

Nancy
Jan 22, 2023

St. John's Episcopal Church



2023 Annual Parish Meeting

January 22, 2022

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- II. Appointment of Clerk for the Annual Meeting
- III. Approval of Minutes - 2022 Annual Meeting
- IV. Elections
 1. Election of Vestry Members
 2. Election of Annual Convention Delegates
- V. Hand Vote on Acceptance of the Written Reports and
- VI. Financial Overview
 1. Summary of 2022 Financial Report
 2. Presentation of 2023 Budget
- VII. Rector's remarks – The Rev. Michael Drinkwater
- VIII. Remarks from Music Director – Hannah Draper Burnett
- IV. Senior Warden's Remarks – Nancy Gregory
- V. Junior Warden's Remarks – John Shipe
- VI. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Rector's report

Dear Church,

My report touches on many others in this packet, please take the time to read what our ministry leaders have to say about their work in 2022. In 2022 we brought music back into our community life in a large and intentional way. After several years without a consistent musical offering on Sunday mornings, we now regularly share hymns and service music thanks to the consistent and heartfelt effort of Hannah Draper Burnett and Gabriel Mauger. Hannah has begun her work bringing musicians together from all over Alamogordo and beyond to enrich the life of our community and that of the community we serve

Building upon the foundation of last year's work and a large grant from the state, the transition at the day school is going strong. Fees have been adjusted to reflect competitive wages for our teachers and a cooperative financial relationship between the Church and Day School moving forward. Hannah's position provides vital enrichment to the students in our school. This was Kami Allen's first full year at the helm of the school and by all measures she is doing a fantastic job. She completed her transition from interim to permanent Director of the Day School in 2022 and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with her in 2023 and beyond.

After a couple of years serving using our quarantine model, Bill and Kathy have done a masterful job managing the transition back to eating inside the building. Where during the pandemic patrons drove past the church along the alleyway to pick up food, we have begun to welcome patrons back into our parish hall to eat and enjoy a sense of camaraderie and community. Near the end of 2022, there were even opportunities for patrons to hear from our musicians. With a wonderful sense of timing, our Senior Warden, Nancy Gregory, put in an application for FEMA grant funding for our community kitchen in 2022. With the rising cost of food and other necessities, this was a timely thought indeed and she has already put in the application for 2023. The grant money will be used to subsidize the cost of food purchased by our groups so that they can continue to provide high quality meals in a time when it is expensive to do so.

Greater financial support from the Day School has also meant better mutual support in other ways in 2022. Nancy Gregory, our Senior Warden, and John Shipe, our Junior Warden, have both worked hard on behalf of our congregation to strengthen that relationship between the Church and School by acting as resources to help the Day school overcome the challenges, usual and unusual, that have come up this year. Karla, the bookkeeper for the Day School and the Church, gave a presentation on the financials of the Day School so that the Vestry could better support the shared mission of the Day School and the Church of serving our community from the least to the greatest.

2022 also saw the wrapping up of an important project. During Lent we took a virtual tour of most of the Chancel Screen on our Facebook page. In the Fall of 2022, the booklet was finalized. This is the result of a huge amount of work by Nancy Gregory and Tim Schultz. This is a second edition and it will be a great way to get to know a unique part of our architecture and history. Formation has continued wonderfully this year as the Formation hour drew our journey through the pentateuch to a close with a revisiting of the first pieces of Genesis. The Saturday Morning Bible Study has also continued to meet and enjoy lively conversation.

Our Vestry has worked hard this year and there was a great deal to work on. We submitted our audit on time for 2021 thanks to the hard work of our audit committee, which this year consisted of Kathy Ann Henchar, Louise Elliott, and Tony Burnett. Tony would later go on to serve as Treasurer; where he was able to help establish us with needed documentation to receive grant funding in the future. Joyce has stepped in in a big way within the daily office group. She gathers the prayerful concerns of our congregation and has done a wonderful job. Sharon remains our faithful connection to Rio Grande Borderland Ministries through the Blessing Bag Ministry. Steve's commitment to transparency has helped us get back to some of the important practices we were following prior to the pandemic. John has worked on important projects around the church, fixing and cleaning important pieces of the roof support, floor, basement ceiling, and columbarium garden (to name a few). Nancy is involved in so many of our ministries, as you can see by how many times she comes up in this report. We are blessed to have a Vestry that is so keyed into ministry here at St. John's!

In truth, we are blessed to be a congregation that is called to the ministry we do together. It is an honor to serve as your Rector.

Respectfully submitted;

The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

Senior Warden's report - January 2023

Nancy Gregory

As I reflect on the past year, I get the feeling that now we all have begun the hard work of adjustment to life in the COVID Era. We have discovered ways to work through the grief that I think we all have felt from time to time at the loss of precious moments doing the things we loved to do. There are limitations now. At the same time, we have discovered new ways to go about our day-to-day lives. We have come together in our St. John's community to love and support each other as we work to solve the bumps and hurdles of living in the Covid Era. Life goes on. We're noticing new dimensions, new ways of doing ministry together in our community, new friends coming by to check out our worship services. People are searching for answers, looking for comfort, needing the support of a friend and they are finding us. We are letting go of past yearning and starting anew, stretching our self-imposed boundaries, learning that there is a whole new world awaiting us, new ideas for ministry. Our moment to live the Gospel, we realize, is now!

Here are some highlights of what we did in 2022.

- We welcomed our new Music Director and found out, much to our surprise, that we could sing, and we loved it! Our worship has been enhanced by music!
- After about 3 years of effort, we completed the remake of the Chancel Screen Booklet last year! We are planning to make a personal contact with Jane Bedwell and bring her a booklet in memory of Rick's life and ministry at St. John's, and especially to acknowledge his loving and driving force behind this project. With gratitude!
- We got creative with our cooking and outreach for Community Kitchen and welcomed even more guests. We passed our Health Department inspection and renewed our permit as a Commercial Kitchen. New folks are joining our volunteer teams. That ministry keeps on growing with love and good eats!

-We were awarded a grant to help us buy food for our Community Kitchen guests. It took the work of our new treasurer though to unravel a mountain of red tape before we could receive the money!

-We celebrated the ordination of our beloved Rev. David-Luke Henton BSG and sent him off to begin a new ministry as a priest in El Paso.

-Our ongoing ministries of Choir, caring cards, blessing bags, prayer shawls, prayer chain, Playful Prayer Warriors, readers, acolytes, eucharistic ministers and visitors, altar guild, adult formation, and Bible study, all continue to grow and offer fulfilling ways to serve God and our community. We're finding that doing ministry together is FUN!

-And we continue to be grateful for the ministry of our beloved priest and rector, Fr. Michael, and all the wonderful ways he enriches our lives here at St. John's!

Thanks be to God!

Financial report

This year was one of financial strength for St. John's. We began the year with a projected deficit of just over 8000 dollars; and I am please to report that we ended the year with only a 3800 dollar deficit. The reason for this is two-fold: Our Budget performance this year was wonderful even in a year when it was difficult to know what our needs could be; and we brought in more income than we anticipated.

Here's that in numbers:

Budgeted income: 163397
 *Actual income: 163030

*27K assistance rec'd
 from Day School*

Budgeted Expenses: 162127
 Actual expenses: 171907 *Health Ins cost ↑*

*This is Operating income (60000) less discretionary fund collections(400-044).

Thanks to everyone who makes our work possible through their financial support. It is truly a blessing to serve this generous congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
 The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

Income

Pledges	98250
Non-Pledges	35000
Plate	1750
Copier reimbursement	1270
Day School Support	33000
Total Income	169270

Expenses

Staff

Rector salary	45932
Rector housing	20084
Rector Pension	11360
Rector SECA offset	2431
Rector Insurance	30216
Rector Package	110023

Supply Clergy	1000
Organist	6000
Secretary	0
Bookkeeper	1200
Kitchen Manager	6647
Janitorial Services	6000
Continuing Education and Travel	800
<u>Total Staff Expenses</u>	131670

Diocese

Fair Share	19487
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Buildings and Grounds

Church Insurance	4795
Utilities	10500

Office

Advertising	100
Copier	1000
Postage	408
Printing	15
Supplies	300
Equipment Maintenance	0
Stewardship	500
Kitchen Supplies	450
<u>Total Expenses</u>	169225

<u>Net Income</u>	45
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Budget Report

I feel like we had good budget performance in 2022 and look forward to the cooperative relationship between the Day School and the Church as we move into the future together.

Michael Drinkwater

St John's Community Kitchen Report for 2022

I would like to thank all organizations and individuals who have helped this ministry to feed those in need. As before, there continues to be challenges in ensuring that we have volunteer groups available to serve. We welcomed a new group, the Playful Prayerful Warriors in February. As always, we continue to pursue organizations in order to ensure that the Community Kitchen continues to operate and serve those in need.

For 2022 we cheerfully and humbly served 2,240 meals. The following is a monthly breakdown:

January	184	July	158
February	205	August	197
March	220	September	138
April	172	October	152
May	189	November	218
June	210	December	197
		TOTAL:	2,240

We continue to have meal service only once a week. However, we are hoping to get back on a regular schedule when circumstances allow. In the meantime, we continue to serve as many meals as possible to ensure that we meet the needs of our community. Additionally, any extra meals are being donated to COPE and delivered to families in the community. By doing so, St John's Community Kitchen continues to help displaced families.

Some highlights for St John's Community Kitchen include:

- Sleeping bags and blankets were donated to those in need
- Thanks to Sharon, Blessing Bags were given out with items donated by the St John's congregation.
- St John's was represented at the Volunteer Fair in May. Two volunteers were recruited; however, their service was brief.
- In July sixty dozen eggs donated by Our Lady of Light Catholic Church's Food pantry which were delivered to needy families in a local mobile home park.
- The church hall was opened to eat in meals in July. However, we continue to provide takeout service.
- In August, we had our annual inspection by the NM Environment Department and we passed with no corrective actions need.
- Numerous monetary and food donations from organizations as well as individuals have been received for which we are truly grateful.
- Continued periodic in person visits with volunteer groups with assistance provided, if needed on serving days.

- To the credit of many volunteers, there were times that the various organizations stepped in to assist on serving days.
- The Playful Prayerful Warriors provided a Christmas dinner in December. Thanks to Mrs. Shipe, who graciously provided two hundred tamales. This event met with great success.
- Information concerning the New Mexico Crisis Line cards were provided to those interested or in need.
- We continue to provide a monthly meal count report to the Otero County Cooperative Extension Service. This office tracks the approximate amount of food distributed by food pantries and soup kitchens in the county. In addition, information was provided concerning the food assistance help line as well as St John's business cards with the availability of Tuesday's meals
- With the receipt of a FEMA grant, we now track and report the number of meals served per week.

For 2023, we will continue on- site training. There is hope that the hospital will be available to provide training in choking hazards to all organizations.

We will continue our attempt to recruit groups in the coming year. We will need at least 4 new groups in order to serve on Thursdays. Our goal for 2023 is to perhaps double the number of meals served.

The best part of serving with the soup kitchen is not only the camaraderie within the groups, but above all, our patrons. They have become like family. We get to know them on a personal level. We share in their joys and well as mourn with them in their loses. We are there to listen, to lend an ear, and help however we can.

Bill Henchar
Community Kitchen Manager

Blessing Bag Ministry

I can't believe 2022 is finished and over. Reflecting on the last year it is unbelievable in my mind, how far we've come with a little program started just before COVID-19 became a thing. Words are not enough, but all I have. **THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT VOLUNTEERED TO HELP ME!!! THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!!!** I am grateful to each and every one of you! Together we have filled **236 Blessing Bags** for our Community Kitchen guests this year. In 2023, I was informed that occasionally children come to our Community Kitchen. With that in mind, I would like to add a few small games (like playing cards, coloring books, etc) to our blessing bag list.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Kelman

Card Ministry 2022

As always, thank you for your generous donations of cards and stamps. Together, we have sent 120 cards last year. We include birthdays, anniversaries, get well and thinking of you cards. We also sent Easter and Christmas cards to our parishioners who can no longer come to church.

In 2023 it is my hope that more parishioners sign up to receive a card.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Kelman

BORDERLAND BLESSING BAG MINISTRY Report for 2022

We donated 176 blessing bags to Ana.

In March, we started a bulky item ministry.

From March to October, we donated 546 packages of clothing. These included socks, underwear and camisoles, tee shirts for men, women and children.

In December, we sent some boxes to borderland with David Luke. Inside these boxes were underwear, socks, candies, stuffed animals, tuna salad, chicken salad and toothbrushes.

For 2023, it is my hope that we can all participate in this ministry together at St. John's.

2022 Annual Report Prayer Shawl Ministry

St John's Church

By Joyce Summers

The prayer shawl ministry at St John's Church began in October 2021. In January 2022 the Prayer Shawl Ministry had two members and the year ended with two members: Joyce Summers, a knitter, and Yvonne Perkins, a crocheter. A total of 9 shawls were created to be given to parishioners with various health challenges and needs.

Despite mention of this ministry in the monthly newsletters, and parishioners seeing the shawls when they are blessed in the church, no other parishioners have expressed interest in joining this ministry. Joyce and Yvonne, however, remain enthusiastic about knitting and crocheting shawls, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry will continue in 2023.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT 2022

Many thanks to altar guild members Louise Elliott, Kathy Ann and Bill Henchar for their tireless work throughout this year. Also great thanks to retired member Sharon Kelman for her willingness to continue helping when needed. We are also extremely grateful to all those who have assisted in decorating for special services and cleaning brass. There always seems to be something else that needs to be done. Yvonne Perkins has graciously assisted in keeping our linens and banners in good repair but unfortunately materials can only last and be mended so many times. We would always welcome extra funds to replace some linens that are getting very threadbare.

Jane Bedwell remains a wonderful resource and is always grateful to assist with her endless knowledge. Thank you Jane.

If anyone feels the call to join us in the extremely satisfying task of keeping the altar ready for service please contact either myself or Father Michael.

Lastly I would like to thank my husband Steve who never grumbles at the great task of carrying supplies up and down the stairs to our storage spot in the basement. He is also great with the vacuum cleaner.

In His Service
Nikki Van Vliet

Jan 22 2023
Add Sharon

St. John's Episcopal Church
Alamogordo, New Mexico

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2022

Sixteen parishioners attended the Annual Meeting of St John's Episcopal Church both in person in the parish hall and by Zoom between the two services of Sunday Holy Eucharist on January 30, 2022. Those who attended in person were Fr Michael Drinkwater, Geoff Leking, Joyce Summers, Deacon Aileen Walther, Randy Burroughs, Susan Schultz, Bill & Kathy Ann Henchar, Faye Sinclair, Ann Bagby, Nancy Gregory, John Shipe, Deacon David-Luke Henton, Christopher Van Vliet, and Yvonne Perkins. Louise Elliot and Susan Morrison attended virtually by Zoom. All parishioners attending in person received a packet of information: Agenda, Annual Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2021, St. John's Church Profit and Loss Budget Report, St John's Day School Profit and Loss Budget Report, and a packet consisting of Rector's Report; Senior Warden's Report; Junior Warden's Report; Financial Report; Altar Guild Report; St John's Playful Prayer Warrior's (PPW) Report; Community Kitchen Report; Prayer Shawl Ministry Report; Blessing Bag Ministry Report; Blessing Bag Ministry Report; and Annual Card Ministry Report. These Reports can also be found online in PDF format on the Church's website: stjohnsalamo.com in the Annual Meeting Section.

Fr. Michael called the meeting to order shortly after 9 AM and opened the meeting with a prayer.

First on the agenda was Appointment of Clerk. Fr Michael asked for a volunteer to be clerk and record the minutes of the meeting. Joyce Summers volunteered.

The Minutes of the previous annual meeting from January 24, 2021 were read silently by the parishioners attending. Nancy Gregory moved to accept the minutes. Geoff Leking seconded it. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read, with gratitude to Susan Schultz, who was clerk for that meeting.

Next on the agenda was the Election of Vestry Members. Randy Burroughs is rotating off and there are vacancies. There is one 2-year term open and two 3-year terms open. Sharon Kelman and Steve Van Vliet have expressed interest in being vestry members and were nominated. Ann nominated Joyce Summers, who declined at this time. Nancy Gregory moved that the nominations be closed. Ann Bagby seconded it. A vote by show of hands was held. Sharon Kelman and Steve Van Vliet were both elected as St John's two new Vestry Members.

The next item on the agenda was the Election of Delegates to Convention. Fr Michael explained the roles of the delegates. He and the Junior Warden and Senior Warden are currently delegates to the convention. Two more delegates are needed plus two alternates. Ann Bagby volunteered to be a delegate and suggested that someone who has not attended before would be a good addition. Ann Bagby was subsequently nominated as a convention delegate. There were no other nominations. Nancy Gregory closed the nominations. Susan Schultz seconded it. A vote was taken by a show of hands. Ann Bagby was elected as a delegate to the convention.

Parishioners reviewed the Written Reports contained in the packet they received. Randy Burroughs moved to accept the written reports. Nancy seconded it. The motion of accepting the written reports as written was approved by a show of hands.

Next on the agenda was the Financial Overview. Fr Michael reviewed the 2021 Financial Report and stated the numbers were good: The income for St John's Church was \$6,000 more than budgeted. St John's Day School also had good numbers. Fr Michael added that Christine Duncan, former Director of the Day School, had applied for a grant from the state of New Mexico which was subsequently awarded to the day school; the grant money is received in installments and will continue through 2023. Employees of the church will have a 5.9% cost of living increase this year in 2022. Fr Michael also presented the 2022 Budget. The budget is subject to change as the year continues. Building maintenance and repairs are being studied. There were two audits in 2021. Kathy Ann Henchar, Louise Elliot, Nancy Gregory, and Tim Kruse were acknowledged and thanked for their work on these audits. Nancy Gregory moved to accept the current Budget and Financial Reports. Kathy Ann Henchar seconded it. The Budget and Financial Reports were accepted as written by a show of hands.

The Rector's Remarks were next on the agenda and presented by Fr Michael Drinkwater. He made positive comments on the ministries of St John's Church as well as St John's Day School. A lot has changed throughout 2021. St John's has transitioned from total online services to a combination of online/in-person Sunday worship services. After years of service to St John's Day School, Director Christine Duncan left the Day School to accept another job, and Kami Allen stepped into her role as Interim Director. Fr Michael mentioned other ministries within the church: the Community Kitchen and praised Bill and Kathy Ann's work with it; the Blessing Bag ministry; the Prayer Shawl ministry; the Sunday 9:00 AM Formation Hour which has transitioned from online to in person; Morning and Evening Prayer services with Nancy Gregory and David-Luke Henton facilitating online streaming of them on Zoom and Facebook every day. Fr Michael acknowledged the work of the Altar Guild and its old and new volunteers, especially the work of Nikki Van Vliet. Fr Michael then posed a question for us to consider: How can our space [the buildings and facilities here at St John's] be a ministry?

Nancy Gregory next presented her Senior Warden's Remarks: Nancy Gregory commented on live streaming and the progress being made over the year by her work together with Gabe Mauger and Tim Schultz and how Zoom and Facebook have allowed us to feel more connected to others. An added bonus is that new viewers are regularly connecting to St John's services on Zoom and Facebook. She also mentioned St John's website, stjohnsalamo.com, how the website offers active links to the streamed and recorded services.

Next on the agenda was Junior Warden's Remarks presented by John Shipe. John reported on the columbarium area and various maintenance concerns and repairs over the past year. He commented that Anthony, the church's resident squirrel has caused no damage and is currently hibernating. The roof is in good shape. John also mentioned that the lightbulbs in the sanctuary were changed by Christopher Van Vliet and the Alamogordo fire department which now illuminate the cross and cause shadows of three crosses to appear on the wall behind the cross.

There were no further reports. Randy Burroughs moved to adjourn the Annual Meeting shortly after 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Summers