



# St. John in the Wilderness

## *2022 Annual Report*

Mission: To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.



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# Annual Meeting Agenda: December 4, 2022

Call to Order Fr. Josh Stephens

Opening Prayer Fr. Ian Williams

Appointment of Clerk

Business

A. Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

B. Treasurer's Report Tom Griswold

C. Presentation of Slate for Vestry Class of 2025 Jennifer Shelton

D. Presentation of Endowment Trustees Jim Spry

E. Rector's Reflections on 2021-22 Fr. Josh Stephens

Adjournment

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting: December 5, 2021

## The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness

The Annual Meeting of St. John in the Wilderness was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by our rector, Fr. Josh Stephens. Fr. Josh led the devotional with readings from Matthew and Ephesians followed by prayer.

To begin the meeting, Fr. Josh made a motion to appoint Margaret Barker as Clerk of the Annual Meeting. Debby Staton and Yates Pharr seconded the motion, and it was passed.

The first item of business on the agenda was the approval of the 2020 Annual Meeting. Jan Tanner made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting, it was seconded by Lynn Wiescholek and was passed.

The next item on the agenda was a report by Susan MacDonald, presenting information for Tom Griswold, our treasurer. Susan summarized the financials and the budget, referring to detailed information in the 2021 Annual Report.

Reporting highlights of 2021, Susan included an increase in income from the Endowment Fund, the installation of a new phone system to lower expenses, an increase of \$17,900 in pledges, and welcoming our new full-time rector, Fr. Josh Stephens and his family. In addition, the balance of the mortgage for the new Parish Hall was in full in 2021 through the generosity of members of St. John in the Wilderness.

Susan continued by discussing the budget process and the 2022 Proposed budget which includes a small surplus of income over expenses. Based on committee projections, income for 2022 will total \$688,955 which represents an increase of 1.43%.

In the next agenda item, Jennifer Shelton, Senior Warden, presented the slate of members for the Vestry Class of 2024. The new members were Clint Adams, E.R. Haire, Marissa Pharr, Will Rodriguez, and Kim Sanders. Betsy Tibbs made a motion to accept the slate of new Vestry Members; Shelley Schiro seconded the motion, and it was passed. In closing, Jennifer recognized and expressed gratitude to outgoing members of the Vestry Class of 2021: Jerry Tanner, Cynthia Easterling, and Marie Hyder.

Robin Howe, a member of the Endowment Committee, reported that trustees are appointed for 3-year terms beginning January 1 of each year. Marie Hyder and Tom Griswold's terms will end in 2021. The current trustees are Clint Adams, John Bell, and Robin Howe. The trustees selected Lee Covey and Jim Spry for 3-year terms beginning January 1, 2022. The Trustees urge Parishioners to consider the Endowment in their gifts and the planning of their estates as the Endowment is a means by which a donation can

have a lasting benefit to the church. John Barker made a motion to accept the Endowment Committee Trustees, Cynthia Easterling seconded the motion, and it was passed.

Fr. Josh concluded the Annual Meeting by sharing his reflections on the past year as Rector at St. John in the Wilderness. Reviewing statistics from 2021, he reported the following: average attendance for Sunday services at 136; 15 funeral and burial services; 31 new members; 18 members have left the church; and 142 pledges were received. Highlighting special events, Fr. Josh added that the parish has enjoyed outdoor services, special music, a Summer Scholar, and monthly breakfasts sponsored by the Chefs of St. John; in addition, parish members participated in the Feast of St. Francis and Feast of St. John at Hubba Hubba Smokehouse and many other activities.

Fr. Josh continued by expressing his gratitude to outgoing Junior Warden Jerry Tanner as well as to Gibson Sims who has worked alongside Jerry on many projects. Fr. Josh also thanked the Wiescholeks for video recording church services for all to enjoy, especially those who are unable to attend. Finally, Fr. Josh expressed gratitude to all who serve in any capacity.

Looking ahead to 2022, Fr. Josh noted that while our ministries are continuing to thrive, there is a need for more support and increased involvement by others to share in all ministries. Goals for next year include getting to know more about our ministries by providing support and assistance and calling a full-time assistant priest.

Fr. Josh concluded by stating that he and the Vestry will continue to work together to discern our goals for the years ahead. He also expressed his appreciation to all for remaining committed to St. John during unprecedented times. He asserted that we remain committed to rich liturgical worship, fun fellowship opportunities, formation for all ages, and generosity to serve those in need.

After closing prayers led by Fr. Josh, the 2021 Annual Meeting of St. John in the Wilderness was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Margaret Barker, Clerk of the Vestry

## Rector's Report

As I reflect over this past year together, I am filled with gratitude for the gift of being The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness. Sharing life together as the Body of Christ has been an incredible privilege this year. We have been a church of prayer and song, concerts and fellowship, learning and grieving, service and care – all of these things in Christ-centered ways. First and foremost, I would like to thank you – the people of St. John in the Wilderness – for risking life in Christ at this beautiful little Episcopal community in Flat Rock. I have been able to get to know you better and you have taught me so much about God's love for the world in Christ Jesus. You are talented, generous, caring, and faithful. Thank you for being the Church in this place.

I would also like to say thank you to our very talented and hardworking staff. As Susan MacDonald mentions in her report, we are now fully staffed after many years of transition, and what a staff it is!

- Dewitt Tipton has been an excellent partner in worship. He has done an outstanding job with our choir and with organizing top-notch concerts for our Friends of Music ministry.
- Kevin Hunt has managed our property with his unique thoughtfulness and tireless dedication. Has our property ever looked better?
- Stacy Knapp keeps our finances well-ordered and is a joy to work with in our office. She is always willing to go above and beyond for the good of the Church.
- Sarah Yeargin recently finished her first year of employment at St. John. Her impact has been truly exceptional in keeping us organized and in communicating the Good News of God in Christ through print and social media, web design, and by phone, email, and in-person hospitality.
- Deacon Sandy Rex serves quietly and effectively at St. John, especially in keeping everything running smoothly on Sunday. We are most keenly aware of all he does on the rare Sunday that he takes off!
- And, of course, Fr. Ian Williams has been with us for half-of-a-year now. He has not only hit the ground running but has managed to quickly connect with young and old alike by offering care, wisdom, humor to everyone he encounters.

Our regular staff are making a major impact here for the good of the Kingdom of God. I am so grateful for them! I am also grateful to our part-time staff: Marta Castro and Olga Escobar, in our nursery each Sunday, Eric Hunt who helps keep the property looking as good as it looks, and Miguel Hernandez who not only enjoys working in our churchyard but does an excellent job, also. What a special group of people God has given us!

As I look back on the year that has been, I am grateful to our Vestry for their dedicated work around two goals from our frigid January 2022 retreat at Kanuga. First, since your pledges rose to the threshold required, we committed ourselves to calling a full-time assisting priest by summer 2022. The rest, as they say, is history! Fr. Ian and his family have been a welcome addition to St. John. Secondly, the Vestry wanted to continue to build parish community throughout the year. We did this in a few different ways: 1) by vestry members hosting summer fellowship meals, 2) by encouraging our various ministries to gather for fellowship time with one another, 3) by offering various food and formation gatherings, 4) and by investing in children and youth formation. I am so grateful to this Vestry for working towards these goals as 2022 has been a year of rich fellowship and learning in so many ways.

I would also like to mention that we all owe a debt of gratitude to Jennifer Shelton, Gibson Sims, and Tom Griswold. Jennifer has served as Senior Warden for the last two years and has been a great companion in ministry. She has been an encourager, a non-anxious presence, and a person of fun and wisdom. Tom Griswold continues to serve as our treasurer and, if you ask anyone on the vestry or finance committee, they will quickly tell you how his thoroughness and dedication has made our financial organization truly exceptional. Tom researches options for all kinds of problems; he presents complicated data in a simple way; and he truly works to keep our finances dedicated to the mission of St. John. Thank you, Tom!

Gibson Sims has served as our Junior Warden this year and has overseen substantial investments in our church property. He noticed the exterior of the church was not far from disrepair and quickly organized quotes for fixing the woodwork and painting the outside of the building. This need was non-budgeted (\$25,000) but a generous donor offered to fund the entire project in gratitude for the people of St. John in the Wilderness. Gibson also made sure the Parish House exterior was painted, the Parish Hall crawl space was dehumidified, and the doors in the Parish House and Sunday School building were updated for safety and better hospitality. Last but not least, he worked with Dr. Henry and Catherine Mills to do a complete renovation of the Wilderness Room kitchen. The Mills funded this project in honor of Mike Covell who died suddenly this year. The new kitchen has been christened “Mike’s Galley” in honor of this submarine captain who gathered many together for fellowship and formation over the last twenty years.

In going forward, I am excited to continue to grow in grace as a community through rich liturgical worship, opportunities for fellowship and formation, and seeking out new adventures in the Kingdom of God. We will continue to care for one another as we do

these things. And, by God's grace, we will experience more and more of the transformation that comes with life in Christ as we share in his Kingdom together.

Your Servant in Christ and with much gratitude,



Fr. Josh Stephens

Rector

## Curate's Report

Psalm 144:4 "Man is like a mere breath; his days are like a passing shadow."

What an amazing whirlwind of a six months it has been! When I look back at the past half of a year it feels like it has passed in less than the blink of an eye and yet so much has happened since our family came to St. John in the Wilderness. Ever since I was young it has been my way to jump right into things with both feet. Whether that has meant literally jumping off a waterfall into a pool of water, moving to far off places without knowing a single soul, or celebrating the Eucharist the day after I was ordained, I can think of no better way to approach life than to just go for it. Starting my time at St. John on the feast day of our namesake was such a special way to be welcomed into this incredible community. I know that I have said this many times already, but the level of warmth and welcome that this community has extended to our family is such a blessing and I will always be thankful to serve among and alongside all of you.

Since starting work on June 26th, we have had some amazing gatherings and events from making our own pizzas to packing literally thousands of meals for our brothers and sisters in need in far off places. I have had the special blessing to preside at funerals, a wedding, healing services, and Holy Eucharist. Likewise, preparing sermons that are (hopefully) enlightening and perhaps even entertaining has been a great honor and joy for me and I look forward to our continued journey of faith and growth together.

It has also been so special to work with Lynn, Mary Ann, Olga, Martha, and everyone else who teaches and supports our children and youth here at St. John in the Wilderness. You may have noticed on Sunday mornings that more and more children and young families are integrating into our community. This is a sign of healthy growth in a church and our growth in this way would not be possible without the hard work, passion, and dedication of these wonderful people. My heart is filled with gratitude to be able to work with all them and I encourage everyone to thank our Sunday School teachers and Nursery Caregivers for their service when you get a chance to.

In the coming months we will host monthly opportunities for our children, youth, and young families to gather for formation, fellowship, and fun. While time often seems to pass by like a mere breath, when it comes to the Young Family Ministry, I guarantee that here at St. John in the Wilderness, every breath will be filled with joy, praise, laughter, and a lot of fun.

God's Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Father Ian", followed by a plus sign.

Father Ian+

## Treasurer's Report

“Taking care” may be the best way to describe 2022 – taking care of others, taking care of our parishioners, and taking care of our church. We are experiencing another big year for Outreach. Church ministries are flourishing. And meanwhile, our physical facility has been given much-needed attention. More about this will follow.

**General Operations 2021:** First, a look back at 2021. (Summary Financial Reports for 2021 can be found in the Appendix at the end of the Annual Report.) The prior year ended debt-free – recall the generous gift that allowed us to pay off the remaining mortgage on the new Parish Hall – and with a General Operating surplus. The surplus enabled us to seed our Outreach funds for future needs, increase our Reserves for Capital projects, prepare for Fr. Ian, and add to the Endowment. Through the generosity of our parishioners, one hundred percent of pledges were timely paid. Our leaders and staff kept control over expenses, finishing at 96% of the budget before transfers to Reserves and other funds.

Comparing previous years, our income and expenses have increased an average of 2.6% annually from 2017 through 2021. This increase, however, has begun to accelerate as we add personnel, expand ministries, and continue to support Outreach and other programs. From 2020 to 2021, income increased 5.1% and expenses 4.2%. We must be careful not to outpace our capabilities.

**General Operations 2022:** Through the benevolence of our congregation, skillful management of our leadership and staff, and the guidance of the Finance Committee, we have continued to maintain our financial strength. Through October, Income is slightly above budget, including Pledges which are as budgeted. Expenses are slightly below budget, and include several extraordinary Building & Grounds expenses – painting and repairing the Administration Building and Church building are the most significant.

(The latter was offset by a generous gift specifically for that purpose.) These are all signs of good financial health.

There are many expenses of the church that are fixed. We must pay the power bill, the phone bill, insurance, FICA and Medicare taxes, and so on. Many of these ongoing expenses, however, have begun to grow as inflation takes hold. For example, natural gas has increased 23% over last year with two more cold months to go. There are signs that other costs, such as medical insurance, are also going up. In addition, we continue to pay our Pledge to the Diocese and add to our Reserves. These all require careful planning and discipline in managing expenses.

We are forecasting a General Operating surplus for the year. It is based, however, on the assumption of 100% of Pledge income as has been experienced in the past several years. Should a surplus materialize, it will give us the opportunity to strengthen our Operating and Capital Replacement Reserves and provide for other needs and ministries essential to who we are as a church.

In all, we are in good financial health, but we should remain diligent.

**Capital Projects:** With the work and guidance of Gibson Sims, our Jr. Warden, we completed a number of Capital projects this year. Several were funded in whole or part by generous contributions and the remainder from our Capital Replacement Fund Reserve. These included the following:

- Completion of the Mission House
- Installation of security doors for the Administration Building and modification of doors in the Parish Hall
- Purchase of a new Nissan truck
- Acquisition of fire-proof archive storage
- Purchase and installation of a Parish Hall dehumidifier
- Refurbishment of the newly-named Mike Covell Galley off of the Wilderness Room

Our Reserve for future projects remains within the targets established by the Vestry, but requires periodic replenishment as planned in our Budget.

**Funds:** Our funds designated for specific missions or purposes are in good shape. The Endowment Trust, although suffering along with all investments from the drop in the markets, still plans for a significant contribution to the General Operating account every year (see the Endowment report). Backpack, ECW, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Friends

of Music, Men's Club and other programs have adequate working funds for their activities.

Outreach is a valuable aspect of our ministries. In addition to over \$43,000 provided to Outreach programs from our General Operating funds, we also have made contributions to other agencies and ministries totaling over \$20,000 from our General Outreach Fund and International Outreach Fund. There is additional support for numerous programs and special needs from other funds provided by the church, including the Backpack Program, ECW, Care Ministry, and special collections at Good Friday, United Thank Offering, Christmas, and Angel Tree. In total, we have contributed year-to-date over \$106,600 toward needs in and beyond our community. These monetary contributions do not begin to count the many hours individuals gave in support of the same causes or otherwise provided in goods and materials.

**Other Developments:** This year, we completed a financial review of our 2021 finances. The review, conducted by Corliss & Solomon, PLLC, concluded: "we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the . . . financial statements . . ."

Finally, a note of thanks to all who have supported me in this assignment: Fr. Josh, Jennifer Shelton, Gibson Sims, Susan MacDonald, other members of our Finance Committee, the Vestry, and especially Stacy Knapp. It is a pleasure to serve you and our church in this capacity.

*Soli Deo Gloria*

- Tom Griswold, Treasurer

## **Finance Committee: 2023 General Operating Budget**

The following is a brief explanation of the St. John in the Wilderness General Operating Budget for 2023, prepared by our Finance Committee. A summary of the 2023 Budget, with a comparison to our Actual income and expenses plus Forecast for the remainder 2022, can be found at the end of this report. Anyone who would like more detailed information is encouraged to contact Susan MacDonald.

We are indeed fortunate to be financially healthy, due largely to the steadfast generosity of members of St. John in the Wilderness. Many parishes were negatively impacted by COVID over the past few years, but St. John has remained financially healthy. Having said that, this position would not have been achieved without the considerable efforts of many people.

## INCOME

Based upon our projections, income for 2023 will total \$749,898. This amount is 0.6% higher than 2022 Actuals and Forecast, but 8% higher than our 2022 budget.

From biggest to smallest, our sources of income include Pledges (78%), Contributions and Memorials (12.8%), Endowment Fund (4.5%), and Other (4.7%) including Plate Offerings. **By far, the largest source of our financial support is *you*, the parishioners, in the form of your pledges and planned-giving.** Please remember that your parish is dependent upon your generosity and appreciates your loyal support.

The Endowment provides investment income that supports the daily life of our parish as well as our Outreach Ministries. In 2022, the endowment contributed almost \$33,000 to church operations and it is projected to contribute almost \$34,000 in 2023. *Please consider including our Endowment in your estate planning. God willing, this parish will continue to serve God and our community well into the future.*

## EXPENSES

### Personnel

The last year that St. John was fully staffed was 2017. Now, at the close of 2022, we are again fully staffed for the first time in 5 years.

In 2017, Personnel costs represented 68.7% of Total Expenditures. By contrast, these expenses totaled only 49.2% in 2022. As we reported last year, the Finance Committee concluded that funding an assistant rector position should be our highest priority in 2022. We are delighted that Fr. Ian has now joined us, and our 2023 budget reflects his full-time status. Personnel costs are projected to total 63.1% of all expenditures in the coming year. This represents an increase of \$44,000 over the 2022 budget and includes costs for employee benefits which are projected to increase about 30% over 2022.

**Christian Life, Parish Life, Worship, and Music** are all projected to increase in 2023 after being greatly reduced in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID. We are all looking forward to these revitalized programs at St. John in the coming year.

### Contributions to Capital and Operating Reserves

We are resuming normal contributions to reserves in 2023 after deferring a contribution to the operating reserve in 2022. This means we have budgeted \$15,000 for Capital and \$5,000 for Operating Reserves.

**Budgeted Outreach Contributions** are only \$10,000 this year, but this does not include \$30,000 that we set aside from surpluses at the end of 2021 in anticipation of supporting

two full-time clergy in 2023. Outreach contributions *do not benefit St. John in the Wilderness* but go to agencies and ministries that we support. It is important to remember that a great deal of what we, as a congregation, give does not appear in this number. Countless hours of volunteer efforts, as well as funds from special offerings (such as the Easter Offering, United Thank Offering, and the Angel Tree) in addition to restricted funds, go directly to those receiving the assistance that we offer, and that God provides.

Finally, our **Diocesan Pledge**, which is calculated as 10% of average operating revenues during the prior three years, will be increased slightly in 2023. The Diocese relies on us and all other parishes in the Diocese to meet their own needs and those of the ministries they support, such as Clergy Development and College Ministry.

Many thanks are due to all members of the Finance Committee this year: Jennifer Shelton, Gibson Sims, Gary German, and especially our Treasurer Tom Griswold. Poring over numbers can be mind-boggling, and their service to our parish is indeed commendable.

On behalf of the Committee,  
Susan MacDonald, Chair

## Altar Guild

We are called to service remembering “Semper Gumby,” always flexible.

This year members of the Altar Guild embraced our freedom from Covid challenges and continued providing support to a variety of services both indoors and outdoors at our beautiful church, at Camp Kanuga and in the western NC woods. Wherever we are called, members prepare, set and clear the Lord’s table with dignity and grace.

We have a devoted, capable team.

- Sandra & Michael Jeffery
- Kathy Newbold
- Candace Lewis
- Marti Smith
- Anna Kinsey
- Elaine Harris
- Brenda Hillyer
- Traci Tindal
- BJ McKee & George Grzenda
- Vickie & Bill Taylor
- Carol & Gibson Sims
- Lynn & Julianna Savage
- Susan Gibbs
- Lisa Wills
- Laurie Morris
- Lynne Miller
- Elaine & Robin Howe
- Cathryn Harrell
- Sally Hopper
- Debby Staton

**Wednesday Healing Service:** Cathryn Harrell, Carol Sims, Brenda Hillyer, Sandra Jeffery, Sally Hopper, and all who step in to serve.

**Altar Hangings & Fair Linen:** Debby Staton, BJ McKee and George Grzenda; Fair Linens laundering: Sandy Jones

**Brass:** Michael Jeffery, Gibson Sims, Robin Howe

As always, we are thankful for our Sexton, Kevin Hunt. Kevin is always there willing to serve wherever needed. Thank you, Kevin.

We will miss Vickie and Bill Taylor and wish them well in 2023. We continue to miss Elaine and Robin Howe and Anna Kinsey.

In December, we plan on hosting a coffee for our members and invite any parishioner who might consider serving with us.

- Sally Hopper and Cathryn Harrell, Co-Chairs

## Archives

The Archives Committee has undertaken a project to read and catalog “correspondence documents” that date back to the early years of St. John in the Wilderness. Our archives contain hundreds of letters, notes, memos, receipts, bills, contracts, etc., that were written by early clergy and parishioners. The collection includes letters written between Charles Baring and some of our first rectors, as well as notes and letters between vestrymen, priests, congregational members and others, dating from the 1830s. Other documents include letters from Bishops, agreements for summer supply work from priests, contracts and bills for renovations and repairs to the church and outbuildings, all dating back as far as the founding of our parish.

Reading these old documents has revealed new information about our parish history. We have been able to confirm things such as the existence of structures built during our early years that no longer exist. For example, we have found letters that make reference to the “Sunday School” building that sat next to the church in the 1800s as well as out-buildings adjacent to the parsonage that were removed prior to the 1900s.

This project is ongoing and no doubt new insights about our history will be gleaned as we continue this effort.

Earlier this year, the Vestry approved the purchase of additional fireproof storage cabinets for our ever-expanding archival collections. This purchase will provide sufficient, secure storage space for many years to come.

Members of the Archives Committee include Dick Zecher, Clint Adams, Ann Stringfield, Kim Sanders, and John Barker.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Barker, Chair

## Backpack Program

The Backpack program began fourteen years ago, serving one school. We are currently assisting seven schools in Henderson County, providing weekend food for those deemed “nutritionally deprived.” Our numbers have increased tremendously this year, averaging 210 students per weekend. Our core bag of food comes from MANNA Food Bank. Through your generous donations, as well as attending our Empty Bowls Event, we are able to add supplemental food to help the students and their families. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

- Debby Staton, Coordinator

## Chefs of St. John

Monthly		
Arnold Smith	Gibson Sims	Jim Gibbs
Peter Fricke	Charlie Hart	Ralph Miller
Stu Holcombe	Clint Adams	Joshua Swarmer

Rotating Teams		
<i>Feb/May/Aug/Dec</i>	<i>March/June/Oct</i>	<i>April/July/Nov</i>
<b>David Christenbury</b>	<b>Pete Peterson</b>	<b>Bill Hiatt</b>
Mark Owen	Michael Jeffrey	David Dethero
Jerry Holt	Marlin Sanders	Jim Wagner
Hilton Swing	Tom Bullard	George Grzenda
Doug Thiel	ER Haire	
Harry Walker	Jerry Tanner	
	John Barker	

<b>Cashiers</b>	Arnold Smith
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<b>Subs</b>		
Scott Shelton	Jim Olson	Chad Melton
Edgar Ham	Bill Walker (May- Sept)	Dale Kern

## **Communications and Publicity**

Abby Stephens, Nancy Cooper, Betsy Darnall, Catherine Popp, Eduard Wiescholek  
 Joey Popp – Chair  
 Lynn Wiescholek – Vestry Liaison

Spreading the word about The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness outside the parish is the goal of the Communications and Publicity Committee. We generate news releases and send out and post information to the community and beyond. Communication is targeted to area print and broadcast media (including greater AVL) and social media. We manage the church’s YouTube channel and account. We stream live via Facebook every Sunday morning either the 8:45 or 11am service managed by our team of volunteers. Overall the committee’s work helps inform and promote growth to all audiences.

In 2022 we promoted these special events:

- March – April: Thursday Night Lenten series
- April: Holy Week and Easter services
- April: Empty Bowls fundraiser for the Flat Rock Backpack Program
- June: Father Ian Williams announcement
- June: Creation Care Camp (VBS)
- June: The Feast of St. John
- July – December: Church and Churchyard Tours
- July: Summer Scholar-in-Residence
- September: Mission House Fall Thrift Sale
- October: Blessing of the Animals
- October – December: Friends of Music concert series
- December: *A Christmas Memory* performances

## Endowment Trust “A”

Financially, the current year has been challenging for all of us. Whether seeing our expenses rise because of inflation or our savings and investments diminish as markets fall in value, we are experiencing difficult times in making ends meet and planning for the future. The Endowment, no less, has encountered the same.

The Endowment (Trust “A”) was established in 1986 and revised in 1991 as a perpetual trust to provide funds for distribution to the church under specific guidelines. In 2008, the Trust was amended to establish an Investment and Spending Policy that permits an annual distribution to the church. These guidelines were updated in 2012 in accordance with the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act of North Carolina and to limit the annual distribution to 4% of the average of the investment portfolio’s previous three years’ ending values. The Policy was updated and revised in 2019 to better address allocation of the distribution for donor-established restrictions.

The market value of the portfolio as of November 19, 2022, was \$823,796. This represents a 13% decline in value of the Endowment since the beginning of the year, which is on par with the performances of our benchmarks. The Vestry has authorized a total distribution of \$34,467 to the 2022 General Operating Income and Outreach International Fund. Since the Endowment was established, the Trust has distributed over \$460,000, including the authorized distribution, in support of operations and other needs of the church.

Trustees are appointed for 3-year terms beginning January 1. The current Trustees are listed below with the expiration of their terms at the end of the year:

Robin Howe	2022		
Clint Adams	2023	John Bell	2023
Lee Covey	2024	Jim Spry	2024

The Trustees have proposed David Christenbury for a 3-year term and Jim Spry as Chair beginning January 1, 2023.

Last year’s benchmarking project, initiated to learn about other churches’ experience in management of their endowments, resulted in a more robust “marketing” strategy for the Endowment. An informative brochure was produced and made available to parishioners to provide information about the Endowment’s activities and ways to contribute. Our website has been updated with this information and other publicity is planned for next year.

The Trustees urge Parishioners to consider the Endowment in their gifts and estate planning. The Endowment is a means by which a donation can have a lasting benefit to the church. Indeed, gifts made 35 years ago now support our current needs and will continue to do so for years to come.

*In memoriam* Robin Howe, Trustee and church leader.

Submitted by Tom Griswold,  
on behalf of the Endowment Trustees

## **Eucharistic Visitors**

We are continuing our visits to our homebound parishioners. We have added a telephone call ministry also, which is proving successful. We have also instituted a new online reporting method that allows the Clergy to get any information we note much faster and more concisely.

Sadly we lost our friend and fellow visitor Mike Covell earlier this year. He is missed by both those he visited and us, his visiting family.

We have also lost parishioners we have been seeing and gotten to love.

We have made some 168 visits delivering Christ's blessings and words: we read the Gospel, discuss the Sermon, and of course, bring news and greetings from the congregation.

This mission does indeed provide much help to the homebound, but is very rewarding to us, the visitors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Zecher, Coordinator

## **Funeral Reception Ministry**

The Funeral Reception Ministry consists of three teams of parishioners that take turns putting on receptions in the Parish Hall following funerals held in the Church. These dedicated volunteers provide refreshments and serve at the receptions. Serving tables are set with linens, flowers, and lovely serving pieces given to the Church over the years. After the reception, leftover food is sent home with the family. These receptions are a great comfort to grieving families, who might otherwise feel obliged to feed visiting friends and relatives following the death of their loved one.

Six funeral receptions were provided in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hillyer, Coordinator

## **Gatekeepers**

We have four opening teams:

- David Dethero
- Mark & Jill Owen
- BJ McKee & George Grzenda
- Dick Zecher

We continue to open the gates and Church proper so we have convenient light, heat, or cooling as required year round. We are the silent practitioners.

The task of closing the Church continues to be shared by the Vestry members on a monthly rotation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Zecher, Coordinator

## **Historic Churchyard Committee**

The Cemetery Trust was established in 1962 and amended in 1973 as a perpetual trust to provide funds from interest earned on the Trust principal to be used to provide perpetual care for the cemetery and churchyard of St. John in the Wilderness. The Historic Churchyard Committee was set up to manage the affairs of the cemetery. This committee is composed of individuals who share a commitment to the maintenance and perpetual care of this sacred ground. Over the years, the funds have been invested under professional management from which monies are withdrawn to cover the annual maintenance cost. Under a policy similar to the General Endowment of St. John in the Wilderness, the funds available are limited to 4 percent of the average three years ending balance of the investment portfolio to assure funds will be available in perpetuity. As a Trust, the investment guidelines are in accordance with the current Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) of North Carolina.

The market value of the portfolio as of November 2022 was in excess of \$410,000 after distributions to the operating expense account in 2022 of \$14,500. The Trustees of the Cemetery Trust for the coming year are Ken Jones, Pete Petersen, and Deacon Sandy Rex.

Ken Jones has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Churchyard Committee for 2023 as the committee transitions to new leadership in the coming year.

Submitted on behalf of the Historic Churchyard Committee.

- Ann Stringfield, Secretary

## Holy Hikes

During lockdown, St. John in the Wilderness sought ways to celebrate the liturgy in safe, outdoor settings. As part of this effort, a group of parishioners inaugurated a series of monthly hikes to explore the abundance of ridges and waterfalls that surround our “wilderness.” In 2021, the Vestry voted to join a nationwide liturgical-based ministry known as “Holy Hikes.” This ministry is led by Episcopal parishes and includes some Lutheran churches. Membership fees are paid by parishioner contributions and do not require inclusion in the parish budget. The local program is administered by a SJW volunteer.

Our chapter is known as Holy Hikes-Western North Carolina (WNC). Parish members serve as hike leaders who plan routes and scout trail conditions. Typical hikes include 10-18 participants, are 2-6 miles in length, and are rated as easy-to-moderate. During the hike, Fr. Josh or Fr. Ian lead us in a liturgy. The group then enjoys lunch or snack “in the wilderness.” Holy Hikes are open to the public and are inclusive of all faiths and backgrounds. About 20 percent of participants are not directly affiliated with St. John in the Wilderness.

The 12 hikes scheduled in 2022 were primarily held on the third Tuesday of each month. Weekday hikes allow participants to seek out waterfalls and summits that tend to be crowded during the weekends; however, Holy Hikes-WNC also scheduled two special weekend hikes to include students and working adults. In March, a Sunday hike was hosted at Falling Creek Camp which is owned by parishioners Marisa and Yates Pharr. Almost 50 hikers enjoyed this special treat. In October, a Sunday hike was held at Transfiguration Preserve where Episcopal Oblate Dr. Mattie Decker guided Holy Hikers in a Forest Bathing experience.

Several Holy Hikers have fond childhood memories of Camp Kanuga. Nancy Cooper has reached out to Kanuga Conferences in an effort to build new ties with the parish. In July, she arranged for over 40 Holy Hikers to walk some favorite trails around Kanuga, participate in a liturgy, and enjoy a lunch at the dining hall. Nancy also coordinated Holy Hikers volunteer participation in a Fall Kanuga Gardens Cleanup Day.

## 2022 Holy Hikes

- January: Dupont State Forest High Falls Triple Falls Loop
  - Leader: Cynthia Easterling
- February: Pisgah National Forest - Sycamore Cove Loop Trail
  - Co-leaders: Mary Boys and Ed Blackburn
- March: Falling Creek Camp
  - Co-leaders: Marisa and Yates Pharr
- April: Bearwallow Mountain
  - Leader: Cynthia Easterling
- May: Pisgah National Forest - Frying Pan Mountain
  - Leader: Cynthia Easterling
- June: Laurel Park Urban Walk
  - Co-leaders: Catherine and Joey Popp
- July: Kanuga Conference Center - Daisy's Lake Trail
  - Leader: Nancy Cooper
- August: Green River Gamelands - Upper Laurel Branch Creek Trail
  - Leader: Cathy Taylor-Murray
- September: Pisgah National Forest - Grogan and Cedar Rock Creek Trails
  - Co-leaders: Ed Blackburn and Mary Boys
- October: Transfiguration Preserve, Bat Cave
  - Leader: Patrice German
- November: Sassafras Mountain, SC - Foothills Trail
  - Leader: Jim Olson
- December: Dupont State Forest - Three Lakes Trail
  - Leader: Ed Blackburn

## Lay Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

### Outline of the Duties of Lay Readers and Lay Eucharistic Ministers

- I. **Lay Readers** assist the clergy and congregation in the celebration of worship services, funerals, weddings, and other services by publicly reading the scripture.

Typically, the Lay Reader reads a passage from the Old Testament, a passage from the Psalms, and a passage from the New Testament. A member of the clergy reads the Gospel.

Each of these readings are predetermined and prescribed according to the season and service (Lent, Advent, Pentecost, etc.). The text of the reading is provided by

the Parish Administrator. Readings for other services such as funerals and weddings are selected by the clergy, family, and participants in those services.

It is permissible for any person to read the scripture publicly. No license, training, or special permission is required to read the scripture.

- II. **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** assist with the Holy Sacrament of Communion. This requires training and licensure by the bishop. The training is provided by members of our clergy.
- III. **Members who serve:** At present, we have 14 parishioners who are active Lay Readers and licensed Eucharistic Ministers. We have who parishioners who are in the process of being training and licensed as Lay Eucharistic Ministers, both of whom presently serve as Lay Readers. Our active members include:

John Barker	Candace Lewis
Margaret Barker	Susan MacDonald
Elizabeth Christenbury	Judy Petersen
Mark Delk	Will Rodriguez
Lori Griswold	Julianna Savage
E.R. Haire Jr.	Ann Stringfield
Sandra Jeffery	Richard Zecher

During 2020 Lay Readers and Lay Eucharistic Ministers served at every Sunday Service held at St. John as well as numerous funerals and weddings and other services and celebrations.

Some of our members also serve as choir members, acolytes and in other capacities in the congregation.

During 2022, two of our readers passed away. Others have become inactive for various reasons.

We are presently seeking parishioners who feel led by God to join in this ministry. If you feel led to serve as a Lay Reader/Lay Eucharistic Minister, please contact a member of our Clergy or me. We would welcome you and your service in this rewarding ministry.

Respectfully  
Mark Delk, Coordinator

Submitted,

## **Needlework Ministry**

The Needle Work Ministry (NWM) continued to provide knitted and crocheted items to our parishioners and beyond. Our primary focus is on prayer shawls and prayer squares, but we also make baby blankets for babies/small children christened at SJW and hat/mitten sets for the Head Start children who come for the ECW Christmas Party.

We are working with the Homebound Ministry as some of those visited as part of that ministry would welcome a prayer shawl or prayer square.

The small “pocket” squares remain very popular. As more people meet in the Wilderness Room now, the basket has to be replenished often.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Petersen, Coordinator

## **Sustainability Committee**

This committee began organizing in the spring of 2022. The committee is dedicated to helping create the most sustainable practices at St. John in order to be the best stewards of our environment for the glory of God.

Our committee includes Elizabeth Christenbury, Sarah Yeargin, Kevin Hunt, Lynn Wiescholek, Carrie Byars, Gregor Pickral, Thomas Pickral, Jim Gibbs, Susan Allen, Patrice German, Kim Sanders, Debby Staton, Jan Tanner, Meg Holt, Jane Irwin, Margaret Barker, and Sara Kester.

The committee has met with Canon Augusta Anderson and The Rev. Anna Shine to share and brainstorm ideas and practices of better sustainable efforts for St. John. Practices in place in other churches in our diocese were shared with us, and some have already been enacted at our church.

### **Reducing Waste**

St. John has moved away from using plastic and paper products for food events. We are using glass, China, stainless steel utensils, and cloth tablecloths. We also encourage all groups meeting on our property to do the same. A group of twelve volunteers rotate to collect and wash the dishes during monthly Parish Breakfasts.

Single-use water bottles have been eliminated at St. John. Plastic reusable tumblers and glass water dispensers are now located in the office area, the Wilderness foyer, and Parish Hall for those wanting water to drink.

## **Recycling**

We have labeled recycling containers on St. John property to better inform folks as to what is to be disposed of in various containers.

Copier ink cartridges are now being recycled through a company that picks them up for free. Thank you, Sarah Yeargin, for researching and spearheading this effort.

A Recycling Collection Center has been set up to collect eyeglasses, single-use batteries, rechargeable batteries, and cell phones. The items will be delivered to the Lions Club and other places that recycle and reuse the items. This collection project is being sponsored by the Youth Sunday School classes.

## **Energy Efficiency**

New, more energy-efficient appliances were purchased for Mike's Galley (the Wilderness Room kitchen) and installed this fall.

We have had an energy usage audit done on St. John's buildings. This was performed by Thomas Pickral, a parishioner and expert in this area. Thomas donated his time and talents and will be following up on his findings and recommendations for St. John in the near future. Thank you, Thomas, for offering your time and talent in this important way.

We have been in conference with two other churches in our diocese that have installed solar energy collectors to offset the use of fossil fuels in their electrical use. Further committee work will continue throughout 2023 to determine if St. John should and can move in this direction.

## **"Green" Products**

A new homemade formula of earth-friendly ingredients is being used as a weed killer, with success. This eliminates the use of harsh chemicals. Thank you, Kevin Hunt, for investigating this and putting it into practice.

The sales representative from the company that supplies our paper and cleaning supplies has worked with us to help us switch to more sustainable products. Several of these changes will be at a cost savings to St. John.

## **Creation & Community Care**

A committee is in the works to plan and plant "Giving Gardens" at St. John and Kanuga Conference Center. The vegetable produce from the gardens will be given to families in

need in our area. The flowers grown will be used by those that visit the ill and shut-ins as a bouquet gift.

Our Clergy, Deacon, and Vestry are encouraged to practice discipleship of being good stewards of the earth in our worship and prayer life.

St. John's Sustainability Committee continues to seek additional ways to help preserve, nurture and better take care of our earth and environment for ourselves and generations to follow. All for the glory of God, our provider and sustainer.

- Lynn Wiescholek, Sustainability Committee

## Ushers

Ushers shape the worship experience of visitors and parishioners by (1) helping to establish a warm and welcoming environment for worship; (2) providing a friendly first impression of our parish family to visitors; and (3) assisting in the smooth operation of the service. Currently, there are nine ushers and two substitutes for the 8:45 a.m. Sunday service, and six ushers and four substitutes for the 11:00 a.m. service. In most instances, they are asked to usher on Sundays once a month. They may, however, also be asked to usher at special services, especially during Lent and Christmas, and for weddings and funerals.

Ushers and substitute ushers currently are needed for all services, but especially for the 11 a.m. service. Training is provided. Contact Bettie Orr at (828) 808-9820 or [bettieworr@gmail.com](mailto:bettieworr@gmail.com) if you wish to join this dedicated group of servants of God.

- Bettie Orr, Clint Adams

## Welcome Ministry

The Welcome Ministry's mission is to reach out to people who have shown an interest in St. John, inviting them to experience and celebrate God's love with us through worship, fellowship and service.

The Welcome Ministry extends a personal greeting to all who fill out a Visitor Card during one of the Sunday services indicating they would like to know more about our Church. Brenda contacted by phone and/or e-mailed 51 individuals or couples, and followed up with them by sending a welcome letter and a brochure telling of the ministries and activities at St. John. Forty-one new members (23 households) have joined

our church since our last annual report, while others are attending and/or participating in events at St. John.

A party for newcomers was held on September 16 in the Parish Hall. Sixteen newcomers attended (11 households). Fifteen more households indicated a desire to attend but were not able to do so due to various reasons.

We included children of newcomers in this party for the first time, providing food and activities in the Education Wing under the direction of Lynn Wiescholek. Eleven children from five families attended.

**Coffee hours after summer services:** Judy Petersen oversaw the coffee hours from May through September, for which parishioners volunteered to prepare and serve refreshments on the terrace following Sunday services. We have 15 couples and 9 individuals to thank for this service.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hillyer and Judy Petersen

## Young Family Ministry

The Youth of St. John enjoyed gathering around formation, worship, and outreach opportunities throughout 2022. We started the Church calendar year in Advent of 2021 with gathering to make Advent wreaths for our homes and sprays for the graves of those who were enslaved who are buried in the churchyard. We then laid the sprays on the graves on a cold December morning to honor the lives that are part of our history as a church and an integral part of our churchyard.

During our Lent/Easter season, we gathered to make Palm fronds for use in the Palm Sunday service, and we enjoyed hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt for the greater Flat Rock/Hendersonville community on Easter morning between services. Empty Bowls was a wonderful opportunity for our Youth to give back to the community by helping support the Backpack Ministry of St. John.

In formation, we enjoyed welcoming Lynn Wiescholek as she took on the role of leading our four-to-ten-year-old children in learning about the worship of the church and how to participate. In May, the older youth enjoyed time together with Patricia Askew in making prayer beads and learning the history behind the practice of using prayer beads.

We entered the summer with lots of excitement around Wild Wonder: Creation Care Camp for Kids and enjoyed a week with church members and folks from the greater area. We had 45 campers for a fun-filled week of exploring God's wonderful creation that surrounds us and that is in us through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Many of you helped make that week possible, and for that I am deeply grateful. We welcomed Father Ian in July and have been so thankful for his leadership with the Youth since arriving. Thank you to all who support the Young Family Ministry of St. John through your prayers and involvement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Inglis

## Meet the Vestry Candidates for the Class of 2025



**Laura Teel** moved to Flat Rock in 2014. She married Starr Teel at St. John in the Wilderness in March of that year and became “Bonus Mom” to Annie Starr and Virginia Frances. Laura is a native Floridian who attended and worked at Camp Greystone for many, many years. After graduating from the University of Alabama Laura lived and worked in Birmingham. In 2005 she founded a small consulting firm providing client feedback, client service and business development consulting services to corporate law firms. She works with law firm clients across the country.

She is a former President of the Southeastern Chapter of the Legal Marketing Association and also served on the Board of Directors of the International Legal Marketing Association as Secretary and Member at Large. Laura is currently Secretary of the Board of MemoryCare in Asheville, a nationally recognized, innovative leader in dementia care. Both of her parents were MemoryCare patients before their passing in 2019 and 2020.

Laura has seven godchildren who frequently visit Flat Rock. She loves entertaining, cooking for a chef, hiking, reading and yoga.



**Jerry Holt** is a native of Newport, Tennessee, a small town just across the border from Asheville. He graduated from East Tennessee State University with degrees in Philosophy and Computer Science and moved to Charlotte after college. He is married to a Charlotte native, Meg (née Merrill), and has four daughters and eight grandchildren. Wanting to move to a small mountain town in Western North Carolina after retirement, he and Meg chose Hendersonville, where they built their “forever” home.

Jerry comes to St. John in the Wilderness from Christ Church in Charlotte, where he was active in several ministries. Finding St. John has been a real blessing to him and Meg, especially after having left a much beloved one. He is active as an usher at St. John, as well as serving with the Chefs of St. John. He is looking forward to serving the church in other ways and getting to know more parishioners.



**Patrice German** is a native of Western North Carolina and moved to Flat Rock in 2013. She and her husband Gary (aka “Germ”) have lived all along the East Coast, mostly the Philadelphia area and Charlotte. They have two adult children, Kristin and Greg (Mandy); one grandchild, Kaitlyn; and Boomer, the Search & Rescue Dog.

Patrice’s background and training is in sustainable landscape design. In addition to a Liberal Arts Associate’s degree, she completed the three-year horticulture and gardening program at the Joseph P. Barnes Horticultural Foundation School in Philadelphia. She has two Master Gardener certifications (University of Tennessee and Clemson University) and became a Journeyman Beekeeper in South Carolina in 2007. She has been a docent at The Morris Arboretum in Chestnut Hill, PA and Cheekwood Estate Gardens in Nashville, TN. Patrice manages the apiary at Bullington Gardens and has also served on Bullington’s Board. She is currently the Program Coordinator for Bee City USA-Hendersonville. Bee City USA is an initiative of The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation ([www.xerces.org](http://www.xerces.org)).

Patrice grew up in the Baptist faith, converting to Catholicism in her mid-20s. She became Episcopalian in Fort Mill, SC, where the Reverend Dorsey Henderson received both her and Gary and welcomed them into the church. She loves church life here at St. John and treasures being part of a small church family again. Thus far for St. John, Patrice has served as a greeter, a Flower Guild member, with the gardening team, and on the funeral reception team.

# Appendix: Financial Reports

St. John in the Wilderness - Flat Rock NC  
Balance Sheet

Account Name	2021	2020
<b>Assets</b>		
<i>Cash and Equivalents</i>		
Total Cash and Equivalents	\$ 687,991	\$ 611,004
<i>Investments</i>		
Wells NextChapter Building Account	-	-
Wells: General Endowment Temp Restricted Account	574,878	498,849
Wells: Historic Churchyard Maint/Growth Acct	385,707	369,332
Wells: General Endowment Perm Restricted Account	375,630	356,430
Wells: Historic Churchyard (Restricted) Trust Acct	109,120	100,751
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$ 1,445,336</b>	<b>\$ 1,325,362</b>
<i>Fixed Assets</i>		
Construction-in-Process	30,839	35,675
Furniture and Fixtures	171,036	117,338
Heating and Air Conditioning	90,487	90,487
Roofing	82,909	82,909
Buildings	1,218,846	1,218,846
Accumulated Depreciation	(247,370)	(183,691)
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>1,346,747</b>	<b>1,361,564</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,480,073</b>	<b>\$ 3,297,929</b>
<i>Liabilities</i>		
Accounts Payable/Vendors	10,195	-
Prepaid Pledges	71,210	34,900
PNC Bank Mortgage Loan	-	128,285
Other Liabilities: Parsonage Rental Deposit	1,000	1,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 82,405</b>	<b>\$ 164,185</b>
<i>Fund Balances</i>		
<i>Operating Funds</i>		
General Operating Fund Balance	28,979	(109,567)
Operating Reserves Fund Balance	173,679	173,574
Fixed Assets Fund Balance	1,346,747	1,361,564
<b>Total Operating Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,549,405</b>	<b>\$ 1,425,571</b>
<i>Temporarily Restricted Funds</i>		
Altar Guild Reserve Fund Balance	3,650	3,860
Backpack Fund Balance	75,214	77,567
Capital Replacement Fund Balance ***	199,617	151,146
Care Ministry Fund Balance	2,776	2,740
Cookbook Fund Balance	36	36
Designated Gifts Balance	13,544	33,483
ECW Fund Balance	16,977	11,719
FlowerGuild Fund Balance	12,902	12,941
Friends of Music Fund Balance	1,936	2,111
Men's Club Fund Balance	648	1,236
Needlework Fund Balance	477	477
Organ Fund Balance	5,627	-
Outreach General Fund Balance	38,935	30,395
Outreach International Fund Balance	6,701	9,063
Rector Discretionary Fund Balance	748	2,664
Rector's Special Projects Balance	5,166	-
Endowment Fund Gains/Losses Balance	574,878	498,849
Wells: Historic Churchyard Maint/Growth Fund	385,707	369,332
Historic Churchyard Operating Fund	6,975	2,903
<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,352,513</b>	<b>\$ 1,210,524</b>
<i>Permanently Restricted Funds</i>		
Endowment Corpus Fund Balance	375,630	356,430
Wells: Historic Churchyard (Restricted) Trust Fund	109,120	100,751
<b>Total Permanently Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$ 484,750</b>	<b>\$ 457,181</b>
Mortgage Debt Sinking Fund Balance	-	40,470
Clergy Placement Expenses Fund Balance	11,000	-
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 3,397,668</b>	<b>\$ 3,133,745</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 3,480,073</b>	<b>\$ 3,297,929</b>

**St. John in the Wilderness - Flat Rock NC**  
**Treasurer's Report 2021 - 2019 (Operating Accounts)**

Account #	Account Name	2021	2020	2019
<i>Income</i>				
<i>Pledge Income</i>				
	<b>Total Pledge Income</b>	<b>\$ 530,779</b>	<b>\$ 477,036</b>	<b>\$ 479,802</b>
<i>Plate Offerings</i>				
	<b>Total Plate Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 7,017</b>		<b>\$ 8,455</b>
<i>Other Income</i>				
	Other Contributions	127,228	69,482	61,907
	Memorials	5,528	8,225	5,207
	Parish House Rental	2,347	1,280	3,970
	Parsonage Rental Income	17,300	15,800	15,570
	Parsonage Rental Expenses	(3,395)	(522)	(14,485)
	Endowment Fund Income	0	27,440	26,803
	Miscellaneous Income	1,446	1	606
	<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 150,454</b>	<b>\$ 177,528</b>	<b>\$ 99,578</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 688,249</b>	<b>\$ 654,564</b>	<b>\$ 587,835</b>
<i>Expenses</i>				
<i>Salaries and Benefits</i>				
	<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 325,563</b>	<b>\$ 321,545</b>	<b>\$ 287,139</b>
<i>Administration</i>				
	<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$ 82,017</b>	<b>\$ 72,105</b>	<b>\$ 126,136</b>
<i>Buildings and Grounds</i>				
	<b>Total Buildings and Grounds</b>	<b>\$ 34,240</b>	<b>\$ 41,284</b>	<b>\$ 45,127</b>
<i>Capital Reserves</i>				
	Capital Reserves Expenditures	50,000	20,000	0
	Operating Reserves Expenditure	0	5,000	5,000
	<b>Total Capital Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<i>Christian Education</i>				
	<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>	<b>\$ 1,836</b>	<b>\$ 927</b>
<i>Parish Life</i>				
	<b>Total Parish Life</b>	<b>\$ 8,116</b>	<b>\$ 313</b>	<b>\$ 3,793</b>
<i>Worship</i>				
	<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$ 2,978</b>	<b>\$ 4,081</b>	<b>\$ 4,567</b>
<i>Music</i>				
	<b>Total Music</b>	<b>\$ 8,924</b>	<b>\$ 1,970</b>	<b>\$ 9,337</b>
<i>Diocesan Pledge</i>				
	<b>Total Diocesan Pledge</b>	<b>\$ 58,680</b>	<b>\$ 60,000</b>	<b>\$ 60,000</b>
<i>Outreach</i>				
	<b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$ 80,177</b>	<b>\$ 50,115</b>	<b>\$ 39,806</b>
<i>Other</i>				
	Endowment Contributions from Operations	10,000		
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 661,445</b>	<b>\$ 578,248</b>	<b>\$ 581,833</b>
	<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 26,804</b>	<b>\$ 76,316</b>	<b>\$ 6,002</b>

## St. John in the Wilderness 2023 Budget vs 2022 To Date

	2022 Actuals + Forecast (Nov - Dec)	2023 Proposed Budget	2023 Variance to 2022
<b>INCOME</b>			
Plate Offerings	\$ 10,094	\$ 10,599	\$ 505
Pledges	\$ 553,959	\$ 585,000	\$ 31,041
Contributions/Memorials	\$ 91,452	\$ 96,025	\$ 4,573
Parish House Rental	\$ 5,069	\$ 5,322	\$ 253
Parsonage House Rental	\$ 16,691	\$ 17,561	\$ 870
Endowment Fund Income	\$ 32,917	\$ 33,945	\$ 1,028
Misc Income	\$ 1,572	\$ 1,446	\$ (126)
Unbudgeted revenues	\$ 34,218		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 745,972</b>	<b>\$ 749,898</b>	<b>\$ 38,144</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>\$ 394,731</b>	<b>\$ 463,276</b>	<b>\$ 68,545</b>

<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	\$ 61,318	\$ 64,172	\$ 2,854
<b>TOTAL BLDGS &amp; GROUNDS</b>	\$ 90,645	\$ 76,210	\$ (14,435)
Addition to Capital Reserves	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -
Addition to Operating Reserves	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Total Christian Life	\$ 5,309	\$ 9,307	\$ 3,998
Total Parish Life	\$ 6,153	\$ 8,819	\$ 2,666
Total Worship	\$ 3,511	\$ 4,750	\$ 1,239
Total Music	\$ 7,389	\$ 12,800	\$ 5,411

Diocesan Pledge	\$ 61,499	\$ 64,287	\$ 2,788
Outreach Contributions	\$ 43,137	\$ 10,000	\$ (33,137)

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 688,692</b>	<b>\$ 733,621</b>	<b>\$ 44,929</b>
<b>EXPENSE TO INCOME VARIANCE</b>	<b>\$ 57,280</b>	<b>\$ 16,277</b>	