



**Annual
Report
2015-2016**

**The Episcopal Church
Of
Saints Andrew and Matthew**

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Rector's Annual Report 2015-2016

A Community of Prayer and Action

"Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." (Luke 11:1)

Jesus prayed a lot! We learn the manner in which Jesus prayed from the Gospels. His practice was to withdraw to a quiet place where we assume he was able to center himself in the presence of God and remove himself, for a time, from the demands of his daily life. He often withdrew after a day of healing the sick or teaching about the Kingdom of God. He also prayed in times of trial and temptation such as when he was in the wilderness for forty days and the night before he died, when he prayed alone in the garden of Gethsemane. The disciples desired to learn how to pray and they asked him to teach them.

As members of an Episcopal Church we are called to a life of prayer and reflection and in my annual report I want to spend some time reflecting with the congregation on how this life of prayer can assist us in our efforts to be a vibrant and sustainable parish.

One of the most important aspects of the Christian life is worship. There are three components of worship for Episcopalians. These are: regular Sunday attendance at the weekly celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the saying of the daily office either individually or in the parish and personal devotions which we offer throughout the week and Sunday morning. These spiritual practices complement one another to deepen the liturgical life of a parish church and her members. It is my belief that all three are to be nurtured and supported by the clergy and that there should be ongoing formation offered to all members so that they may be nurtured, grow in the love of the Lord, and have their daily lives enriched in the knowledge that they are loved by God and by their parish.

At their retreat last fall, the vestry developed four strategic focus areas to spend time on this year. These four focus areas are:

1. To strengthen and grow Youth and Young Families.
2. To create a Sustainable Financial Picture
3. To provide engaging worship that is rich and meaningful-where people come back
4. To continue the tradition of being an intentionally inclusive and diverse faith community that celebrates its relationships with each other and the larger community.

In this year's report I will briefly review each of these priorities through the lens of prayer and reflection.

Engaging worship that is rich and meaningful-where people come back:

As I write this report the interior construction of the chamber for the Katherine Esterly organ has begun and the new pipe organ will soon be a reality. The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew is known for its thoughtful liturgy and the range of music that is prepared by David Christopher and the choir. There is a sweet, sweet spirit in this place and I appreciate and am humbled by the music and the worship experience here.

To strengthen and grow Youth and Young Families:

I am so appreciative of all that our youth have accomplished this past year. Last year during the annual meeting they were in Jamaica on a mission trip. This year some of their activities have been: preparing a meal for the men of Andrews Place, preparing and serving the Shrove Tuesday supper, hosting a party for homeless families, offering a parish bake sale with the proceeds used to buy a 16 foot pipe for the Esterly organ and participating in the annual Rod Welles Jazz vespers in April. There is more about all that YYF has done in this report and I encourage you to support them. We also have a wonderful group of young families with younger children who have gotten together this past year on. This ministry will continue to be strengthened in the coming year.

Continue the tradition of being intentionally inclusive and diverse faith community that celebrates its relationships with each other and the larger community:

This is an important focus for the parish. Currently, the community gathers on Sunday morning for worship and fellowship and there are a few dinner groups which are active, but this focus needs to continually be assessed and strengthened especially as we continue to grow. Many members of the parish and staff are involved with building bridges and connections outside the parish. These include a monthly meeting of stakeholders involved in services for the homeless that meet at SsAM, facilitated by D-L Casson; various community boards and foundations such as the Hope Commission and Lutheran Community Services and our Outreach and Advocacy committee which supports Delaware Futures, Friendship House and Sojourner's Place. It is important, however, that we design and plan times for the SsAM family to come together to get to know one another and to have conversations about how we continue to be a community that celebrates our diversity.

Create a Sustainable Financial Picture:

Our ability to continue to offer worship and music that brings people back and joining the parish, to strengthen our youth and young families program, and to continue to provide opportunities for the SsAM community to gather and build community and draw closer to one another requires that the entire community supports the parish financially. This past year there have been two town hall meetings that have focused on finances. The Fall town hall focused on getting feedback about SsAM's priorities and another early in January reviewed the 2016 operating budget. This coming fall, members of the vestry and finance committee will

meet with committees and ministries to gather information about their priorities for the coming year. It is the hope of the finance committee that a draft budget for 2017 will be presented to the congregation for comment in the middle of November. This year members of the finance committee also did research as to giving and demographic trends of the SsAM membership and this information has been reviewed by the vestry. The membership of SsAM continues to be very generous with their financial pledge and I am grateful to all who have given of their time, talent and treasure this year.

The vestry will have their annual retreat in late June and at that time they will continue to plan and strategize on how to achieve these four goals. The vestry cannot do this work alone but needs your prayers and your involvement to help SsAM move forward for the next twenty years.

I prefaced my report by sharing with you the importance of weekly participation in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, saying the daily office and personal devotions. All three are important for building a solid foundation for our future. Throughout the summer I will be offering instruction about how to prepare for the Sunday celebration, how to say the Daily office and the benefits of reflection and prayer. Before anything else, we are each called to be a disciple of Jesus and therefore to model his way of life of prayer and service for the world.

I wish to thank the members of the dedicated staff and retiring vestry members this year. The staff at SsAM works hard and are ready to support you in your daily life and ministry. Dana Robertson, D-L Casson and Janice Teamer manage the office, volunteers, ministries and financial records just to name a few of the tasks these three folks do every day. I thank David Christopher for all his creativity and wisdom about music and his direction of the SsAM adult choir; Charles Lewis and an assistant sexton work at keeping the building clean and all our office volunteers who assist the staff in so many ways. This year I wish also to thank Alice Sawyer, Leroy Trotz, Tracey Dixon and Sharon Leyhow for their term on the vestry. Sharon is eligible to be a candidate for vestry because she was completing a one year unexpired term this past year. Thanks also for the faithful leadership of Debbie Layton as Senior warden and Michelle Smith as Junior warden, Bill Kauffman as parish treasurer and Tracy Dixon as secretary of the vestry.

This year we said goodbye to the following faithful servants who passed into greater glory and who we remember at this year's annual meeting: Louise and Ted Spaulding, Debbie Theis, Jeanne LeClercq, Nancy Ware, Jimmy Hackett, Louise Lewis and Betty Townsend.

Thank you all for being part of the SsAM family and I look forward to our future as a parish that prays and acts together as we work to be the Kingdom of God in this place.

Faithfully,
Fr. David T. Andrews
Rector

2015-2016 Parochial Statistics (to May 31)

Average Sunday Attendance: 191

Weddings: 2

Burials: 8

Baptisms: 7

Confirmations: 1

Reaffirmation: 2

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT 2015-2016

It has been an honor to serve this past year as your senior warden, especially as I am a relative newcomer to SsAM. I learned a great deal about SsAM, things both interesting and challenging, and I have appreciated the support of the vestry, congregation and staff.

Last fall the vestry met and established four goals for SsAM including a five-year plan for meeting those goals. They include:

1. To strengthen and grow Youth and Young Families
2. To create a sustainable financial picture
3. To provide engaging worship that is rich and meaningful—where people come back
4. To continue the tradition of being intentionally an inclusive and diverse faith community that celebrates its relationships with each other and the larger community.

Our accomplishments this year include our work toward the four vestry goals. YYF has been very active in its youth programs, its support of SsAM through fund raisers, and its outreach to the homeless. Our 2015 budget ended in good shape with increased pledgers and pledging for the year. The goal of financial stability includes efforts for increased transparency of the budgeting process, balancing that budget, as well as avoidance of dipping into the endowment which is so crucial for future generations.

Our worship services are fulfilling, and the numerous services throughout the week offer participants personal support for their faith. Our rector continues to seek ways for all of us to become more prayerful and knowledgeable about God and Christ, both at SsAM and in our private lives. Our music program provides outstanding music on a weekly basis and includes training for trebles who will enrich our adult choir going forward. Throughout the year there are numerous opportunities for study and sharing our faith, and we encourage even greater participation in those programs.

SsAM is well-known for its welcoming, inclusive, diverse congregation, and continues to open its doors to all. Our community outreach includes our important relationship with Friendship House and its support for the homeless through Andrew's Place and the Women's Center and, during the winter, its Code Purple program. We provide space for worship for two other

churches each Sunday in our chapel and regular AA meetings during the week. The Cathedral Choir School offers mentoring, musical training, and numerous programs in support of at-risk children. Our AIM Fund provides scholarships for member students and support for other community activities such as Sojourner's Place, St. Michael's School and Nursery, Delaware Futures and the Faith Center. We also offer weekly food vouchers to needy families.

We have had several enjoyable and rewarding events during year starting with last year's parish picnic at Bellevue Park. There have been numerous musical events such as jazz vespers and choir performances. There was an outstanding program on race and film this winter. YF provided for our Shrove Tuesday dinner, a lunch for homeless children and parents, and a bake sale to support the capital campaign. The ECW sponsored a very successful jazz tea, again in support of the capital campaign. And we had a delightful hymn sing and covered dish supper just last month.

We have developed a personnel review form that was used for the second year for the rector. A consultant is working closely with the staff to create realistic job descriptions for each person and to develop performance review forms appropriate for all staff. We have purchased an AED and have a new medical ministry that will be trained in the use of that device in the event of an emergency.

Challenges include our aging population, declining membership and balancing our budget while maintaining programs we value and that are part of our mission. We ended 2015 in good shape, with special thanks to Dr. Kitty Esterly's generous bequest to SsAM. Another challenge is maintaining a building needing repairs and upgrades.

The vestry will be having its retreat in June this year, much earlier than usual, in order to develop relationships with one another and to develop our plans for the coming year. In addition to working on the goals we have already established, we will be working on a three-five year plan for upgrading the appearance of the church as well as handling necessary repairs. We will have an HVAC study with the goal of improving our heating system and providing heat for the chapel. We want a coordinated plan with a list of priorities and the order in which repairs or painting should take place each year. We may even have some volunteer opportunities for painting various parts of the building when the plan is in place. We have also authorized an HVAC study to improve heating in the sanctuary and crypt hall and to provide heat to the chapel.

We will be working on processes at SsAM—making sure the right committee is dealing with issues, and also looking for coordination among and between committees to further the vestry goals. We plan on having a financial town hall in the fall, on November 13, to publicize the Finance Committee's proposed budget-- before the vestry votes on it--to give parishioners the opportunity to express their thoughts. We will be looking to a Stewardship Committee that works year-round on ways to increase funding our operating budget in addition to our pledges.

We have several exciting activities coming this year—the installation of the organ, the 20th anniversary of the merger of Saints Andrew and Saint Matthew, and the 25th anniversary of the rector’s ordination in September. We have also discussed the possibility of an open house for the community once the organ is in place, perhaps a Ministry Fair with representation of all the programs that go on at SsAM as further outreach to our community. With the increase in downtown residences and the Creative District, we are hopeful we can encourage those city dwellers to give SsAM a look.

I wish to thank the outgoing members of vestry for their service (Tracey, Leroy, Alice, Sharon (who has filled an unexpired term and is eligible for election) and Andres. We have many things to be thankful for—our community, our care for one another, and the opportunity to share our individual gifts. Going forward, let us seek God’s guidance for SsAM and let us strive to make the SsAM community a beacon of Christ’s love in Wilmington.

Thank you again for your support this year and best wishes for a good year to come.

Deborah Layton
Senior Warden

FINANCIAL REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE/TREASURER'S REPORT

2015-2016

The Finance Committee is charged with monitoring the financial activities of the church, providing financial advice to the Vestry, and preparing the annual budget for Vestry approval. Each month financial statements are presented to the Vestry by the Treasurer.

The parish of Saints Andrew and Matthew ended 2015 with a surplus of \$46,129 which is somewhat misleading in that included in total revenue is \$ 60,000 liquidation of principal from the endowment fund. If we had not drawn from our portfolio, we would have experienced a deficit of \$13,871. On the plus side in planning the 2015 budget, we had anticipated the draw from investment would be \$ 97,400 versus our actual withdraw of \$ 60,000.

Our 2016 budget process noted the receipt of a bequest of \$200,00 from a former parishioner. Part of that gift, \$76,000, was used to balance the 2016 budget; \$8,000 is to be used for a HVAC study for Crypt/Chapel; and \$ 92,000 was transferred to the endowment. All of the remaining funds were earmarked for the Memorial Fund to cover any emergency liquidity issues.

The Finance Committee continues to examining various-cost cutting and revenue-raising alternatives.

From January through May, 2016, total income is below target with actual receipts of \$274,942 versus a budgeted income of \$279,515. As far as expenses, we are under budget by about \$4,000.

The Finance Committee continues to explore options to ensure the financial stability of the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew.

Bill Kauffman, Treasurer

Finance Committee Members: Jim Ballard, Mary Anne Edwards, Bill Kauffman, Melba Lucas, Sharon Leyhow, Charisse Rogers, Cheryl Thomas, Tina Betz, Dana Robertson (staff)

MUSIC AT SsAM

**ORGANIST, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, and ASSOCIATE FOR LITURGY
2015-2016**

The Music Committee has played a key role this past year in the ongoing development of the music program at SsAM. Members of the Music Committee include Tina Betz (chair), Pat Hampton, Jonathan Whitney, Lori Muller, Tracey Dixon and Dana Robertson. This committee provides an important structure and support system that facilitates the growth and evolution of the Music Program at SsAM as we work to meet the needs of the parish and community, and plays a key role in the fulfillment of the parish's mission and vision.

The SsAM Treble Choir and the Chorister Training Program continues to be our most important area of focus, however, it has experienced a number of growing pains and setbacks this year. The St. Cecilia Girl's Choir, an ensemble for girls in grades 5 through young adult, dwindled to a handful of singers, largely because of attrition of the older girls. As expected, the older girls graduate and move on to college, and in some cases, the demands of being a junior or senior in high school creates scheduling conflicts that make participation difficult. Additionally, under Arreon Harley's leadership, the Cathedral Choir School of Delaware has moved in a direction different than the relationship with SsAM originally envisioned by CCSD and SsAM leadership after the closing of St. John's Cathedral. That original vision included CCSD as an integral part of the SsAM music ministry, functioning primarily as a parish ensemble, while continuing to operate under its non-profit status as a training and mentoring organization. CCSD's decision to change direction significantly impacted SsAM's efforts to build a parish youth music ensemble and created considerable confusion about CCSD's involvement and purpose as it relates to the parish's music ministry.

In consideration of all of these challenges, the music committee has made a decision to focus on cultivating music training opportunities for the youngest children (ages 3 to 7) that will hopefully lead to choristers that will begin to enter the Chorister Training Program by 2nd or 3rd grade. We feel that this approach will not only have the most significant positive impact on the parish and children alike, it also creates a situation where children can participate and develop as young musicians through the program for up to 10 years or until they graduate from high school.

As always, the backbone of our liturgical life is our amazing Adult Choir. I am delighted at how the choir keeps getting better and better each year, and at the dedication and passion that each and every member brings to the group. Singing with the SsAM Choir is a big commitment considering the expectation of inspiring and excellent music to which we have become accustomed. In large part, this is possible because of the collaborative spirit and shared vision between the dedicated volunteer singers from the congregation and the outstanding professional staff singers, many of whom have been at SsAM for the better part of a decade. I believe, however, all of the choir members agree that it is a tremendously enriching and fulfilling experience to lead worship with the SsAM congregation. We continue to encourage other members of the congregation to join and participate in this important ministry.

The SsAM Drumming Circle continues to develop and thrive under the leadership of Jonathan Whitney, artist-in-residence at SsAM. Not only an important ministry and spiritual discipline for those who participate, but the drummers also participate in worship on a regular basis. Thanks to Jonathan and his drummers for their energy, creativity and collaborative spirit.

In addition to his work as the leader of the drumming circle, Jonathan Whitney also serves as the leader of our Jazz Vespers program. This year there were three services, one in the fall and two in the spring that were extremely well-received and well-attended. The concluding Jazz Vespers on April 17, our annual service in memory of Rod Welles, was particularly successful and innovative as a collaborative project with local folk artist, Eunice LaFate. Jonathan wrote original compositions based on her paintings and youth of the parish created paintings during, and inspired by the musical selections. Those paintings are now on display in the hallway by the kitchen.

THE GLOBAL VILLAGE at SsAM – Last year, Fr. David appointed a task force consisting of me (David Christopher), Tina Betz (music chair), and Jonathan Whitney (artist-in-residence) to gather information and explore the possibility of forming a separate 501c3 non-profit at SsAM in the area of music and special cultural events. The purpose of this organization would be to allow us to develop SsAM's role as a cultural center of the downtown Wilmington area, while increasing our ability to raise funding for community outreach programs. The organization and implementation of this 501c3 is a critical step in the fulfillment of SsAM's mission and vision and I am hopeful that the Global Village at SsAM will garner wider support and sprout wings this coming year. I urge anyone who is interested in helping us pursue this critical and noble project to contact me, Tina or Jonathan.

As always, it is a great pleasure and a privilege to work with the talented and visionary members of the SsAM staff; Dana Robertson, D-L Casson, Janice Teemer and Charles Lewis. Because so much of their work is done behind the scenes, I often wonder if the congregation realizes the level of creativity, skill and personal commitment that the members of the SsAM staff bring to the table. I have rarely seen such a small staff accomplish so much.

Of course, the most challenging job at SsAM falls on the shoulders of our esteemed rector, Fr. David Andrews. For a musician in an Episcopal parish, a collaborative and respectful relationship with the rector is by far the most critical of all. I feel that Fr. David and I have a productive, collegial and dynamic relationship that really works. I'm so delighted to be working with Fr. David and do everything I can to support his vision of SsAM as a diverse, dynamic and inclusive Christian community that makes a real difference in the community and in the world. It's a particularly wonderful time to be a part of this amazing congregation, and a great joy to have the opportunity to serve as the director of music, organist and associate for liturgy.

Respectfully submitted,
David Christopher
Organist, Director of Music and Associate for Liturgy

SsAM DRUMMING CIRCLE
2015-2016

I experienced my first drum circle in 1999 at the corporate headquarters of the Kaman Company, one of the sponsors of Jersey Surf Drum and Bugle Corps. I was a snare drummer in Surf at the time, and all of the members of the Corps along with a group of Kaman employees took part in the drum circle facilitated by Kalani (a Kaman sponsored artist). I was at the peak of my career as a rudimental percussionist and it was awesome to see non-musicians find true enjoyment in playing the instruments I loved.

Several years ago, David Christopher and I began to talk about the idea of having a drum circle at SsAM. Initially, the drum circle rehearsed and performed for a single church service, but soon we progressed to playing several services during the Season of Creation. This year was our fifth full year of meetings. The drum circle continues to be a part of the uniqueness of the worship experience at SsAM. As a performing ensemble, the drum circle has performed at numerous SsAM services, both as a separate ensemble as well as accompanying the choir. In February we travelled to the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. and participated in "The Heartbeat of God: Sacred Drumming," an event that was attended by over 700 other drummers!

The drum circle's membership is a mix of generations, backgrounds, parishioners and community members, musicians and non-musicians. Each week we come together for an hour and play, but we also support each other, laugh together, blow off steam together, and learn from each other. This time spent together each week is what I believe is most important about the drum circle. The knowledge that is shared and the community that has grown out of the drum circle is the biggest benefit it brings to the church.

We are now on our summer vacation, but we will begin meeting again on September 6th. There is always room for anyone to join us. We'll supply the drum. You supply the passion.

Jonathan W. Whitney

MINISTRY REPORTS

ACOLYTE MINISTRY 2015-2016

Thank you to all the faithful acolytes who serve at the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew & Matthew. At the 8:00 a.m. Sunday service the acolytes are Charles Annan, Ron Jackson, Anne Kaufmann, and Wanda Smith. At the 10:30 service, acolytes include Al Brock, Tracey Dixon, Forrest Fisztgiles, Barbara Henry, Richard Hernandez, Gianna Hernandez Smith, Collins Jones, George Jones, Walt Meredith, Lore Noyes, Rayon Pinnock, and Les Roberts. This year we welcomed Collins Jones, George Jones, Gianna Hernandez Smith, and Richard Hernandez, as new acolytes.

The ministry of acolytes is a very old tradition in the Church. Acolytes have served as helpers at God's altars for over seventeen centuries. The position of acolyte covers not only servers, torchbearers and lighters of candles, but also crucifers, thurifers and banner-bearers. The acolyte's role is to serve – to help in the presentation of the worship service.

Between the 5th and 9th centuries, in a series of ancient directions to the clergy known as the *Ordines Romani*, acolyte duties were described and included instructions that acolytes led processions in the early Church. During the same time period, we see the predecessor to our current Gospel procession as two acolytes carried candles to accompany the reader and ensure that he had enough light to see the text. A vital part of worship, acolytes blend into the background helping the liturgies flow smoothly.

Acolytes work in close coordination with members of the larger worship team: clergy, altar guild, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, liturgical assistants, musicians, and ushers, for each service. In addition to Sunday morning responsibilities, acolytes may be asked to serve at weddings, funerals, Evensong, Jazz Vespers, or other services.

Whether you are a young person or an adult, it is a privilege to serve at God's altar, and we would welcome you to join us in this ministry. Why join? Being an acolyte brings a new dimension to your worship experience; you participate in Holy Acts of Worship; you give service to the Church; and you will laugh a lot (but not during the service). Please prayerfully consider joining us. Speak to one of the current acolytes or Father David for more information.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Henry

Traditional Acolyte Prayer

Almighty God, who has called us, your servants, to the sacred office of Acolyte in your church, that clothed in white we may minister before you, we pray your great mercy to guide, strengthen, and sanctify us by your Holy Spirit, that, always doing your will, we may both by our service in your house and by our daily life, please you and glorify your Name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Contemporary Acolyte Prayer

Gracious god, the epitome of light and love: You call us to light the way for your people in a world of change and uncertainty. Grant to your acolytes reverent hearts, steady hands, and the will to persevere in serve at your altar and at prayer. Bless and guide us by your wisdom and help us to spread your word throughout the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2015-2016

Having again reviewed the survey results from June 2015 (summarized and presented last year), once again a variety of topical programming was offered, in several formats and times, though without a designated theme as in past years. With busy lives, it is apparent that the majority of the congregation hasn't yet found a subject or timing for spiritual, biblical, or other faith-based interest that calls them into participation. That said, Father David and Canon Casson have had some success with their endeavors.

Last summer Fr. David facilitated three Sunday morning sessions introducing the Daily Office or Daily Prayer that is found in the *Book of Common Prayer*. These sessions included an introduction to the history of daily prayer and offered participants a chance to say the office and reflect upon their experience. This led to the Daily Office being offered at SsAM at noon and in the evening through the year.

Canon Casson's Tuesday evening meditation has a solid core of attendees who have found great spiritual sustenance and value in continuing participation and welcomes anyone to attend frequently or occasionally.

This past winter, Fr. David invited members of the parish to review and reflect on the Guiding Principles of the parish that were passed by the vestries of St. Andrews and St. Matthews in 1994. Also during Lent a small group came together to learn about developing a Rule of Life using materials from the brothers of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE) from Cambridge, Mass.

The Merton study group using the materials from a small booklet series called Bridges to Contemplative Living with Thomas Merton continues on the 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings and is always open to new participants with no prior reading or knowledge necessary. The group will reconvene in September. Questions can be directed to Christina Lee.

The program year for 2016-17 will begin after Labor Day and more information about different programs will be shared later this summer.

Submitted by
Christina Brennan Lee
Fr. David

**ALTAR GUILD
2015-2016**

Altar Guild members prepare the altar weekly, for 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. services. The members are also responsible for the following services: weddings, funerals, baptisms - and other special services. We, as altar guild members, also assure that the vestments and sacred linens are always clean and ready for any service at any time.

MEMBERS

Dot Dorsey – Chair	Pat Saunders Co-Chair	Anita Young – Co-Chair
Charles Annan	Kelly Holt	
Shirley Bynoe	Anne McMahan	
Cynthia Cumberbatch	Adele Meredith	
Tracy Lea Dorsey	Patricia Saunders	
Shannon Faulk	Wanda Smith	
Patricia Hampton	Ana Washington	
Eunice Trotz	Paulyne Webster	
Ernest (Ron) Jackson		

All are welcome to join us, both men and women. Members are especially needed for the 10:30 A.M. Sunday service.

Love and God Bless,
Dot Dorsey – Chair

**AMBASSADOR TEAM MINISTRY
2015 –2016**

The Mission Statement: To provide Christian Hospitality to all who come to our doors; and shepherd those who are or want to affiliate with SsAM on their faith journey. SsAM Ambassadors serve as shepherds (liaisons) to visitors by providing information and ascertaining their interests. We are a part of the Member Development Ministry and continue the shepherding as new members join SsAM.

During the past year, we have accomplished the following:

1. Planned and executed a New Member/Inquirer Information Pack which contains up-to-date information about SsAM; our worship practices (with explanations); our current ministries and a brief history of the Episcopal Church. This information is shared with new members and inquirers.
2. Assisted in the development of a “Parish-wide Census Form” to assist new and current members in identifying areas of support and service to SsAM and the wider Wilmington community.

Future Plans include:

1. Continued recruitment and training of Ambassadors.
2. Set dates for a Fall and Spring New Member/Newcomer gathering.
3. Continue to monitor current Dinner Groups; and assist in the creation of new ones.
4. Continue to evaluate the tracking system of the Ambassador Ministry for refinement and improvements.
5. Continue to make follow-up calls, based on Rector's letter to new member card signers and "shepherd" those who want to affiliate and/or become members of SsAM.
6. Continue to partner with the Membership Development Ministry in their goals to Recruit, Retain and Reclaim members here at SsAM.
7. Continue to have a presence at the Liturgical meetings of Pastoral Care, Ushers, Eucharistic Visitors and the Membership Ministry Team.
8. Continue developing strategies and executing plans to identify and contact "lapsed" members in concert with the staff and other ministries working in this area.

All of us are "Ambassadors for Christ" here at SsAM. However, if you feel "called" to be more intentional about this ministry or just want more information about the process, please call either Anita Young, myself or the church office, and we will be in touch.

Patricia Hampton, Co-Chair

Anita Young, Co-Chair

Carol Scott, Trainer

BREAKFAST & CHAPEL OUTREACH 2015-2016

BREAKFAST OUTREACH Purpose: To prepare and serve Sunday breakfast to the hungry in the Wilmington community five or six times during the year. Attendance for the breakfast ranges from 80 to 160. **Activities:** Three teams, with a total of 35 volunteers, prepared the breakfast five times during the past 12 months. Thanks to SsAM volunteers, over 150 wrapped gifts were given to the breakfast attendees at Christmas time.

CHAPEL OUTREACH Purpose: Every Sunday, offer a faith-nurturing service for those who attend the breakfast...to feed the soul after the breakfast has fed the body. Average attendance ranges from 10 to 20. **Activities:** Special thanks to Susan and Phil Murphree who share this wonderful responsibility once a month and for Linda and Ron Jackson and Pam Peters filling-in when needed. Thanks to others who fill in as well as those "upstairs" parishioners who join us in worship occasionally. Everyone is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Geoff and Alice Sawyer, Chairpersons

**COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY MINISTRY
2015-2016**

Chair: Linda Smith

Members: Sharon Bryant, Audrey Collins, Anne Gibson, Marita Lewis and Dana Smith

This ministry was established to encourage a social time after the service and to welcome new members and visitors. Weeks are divided by Alphabet Teams to bring refreshments:

the first Sunday of the month Team A-D

the second Sunday of the month Team E-K

the third Sunday of the month Team L-R

the fourth Sunday of the month Team S-Z

If there is a fifth Sunday in a month, the Vestry provides refreshments for coffee hour.

Hot coffee and tea, as well as iced tea and lemonade or orange juice are provided by SsAM.

The committee would like to request that any new members attending the 10:30 service share their name and phone number with us so we can add your name to our list of members to call.

The committee enjoys the ministry we provide to the members of SsAM and we hope the members enjoy the service we provide.

**COMMUNITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
2015 - 2016**

The purpose of the Community Advocacy and Service Committee is to provide a central organizing body and clearinghouse for all of SsAM's efforts in advocacy, service, and outreach, as well as to help the congregation be informed and involved in the opportunities for Christian service in the community. As part of the parish's strategic plan, the committee's goal is to sharpen members' awareness of current and emerging community issues and to develop ministries that address those issues.

Outreach at Christmas. This Christmas, members of SsAM generously donated gifts for 20 children who live in transitional housing offered by Friendship House. Each child received four gifts plus books suitable for each age level. In addition, each parent was given \$50 in gift cards to use for themselves or for holiday dinners. Geoff and Alice Sawyer also coordinated the collection of over 150 gifts, donated by members at SsAM for our Sunday breakfast guests. These were distributed just before Christmas.

AIM Fund. Twice monthly a special collection is taken on Sunday mornings to go toward this fund, which allows our church to make contributions toward special projects in the community and for needs within our church family. During 2015, SsAM contributed to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund and made a contribution through the Episcopal Church for the mission work of Alejandra Garcia Gonzalez in Honduras; \$1000 to Pacem in Terris (for support of the dance program at Baylor Prison); \$4000 for the scholarship program; support of the summer

camp programs held by Urban Promise and the Police Athletic League; and supplemental funds for the RCV Recovery Center, the Food Bank, and Faith Center.

Youth Funding. The AIM fund also provided a \$1000 donation toward the youth mission trip to Jamaica, as well as camperships for Camp Arrowhead.

Scholarship Program. In 2015, the scholarship program entered its 15th year with eight \$500 scholarships awarded to members of our parish. The "Reverend Canon Lloyd S. Casson" Scholarship Program is funded through the AIM Fund and individual contributions. This year, the committee designated the AIM offering in June to bolster the fund. The following students were awarded \$500 scholarships for the fall semester: Jordan Anderson [Del Tech], Sierra Dorsey [Delaware Tech Community College], Cecily Gordon [Georgetown University], Matthew Johnson [London School of Economics], Isaiah Jones [University of Delaware], Veronica Oates [Tennessee State University], Alana Walker [Wesley College], and Tiffany Wisler [Springfield College].

Code Purple Assistance. As we have done for several years, SsAM offers its auditorium space to accommodate the homeless community on nights the city declares a Code Purple Alert. Code Purple is declared anytime the actual or wind-chill temperature is 20° or below. We open our space up at 4 p.m. and close at 9 p.m. at which time the Salvation Army opens and provides sleeping accommodations for the remainder of the night. There were more than 32 Code Purple alerts this past winter. SsAM also provides one of several volunteer teams to serve soup and sandwiches to the people coming in on Code Purple nights. Volunteering consists of helping prepare and serve the soup and sandwiches to feed the hungry and cold on very short notice. SsAM volunteers coordinated four Code Purples this year: 1/12, 1/17, 1/24, and 2/13. Alice and Geoff Sawyer coordinated the volunteers, while regular chairs Phil and Susan Murphree were away. Soupmakers: Alice Sawyer, Laura Eisenman, Ana and Orlen Washington, Mary Anne Edwards, and Carolyn Haon. Sandwich makers: Geoff Sawyer and grandchildren, Mr. Eisenman, the Washingtons, Debbie Layton, Carmen Brown, and Nancy Hillyard.

Food Voucher Program. SsAM is a location that provides a food voucher to St. Stephens Food Pantry and St. Patrick's Center. These referrals are given to people who live in Wilmington and can show financial need. They are offered on Monday and Wednesday mornings by volunteer, Dickey Jones. Recipients show an original photo ID for themselves and for each member of their family for whom they are requesting help. In addition, thanks to your donations, SsAM regularly contributes canned goods and other food to Lutheran Community Service's food pantry.

Souper Bowl Sunday. This fellowship/outreach activity in February has become an annual event. Eight excellent soup makers donated different soups that were purchased by members of the parish. Over \$500 in proceeds from this activity went to purchase supplies for Code Purple.

Undee Sunday. Phil and Susan Murphree reported that 142 complete sets of thermal underwear were given to our needy friends. Twenty-one residents at Andrew's Place received a set that was sized to fit their needs. The remaining 121 sets were donated to the Friendship House Clothing Bank to be distributed to those in need. Here is a list of donations over the past 9 years.

- | | | | | |
|---|------|----------|------|--------------|
| • | 2005 | 49 sets | 2011 | 82 sets |
| • | 2006 | 76 sets | 2012 | 110 sets |
| • | 2007 | 62 sets | 2013 | 179 sets!!!! |
| • | 2008 | 73 sets | 2014 | 142 sets |
| • | 2009 | 91 sets | | |
| • | 2010 | 100 sets | | |

Sunday Breakfast Ministry. On Sunday mornings from 5:30 to 8:00 a.m., the Episcopal Church of Sts. Andrew & Matthew makes available its auditorium for Friendship House to serve the homeless a hot breakfast. On a rotating basis, thirteen different faith communities prepare and serve this meal to about 150 individuals and families per week.

Individual Member Initiatives. The Community Advocacy Committee is only a coordinating body for outreach at SsAM. Individual members are encouraged to come up with avenues of outreach, which several did this year.

- 1) Deborah Kraak organized a drive of supplies and clothing for the Seamen's Center in September.
- 2) Anita Young followed this initiative by organizing a display of her black Santas in December. Those who viewed Anita's wonderful collection contributed donations and other items, which also were donated to the Seamen's Center, an agency that positively impacts the lives of mariners coming to the Port of Wilmington.
- 3) In June, Sharon Bryant, Danny Schweers and others led a SsAM team at the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community which benefitted Friendship House by raising more than \$1000.
- 4) Our youth held several activities, including a Thanksgiving basket drive, to benefit the community (See separate report in this booklet)

Support of Other Organizations.

1) FAITH Center. FAITH Center's primary purpose is to involve the greater Wilmington religious community in efforts to serve fellow human beings in crisis by way of counseling, referrals, and financial assistance for various human needs. For over 15 years, FAITH Center has served the working poor who are facing a one-time financial difficulty. The center is prepared to provide modest crisis alleviation grants for basic needs such as help with housing costs to avoid eviction and homelessness; help with utility costs to avoid disconnection of services; help with unexpected and/or uninsured medical costs; help with expenses to obtain or keep employment; and help finding assistance for special needs. The Community Advocacy

Committee's budget also reflects our parish's continued financial support for the FAITH Center. SsAM has budgeted an annual contribution of \$4,000 to FAITH Center.

2) Friendship House Ministries. SsAM supports the efforts of Friendship House in many ways: volunteer support; Sunday breakfast ministry; Sunday chapel service; housing of the now all year Andrew's Place and the Women's Day Center in the basement of the church; and contributions of personal items, paper goods, food items, and Christmas gifts for those who utilize Friendship House's services. Friendship House has provided outreach to the community for over 25 years.

Members of the parish are also encouraged to donate clothing for the Friendship House Clothing Bank. During our Undee Sunday drive in November, SsAM was able to give 121 sets to the Clothing Bank to be distributed to others in need.

We would like to recognize D-L Casson as our representative to the Board of Friendship House.

3) Financial Support of Traditional Agencies. The Community Advocacy Committee continues to administer funding to agencies that have a historical tie to our parish. In 2015, the committee agreed to disburse the \$23,000 budgeted to the four traditional agencies supported by our parish in the past. The distribution included:

- St. Michael's School and Nursery \$5,000 (scholarships for children – the school gives out \$30,000 per month in scholarship aid)
- Friendship House \$10,000 (for support of the many programs for the homeless administered by Bill and Marcy Perkins and their staff)
- Delaware Futures \$5,000 (this educational program, which was started in 1993, is helping to prepare disadvantaged students for college. In 2015, 100% of participants were accepted into college.)
- Sojourners' Place \$3,000 (transitional program to help those recovering from drug or alcohol abuse).

4) Dance Program at Women's Prison. SsAM provided a \$1000 grant for the eleventh year to help underwrite the cost of a dance program organized by Pacem in Terris. The dance instructor, Martha Peterson, together with her drummer, led the inmates of Baylor Women's Correctional Institution in dance in two different classes, morning and afternoon, for a week, culminating in performances for invited guests, who are always excited about the program and its positive impact on the participants.

5) Providing Space for Meetings of Other Advocacy Organizations. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) has a separate meeting room in the lower level of our building, which is used seven days a week. Other organizations that periodically use our facility for meals and meetings include the Delaware Choral Arts (DCA), the Wilmington Children's Chorus, Friendship House, AARP, Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice Reform, and the Shipley Development Corporation.

7) Regal Heights Ministry. The fourth Sunday of each month, SsAM parishioners and ministers share their faith and love by assisting residents of this skilled nursing center at a Holy Communion service. (See separate report in this booklet)

8) World Wide Efforts. Our parish supports the worldwide outreach efforts of the Episcopal Church through the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. This year we also donated to mission work in Honduras.

Many of these outreach efforts are highlighted on SsAM' website, www.ssam.org. In addition to listing opportunities to volunteer, the site gives links to provide more information on many of the agencies that our parish supports.

The committee welcomes input from all members of the parish. Please contact any committee member if you would like to be a part of community advocacy at SsAM.

Sylvia Banks
Joyce Bembry
Shirley Bynoe
Eudel Drain
Mary Anne Edwards
Laura Eisenman
Bernard Fisher
Retha Fisher
John Goodill
Marshali Hansen
Sandy Holt

Dariel Janerette
Karen Johnson
Nancy Miller
Phil Murphree
Susan Murphree
Lore Noyes
Brian O'Connor
Linda O'Connor
Alice Sawyer
Alice Smith, Chair
Orlen Washington

**DOWNTOWN ARTS
(Art Slam @ SsAM)
2015-2016**

Goals:

- To be a presence in the downtown Wilmington community
- To provide a wholesome, nurturing environment for new and seasoned artists
- To interest non-congregants in the ministry and programs of SsAM
- To engage in cooperative ventures with other downtown entities
- To generate programs that will improve our downtown community
- To raise donations for Friendship House through free will offerings/refreshment sales

Programs: Art Slam @ SsAM – provides an open venue for artists and performers of all artistic expression to share their gifts and talents every last Friday of the quarter. It is free and most attendees were visitors to SsAM. Highlights from the past year were:

- June 2015: Featured talented artist Jordan Hines and Pharoah The Poet. Jordan did some wonderful musical entertainment improvising the music of Ray Charles, Rick James and

other personalities. We also heard a student from Cab Calloway School who had a songbird of a voice. We had nearly 60 people in attendance for that Art Slam. Pharoah was here at SsAM for a special Art Slam in April 2015 and was so adored by the audience, we asked him to come back. We were also fortunate enough to have Mike Riley, one of the first Art Slam artists, stop in and give some comments. He is the artist who created the Art Slam Logo.

Sept 2015 With the assistance of Cynthia Primo Martin, Art Slam had the featured artist, Stephanie Farris, known as "The Doll Lady" Although she loves Black Dolls, she had many from around the globe which she had on display. In addition, we were blessed to have two of SsAM members as featured artists: Charlene Simmons and Beverly Romain. They both shared delightful poetry and readings they had written over the years. Finally, "the homeless poet" Charles Johnson shared his writings.

- OCT 2015 -- In October, we had an off cycle Special Art Slam led by Michele Roberts and the Environmental Justice Ministry. It was a very well attended event with Art Slam leading off the two day event which included local and out-of-town participants. An adorable 9 year old boy, Javier Bennett, captured the audience with his amazing art work. Drummers including Audrey Collins of SsAM and local well known drummer Aaron Walker. Many of the speakers, poets and other artists gave artistic views of how we need to be more aware of protecting our natural resources.

- DEC 2015: The Downtown Arts Ministry, the church and the community celebrated the 4th day of Kwanzaa and the principle of Cooperative Economics or Ujamaa on Tuesday, December 29, 2015. It was an awesome celebration as we celebrated about a dozen black business owners in this community.

- Our March 2016 Art Slam was moved to April 2016 this year allowing us to combine a celebration of Women's History month (March 2016) with National Poetry month and featuring several females. Jacki Kelly, an author of love stories, Crystal Baynard-Norman, a poet, folk artist Eunice LaFate and our own Audrey Collins and Jeanne Nutter. Audrey has many talents and this time it was her published poem "THINK". Jeanne Nutter, oral historian, shared fascinating stories of Delawareans she has interviewed over the years.

We held a special Art Slam during a Sunday coffee hour with a presentation of how to preserve old photos. There were two very informed college students, Shannon and Ronel, who came in October 2015. Thanks to Cynthia Primo Martin's connection with Debra Norris at University of DE, we had a remarkable presentation from these two young ladies.

- Future Goals: We will continue with quarterly Art Slams and will integrate special Art Slams as we see a need.
- Increase committee membership; work with area educational and civic institutions and the new Creative District to make SsAM an integral part of downtown Wilmington
- Increase coordination of activities with vestry and other parish ministries
- Increase publicity to general media, community and the diocese

Committee Members: Audrey Collins, Melba Lucas, Linda Smith, Diane Clarke Streett, Leroy Burks and Sharon Bryant (Chair)

Submitted by,
Sharon A Bryant - Chairperson

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN
2015-2016**

The Episcopal Church Women is open to all women of the church. Our active members are:

Officers

Dot Dorsey	President
Cynthia Oates	Vice President
Ernestine Brock-Walker	Secretary
Anne Gibson	Recording Secretary
Patricia Griffin	Treasurer

Active Members

Gloria Conner-Bungy	Pam Peters
June Knight	Paulyne Webster

These active members work diligently by sponsoring the Christmas Luncheon and the Jazz Tea and contributing to causes in the church's name. We do thank those women who donate to our causes and look forward to doing more with larger numbers of participants on a consistent basis. We are not a social club. We live and do God's work. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month (except for July and August) for approximately one and a half hours. We hope to see you at our next meeting on September 10, 2016. We have donated to the following organizations and causes this year and look to expand as you become involved!

Respectfully submitted,
Dot Dorsey, President

Caanan Baptist Church – women's ministry	\$ 40
Friendship House – code purple	\$ 200
Jonathan Whitney-Jazz Tea	\$ 400
Sharing our blessings - a Pipe in memory of Louise Lewis	\$ 250
Sharing our blessing – general donation	\$1,500
Delaware Diocesan ECW Annual Contribution	\$ 250
TOTAL	\$2,640

**DELAWARE CONCERNED RESIDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MINISTRY
2015-2016**

We hosted a town hall and a weekend of associated activities entitled, *A Call For Safer Chemicals and Safer Processes By Addressing Legacy Communities, Health Disparities and the Climate Crisis on October 23-25, 2015*. The Town Hall was co-sponsored by: Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice, Victims Stand Against Foreclosure, Delaware Sierra Club, Wilmington Branch NAACP, Minority Workforce Development Coalition, Newark Branch of NAACP, Imani Energy, University of DE NAACP Student Chapter, Delaware Interfaith Power and Light, Nurses Healing Our Planet-A Chapter of the Delaware Nurses Association, The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, Environmental Justice Health Alliance, The Just Transition Alliance, Coming Clean, Center for Effective Government, Union of Concerned Scientists In Partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency Region III.

Outcomes from the Town Hall

- The Wilmington City Council presented SsAM with a resolution for commitment to taking a stand against the threats and vulnerability posed on residents and workers throughout the state, especially the City of Wilmington.
- DCREJ members traveled to DC to testify to the Office of Management Budget process on the need to include inherently safer chemicals and processes to protect the most vulnerable.
- DCREJ connected with the United Methodist Church Women of Ezion Mt Carmel to address the goal of youth engagement. A weekend workshop with a focus on youth and science on an environmental justice foundation was held in May 2016. Some of the partners from the Town Hall, such as Sarah Lawrence College, the Union of Concerned Scientists, Environmental Justice Health Alliance and Coming Clean also supported the work. The youth were thrilled and asked to keep the activities going. We are planning a additional activities this summer. From there, we are hoping to hold workshops during the next school year and a possible 5-6 week youth and science summer camp in 2017.
- Local issues, linking toxic chemicals to the violence and the need to deeply minimize exposures. An example: safer - chemicals and processes such as weed management etc regarding DE's perceived need for mosquito aerial spraying with proven safer substitutions, especially given the disparate health impacts in those communities.
- SsAM was chosen as a location by a national collective known as Building Equity Alignment ("BEA"), would like to fund a training workshop on the east coast for grassroots to participate in the CPP/RGGI process weekend of July 15-16, 2016.
- Delaware Concerned Residents for EJ organized a sign on letter to VP Biden to host a facilitated dialogue in DE about the cancer crisis. We hope to hold the meeting at SsAM.

Michelle Roberts and Paulyne Webster

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY
2015-2016**

The Eucharistic Ministry at Saints Andrew and Matthew has grown yet again. We take great pride in our duties as Eucharistic Ministers each Sunday and subsequent occasions when we are called upon to serve. This past year we have had several of our parish family go to their “great reward” and our Eucharistic Ministers have participated in their memorial services.

We have had several training sessions, allowing us to grow in faith and add more souls to fulfill God’s request to *feed his sheep*. With His help and guidance we intend to do just that. Our new Eucharistic Ministers are Jason James and Lore Noyes. Cameron Dixon, our youngest Eucharistic Minister, has graduated and is headed to UD, but we hope he will join us as his schedule allows. Barbara Henry has also been trained to be a Liturgical Assistant and will take on this advanced role this summer, joining Tracey Dixon, Eudel Drain, and D-L Casson.

In our training sessions we have seasoned Eucharistic Minister participate by demonstrating different ways to effectively administer the Chalice to communicants. Several of our Eucharistic Ministers administer both bread and wine at the Gluten Free station and then to the Nursery School assistants and the hospitality ministry members who prepare for coffee hour.

Part of our training focuses on ensuring that we know all the items used during a liturgy and where to locate them. We have enjoyed working with the Altar Guild members who have helped us learn this aspect of our ministry. I feel the more knowledge we gain in our ministry the better performance we are able to do on Sundays. There will be training later in the year to assure the continuity of our ministry. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact me.

Respectively submitted
Ernestine Brock-Walker

**LECTORS
2015-16**

Known as readers in some parishes, the SsAM lectors are key (and visible) ministry members not only at 8:00 and 10:30 liturgies on Sunday's, but also for Lessons and Carols, Evensong and other special services. Lectors are trained in how to properly pace the reading of the scripture and the pronunciation of the people and places of the bible. Two such training sessions were held during the past year.

Over forty adult parishioners served in this role during the year as well as several of our YF members. We want to especially thank everyone who took time for extra preparation required for the readings for Christmas and Holy Week.

We strive, as in all ministries, to be inclusive and representative of our congregation's diversity. Our aim each Sunday is to intentionally showcase our diversity as a model of living into our mission of being inclusive and welcoming to all. While we have a wonderful roster of lectors, we invite and welcome others to our ministry particularly we need additional men. Any new volunteers are welcome to attend our next training which will be held in the Fall.

Joyce Bembry and Tom Angell, Co-leaders

LITURGY COMMITTEE 2014-15

At SsAM, our liturgical design is a unique blend of the Book of Common Prayer, diverse forms and styles of music, and the active participation of lay members of the congregation as partners with the clergy. The Liturgy Committee members take a long term view by working with the Rector and Director of Music in planning for (and debriefing) Christmas, Holy Week and the Season of Creation. Over the year, we have:

- Conducted a joint meeting/training with the Altar Guild ministry
- Conducted a parish wide survey on having Rite 1 services
- Engaged in a significant conversation about the importance of music to our liturgical approach
- Encouraged the development of the remaining "Our liturgy unfolded" materials by D-L Casson so that we now have a publication for every Church Season
- Supported the development of a special ad hoc service for the Parking Enforcement staff
- Supported the development of a new approach to Instructed Eucharist which will be offered next year

The current members are:

Tom Angell

Ernestine Brock-Walker

Ann Tate

Anita Young

Lionel Hampton

Pat Hampton

Pat Saunders

Christina Brennan Lee

Adele Meredith

Barbara Henry

Wanda Smith

Fr. David

David Christopher

MEDICAL MINISTRY 2015-2016

The newly formed Medical Ministry has focused on ensuring that SsAM has proper equipment and supplies available in the case of a medical emergency. We are blessed to have many medical professionals at SsAM. They have provided advice on what type of AED (automated external defibrillator) to purchase and thanks to Walt Meredith, SsAM, Choir School, and Friendship House staff, joined by Anita Young of the Ambassador Ministry received training on

the use of the AED and CPR certification. Several volunteers will help make sure our basic medical kit is well maintained and that medications have not expired.

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY 2015 -2016

Sharon Leyhow and Cynthia Primo Martin, Co-Chairs

Members: David Andrews, Wanda Smith, Darrel Janerette, Dave Clouser, Pat Hampton
Valerie Gilliam, Cheryl Thomas, Leslie Clouser, Pat Saunders, Anita Young, Alice Sawyer

MISSION: To RECRUIT new members to SsAM, to RETAIN those who join, and to RECLAIM those who may have drifted away for any reason. Our primary focus will be on maintaining a diverse and inclusive congregation by bringing in new individuals and families across the board, but especially in the targeted areas we have identified. Our secondary focus will be on reclaiming former parishioners. We are working in partnership with the Ambassador Ministry whose mission is to incorporate and include visitors to SsAM and to guide them through membership.

2016 GOALS

1. Continue with “Year 2” of the 2015-2017 Long Range Plan to contact potential members, and former members with the goal of increasing new membership and have missing members return.
2. Relationship development by connecting with new SsAM members
3. Develop short term goals/tasks to meet Long Range Goals

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Facilitated meeting of SsAM ministries to improve newcomers/visitors experience at SsAM – Mapping the touch points we have with newcomers/visitors to ensure a welcoming environment
- Contacted former members to encourage their return to SsAM
- Explored electronic systems to improve efforts to track congregant contacts
- In process of developing a “SsAM Wall Time Line” highlighting histories of St. Andrew’s, St. Matthew’s and SsAM
- Developed a “ Name Tag Kit” for visitors and installed a New Member/Visitor space in the Narthex
- Installed pew visitor form holders
- Developed Welcome to SsAM Bi-fold with pertinent information for prospective members
- Contacted new members to obtain bios and photos for New Member Wall display in Narthex

Anyone interested in becoming a member of MDM or helping in any way, please contact Sharon Leyhow at rjmsal@gmail.com, (610) 444-9854 or Cynthia Primo Martin, cprimo@comcast.net, (302) 540-0196.

**PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY
2015-2016**

Pastoral Care continues to be a vital and important ministry of the parish as it is an opportunity for all of us to care for and reach out to our neighbors through prayer, phone calls and visits. Thanks to all who volunteer as Eucharistic Visitors, writing cards or reaching out to members by calling them on the phone or scheduling a visit. Fr. David wishes to thank everyone who has been an important part of this ministry over the years. This summer Fr. David will be convening a small group to review where the pastoral care ministry has been and asking for recommendations and ideas as to how this ministry can continue to grow and care for all the membership at SsAM.

Submitted by Fr. David

**PROPERTY MINISTRY
2015-2016**

The role of the property committee is to effectively and efficiently maintain all church and rectory physical property

Members: Jim Ballard, Dave Clouser, Cyndi Dombrowski, Ken Francis, Anne Gibson, Herb Harvey, Sandy Hines, Sandy Johnson, Jim Linderman, Jerry Lucas, Cynthia Martin, Dennis Porter, Janice Teemer, Leroy Trotz, Al Weber, Orlen Washington

Based on the age of the church (built in 1848) and the rectory ,the property ministry has had a very active year and continues to operate within the Vestry established budget. Normal maintenance and improvement activities have been increased to support the installation of the new pipe organ. In addition, to the actions of the committee we must also acknowledge the significant and vital role played by the church staff in maintaining the facilities of the church.

Following are some of the projects that have been completed in the last year:

- Worked with SsAM's Property to complete the sidewalk repairs for Shipley and Orange Street and fix the hole in the parking lot which was completed thanks to funding secured by State Representative Bolden and State Senator Marshall
- Completed the installation of a new stove in the rectory and the associated kitchen repairs
- Completed a preliminary review of the church heating and air conditioning systems
- Completed a detailed design of a new heating and air conditioning system for both Crypt Hall and the Chapel with the next step depending on future funding
- Completed tree pruning for both the rectory and the church and maintained the church gardens thanks to the efforts of committee members
- Completed church roof repair
- Completed some eave and soffit repairs on the Shipley and the 8th street side of the church with future work planned this year

- Continued to incorporate the energy findings of the Delaware Interfaith Power and Light Committee in our activities
- In an effort to support the installation of the new pipe organ, developed the bid package and selected the construction vendor, completed temporary church arrangements to support each construction phase, and finally completed phase one of the project with the final construction phase expected to be completed- by early August.

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Lucas

ORGANIZATION AND DESIGN
(Sub-Committee of the Property Committee)

Co-chairs: Cynthia Primo Martin and Peggy A. Shane,
Members: Cyndy Dombrowski, Beth Haas, Patricia Hampton, Sandy Hines, Monica Taylor Lotty, Pat Saunders, Janice Teemer

The Organization and Design (O & D) Sub-Committee’s mission is to ensure that SsAM is a clean and attractive place to worship and serve God. O & D was established formally in 2015; sub-committee members, with input from parishioners, felt that its first initiative should be to develop a plan to “de-clutter, clean and paint” to make SsAM as attractive as possible. Subsequent efforts will include updating deteriorating and old fixtures and furnishings.

Completed Projects

- An O & D sub-committee tour of public spaces/individual rooms--Crypt Hall, auditorium, kitchen, Demby Room, restrooms, entrances, halls, etc.-- was conducted with the objective of describing the current state and recommending areas for improvement in paint color, furnishings, displays of information, artifacts, artwork, etc. The committee also noted furnishings, etc. that could be sold, donated or discarded. A tag sale is planned for Spring 2017.
- Pew Visitor Information card holders have been installed.

On-going Activities

- A historical timeline mural project has been planned and will be implemented by the Fall. This timeline will identify important dates for all three churches that comprise SsAM and important events since the consolidation of Saints Andrew and Matthew in 1996.
- The Guiding Principles, developed out of the consolidation experience, will be displayed in the Narthex and elevator entrance to the Sanctuary.
- A New Member display will be housed in the current glass-enclosed bulletin board in the Narthex. Visitor information will be part of the overall display.
- Flowers and greenery will be placed in and around the Narthex, Sanctuary and Parish House hall way.

ARCHIVES

(Sub-Committee of the Property Committee)

The Archives Rooms have been organized; records, materials, books, photos and artifacts have been inventoried. This effort has been completed by Peggy Shane and Cynthia Primo Martin.

REGAL HEIGHTS CARE CENTER MINISTRY

2015-2016

MISSION: To take the spiritual church, the Holy Eucharist and the Word to others unable to attend the physical church. To follow in Christ's footsteps by spreading His love to all people by ministering to the sick, widowed, elderly and all who are alone. **ACTIVITIES:** Services are held every fourth Sunday with volunteers arriving by 2:0 p.m. and the Chapel service beginning at 2:30 p.m. Music is provided by a Regal Heights resident and singing is by their choir. Fr. David Andrews and Canon Lloyd Casson are the officiants. Volunteers are Charles Bungy, Gloria Conner-Bungy, Paulette Francis, Alice Sawyer and Geoff Sawyer. Anyone interested in volunteering at least one Sunday a month should contact Gloria Conner-Bungy at 302-654-7630 or by calling the Church Office at 302-656-6628.

Submitted by,
Gloria Conner-Bungy

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

2015-2016

This has been an exciting year for the Sharing Our Blessings Campaign to say the least! SsAM is being prepared for the Katherine Esterly Organ to arrive! Thus far, we have collected \$1,345,354, a staggering amount. Our initial goal of \$1,350,000, an amount established in 2011, during the feasibility study, will be exceeded, but not by much, considering all that has been accomplished. Thank you to all who have contributed so generously. At this time, we are encouraging people to complete their pledges and to participate in the Sponsor A Pipe Campaign, which has generated \$79,886, and has become a popular way to contribute to the campaign.

This revenue is being raised, of course, so that The Katherine Esterly Organ will be installed in the fall. The men from the Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc. came in March, and took pipes from SsAM, as well as St. Matthew's and The Cathedral Church of St. John. Organ pipes from these three churches will be combined, along with new pipes, and will make up our unique and historic Katherine Esterly Organ. These pipes will be returned in September, installed, and the installation is scheduled to be completed in mid-November.

Meanwhile, as you can see, construction has begun, so that all will be ready when the organ pipes arrive in September. Exterior construction began the last week of April. At that time, the roof was raised so that the pipes in the new chamber on the Gospel side of the altar would be able to fit in the newly constructed organ chamber. The interior construction began on May 16th, after a kickoff Hymn Sing and Pot Luck Supper. The spirit of Kitty Esterly surrounded us

that night with David Christopher and the SsAM choir doing an amazing job of leading those who attended in singing. The event was well received and it is hoped that this will become an annual event.

The first thing that was done during the interior phase of the construction was the building of a wall out of plastic and dry wall, in back of the pillars, so that services could be held while the construction proceeded. The wall adds to the serenity of SsAM during this period and is far more attractive than anyone at SsAM envisioned. Thank you, Joe Gallo.

The altar and tryptic were enclosed in sealed wood to protect them from the ravages of construction as much as possible. The electronic organ was moved and rewired, and the choir pews were put on the sanctuary floor. Front rows of chairs from the sanctuary were relocated downstairs in Crypt Hall for the period of interior construction.

There are many people to thank for the never ending support and work that they do, to ensure the success of this campaign. Many thanks to our Rector, David Andrews, the Vestry and the staff of SsAM for their continued help and support. David Christopher is our advisor for everything about the organ. Dana Robertson keeps track of all of the donations and is the liaison between vendors and SsAM for every aspect of the work that is done. D-L Casson works with the logistics of everyone who enters the building, making sure that they all get what they need to do their job effectively. Janice Teemer works with the Sponsor A Pipe campaign and creates the beautiful certificates that everyone who gives a pipe, receives. Charles Lewis and Mary Cooper have extra cleanup to do as the construction continues. Many thanks to them all! Our project managers, Jerry Lucas and Jim Ballard work tirelessly with Joe Gallo and his construction crew and John Dobraniecki, our architect, to make sure that everything proceeds smoothly with the construction.

Thanks to the Steering Committee for their continuous support, especially Cynthia Martin, who also works tirelessly and whose experience and expertise with fundraising has proved invaluable. Once again, none of this could have happened without the generosity of the community of SsAM and beyond. YOU are part of that community. Words cannot begin to express the gratitude of all connected with the Sharing Our Blessings campaign for your generous spirit.

Submitted by,
Patricia Saunders

**SHIPLEY LOFTS & THE CHRIS WHITE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2015-2016**

After many years of false starts, through the leadership of Canon Lloyd Casson and Chris White, SsAM Senior Warden and Board Chair of the Shipley Village Community Development Corporation [SVDCDC], 23 artists' lofts [most of which are being rented at subsidized rental rates] were opened 5 years ago.

Over the last 12 months, the lofts have been rented at a 95% - 100% occupancy rate to artists. Our operating budget continues to break even. The Chris White Gallery has become increasingly successful with wide ranging art genres displayed from the tenants of Shipley Lofts but also from partnerships with outside groups ranging from the University of Delaware to the Winterthur Museum. As is stated in the CDC by-laws, at least two members of the SsAM Vestry are on the CDC Board. I also remain on the board.

Geoff Sawyer Secretary to the Board

**SsAM Property, LLC “The Parking Lot Committee”
2015 – 2016**

The Parking Lot Committee consists of the following parishioners from SsAM:

Jim Ballard	Lucia Robinson
Retha Fisher	Buck Smith, Jr.
Jim Linderman	Mark T. Williams
Jerry Lucas	

During this past fiscal year, the Parking Lot committee has been fully occupied with several important items concerning the parking lot and its financial organization. Regarding matters of the parking lot itself, one key item was successfully completed in 2015: “Project Sidewalk”. Both Sidewalks – the sidewalk on Shipley St. and the other on Orange St. – were successfully repaired. We like to acknowledge State Representative Stephanie Bolden (2nd District) and State Senator Robert Marshal (3rd District) and their respective staff in their combined efforts to help us garner the necessary resources to complete these much needed repairs. And many, many thanks to Dana Robertson for his unwavering assistance - and patience – in seeing this project thru completion.

In addition to the sidewalk repair, “Project Hole” is just about complete. The hole in the parking lot (along the back side of the church office wall) has been filled, and we are now simply waiting for it to be properly covered and sealed.

Our focus for the upcoming fiscal year will be on improving our operational and cost efficiency, for example improving our tax status; and as always, maintaining a safe and sound parking lot.

Our financial status is as follows: total principal loan balance to SsAM is approximately \$35,000. Our repayment to SsAM continues at 8.0% for an annual interest payment of \$12,600; and current checking and saving account balances were not available as of this writing of this report, but will be provided as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark T. Williams
President, SsAM Property, LLC

**STEWARDSHIP (ANNUAL GIVING)
2015-2016**

This year's stewardship theme focused on our cycle of blessings and we used the material from the Kaleidoscope Institute's program Holy Currencies. A small group met for six sessions for dinner and sessions that focused on six blessings or currencies: Time and Place, Relationships, Truth, Wellness, Gracious Leadership and Money. Participants reflected on each currency and were given an opportunity to experience the importance of the currency through Bible Study, Reflection and Group exercises. Fr. David also used his weekly reflection to introduce each of the currencies to the parish. The ingathering of pledge cards occurred during the season of creation and the results were an example of how SsAM continues to grow into being faithful stewards of God's gifts to us. We received 168 pledges for a total of \$464,314 which exceeded our goal of \$450,000 set by the stewardship committee.

**GODLY PLAY SUNDAY SCHOOL
2015-2016**

This year is our 5th year of teaching the Godly Play Sunday School for children ages 3-8 with a team of 5 teachers rotating each week to lead the lessons. We have 20 children in the pre-school to elementary age group who attend the Sunday school lesson and stay on for the nursery program or join their family in the sanctuary for the Eucharist. Serving as Godly Play storytellers are: Alice and Geoff Sawyer, Carol Scott, Sherry Bell, and Cyndi Dombrowski. Serving as child care staff for our nursery are Tianna Wisher and YYF youth Sophie Poindexter, Richard Hernandez, and Alexis Ramirez.

Godly Play is a unique approach to Sunday School where the teachers facilitate the planned story in an annual series of lessons that follow the liturgical calendar. During the Godly Play story the children are encouraged to work with the lesson props to re-enact the story, consider "wondering" questions about how the story relates to them, and create drawings to express what they've learned.

A special thank-you to all of the teachers and YYF youth for helping out with the children. And a big THANK YOU to the parents and grandparents who bring the children to Sunday school. We are always looking for more young families with children who would like to attend and adults to occasionally help lead the Godly Play lessons. The commitment for teachers is to attend a one-day Godly Play Orientation and a Safe Church workshop in the fall and to teach once a month on a rotation schedule. Working with our youngest SsAM members is a lot of fun and a great way to meet new families. Let us know if you are interested in being part of Godly Play.

Carol Scott

**USHER MINISTRY
2015-2016**

The Ministry of Ushering is rooted in biblical history and tradition. In fact, the position of “gate keeper” or “door keeper” was a significant and exalted office in the Hebrew Scriptures, and a position of great trust. The commitment of the Ushers here at SsAM is to reverence this holy place and its witness to faith and seek to make it a place of welcome and hospitality. The Ministry of Hospitality and Welcome is an important one in the life of the Church in general and SsAM in particular. I extend a huge vote of thanks and appreciation to all the Ushers for their dedication, service and support of this ministry.

In March of 2016, I officially retired as chairperson of the Ushers Ministry, and Jenna Christy has graciously agreed to assume that position. This ministry has been a source of inspiration and spiritual growth for me and I thank SsAM for this opportunity. I also encourage others to join and participate in this ministry.

Lionel Hampton, Retired Chairperson

As new co-chairs to the Usher Ministry, we would like to thank Lionel for his many years of service to SsAM. He was truly dedicated to this ministry and helped to make SsAM the welcoming place we all love. We send our heartfelt THANKS to Lionel.

Jenna Christy and Patty Greene

**YOUTH AND YOUNG FAMILIES
2015-2016**

The aim for YYF continues to be “paying it forward”. Our group has experienced many changes with the departure of recent college bound alums and the addition of new members. As always, YYF is looking to attract new participants while nurturing the spiritual growth of those who currently belong to our program. In 2016, we plan to accomplish our mission by focusing on the goals we have collectively set for our group: focusing on teen homelessness, member recruitment, deciding on the location of our next mission trip, enhancing our presence during Sunday service, and seeking the participation of church members who would like to instruct our young people. Overall, the goal of YYF is to invest in activities that will encourage our youth to continue to seek a relationship with God while staying true to themselves and the communities they serve. The activities we will take part in during the upcoming year are designed to continue to teach our youth that being kind, helping and taking care of others are great ways to give thanks for all their blessings.

Year in review (September 2015 – June 2016):

September 2015: Participation in the Pearls of Hope Walk and Run

November 2015: As an annual tradition, YYF members discussed, arranged and provided a Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless men. In addition, we worked on the confection of several Thanksgiving baskets which were donated to the Friendship House women's shelter.

December 2015: In keeping with our goals of helping combat youth homelessness, we launched our campaign by providing a group of homeless kids with a Christmas Party, which turned out to be a total success. In addition, YYF sponsored a coat drive and a Business Dress Clothing Drive for Women's Center mothers.

February 2016: Shrove Tuesday has been a long standing tradition with SAaM and this year YYF was given the honor to coordinate and run this effort. We also attended the Tuskegee Airmen play at the Grand Opera House.

March 2016: YYF donated Easter baskets and attended Sight & Sound to see the play of Samson for spiritual education.

April 2016: YYF Conducted a Bake Sale to benefit the Katherine Esterly Organ Fund. Through the efforts of all parents and members we were able to donate \$1,000 to this cause.

May 2016: YYF did the Mother's Day recognition during the Mother's day service.

Upcoming events:

June: Father's Day recognition. Also, YYF will be deciding on their mission trip destination for 2017. In addition, a clothing drive has been launched for kids in need and this will take place during the months of June through August. **August:** Fun activity to Hershey Park or other themed park. **September:** Planning a spiritual retreat with Father David and members of YYF. **October:** The group will participate in the Pearls of Hope Walk and Run at Rockford Park, Wilmington. **November:** There will be a Thanksgiving celebration for both the men and women of Friendship House. **December:** We will do our annual coat drive benefiting the children of Friendship House.

Additional Notes:

Starting September 2016, YYF will institute a Sunday Group, each week from 10:30 am until 11:15 am, in the teen suite. The members will discuss their family life, the community they live in, read excerpts from the bible, and discuss their "faith journey" as they move forward. SsAM parishioners have volunteered to facilitate the sessions each week.

The use of technology is very important in the YYF's ability to assist in conducting forward thinking presentations, viewing informative programs, and reporting information to the general church body. In order to make these efforts flow smoothly, the YYF is seeking to purchase a 42" mounted television for the teen suite, a 65" mounted television for Crypt Hall or the auditorium, and a laptop for reporting information.

