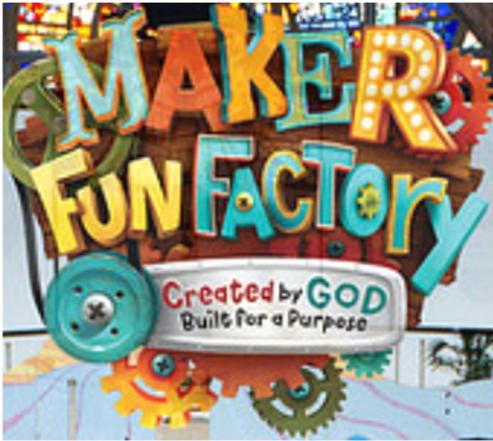
- Childcare for various ages is provided from 9 am through 12:45 pm (the end of the Unplugged Service). Childcare is also provided at special services and/or events as needed (i.e. Episcopal 101, Annual Meeting, etc). We are blessed to have Patricia Sheaks and her father Oscar Sotomayor (lovingly called Papy) and Stephanie Wrona as ongoing childcare staff. Kim Stivers is support staff.
- Holy Baptism - The Sunday School classes return early to watch the baptisms at the 9:30am Service. The newly baptized receive a faith chest (by The Brotherhood of St Andrew) filled with personalized, age-appropriate items created and donated by parishioners and the church organizations. Items include plush bear (DOK), hand-stitched baby quilt (Sassy Sewers), Christian books (ECW and Unplugged) and music and a personalized hand-crafted baptismal banner (Janet Gibson, Joan Fox, Jean Thayer). Event Coordinator Cher Sandhoff coordinates the special coffee hours. Photographers capture the momentous event. On the fourth Sunday in January, we celebrate the newly baptized at the 9:30 All Ages Worship with a projected slide show of the baptisms and a presentation of the personalized banners. This year, a total of 11 children and 2 adults were baptized.
- Holy Communion Milestone - This series of classes for First and Second Grade (or older) students and their parents is offered to our parish and school. In 2017, the Reverends Mary Naughton and Lynne Jones taught 9 children. Holy Communion Milestone Eucharist was on March 12, 2017.
- Acolytes – 3rd-5th grade students join youth volunteers to serve as acolytes for the 9:30 am service. Because the younger acolytes miss Sunday School when serving, Sherry Thomas, Acolyte Director, works to schedule them on Sundays when there is no Sunday School.
- Vacation Church Camp – This 6-day summer offering occurred in June. See separate report.
- Special Events - Children's Ministry special events include Sunday School Kick-off, old-fashioned carnival games on the Sunday closest to Halloween, Christmas Eve Nativity reenactment, Epiphany reenactment, Palm Sunday reenactment with live donkey, Easter's egg hunt, and the end of Sunday School year church picnic. Special Events Chair, Sylvia Jimenez, continues to coordinate these activities.
- Christmas Eve -The 4 pm service had the annual "spontaneous Christmas Pageant" for children. There is no rehearsal for the children. Adult volunteers costume all children who want to participate. Throngs of children participate. Parishioner Ray Mills designed and handles the set pieces. NEW for 2017: JAM! Choir sang an excerpt from Handel's Messiah.

At the **6:30pm service**, baby Jesus was played by newly born Reid Aubrey, with parents Kyle and Rhiannon as the holy family, and 3 year old brother Keaton as the Christmas Star.

- Epiphany 9:30am service Newborn Dylan Faillace was Jesus while parents Marshall and Regina were Joseph and Mary. The three Kings were Aunt Heather Vidulich, Grandmother Holly Faillace, cousin Carter Vidulich, and the star was cousin Hutton Vidulich. The adult choir sang We Three Kings as the family reenacted the story.

Respectfully Submitted by Dee Zlatic, Children's Minister

Vacation Church Camp 2017



Saint Joseph’s Vacation Church Camp (VCC) continues to be a major summer treat for preschoolers, children, youth and adults. St. Joseph’s reached out to the community on the week of June 12-17 with Maker Fun Factory...*created by God, built for a purpose*. Each day, all experienced a different Bible verse, Bible story, and key Bible truth for the day, as they travelled with their crews to Games, Theater, Crafts, Video, Church, and Snacks Stations. NOTE: Preschoolers and their crew leaders experienced everything the elementary aged children experienced, but in their own safe space with PK-VCC director Barbara Wegner and team. Everyone lived the week knowing God made you, is for

you, is always with you, will always love you, and made you for a reason. Object lessons with Godly meaning delighted participants. Mike Farmer played the character Ian Victor the inventor and had all participants laughing at his antics. Reverend Wendy Tobias mesmerized the children and youth each day with experiential-style learning, that brought Bible stories to life in a “transformed” youth house. And, at the close of each day, Father Marty illuminated the daily lessons at the closings in church. The youth band directed by Charles Milling wowed all.

REGISTERED for VCC 2017		St Joseph’s church	no church	“Other churches”	# different churches represented	# different schools represented
121	Youth volunteers	47	13	61	26	35
188	Campers(K-5th)	44	35	109	36	43
40	Campers Preschool	11	3	26	17	21
63	Adult volunteers	58	2	3	4	n/a
2	Nursery	2	0	0	0	n/a

Ray Mills, with the support of wife Jane, filled our eyes with dazzling intricate scenes of God’s vastness. Yay, Ray!

OUTREACH The camp donated over 200 **uniform shirts** for these local Title One schools: **Forest Park, Galaxy, Palmetto, Pine Grove and Rolling Green, and to Gautier School in the Dominican Republic.**

Special Thank you to all the Youth and Adult Volunteers who gave their time and talent. It takes a village!



Vacation Church Camp 2017

ADULT VOLUNTEERS: Sally Antonelli, Michelle Ashley, Sarah Barnes, Jennifer Boddicker, Alexandra Carpenter, Carl Carter, Mary ann Cevasco, Angel Christie, Erica Dangelo, Gail Drane, Kelly DuBois, Marsha Farmer, Mike Farmer, Ric Filer, Andrea Flynn, Joan Fox, Colleen Fritts, Annette Gellermann, Janet Gibson, Donna Gibson, Shirley Goodrich, Simone Green, Jerry Guthrie, Carrie Guthrie, Georgia Handy, Elizabeth Hill, Ellen Houck, Lisa Hyland, Sylvia Jimenez, Sandy Koch-stone, Jean Krokus, Charlotte Lees, Barbara Mackenzie, Talle Malkemus, Jennifer Marangos, Joan Meyer, Charles Milling, Ray Mills, Jane Mills, Cecelia Murry, Rev. Mary Naughton, Nora Naughton, Ellen Newell, Justin Oommen, Rachel Oyler, Christine Pedic, Phyllis Roberts, Cher Sandhoff, Barbara Savko, Patricia Sheaks, Gay Sideris, Olga Soto, Judith Spencer, Pam Sterling, Jean Thayer, Sherry Thomas, Debra Titkemeier, Rev. Wendy Tobias, Caroline Tummino, Beverly Vivian, Barbara Wegner, Dee Zlatic, Rev. Marty Zlatic



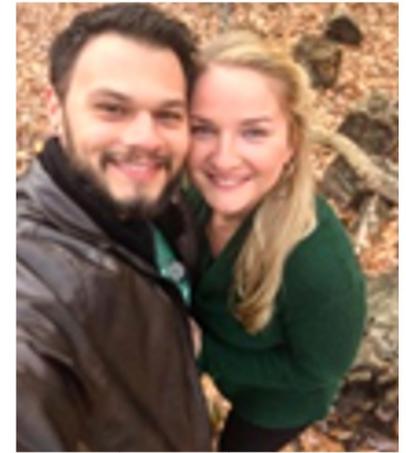
YOUTH VOLUNTEERS: Carolyn Amaya, Jaylyn Asble, Thomas Ashley, Morgan Betty, Gianni Black, Ben Boddicker, Madison Bourque, Zack Brand, Isabella Brautigham, Leah Brinkman, Lila Burns, Lucas Bustamante, Antonio Caleca, Kyle Cameron, Isabella Chiodo, Natalie Claude, Aidan Crane, Teresa Dangelo, Max Davis, Hannah Davis, Christopher Dlugokecki, Daniel Dobsky, Jeremy Dormelus, Madison Dowling, Elizabeth Duchock, Hope Flynn, Ryan Flynn, Nicole Frias, Gianna Gallo, Sophia Gorski, Carmelina Gorski, Thomas Haag, Ryan Haag, Noah Haddad, Joshua Haddad, Annalee Handy, Sally Handy, Lauren Hedman, Daylen Hernandez, Daniel Hernandez, Preston Hill, Madelynne Hill, Mark Hillman, Sarah Hillman, Tyler Hrynkiw, Josephine Hunt, Khristian Jean Jacques, Jasmin Jimenez, Hunter Jones, Cassandra Jones, Lacey Kennemer, A.J. Koltz, Amanda Kondrath, Quinn Lowry, Katherine Lowry, Emma Mahady, John Mahady, Mark Mahady, Lilianna Martinez, Veronica McCord, Joseph Muggeo, Kayla Murry, Megan O'connor, Aidan Okosodo, Aron Okosodo, Johan Ones, Carmen Ones, Christian Pinzino, Isabella Pinzino, Stevie Polhemus, Joshua Port, Christina Porter, Bryce Povedano, Mason Reese, Allison Rivera, Raquel Rojas, Renee Rojas, Sheccid Rojas, Charlotte Rowley, Hannah Salmon, Nicholas Sama, Natalee Sama, Hector Sardina, Alex Sardina, Anthony Sardo, Anthony Scalisi, Jillian Schenk, Jenna Schenk, Riley Simmons, Gianna Smith, Isabella Spina, Jade Steele, Luke Stivers, Kyle Stokes, Sylvia Sussman, Sie Thompson, Jolie Thompson, Spencer Thompson, Cena Thompson, Jordan Thornhill, William Tirado, Carson Tummino, Carianne Tummino, Cameron Tummino, Victoria Uys, Dean Uys, Gregory Warnecke, Grayson Westine, Marin Westine, Cody Wheeler, Victoria Wilson, Mason Wright

Respectfully Submitted by Dee Zlatic, Children's Minister

Youth Ministry

My name is Shannon Zalewski and I am the new youth minister here at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. I have been attending this church since 1998 when my family relocated all the way from West Palm Beach FL to Boynton Beach FL. I grew up in the church experiencing the programs we offer from Sunday school all the way to the Journey to Adulthood program. In 2007 I attended College at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, FL where I obtained my Bachelors of Science in Nursing in 2011.

Back up a little and In October of 2010 I linked back up with one of my best friends from the St.Joes youth group- Nick Zalewski- In March of 2011 we got engaged. I assured my mother it would be a long engagement only to find out Nick would be deploying that August with the US Army to Iraq. We were married on August 3rd, 2011.



On August 6th 2011 I then started my first position in my desired career as a Cardiac Registered nurse at Bethesda Hospital East - 3 years in I switched ends of the spectrum and am currently a Labor and delivery nurse at Bethesda.

At the beginning of this year Deborah had asked us again, yes again, if we wanted to help out with the youth program. I assured her I probably couldn't due to my work schedule only to look and see that I had every Wednesday off for the following two months- message received Lord!

Plans for this year:

Journey to Adulthood Meetings for youth: Rite 13: 6th & 7th Grade and J2A: 8th, 9th, 10th Grade
All youth welcome!

1st two Sundays of the month: Meet in the youth house at 09:30am- class from 09:30am- 11:00am. We will participate in coffee hour in between. We will attend the unplugged service these weeks at 11:45am- pick up at 12:45pm

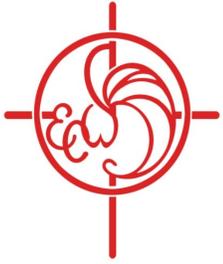
Last two Sundays of the month: Meet at the youth house at 09:20am- walk over to church together- sit together for the 09:30am church service. (If you are running late just meet us in the church!) 10:45am (end of service) then a break (Coffee hour 15 minutes) 11:00am- 12:45pm- Rite 13 and J2A class in the youth house.

Wednesday Night Madness: Every Wednesday from 6pm-8pm. Dinner provided. A time for fellowship and fun midweek! All 6th grade-12th grade welcome!

I am extremely excited that God has placed me where I truly feel I have been called to be. I am looking forward to this next adventure with the best youth in town!

Shannon Zalewski

Episcopal Church Women



St. Joseph's ECW was indeed very busy once again this year. Among the projects that we had were our annual Fall Festival and bake sale, a Christmas bazaar, and a fashion show; these fundraisers were a tremendous success and helped us to support some of the good we do for our church as well as the community.



This year we were fortunate to be able to adopt Zoila, a young girl from Our Little Rose's Home for Girls in Honduras. With this adoption she will be able to attend school, be clothed and fed and cared for.

We were able to help sponsor the Young at Heart Luncheon, contribute to Diocese of South Florida, give Christmas gifts to the children in Marathon Florida, give Christmas gifts to our staff. We also were able to donate \$5,000 for the new stove as well as an additional \$2,000 toward the licensing and permits mandated by Boynton Beach.



Over the course of the coming year we will continue to strive toward helping our church and community.



With your help we can do more, won't you join us? Become an active member of St Joseph ECW.

Submitted with peace and love,

Cheryl Laski

President



Tech Ministry and Graphic Design



During 2017 our St. Joseph's website was switched over to a WordPress site which allows for collaborative editing. The design and implementation were accomplished by John Carpenter. As an administrative user, along with John and Sherry Thomas, I continued with the maintenance and updating of the website, www.stjoesweb.org, under the supervision of Vestry liaison Sherry Thomas. This was a monumental task, but it was necessary for the "behind the scenes" updating of the website (ie. it is now optimized for mobile devices). I personally want to extend a huge "Thank You!" to John for making this a reality!

In another update, thanks to Sherry Thomas, we now have a new projector system, Epson 8000 Lumens! Unfortunately, our other projectors both died within a month of each other and we scrambled to get the new ones in for Christmas Eve service. They are a big improvement and are wonderful, beautiful and bright!

Our Google Calendar, updated regularly by Sherry, contains all major parish announcements and events, programs, and other vital information for parishioners and newcomers seeking a church home, with a direct link from the button bar of the website. We also utilize Constant Contact to keep parishioners informed, coordinated by Karen Antonucci. We link to an extended Flickr Photo Gallery, which Sherry uploads photos of parish events which are available for viewing and download, from the beautiful work of our parish "photogs", Gay Sideris, Georgia Handy, and Nancy Swaney.

The sermons page, containing an archive of St. Joseph's sermons and Gospels, is maintained by John Carpenter. Sherry and John do the recordings in the choir loft incorporating sermons from both Fr. Marty, Rev. Wendy and Rev. Mary. Sherry also does the projection for Unplugged at 11:45.

I continue to create a slide show as seen on the home page, which is updated every few months showcasing the events and fellowship which St. Joseph's is famous for!

We are a small but mighty team. The Technical Ministries team we have built, Rich Haney, John Carpenter, Sherry Thomas, Karen Antonucci, and welcoming back Ric Filer and myself, support each other in the job of keeping the St. Joseph's family informed and involved. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my team members for all their efforts, making my contribution possible.

Susan Oakes
Webmaster

Ushers

After serving as an usher for over 25 years, I decided to look up the definition. An usher is: "an officer or *servant* who has the care of the door of a court, hall, or chamber" (Church?!). Or, as many of my friends would say, "ushers... ush". At any rate, you probably recognize "ushers" as facilitators for the worship service – handing out bulletins, giving directions, or helping you find where your spouse is seated; and they "ush" at various functions such as the Blessing of the Animals, weddings, and celebrations of life. If you get a chance, please thank them for their service.



And won't you consider trying your hand at "ushing" too? It is open to all men, women, and families. We are always in need of new volunteers. Consider yourselves as having been asked. All you need to do is Say Yes. We try to schedule you to meet your circumstances. Call the church office at 561-732-3060 or call me, Bob Lees, at 561-436-7766 or email me at weezerusmc1969@gmail.com.

How about a great big **THANK-YOU** to our fine Ushers who served in 2017?

Robert Lees

Tech Ministry—Communications

Don't miss out on important announcements and updates on all the news from St. Joseph's! Did you miss going to church this week and want to hear the sermon? Or maybe it was so good, you'd like to hear it again or share it with a friend.

Sign up to receive our email notices and you can choose to receive a weekly link to Sunday sermons and/or just special announcements. Visit our website www.stjoesweb.org and click on the "Join Our Mailing List" button at the top of the page. It's that easy!

Karen Antonucci



Parish Nurse

When I was working full time, I always wanted more time to be able to help those who could benefit from a parish nurse. Retired, I am able to do that. When Fr. Marty is aware of a need, he may ask me to see someone. What the Parish Nurse does varies depending on the needs of the person.

Generally, this does not involve direct nursing care, but helping someone to access the services they may need. Our health care system can be very complicated, and sometimes I am able to provide information to help a person through the maze of paperwork and health plan requirements.

At Holy Redeemer, I was able to help some who had no health insurance to access insurance.

So if you have a question or a need, please let me know and I will try to assist in whatever way I can.

Barbara MacKenzie



Lay Anointing Ministers—LAMS



The Order of Saint Luke is an ecumenical international healing order. At Saint Joseph's the LAMS have all completed the training which includes studying the healing miracles of Jesus Christ. Then, with additional training from Father Marty, we began our healing ministry as LAMS. Each of the LAMS is also a Lay Eucharist Minister and can take communion to those who are unable to attend church.

At the Saturday service, one of the LAMS assists with the anointing during the Prayers of the People. On Sunday, at the 9:30 service, LAMS are assigned to the Lady Chapel to work with the DOK who offer healing prayer that is followed by anointing by one of the LAMS.

When we take communion to someone at home, in hospital or a nursing facility, the LAM is also able to offer anointing. Please be sure to let the office know if you would like a visit from a LAM. Often we are unaware of those who would like a visit from a LAM and so I encourage you to let the office know if you or someone you know would like a visit.

This is a wonderful ministry which each of the LAMS is humbled and blessed to be a part of.

Barbara MacKenzie

Lay Eucharistic Ministry



"Because Christ is 'the head of the Church which is His Body' (Eph. 1:23), the treasures of His grace are made abundantly available to all who through charity are one with Him as living members"

- Louis of Grenada (1554-1623)

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs), also known as "Eucharistic Visitors", are a vital lay ministry in our parish. According to Title III, Canon 4, Sec. 7, a Eucharistic Visitor is a lay person authorized to take the Consecrated Elements in a timely manner following a Celebration of Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration. In performing this Celebration, the LEMs carry and extend the true meaning of the "Body of Christ" to the St Joseph's extended family.

In 2017 Saint Joseph's Episcopal Church was blessed with nine (9) Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Gail Drane, Betsy Hvide, Bob Lees, Barbara MacKenzie, Katherine Metzger, Christine Pedic, Gary Riggs, and Bobbie Smith. Through the Church Office, Gary coordinates the assignments LEMs to communicants requesting the Eucharist who were otherwise unable to attend this day's mass.

At the conclusion of Celebration of Mass, especially the 9:30 service, you may observe the communion kits containing the elements blessed in that day's mass being assigned to LEMs. Those needing LEM visits make their presence known to the parish office or any LEM so a visit may be arranged. The average interval between visits is two weeks. In 2017 Saint Joseph's LEMs made about 85 visits and celebrated with about 155 communicants. The Mass of Celebration is an abbreviated liturgy that mirrors the services in the BCP. A typical visit lasted 20-30 minutes.

LEMs are required to be bold professors of faith and Christ's love, and to be intimately familiar with the LEM service as well as the prescribed methods for care and presentation of the blessed elements. Some personal qualities common among all Saint Joseph's LEMs are a commitment to follow Jesus Christ with love and a path of Christian growth, life by the Baptismal Covenant, faithful in prayer, worship, and Bible study, compassion, commitment, dedication, great interpersonal and listening skills, vulnerability and humility.

Some LEM areas of expertise are:

- The basic content of the Book of Common Prayer.
- The theology and meaning of the Eucharist.
- The structure of the Eucharistic liturgies used in the congregation where licensed.
- Practical skills needed in the distribution of the elements.
- How to respond with dignity to situations that may arise during administration
- The names and functions of liturgical vessels, linens, and furnishings.
- What to do with consecrated elements not used in a service.
- The nature of the church as community and the need for each member to be included in it.
- The principles and concerns of ministry and the responsibilities of the LEM to the parish.
- How to use the lectionary
- Practical matters related to visiting a person at home or in another setting.
- Basic matters of Pastoral Care.

Submitted, in His name, by Gary Riggs

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew was formed in 1883 in Chicago by Episcopalians looking to spread Christ's Kingdom to men and boys. The tripod of the organization is Prayer, Study and Service. St. Joseph's chapter meets at 7 pm on the second Wednesday of each month in Van Rooyen Hall. We also meet on the 4th Saturday of each month at 7:30 am and have a prayer breakfast and meeting.



The Brotherhood had a very active year in 2017. We held our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, the Ascension Thursday spaghetti dinner, two golf tournaments, and several other fund raising events, including selling concessions at the Jacksonville Jaguars Stadium. We planted palms from Easter and sponsored a cleanup day for the church. We also helped to clean up debris after hurricane Irma.

With the funds raised we were able to buy a new grill for Fr. Marty, donate to missions and to youth at Kanuga. We sponsored and paid for the bus trip to go to the Dolphins game in Miami.

In 2017 we gained three new members and are actively seeking new members to help support our mission of prayer, study, and service, and to bring all to Christ. Men, boys or women interested in joining may contact Bob Lees, Wes Larson, Gary Riggs, Steve Fritts, Jerry Guthrie or any brother.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Guthrie
Director

St. Joseph's Youth Band



Our Youth Band is currently in its 28th season (that's 14 years!) and going strong. These committed and stellar youth are excited to lead God's people in the tradition of singing sacred music. Their hearts are in it, and it shows through their playing and singing. In 2017 they led music at the 11:45 service nine Sundays. In addition they led at Vacation Church Camp, Blessing of the Animals and at the 6:30 Christmas Eve Service.

Every Summer we give a fond "farewell" to any graduating Seniors. In 2017 that was Jasmin Jimenez, who returned to play during Christmas Eve with the Youth Band Grads. This year we will say farewell to Luke Stivers, who has faithfully served as our drummer since 2014.

Currently, our youth band is comprised of Isabella Chiodo, Greg Warnecke, Josh Port, Luke Stivers, Maddie Hill, Anthony Sardo, Kaite Gudat and Kayla Murry.

Anyone in 6th through 12th grade is welcome. No previous experience required. Call me at 504-261-6923.

Thank you, Saint Joseph's, for the opportunity to do what we love while serving God in this community!

Blessings,
Charles Milling



St. Joseph's Episcopal School

Dear St. Joe's Parishioners,

Greetings from across the campus! We at Saint Joseph's Episcopal School are honored to share this beautiful land with the Church, and we are grateful for the close relationship we share with you.

This year, we are celebrating 60 years! We're so grateful for all of the hard work, sweat, laughter, tears, and—most of all—love that went into building what we are today. To kick-off this special year, we were blessed, with your support, to build a brand-new playground for our school and church families to enjoy and to help them remember how important it is to stay active. Also, on our campus, we unveiled a state-of-the-art SmartLab to coincide with our new "S.T.R.E.A.M." (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) philosophy. Our philosophy drives home the importance of learning and utilizing 21st century skills, such as communication, critical thinking, and collaboration. Our dedicated teachers work tirelessly to provide the best education for our students!

Always feel welcome to come by and visit us! Mary Aperavich, our Director of Admission, will gladly give you a tour—and I will join you if I'm available. I look forward to seeing you at Church, on the altar during Wednesday's Eucharist service, or around campus.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

Kyle Aubrey, M.Ed.
Head of School
kaubrey@sjsonline.org



Church Historian



Many different interpretations can be given for a Church Historian. My point of view is that it is important to reflect on the "what," the "where," the "when," the "degree," but to also think about the, "why," of how we got here today!

WHAT GOT US HERE WON'T GET US THERE! Paraphrasing Albert Einstein: "The significant problems and opportunities we face today cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."

As with us humans, there is a life cycle of churches! Success in any worthwhile endeavor is never an ending, but just a point in a cycle of winning and losing that continues year after year. Our publishing of our Sixtieth Year Anniversary Book this year reflects that long-term excellence is always the result of continual improvements over time = cycles of fruitfulness! The key question that our Church seeks to answer in this time of our History stage now, is: "Who Are We?"

Where should we invest our resources? We must remember that it is important for us to have the religious experience of our founders, or else we will wither! Historically, we are now at that place in the life cycle of a congregation where optimal ministry occurs both inside (spiritual growth) and outside (spiritual birth).

Bob Moore

