

Annual Report for year 2017



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Ministry Reports for 2017

Rector's Report – Rev. Jo Belser



I wonder if God's people in Egypt were reluctant to leave near the end of their slavery there? Maybe they were fond of the familiar if confining reality of their existence in captivity? I suspect so. Didn't we learn in our Old Testament lessons this summer that when Pharaoh finally said the people could go, and meant it, the people said, "No, you've got to pay us to leave!"

Well, I'm beginning to feel a teeny bit of trepidation about leaving, and we don't even know for sure for another six months whether we will have to leave (whether our project is a final "go"). I know about my level of trepidation because a moment of misplaced joy gave me away. You see, someone told me on Sunday she was going to give the church her lottery winnings "so we wouldn't have to do this project." I felt a momentary rush of joy before I realized that, 1) this person doesn't even play the lottery; 2) we are redeveloping our property to provide our community with much needed affordable housing, not to "save ourselves" financially; and 3) it was her grief speaking at losing a place that has held, and holds, deep meaning for her. I'm with her, and you, in this; we have some grieving to do whether our project goes forward or not.

In pregnancy, I'm told, nature takes care of these last-minute birth jitters by making the pregnancy end-state so uncomfortable that the mother-to-be can't wait to get the baby out of her body. Maybe our situation will be like this, and we will just want the transition to be over. But either way, change is coming.

John Hodges, who has served so faithfully and well as our parish administrator these past four years, will retire at the end of this calendar year. My denial about this has finally ended and I am now in search of a new part-time administrator. I give great thanks to John for investing of his time and great talents in the ministry of Church of the Resurrection.

There has been a spate of broken bones suffered by our parishioners lately, ranging from those which should fully recover in time (organist Margaret Whitfield's pelvis and Betsy Raymond's wrist) to Karl Boughan's neck and knee injuries. I hope that we will work hard to stay connected, no matter where our changing circumstances find us temporarily, and that we will give thanks each day for life and health.

As I reflect on all that has happened at Church of the Resurrection this past year, here are my highlights:

- **Saying "yes" to God as a congregation.** There is a wonderful spirit here of lived faith, of flexibility, and of rolling up our sleeves to accomplish what we discern we are called to do. I was "blown away" by your response to our congregational vote on October 22: 92% "yes" to continuing with our

affordable housing project (if it is possible to do so), 93% committed to returning to the new church when/if it is built (with an additional 5% undecided), and over \$1 million in “contingency funding” promised (if needed to make the new church a reality beyond the considerable contingencies built into the construction budget).

- **Saying “yes” to God as individuals.** I will never forget the way that so many of you—including some of our youngest members—prepared for Confirmation or Reception at the area Episcopal worship service at Grace Church in early September and then showed up and said “yes” to God. Making that day doubly meaningful for me was that so many of us were there in the choir and in the pews in support of those who were committing themselves to God in this way. Many of you also stepped into new leadership roles or continued your active ministries here at Resurrection, and I thank you!
- **Working together as a team.** We are learning how to accomplish things together. Can you feel it? And we are learning how to trust new people to do things we know that “old reliables” can do. I am very grateful for our newest members and for their participation, as well as for the continued active participation of our long-time members.
- **Helping others.** I love that we “give God away” in so many ways: backpacks stuffed with school supplies and love, tuna, toiletries, toilet paper, dental hygiene supplies, healthy food, more food, visits, cards, rides, books, and (the greatest gift of all) respect for the dignity of every human being.
- **Collaborating with other congregations.** Some of my favorite memories this past year are of the things we did with other congregations: our ministry partner congregations, our nearest Episcopal neighbors in Alexandria, and even congregations of other denominations. The best memory for me, though, was having the children of Bethel Ethiopian Evangelical Church join us for dinner on a routine basis at our last-Sunday potluck dinners. Somehow, I think that’s the way it’s supposed to be.
- **Bonding in Christ’s love.** There’s a reason why the phrase “breaking of bread” is in the baptismal covenant. This is the “glue” that bonds us together in Christ, when we come together in love and break bread in Christ’s name. First and foremost this refers to our worship, of course, but it also refers to the other ways we bond in Christ’s name through shared meals, pies, hot dogs, pizzas, and even through playing games together across the generations.

Senior Warden’s Report – Coral Childs

This year the Vestry set four main goals for itself and made substantial progress on each.



1. **Goal One: Redeveloping our Property**

We will receive Alexandria City Council approval for our redevelopment plan on or before January 31, 2018.

It's been a long and winding road, but our redevelopment project continues to move forward. I will let Betsy Faga tell you about our great progress on achieving this goal. See her report on page [9](#).

2. **Goal Two: Episcopal collaboration**

We will develop stronger ministry partnerships by collaborating with other City of Alexandria Episcopal Churches to hold three or more joint events by December 31, 2017.

We helped staff the hypothermia shelter at the Church of St. Clement. In January, we were one of the sponsors for the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. service We instigated and participated in the March Region IV Youth Event hosted by Grace Church, where we packed over 52,000 meals for Rise against Hunger. We organized and participated in the Region IV Lenten Series and held a joint Easter Vigil in April with the Church of St. Clement. In May, we participated in the StepALIVE! Walkathon with churches all across Alexandria. In September, we were back at Grace Church for a spectacular confirmation service. In November, we hosted a joint Thanksgiving service with Meade Memorial Church. Throughout the year, we host the West End Lazarus Ministry each Thursday and we host a Food Pantry each Monday with the assistance of the other City of Alexandria Churches and Goodwin House Alexandria. Success!

3. **Goal Three: Relocation**

We will devise and implement facility plans that allow us to house our ministry and missions during three time periods: 2017-2019/20, "redevelopment interim", and "Plan B", by December 31, 2017.

Things are much clearer now than when we wrote this goal. If our redevelopment project gains final approval and funding—which we will know by mid-June 2018, we will be here in our very own building until November 1, 2018. Beginning on All Saints Sunday 2018, we will worship in the new Emmanuel Chapel at Virginia Theological Seminary (with a world-class organ) at 9 am for our main worship service. Although this is less clear, we believe that we will also be able to hold our 8 am worship service in that building, as well. What remains for the 2018 Vestry to determine is where to house the food pantry and our offices.

If our redevelopment project does not gain final approval and funding, our Junior Warden, Al Tiedemann, assembled a working group that has gone above and beyond the call of duty to make sure that our current facility is safe and comfortable while we continue to reside here. We will seriously evaluate what major systems upgrades will be required, should we have to remain in our present building for the foreseeable future.

4. Goal Four: West End collaboration

We will hold three or more joint activities with other West End churches that heighten awareness of our unique location and opportunities for ministry in Alexandria's West End by December 31, 2017.

You may be thinking that we haven't achieved this goal. If so, though, you don't know that our food pantry functions through a collaboration of many congregations: St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, St. James United Methodist Church, First Christian Church, Christ Episcopal Church, Grace Episcopal Church, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, to name just a few that come to my mind. Then, too, there's the West End Lazarus Ministry that provides direct face-to-face emergency funding for people here in our facility on Thursdays, with people from the other Alexandria Episcopal Churches and Goodwin House. In addition, our Redevelopment Committee has visited other churches in the West End to share our vision of affordable housing. And, our members teach the children from Bethel Ethiopian Evangelical Church each Sunday evening. In fact, we did so well in accomplishing this goal that our Bishop is convinced that we have more mission to do in this part of our City!

In addition, I'd like to briefly mention a number of things that don't fit neatly into one of these goals:

- **Drives** – We collected laundry detergent, dental hygiene items, backpacks and school supplies, tuna, toilet paper, toys, children's books, coats, hats, and gloves. We also participated in "reverse" Advent calendars to collect items for our food pantry.
- **Food** - We prepared Carpenter's Shelter dinners, had a "Shrove Sunday" pancake breakfast, and hosted eleven ALIVE! Last Saturday Food Distributions.
- **Travel** - We "porched" at Shrine Mont, celebrated our travel to the United States from other places during International Sunday, and visited Prince William County for a baseball game.

Well done, Church of the Resurrection!

Adult Education – Karl Boughan

The goal of the Adult Education Ministry is to help our adult members learn about God and about living our faith.

Our Sunday-morning adult forum continues to be the "flagship" of our adult educational ministry. An *ad hoc* planning committee set program goals and developed

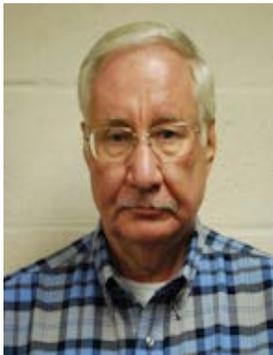


a new schedule of topics and presenters. What we currently know of the 2018 schedule is included as an insert in this report. The planners recruited presenters from the congregation and publicized coming presentations. I am very grateful for the wide range of suggestions given us, as well as the many people who have agreed to lead Sunday-morning Adult Forums.

A group of 30 or so people gather at the church at 6 pm on the last Sunday of each month for a potluck dinner and education program. Some of the participants share leading the program; this year they saw and discussed video recordings of the Book of Acts of the Apostles, and delved into several of Jesus's parables. Church of the Resurrection also has a Bible study group that meet each Thursday to study the lessons for the coming Sunday. We had three Quest Groups for most of the year, continuing their mission of adult faith formation. However, one of the groups has disbanded due to Betsy Raymond's coming move into Goodwin House. We will be looking in the new year about how to integrate former members of this group, if they wish to, into other groups.

Building and Grounds – Al Tiedemann

The goal of the Building and Grounds Ministry is to keep the church and its property in good working order.



The Memorial Garden was given its annual landscaping maintenance in the spring by our new landscaper and a revisit in the fall included a weed cleanup and the removal of several dead tree branches. The roof around the skylight over the altar has been repaired but the repairs have not been tested because we have not had an extended period of rain since the latest repairs were made. The heating and air conditioning system has been a challenge this year as several components have required expensive replacement or repair. The air filters in the wall units in the parish hall and on the lower level of the building were replaced. Using supplies provided by Rebuilding Alexandria Together, the choir room was repainted. We have accepted a bid from Walsh Electric to service the light fixtures in the Nave and hope to have the work completed before Christmas.

Children and Youth Ministry – Will McBeth

Godly Play continues to be the curriculum used for Sunday School for both the younger and older age groups of Resurrection youth during the 10 am service on Sundays. Gay Colyer and Christine Yeannakis continue to lead the older age group while Frances Barnett, Lissa Reeves, Farrell Hartigan, and Will McBeth rotate as storyteller and doorperson for the younger age group, with Bob Barnett, Tim Barnett, and Maureen Bryant also rotating as doorperson. While other obligations have taken her out of the regular rotation, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the contributions of Kathy Graham in making Godly Play a success with the younger children.



In addition, Resurrection continues to provide Godly Play for Bethel Ethiopian Evangelical Church on Sunday evenings, with Frances Barnett and Linda Goff working with the younger children and Christine Yeannakis with the older youth.

Our nursery is undergoing a transition as long-time attendants, Margie Bayrer and Jennifer Davenport are no longer able to continue in that capacity. In the short term, this change has been accommodated as the two youth who regularly attended the nursery have transitioned to the younger Godly Play class. However, it is the intention of Resurrection to hire two full-time replacements to continue to provide nursery care during the 10 am service. A rotation of parishioner volunteers is being established to attend the nursery during the interim period until a full-time attendant is hired and possibly beyond on an *ad-hoc* basis.

In addition to continuing to support the Sunday School program, a goal for the Children and Youth Ministry was to create opportunities for our youth and adult parishioners to interact. To that end, a few different events were held during 2017, including a picnic and outing to a Potomac Nationals game in July, as well as two Resurrection Game nights, one in early August and the other at the end of October. In addition, the Forum time after the service on Sunday, September 17, was used to play Bible-based Win, Lose or Draw, with the second Resurrection Game night and the Bible-based Win, Lose or Draw Forum having great success. Looking ahead to 2018, it is hoped that moving Resurrection's annual Shrine Mont retreat the weekend of June 22 will enable more families with school-aged children to attend.

Another goal for the Children and Youth Ministry was to create opportunities for the Resurrection youth to interact with the youth of other City of Alexandria Episcopal Churches. In line with that objective, Resurrection organized and participated in a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event, held at Grace Episcopal Church in March, as well participated in the Step-Alive Walkathon in May. Looking ahead to 2018, participation in the Vacation Bible School program held jointly by Christ Church and Grace Episcopal Church will be evaluated as another opportunity for Resurrection youth to interact with their Alexandria Episcopal peers.

Under the direction of Susan Weber, Resurrection continues to collect and distribute children's books at multiple Alive! Last Saturday Food Distribution events during 2017, and under the direction of Judy Schramm, will be collecting and distributing new and gently used toys at the Alive! Last Saturday Food Distribution on December 9, 2017.

Finally, our church's Boy Scout Troop has produced another Eagle Scout. On December 16 we will celebrate Will Ashton's achievement. And we are greatly pleased that we now have a Girl Scout Troop, and that our Scouts have led us in creating a community vegetable garden supporting our food pantry. Thank you, Scouts!

Communications Ministry – Barbara Eversman



The goal of the Communications Ministry is to keep everyone informed about what's going on at Church of the Resurrection, and why.

The Communications Ministry includes the monthly *Spire* newsletter, the church's website at www.welcometoresurrection.org, the church's presence on social media (www.facebook.com/welcometoresurrection.org), and our weekly e-Notes announcements e-mail message. Resurrection members write pertinent articles that inform the congregation of recent developments in their respective ministries, either in-depth articles for the *Spire* or announcements for e-Notes and the Sunday bulletin. Based on a recent *Spire* survey, our newsletter is very well-read and highly appreciated. Thank you, *Spire* Team: Kat Turner, Managing Editor; Ellen Turner, Layout Editor; Lea Fowlie, Copy Editor; Lenore Funkhouser, Photographer; Susan Weber, Feature Reporter; and all others who submitted articles this year, including our Redevelopment Committee Leader, Senior Warden, and Rector. This year we also succeeded in getting articles about our church, our food pantry's first birthday, and redevelopment project printed in the *Alexandria Gazette* and *Alexandria Times* newspapers. Given all that we do here at Resurrection to help others, we have a lot to write about, so keep your articles coming!

Congregational Development – Florence Dennis-Huskin



The goal of our Congregational Development Ministry is to help our parishioners come together more closely as we turn our efforts outward beyond our walls.

The Congregational Development Ministry exists to help our parishioners come together more closely, deepen our understanding of things spiritual and temporal, yet also turn our efforts outward beyond the walls of our edifice on Beauregard Street.

Through inter-committee efforts, our relationship with the local schools has continued successfully, despite significant changes in our group's membership. Resurrection has continued with International Flag ceremonies at Pentecost and All Saints Day, both of which reflected our appreciation of our cultural and racial diversity in our countries of origin and symbolized our inclusiveness as a church in other important ways as well.

We continued conversations with the Diocesan Diversity Officer, and meetings with or worships with other local Episcopal Churches, such as our Thanksgiving with Meade Memorial.

Finally, an area of potential future expansion would be to provide weekend food bags for less fortunate students, potentially in conjunction with our Outreach Ministry.

Overall, this was another good year and thanks go to all of those who gave of their time and resources to improve our internal and external congregational relations. About all, thanks to Rev. Jo for her support of the ministry's goals and her tireless efforts to make things happen, even when we were short-staffed.

Fellowship Ministry – Cindy Saltzman

The goal of the fellowship committee is to organize opportunities for people to get to know each other.



In 2017 we continued to have great fellowship opportunities and events. I would like to especially thank:

- Betsy Faga and her team for coffee hour and other social events, such as annual pancake meal, our international celebrations, breakfast on Thanksgiving Day, and the fellowship dinner last night.
- Our Game Nights and the food and fellowship that attended them (especially the pies).
- All who bring such great food to the last Sunday night potlucks and Forums each month.

Financial Management – Ken Gay

The goal of our Finance Ministry is to remain financially solvent by sound stewardship of our financial resources and to pay our employees and our bills on time.



Thanks to your continued generosity and support, the finance ministry is doing well in 2017. We are meeting our plans that were laid out in the budget for 2017 and hopefully will end the year with an even or positive balance.

At the meeting of November 20, 2017, the Vestry considered the proposed budget for 2018. We came to the realization that finalizing a budget for 2018 was nearly impossible. There will be several major milestones as we transition toward our redevelopment goals, starting with the pledges for 2018, and hiring new personnel. Other milestones include (1) changes to our insurance requirements; (2) possible costs of space for worship, offices, and food pantry; and, (3) moving and storage costs.

So, we concluded by adopting a provisional budget for 2018 (see pages 17-19), which will require active surveillance as we identify and reach milestones affecting our financial plans throughout the year.

Outreach Ministry – Bea Taylor and Maureen Bryant

Outreach is valued highly at the Church of the Resurrection. Under the leadership of the Rev. Jo Belser, our priest and Judy Isaacs, the Committee Chair and our caring generous congregation, we have achieved much this year.



We continue to operate our two new food pantries: one dedicated space in our building where people can come to pick up food each week; and a smaller unlocked one called the Little Free Food Pantry, where nonperishable food can be accessed at the bus stop next to Church of the Resurrection. This year, through the hard work of Carleigh Rockett and her Girl Scout Troop (and her mother, Coral Childs), we now have a community vegetable garden that helps feed our hungry neighbors.



Throughout the year, the congregation collects items that meets the needs of others. This year we have collected and dispersed: student back packs, tuna fish, laundry detergent, dental hygiene products, food pantry food, diapers as part of an international effort for T.C. Williams High School and the intermediate school close by, warm winter clothes, toys for children at Christmas and, books for children throughout the year.

We also provide volunteers and partner with others such as ALIVE!, Carpenters Shelter and the Lazarus Ministries.

We are so grateful for the many ways God takes care of us so that we can share with others.

Parish Care – Linda Goff

The goal of the Parish Care Ministry is to regularly visit those in our Resurrection community unable to attend church.



Members of the committee attended the Goodwin House monthly luncheon and The Fountains monthly Eucharist service. This ministry sponsored (led) two 2017 Sunday morning forums titled “Prayer and Community” and “Resurrection Memory Boxes.” Church members are sent birthday and other occasion cards by the committee. The Circle of Prayer meets after Thursday-morning Bible Study to pray for the needs of the parish members. This year they are sending Christmas cards to each member of our community. Our Resurrection community is strongly supported by the loving care and concern of the members of the Parish Care Ministry.

Redevelopment – Betsy Faga, Coral Childs, Kat Turner, Robert Reeves, Mark Drake, Ken Payne, and the Rev. Jo Belser **Vestry Goal for Redevelopment**

We will receive Alexandria City Council approval for our redevelopment plan on or before January 31, 2018.

With continuing prayer, we rejoice that we are well on our way to accomplishing that goal. The City Council meeting at which our project will be considered is scheduled for January 20, 2018.

Here are the highlights of 2017 that have moved us towards our goal:

Resurrection/Diocese. We went through numerous iterations of a church design with Cunningham Quill, our architects, in consultation with The Kerns Group. Thanks to Carolyn McDonald and Lenore Funkhouser for creating a bulletin board that chronicles the evolution of the church design.

We received preliminary pricing for the church from two construction companies that were almost identical but very close to the \$4.1 million that will be realized from the ground lease and used to build the church. Adding to the cost of the project is construction of a parallel access road since Goodwin House would not grant an



easement to use their road as well as moving a water line under the church that services Goodwin House and for which they will not pay the cost of moving. While we considered various options for the best stewardship of those monies, our Bishop reaffirmed his requirement for a church presence on the redeveloped property.

Although the ground lease had previously been approved by the Bishop and Standing Committee; because of a number of changes in it, we requested a second round of approvals.

On October 22, Church of the Resurrection held a new congregational meeting to vote on the future direction our parish should take concerning redevelopment. 93% of the congregation chose to redevelop the property with at least 100 affordable housing units and a small separate multipurpose building for Church of the Resurrection that will have at least 20 parking spaces (the upper-most parking lot).

On October 27, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Virginia reaffirmed their support for the project and on November 17 the Bishop gave his permission to sign the ground lease with AHC.

The City. AHC submitted six sets of concept plans to the City's Office Planning & Zoning that were reviewed by all relevant City Departments – Concept 2, Concept 3, Development Special Use Permit (DSUP), Completeness Submission 1, Completeness Submission 2, and Completeness Submission 3.

With eventual support from Goodwin House, we were able to request rezoning to join Coordinated Development District (CDD) #23 with Goodwin House.

Our redevelopment team made three presentations before the Beauregard Design Advisory Committee (BDAC); a group of citizens that assists the City by reviewing development plans for compliance with the Beauregard Urban Design Standards and Guidelines. The BDAC recommended the project move forward.

We took time to advocate before City Council for \$4.3 million needed for our project that was unexpectedly placed in the 2018 supplemental budget rather than the proposed budget. As part of a broad housing advocacy alliance, we were successful in gaining City Council approval for our funding.

The Community. While providing regular briefings to the administration at Goodwin House, our offers to make a presentation about our project to residents was finally accepted. Additional briefings were provided by their legal counsel. Building design changes have been made to address their concerns and responses provided on their concerns about parking and safety.

A briefing was given to residents at The Hermitage and offered to residents at The Fountains.

A broader community meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 4, at 6:30 pm at Resurrection.

Our Congregation. None of this could have been accomplished without the input and support of the Vestry and congregation. Congregational updates were given during Sunday Forums in January, March, May, and October, as well as through monthly articles in *The Spire* and weekly updates in *e-Notes*. The conversations demonstrated the flexible, innovative, “cutting edge” nature of our congregation.

We actively engaged our congregation through:

- Letters to City Council asking for restoration of \$4.3 million for our project to the 2018 budget.
- Attendance at public hearings before City Council in support of the \$4.3 million.
- Attendance at the Mayor’s monthly breakfast to thank her and City Council for supporting our project with the needed funds.
- Attendance and comments at the BDAC meetings.
- A congregational letter asking for the Bishop’s intervention with Goodwin House.

Upcoming key meetings:

- December 4, 2017 – Community Meeting at Resurrection
- January 4, 2018 – Hearing before the Planning Commission
- January 20, 2018 – Hearing before City Council

Our timeline:

- March 1, 2018 — Submission of the low-income housing tax credit application to the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA)
- June 15, 2018 — Release of VHDA tax credit project approvals
- On or about November 1, 2018 — Church of the Resurrection vacates the property
- April 2019 — Final construction permits and financial “settlement”
- End of 2019 — Construction begins
- Early 2021 — Construction completed

Our journey of “trying to save ourselves” to “carrying out our mission” is captured in a letter to Resurrection from Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg, “All of us are very grateful to your church for the incredibly generous gift you are giving to those in need in our city. Your legacy will live on for generations to come... And thank you for all you do for our community, helping to make it better for all.”

As we continue to reach out to God in prayer, we know He will lead us and guide us.

Worship Ministry – The Rev. Jo Belser



We didn't have a Worship Committee this year; I "doubled down" on our Outreach Ministry to begin our food pantry. However, our worship is our first priority. I am very grateful for the ongoing diligence of our many worship ministries, and for key turnovers in leadership of some of these ministries this past year.

- Carolyn McDonald began as our usher scheduler, relieving Kat Turner, organizing the work of this ministry and adding new members. One of my favorite usher memories this year was watching some of our ushers quietly help do what was needed at St. Clement for our joint Easter Vigil there.
- Barbara Bancroft began as our lector and Eucharistic Minister trainer and scheduler, relieving Larry Dye. I am very grateful for the large number of people who volunteer here for these ministries, especially for the men who have joined our Eucharistic Minister ranks this year.
- This past year Louise Bennett has begun organizing lectors for our 8 am service. Her efforts have resulted in stabilizing the weekly attendance at this service and greatly broadening congregational participation in the service. Thank you, Louise, and each person who is helping in this way.
- Our Music Ministry continues to thrive under Deena Jaworski's leadership. I am very grateful for the many ways that Deena makes our choir effective, and for the gifts that our organist, Margaret Whitfield, brings to our worship. I hope that there soon will be two new choir members—I certainly am praying that this possibility comes to pass.
- Kathy Graham has functioned as our lead Crucifer this year, augmented by Lawrence Huskin, Michaina Seme, Will McBeth, Stephen Ashitey, Coral Childs, Larry Dye, Linda Goff, Ethan Medrick (at 8 am), and Betsy Faga. I pray that a Crucifer scheduler will arise from among them!
- Kathy Parnell continues as our Flower Coordinator, with assistance from Susie and Dennis Jones and Eleonora Gafton (and others) for seasonal decorating. The Christmas and Easter altars were a joy to behold; thank you!
- Lori Thurgood does a spectacular job organizing our Altar Guild, whose members quietly and faithfully set and clear our altar for each service. I love how our Altar Guild teams work together to prepare our altar for worship.

In the coming year, I look forward to Bishop Shannon Johnston visiting us on October 28. I expect that he will deconsecrate our church on that day and that our Worship Ministry will be challenged this year by a move and the need to invent new ways to accomplish our worship of God each week thereafter. And so I intend for there to be a Worship Committee in the coming year.



Music Ministry – Deena Jaworski

I am very pleased and honored to work with the gifted and dedicated individuals who are in the Resurrection choir. Their talents, dedication and perseverance, have allowed our Music Ministry to expand beyond the basic material to more intricate and contemporary pieces—remember “Hail, Holy Queen” from Sister Act? On one or two occasions we've even evoked a “yay!” from a young voice in the congregation, but that is not why we're there. We are a part of a ministry that tries, from our hearts, to add to the worship at Resurrection. That is the reason that we sing, blending our voices to help lead the congregation and hopefully share a message of joy and hope with you. I am grateful that Amanda Vann and Anne Stephens have joined the choir, adding their voices to those who help lead our worship through song. Although our choir members have busy personal schedules, they faithfully come to rehearsals on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. You could, as well, and we would welcome you.

Administration Ministry – John Hodges

It's been four very good years, and I've truly been blessed to work here at Resurrection, “Where all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, and all the children are above average.”

Seriously, I greatly appreciate this wonderful congregation, and the fine working relationship I have with the Rector and Vestry Officers. I'm sad to leave, but I look forward to retirement in the Northern Neck of Virginia and participating fully in the life of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Heathsville, Virginia.

Most of my time each week has been focused on bulletin production. I spend an hour or two during the week on preparing vouchers for paying bills, to include coordination with the bookkeeper, Junior Warden, and Treasurer. In addition, I'm also the point of contact and calendar coordinator for our three tenant congregations. I also keep an eye on Sunday schedules, so they are accurately included in the bulletin and *e-Notes*. I field about 12 phone calls per week and eight visitors looking for financial assistance. Most of these calls and visits occur on Thursdays, and I refer them to Lazarus Ministry (i.e. Melanie Gray at Christ Church). And I get to greet and help lots of parishioners.

December 6, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

The Rev. Jo Belser, Rector, called the annual meeting to order at 11:30 am. The Rev. Sharon Williams, our seminarian, offered an opening prayer.

Meeting-Keeping Functions

Betsy Faga was appointed as Register for the Annual Meeting. Betsy Faga, Register, announced there was a quorum present.

Election of New Vestry Members

Rev. Jo reviewed the Vestry selection process under which all adult communicants in

good standing are eligible to serve and are selected by lot and willingness to serve. To retain the required balance of women and men on the Vestry, those presented as candidates were Mark Drake, Ken Gay, Will McBeth, and Al Tiedemann. The congregation was also asked to endorse the Vestry's mid-year appointment of Maureen Bryant to complete Stephen Ashitey's remaining two-year term. Bob Noé moved to accept the new Vestry candidates presented by the Vestry and the mid-year appointment. The motion was seconded by Linda Goff and passed by congregational vote.

Rev. Jo offered a special thanks to those completing Vestry service; Bob Noé, Bob Barnett, Ken Payne, and Susan Weber.

Approval of Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting

The congregation was referred to the Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting on page 19 of the *2016 Annual Report*. Kathy Parnell moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Lea Fowlie and passed by congregational vote.

Reports

Senior Warden Remarks

Coral Childs expressed her deep thanks to the entire congregation. Noting that this was her first experience on a Vestry and as senior warden; she said she couldn't have done it without the help and support of the entire congregation. She briefly reviewed the four vestry goals for the year.

Redevelopment Committee Report

Betsy Faga, Committee Chair, referred the congregation to the committee report in the *Annual Report*. She recognized the other committee members -- Rev. Jo, Coral Childs, Mark Drake, Ken Payne, Kat Turner, and Robert Reeves. She reviewed the highlights of the year as well as expected activity over the next several months.

Jr. Warden's Remarks

Bob Barnett referred to his remarks in the *Annual Report*. He expressed a special thank you to Vida Nueva for care of the grounds, to Bob Naismith and Vida Nueva for fixing the lights in the nave, and to Bob Noe for helping with the many odd jobs.

The 2017 Budget

Rev. Jo reported pledges totaling \$174,732. Based on the loss of pledges due to moves and deaths, she noted that the congregation responded very well to the stewardship campaign and 2017 pledges were higher than expected. Treasurer Ken Gay presented a balanced budget for 2017 that projected total income and expenses of \$276,207. He reminded the congregation that it is the Vestry's responsibility to approve a budget, which it did at its November meeting. It is presented during the Annual Meeting to inform the congregation. He reviewed income and expenses for the current year and the 2017 budget. He noted that insurance had decreased since we no longer have a pre-school, the Rector's compensation is at the level recommended by the Diocese, and the line item for technology has increased. The interest earned from the Trustees of the

Funds was slightly over \$27,000, and there was no need to withdraw any funds from Trustees of the Funds during the year.

Rev. Jo thanked Ken Gay for his hours of work as Treasurer. Ken, in turn, thanked the tellers, Parish Administrator John Hodges, Bookkeeper Mary Ellen Tibbett, Sr. Warden Coral Childs, and the Audit Committee for their important roles in the financial system.

Rector's Remarks

Rev. Jo acknowledged that the Resurrection pre-school was a tremendous gift to our community, and it will continue on in that same way for our larger Alexandria community. We will look forward to continuing a conversation about whether to and how to foster the worship life of Bethel Ethiopian Evangelical Church on Sunday mornings. We will also be exploring the possibility of a deacon to provide assistance to the Rector.

Rev. Jo expressed a series of thanks:

- To Kat Turner for an excellent monthly newsletter in the form of *The Spire*. Rev. Jo expressed a hope that parishioners will write articles for Kat about how God is moving in their lives.
- To Ken Gay for the excellent financial processes he has developed. Rev. Jo is looking for others to help Ken so we can be more than one person deep.
- To our excellent staff members.
- For the adult education offerings that are top notch and world class. There may be energy for a new class that provides deeper study.

Upcoming:

- Redevelopment will continue, and Rev. Jo expects to formally approach other churches about our interim period.
- And what about a community garden?

Rev. Jo espoused that we have a great parish and congregation, and we are alive against all odds. We have a great choir and great programs. She recognized the entire current Vestry and told about plans for the Vestry conference at the seminary on January 7 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

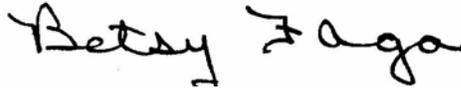
Other Reports

Reports of each ministry area prepared by the Vestry liaison were a part of the *Annual Report for 2016* and referred to the congregation for further reading.

Closing

A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Bancroft, seconded by Lou Zarfes and passed. The meeting formally adjourned at 12:30 pm, followed by a prayer by the Rev. Sharon Williams.

Respectfully submitted,



Betsy Faga, Register

Slate of Vestry Nominees for 2018



Financial Report – Ken Gay, Treasurer

Stewardship Report for 2018

Normally you would receive a pledge status report here. However, our stewardship campaign for 2018 will not be complete until January. Last year our average pledge was just under \$2,500 per year. Almost all of our pledgers pay their pledges in full; some over pay their pledge. So in a typical year we budget based on what was pledged, without “discounting” the pledges. Last year we had 70 pledges. And, although a few people have died since last year, we also have new members.

Approved Interim Operating Budget for 2018

The “interim” operating budget for 2018 is found on the next three pages.

**2018 Budget Worksheet
11/25/16**

Budget Line No.	Account Name	2016 Actuals Jan – Dec	2017 Actuals Jan-Sep	2018 Budget 11/20/17	Notes
Income					
4.3000	Interest Income-Checking				
4.4000	Plate Offering	2,408.74	1,376.95	2,200.00	
4.4400	First Sunday Loose Offering	696.38	389.00	1,000.00	
4.4410	Pledge Envelope Offering	172,612.06	134,405.00	174,732.00	
4.4412	Other Attributable Offering	18,638.39	10,536.31	14,000.00	
4.4420	Initial Envelope Offering	375.00	344.50	375.00	
4.4430	Undesignated General Gifts	40.00			
4.4440	Special Offerings	5,425.30	877.50	3,400.00	
4.4445	Special Events Income	743.62	175.00	2,400.00	
4.4448	Special Income – Nursery				
4.4450	Other Income	346.82			
4.4451	Tract Rack				
4.4453	Vestry Activities				
	Vestry Conference Reimb	117.00	156.00	250.00	
	Vestry Activities Reimb	1,263.00	613.50	.00	
4.4455	Rental-Parish Hall/Bldg	1,231.00	394.10	300.00	
4.4454	Bldg Use (Nueva Vida)	18,000.00	13,978.54	15,000.00	Jan-Oct
	Bldg Use (Set Free)				
4.4456	Bldg Use (Power Ministries)	15,990.00	11,000.00	12,000.00	Jan-Oct
4.4459	Bldg Use (RCC)	5,000.00	.00		
4.4457	Bldg Use (Bethel)	9,600.00	13,500.00	15,000.00	Jan-Oct
4.4460	Inc for Credit to Exp Accts				
	Copies fm RCC	549.01	.00	.00	
	Payroll Svc fm RCC	1,000.00	.00	.00	
4.4500	Add'l Income/Funding Raising				
4.9000	Add'l Income	350.00			
4.9999	Cash Over/Short	.56			
	Add'l Funds (Spending Rule)				
	Operations			13,400.00	
	Outreach			13,400.00	
	Total Income	254,386.88	187,746.40	267,457.00	
	Total Estimated Income	254,386.88		267,457.00	
	Income less Expenses	-859.63		-2,020.39	
	Total Projected Expenses	255,246.51		269,477.39	

Budget Line No.	Account Name	2016 Actuals Jan – Dec	2017 Actuals Jan-Sep	2018 Budget 11/20/17	Notes
Expenses					
Capital Bldg Expense					
5.1000	Mortgage Debt Service				
5.1100	Bldg Maint & Repair	22,251.05	19,584.51	17,000.00	Jan-Oct
5.1110	Telephone & Internet Access	2,755.75	2,060.32	2,250.00	Jan-Oct
5.1120	Electrical	10,400.48	9,253.77	8,000.00	Jan-Oct
5.1130	Gas	5,208.66	5,351.57	5,000.00	Jan-Oct
5.1140	Water/Sewage/Trash				
5.1140	Water	1,993.14	1,971.16	2,200.00	Jan-Oct
5.1142	Sewage	3,517.38	2,185.20	2,450.00	Jan-Oct
5.1144	Trash Pickup	1,011.00	2,022.00	1,750.00	Jan-Oct
5.1146	Stormwater Utility Fee (new 2018)			2,400.00	Jan-Oct
5.1150	Insurance				
	Bldg, Liability & Officers	8,442.17	6,942.73	7,700.00	Jan-Oct
	Worker's Comp	1,600.00	1,904.00	1,200.00	
Clergy Expense					
	Rector's Total Compensation	87,255.87		90,566.77	
Admin Expense					
5.3000	Admin Salaries	57,456.35	45,394.74	69,248.38	
5.3300	Employer FICA	4,490.38	3,472.82	5,297.50	
5.3310	Employer Cont Sec Retire	94.98	671.80	1,174.73	
5.3315	Employee Health/Dental				
5.3320	Accounting & Payroll	2,670.02	1,497.54	1,770.00	
Office Expense					
5.4400	Advertising	.00			
5.4410	Copying	5,803.93	4,331.80	5,800.00	
5.4420	Postage	283.67	148.01	500.00	
5.4430	Office Supplies	2,561.88	1,408.02	2,500.00	
5.4440	Technology	1,785.71	657.90	1,700.00	
Service Expense					
5.5500	Church Music	769.13	524.50	2,800.00	
5.5510	Substitute Organist	2,450.00	450.00	500.00	
5.5515	Organ Service & Repair	.00	330.00	400.00	
5.5520	Worship (fm Altar Supplies)	1,246.90	329.00	800.00	
5.5530	Acolyte		.00		

Budget Line No.	Account Name	2016 Actuals Jan – Dec	2017 Actuals Jan-Sep	2018 Budget 11/20/17	Notes
General Expense					
5.7700	Shrine Mont	521.91	330.00	400.00	
5.7710	Fellowship (fm Coffee Supplies)	814.41	630.87	850.00	
5.7715	Congregation Dev Initiatives	900.00	.00	1,000.00	
5.7720	Vestry Conference	724.40	215.00	650.00	
5.7725	Special Events	1,134.07		1,100.00	
5.7727	Vestry Activities Expense (i.e. GH)	1,778.40	904.80	500.00	
5.7730	Other General Expenses	108.50	.00	250.00	
5.7734	Bishop's Conf for Clergy	285.00	.00	400.00	
5.7735	Diocesan Annual Council Exp	215.00	50.00	500.00	
Budget Outside Giving					
5.8810	Rector's Disc Fund	650.68	523.00	1,000.00	
5.7750	Contingency Fund	.00	.00	1,500.00	
5.8800	Church Pledge to Diocese	12,504.00	9,747.00	13,500.00	
5.8820	Region IV Ministry	153.00	150.00	160.00	
5.8860	Outreach	9,766.50	5,523.62	11,500.00	
	For example: VOICE, ALIVE!, our food pantries and our various "drives" (e.g., backpack drive)				
TOTAL		255,246.51	151,409.23	269,477.39	



Most of our 2017 Vestry: (Upper left, clockwise) Will McBeth, Coral Childs, Mark Drake, Al Tiedemann, Karl Boughan, Rev. Jo Belser, Ken Gay, Linda Goff, Barbara Eversman, Betsy Faga



Our 2017 choir, after the Easter Vigil at the Church of St. Clement, with the Revs. Robin Razzino and Jo Belser

Date	Adult Education Topic	Forum Leader	PM Forum
01/01/2017	New Year's Day fellowship	—	
01/08/2017	Sample theological reflection	Beth Covey/Wade Hinkle	
01/15/2017	Martin Luther King Jr	Susan Weber/Bea Taylor	
01/22/2017	Redevelopment update	Redevelopment Committee	
01/29/2017	Vestry goals for 2017	Coral Childs	Acts Pt 1
02/05/2017	Region IV/Diocesan Convention	Betsy Faga	
02/12/2017	The Conversion of Constantine	Kat Turner	
02/19/2017	St. Matthias	Linda Goff	
02/26/2017	Outreach Drives	Outreach Committee	Acts Pt 2
03/05/2017	Spices and herbs in the Bible	Eleonora Gafton	
03/12/2017	Fun with hymns and hymn tunes	Deena Jaworski	
03/19/2017	Do Episcopalians believe in hell?	Mary and Wade Hinkle	
03/26/2017	Redevelopment update	Betsy Faga	Acts Pt 3
04/02/2017	St. Paul	Larry Dye	
04/09/2017	Was Jesus a Zealot?	Bea Taylor/Lenore Funkhouser	
04/16/2017	Easter Sunday fellowship	—	
04/23/2017	The International Academy	David Wynne/students	JC Superstar
04/30/2017	Hildegard of Bingen	Kat Turner	
05/07/2017	Worship discussion	Rev. Jo	
05/14/2017	Interior church plans	Rev. Jo/Betsy Faga	
05/21/2017	West End Lazarus ministries	Melanie Gray	
05/28/2017	Barabbas' perspective	Chris Yeannakis/Gay Colyer	Concert
06/04/2017	Barabbas' perspective	Chris Yeannakis/Gay Colyer	
06/11/2017	The Eucharistic controversy	Karl Boughan	
06/18/2017	Sermon discussion	Rev. Jo	
06/25/2017	The immanentization of the eschaton	Bob Barnett	C. Yeannakis
07/02/2017	My favorite Bible verse	Kat Turner	
07/09/2017	Mutual Ministry Review Part 3	Rev. Jo/Coral Childs	
07/16/2017	The Power of Spirituals & Gospel Hymns	Deena Jaworski	
07/23/2017	Protestant Reformation at 500	Wade and Mary Hinkle	
07/30/2017	Intercultural Relations	Raja Nasr	Lea Fowlie
08/06/2017	Eclipsed by God	Rev. Jo	

Date	Adult Education Topic	Forum Leader	PM Forum
08/13/2017	The English Reformation	Karl Boughan	
08/20/2017	Redevelopment update	Coral Childs/Betsy Faga	
08/27/2017	Fellowship Sunday	—	Margie Baker
09/03/2017	Community and prayer	Linda Goff	
09/10/2017	Greece Pilgrimage	Betsy Faga/Larry Dye	
09/17/2017	Intergenerational Bible games	Coral Childs/Will McBeth	
09/24/2017	St. Michael and All Angels	Rev. Jo	—
10/01/2017	Redevelopment update	Betsy Faga/Rev. Jo	
10/08/2017	Fellowship Sunday	—	
10/15/2017	The Blessed Virgin Mary	Larry Dye	
10/22/2017	Congregational vote	Rev. Jo	
10/29/2017	Resurrection Memory Boxes	Linda Goff	—
11/05/2017	Outreach Ministry update	Maureen Bryant/Bea Taylor	
11/12/2017	Financial Forum	Ken Gay/Rev. Jo	
11/19/2017	The Gnostic gospels	Coral Childs	
11/26/2017	Transgender: A life story	Sara Simone	Rev. Jo
12/03/2017	Annual Congregational Meeting	Vestry	
12/10/2017	Christmas pageant rehearsal	All	
12/17/2017	In tiptop health for God	Eleonora Gafton	
12/24/2017	—	—	
12/31/2017	—	—	Big Party