

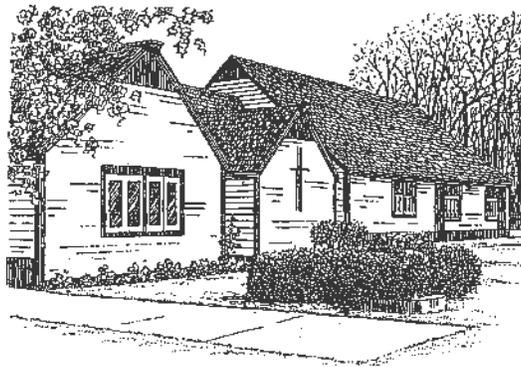
Church of The Apostles

Evangelical Anglican

Coventry, Rhode Island

Annual Reports

2013



Seventh Annual Meeting

January 27, 2013

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Church of The Apostles

Seventh Annual Meeting

Agenda

January 27, 2013

1:00 PM Annual Meeting called to order

- I. Opening Prayers and Necrology
- II. Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff - Financial Reports for 2012 & 2013 Budget
- III. Church Staff Reports
- IV. Diaconal Ministers
- V. Elders
- VI. Superintendent Mark R. Galloway

Seventh Annual Meeting Adjournment

Eighth Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 26, 2014

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes taken on January 29, 2012

The sixth annual meeting was called to order at 1:04pm by Superintendent Mark Galloway. Fifty three members of Church of The Apostles were present.

Superintendent Galloway read the Necrology Elder Deuel opened the meeting in prayer.

Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff gave the financial report. This year was amazing to see God at work. We ended the year with a \$7500 surplus. The Council decided to transfer \$3000 to Outreach, \$3000 to Reserve, and to retain \$1500 in the General Fund. See details in 2011 annual report for specifics of each ministry's financial statistics. The budget for 2012 was presented, with an estimated 5% increase from last year. He thanked Barbara Battey for her hard work in maintaining the day to day accounting. He thanked all the weekly counters for their hard work and dedication.

Canterbury Mission Society: CMS report given by Don Pillsbury, treasurer. He opened the CMS meeting with, "Who are they?", "It's us.", "What are we?", "We tracked the transfer of funds from Sts. Andrew and Philip to Church of the Apostles. CMS owns the title to the church. The money remaining was used to purchase the sound system, as well as donations were made to the Artic mission, our youth group, the Haiti mission trip, and the Carol Kumiski seminar. We have used up all our funds, and going forward we need to define our mission and we will need to raise funds. He asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Donna Thompson, seconded by Rob Geoffrey, everyone was in favor, and the meeting adjourned. Superintendent Galloway explained that the superintendent is the bridge between CMS and the church leadership. He added that there is a Sweetheart Auction coming in a couple weeks, and this will be CMS's first attempt at fundraising.

Staff members:

Pastoral Assistant Roberta Tvenstrup, clinical social worker:

Since the Leadership Retreat there has been a shift in our focus toward evangelism. We are all being called to bring others to Christ. Her role today has changed as well. She has completed a counseling course and it has taken away any fear to use God's word in counseling, noting that the devil is always present. She works closely with the elders and deacons.

Youth Minister Roger Hall: Roger reported the Youth Group ministry was going smoothly. He is looking forward to next year's mission trip. Superintendent Galloway shared that the Halls are very committed to this ministry, noting that the Hall's do not submit any reimbursements for the expenses they incur.

Church Administrator Barbara Battey: The church office is really blessed with the involvement of so many members. She thanked Jodi Antonelli and Cheryl Bethel for their involvement in Connected in Prayer Ministry, and how they had sought to send out cards to folks who are not members of our church but are on our prayer list. Superintendent Galloway thanked Barbara for her continued dedication to Lay Visitation and the new ministry - Nursing Home Ministry.

Communications Officer Barbara Bickerstaff:

Barbara thanked the ministries for all the communications given to her. The communications provided to her are a joy, and she thanked everyone for all their help. She is happy to be challenged to keep the Church Notes contained within its postage limits. The many communications are a reflection of our members' doing the work of the ministry of God. Superintendent Galloway thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

Christian Education - Linda Jones: Linda asked the congregation a question, “Who knows what goes on in Sunday School?” I’m not doing my job if you don’t know. She then reminded everyone of the oath of their baptismal covenant. The Christian education goal in 2012 is “feed our lambs.” She then voiced a challenge, “Ask someone who doesn’t have a child in Sunday school to adopt a child, and to share their wisdom.”

Sacristy Minister Joann Rupert: Joann thanked the members of the Altar Guild and the Flower Guild for their commitment in taking care of the sacristy. She also thanked the two Babaras for their assistance in this ministry with the printings and mailings.

Property Maintenance Technician Jim Quinn: Jim reported he would probably work for nothing. He loves doing work for the Lord.

Health and Wellness Minister Sharon Galloway: She explained that the mission of the Health and Wellness Committee is to provide for the physical, emotional, mental, and social needs of our members. We will continue to provide monthly articles. We have an upcoming Nutrition workshop. We are discussing cooking classes. As this ministry goes forward, she is also looking to expand to other faith communities.

Superintendent Galloway thanked Marianne Salisbury, our organist and Music Director for all her hard work and dedication. Marianne was not in attendance.

Superintendent Galloway thanked Mike Edwards, who was not in attendance.

Diakonate:

Archdeacon Tom Bourne shared a summary of a book he had read and how it helped him to understand his role as archdeacon. It is a book written by an American doctor who became overwhelmed and discouraged by what he saw on a mission trip to Nigeria. A farmer came to the doctor with a swollen leg and was eventually diagnosed with tuberculosis. He was noted to have pulsus paradoxus which was being caused by fluid collecting in the man’s pericardial sac, the lining around his heart. Realizing this would be a fatal condition if left untreated, the doctor summoned the courage to do the pericardial centesis, a procedure that could also be fatal if not performed correctly. The doctor successfully removed the fluid, only to be filled with despair that the fluid would only go on to return. Then he met a Nigerian man who said to him, “you wonder why you are here? You’re here for me.” Tom reflected you won’t always be facing a multitude. God puts you where he wants you to be.

Congregational Care Deacon Bill Sexton was not in attendance. Superintendent Galloway recognized the wonderful job Bill does in this ministry. He is a kind, gentle man.

Outreach Deacon Cathy Morgan: Cathy gave thanks to God for leading her here to Church of the Apostles where the pure word of God is preached. She feels honored to work with the Church Council and she has never met a group with more integrity. She rejoices in all God has done here. She wants us to remember that we are all called. Her favorite verse 2 Corinthians 4:7-10. Her dream is to continue to be God’s holy vessel. With Jesus all things are possible.

Stewardship Deacon Kathy Kettle: In looking back over the past year, what did we accomplish? It wasn’t me, or us, it was Him. We follow our mission statement, “Obey, follow, and bear witness to Jesus Christ. She invited members to go to our web site where there is a host of information including access to our sermons. God blessed us to be a blessing to others, stewards of the gospel. There are so many opportunities here to grow in our faith, what we do with what we have after we say we believe. The Church Council is accountable to our Congregation. When the Council makes a financial decision it is done in God’s prayer. She thanked Barbara Battey and Barbara Bickestaff for their hard work. She thanked her husband Steve. She thanked those who came forward with their personal stories of stewardship. She thanked the congregation from Cindy Hall and herself for their love, support and prayers during the mission trip to Haiti. All the praise and glory goes to God.

Building and Grounds Deacon Harry Sacchetti: Harry expressed how grateful he is to have his wife in his life and grateful to be a part of church leadership. It has been a challenging year with his own health and felt it to be a wake up call physically and spiritually. He thanked Jim Quinn for always being there to do whatever. He explained that the church is where God does his ministry; therefore it is important to keep it in good repair. He also thanked Barbara Battey, Barbara Bickerstaff, and Mike Edwards for their hard work. He thanked Linda Jones for her help in refreshing the Sunday school classrooms. He will continue to work to make Sunday school the best it can be for our children.

Superintendent Galloway closed the Diakonate reports with the announcement that next Sunday we will celebrate five years of the existence of the Diakonate at Church of The Apostles.

Elders:

Elder Chad Tvenstrup: Chad asked the members to read his report in the Annual Report. He thanked his wife for her support. The thanked the congregation for their prayers, and he thanked the elders for their close bond. He thanked the deacons for being bold, for doing their jobs so wonderfully. He thanked Barbara Battey and Barbara Bickerstaff for their hard work. He is currently working in Christian education and is working toward an Anglican Certificate, and elder training. It has been a successful year in ministry. In the year ahead, it is on his heart that we gather for prayer. The more prayer we have the stronger we will be to serve our mission in the Lord. We have had growth in unity, growth in bringing our relationship with the Lord to others. Our battle belongs to the Lord, and He will bring people to a relationship with Jesus Christ. With more congregants giving testimony of stewardship, it reminds us that it is all of us that are engaged in the battle. He thanked his fellow servants and thanked God.

Elder Nina Deuel: She has had some health issues and is learning to live with it. She expressed her joy in presenting Precepts Bible Study of Deuteronomy. In the next Precepts Bible study the focus will be Josea.

Elder Rob Geoffrey: The one thing to come away with from this meeting is that all these ministries proclaim the greatness of what God had done through these people. God will bring it to completion. We don't know what that will be but God has a plan. Praise his holy name.

Elder Emeritus Conrad Rupert: He was happy to see what has transpired over the year. He focused on Proverbs 16:9, "the heart of man plans his way but the Lord establishes his steps." Throughout our Christian life, we must keep our focus on Him so that we may shine a light in the darkness and bring glory to His name. Because his work schedule keeps him from seeing the day to day work of the ministry, he is able to look at what goes on from a distance. It is exciting to see new people, and that they are coming back. However, he mentioned that we had more deaths of congregants than baptisms. We must continue to focus our hearts on the right thing, let the lord direct our steps.

Elder in Training Mark Tellier: He has been looking forward to this annual meeting. This congregation raises up one another. It is an honor for his wife and him to be a part of this. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Superintendent Galloway: He gave thanks to all the Congregants who volunteer in the Nursery and Children's Chapel, Altar Guild, the counters, those who close the building day to day, those who clean up after brunch, pass out the bulletin, the musicians, with Marianne, and the Praise Band. He thanked Dave Swann for heading the Praise Band for the past five years.

These are best of times and the worst of times. There is nothing new under the sun. Our challenges aren't any different than when the apostles lived. Unless the church is strong, and bold, it is not going to survive. The church exists to bring the Gospel to the lost. We must be clear about who is leading the ship, the King. I believe we are called in a noble way to shake Rhode Island loose. Rhode Island is unique. It is an enabled culture, as many feel they are due something. One thing you don't have to pay for grace, which is the one thing they don't want. There are three key areas we have focused on during the past six years: the church has to proclaim the doctrine of justification, the power of the cross for salvation. It took long time to change, but the Word has renewed more and more minds. Secondly, we are one ordained ministry; we are a priesthood of believers. Thirdly, we all have gifts to exercise. We all are

empowered to bring the gospel to a dark Rhode Island; you are empowered to go do the work of ministry. It is the only way to grow the church. With success, comes leadership. The Galations 6:10 project is an example of how others are looking toward us for help. When crises come, the church of God can meet as the household of God. Why is God using us like this? God is calling us because we are ready to do the hard work of ministry.

There are two tremendous gaps in the church. There is the missing generation of the 20-30 year olds. As older people leave, we don't have new people to fill in. God has given us the tools, but we don't know the future. He asked the congregants to come on Wednesday nights to join in our efforts to pray for this group, to meet needs of the 20-30year olds as well as take part in thanksgiving.

Ash Wednesday sermon will be a study in Lamentations and will focus on hearts coming together, when one is weak, another is strong. He thanked everyone for gathering here today. It is a great time to be in ministry in Rhode Island.

There was no other business. Don Pillsbury made a motion to close the meeting, Frank Sherman seconded the motion, everyone was in favor, and the meeting closed at 3:25pm.

Elder Tvenstrup closed the meeting with prayer and Deacon Tom Bourne gave the dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Adams

2012 SUNDAY ATTENDANCE & OTHER SERVICES

<i>Service Times</i>	<i>5:00 pm</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>10:30 am</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Jan 1 Epiphany	44	24	99	167
Jan 7 1 Epiphany	21	28	140	189
Jan 14 2 Epiphany	27	40	126	193
Jan 21 3 Epiphany	9	40	113	162
Jan 28 4 Epiphany	46	45	112	203
Feb 4 5 Epiphany	24	38	120	182
Feb 12 6 Epiphany	18	42	132	192
Feb 18 Last Epiphany	<u>36</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>186</u>
Total Attendance (8 weeks)	225	298	951	1474
Average Attendance	28.1	37.2	118.9	184.2
Feb 25 1 Lent	26	32	118	175
Mar 3 2 Lent	33	39	119	191
Mar 10 3 Lent	38	36	118	192
Mar 17 4 Lent	26	47	127	200
Mar 24 5 Lent	32	56	113	201
Mar 31 Palm Sunday	<u>26</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>207</u>
Total Attendance (6 weeks)	181	271	715	1166
Average Attendance	30.1	45.1	119.1	194.3
Apr 8 Easter Sunday	<i>Great Vigil</i> 117	<i>7:30p.m.</i> 78	<i>10:30a.m.</i> 148	331
Apr 14 2 Easter	28	41	96	165
Apr 21 3 Easter	23	47	103	173
Apr 28 4 Easter	22	47	130	199
May 5 5 Easter	23	47	111	181
May 12 6 Easter	28	49	127	204
May 19 Ascension 7 Easter	<u>20</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>174</u>
Total Attendance (7 weeks)	261	361	817	1427
Average Attendance	37.3	51.6	116.7	203.8
May 27 Pentecost	23	48	112	183
June 2 Trinity	30	39	124	193
Summer Service Times	5:00 pm	8:00 am	10:00 am	
Jun 9 2 Pentecost	26	39	135	200
Jun 16 3 Pentecost	19	54	76	149
Jul 23 4 Pentecost	<u>16</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>155</u>
Total Attendance (5 weeks)	114	217	549	880
Average Attendance	22.8	43.4	109.8	176

<i>Summer Service Times</i>		<i>5:00 pm</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>	Totals
Jun 30	5 Pentecost	24	44	98	166
Jul 7	6 Pentecost	19	42	86	147
Jul 15	7 Pentecost	57	89	116	176
Jul 21	8 Pentecost	17	39	115	171
Jul 29	9 Pentecost	21	39	79	138
Aug 4	10 Pentecost	19	45	77	141
Aug 11	11 Pentecost	15	37	115	167
Aug 19	12 Pentecost	Retreat	38	104	142
Aug 25	13 Pentecost	18	46	115	179
Sept 1	14 Pentecost	26	34	104	164
<i>Service Times</i>		<i>5:00 pm</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>10:30 am</i>	
Sep 8	15 Pentecost	22	41	121	204
Sept 16	16 Pentecost	37	38	109	184
Total Attendance (12 weeks)		275	532	1239	1979
Average Attendance		22.9	44.3	103.25	164.9
<i>Service Times</i>		<i>5:00 pm</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>10:30 am</i>	
Sep 22	17 Pentecost	20	40	112	172
Sep 29	18 Pentecost	25	34	117	176
Oct 6	19 Pentecost	21	55	111	187
Oct 13	20 Pentecost	26	43	112	181
Oct 20	21 Pentecost	27	40	122	189
Oct 28	22 Pentecost	19	42	109	170
Nov 3	23 Pentecost	23	58	109	190
Nov 10	24 Pentecost	25	39	114	178
Nov 17	25 Pentecost	17	42	128	187
Nov 24	Last Pentecost	21	46	111	178
Total Attendance (10 weeks)		224	439	1145	1808
Average Attendance		22.4	43.9	114.5	180.8
Dec 1	1 Advent	13	44	117	174
Dec 8	2 Advent	57	26	109	192
Dec 15	3 Advent	24	21	47	196
Dec 22	4 Advent	15	41	121	177
Dec 29	1 Christmas	13	9	50	72
Total Attendance (5 weeks)		122	141	444	811
Average Attendance		24.4	28.2	88.8	162.2
Total Annual Sunday Attendance		1402	3661	5860	9545
Annual Average Sunday Attendance		26.4	69.0	110.5	180.0
		(53 weeks)	(53 weeks)	(53 weeks)	(53 weeks)

OTHER SERVICES

Ash Wednesday: 23 9 am & 83 7 pm
 noon & 66 7 pm 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday: 84 7 pm
 Good Friday: 19 9am & 22
 Thanksgiving Eve: 62 7 pm
 Christmas Eve: 189 5 pm
 Christmas Day: 48 9 am

SACRAMENTS & PASTORAL ACTS FOR 2012

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Hunter Stephen Ferreira
Leah Macie Ferreira

**REGISTER OF THE COMPLETION OF
HOLY EUCHARIST INSTRUCTIONS**

Kyleigh Elizabeth Felice
Hunter Stephen Ferreira
Emma Grace St.Martin

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION/REAFFIRMATION

Gianna Lee Palermo
Nathan Aaron Stomberg
Rosemarie John
Rui Manuel Ferreira

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

Sandi Norregaard & David Ahles

REGISTER OF THE RITE OF BURIAL

Walter E. Worden jr.
Elnora M. Collard
Audry G. Burdick
Fredrick Ligouri
Carolyn Schoonover
Winnie Donnelly
Patricia Hampton
William J. Kiddy
Kelly J. Courtney
Dorothy Creelman

2012 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

As I write this Annual Report I am completing the second full week since my return to the office of Superintendent. Now that I am re-adjusting to my duties, I am working to focus once again on my primary responsibilities as your chief Pastor. I am grateful for your patience and wonderful support over these past several months and I am looking forward to re-engaging with all of the saints of the Church of The Apostles in the “*work of ministry*” (Ephesians 4:12).

With 2013 comes for me the resolve to do things differently or better or more disciplined in the coming years than I have in the past. This resolve, however, does not make me unique. Indeed, desire for a new beginning is innate to the human psyche; for each of us long for the opportunity to do things more successfully, to be given a second chance, to be able to prove ourselves once again. We all sense deep within us the potential for greater things, to be a better person. The truth is that we are made for God, and the Almighty is the source of that deep longing within the human spirit. My long period of illness has powerfully reminded me that I am not growing any younger and that my character has increasingly settled into habits (both positive and negative) long established. As I look forward to the gift of another year in the ministry, I have dedicated myself anew to using this gift of God’s grace wisely.

We are grateful

As we reflect upon 2012, it’s only right that we take measure of the past year and reflect on the number of changes that have taken place and think about where God may be leading our Congregation. Without a doubt the two most momentous events for us over the last twelve months have been my own extended (six month) absence from the Congregation and the recent death of our dear Lady Nina Deuel. There is always a tangible sadness when people leave our church family, especially those who have been such a significant part of our history, and we will all certainly feel deeply the loss of Elder Nina.

Nonetheless, despite these afore mentioned events, as New Covenant people, we are ever mindful of the many blessings God in Christ has bestowed upon the Church of The Apostles over this past year. We are grateful for the spiritual growth reflected in our life as a Congregation, for the new families God has brought our way, and for the pilgrims we trust will continue to find a path to us. We are grateful for the resources Our Lord has given us which enable us to keep our doors open every day of the week for the work of the Gospel and further allow us to gather and offer our prayers and the great sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving Sabbath by Sabbath. Gratitude is an essential element of the Christian life, for it keeps us from depending upon our own (usually futile) efforts and keeps our attention directed towards Our Heavenly Father, who desires to give us all that we need for our earthly journey and our eternal security.

We are most grateful, however, for the opportunity afforded us to share the Gospel: our ability to obey, follow and bear witness to Jesus Christ – the chance to preach the Good News – so that everyone might come within the reach of Christ’s saving embrace. Therefore, while it is important that we do all that we can to increase awareness of our Congregation’s presence and reach out to those with various needs in the Pawtuxet Valley and in greater Rhode Island, ultimately, successful evangelism is not the result of creative and clever marketing, but comes from our trusting God to send to us those whom in his providence he chooses. Thus, our primary responsibility as disciples is to work towards the ideals of a Christian community rooted and grounded in the Summary of the Law: loving God with all of our being and loving our neighbors as ourselves (see Matthew 22:34-40). In this way, when through our evangelistic efforts God does send people to our Congregation, they will be attracted both to what they see in the dynamic of our church family at worship and in our Christian lives in action in the world.

Field of Dreams

Long before the actor Kevin Costner’s character (Ray Kinsella) in the classic 1989 movie *Field of Dreams* heard a voice telling him, “If you build it, he will come,” the Church (since Christianity had

become the official religion of the Roman Empire in the fourth century) had possessed a similar mentality. Congregations were built all over the world with a belief that all people desired a place to worship the Triune God. This belief was held to such an extent that it was assumed that the pews would

always be full. This somewhat naïve position of the Church held that the local Congregation had something everyone wanted, and the people would therefore gladly come to worship on the Lord's Day to get it.

For generation after generation (that is, some fifteen centuries) of Christians the opinion stated above, for the most part, remained true. But we who are mature in Christ, his royal priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:9) who serve him in the United States in the year 2013, realize that times have certainly changed. The number of people attending church in America on a regular basis has dropped off dramatically and continues to do so at a meteoric pace. The reasons for this decline in church attendance (it seems to me) are not nearly as important, however, as to what God is calling us to do in response to it.

We live in a culture that reinforces individualism and private judgement. Whenever most people today come up against a logical moral rationale with which they disagree or which challenges their non-Biblical world-view, they feel no compunction about walking away from that challenge rather than viewing it as an opportunity for personal growth and character development. Be that as it may, believe it or not, the most common answer the typical 20-50 year old American gives for why they do not regularly attend church is not because their lives are "too busy" or that they are totally unaware of the Christian message. Rather, the most common answer is this: they do not respect most so-called "Christians" who "go to church," because their lives are not lived in any way that is morally decipherable from the average "non-believer."

The implication in *Field of Dreams* is that the voice Kevin Costner's character hears is the voice of God, telling him to build a baseball diamond in the middle of his Iowa cornfield in order to eventually rekindle a relationship with his late father. Is not God calling the royal priesthood at the Church of The Apostles, in the year 2013 and beyond, to go out to life's modern mission field of (our) dreams and love our neighbors as ourselves; that is, to all those who are broken and lost and provide for them (as our Bylaws state) "a moral example and spiritual leadership"?

Hope and Change

Hope is one of the three great theological virtues (along with faith and charity) that forms Christian character (see 1 Corinthians 13:13). Hope, from a New Testament perspective, is placing one's complete trust in Our Lord's promises about the Kingdom of God and everlasting life, rather than relying on one's own intellect or abilities. With Christian hope, we recognize our own deficiencies and at the same time we see the need to be infused with the grace that comes from the Holy Spirit. When we practice the virtue of hope, we open the door to our dependence upon God's power, enabling us to share eventually in the fullness of his Kingdom. Hope leads to a sense of joy as we anticipate our goal of union with God and also opens us up to others engaged in the same pilgrimage towards eternal life. Change is at the heart of the Christian message; not change that we can accomplish in our own strength but change that comes through transformation. In Christ, Saint Paul tells us, we are a "*new creation*" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We become mystically "*transformed by the renewal of our minds*" (Romans 12:2) as a result of the grace bestowed upon us by the faithful reception of Christ in Word and Sacrament. Through our participation in the life of the body of Christ, the old unregenerate person begins to die as the new person is born within us. In this sense, change is essential, for without our willingness to change we will remain powerless in our struggle against (what the venerable Anglican Prayer Book tradition appropriately calls) "the world, the flesh and the devil."

For our dear sister in Christ, Lady Nina Deuel, life is changed, not ended. The example of Elder Nina's life declares to us that (from a Christian perspective) hope and change always remind us that we are not in this struggle alone. Indeed, the saints who have gone before us – that "*great cloud of witnesses*"

(Hebrews 12:1) of which Nina is now a part – who have been tempted by the same things we are, who have met the same challenges we do, and have by God’s grace triumphed, cheer us on. If we listen closely to the prayers we offer to the holy and blessed Trinity each Sunday we will hear them encouraging us to place our hope in Christ so that we will be continue to be changed into his likeness, men and women fit for the Kingdom of God.

**Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
the Apostles, Prophets and Martyrs and all your saints,
we commend ourselves, and one another,
and all our life to Christ our God.
*To you, O Lord our God.***

Superintendent Mark R. Galloway

ELDER TVENSTRUP

“So teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12)

Yet another year has drawn to a close, and I have been more and more reflecting upon the words quoted above from the Psalmist. I realize that I am not old by any stretch of the imagination (though I am the “Ranking Elder”). However, there is a noticeable difference in the rate at which the years pass by as one celebrates more and more birthdays. It is often the case that someone in my life will reference an important event in the recent past (after all, I am a history teacher by trade!), and my reaction inwardly is: “really, that event happened that long ago?”

So the Psalmist has it right. We should all be numbering our days, as we live out the remainder of our lives on this planet we call earth. And while we are not citizens here by right (see Philippians 3:20), we should still seize the moments that we have with our brothers and sisters (both in the flesh and in the Lord), our parents and grandparents, our children, and relatives and friends. We should keep in mind that God will often place us just where he wants us for his intended connection with an unbeliever through us. In God’s wisdom and strength, we respond in faith and let the Word boldly go forth. At other times, sadly, we squander the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in thought, word, and deed (usually for entirely selfish reasons!).

And even as we number our days here on earth, we are also reminded (in fact, by the very same Psalmist!) that *“a thousand years in [God’s] sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night”* (Psalm 90:4). Why is this discrepancy so? Because God is not bound by *our* time and space that *he* spoke into existence. The Lord views our lives from an entirely different perspective than we do. Thus, we cannot relate to God’s view. All that we can do, in fact, is to trust him and his revelation to us concerning him. Hence, it is only in the Word of God where we will find the message of salvation. And so, part of our numbering should always include thoughtful and intentional time studying and praying from the Scriptures. Sisters and brothers, there is no other more important endeavor in this life for us and for others!

In reflecting upon these last three hundred and sixty-five days, I am overjoyed at God’s gracious blessings upon our Congregation. These blessings have been, as they usually are, in the midst of a vehement spiritual attack against us. The Devil wants nothing else for us more than he wants us to either 1) entirely collapse or 2) settle into a group of “comfortable Christians” (you know, the kind that Jesus talks about in his letter to the Laodiceans – see Revelation 3:14-22). And I can tell you as someone who has been in the trenches here at Apostles from the very beginning, 2012 was perhaps unprecedented in terms of the Devil wielding his efforts.

But we should never give the Devil any credit or glory! This fact is precisely why we should simply identify in this past year how God has “turned lemons into lemonade” (something God is certainly a professional at!). For instance, we lost our full-time, paid Elder (our Superintendent) for half the year, and God provided one hundred percent of our needs in the meantime. And believe me, that has *nothing* to do with the meagerness of Mark’s contribution to our Church (as you all well know). And it certainly does not have anything to do with the willingness and ability of any one person, or even a small group of people. I realize that, on the surface, it may *look* like Rob and I “did all the work,” but nothing could be further from the truth. Rather, God filled all the holes, and then some, by the work of many people who were willing to be used as his faithful agents in difficult times.

Beloved, we should expect nothing new for the year 2013. And that does not mean that Mark will not work a full calendar year (though, with continued complications of his health in a new medical diagnosis, and a possible pending back surgery, he probably will not). Rather, it means that just like there were plenty more attacks by Satan against us in 2012 other than Mark's absence (most of these attacks most of us will never know about!), there will be plenty more in the year ahead. And what should we saints of God be saying in the face of such a threat? "Bring it on!" Like the puny and scrawny boy David against the massive ogre Goliath, we know that our God is way bigger than anything that the Devil has up his sleeve.

In the year 2013 we say good-bye to another Elder who has been with us from the beginning; a woman whose faithful and dedicated service has been invaluable to us here at the Church of The Apostles. Lady Nina will most assuredly be missed by so many in our Church. I will especially miss ministering and meeting with her, worshipping alongside her, and fellowshiping with her in the Lord. Her wisdom and temperament have served this place so well. And Satan thinks that he may be using this brand new and permanent absence to break us down still. But we must trust and know that God will use it to build us up. Just as we have emerged stronger in 2013 from Mark's 2012 absence, we will emerge stronger and more capable for the spread of the Gospel in the coming months and years as we reflect on our sister who is now in the place that we all yearn for.

To sum it all up, there are great things for us in the coming year! Does this fact mean that there will not be trial? Of course not! In fact, there could be great tragedy! But again, God is an expert (a real professional) at taking tragedy and turning it into good. All we have to do is look at his premier work in the cross of Jesus Christ. God took the most heinous offense and tragedy, the crucifixion of God Incarnate; and he turned it into the greatest of all things, an opportunity for a restored relationship with him in heaven for all eternity! Brothers and sisters, as long as we keep our eyes on *that* prize, we have nothing to fear!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for me and my family. We certainly know and feel them each and every day. And thank you for your own dedicated service to the Lord here at the Church and beyond. May God richly bless you in the year of our Lord and Savior 2013.

I am, respectfully yours in Christ,

The Reverend Chad W. Tvenstrup

ELDER GEOFFREY

“For those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”(Romans 8: 28)

The secular world seems to “celebrate” the New Year in earnest around the actual first day of the calendar year and particularly on the evening preceding January the First. I must admit that personally, the New Year does not sink in for me until at least a couple of weeks have past and I have become somewhat reliable in regard to writing the date correctly. This is so not because the transition takes me by surprise; rather, I prefer to look at the changing of the calendar as an amalgamation of past and future. So I wait for a few weeks until I’m comfortable that the Father is willing to sustain us for perhaps another year.

For me, then, it is not January the First that signals the New Year, but the Annual Meeting of Church of The Apostles. From a vantage point well into two-thousand and thirteen, I can picture the ensuing year in light of the year past. If you are like me, you will tend to read the future out of recent experience. Every year I am glad that I have taken this path because the witness of God’s grace and loving kindness in the year past is a source of great encouragement to me in the year to come. The often-quoted verse from Paul’s Epistle to the Romans bears scriptural evidence to my method.

Romans 8: 28 is the kind of Scripture that blooms into full meaning once the Christian life has been put to the test; never are its words so sweet as when the soul is in the midst of trial. When Paul writes: “all things work together for good”, I suspect that he addresses those who need encouragement in times of pressure. Implicit in his statement is the inevitability of upheaval, especially in the lives of those who have been called to God’s purpose. It is a most difficult thing to see the potential positive outcome in times of despair.

Our church family met with many challenges this year; it was truly a year of transition. Like it or not, we will never be the same. We will have to wait to see some of our beloved again on the other side of Glory. Last time I looked, none of us has escaped the wearing down of life that is common to all mankind. Many plans went awry; dreams were dashed, the unforeseen and unexpected caught us by surprise. There were dark moments that made it hard to see the “good”.

“All things”, the Apostle writes, “work together for good”. Remembering now, the blessings and triumphs of 2012, we must throw everything into the mix. Our church family has also seen many good times this past year. We have witnessed births and Baptisms, confirmations, receptions and conversions. Two have been made one flesh in Holy Matrimony and the Truth of the Gospel was faithfully proclaimed to a lost world by both word and deed. Brother came beside brother. Sister embraced sister, and all in the name of Christ! All things worked together for good indeed.

The story does not end with the passing of a year, for we do not yet know the ultimate outcome of its events. Paul is careful to qualify God’s promise of a happy future with the words: “according to his purpose”. And this is why Romans 8: 28 is a good message for the transition to a new year.

Let’s be honest, did we always see the good that came out of the events of 2012? Did we perceive good in what we considered bad? Did we perceive rightly the purpose of each blessing? Though he has revealed a portion of his plan to us already, it is God’s prerogative to withhold understanding of some things for a time. Many of his works are still in progress. We may not be able to presently understand how some things actually are the Father’s way of lovingly guiding us into spiritual maturity. I’m sure there are circumstances which we will not understand at all until we see Jesus face to face.

This is why our transformed lives are called lives of faith. As the Apostle wrote, “We *know* that for those who love God all things work together for good”. This is why we should look back and look ahead with eyes of faith. Do we believe that God will make things work for his glory in his local assembly? We only need to remember his faithfulness for the answer. My friends, your faith will set you free to see the hand of God working in every joy and sorrow.

I am confident that you have contemplated all things in your life as a gift from God. Such a perspective has caused you to look for his loving kindness and provision. It also creates a thankful heart, which paves the way for obedience to his will. God rewards this fidelity by an increase; and so goes the cycle, like the cycle of the calendar. Each day we rely upon the promise of another day; year after year, the same. If he has given us this day, this year, will he not make it work out for our good?

I look forward to what our Sovereign Lord will do in 2013! If the past is any indicator, we’re in for a rough ride. But I remember how he made things come together in ways I could not have imagined; I remember how silly I felt when I doubted. My sisters and brothers, come shoulder to shoulder with me, look up and face our Creator with joy and anticipation, for what He has begun he will finish! Watch and see how things will come together for good.

With love, I pray that you will know Peace.

The Reverend Robert J. Geoffrey

FIRST DIACONAL MINISTER

For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend to heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" (Romans 10: 5-15)

Many of us have read verses throughout the Bible, but sometimes a particular reading suddenly grabs our heart and mind and opens up a renewed sense of discovery as if we had read it for the first time. Such were the above passages in Paul's letter to the Romans for me. By reading this slowly and understanding each word, phrase, and sentence as you go, Paul provides the whole essence of evangelism.

It indeed is pleasant to sit with fellow Christians and have fellowship with them, but when we step back into the world we are suddenly quite alone. There we face ourselves. Do we really believe the gospel ourselves? Before we go much further we need to know, with confidence, that yes we believe. From there we are to confess our faith to others, ouch! Now we have to share our hearts with others who seem to be, at best, indifferent to the message of the gospel, or outright hostile to it. You might, at this point, say enough. I'll simply keep my faith to myself. But Paul tells us we need to go out into the world.

Who among us was brought to faith by having one conversation with someone else and immediately accepted Christ? There are no doubt some, but for most of us it has been a long, often convoluted, process. Paul never says it is going to be easy, nevertheless he says we should go.

This past year I have started working at both the Riverpoint Advent Christian Church and the Artic Mission in evangelistic ministry. I was reluctant to begin both endeavors, but I felt the Holy Spirit moving me on. As with any task, I prayed that the Lord would be with me and he did not disappoint. In the company of more experienced evangelists I felt that I would be hopelessly inept. If I was, nobody noticed, at least not to my face.

After the initial encounter it becomes more natural to evangelize to strangers. In many ways it is easier since the person you are talking with knows nothing about you either. What becomes evident when evangelizing with other evangelists is how confidently they profess their faith in Christ. Like any salesman, you can't sell the product unless you believe in it. Of course, Christianity is not a product that can be purchased, it is a faith. The only way you can encourage others to have faith is to demonstrate your faith in the way you conduct your life as a Christian.

Paul quoted Isaiah who said, *"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'"* (Isaiah 52:7). The feet require action. We cannot sit where we are and wait for others to come to us, we are to go out and reach others. I pray that we in the Church of The Apostles wear out our shoes in the coming year.

Thomas Bourn
First Diaconal Minister
Servant Evangelism Deacon

CONGREGATION CARE MINISTER

My focus in this past year remained essentially the same. Leading the monthly men's breakfast (fifth year) and visiting the shut-ins and sick are always a blessing for me. Dave Swann has joined me in the visitation schedule. Like myself, Dave enjoys bringing the Eucharist to members who are unable to worship with us.

In 2012, two members who were visited on a regular basis passed away. Audrey Burdick on January 29th and Dorothy Creelman on December 31st. We, as Dorothy's church family, did not get the opportunity to say good-bye because her family preferred a private funeral service.

Being part of the weekly worship service is always a blessing. Whether I give announcements, bring the elements to the table, read the Gospel, clean the table or pronounce the dismissal, it's a real honor and joy.

Each week I (and many others) receive an email from the church office with the Intercession Prayer List attached. Often I pray through this document. After the opening prayer, we pray "Lord we pray that we grow stronger in Our Mission to Obey, Follow and Bear Witness to Jesus Christ". Too often, I skim through the words without giving much thought but when I look at each word and ponder its meaning, the prayer means so much more. For instance:

Obey –

Matthew 19:17 *"Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments"*

John 14:15 *"If you love me, you will obey what I command"*

John 15:10 *"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love"*

Follow –

Matthew 4:19 *"Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men"*

John 8:12b *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"*

John 10:4 *"When he (the shepherd) has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice"*

Bear Witness –

Matthew 28:19-20 *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"*

Luke 4:18 *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor"*

Luke 9:60 *"Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God"*

How do we bear witness to our faith? Scripture supplies the answer in so many ways. We are to fulfill the great commission through word and deed; by what we say (and don't say) and by what we do (and don't do). I always thought that "we bear witness by how we live" was a cop-out: a poor substitute for verbally sharing our faith. But I now believe we share our faith, as well, by demonstrating Christ-like character, how we talk, how we treat people, how we live. Our lives must be different if we are to make a difference. If our lives are no different than those who are lost, how can our message be effective?

In closing, I'd like to thank the elders and my fellow deacons for their dedication. Much of this past year required enormous effort especially by Elder Chad and Elder Rob. A job well done. Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Bill Sexton

Congregational Care Minister

OUTREACH MINISTER

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.” (Genesis 1:1-2)

God’s plan is constantly unfolding as each day is a new creation in Him. Consider this: In the beginning, God created Church of The Apostles, for His church was becoming without form and void, and darkness was over the face of it. And the spirit of God was hovering over 170 Fairview Avenue... Have you ever thought of Church of The Apostles as a New Creation in a dark world and a darkening Church void of Jesus Christ?

Six years ago, our Superintendent and a hand full of God’s people stepping out in faith, believing that where the true Word of God is preached and the Sacrament is duly administered, God would build His Church. Church of The Apostles has now become a living, breathing, growing church. This was the beginning, the creation. As a member of the first Council of Church of The Apostles, from the beginning, I was so privileged to see the *Spirit of God hovering over us* as God’s plan began to unfold.

The story continues: *“And God said, let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind (in the church). And it was so. (The Church) brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds and fruit in which is their seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.”* (Genesis 1:11& 12)

“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:13 & 14) Each one of us is a strand in the threading of God’s plan, a seed, if you will to bear fruit. It is no accident that any of us is here – God created it. But it is only when **each one of us** sees ourselves as *knitted together* as a part of God’s plan here, and allows Him to weave our strand through to complete the tapestry, that the whole picture begins to emerge...Church of The Apostles.

I have been so very blessed to be a part of this wonderful, living *creation* from *the beginning* and know that although I am changing direction that the Lord will continue to weave my thread through this incredible Congregation that He continues to build and create through each and every one of us.

I praise God and am so thankful for having had the opportunity to be your Deacon serving on your Council, and to work alongside our Superintendent Mark Galloway, Elders Chad Tvenstrup, Nina Deuel, Rob Geoffrey and Conrad Ruppert and Deacons Tom Bourn, Bill Sexton, Kathy Kettle and Harry Sacchetti. I thank them all (and all their families) for their love and friendship along the way; for their leadership, for their wisdom and guidance, for their integrity, and for emulating the true love of Christ. (I am going to miss this fellowship so very much.) How blessed we are to have our Staff, Barbara Bickerstaff, Barbara Battey, Erin Swanson, Bob Bickerstaff, Deb Adams, Jim Quinn, and Joanne Ruppert for their constant, competent and tireless support of all the church’s ministries. I am so grateful for having worked with the Outreach Committee, Kathy Kettle, Dianne Sacchetti, Joan Clarke, Donna Thompson, Erin Swanson, Peggy Swann, Barbara Bickerstaff, Linda Jones, and JoAnn Ruppert for taking our ideas and turning them into living ministries. I am grateful for everyone on the United In Faith committee (now the Galatians 6:10 Project), Harry Sacchetti, Donna Thompson, Dave Swann, Kathy Kettle, Dianne Sacchetti and Barbara Bickerstaff for being true pioneers, growing our circle in the community, linking us in a very real way to our greater Church family, our neighbors in Christ. And, I am thankful for each and every one of you for your smiles, hugs, kind words and inspiration.

“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.” (Genesis 1:31)

Let each of us continue to be the seed that God created us to be, to grow into the trees bearing fruit, His precious, lovely fruit. And may God Almighty and his Son, Jesus Christ continue to bless us here at Church of The Apostles through the infinite power of his Holy Spirit as it *hovers* over us.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's love,

Cathy Morgan
(Former Outreach Minister)

I want to give special thanks to The Almighty for bringing my beloved friend and Sister in Christ, Nina Deuel into my life – for every way she touched me and for the perfect example she set for all of us. (See Proverbs 31)

STEWARDSHIP DIACONAL MINISTER

“God has given gifts to each of you from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you.”

(1Peter 4:10 NLT)

Our Christian walk is based on the realization that everything we possess belongs to God – we are merely trustees. At Church of The Apostles we believe that stewardship is an expression of thanks to God for all we have been given. Each person has been blessed with gifts from God and it is our personal responsibility to share those gifts of time, talent and treasure with others. We know that in order to achieve the command to *“go and make disciples...”* (Matthew 28:19) every individual in the Congregation is needed to use his/her own particular gifts.

Enthusiasm and willingness to serve are words that describe how the saints at Church of The Apostles approach stewardship. Guided by the Holy Spirit our members joyfully participate in and financially support the many ministries and outreach opportunities that are available. Volunteering at the Artic Mission; helping at the Shepherd's Table; making monthly visits to the Crossroad Shelter; supporting the CareNet Pregnancy Center of RI; offering quarterly blood drives; visiting nursing homes; supporting the annual summer mission trip by our youth group and supporting the Haiti mission are just a few ways that we fulfill the call to be Christ's ambassadors.

We *Ring in the New Year* by breaking bread and worshiping with churches in Pawtuxet Valley recognizing Jesus Christ as the head of the One True Church. We demonstrate the talent God has given us when we use our musical gifts to praise God. The pageant in early December put the talents of our Congregation on display as all age groups come together to praise God. This retelling of the Christmas story was inspirational and who could forget our brother Tom Bourn as the angel Gabriel!

Personal testimonies give us an insight of how God is working in the life of believers. I would like to thank the four members of our Congregation who gave stewardship testimonies. Rosemarie John, Doug Stomberg, Sara Oliveira and Judy Robinson shared their stories of their walk with God. We laughed and cried as they told their stories and although their testimonies were unique the theme of their message was clear: *“we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”* (Romans 8:28)

“Open the Eyes of My Heart” is one of my favorite worship tunes. The lyrics are based on the words that the Apostle Paul prayed *“...that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you...”* (Ephesians 1:18). Through faithful preaching, Bible study, children and adult education and Sunday and Weekday worship our Congregation is given the opportunity to grow in the understanding of this *“... hope to which we have been called”* pointing us to the true joy that can be experienced when we become aware of Christ's presence in our life.

There are several people I would also like to thank: our Church Administrator and Financial Secretary, Erin Swanson, who is always there to help when asked; our Communication Officer Barbara Bickerstaff, who gave me valuable assistance in preparing the stewardship booklet; and our Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff, who provides the Congregation with complete and transparent financial reports.

Through God's grace we know that we have been equipped with everything we need to complete the work he has planned for us and as we search the Scriptures we also know that *“...God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns”*. (Philippians 1:6)

It has been my privilege to serve this Congregation as I offer up all praise and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In His Service, Kathy Kettle

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS DIACONAL MINISTER

“O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own.”(1Chronicles 29:16)

It has been a blessing to me to serve as your property deacon over the past year. The year has been a challenging one – in ministry and health for the Church’s leadership. Mark and I both were faced with health issues during the year, yet I am grateful that we both had hope throughout our circumstances. I am so thankful that Mark has been able to rejoin us in ministry. It has been an honor and privilege to work side by side with my fellow deacons, committed to our call and ministries in Christ.

The New Year began with the painting and updating of the church Sunday School wing, as all the rooms received a fresh coat of paint and new features. Additionally, our littlest members were provided with a wall to write on (don’t try this at home) and the remaining classrooms were outfitted with flat screen televisions to aid the teachers with their lessons. These projects took many weeks and would not have been completed without the hard work of Jim Quinn. Additionally, we purchased additional lightweight tables for the church hall and Sunday School rooms. It is such a joy to work with Linda Jones and her marvelous sense of creativity and dedication to the Christian Education Program.

There were two major projects accomplished in the building during the past year. The first was the repair of the rotted sill in the church hall along the front of the building. Within the course of the repairs carpenter ants were found and we had the exterminator join in. The second project was the purchase of new outside entry doors, as they were showing signs of failure.

Throughout the building other projects were undertaken. The one that received the most attention from the Congregation was the installation of pew cushions in the sanctuary. This was the talk of the day and everyone seemed pleased with the new comfort measures. The cushions have proven to be appreciated, especially during extended times of sitting.

I was pleased with the response for volunteers for a new ministry called “Helping Hands”, formed to help those who are unable to do small household projects for themselves, such as lawns, and minor repairs in and outside the home. We were able to assist with a few projects thus far and I pray that we will be able to expand this ministry this year.

Deborah Adams and I have been the representatives to the Galatians 6:10 Committee, a group of five churches that have come together to create a temporary emergency shelter for the community of God. We are planning to locate it at the Church of The Apostles. We hope to install a generator, update the kitchen with a gas stove and hood, and make other updates as needed. To date, over \$11,000 has been donated to this project.

Many people came forward during the course of the year to clean both inside the property and participate outside in the two yard clean ups. During the Lenten season several volunteers participated in cleaning projects. I extend my thanks to all who helped.

I would like to take the time to thank Jim Quinn and Mike Edwards for their work and dedication over the last year. Their efforts, which may go unnoticed at times, are crucial to the upkeep, progress of and cleanliness of our church. Jim has become quite the “techie” and is now adept at installing flat screen TVs just about anywhere. You never know where one will appear next. Mike Edwards sees to it that our place of worship is clean both inside and outside (i.e., snow removal). Thank you both, gentlemen, for your hard work and dedication to the body of Christ.

I express my thanks and gratitude to Barbara Battey, Erin Swanson and Barbara Bickerstaff for their help and support in the office throughout the year. The countless hours and great energy they put into their work are a testimony of their God-given talents.

I would like to apologize to the members of the Building Committee for not having any meetings over this past year, I am very sorry. Thank you to John Adams, Dewayne Jacobs, Jim Quinn, Rob Geoffrey, Bob Singleton, Donna Thompson, Barbara Battey, Bob Bickerstaff, and Makc Tellier for their membership. By the annual meeting a new committee will be formed with some new and some familiar faces from the last committee, with the approval of the Church Council.

To my wife, Dianne, I extend my appreciation for her support and patience. Her understanding allows me to devote time and energy to this ministry.

Praise God for all He has given us! I am honored, humbled, and grateful to those duties entrusted to me as Buildings and Grounds Diaconal Minister. May He be glorified by all that we do in His Holy Name.

Your Servant in Christ,
Deacon Harry E. Sacchetti
Building and Grounds Minister

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
Which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)*

Walking in the light of Christ according to Gods plan can be challenging at times. It can sometimes require making changes. 2012 was a year of many changes in my life and in the life of Church of The Apostles.

I began my new position as Church Administrator at Church of The Apostles in March. I have been a part of the Congregation all of my life, thanks to my parents continuous love and devotion to the Lord. Since I have been in this position I have received wonderful support. Linda Jones positive attitude, sense of humor and unending support are amazing. Harry Sacchetti and Jim Quinn are always there to lend a helping hand or fix something. I am very thankful for Barbara Bickerstaff’s willingness to help and assist me in many office duties. Bob Bickerstaff’s attention to detail helps me keep the churches finances balanced and in order. Superintendent Mark Galloway’s commitment and persistence in the growth of Church of The Apostles encourages me to continue in God’s plan. Even though Barbara Battey has retired she keeps her commitment to me and continues to assist me in all aspects of this position. Her knowledge, experience and devotion carry me through challenging situations. As our friendship grows I am ever grateful for her patience, time and thoughtfulness. I would also like to thank Chad Tvenstrup, Kathy Kettle, Mike Edwards, Deb Adams and Rob Geoffrey who have been an amazing support team. Through God’s blessing, Aaron, my fiancé entered into my life and I am so thankful for his love and support that continues to help me grow.

God brought home his child Nina Deuel, who I believe was put on this earth to help Gods other children grow in love and faith. In my life she encouraged me to continuously learn about the Bible and to spread the word of God to others. Her smile, hugs and love will always be a wonderful memory of our time we shared together here on earth.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8)

I did not know what God’s gift to me was until earthly things were taken away. His gift to me was to make changes in my life and in the life of Church of The Apostles. The changes in my life began the day I started working here, learning more about the bible and having people around me who can teach me more about the mystery of faith.

During the year the office computer network and software were updated along with replacing a printer. These changes were in preparation to help assist us in the office for 2013. By making these changes it was part of Gods plan to help spread the good news. All of this can only be done through the grace of God.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Faithfully,
Erin Swanson
Church Administrator and Financial Secretary

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

“You are the salt of the earth.”
(Matthew 5:13)

At a recent women’s Bible study, we had a lively conversation about *salt*. Salt is very beneficial in many ways. In the world before the days of canning and artificial refrigeration, the use of salt was the primary method of preserving food, especially meat and fish. Salt adds flavor. A small amount of salt makes a big difference to the taste when sprinkled on food or added to a recipe, and a little salt goes a long way. Salt penetrates quickly. When salt is spread on icy spots in the winter, the ice soon begins to break up and melt. Salt bounces. Shake some salt on a hard surface and it scatters all around.

When Jesus told his disciples that they were the *salt of the earth* in Matthew’s account of the Sermon on the Mount, the metaphor was not lost on them. They were well acquainted with the characteristics, importance and value of salt. As part of our Bible study, we discussed that as Christians, we too are called to be the *salt of the earth*, to sprinkle the Gospel in both Word and deed, for a very small amount of salt can have a noticeable effect on a large medium.

From my vantage point as Communications Officer, I see *salt* all around me. While this year was challenging with the six-month absence of the Superintendent, the work (and Word) of the Gospel continued to go forth. As it has been for these past six years, *Church Notes* continues to be the platform for the work of the Diakonate. As the Deacons continue to grow and thrive in their ministries, to scatter salt both within the Congregation and out in the world, there is never a lack of information for *Church Notes*. Each edition has been jam-packed with “news, events and notes of interest.” In the fall, I worked closely with Deacon Kathy Kettle to produce our annual stewardship teaching publication. This year we strived to give the booklet some new energy and a new look. I am grateful to Deacon Kettle for her vision and insight, and it was a joy for me to work with her.

I was also honored these past months to work alongside Elder Tvenstrup and Elder Geoffrey. In Superintendent Galloway’s absence, these two gentlemen created the seasonal liturgies which were assembled into the booklets for use each Sunday; oversaw the selection of music each week; and were always available to the Church Staff to answer questions and concerns. All this (and much much more!) was accomplished while they maintained their full-time professions. *To God be the glory!*

As always, so much of the production work that comes out of this office is accomplished through the efforts of many hands. Thank you to all those who help out with the sorting, folding, stapling, stuffing and sticking. I would be remiss not to mention my friend and faithful volunteer Elder Nina Deuel. While she helped with the sorting, folding and stapling of the Sunday liturgy booklets and other projects on her Wednesday visits, our weekly conversations and time together contributed so much more to me than I could ever ask or imagine. Lady Nina never lacked salt! I am confident that when she met her master he said, *“Well done, good and faithful servant”* (Matthew 25:23). I pray that Jesus may say the same to each of us.

Barbara A. Bickerstaff
Communications Officer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“One generation shall commend your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts”.
(Psalm 145:4)

At our annual meeting last January I stated we needed something to enlighten parents, new families and our Congregations about what was taking place in our Christian education Classrooms. We also were reminded by Elder Emeritus Conrad Rupert’s sermon about our duty as Christians, in our baptismal vows, we promised to teach this younger generation to grow in their faith.

In our Precepts class while studying Deuteronomy these words reinforced this need, *“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul...you shall teach them to your children , speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down and when you rise up.”*(Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

During Lent, an invitation was sent to all, as king for their participation in our “Feed our lambs-Faithful friends.” We randomly matched all our students with shepherds. Just ask Linda and Jim Quinn about their lamb, Hunter or Barbara and Tom Bourns about their lambs, Haley Worden and Nathan Stomberg or Barbara Battey and Kyleigh Felice. Bev Brown knitted prayer shawls for Sarah and Gianna when they went away to college. Joan Clarke made quilt for Ben. At Christmas the lambs wrote cards to their shepherds (many thanks to Bev Brown for her donation) and gave them “The greatest gift ornaments”. Tears came to my eyes when Diane Warner first hugged Alison her lamb and said “I hope you can become part of my life.” We are just in our infancy with this ministry, growing day by day with God as our focus.

This summer we instituted a reading program for the children to learn more about God’s word while on summer vacation. Each week they would pick up the lesson, then had the option of writing a summary in a journal or create posters or projects based on the reading. After twelve weeks of learning more about Gideon and the 300, Elijah and King Solomon the following students:Liam Tvenstrup, Kyleigh Felice , Zachary Ellison, Harrison McMahon, Doug Stomberg, Roger Hall, Aiden Felice, and Emma St. Martin were presented activity books, markers and a \$10 gift card to the Dollar store.

September we entered into brightly painted classrooms thanks to our Michelangelo “Jim Quinn we were once again blessed with the most faithful, talented and dedicated staff of teachers: Debby Glynn, Melissa Felice, Scarlett St. Martin, Donna Stomberg, Beth Sexton, Linda Jones, Jessica Tellier, Laurie Ellison, Kathy Kettle, Dianne Sacchetti, Doug Stomberg, Roger Hall, Matt Felice, Superintendent Mark Galloway, Elder Chad Tvenstrup and Rob Geoffrey and Elder in training Mark Tellier. Many thanks to this wonderful group of educators and many thanks to our partners who faithfully bring their children to church.

Advent brought us into our lessons on Stewardship and this year rather than giving just toys (Barbie’s, trucks, footballs etc.) the focus was on spreading God’s Word. Our gifts to the Artic Mission and Crossroads were all based on the Bible.

Lastly we ended the year with a most successful musical pageant created by our Organist and Music Director, Marianne Salisbury. Thanks to all our performers who participated in a night to remember. This New Year, 2013, lets continue God’s work to nourish our lambs.

“When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you truly love me more than these?” “Yes Lord, “he said “you know that I love you.”. Jesus said “Feed my lambs.”
(John21:15).

Your sister in Christ,
Linda Jones

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

As I reflect on the year of our Lord 2012, I give Him all the glory and thanksgiving for the service I have been able to provide to this Body. Ministering to you continues to be such a blessing in my life. Calling upon my educational, professional, spiritual and life experiences to serve you through my faith in God's Word brings me the most joy in my role as your Pastoral Assistant. I am no different than you, the body, in that we all struggle with daily sin (priorities, selfishness, laziness, judgments, etc.). It is not our ability to be Him but it is our commitment to following His will for us in thought, word, and deed, that draws us closer to our Father. Remembering we have all been created in His image (Genesis 1:27). Even in our darkest moments, the divine image of God is still present. God's Word teaches us about hope and grace in overcoming sin and darkness. As it is written in Genesis, God has created us in His own image with the intention of blessing us. It is all too common that we deny God's intentions for our lives and follow our own selfish desires and impulses. When we seek joy in places other than through glorifying our God and Creator, we will surely be left with disappointment, emptiness, and suffering. As His children, we are reassured of His unconditional love, His grace, and His blessings through Jesus Christ, His son. Remembering that Jesus died for our sins so that we may have everlasting life in heaven with God is what makes us new creations (see 2Corinthians 5:17).

As your Pastoral Assistant, I ask you to ponder this question, "What do you think you are worth to God?" Remembering He created us in His own image, He loves us and we are all equal in His sight (see Galatians 3:28). Taking all circumstances and laying them out in front of Him, offering true repentance, and working toward reconciliation is where the healing process begins. I have been blessed to travel this path myself, as with many of you as well throughout this past year. Although this path is the harder path to follow, it is only through this direction, with the discipline of God's Word, that our lives can be restored to a joyful communion with our Holy Father and the body of Christ. I pray that the Lord allows me many more opportunities to minister healing to you as needed. I am here to meet with individuals, and/or families as needed. Please continue to contact me directly for confidential counsel or accessing resources if needed at 401-486-7960.

Our Strengthening Marriages Ministry (Holy Couples) continues to grow and thrive. With well over 30 couples participating, this Christian couples' group continues to support and embrace Christian marriages of all ages and durations. Due to the increasing number of participants, the Holy Couples Ministry continues to operate as three (3) simultaneous small groups; being led by one of 3 leader couples: Chad & Roberta Tvenstrup, Rob & Sharon Geoffrey, & Tom & Barbara Bourn. The small groups are shuffled approximately once every six months. Rather than following a purchased curriculum, the leaders decided to poll their members for topics they felt would be beneficial for them as a member in this ministry (topic focused). The topics were shared with the 3 leader couples and a 12 month curriculum was developed. This seems to be going very well thus far, and all couples say they are anticipating the topics coming up in the next few months.

As I have stated before, I am so grateful for the work that I am able to do here at the Church of the Apostles, as I grow each and every time that I meet with any of you. I take great pride and am honored to walk along side you in any time of need. To Him I give all of the glory; that I may be a servant unto Him is my greatest pleasure. I praise God for all of the wonderful blessing in my life, and in the life of the Church. I commit myself to another year in your service. I would like to also thank you and ask for continued prayers for my ministry and my family. As many of you have once told me, family often pays a great price for the work of ministry. Please keep us all in your prayers!! May God's grace and peace be upon all of you throughout the upcoming year!

I am graciously yours in Christ,
Roberta L. Tvenstrup, LICSW
Pastoral Assistant

JAMIM' YOUTH GROUP

Our JAMIM' Youth Group has continued our biweekly Friday night meetings through 2011-2012. The year has been filled with games, fundraisers, community service projects, interesting discussion topics, and lots of food! We are very grateful for the church's strong support of our group and the fundraisers which support our annual mission trip. We would like to thank everyone who has graciously donated their time, talent and treasure to our teens. The growth and accomplishments of the youth at Church of The Apostles are a credit to their parents, our Christian Education program and all those who influence their lives. We are excited to welcome several new members to our group this year! They join a committed core group of students who have been part of youth group for the past five years. Strong bonds of friendship continue to be developed and strengthened within our group as we work together. We continue to encourage all teens in the church to join us!

The capstone event of 2012 was our Summer Missions trip to Pittsburgh, PA on July 28 - August 3, 2012. Eleven teens and adult leaders from Church of The Apostles spent a week working with other youth groups from all over the country serving the needy. Our teens and leaders served at housing projects, inner city youth camps, and food pantries. Group Work Camps provided both morning and evening programs which included singing, games, skits and a devotion that was relevant to teens today. Each evening we had devotions with our youth group which gave us an opportunity to talk about what we had learned. Our teens comment each year that this experience is the highlight of their summer. They continue to grow in God's love and exemplify the true meaning of a servant's heart.

We praise God for all that He has done for our youth group this year and for the church's steadfast support of this ministry! We would like to thank Donna Stomberg for serving as a wonderful leader adult leader on our summer mission's trip! And, of course, we want to thank every one of our truly AWESOME teens!

Roger & Cindy Hall
Youth Group Ministers

HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTER



The mission of the Health & Wellness Ministry is to promote positive lifestyles by supporting members of the congregation in caring for their spiritual, physical, emotional, and social needs.

Caring for all God's people is a part of the Church's mission and of its understanding of the Christian Gospel. The Bible often refers to the significance of the inter-relationship of body and soul. Much of what happens in churches is just the type of thing that helps people stay well. The church accepts its members in sickness and health and when members become ill, they are surrounded by people who have known them in health and who will care for them.

One of the key focuses of the Health & Wellness Ministry over this past year has been working on creating an environment where members can talk about their health and illness and examine their values and lifestyle. Some of the activities included the "Biggest Loser," a "Nutrition Workshop," CPR/ AED training, the Italian Festa to benefit the CCCC Women's Ministry, "Our Finest Moments Workshop," working with the Galatians 6:10 Project, and installing a Automated External Defibrillator. Monthly articles covered topics such as gaining health (weight control), heart health factors, healing from an abortion, preparing for life circumstances and end-of-life issues, spiritual maturity, disaster preparedness, anxiety, beating winter blues, and depression.

It sure is exciting what God is doing in our midst. We will continue to provide the tools and support to help members live healthier, in mind, body, and spirit. Some coming events for 2013 include the 2nd annual Italian Festa (February 2nd - Save the date!) to support women in ministry, a Faith & Fitness Initiative in March, Urinary Health workshop in April, and additional CPR and AED training. We will continue to write monthly articles that reflect a diversity of relevant health related topics to address the "wholistic" needs of God's people.

Sharon Galloway, RN, MSN
Health & Wellness Minister

ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

“Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus Our Blessed Redeemer.
Sing, O earth, His wonderful love proclaim.”

This song (No. 12 in our Celebration Hymnal) appears to be the musical slogan here at the Church of The Apostles. All of our music groups have continued, with some changes, throughout 2012.

I enjoy working with the instrumentalists, Harrison Smiley, Sara Oliveira, and Debbie Adams, at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service. Others are always welcome to this group.

The Men’s Chorus continues to delight the Congregation with its musical renditions. Thank you to their leader, Ed Farrell, to Debbie Adams who plays with the Chorus, and to all the men who give of their time and talent.

Sharon Galloway and Sara Oliveira have shown great inspiration as they have directed our Praise Band since the departure of Conrad Ruppert, their keyboard player. Thank you to all the members of Spirit and Truth, with a special thank you for filling in when I am away.

The Handbell Choir would still like more members. However, they too have found ways to do interesting music with less ringers. They even have one member learning to do four-in-hand ringing.

We are now providing organ music at the 8:00 a.m. Sunday Service with our Assisting Organist Shyanne Slinko and I taking alternating Sundays.

It was a pleasure to present our “Advent to Epiphany” musical pageant in early December. I believe that it was enjoyed by those in attendance as well as all who participated. It was great to have so many of all ages involved. It was a special treat to have the music of Barbara Miller on her harp. I would particularly mention the Sunday School singers and instrumentalists. Since they are our future, we should encourage them to develop their musical talents for a future performance.

“Praise Him! Praise Him! Ever in joyful song!”

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne H. Salisbury, Organist & Music Director

***Our Mission is to
Obey, Follow and Bear Witness to Jesus Christ***

2012

Ministries

Acolytes	Kitchen Ministry
Adult Education	Lay Readers
Altar Guild	Lay Visitation Ministry
Blood Drives	Loaves & Fishes Ministry
Buildings & Grounds Committee	Men's Breakfast
CD Ministry	Men's Choir
Chalice Bearers	Nursery & Children's Chapel
Christian Education	Nursing Home Ministry
Counters	Office Volunteers
Crossroads Ministry	Outreach Committee
Financial Counseling	Praise Band
Flower Guild	Precept Bible Study
Food Bank	Shepherd's Table
Hand Bell Choir	Sunday Brunch Ministry
Health & Wellness Ministry	United In Faith/Galatians 6:10
Holy Couples	Ushers
Instrumentalist (10:30 Service)	Youth Group
Intercessions Prayer Group	
Joyful Women's Bible Study	

TREASURERS REPORT

God has continued to bless us with favorable finances at Church of The Apostles. The operating income for 2012 was \$363,089.55, and the operating expenses totaled \$368,142.46, which included the transfer of \$6,000.00 into our Capital Reserve Savings Fund and \$11,800.00 into our New Ministries Savings Fund. Since we also received expense reimbursements of \$4,114.32 and had a carry-over surplus of \$1,588.68 from 2011, we ended the year with a General Fund surplus of \$650.09 to be carried forward into 2013. Thank you for your faithful giving to God's church here in Coventry, and praise God for His faithfulness to us!

The Operating Budget for 2013 anticipates total budget income of \$382,000.00 and total budget expenditures of \$381,035.00, amounts which are essentially the same as those amounts in the 2012 budget, although various line items have been either increased or decreased. The Church Council approved this budget on November 15, 2012, based on a budget proposal prepared by a Finance Committee consisting of Treasurer Bob Bickerstaff, Elder Chad Tvenstrup, Elder Rob Geoffrey, Archdeacon Tom Bourn, Deacon Harry Sacchetti, Financial Secretary Erin Swanson, and Active Members Joan Clarke and Roy Greene. The budget continues our commitment to designate 10 percent of our operating income for outreach, and it includes \$5,000.00 for capital reserve savings (to be used for major building projects or repairs) and \$9,000.00 for new ministries savings (to be used for beginning new ministries or expanding existing ministries).

I want to acknowledge Erin Swanson, our Church Administrator and Financial Secretary since March 2012, for her efforts in managing the day-to-day finances of Church of The Apostles. Among her other duties, Erin functions as our bookkeeper and financial records custodian, and in those capacities she has worked diligently in maintaining our financial records so that I have the information I need in order to report the status of the church's finances to the Church Council and the Congregation. Additionally, I want to thank Barbara Battey, both for her work before she retired in March and for the training and assistance she has provided to Erin since then. Thank you Erin and thank you Barbara!

I would also like to thank our Sunday counters, especially our lead counter Sue Clarke. Our other counters during 2012 were Beverly Brown, Joan Clarke, Linda Greco, Lynne Habershaw, Sue Pillsbury, Linda Quinn, JoAnn Ruppert, Jane Venditto, and Lois Whitman. Going forward, we will miss JoAnn Ruppert, who has moved out-of-state, and Lois Whitman, who is retiring from counting after many years of faithful service. Many thanks to all our counters for their dedication to this important ministry!

The next several pages contain a detailed look at our 2012 financial history and the 2013 budget. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time with questions, comments, or concerns about the finances or financial reports of the church.

Your servant in Christ,

Bob Bickerstaff
Treasurer

Financial Summary Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012		\$115,667.13
Checking Account Balance	\$18,212.55	
Savings Account Balance	<u>\$97,454.58</u>	
Total	\$115,667.13	
Balance of Designated Funds in Checking Account	\$16,623.87	
Balance of Designated Funds in Savings Account	\$97,454.58	
General Fund Balance (in Checking Account)	<u>\$1,588.68</u>	
Total	\$115,667.13	
Receipts		
Offerings & Donations	\$363,072.69	
Reimbursements	\$4,114.32	
Checking Account Interest	\$16.86	
Savings Account Interest	\$183.58	
Designated Fund Income/Receipts	<u>\$28,643.20</u>	
Total		\$396,030.65
Disbursements		
General Fund/Operating Expenses	\$368,142.46	
Operating Expenses Transferred to Designated Funds	(\$54,108.96)	
Designated Fund Expenses/Disbursements	<u>\$88,489.18</u>	
Total		<u>(\$402,522.68)</u>
Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012		\$109,175.10
Checking Account Balance	\$12,536.94	
Savings Account Balance	<u>\$96,638.16</u>	
Total	\$109,175.10	
Balance of Designated Funds in Checking Account	\$11,886.85	
Balance of Designated Funds in Savings Account	\$96,638.16	
General Fund Balance (in Checking Account)	<u>\$650.09</u>	
Total	\$109,175.10	
Indebtedness		
Mortgage Loan from Centreville Bank (6/1/2010)		\$586,000.00
Principal Balance as of January 1, 2012		\$547,236.92
Payments during 2012: \$51,082.32		
Applied to Interest	\$25,372.32	
Applied to Principal	<u>\$25,710.00</u>	
Total	\$51,082.32	
Principal Balance as of December 31, 2012		\$521,526.92

Checking Account Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012

\$18,212.55

General Fund/Operating Income

Weekly Offerings and Pledges	\$340,543.23
Loose Offerings	\$2,397.13
Initial Offerings	\$525.00
Birthday Offerings	\$365.16
Ash Wednesday Offerings	\$809.00
Maundy Thursday Offerings	\$642.00
Good Friday Offerings	\$894.00
Lenten Offerings	\$590.00
Easter Offerings	\$5,377.00
Thanksgiving Offerings	\$1,680.30
Advent Offerings	\$401.00
Christmas Offerings	\$5,863.00
Special Offerings	\$1,505.00
Youth Offerings	\$560.87
Group Donations	\$920.00
Checking Account Interest	<u>\$16.86</u>
Total	\$363,089.55

Reimbursements to General Fund/Operating Expenses

For Ministerial/Conference Expenses	\$1,922.00
For Christian Education Expenses	\$395.50
For Fellowship Expenses	\$1,138.90
For Administrative and Office Expenses	<u>\$657.92</u>
Total	\$4,114.32

Income/Receipts for Designated Funds

See Fund Balances Report for Details	\$28,643.20
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Transfers in from Savings Account

For Outreach Fund	\$3,000.00
For Memorial Fund	<u>\$7,000.00</u>
Total	\$10,000.00

Total Receipts into Checking Account

\$405,847.07

General Fund/Operating Expenses

Outreach (Transferred to Designated Fund) *	\$36,308.96
Capital Reserve Savings (Transferred to Designated Fund) *	\$6,000.00
New Ministries Savings (Transferred to Designated Fund) *	\$11,800.00
Superintendent's Salary & Housing	\$85,852.00
Church Administrator's Salary	\$25,672.50
Communications Officer's Salary	\$19,929.00
Pastoral Assistant's Salary	\$6,240.00
Property Maintenance Technician's Salary	\$13,611.00

Checking Account Report (Continued)

General Fund/Operating Expenses (Continued)

Organist's Salary	\$9,542.00
Assistant Organist's Salary	\$1,200.00
Sexton's Salary	\$7,527.00
Staff Pensions	\$5,664.00
Payroll Taxes	\$6,674.97
Superintendent's Business Expenses	\$918.55
Leadership Continuing Education	\$1,601.75
Ministerial/Conference Expenses (See Note 1)	\$10,570.43
Worship Supplies	\$1,029.18
Music Ministry	\$2,891.42
Christian Education (See Note 2)	\$5,618.62
Youth Ministry	\$64.25
Fellowship (See Note 3)	\$4,995.18
Administrative and Office Expenses (See Note 4)	\$14,595.58
Postage Expenses	\$2,445.57
Telephone and Internet Service	\$1,888.22
Property Expenses	\$15,638.54
Snow Plowing	\$380.00
Gas (Heat & Hot Water)	\$6,144.88
Electric	\$4,632.29
Mortgage	\$48,082.32
Insurance	<u>\$10,624.25</u>
Total Expenses	\$368,142.46
* Total Transferred into Designated Funds	<u>(\$54,108.96)</u>
Expenses Disbursed from Checking Account	\$314,033.50

Disbursements from Designated Funds

See Fund Balances Report for Details	\$88,489.18
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Transfers out to Savings Account

From New Ministries Savings Fund	\$9,000.00
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Total Disbursements from Checking Account

(\$411,522.68)

Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012

\$12,536.94

Notes to Checking Account Report:

- 1 The Ministerial/Conference Expenses line item was partially funded by reimbursements of \$1,922.00.
- 2 The Christian Education line item was partially funded by reimbursements of \$395.50.
- 3 The Fellowship line item was partially funded by reimbursements of \$1,138.90.
- 4 The Administrative and Office Expenses line item was partially funded by reimbursements and rebates of \$657.92.

Savings Account Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012		\$97,454.58
Balance in Money Market Deposit Account	\$37,454.58	
Balance in Certificate of Deposit Account	<u>\$60,000.00</u>	
Total	\$97,454.58	
Outreach Fund Balance	\$10,265.36	
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance	\$24,381.92	
New Ministries Savings Fund Balance	\$50,768.81	
Altar Guild Fund Balance	\$1,199.49	
Memorial Fund Balance	\$9,759.92	
Ann Livsey Fund Balance	<u>\$1,079.08</u>	
Total	\$97,454.58	
Interest Income		
Applied to Outreach Fund	\$19.82	
Applied to Capital Reserve Savings Fund	\$48.54	
Applied to New Ministries Savings Fund	\$101.38	
Applied to Altar Guild Fund	\$1.83	
Applied to Memorial Fund	\$10.17	
Applied to Ann Livsey Fund	<u>\$1.84</u>	
Total		\$183.58
Transfers in from Checking Account		
For New Ministries Savings Fund	<u>\$9,000.00</u>	
Total		\$9,000.00
Transfers out to Checking Account		
From Memorial Fund	\$7,000.00	
From Outreach Fund	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$10,000.00)</u>
Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012		\$96,638.16
Balance in Money Market Deposit Account	\$36,638.16	
Balance in Certificate of Deposit Account	<u>\$60,000.00</u>	
Total	\$96,638.16	
Outreach Fund Balance	\$7,285.18	
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance	\$24,430.46	
New Ministries Savings Fund Balance	\$59,870.19	
Altar Guild Fund Balance	\$1,201.32	
Memorial Fund Balance	\$2,770.09	
Ann Livsey Fund Balance	<u>\$1,080.92</u>	
Total	\$96,638.16	

Note: The Ann Livsey Fund was created by a bequest and can only be used for the maintenance and repair of the church's stained glass windows.

Fund Balances in Checking Account

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Fund Name	Balance 1/1/2012	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 12/31/2012
Outreach Fund *	<u>\$6,023.12</u>	\$0.00	<u>\$44,438.92</u>	
Transfers from General Fund		\$36,308.96		
Transfers from Savings Account		<u>\$3,000.00</u>		
Outreach Fund Totals	\$6,023.12	\$39,308.96	\$44,438.92	\$893.16
Capital Reserve Savings Fund *	<u>\$5,960.00</u>	\$0.00	<u>\$9,807.60</u>	
Transfers from General Fund		<u>\$6,000.00</u>		
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Totals	\$5,960.00	\$6,000.00	\$9,807.60	\$2,152.40
New Ministries Savings Fund	<u>\$0.00</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Transfers from General Fund		<u>\$11,800.00</u>		
Transfers to Savings Account			<u>\$9,000.00</u>	
New Ministries Savings Fund Totals	\$0.00	\$11,800.00	\$9,000.00	\$2,800.00
Memorial Fund *	<u>\$456.25</u>	\$500.00	<u>\$7,707.00</u>	
Transfers from Savings Account		<u>\$7,000.00</u>		
Memorial Fund Totals	\$456.25	\$7,500.00	\$7,707.00	\$249.25
Altar Guild Fund *	\$1,201.69	\$3,079.00	\$1,738.27	\$2,542.42
Superintendent's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$563.00	\$563.00	\$0.00
Youth Group Fund *	\$2,835.39	\$3,377.31	\$3,725.54	\$2,487.16
Designated Offerings Fund *	\$147.42	\$7,454.47	\$7,265.00	\$336.89
Miscellaneous Fund *	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$13,669.42</u>	<u>\$13,243.85</u>	<u>\$425.57</u>
Designated Fund Totals	\$16,623.87	\$92,752.16	\$97,489.18	\$11,886.85
Transfers from General Fund		(\$54,108.96)		
Transfers from Savings		<u>(\$10,000.00)</u>		
Transfers to Savings			<u>(\$9,000.00)</u>	
Totals Excluding Transfers		\$28,643.20	\$88,489.18	
General Fund	<u>\$1,588.68</u>			
Income and Reimbursements		<u>\$367,203.87</u>		
Expenses Paid Out			\$314,033.50	
Transfers to Designated Funds			<u>\$54,108.96</u>	
General Fund Totals	<u>\$1,588.68</u>	\$367,203.87	\$368,142.46	<u>\$650.09</u>
Checking Account Balances	\$18,212.55			\$12,536.94

* See Separate Report

Outreach Fund Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Outreach Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012 **\$16,288.48**

Outreach Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$6,023.12
Outreach Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$10,265.36</u>
Total	\$16,288.48

Receipts

Monthly Transfers from General Fund Outreach Line Item	\$36,308.96	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$19.82</u>	
Total		\$36,328.78

Disbursements

Conservative Congregational Christian Conference	\$14,000.00	
Outreach Discretionary Account *	\$12,512.81	
Superintendent's Discretionary Account **	\$5,362.62	
Superintendent's Discretionary Account (Extra Amount)	\$2,500.00	
Quidnick Baptist Church	\$5,000.00	
Haiti Mission Trip Expenses	\$2,400.00	
Haiti Orphan Support	\$1,000.00	
Ministry Gifts	\$1,288.49	
Individual and Family Assistance	<u>\$375.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$44,438.92)</u>

Outreach Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012 **\$8,178.34**

Outreach Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$893.16
Outreach Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$7,285.18</u>
Total	\$8,178.34

* Thirty five (35) percent of each month's Outreach Fund income is transferred (after the first of the next month) to the Outreach Discretionary Account, to be administered by the Outreach Deacon at her discretion. See separate financial report.

** Fifteen (15) percent of each month's Outreach Fund income is transferred (after the first of the next month) to the Superintendent's Discretionary Account, to be administered by the Superintendent at his discretion. See separate financial report.

Altar Guild Fund Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Altar Guild Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012 **\$2,401.18**

Altar Guild Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$1,201.69
Altar Guild Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$1,199.49</u>
Total	\$2,401.18

Receipts

Offerings for Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp Candles	\$1,174.00	
Offerings for Easter Plants and Flowers	\$1,150.00	
Offerings for Christmas Plants, Flowers, and Greens	\$755.00	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$1.83</u>	
Total		\$3,080.83

Disbursements

Christmas Plants, Flowers, and Greens (2011)	\$179.45	
Easter Plants and Flowers	\$861.66	
Altar Flowers	\$223.90	
Sanctuary Lamp Candles	\$155.50	
Communion Wine	\$59.96	
Palms	\$68.90	
Vestment (Surplice)	\$139.90	
Small Communion Wafer Box	<u>\$49.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$1,738.27)</u>

Altar Guild Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012 **\$3,743.74**

Altar Guild Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$2,542.42
Altar Guild Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$1,201.32</u>
Total	\$3,743.74

Memorial Fund Report January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Memorial Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012		\$10,216.17
Memorial Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$456.25	
Memorial Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$9,759.92</u>	
Total	\$10,216.17	
Receipts		
Donations in Memory of Audrey Burdick	\$500.00	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$10.17</u>	
Total		\$510.17
Disbursements		
Cushions for Sanctuary Pews	\$5,908.00	
Automated External Defibrillator (AED)	<u>\$1,799.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$7,707.00)</u>
Memorial Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012		
\$3,019.34		
Memorial Fund Balance in Checking Account	\$249.25	
Memorial Fund Balance in Savings Account	<u>\$2,770.09</u>	
Total	\$3,019.34	

Youth Group Fund Report January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Youth Group Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012		\$2,835.39
Receipts		
General Donations	\$735.00	
M&M Fundraiser Donations	\$1,036.31	
Car Wash Proceeds	\$290.00	
Donation from Canterbury Mission Society	\$40.00	
Children's Christmas Party Donation	\$50.00	
Haiti Bracelet Sale Proceeds	<u>\$1,226.00</u>	
Total		\$3,377.31
Disbursements		
Payments toward Summer Mission Trip	\$1,903.00	
Summer Mission Trip Expenses	<u>\$1,822.54</u>	
Total		<u>(\$3,725.54)</u>
Youth Group Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012		\$2,487.16

Designated Offerings Fund Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Designated Offerings Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012 **\$147.42**

Funds for Haiti Orphan Support	\$47.42
Funds for Handbell Choir	\$50.00
Funds for Outreach Projects	<u>\$50.00</u>
Total	\$147.42

Receipts

Donations for Mortgage Principal	\$3,000.00	
Donations for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$2,905.00	
Donations for Haiti Mission Trip	\$860.00	
Donations for Haiti Orphan Support	\$239.47	
Donations for Christian Education	\$150.00	
Donations for Outreach Projects	\$125.00	
Donations for CD Ministry	\$50.00	
Donations for Postage Expenses	\$50.00	
Donations for 4C's Women's Ministry	\$45.00	
Donations for Health & Wellness Ministry	\$15.00	
Donations for Brunch Ministry	<u>\$15.00</u>	
Total		\$7,454.47

Disbursements

Mortgage Principal Payments	\$3,000.00	
To United In Faith Account for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$2,905.00	
Haiti Mission Trip Expenses	\$760.00	
Haiti Orphan Support Payments	\$200.00	
To Outreach Discretionary Account for Outreach Projects	\$125.00	
Handbell Choir Purchase	\$50.00	
Outreach Project Expenses	\$50.00	
Postage Expenses	\$50.00	
CD Ministry Purchases	\$50.00	
4C's Women's Ministry Purchases	\$45.00	
Health & Wellness Ministry Expenses	\$15.00	
Brunch Ministry Expenses	<u>\$15.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$7,265.00)</u>

Designated Offerings Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012 **\$336.89**

Funds for Haiti Orphan Support	\$86.89
Funds for Haiti Mission Trip Expenses	\$100.00
Funds for Christian Education Expenses	<u>\$150.00</u>
Total	\$336.89

Miscellaneous Fund Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Miscellaneous Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012 **\$0.00**

Receipts

Reimbursements from Outreach Discretionary Account	\$3,470.34	
Reimbursements from United In Faith	\$539.00	
Reimbursements from Canterbury Mission Society	\$415.08	
Reimbursements from Superintendent's Discretionary Acct	\$75.66	
Individual Reimbursements for Couples Retreat Expenses	\$1,535.40	
Receipts for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$1,792.50	
Receipts from 4C's Women's Ministry Dinner	\$1,489.52	
Receipts from Relay for Life Dinner	\$2,114.71	
Receipts from Haiti Mission Trip Dinner	\$1,153.00	
Receipts from Christmas Outreach Dinner	\$957.00	
Postage Refund	\$77.21	
Sexton's Fees for Hall Use	<u>\$50.00</u>	
Total		\$13,669.42

Disbursements

Purchases for Outreach Discretionary Account	\$3,813.45	
Purchases for United In Faith	\$539.00	
Purchases for Canterbury Mission Society	\$415.08	
Purchases for 4C's Women's Ministry	\$985.08	
Couples Retreat Expenses	\$1,701.78	
To United In Faith for Galatians 6:10 Project	\$1,686.97	
To American Cancer Society - Relay for Life	\$1,626.00	
To Haiti Mission Trip Team for Medical Supplies	\$1,153.00	
To Outreach Discretionary Acct for Christmas Outreach	\$502.04	
Relay for Life Dinner Expenses	\$488.71	
Galatians 6:10 Lawn Concert Food Expense	\$105.53	
Galatians 6:10 New Year's Eve Music Expense	\$100.00	
Postage Expenses	\$77.21	
Payments to Sexton	<u>\$50.00</u>	
Total		<u>(\$13,243.85)</u>

Miscellaneous Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012 **\$425.57**

Funds for 4C's Women's Ministry	\$504.44	
Funds for Payment of Christmas Outreach Dinner Expenses	\$454.96	
Reimbursement due from Outreach Discretionary Account	(\$234.83)	
Credit due for Returned Merchandise	(\$199.00)	
Reimbursement due from Galatians 6:10 Project	<u>(\$100.00)</u>	
Total		\$425.57

Capital Reserve Savings Fund Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance as of January 1, 2012		\$30,341.92
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance in Checking Acct	\$5,960.00	
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance in Savings Acct	<u>\$24,381.92</u>	
Total	\$30,341.92	
Receipts		
Transfers from General Fund Capital Reserve Line Item	\$6,000.00	
Savings Account Interest	<u>\$48.54</u>	
Total		\$6,048.54
Disbursements		
Building Repairs	<u>\$9,807.60</u>	
Total		<u>(\$9,807.60)</u>
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012		\$26,582.86
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance in Checking Acct	\$2,152.40	
Capital Reserve Savings Fund Balance in Savings Acct	<u>\$24,430.46</u>	
Total	\$26,582.86	

Superintendent's Discretionary Account Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012		\$665.36
Receipts		
From Outreach Fund	\$7,862.62	
From Outreach Discretionary Account	\$3,000.00	
Individual Contributions	\$563.00	
Receipts for Funerals	\$600.00	
Family Assistance Repayment	\$400.00	
Miscellaneous Reimbursements	<u>\$249.48</u>	
Total		\$12,675.10
Disbursements		
Individual and Family Assistance	\$5,341.00	
Ministry Gifts	\$2,683.94	
Donations to Outside Organizations/Ministries	\$1,750.00	
Ministry Honorarium Payments	\$1,400.00	
Ministry Expenses	\$790.66	
Miscellaneous Payments	<u>\$249.48</u>	
Total		<u>(\$12,215.08)</u>
Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012		\$1,125.38

Outreach Discretionary Account Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012		\$1,784.55
 Receipts		
From Outreach Fund	\$12,512.81	
Net Proceeds from Christmas Outreach Dinner	\$502.04	
Outreach Project Donations	<u>\$125.00</u>	
Total		\$13,139.85
 Disbursements		
Individual and Family Assistance	\$4,766.79	
To Superintendent's Discretionary Account	\$3,000.00	
Donations to CareNet RI	\$1,100.00	
Donation to The Artic Mission	\$500.00	
Donation to Riverpoint ACC Homeless Project	\$300.00	
Expenses for Visits to Crossroads Family Shelter	\$1,359.35	
Expenses for 2011 New Year's Eve Dinner	\$637.01	
Expenses for Italian Dinner	\$492.55	
Expenses for Haiti Mission Trip Dinner	\$218.94	
Bibles for The Artic Mission 2011 Toy Days	\$318.80	
Listing in "The Good News Today" for 1 Year	\$240.00	
Study Books	\$155.68	
Couples Retreat Expense	\$90.72	
CareNet RI Baby Shower Expenses	<u>\$38.95</u>	
Total		<u>(\$13,218.79)</u>
 Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012		 \$1,705.61

United In Faith Account Report

January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Balance on Hand as of January 1, 2012		\$1,207.30
Funds for United In Faith Events	\$1,207.30	
Funds for Galatians 6:10 Project	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total	\$1,207.30	
 Receipts for United In Faith Events		
Total		\$0.00
 Disbursements for United In Faith Events		
Tent Meeting Banners	\$464.00	
Tent Meeting Posters	<u>\$75.00</u>	
Total		(\$539.00)
 Receipts for Galatians 6:10 Project		
Donations from Churches	\$3,250.00	
Proceeds from 2011 New Year's Eve Celebration	\$1,108.00	
Net Proceeds from First Lawn Concert	\$701.97	
Proceeds from Second Lawn Concert	\$450.00	
General Donations	<u>\$120.00</u>	
Total		\$5,629.97
 Disbursements for Galatians 6:10 Project		
Total		<u>\$0.00</u>
 Balance on Hand as of December 31, 2012		\$6,298.27
Funds for United In Faith Events	\$668.30	
Funds for Galatians 6:10 Project	<u>\$5,629.97</u>	
Total	\$6,298.27	

Operating Budget for 2013 With Comparison to 2012

	2012 Budget	2012 Actual	2013 Budget
Income			
Weekly Offerings/Pledges	\$360,000.00	\$340,543.23	\$360,000.00
Other Offerings and Donations	\$21,985.00	\$22,529.46	\$21,985.00
Other Sources (Bank Interest)	\$15.00	\$16.86	\$15.00
Total Budget Income	\$382,000.00	\$363,089.55	\$382,000.00
Expenses			
Outreach	\$38,200.00	\$36,308.96	\$38,200.00
Capital Reserve Savings	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00
New Ministries Savings	\$12,000.00	\$11,800.00	\$9,000.00
Superintendent's Salary & Housing	\$85,852.00	\$85,852.00	\$88,439.00
Church Administrator's Salary	\$24,934.00	\$25,672.50	\$21,625.00
Communications Officer's Salary	\$19,929.00	\$19,929.00	\$20,527.00
Pastoral Assistant's Salary	\$6,240.00	\$6,240.00	\$6,435.00
Property Maintenance Technician's Salary	\$13,611.00	\$13,611.00	\$14,027.00
Organist's Salary	\$9,392.00	\$9,542.00	\$10,191.00
Assistant Organist's Salary	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,900.00
Sexton's Salary	\$7,527.00	\$7,527.00	\$7,761.00
Staff Pensions	\$6,552.00	\$5,664.00	\$6,045.00
Payroll Taxes	\$6,835.00	\$6,674.97	\$6,585.00
Superintendent's Business Expenses	\$2,000.00	\$918.55	\$2,000.00
Leadership Continuing Education	\$3,500.00	\$1,601.75	\$4,000.00
Ministerial/Conference Expenses *	\$12,000.00	\$10,570.43	\$12,000.00
Worship Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$1,029.18	\$1,500.00
Music Ministry	\$1,500.00	\$2,891.42	\$1,800.00
Christian Education *	\$7,000.00	\$5,618.62	\$7,000.00
Youth Ministry	\$2,500.00	\$64.25	\$2,500.00
Fellowship *	\$6,000.00	\$4,995.18	\$6,000.00
Administrative and Office Expenses *	\$12,000.00	\$14,595.58	\$13,000.00
Postage	\$2,800.00	\$2,445.57	\$3,000.00
Telephone and Internet Service	\$2,000.00	\$1,888.22	\$2,000.00
Property Expenses	\$14,500.00	\$15,638.54	\$14,500.00
Snow Plowing	\$5,000.00	\$380.00	\$3,000.00
Gas (Heat & Hot Water)	\$9,000.00	\$6,144.88	\$7,000.00
Electric	\$5,500.00	\$4,632.29	\$5,000.00
Mortgage	\$48,000.00	\$48,082.32	\$48,000.00
Insurance	\$10,000.00	\$10,624.25	\$11,000.00
Total Expenses	\$381,372.00	\$368,142.46	\$381,035.00
Tentative Budget Surplus (Deficit)	\$628.00	(\$5,052.91)	\$965.00
Reimbursements Received		\$4,114.32	
Actual Budget Surplus		(\$938.59)	
Surplus (Deficit) from Prior Years		\$1,588.68	
Surplus (Deficit) to Carry Forward		\$650.09	

* See Notes to Checking Account Report regarding reimbursements to these line items in 2012

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

Evangelical Anglican

170 Fairview Avenue
Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Office: (401) 821-7609 • Rectory: (401) 397-3652
Website: apostlesri.org
E-mail: office@apostlesri.org • Fax (401) 826-1858

The Holy Eucharist	Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Christian Education	Sunday 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Brunch	Sunday 11:45 a.m.
Evening Prayer Meeting	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Morning Prayer	Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.

Church Staff

Superintendent	The Reverend Mark R. Galloway
Church Administrator	Erin Swanson
Communications Officer	Barbara A. Bickerstaff
Director of Christian Education	Linda Jones
Pastoral Assistant (MSW, LICSW)	Roberta Tvenstrup
Youth Minister	Roger Hall
Health & Wellness Minister (RN, MED, MSN)	Sharon Galloway
Organist and Music Director	Marianne Salisbury
Sacristy Minister	JoAnn Ruppert
Property Maintenance Technician	Jim Quinn
Sexton	Michael Edwards
Treasurer	Bob Bickerstaff
Clerk	Deb Adams

Board of Elders

Elder Chad Tvenstrup	385-9958
Elder Rob Geoffrey	943-4461
Elder Nina Deuel (RIP)	

Elder Emeritus Conrad Ruppert, Jr.

Board of Servants

Deacon Tom Bourn	First Diaconal Minister	294-4186
Deacon Bill Sexton	Congregational Care Minister	726-4549
Deacon Kathy Kettle	Stewardship Minister	822-2460
Deacon Harry Sacchetti	Buildings and Grounds Minister	374-4273