



ST. PAUL'S, IVY

Annual Report 2016

Parish Staff

Rector

Associate Rector

Priest Associate

Director of Spirituality and Missions

Director of Children & Youth Formation

Director of Church Music

Parish Administrator

Office Assistant

Housekeeping/Nursery

Priest in Residence

Priest in Residence

Priest in Residence

The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Liles

The Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa

The Rev. Henry N. F. Minich

Debbie Scott

Audi Barlow

Daniel Brinson

Mary M. Lane

Elizabeth Suoranta

Robin Layne, Rosemary Keen

Laura Layne

The Rev. Allison S. Liles

The Rev. Jane E. Sigloh

The Rev. Stacy Williams-Duncan

AGENDA
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
November 20, 2016

Opening Prayers: Collect for Parish Meeting
 Lord's Prayer

Appointments
 The Tellers' Committee

Adoption of Roberts' Rules of Order for the meeting's procedure

Adoption of 2015 Minutes

Election of Vestry Members

Treasurer's Report

Stewardship Committee/Capital Campaign

General Business/Reports – Carpenter's Kids / Children & Youth Formation Committee / Portable Labyrinth /
 Buildings & Grounds / Senior Warden / Two New Task Forces

Closing Prayer and Blessing

The Year 11-21-2015 – 11-19-2016
 from the Parish Register

Baptisms	=	15
Marriages	=	4
Burials	=	15
Holy Eucharist	=	253
Daily Office	=	2
Other Services	=	16
 Total Services	 =	 305

2015 Confirmed Communicants 794

Added by Confirmation	=	8
Added by Transfer	=	5
Lost by Transfer	=	16
Lost by Death	=	11
Total Confirmed Communicants	=	780

Total Baptized members - Parochial Report 4/2015 = 852

St. Paul's Ivy
Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

November 22nd, 2015

9:30 a.m.

- 1) **An opening Collect and the Lord's Prayer** were offered by the Rev. Eric.
- 2) **Appointments**
 - a. Register – Debbie Weaver. Moved by Dave Wood, seconded by Dick Fogg and approved.
 - b. Parliamentarian – George “Cricket” Barlow. Moved by Heather Dickey, seconded by Alf Weaver and approved.
 - c. Tellers' Committee – Outgoing Vestry members Stella Prevost, Mary Welby von Thelen, Erik Greenbaum and Scott Gillespie. Moved by Bill Greene, seconded by Alf Weaver and approved.
- 3) **Adoption of Robert's Rules of Order** for the meeting's procedure. Moved by Tony von Thelen, seconded by Barbie York, approved and so adopted.
- 4) **2014 Minutes presented.** Minutes approved with minor edits.
- 5) **Election of Vestry Members.** The slate consists Carolyn Achenbach, Elizabeth Butler, Scott Chirichetti and Paul Yesawich. Paper copies of the slate are available. These were emailed last week to the congregation. The Rev. Eric explained who are valid voting members and who are eligible to serve on the vestry.

Nominations from the floor? None. The nominations were closed with a motion from Bruce Sullivan, a second from Peggy Williams and approved

Motion to accept the slate as proposed from Bob Wilcox and seconded by Jane Baer, Unanimously accepted. The first meeting for new vestry members will be December 14th at 5:30 p.m. in Neve Hall.
- 6) **Treasurer's Report** given by Vic Dandridge. Things are fine. Expenses under control. We broke even last year and expect to again this year. Special funds invested with the diocese. Phil Lawrence retired as Assistant Treasurer this year. Scott Gillespie and Dick Fogg are new assistants. Contact Vic with questions.
- 7) **Stewardship Committee Report** given by Bill Achenbach and Erik Greenbaum. As of November 22, we have received 180 pledges. The vestry would appreciate final pledge figures for the December 14th vestry meeting so that a budget can be approved.
- 8) **Committee Reports.**

Carpenter's Kids (CK) by Charlotte Delany. Charlotte presented information on Madidrops – a water purification tablet developed at UVA which is low cost, uses silver ions. Continuous and residual purification. Tested in Nzali this past summer as part of a UVA research grant. Families in Nzali opened their homes and were open to the testing because of the relationship with St. Paul's Ivy. Production of Madidrops is now beginning with a new nonprofit.

Strategic Planning Committee by Donna Tolson. Committee gathered data and began process of figuring out where we are and where we want to go. Survey was the big data factor along with focus group for teens and tweens. Also looked at local area demographics and parish membership data.

We are in a blessed place – majority are very happy with St. Paul's and there is no indicator of desire for big changes. More people want to be involved in programming and want to know how. Building and Grounds: people love the church buildings and want them well maintained. Kirklea and parking lots need work. Mission focus: caring for sick and elderly within the parish, supporting surrounding community, helping parishioners in spiritual journey. Look at being more ADA compliant down the road. Youth support a noticeable gap right now.

Rector Report from the Rev. Eric Liles. Many thanks to staff and thanks to wardens and vestry.

Associate Rector's Report from the Rev. Sarah Gaventa. We need volunteers to teach HS class next semester.

9) Eric discussed the numbers for the Church Year (11/21/2014 – 11/21/2015)

Baptisms - 13
 Marriages - 4
 Burials - 10
 Holy Eucharist - 232
 Daily Office - 3
 Other Services - 19
 Total Services - 281

Confirmed Communicants
 Added by Confirmation - 12
 Added by Transfer - 16
 Lost by Transfer - 9
 Lost by Death - 10
 Total Confirmed Communicants – 794

Total Baptized members – Parochial Report 2015 - 825

10) Rev. Eric offered a closing prayer.

11) The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Weaver, Register

100 Parishioners present

THE VESTRY ELECTION

2017

Voter Eligibility

To qualify as a voting member of St. Paul’s, the following qualifications must be fulfilled.

- 1. You may be “an adult communicant in good standing of St. Paul’s”, or
- 2. You may be a non-communicant member in good standing who is 21 years of age or over, and known to the treasurer as a regular contributor for six months.

An “adult communicant in good standing” is defined by the Canons of the Episcopal Church as a baptized member who is at least 16 years old, and “who for the previous year has been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.” “A non-communicant member in good standing” is a person who has contributed regularly to church funds for six months.

Candidate Eligibility

Candidates for the Vestry of St. Paul’s are submitted at the parish meeting in two ways: a nominating committee submits qualified names, and to this list may be added any names nominated from the floor. Parishioners are asked to nominate only persons who have given permission for their names to be placed in nomination. Eligibility requirements for Vestry persons are as follows:

- 1. Age 16 years or over.
- 2. Confirmed Communicant in good standing.
- 3. No one who has retired from the Vestry within the last two years.

Canon 11: Section 4. Only Lay Persons, who are confirmed adult communicants in good standing of the church, as defined in General Convention Canon I.17., shall be eligible for election as Vestry members of such church, However, regardless of eligibility of a person for election, no person shall be elected at duly convened congregational meetings to consecutive full terms on a congregation's Vestry or Vestry Committee.

The Vestry Nominating Committee was composed of the following members: Andrew Rome, John Thornton, Shirley Cunningham, Beth Fox and Debbie Weaver.

Current Vestry Members

Term expires 12/2016	Shirley Cunningham, Beth Fox, Andrew Rome, Debbie Weaver, EB Enfield
Term expires 12/2017	Dick Fogg, Cass Morris, John Thornton
Term expires 12/2018	Carolyn Achenbach, Elizabeth Butler, Scott, Chirichettii, Paul Yesawich

2016 Treasurer's Report

Through October, our income is 7% below budget (mostly due to the timing of certain pledge payments), and our expenses are about 6% above budget. We have absorbed an unanticipated major repair and Campital Campaign expenses and should end the year slightly below break-even. Our Reserve Fund stands at \$124,000, which is more than adequate to cover these unbudgeted expenses.

As of September 30, we had about \$544,000 invested with The Trustees of the Funds, an arm of the Diocese of Virginia that manages about \$130 million for various churches and organizations in the diocese.

Boogher Wheat Fund	\$250,322
Graveyard Fund	\$235,379
Scholarship Fund	\$ 38,040
Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$ 19,947
TOTAL	\$543,988

Thanks to all for your generous financial support of St. Paul's, Ivy. If you have not made your 2017 pledge yet, please do so as soon as possible, so we will be able to complete work on next year's budget. If you are interested in remembering St. Paul's in your estate, please let us know.

Scott Gillespie is doing a great job filling Phil Lawrence's shoes as Assistant Treasurer.

If you have any questions at all about our church's finances, please contact me at treasurer@stpaulsivy.org or 434-989-3250.

Vic Dandridge Jr., Treasurer

ACOLYTE PROGRAM

Acolytes are part of an old and honored ministry as servants to God and his Church. The word acolyte means "one who serves." Acolytes assist the clergy at each Sunday morning worship service. St. Paul's currently has 25 active acolytes. Any youth of the church in grades six thru twelve may join the program. The most important qualifications are enthusiasm and a desire to learn more about our worship services. Orientation for new acolytes is ongoing throughout the year. We try to arrange our schedule so that we accommodate the individual needs of each acolyte.

We "graduated" seven acolytes in the spring; Emily Barlow, Ethan Cole, Peyton Dandridge, Claire Keeler, Charlotte Holden, Sammie Magargee and Nina Willms. We sincerely appreciate their years of loyal service and dedication to the parish.

We have four members of the church who serve as vergers. Vergers coach or instruct the acolytes. At least one verger is always available every Sunday morning to help the acolytes get ready for the service. Currently, our active vergers are: Jennifer Harvey, Karen Smith, Bruce Sullivan, and Tim Tolson. Anyone desiring additional information about the acolyte program should contact a verger or the church office.

Bruce Sullivan, Acolyte Leader

ADULT FORMATION COMMITTEE

The Adult Formation Committee plans and provides adult education. The Adult Forum held Sunday mornings at 9:30 is the focus of our work. Committee members are: Shirley Cunningham, Beth Fox (Chair), Bob Wilcox, Luke Wright and Paul Yesawich. Rev. Eric attends our meetings to give guidance and advice.

This spring will continue with the theme of “Our Story” and will have programs on a range of topics including Church history, The Creeds, The Lord’s Prayer, the Eucharist, Music and Elder Care. We will wrap up the end of May with a tour of our graveyard. Next fall we begin a study of systematic theology. Speakers come from Virginia Theological Seminary, UVA, Union Theological Seminary and our own parish.

Beth Fox, Chair

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is a lay ministry responsible for preparing the church for all services throughout the year. At St. Paul's, there are six teams which rotate weekly. The Guild welcomes and needs new members, men and women. Diagrams, written instructions and hands-on training are provided.

Tim Tolson, Chair

BOOGHER-WHEAT FUND

The Boogher-Wheat Fund is the result of joining two funds with similar goals. The Boogher Fund was established about 40 years ago by a gift from the Rev. Dudley Boogher, a previous Rector of St. Paul’s, and by other contributors in Father Boogher’s memory. About the same time, a similar fund was established honoring Ms. Florence Wheat, Father Boogher’s faithful and indispensable housekeeper.

The joint fund now operates under a new Vestry approved charter with the retained purpose of fulfilling the mission of St. Paul’s, Ivy, which can be noted weekly on the front of the service bulletin. Distributions are made annually to worthwhile organizations as determined by the Boogher-Wheat Committee. At this time the Boogher-Wheat Fund investments are managed by the Diocesan Trustees of the Funds. The market value of the Fund on 9/30/2016 was \$250,321.56. Grants are made using funds from investment income and proceeds from the capital appreciation of the fund. This year a grant was awarded to the Bread & Roses ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Grants are often initiated by members of the parish and suggestions for appropriate recipients are always welcome. The present committee members are Cathy Train, Bob Wilcox, Debbie Weaver and Gina Thornton. Rev. Liles is an ex-officio member of the committee. Any of this group can be contacted for additional information if desired.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are parishioners licensed by The Diocese of Virginia to bring already consecrated communion to parishioners who are not able to attend Sunday Services for any reason. To become a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, or to receive communion from one, contact the Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa at sarah@stpaulsivy.org.

CARPENTER'S KIDS PROGRAM

Our mission partnership with the people of St. Paul's Nzali continues to flourish as we support the most vulnerable children in the parish through the CK program. "Carpenter's kids", whom many at SPI support with annual donations of \$100 per child, receive a school uniform, a pair of shoes, basic school supplies, a large bar of soap, a daily breakfast and two mosquito nets per family.

Over the past seven years, our church has sent mission teams to Nzali on an annual basis. During our most recent trip this past summer, a group of eight parishioners, including six adults and two youths, spent two weeks in the village. As always, teaching in the primary school and assisting the teachers and students as they work toward taking the national exams, which children in the 7th Standard must pass to attend the secondary school, remains our primary focus. Additionally, a separate group of UVA students (including our own Charlotte Delaney) continued their work on teaching proper water sanitation techniques to the children and the villagers.

Well over 100 SPI parishioners support the village of Nzali in a variety of different ways. They are engaged in projects and fundraising at home, support the water and sanitation programs that continue to evolve and expand, and/or contribute to the "e" Fund, which supports secondary and vocational students.

In addition to the monetary support that is so vital to the school children and villagers, we strongly encourage YOU to consider traveling with us to Tanzania during the summer of 2017. This year, besides teaching in the 4th and 7th levels, we have two exciting new components to our trip. For those of you who like hands-on physical work, we will be building alongside the parishioners of St. Paul's Nzali as they construct a much needed new church. We will also be introducing a brand new pre-K curriculum to younger children.

Please consider how you and your family might engage in these extraordinary opportunities. Traveling to Nzali is an amazing opportunity to experience or share with a family member. Getting to know our brothers and sisters there, partnering with them to better their lives (and ours!) *or* supporting our St. Paul's Ivy parishioners who choose to go will undoubtedly result in spiritual nourishment and fulfillment, while changing your life forever for the better.

Contacts:

- Erik Greenbaum, Chair
- Carolyn Achenbach, Vice Chair
- Sarah Dandridge, Secretary/Treasurer
- Missioner Training - Debbie Scott and Judy Crosby
- Carpenter's Kids Education – Debbie Scott, Ellen Campbell, Judy Crosby
- Infrastructure Projects Nzali – Steve Campbell, Bill Baer, Erik Greenbaum
- Marketing/Benefits/Fund Raising – Elizabeth Butler
- Sustainability Projects – Elizabeth Butler, Jane Baer

CELTIC EUCHARIST

A candlelit sanctuary and strains of the Celtic harp, violin, hammered dulcimer, and piano greet the attendee of this evening service on the second Sunday of each month. The liturgy comes from the *Iona Worship Book*, the *New Zealand Book of Common Prayer*, and inspiring Celtic resources such as books by John Philip Newell and John O'Donohue. The different wording of prayers calls attention to our understanding of what we say we believe. Celtic Christianity begins with a vision of a good Creator God, affirming the goodness of creation and our wonder and praise for the gift of life. Time for meditation and silence are offered before the service and at times during the service.

Opportunities for service include ushering, lay reading, chalice bearing, setting up and taking down candles, altar guild duties, and providing hospitality in a light reception. Nancy and Larry Briggs supervise the maintenance and storage of the candles.

Debbie Scott and Karen Smith

FRIENDS WITH FLOWERS

Each week members of the Friends with Flowers committee deliver altar flowers to those who have suffered a loss in their lives, or to those who are celebrating a momentous occasion, such as moving to a new home or the arrival of a newborn child. Often we deliver flowers to those who are unable to worship with us, be that due to illness, surgery, or other physical limitations.

Arriving not only with beautiful bouquets, but with the implicit message that we are one family in Christ and that they are remembered, we are welcomed warmly. One parishioner at Morningside requested that I take the flowers to the main entrance so that more people could enjoy them. After leaving a few stems in his room, I did just that. The spirit of giving and sharing is alive and well.

Perhaps more important than the flowers is the time spent visiting and getting to know fellow parishioners, many of whom we might not otherwise meet. For me, this is the most meaningful part of the Friends with Flowers outreach – communing with others. This is a lovely way to serve.

For more information, or to become part of the Friends with Flowers committee, please contact Jennifer Beckett at jbeckett@tylsearch.com.

Jennifer Becket, Chair

MUSIC/CHOIR AT ST. PAUL'S, IVY

The St. Paul's Ivy Choir continues to enjoy singing for the 10:30 service each Sunday. This year we also sang Celtic Advent Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Holy Week and Easter services, Ascension Day Evensong, and a fall Evensong. We are looking forward to singing a Bach Cantata in the spring, and we always welcome new members.

The Children's Choir is rehearsing regularly on Wednesdays and singing for church once or twice per month, processing, wearing robes, and sitting with the adult choir. We are using a curriculum called *Voice for Life*, which allows the kids to work on music skills at their own pace to earn colored ribbons for their crosses. The Children's Choir also sang for the Ceilidh in October. Daniel leads music for younger children most Sundays in Treasure Time, where we focus on singing, movement, and playing instruments as we worship and pray together.

We also continue to be grateful to our Celtic musicians, Raven and Peter Hunter, Justin Esposito, and Jon Gomez. And we are excited that we had a youth music presence for the Confirmation service in October, and we look forward to more youth involvement at Christmas.

Daniel Brinson, Director of Music

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Christian Formation for children at St. Paul's Ivy covers a broad spectrum of curricula and programming for our children from infancy to 5th grade. The following is an outline of our different Sunday morning classes and programs.

Nursery: (two adult leaders; 12 children active on roster; average five infants/children per Sunday)

Nursery care is available for infants through age 3 from 8:30 to noon on Sunday mornings, 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. for Celtic services, and at other times as programming requires, such as Women's Bible Study, and choir rehearsal. The nursery staff maintains a safe, clean and inviting space for children to play and share community. The nursery staff is infant and child CPR, AED and First Aid certified and are compliant with the Diocesan training for the prevention of Sexual Abuse and Misconduct. Age appropriate toys, snacks and books are enjoyed by the children. Parents are welcome to use the nursery for some or all of the service and are encouraged to collect their little ones to partake in Holy Communion as a family.

Godly Play ages 4 - Kindergarten: (five teachers; 14 children active on roster; average eight children per Sunday)

Godly Play grades 1 & 2: (six teachers; sixteen children active on roster; average nine children per Sunday)

We are into our thirteenth year offering Godly Play, a Montessori method of teaching. Two separate Godly Play classrooms are dedicated for children to receive an educational experience that creates a sacred space and encourages students to be themselves, learn to live in community, come closer to the mystery of God's presence, and learn the Christian language. They are challenged to wonder deeper into the stories, parables and liturgical actions.

SPIES (St. Paul's Ivy Explorers) grades 3-5: (three teachers; 15 active on roster; average six per Sunday)

Children gather in our usual inviting classroom space to explore a lectionary based curriculum. We sit in community at a large table where we can all see one another and enjoy learning from each other and sharing our thoughts on the lessons. In addition to reading and studying the Bible story, each day the children will have the opportunity to create, act-out or play in ways that help to reinforce the importance of the day's lesson.

Children's Chapel: (two adult leaders; occasional volunteer helpers; average 22 children and youth per Sunday)

During the 10:30 service children above the age of three and all ages of youth are invited to come forward for a blessing and dismissal for a special service in the Children's Chapel. Children and Youth are involved in helping to lead the service under adult supervision. There are opportunities for junior acolytes and lay readers. Music and singing is also featured with the support of Daniel Brinson. The children and youth return to the sanctuary during the Peace and join their parents to partake in Holy Communion as a family.

Additional Programming: Advent activities, Children's Choir, Christmas Pageant, Lenten activities, Easter activities, Pentecost Activities; Vacation Bible School, Shrine Mont Family retreat, Children's Library, Playground maintenance and supervision.

For more information about children's programming at St. Paul's, Ivy please contact Audi Barlow at 979-6354 or audi@stpaulsivy.org.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR YOUTH

Audi Barlow expanded her duties July 1st to include youth formation. It is a one year interim position in hopes of reinvigorating the current youth population while we continue to discern our youth program leadership needs.

This fall we revamped our Sunday morning formation for middle and high school students. Currently the youth meet at 9:30 in Neve Hall for fellowship complete with breakfast treats before transitioning into our morning programming. We are integrating our Acolyte, Outreach, and formation, so middle and high school students can get more out of the central experiences of church: worship and service. Most Sundays, students meet with the Rev. Sarah and other formation leaders to think about different elements of the service, what they mean, and how they apply to our lives. Why do we wear what we do? Why do we say confession? How does the Eucharist change my life? No question is too small or large for us to tackle.

Using the model of service, we've expanded the opportunities for youth to serve at St. Paul's Ivy. On the Sunday prior to our Wednesday Pantry days, the youth help pack up household goods or food for our Outreach clients. We are no longer designating one Sunday as Youth Sunday, rather we invite youth to participate as lay readers, intercessors, or chalice bearers as their schedule allows. Some youth have expressed interest in helping with Continental Breakfast and Coffee Hour.

You may ask why we're using Neve Hall for our new meeting space. Being in closer proximity to the Sanctuary, we have opportunities for both theoretical and hands on learning rooted in our life of worship. We will use traditional classroom space as needed, but our hope is to make our youth more visible to the congregation and vice versa. Already we're seeing a positive reaction to this decision. We welcome you to walk through as you normally would and to join us whenever you'd like.

Future goals for youth programming is to increase interest and participation in our Celtic service and provide evening fellowship afterwards; support the church's work with PACEM; involve youth in our Christmas Outreach; participate in a summer mission experience; and so much more!

Outside of Sunday mornings, the youth have already enjoyed a tubing trip down the James river; participation in the CROP Walk; a pet food drive for WVA flood relief victims; Trunk or Treat with Olivet Presbyterian church; Senior High weekend at Shrine Mont and there are a myriad of winter and spring events in the works.

An important feature of the youth formation leader's position is to be in community with the youth. Audi Barlow has been supportive of the youth by attending a variety of their activities ranging from Charity walks, film festival, theatrical performances, just to name a few.

For more information about youth programming at St. Paul's, contact Audi Barlow audi@stpaulsivy.org or The Rev. Sarah Kinney Gaventa sarah@stpaulsivy.org

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

St. Paul's Community Outreach Ministry continues to assist and care for our neighbors in Western Albemarle. The need continues to grow and we now have over 75 families whom we help with food and basic household supplies.

This effort takes many hands, and we are blessed with wonderful volunteers. At least 20 volunteers give 1-2 hours a month to make this outreach possible. Our roster of volunteers is 50+ strong which includes parishioners, community members, youth, and families with young children. We have volunteers who shop for food and household supplies, pick up food at the Blue Ridge Food Bank, unload and pack supplies, pack bags, donate produce, and distribute food on pantry day. In addition to giving food, we helped Pantry families with fees for extra educational activities, and gave occasional assistance with rent, utilities, gasoline, and other bills.

We have been working to have families and youth involved in our outreach ministry and are thankful for their contributions this year packing food and household supplies.

The Community Outreach Ministry also organizes three special annual projects:

School supplies:

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and the local community, St. Paul's has provided backpacks and school supplies to 80 deserving and appreciative children.

The Back-to-School Drive is a project which begins in the spring and ends the first weekend in August when we host a marketplace for our Outreach pantry families. Over 30 volunteers assist with organizing the school supply outreach.

In addition to our request for donations from St. Paul's, we also canvas stores in the local community. We have received support from Virginia National Bank, Staples, Harris Teeter, Kroger, Giant Food, Bed Bath and Beyond, Sam's Club, Walmart, Kmart, Target, Lowes, Whole Foods, and Trader Joe's. The contributions totaled \$4960 \$3880 from St. Paul's and \$1080 from the community. Please note that this project is funded solely by donations. We do not use any of the designated Outreach funds in the church budget. We shop both locally and online to get the best deals possible. The ability to buy in bulk makes a big difference!

Thanksgiving food:

We thank our church school children for preparing the colorful and festive Thanksgiving bags and all of you who filled a bag with food. We also thank our youth for packing and helping organize bags. By the time you receive this report, we will have given these bags and a Thanksgiving turkey to our pantry families.

Christmas outreach:

We are hoping that many of you will choose to celebrate this joyous season by helping to organize the donation of the gifts for the children of our pantry families; donating gifts and helping to distribute the gifts on Christmas Pantry day. Please contact Jane Baer at Baersfive@gmail.com or 434-823-8341 with questions or offers of help. We will distribute Christmas food boxes to our pantry families as part of our regular December food pantry. The Christmas Pantry will be on **Wednesday, December 21st from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.** Please contact Peggy Williams, mhboot@aol.com, if you can pick up food boxes or provide extra help on this extra-busy food pantry day.

We thank all of you who support this work with your time, treasure and encouragement. We especially thank our parish administrator, Mary Lane, and our clergy and other staff who are often the first caring voice heard by those who call in need. Their help is essential to the success of our outreach efforts.

Peggy Williams, Outreach Volunteer Coordinator

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Education for Ministry (EfM) is an adult education offering that is open to anyone who is curious about scriptures, history, and theology of the Christian tradition, regardless of denomination or parish affiliation. EfM is a worldwide program administered by the School of Theology at the University of the South, an Episcopal Seminary in Sewanee, Tennessee. One of the main reasons this course is a valued church offering is that it provides lay people with a structure (the theological reflection) to use to integrate Christian beliefs into everyday life. Groups of six to twelve members are led by trained, accredited mentors. EfM mentors Nancy Briggs and Debbie Scott traveled to Roslyn Diocesan Center to take the 18 hours of required training, especially valuable because the EfM curriculum has been rewritten. Because there is a new curriculum for each of the four years, past EfM members are welcome to re-enroll in any year of the program to experience the new reading in a group setting. Last spring we had 1 graduate, and he decided to re-enroll. This fall our Tuesday morning group engages the theme of “Living into the Journey with God.” The group includes 8 members and two mentors. We are fortunate to have some group members in each year of the EfM curriculum.

Nancy Briggs and Debbie Scott

FLOWER COMMITTEE

If you are interested in donating flowers in memory of, in honor of, or in Thanksgiving for someone, please let me know at 295-4343 or andreavest2@gmail.com. Thank you to each of you who donate. Notices for future openings appear in the Sunday bulletins.

Andrea S. Vest, Chairperson

GRAVEYARD COMMITTEE

We have 84 lots remaining in section III (the new section). There are about 10 in the area behind the church. Also the oldest part of the cemetery could be expanded to provide at least 30 more lots for future use. Over the past ten years we have been selling from five to seven lots a year and so I conclude we can sell far into the future. The price for one lot has been increased from \$950.00 to \$1,050 each. This is about \$1000 under any commercial price.

As far as the property is concerned, we have had a good year with no tree damage. My son Henry continues to cut the entire property with his zero turn mower. He has been doing so for 40 years.

Tommy Keith, Chairman

LAY READERS GUILD

A lector is a member of the congregation who assists the minister in the worship service. At St. Paul's, we have lay readers, who do not robe and usually read the Bible lesson from the lectern; chalice bearers who robe and serve the chalice and read the Bible lessons from the lectern; and intercessors, who read the Prayers of the People (e.g., Form VI on pp. 392-393 of the Book of Common Prayer) from their pew. The lector schedule is posted on the St. Paul's website at: <http://stpaulsivy.org/worship/lay-readers-and-chalice-bearers/>.

The St. Paul's lay reader program had several parishioners join and quite a few leave the guild this past year. We currently have 16 chalice bearers, 12 lay readers, one intercessor, and several youth lay readers and three chalice bearers. Several chalice bearers and readers had to take a break for various reasons, which we've gladly

accommodated. It is wonderful that we have parishioners who are an active part of the church service and hopefully others will be moved to join this ministry. Lay participation in our worship together is central to who we are as Episcopalians. Lectors usually serve once a month or less.

We encourage any adult or youth who would be interested in participating in this ministry to contact the rector or the program coordinator, Tim Tolson. This year, we have several parishioners be a lector and then need to take several months “off”, which is perfectly fine. We will provide training and support to help you feel comfortable in your role. Being a lay reader and/or chalice bearer is a wonderful way to take your worship experience to a new level while engaging in Christ’s call to servant ministry.

Tim F. Jost Tolson

LIBRARY

The St. Paul’s Ivy Library now contains over 2000 books. We began the year with many cartons of donated books to integrate into collection and have done so.

Thanks to all those who worked throughout the year to make this library the gem it has become. We welcome anyone who would like to be part of its ongoing maintenance.

A computerized database of our books is available online. Books can be searched for by title or author/editor using the link: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/stpaulsivy>

Cary Kast, Shirley Cunningham Co-Chairs

CHILDREN’S LIBRARY

The Children’s Library was revitalized in 2016. Over 200 books were added to the inventory. The books are sorted by subjects which include Bible stories, Prayer, Saints, Holidays, reference, and fiction for ages 3 to 8. The library serves to augment the formation curriculum as well as provide enjoyment for our younger parishioners and their families. Local authors, Kim Schmidt, Joseph Hicks, and Marc Boston have come to visit and read their books to the children. The Virginia Episcopalian published an article about our library in the summer issue. All are welcome to read or borrow a book. Suggestions and comments are appreciated.

Cass Morris, Chair

PACEM

People and Churches Engaged in Ministry

This past January (23 – 29) our church sponsored the PACEM’s women’s emergency shelter for one week, providing hot nutritious meals and a warm place to sleep. Over 120 parishioner volunteers contributed time and talent to make this ministry possible. Girl Scout troop 218 also joined us this past year. They made welcome boxes with personal items for our guests as well as provided a meal. The Boy Scout Troop again served the Monday meal. This year due to a large snow fall which arrived the evening prior to our shelter week, we had to make some adjustments. As the roads were impassible the women’s shelter did not arrive until Monday. Debbie Scott culled together a group of volunteers who set up the in the parish hall Monday morning to receive our guests. Tim Tolson delivered our planned Sunday meal to The Friends Meeting house as they women’s shelter had to be extended at their site two extra days. In addition to providing meals and shelter and this year parishioner also donated a large

variety of snacks and personal items as well as simple breakfast fare, yogurts, granola and fruit. The generous outpouring of food and time by our parish extended hospitality to some of our areas most vulnerable women. During the 5 nights we provided shelter for 6 to 12 women, averaging 8 an evening. Two young women were pregnant, one of our guests entered permanent housing mid-week.

Because of the large amount of donations some PACEM funds were able to be used to purchase some needed kitchen items which will allow groups to prepare meals in the parish kitchen. We were also able to donate \$150 from the PACEM funds to flood relief in White Sulfur Springs, WV. In 2017 St Paul's Ivy will host the women's shelter February 4 – 11. Key volunteers Gina Thornton and Debbie Scott will again head the effort as we come together as a parish to house and feed area women in need.

Debbie Scott and Gina Thornton

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Mission of the Building and Grounds Committee is to serve as faithful and informed stewards who share responsibility for monitoring the physical properties of St. Paul's Ivy, initiating and coordinating repairs as necessary to ensure its long term integrity, safety and usefulness to the parish family and its staff.

The Committee is chaired by the Junior Warden who serves as the liaison between the Committee and the Vestry and obtains approval and funding for projects. The Committee members are assigned an area to monitor for necessary repairs. The Committee meets approximately twice a year. There are currently a few vacancies now on the committee, so let me ask for someone to please step up and add his or her name the list below for next year. Let the office or any vestry member know of your interest in serving.

Committee Member/Sponsor	Area	Includes
Tommy Keith	Graveyard	
Julie King	Playground	
Byrd Leavell	Courtyard	
OPEN	Sanctuary	Sacristy and Vestry areas
Debbie Weaver and Denise Foster	Community Area	Parish and Neve Halls, kitchens, library, Outreach
Audi Barlow	Children's Wing	Classrooms, Nursery and Children's Chapel
Scott Gillespie	Technology/HVAC	Ethernet, wi-fi, audio amplification, thermostats
Bruce Sullivan	Parking and walkways	Includes snow removal and trees
OPEN	Exterior	Gutters, lighting, doors and windows, paint
Eric Liles, Mary Lane	Kirklea	

In 2016, the Committee recommended, planned and completed a number of responsible improvements to the property, most notably: new colorful exterior post signs for directions to various buildings & offices, more visible interior directions to restrooms on both floors, and overhead signs identifying the parish hall. We have also replaced the indoor and outdoor A/C equipment for the Parish Hall; have repaired the fountain and some loose stones in the Courtyard, and are coordinating continued improvements to accessibility. We have Mary Lane to thank for vendor contact, and Tommy Keith to thank for many grounds keeping tasks that often mesh with the Graveyard maintenance.

For 2017, we all look forward to the long delayed renovation and repair of historic Kirklea, and make a special request for everyone's help in the logistics of the office staff's dislocation during that project. We also are committed to finalization of plans and the completion of lasting improvements in the lighting, the surface safety, size, and drainage of our current parking and driveway spaces within the scope offered by the success of our capital campaign.

John Thornton, Committee Chair

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The goal of St. Paul's scholarship program is to assist high school seniors from western Albemarle County who are committed to furthering their education but need financial assistance to attend Piedmont Virginia Community College or a local vocational school. The scholarship award is based upon a student's individual needs and may cover all or partial college costs for two years. However, the scholarship committee recognizes that many students with outside jobs need a longer time to complete their chosen academic programs.

For the past few years St. Paul's Ivy has partnered with Kroger's Charitable Program to help support our Scholarship Fund. Kroger has updated their Community Rewards Program so please register your Kroger Plus Card online at krogercommunityrewards.com. Just follow directions when you sign in to register your Kroger Plus Card, create a password and enter organization number 80725 or St. Paul's Ivy. When you grocery shop, just swipe your registered Kroger Plus Card as usual or give your phone number. Your purchases will help to buy textbooks for our Scholarship students. The students send special thanks to the people of this church for enabling them to fulfill their educational dreams.

Jane Baer and Amy Halliday, Co-Chairs

SOUP KITCHEN

During the calendar year a team of loyal volunteers from St. Paul's, Ivy serves lunch to +/- 140 guests at the Soup Kitchen hosted by Christ Church in downtown Charlottesville. Our time at bat comes on any month in which there is a fifth Tuesday...of which there were/are four in 2016: March, May, August, and coming up at the end of November. Duties include supplying and preparing the food, setting up the dining room, serving the lunch, and cleaning up afterward.

Superbly coordinated for many years by Heather Dickey, responsibility for overseeing Soup Kitchen planning on an interim basis evolved during the year to Messrs. Achenbach, Ernest and Pate... who serve willingly and gladly but are characterized one and all by the apparent condition of advanced age. A goal for 2017 will be to pass the oversight baton to a younger leadership team. Our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful group of Soup Kitchen volunteers who share in this gratifying ministry. It is open to all: please contact one of the three aforesaid old guys if you would like to join the team.

Bill Achenbach, Albert Ernest & Bob Pate, Chairs

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE 2016

The Spiritual Growth Committee offers opportunities to further one's faith through events, activities, and publications. Our programs are designed to encourage growth in faith to love and serve God and one another. Often programs are attended by members of area churches as well as our own, and we feel blessed to serve our community in this way.

Each month the committee recommends reading for the parish, with three copies of the book provided on the information table found behind the pews in the church. We promote spiritual growth through the writing of the Lenten Devotional, an in-house publication with a parishioner's reflection for each day of Lent based on the readings assigned in the Daily Office of *The Book of Common Prayer*. These reflections may also be found on the church website during Lent. This booklet is slightly retooled and then placed in the welcome packets for newcomers after Lent.

Two Book Studies were initiated by the committee and led by the Rev. Sarah Gaventa on race relations. Last summer a group read Te-Nehisi Coates' Between the World and Me, and this fall we engaged in reading a book that Clericus was also reading, The Church Enslaved. This fruitful discussion is leading to planning for special programming in January, including a Sojourners study, Movie Night, and trip to the Martin Luther King Remembrance in Richmond to continue our education in race relations.

The second year-long study of the Enneagram led by certified Enneagram teacher and parishioner Sarah Tremaine enabled further self-discovery and understanding of human personality. With this model in mind, participants could experience growth in their ability to relate to others and to understand differences. Plans are under way for a spring offering on the Enneagram and prayer that best suits your type.

The Lenten Worship series held on each Sunday evening of Lent provided parishioners with an inter-generational experience of worship with special evening services that were designed to inspire joy and reflection on how we praise God. Taking on these extra services was an expression of love by our clergy, the Rev. Dr. Eric Liles and the Rev. Sarah Gaventa, and our Director of Music, Daniel Brinson. Three new services, supported by the committee, included the Bluegrass Eucharist, the Jazz Eucharist, and a Taize service. In addition, extra musicians added to our Celtic Eucharists at the beginning and end of Lent. Plans are for this series to be continued next Lent, with the addition of an evening for a Labyrinth Walk on our new indoor canvas labyrinth, in the design of St. Paul.

A talk by Monica Chappell on St. Paul enriched us as well as provided for an opportunity for fellowship. Monica traveled the cities in Greece where St. Paul preached as a missionary, and shared her pictures along with her very informative talk.

In October we offered a ceilidh, inspired by Scottish dancers Celia and Bob Belton. This intergenerational event included a potluck dinner and circle dancing as well as singing by the youth choir led by Daniel Brinson. Over 70 people attended this fun evening of family fellowship, complete with bagpipes played by Larry Hammond and a Highland dancer.

Spiritual Growth Committee: Jane Baer, Celia Belton, Nancy Briggs, Mason Fogg, the Rev. Eric Liles, Joan Parham, Martha Roberts, Debbie Scott, Martha Tilman, Tim Tolson, Dona Wylie

Debbie Scott, Director of Spirituality and Missions

STEWARDSHIP

Slightly over a month ago, we kicked off our 2016 annual giving campaign, “Living Generously”, which culminated with last Sunday’s In-Gathering Sunday.

Over the last five weeks we have learned that Living Generously means to be gracious, merciful and righteous. We are called by Jesus to be kind to, and honest with, one another and to all living things....and to forever be humble. He showed us the way to live generously by welcoming the outcast, by overturning the tables of the money changers in the temple, by dining with the poor and healing the sick, by teaching, by forgiving, and by ultimately giving his life so that all might have abundant life. Living a generous life is so very much more than simply being generous with our financial assets.

That being said, our ministries here at St. Paul’s are empowered through the generosity of our parishioners. Each week, we are nurtured in word and sacrament. We are called by God to care for those who are ill or hurting, and welcome all those searching for a community of faith. As a generous parish, all of us are asked to make a gift that reflects our commitment to living an abundant and generous life. We are quite simply “paying forward” the many gifts we have been given by our Lord and Savior.

As of November 17th, 107 pledges have been received, totaling just over \$403,500. Average and median pledges are up significantly by 28% and 22% respectively, and we are pleased to welcome five new pledgers to our St. Paul’s family. We are well on our way to our goal of 200 pledgers, and are confident that it will be achieved....but there is more work to do.

If you have yet to return your Annual Giving Pledge Card, please do so by early December so your Vestry will have the information they need at their meeting next month to develop an accurate budget for 2017.

Bill Achenbach and Erik Greenbaum, Co-Chairs

USHERS’ COMMITTEE

St. Paul’s, Ivy has a dedicated group of ushers numbering between 35 and 40 men, women and young people whose main function is to warmly greet and welcome members and guests for each Sunday church service. Working singly for the 8:30 a.m. services, in pairs for most 10:30 a.m. services, and in larger teams for special services, your ushers find their work to be very satisfying and rewarding.

In order for us to meet our goal of having enough ushers so that we serve only once each quarter, we need more people to join the Ushers’ Committee. We would love to have more volunteers. Service takes very little preparation; we operate under easily understood guidelines; and we always team new ushers with more experienced members. It takes no time at all to become a veteran usher. And there is no better way to meet our fellow members than by sharing a handshake and a friendly greeting with them as they enter the church.

If you are interested in joining the Ushers’ Committee, please call the office at 979-6354 or contact the Rector. Anyone can perform these friendly duties, and I can assure you that you will find the work enjoyable and satisfying. And finally, I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Committee for a job well done during this past year.

Rev. Eric

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Ministry helps create a warm, welcoming environment at St. Paul's for our visitors and newcomers. We host fellowship events for new parishioners, provide printed newcomer and visitor information, and seek ways to encourage all parishioners to become involved, using their gifts within the life of the church. The Welcoming Ministry developed our welcoming brochure and newcomer's booklet and a brochure highlighting the history of St. Paul's is being explored.

Meg Janucik, Chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee's role is to examine our various worship experiences and act as a coordinating and advisory body to the Rector. We are committed to providing meaningful worship experiences for all parishioners and visitors, examining ways worship can be more inclusive. We welcome input from anyone. Committee meetings are open to all, typically lasting an hour, including reports from various committee chairs and the Rector.

We meet about every other month on the third Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in Neve Hall. We encourage parishioners to attend and contribute to the discussion.

Mason Fogg, Chair