



ST. ANTHONY ON THE DESERT  
MINISTRIES FOR CHRIST CENTERED SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

# **St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church**

***Annual Meeting  
January 21, 2018***

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# ***2018 Annual Report***

## ***Table of Contents***

### **Minutes of the last Annual Meeting January 29, 2017**

Rector's Report

Senior Warden's Report

Junior Warden's Report

Ministry Organization for 2018

Terms of office for the vestry/New Vestry Slate/Delegates to Convention Slate

Attendance Statistics

### **MINISTRY REPORTS**

#### **Christian Formation**

- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Adult Formation
- The Way

#### **Life Sharing**

- Evangelism
- Inspire Labyrinth & Garden
- Arts Council
- Avid Readers
- St. Anthony Seniors/Seasonal Residents ("Seasoned Saints")
- Hospitality
- Blessings of Belonging (BOB)

#### **Pastoral Ministries**

- St. Anthony Cares Companion Ministry
- Card Ministry
- Transportation
- Healing Prayer
- Eucharistic Visitors
- Walking the Mourners Path

#### **Outreach Ministries**

- 2017 Grant Recipient Report
- Habitat for Humanity
- MOSA & East Valley Men's Center
- Phoenix Dream Center
- Vista del Camino & Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank
- Council Against Domestic Violence
- Needlecrafts for Need
- Global Outreach - Haiti
- Kids Care

#### **Spiritual Nourishment**

- Acolytes
- Altar Guild
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Music
- Ushers

#### **Operations/Facilities**

- Office Angels
- Investment Management team
- Stewardship
- Treasurer's Report

St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church

## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

10:00 a.m. January 29, 2017

In her Opening Address, Pastor Dorian explained that the Annual Meeting would be incorporated into the worship service and the rationale for doing so.

Senior Warden Harry Boysen called the meeting to order and announced that a quorum was established. The Annual Report, containing all ministries' annual reports, is available on the website, in the narthex or in the office. The motion was made to accept the Annual Report and to dispense with the reading of individual reports. Seconded, passed unanimously.

Pastor Dorian's sermon focused on the Gospel reading and stressed that in every circumstance of life, God is there blessing each of us. His deepest desire is to be in a relationship with us, to bless and make whole every part of our lives. The core message of the Church is to share the Good News – "to make whole our relationship with God." We believe that is our purpose here at St. Anthony – to be a space that inspires spiritual well-being – to discover God's presence and God's blessings in all aspects of our lives and, in turn, to be a blessing to others. To facilitate this, a number of things have been implemented at St. Anthony this year: opportunities to learn about spiritual practices, the sacred space of the Inspire Labyrinth and Garden, the beginning of a process called The Way, and the introduction of the Living Compass, a source to keep God at the center of all we do.

Catherine Gilbert presented "Spiritual Well-Being – Is Life in Balance?" She explained the four points of the Living Compass: Heart (Relationships and Emotions), Soul (Spirituality and Rest and Play), Strength, (Resilience and Care of the Body), and Mind (Vocation and Organization). Everyone in the Parish was invited to complete The Wellness Assessment either online or on paper. Online, the individual is given an immediate analysis, based on their responses, with an indication of the areas of strength and those areas that need attention. The individual results, which remain completely anonymous, are then used to give an aggregate snapshot of the church's well-being.

The results showed that those participating in the church assessment:

- Represented a sampling from each demographic category in church membership.

- Regularly attend weekly worship.

- Are open to exploring more opportunities and offerings around well-being.

The value for each area of the quadrant can be summarized in three statements:

- We are a well organized faith community that takes care of our bodies and are happy with our vocation.

- We struggle with our resiliency to stress and making time for Rest and Play.

- Continued opportunities for spiritual growth are important to us.

The Vestry will be responding to what was learned from the assessment and will develop Faith Steps to meet the needs for our church family. The Spiritual Well-Being Team has decided on two Faith Steps for the year:

- Continue to find offerings that strengthen our wellness

- Offer a Full Day Wellness Retreat in late Fall, 2017

Our Treasurer, Barbara Ells, reported on the financial results for 2016 and the budget for 2017. 2016 was a year of many wonderful things happening at St. Anthony – volunteers leading the youth group until we hired our new youth director in the fall; the youth mission trip to Buffalo, NY; our Inspire Labyrinth and Garden; wonderful FUNdraising events; our Charity Golf Tournament raising over \$34,000 for outreach; our Mission Trip to Haiti; continued growth of the Walking the Mourner's Path ministry; and the introduction of The Way. As God's Love overflowed at St. Anthony, giving exceeded our expectations by over \$23,000. The increase in giving and the decrease in expenses due to the hiring of our Youth Minister later in the year than expected resulted in a net loss for the year of only \$400 – as compared to an estimated loss of over \$30,000.

Our pledge income is always our major source of income. Barbara reported that with a successful Stewardship Campaign for 2017, additional pledges to support our youth programs, a reduction in our mortgage due to refinancing, and carefully monitoring expenses, the budget for 2017 has a loss of \$23,000. The projected loss will be offset by excess funds from 2015 of nearly \$19,000 and available designated funds. But where will God's love take us this year?

The service continued with the Prayers of the People and the Passing of the Peace. Retiring Vestry Members Henry Male and Leanne Murrillo were recognized and thanked.

Pastor Dorian appointed Harry Boysen as Senior Warden and Barbara Ells as Treasurer. Both are continuing in their positions.

Senior Warden Harry Boysen presented the Vestry Nominations: Mario Vassaux, Junior Warden, Eloise Crosman (1 year term), Joe Dearborn (3 year term), Malcolm Hilcove (1 year term), Claudia Johnson (3 year term), and Monnie Ottersberg (3 year term). There being no nominations from the floor, these candidates were elected by acclamation.

The Nominees for Convention Delegates were presented: Dan Austin, Allen Henry, Jill Kyler, Leanne Murrillo and Monnie Ottersberg . No nominations were made from the floor, therefore, the nominees were elected by acclamation. They will serve as Alternate Delegates for 2017 and Delegates for 2018.

After Special Prayers, a video, "Together On the Way," produced by Jill Kyler and featuring St. Anthony people and events throughout the year was shown.

The worship service continued with The Eucharist. Following the Postcommunion Prayer, the 2017 Vestry was commissioned.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m., after which a brunch was enjoyed in the Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eloise Crosman  
Clerk of the Vestry

## 2017 Annual Report Rector's Report

The focus of leadership efforts in 2017 continued to be on spiritual well-being – living a balanced life with Christ at the center. We began the year with a survey of the congregation provided through Living Compass resources. Not surprisingly, we discovered that we live pretty stress filled and busy lives and struggle to devote more time to nurturing sacred time with God. Throughout the year we encouraged “faith steps” to nurture our spiritual growth both in our individual lives and within our ministries.

The pages that follow highlight the important work of St. Anthony's over 40 ministry teams and ways they have sought to create thriving, spiritually centered resources for the congregation and beyond. Let me highlight just a few:

- The growing use of our Inspire Garden and Labyrinth. This quiet and sacred space maintained by a few dedicated volunteers continues to draw both parishioners and the broader community to enjoy moments of solitude in God's presence. The labyrinth has also been incorporated into an Ash Wednesday service with imposition of ashes as participants arrive in the center of the labyrinth.
- Sunshine Acres – a new ministry emerging that has captured the hearts of our younger members and their families. This group home for children located in Mesa provides a place for hand-on service through fun activities with the residents.
- St. Anthony's amazing Charity Golf Tournament – through the tireless efforts of the ministry team that organizes this event, each year somehow manages to surpass the previous. Total funds generated from the 2017 tournament will provide over \$32,000 to St. Anthony's assorted outreach ministries.
- Craft Bazaar – under the auspices of the Needlecraft for Need ministry team the first annual craft bazaar exceeded all expectations. Countless handmade items and baked goods generated sales of over \$5,900. This success was the result of the efforts of many finding their own way to contribute to St. Anthony.
- The WAY – now entering its second year – this process of faith formation and the commitment of the WAY team has demonstrated a unique ability to deepen spiritual bonds while forging beautiful friendships.

There is a spirit of energy within St. Anthony that is contagious. At every turn there is evidence that Christ is at work within us. In the coming year we will place our focus on some much, needed repairs and renovations to our facility resources as we seek to maximize their effectiveness in all that we seek to do together. May we find our own ways to live lives centered in Christ – lives that are whole, nurturing and fulfilling.

In Christ,  
Dorian+

## Senior Warden Report---Harry Boysen

**Vestry Members: Harry Boysen, Senior Warden; Mario Vassaux, Junior Warden; Barbara Ells, Treasurer; Eloise Crosman, Clerk; Monnie Ottersberg, Malcolm Hilcove, Hal Hunt, Claudia Johnson, Kathy Phillips, Allen Henry, Joe Dearborn**

The Vestry is the fiduciary body of the church, providing management and leadership to the congregation. Our responsibility is to be good stewards of the gifts given to St. Anthony, manage the resources entrusted to us and articulate God's vision for our church. This includes discerning mission, engaging in both short-term and long-term planning, communicating with the congregation, and pursuing and promoting spiritual growth. Vestry members are elected to serve at the parish Annual Meeting. It is a role that comes not only with great responsibility, but also with tremendous blessing. On behalf of the entire Vestry, I thank the congregation for entrusting us with the opportunity to serve during 2017.

The Vestry welcomed three new members in 2017, as Monnie Ottersberg, Claudia Johnson and Joe Dearborn were elected to 3 year terms. Our new Vestry members provided new ideas, insights, enthusiasm and leadership that contributed tremendously to our 2017 progress.

The new Vestry again kicked off the year at our February retreat at Chapel Rock in Prescott..... a truly inspirational setting that has become a second "spiritual home" for many of us at St. Anthony.....where God's presence abounds. The time together consisted of team building activities, reflection of what we had learned from our Spiritual Well-Being efforts over the past year, and where the next steps of our journey might lead us with guidance from the Holy Spirit. We also took time to discuss how we might celebrate our proud heritage at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in April, and consider what we are being called by God to do as we began our next 30 years. Some of the many highlights of the year included continuing to offer many options for small group Bible study, including three different options each Wednesday in Lent that were preceded by a Taize worship service; significant contributions assisting others via our 40+ ministries; our most successful Charity Golf Tournament ever, as well as contributions from many that assisted with our March Rummage Sale and December Christmas Bazaar; continuation of **the Way**—a process of adult formation that invites us to a deeper life of faith with Christ; plenty of venues for social interaction led by ministries such as our Seniors and Seasonal Residents ministry; and many opportunities to celebrate all of God's blessings here at St. Anthony such as our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nite at Tony's Celebration of Giving in November.

This fall we welcomed a new Youth Minister, Mark Culbertson, who with his wife, Melanie and two children—Natalia and Noah – joined St. Anthony. Mark brings with him many years of experience in leading youth groups on their spiritual journey at various churches in the Valley, and has a real passion for working with teenagers and their families. He also has been a school principal since 2011. We are truly grateful to have Mark and his family as part of our St. Anthony community. I'd like to thank our volunteer youth leaders, Jill Kyler and Jack Taylor for sustaining and expanding the youth program, and assisting Mark with the transition this past summer and fall. Amongst many other accomplishments, members of our youth group completed another very successful Youth Mission trip to Reading, Pennsylvania last summer. This was the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive summer St. Anthony youth and their supervisors have participated in a youth mission trip....an incredible accomplishment in serving others in need!!!

In the Treasurer's Report you will find a detailed summary of St. Anthony's financial position ending 2017, as well as information regarding our 2018 budget. We are extremely grateful for the financial contributions made by so many of our St. Anthony members, who continue to provide the ongoing funding necessary to

cover both our operational costs as well as support the needs of our many ministry initiatives. And we are forever indebted to the dozens of parishioners for the generosity of the time they have given on a regular basis, as they faithfully dedicate their many talents to carry out God's work at St. Anthony, in the community and in the wider world.

During the Annual Meeting, we will honor the service of outgoing vestry members Malcolm Hilcove, Eloise Crosman and Hal Hunt, whose unwavering commitment to serve St. Anthony has contributed greatly to this Vestry's effectiveness.

I look forward to continuing our spiritual journey together in 2018, prayerfully listening for direction from Him as we grow as a parish and community.

In His Name,  
Harry

### **Junior Warden Report – Mario Vassaux**

This was a very busy year with many maintenance and repair projects being done throughout the St. Anthony buildings and grounds. It has been my goal this past year to make sure that our facilities are kept in working order and that we have a clean and safe place to meet and worship.

We continue to maintain our aging AC units and have replaced a unit or two. This is and will be our greatest ongoing expense. Fortunately, we have had funding from the past Make It Yours campaign to cover these costs.

As we do not have a Sexton, we have been working with an outside janitorial firm to provide us with weekly office cleaning services and a landscaping company that helps us out once a quarter with the grounds keeping. Much of the behind the scene work in keeping our church facilities working is done by a few dedicated volunteers. We could not do it without their help. Thank you all.

I am always looking for volunteers to help with the upkeep of the grounds and maintenance projects. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thank you.  
Mario

### **Ministry Organization for 2018**

#### **Christian Formation**

- Children's Ministry – Suzette Woods
- Youth Ministry – Mark Culbertson
- St. Anthony Players – Scott Woods
- Adult Formation
  - The WAY – Dorian Mulvey
  - 30 Minute Dialogue with Scripture – Dorian Mulvey
  - Lenten program – Dorian Mulvey & Jill Kyler

## **Life Sharing**

- Keeping It Real/Unbinding the Soul Groups – Malcolm Hilcove
- Arts Council – Claudia Smith
- Avid Readers – Eloise Crosman
- Winter Residents/Seniors Group – Maxine Walker
- Coffee Hour Hospitality – Leanne Murillo
- Welcome Team – Jill Kyler
- Hiking Group – Claudia Johnson
- Blessings of Belonging (BOB) – Claudia Johnson, Gina Baker
- Wedding Guild – Cindy Cordes
- Legacy Society – Malcolm Hilcove

## **Pastoral Ministries**

- St. Anthony Cares Companions – Claudia Johnson & Allen Henry
- Drivers – Peggy Hilcove
- Funeral Receptions – Suzi Edmondson & Mildred Wilson
- Cards – Carol Stewart
- Meals – Karen Picard
- Prayer Chain – Inge Bolan
- Healing Prayer – Rosemary Hansen
- Eucharistic Visitors – Susan Cihak
- Walking the Mourners Path
  - National Ministry – Catherine Gilbert
  - St. Anthony Ministry – Leanne Murrillo

## **Outreach Ministries**

- Golf Tournament team – Malcolm Hilcove
- Habitat for Humanity – Jon Thom
- MOSA – Bob Clarke
- Vista del Camino – Grant Gilfeather
- Global Outreach
  - Haiti – Jeanne Paige
  - Kids Clinic Partners – Mark Close
- Council Against Domestic Violence – Susan Mitchler
- Needlecrafts for Need – Claudia Johnson

## **Spiritual Nourishment**

- Acolytes – Janelle Liffiton
- Eucharistic Ministers – Cyndi Sax
- Choirs – Joe Hacnik
- Altar Guild – Kate Fauster
- Flower Guild – Cindy Cordes
- Ushers – Suzi & Sam Edmondson

## **Operations/Facilities**

- Office Angels – Debbie Hubbs
- Stewardship – Harry Boysen
- Investment Management team – Jackie Ernst



## **Administrative Leadership**

- Harry Boysen – Senior Warden
- Mario Vassaux

## **Vestry Terms of Office**

### **Class of 2018**

- Eloise Crosman
- Malcolm Hilcove
- Hal Hunt

### **Class of 2019**

- Allen Henry
- Kathy Phillips

### **Class of 2020**

- Joe Dearborn
- Claudia Johnson
- Monnie Ottersberg

## **Vestry Slate for 2018**

Senior Warden – Harry Boysen

Junior Warden – Mario Vassaux

### **Class of 2021**

- Dan Austin
- David Macaione
- Melody Taylor

## **Diocesan Convention Delegate Slate**

### **2018 Delegates**

- Dan Austin
- Allen Henry
- Jill Kyler
- Leanne Murrillo
- Monnie Ottersberg

### **2018 Alternates/2019 Delegates**

- Cathy Anderson
- Gail Austin
- Susan Mitchler
- Ted Zemper
- Mary Vanselow

## Attendance Statistics – FIFTEEN Years

### TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL SERVICES

2003	17,704
2004	19,683
2005	20,261
2006	19,319
2007	15,296
2008	14,421
2009	13,361
2010	12,673
2011	11,003
2012	10,997
2013	11,296
2014	10,749
2015	10,269
2016	11,344
2017	9,726

### TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL EASTER SERVICES

2003	762
2004	886
2005	928
2006	842
2007	739
2008	637
2009	574
2010	578
2011	411
2012	399
2013	443
2014	431
2015	369
2016	344
2017	377

### AVERAGE SUNDAY SERVICE ATTENDANCE

2003	306
2004	353
2005	307
2006	298
2007	258
2008	245
2009	236
2010	201
2011	194
2012	188
2013	190
2014	184
2015	185
2016	182
2017	166

### TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

2003	993
2004	1027
2005	859
2006	808
2007	646
2008	630
2009	525
2010	515
2011	584
2012	452
2013	540
2014	440
2015	440
2016	466
2017	476

# Ministry Reports

## Children's Ministry - Submitted by Suzette Woods

Ministry team members - Melody Taylor, Janelle Liffiton, Suzette Woods, Leanne Murrillo, Stephen Cihak, Deacon Susan Cihak, Marianne Clarke, Scott Woods, Justin Hinch and Jamie Hinch.

The goal of St. Anthony Children's Ministries is to foster faith through Bible stories, art and creative worship experiences in a warm and accepting atmosphere. This develops St. Anthony's mission by providing a church home for children and families, who are the foundation of a growing church and a dynamic ministry.

- Throughout the year children participate in Third Sunday family worship as greeters, ushers, and readers. The 5th graders also serve as acolytes.
- In February the children lovingly hand made Valentines and mailed them to parishioners who are living alone or unable to come to church.
- On February 4<sup>th</sup>, 50 children, youth and their family members participated in packing meals for the Feed My Starving Children organization in Mesa.
- In April we moved the Ash Wednesday family service out to the labyrinth, which added an interactive feel and was well received by all who attended.
- During the month of April the children participated in a pillow drive for Sunshine Acres. They collected 35 new pillows and pillow case sets. Needlecraft for Needs lovingly made some beautiful pillowcases for the cause.
- In May we delivered the pillows and went on a tour of the facility, which prompted the children to want to do more for Sunshine Acres.
- In June, three children and three teens from St. Anthony participated for a week at Chapel Rock summer camp. I volunteered, facilitating the arts and crafts station during children's camp.
- In August the children participated in a clothing drive for Sunshine Acres resale shop.
- In September, Stephen Cihak and Marianne Clarke completed Godly Play training, which has greatly enhanced our Godly Play program. Quarterly Godly Play practice group gatherings offered by Jana Sundin, Canon for Children's Ministries, were attended by several ministry team members.
- In October our families participated in a pumpkin carving festival. Fun was had by all, carving, painting or just hanging out.
- One of the highlights of our fall season was being invited to Sunshine Acres in Mesa to host a pumpkin decorating party for children who reside there. A group of children, youth, parents and leaders from St. Anthony brought supplies, cupcakes and a lot of enthusiasm.
- In November 47 children, youth and their family members participated in packing meals for the Feed My Starving Children organization in Mesa.

- In December the children participated in the Christmas Pageant, under the dedicated direction of Scott Woods and many volunteers. They also participated in the Santa's Sleigh project by donating gifts for children, which benefits A New Leaf, shelters for victims of domestic violence.

### **Youth Ministry** – Submitted by Mark Culbertson

The junior and senior high students at St. Anthony have been active this year in the life of the congregation. The youth participated in Shrove Sunday Mardi Gras Supper and provided entertainment, presented Ash Wednesday stations, acted in the Passion Play and led Good Friday meditations, provided entertainment for our Nite at Tony's event, MC'd the Caroling in the Courtyard event, acolyte, set-up coffee hour after worship services, ushered, did morning reading during worship service, assisted in Godly Play for our youngest members, and worked in the Inspire Labyrinth and Garden. In addition to being involved in the life of the congregation, the youth have been active in reaching outside of the church through various service projects during the Diocesan youth overnight at Christ's Church of the Ascension, activities at Sunshine Acres and our annual summer mission trip in Norristown, PA.

Recently, our Sunday Night youth service was organized to do our junior high and senior high services at the same time to help parents out and to be able to do a large group meeting before splitting into age groups. Additionally, worship has been added to the large group meeting time.

A student leadership group, Student L.E.A.D. (Leaders Equipped and Doing) was formed to build up the leadership capacity of our youth. This group studies leadership and applies what they learn by helping with youth activities.

Finally, in order to help with identity and marketing, our youth decided on a youth group name, EPIC (Endless Possibilities in Christ) Student Ministries. A logo was chosen to go along with this name. This brand will soon be on everything associated with the youth group.

We are excited about everything that has happened in the lives of our student ministry this last year and in the lives of our teens. We are looking forward to what this next year has in store for us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Culbertson  
Youth Minister

### **2016 Annual Report** **Adult Formation**

#### **Lenten Program**

In 2017 we offered two small group discussions. The first continued with another season of The WAY and explored gospel lessons through the lens of art and poetry. The second discussion group explored the book by Marcus Borg titled *Convictions: How I learned what matters most*.

#### **30 Minute Dialogue with Scripture**

This program introduced in 2016 continued into 2017. This small group Bible study meets following the 10 am service each Sunday. The format for this study is Lectio Divina – an ancient method which allows the words of scripture to be explored in our own lives.

## **The WAY** – submitted by Dorian Mulvey

Ministry Team Members – Cathy Anderson, Harry Boysen, Stephen Cihak, Eloise Crosman, Heather Foster, Malcolm Hilcove, Jill Kyler, Monnie Ottersberg, Tony Vacca, Rosemary Viets and Dorian Mulvey

The WAY was introduced in 2016 and continued into 2017. It takes its name from the description attached to followers of Jesus as “People on the way.” The WAY is a process for faith to be explored, nurtured and renewed and one’s commitment to Jesus Christ to be deepened. This process takes its shape from an ancient formation process called the Catechumenate.

There are four seasons for the WAY:

- Autumn or the “Front Porch” – a time to ask questions and explore some of the basics while developing a strong sense of community.
- Winter offers an opportunity for deeper reflection on the Sunday scripture lessons.
- Lent introduces the great stories of the Bible, especially the Passion of Christ.
- Easter is a time to focus on ministry in our daily life.

## **Life Sharing**

### **Evangelism**

Our evangelism efforts have several facets – personal inviting, hospitality and welcoming and communications through our website and social media. Our Taste of St. Anthony team prepares edible invitations several times a year for distribution by us to people not yet part of our faith community. We have distributed over 1,000 of these invitations during the past year. Our website is updated with the latest news of worship, outreach and social opportunities. During an average week our website will have around 500 unique visitors and over 2,000 page views. It is the primary way people find out about us. Our social media is primarily done on Facebook, reaching 3,000+ people per month and we also have Pinterest pages that are widely shared.

### **Inspire Labyrinth and Garden**

On the property directly to the north of our Parish Hall, the Inspire Labyrinth and Garden officially opened in November, 2016. There are two entrances – the northwest parking lot of our campus and on 130th Street at the northeast corner of our property with metal signs at both locations. This meditative path is for both the people of St. Anthony and the larger community. The space provides a place for spiritual well-being through prayer, gardening and camaraderie in a Christ-centered atmosphere. Since our opening, we have held several worship services on the labyrinth including at Ash Wednesday and Quiet Days during Lent and Advent. This year we were honored to become part of the Labyrinth Society, a network of labyrinths throughout the world. Our membership has given us wide exposure to a number of labyrinth and garden enthusiasts, including one person from Australia on a worldwide tour of labyrinths who made our Inspire Labyrinth and Garden a must see.

### **Arts Council — submitted by Claudia Smith**

*“There is one spectacle grander than the sea; there is one spectacle grander than the sky, that is the interior of the soul.”*

— Victor Hugo —

Artists create with God-given talent from their souls. It's what artists do. What the Arts Council does is share these creations with members of St. Anthony and the public through exhibits in the Parish Hall.

The Arts Council believes that these shared gifts nourish spirituality and faith, and re-enforce St. Anthony's mission as a "Life-Home" in Christ for all. Both the creators and the viewers experience this uplifting, soul-enriching journey. This journey is encouraged and facilitated through articles written for St. Anthony's Newsletter and Website, as well as *The Fountain Hills Times*.

Beginning in 2003, the Arts Council has been privileged to bring a variety of talented people to St. Anthony. There have been painters in watercolor, pastel, acrylic and oil, as well as work in pen & ink, photography, paper-clay sculpture, jewelry, mixed-media; calligraphy, charcoal, pencil, block printing digital and fabric art.

The work has ranged from our youth, to an artist who was 90 years young! We've had a photographer from as far away as Gig Harbor, Washington — thanks to Carolyn Welsh. This latter is a perfect example of the importance of participation and input from members of the congregation.

During the hot summer months, the Parish Hall was blessed by the artwork of **Gregory Pearce's Parkinsons' Group**. The first exhibit this season was by **Christine Ehmann** and **Mary Ann Grace**, of Fountain Hills. Mary Ann is a versatile artist, who works in a wide variety of media, but prefers landscapes as her subject matter. Christine is an exceptional watercolorist, who specializes in flowers. They were followed by the stunning photography and versatility of **Barbara Zahno** and **Rudolf Volkmann** — St. Anthony's was blessed by their art last season. Next on the agenda is **Carol Ofsthun**, also of Fountain Hills. Carol was the Fountain Hills Art League's *Artist of the Month* in November, for her "Cactus Flower" rendition. Following Carol is pet portrait artist **Bonnie Schweih**, who won the Art League's *Artist of the Year* award for 2017. She was also awarded an honorary lifetime membership to the League for her devotion, hard work and time. St. Anthony's own **Kate Fauster** will be joining Bonnie as an exhibitor, displaying some of her Christmas card creations from over the years of her cat family. The final exhibit of the season is still under consideration and planning. It may be someone from the "waiting list" (yes, there is one) or an assemblage of St. Anthony members' contributions. During the summer months, the parish hall will again be graced with the artwork of **Gregory Pearce's Parkinsons' Group**.

We at St. Anthony have been blessed to have had an array of wonderful art displayed over the years. The energy and hours put into bringing, arranging and hanging these shows are countless. The Arts Council applauds and thanks these talented, generous people. We also look forward to next season's offerings.

And to that we say: AMEN.

**Avid Readers** – submitted by Eloise Crosman

Contact People: Grant or Susan Gilfeather, Eloise Crosman

Avid Readers is a group of St. Anthony on the Desert members and friends who like to read a variety of good books. If you enjoy curling up in a comfy chair with a book or an e-reader, or listening to an audio book and then discussing what you've read with others, consider joining Avid Readers, St. Anthony on the Desert's book discussion group.

On the third Tuesday of every month, the group of 6-18 (average 8), members of St. Anthony and the community-at-large meet in the Parish Hall for the discussions. Those who wish to do so meet at a local restaurant prior to the meeting for dinner and conversation. Everyone is welcome to come to the discussions

and/or the dinners. Come every month, as often as your schedule allows, or for any discussion that especially appeals to you.

Author Betty Webb joined the group on March 21 to discuss her writings. She was a dynamic speaker and it was an honor to have another book club join us for the event. Although Avid Readers is not able to offer a stipend, when a guest author is present, they are invited to be guests at dinner. A dessert buffet is served at the meeting. At the January 16, 2018 meeting, author Anne A. Wilson will join the group to discuss her writing and books.

This year, Avid Readers contributed funds to purchase a selection of books for the Christmas Festival. Although they did not sell as “bags of books,” some were subsequently purchased individually and those remaining were donated to Phoenix Children’s Hospital. All proceeds went to the Operating Budget of St. Anthony on the Desert.

A new activity this year was a pot-luck Christmas party hosted by one of our members.

Everyone is invited to come to the Book Choosing Meeting on May 1, 2018 with suggestions for the following year’s list of books. A variety of genres is included – fiction, non-fiction, biographies, mysteries, etc. The meetings are very informal and members of the group research the author and reviews, then lead the discussions.

Each month’s book stimulates great discussions. Even if you’ve not had the opportunity to read (or finish) the book, the discussions and fellowship are stimulating and rewarding. You’ll probably want to come back for another meeting! Copies of the book selections for 2017-2018 are available on the church website ([www.st-anthony.net](http://www.st-anthony.net)), in the narthex or in the Church Office.

### **St. Anthony Seniors / Seasonal Residents (Now known as “Seasoned Saints”)**

Group composition: St. Anthony members and friends who self-identify as “retired,” seniors, interested parishioners in the monthly events, and St. Anthony members and friends who seasonally reside or visit the area.

Believing in the social construction of Christian identity and community, St. Anthony’s “Seasoned Saints” gather monthly to eat together, to learn more about each other’s experiences and talents, to create friendships. Most of the group are retired with strong professional careers; some participants spend the winter in Arizona and then return home. These characteristics create a demography of persons who frequently have moved to Arizona after retiring and are forging relatively new connections at St. Anthony’s. Seasonal residents equally have alliances both here and in other places, and St. Anthony’s becomes the link for building new and sustaining friendships within Christian community.

Occasionally, Rev. Dorian and Father John attend the group’s events as well as persons who choose to attend specific events. Currently, there is not a specific designated “leader,” but plans are made together in the spring for activities to begin in the autumn. Persons volunteer as hosts for each month’s event. The Email Steward sends out the announcements with details to promote the events and to keep the group informed. Average attendance is between 20-40 per month. The following persons served or will serve in various host capacities for the 2017-2018 events:

September: St. Anthony’s Golf Tournament

November: Nite @ Tony’s (Susan Boone, Maxine Walker)

December: Dinner at Mary Vanselow's (Mary Vanselow, Cathy Anderson, Bob and Marianne Clark)

January 2018: Brunch at Starfire Golf Club (Susan Boone, Maxine Walker)

February: Hosts and event to be determined

March: "Happy Hour with a Twist" (Dan and Gail Austin with assorted hosts)

April: Concluding dinner (David and Barbara Ells)

The social component of the group is essential. Because we are embodied in a social life, as the body of Christ, St. Anthony provides the landscape for the many facets of our personalities, experiences, gifts and extends our identities beyond the confines of our individual lives. Continuity and change particularly characterize the group gathered around tables over the year, the stories told and lives revealed entangle us in Christian friendship.

- Respectfully submitted, Maxine Walker, Email Steward

**Hospitality** - Submitted by: Leanne Murrillo

The Hospitality Ministry is to have a friendly welcoming reception of guests, visitors or strangers. This ministry provides coffee and refreshments after both services on Sunday. The Hospitality ministry also assists with special events held at St. Anthony. Each Sunday either individuals, groups or couples assist to enhance the countless benefits of services offered at St. Anthony along with a period of time and place for our members to meet, converse and grow in fellowship. By creating a sense of belonging through love and caring the coffee hours have nurture friendships and connections with each other. As another year begins of growth and new experiences at St. Anthony, the development of the post-service groups that stay to visit, sit & converse and come to know each other in greater depth is a welcome sign of our growth as a "Life-Home" in Christ.

**Blessings of Belonging (BOB)** – submitted by Claudia Johnson

The mission of this ministry was to develop relationships within the church; with those who are not part of our community; and others as we cross their paths, while welcoming God. We started having monthly meetings in March 2013 and continue. We have prayer, fellowship, food, Bunco and the end result are friendships that continue to grow.

This ministry grew this year adding one person who is not a member of St. Anthony. All are invited, so please come and be involved. We normally meet the first Saturday of each month from 11-1pm. For more information, please contact Gina Baker or Claudia Johnson.

## **Pastoral Ministries**

**St. Anthony Cares Companions Ministry** – submitted by Claudia Johnson and Allen Henry

Ministry Team Members: Eloise Crosman, Sheila Henry, Janelle Liffiton, Cyndi Sax, Cathy Anderson, Mary Vanselow, Claudia Johnson and Allen Henry

The Companions Ministry is part of the larger umbrella Pastoral Care Ministries of St. Anthony Cares. The mission of the St. Anthony Cares is to ensure that "no one walks alone" as they face the challenges and changes of life. The Companions mission, now in its third year, is served by four teams consisting of two trained laypersons who have accepted responsibility for an alphabetical grouping of St. Anthony's parishioners. By establishing a close relationship with these parishioners, the Companions proactively seek out and respond to requests for pastoral care by these parishioners. Once the needs have been identified, the Companions work with the parishioner and the family to identify additional needs for pastoral care provided



by our volunteer pastoral ministries and St. Anthony's clerical staff. The Companions then requests and schedules the pastoral care services the parishioner needs at that time. In many ways relative to coordinating the pastoral care services, the Companions work as a "personal banker" to the parishioner in identifying needs and then ensuring those needs are fulfilled.

Complementary to the mission of serving our current parishioners, the Companions also received the charge to work closely with Jill Kyler, Minister of Evangelism, to learn of visitors and new attendees to St. Anthony. The new attendees are contacted by the Companions team assigned to that portion of the alphabet. Here again, the mission is to serve as the "personal banker" for all the ministries and outreach activities within the St. Anthony community as identified in the Pastoral Care Web. It is the strong conviction of the Vestry that this early interaction with new attendees is crucial to introducing them to all of the opportunities provided in the **inspire** program which focuses on our "**Ministries for Christ Centered Spiritual Well-Being.**" This part of the Companions ministry will provide an effective approach to growing our community with those who did not know St. Anthony before.

The major objectives for this ministry in 2018 will be to continue (1) to increase its visibility in the St. Anthony community, (2) to create stronger connections with and among the various pastoral ministry leaders and, most importantly, (3) to respond and serve each and every parishioner with care, compassion and joy. This is and will continue to be an "engaged" ministry in all of its activities. The Companions seek to truly live an expanded version of its mission that states, "No One Walks Alone. We walk with parishioners, with each other and with JESUS CHRIST."

#### **Card Ministry** – submitted by Carol Stewart

The Card Ministry - Carol Stewart & Susan Mitchler with the help of Eloise Crosman and the Companions sent 50 cards this past year to people who were grieving, having surgery, chemo treatments, or needing support of any kind.

#### **Transportation Ministry** – in Hiatus

#### **Healing Prayer Ministry** – submitted by Rosemary Hansen

The Healing Prayer Ministry is an integral component within the Pastoral Ministry Group here at St Anthony on the Desert. Over the past nine year this ministry continues to thrive and provide needed spiritual and healing benefits to those in need of healing prayer.

Our weekly Service Bulletin provides the following narrative "healing prayers are available following communion and after each service in the St Luke the Physician Chapel". We added a new component this past year. The ministry members that are assigned each Sunday bring home the list of individuals that the parish prays for during the "Prayers of the People", and the ministry member prays for all of them during the subsequent week.

Plus, every Wednesday at noon, Pastor Dorian conducts a Healing Prayer Service in our chapel that draws individuals from the surrounding community and members of our parish family. Our church location and the location of the Mayo Clinic make this service an asset to those in need of healing prayer.

Our ministry meets quarterly and focuses on spiritual and personal growth development of each member. The leadership of each meeting rotates around its members and they provide the program which could be reflection of scripture, music, a book, or perhaps a speaker that focuses on the topic of healing prayer. We are blessed to have the guidance and support of Deacon Grant and Deacon Susan who we partner with at each service.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of this ministry. Please contact any of our members if you have any questions and/or have an interest in becoming a member of our team. The members are Dan Austin, Gail Austin, Lorna Bennett, Rosemary Hansen, Janelle Liffiton, and Tony Vacca.

### **Eucharistic Visitors** – submitted by Susan Cihak

Ministry Team members - Marianne Clarke, Bob Clarke, Ruena Close, Mark Close, Eloise Crosman, Joe Dearborn, Kate Fauster, Jack Fauster, Barbara Goldstein, Bob Groom, Peggy Hilcove, Malcolm Hilcove, Claudia Smith, Sheila Henry, Allen Henry.

Each Sunday the dedicated St. Anthony Eucharist Visitors take communion from the 8:00am service and the 10:00am service to homebound and recuperating individuals in their homes, group homes, hospitals, and nursing facilities. Eucharistic Visitors from the 8:00am service provide a prayer service with communion at Westminster Village to a wonderful group of people there.

### **Walking the Mourner's Path - Annual Report 2017** – submitted by Catherine Gilbert

Walking the Mourner's Path National Ministry continues to grow and reach those who grieve with our help from our faith community partners. We are most grateful for their continued support and willingness to provide the program to their communities.

#### **Highlights of 2017:**

**280 Participants Walked the Mourner's Path** at our partner faith communities

**New Website**, check it out [www.mournerspath.com](http://www.mournerspath.com)

**Facilitator Training Schools** – We are grateful to the following for hosting a school in 2017. Our hosts help recruit students and provide hospitality

- St. James Episcopal Church Jackson MS
- Memorial Drive Presbyterian Houston TX
- Church of the Epiphany, Cape Coral FL
- Church of the Advent, Sun City West, AZ
- Caldwell Hospice and Palliative Care, Lenoir NC

#### **St. Anthony Events**

- Kate Fauster commissioned as a facilitator
- All Souls Day
- Star tree

## Looking forward to 2018

- Continued serving our partner faith communities as they serve their communities
- Exhibit at General Convention in Austin TX
- Facilitator Training Schools in Dallas area, New Orleans, Naples FL, Baltimore area, Omaha and working with the Episcopal Dioceses of AZ

## Outreach Ministries

### 2017 Outreach Grant Recipients

Outreach grants totaling **\$28,000** have been funded for 2017 thanks to the incredible leadership of the Charity Golf tournament team and all who participated in this annual fundraising event. Following a Grant Review process and Vestry approval, listed below is a description of the ministries who will receive funds from the 2016 Charity Golf Tournament.

1. **School Clothes for Kids; Bob Groom, Ministry lead -~~\$~~2000 granted.**

This ministry is only a few years old, but is a great partnership with other charities. All grant funds receive 100% matching funds from Baptist Hospital Health System Legacy Foundation. St. Anthony funds are placed with the Legacy Connection, a 501 (c) 3 and matched to collaborate with the Assistance League of Phoenix and the AZ Diamondbacks to coordinate a mobile bus (closet). This mobile closet will be equipped with school clothing, and shoes and other items needed for children in Title 1 schools. Forty-five children were clothed last year. NFN, also donated knitted hats for those children. This grant has matching funds, which is unique to our Pastoral ministries.

2. **Kid's Kare Clinic Partners; Grant Gilfeather and Mark Close, Ministry leads-~~\$~~3400 granted.**

Funding is for cleft palate surgery for a child being assisted through St. Andrews Clinic in Nogales, Arizona. Cleft lip and palate surgery is a high need in this clinic which services children from Mexico. Once a child has received reconstructive surgery to restore the palate and lip, the child needs to learn to masticate, swallow and speak. It is an extensive process that can take years. In addition to funding for surgery, five I-Pad 4s will be purchased for five voice impaired children. The iPads are equipped to be used to enhance post-op cleft lip/palate patients. In addition, software for the iPads received funding. This ministry makes a physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual impact on the child and the family.

3. **Healthy Packs; Grant Gilfeather, Ministry lead-~~\$~~2800 granted.**

We don't think that children in Scottsdale or elsewhere in the Valley of the Sun are hungry or lack adequate nutrition, but that is far from the truth. Children in need are identified in Scottsdale by teachers and social workers at their school. Weekend food for these children is placed in their backpacks in a way that is concealed from other children, reducing any targeting of the children by others. Without the food placed in backpacks these Title 1 children might have minimal nutrition all weekend. Seven schools participate in this program.

4. **Men of St. Anthony (MOSA); Bob Clarke, Ministry lead-~~\$~~1200 granted.**

St. Anthony's MOSA group saw a need to make fully functional a bike repair shop at the East Valley Men's Center approximately 6 years ago. The building was there, but there was no equipment, bike stands or supplies. MOSA took on transforming the facility to a fully functioning facility with trained

residents helping others repair the bikes that they use to go to and from their jobs while they live in the shelter. Continued grant support funds tires/tubes and equipment for the bike shop. All residents of the shelter use the shop.

5. **Haiti; Jeanne Paige, Ministry lead-\$7000 granted.**

The needs in Haiti have been a priority of St. Anthony for multiple years. Funds will be used to purchase materials and the cost of labor to build a secure fenced area for the children in the secondary school. The courtyard is currently opened, creating a distraction during school hours and safety issues during and after school. A small amount of the request may also be used to supplement teacher salaries.

6. **Dream Center Hope Wing/RISE Program; Malcolm Hilcove, Ministry lead-\$5000 granted**

\$3000 of the request will be used, as it has in previous years, to fund women in the Hope Wing helping them to attend school and re-invent their lives after having been involved in sex trafficking. \$2700 last year helped four women in that process. The remainder of the fund, \$2000, will be used to assist the RISE program at the Dream Center, a program that assists youth 18-24 who have aged out of foster care, but have absolutely no support system or life skills. The funds would be used to renovate old "suites" rooms to accommodate three people/room providing individual space for each.

7. **Needlecrafts for Needs; Jean Sullens and Claudia Johnson, Ministry leads-\$1600 granted**

The NFN group has minimal funds, but plans to spend at least \$2000 on all the current projects and others that NFN has been asked to participate in. This ministry interacts with other St. Anthony outreach ministries, i.e., Habitat for Humanity, Dream Center, Golf tournament, Clothing for School Kids, and the Nogales Kid's Clinic providing blankets, lap robes and hats. In addition, multiple outside agencies benefit from NFN projects. This ministry is constantly looking for ways to grow. The funds would be used to purchase supplies, yarn, material and thread.

8. **Habitat for Humanity; Jon Thom, Ministry lead-\$5000 granted.**

The Episcopal Coalition relies on individual church support for both funds to sponsor the building of the homes as well as volunteer labor from members. Current plans for 2017 include the building of two local homes. A typical Habitat home costs \$95,000 to build/rehab. St. Anthony is a founding member of the Episcopal Coalition since 1998 and has been an active member since. There are dozens of St. Anthony members who have participated in these builds, with two members who are Habitat Team leaders.

**Habitat for Humanity – Episcopal Habitat Coalition** - submitted by Jon Thom

Team Members: Jon Thom, Dave Johnson, Grant Gilfeather and numerous Saturday volunteers.

St. Anthony is part of the Episcopal Habitat Coalition (EHC), a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1997, which in 2017 was comprised of eighteen contributing Phoenix metro area Episcopal Churches. The EHC's recent history has been to provide half of the funds and half the labor to build two metro-area homes a year, and participates in approximately one international build every-other year.

Due to increased building costs and a revised Habitat for Humanity Central AZ portfolio of projects, in 2017 the EHC funded one-third each of two townhomes built as part of an eighteen unit development in Tempe. Total monetary contribution from the EHC to Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona was approximately equal to that provided in recent years. For 2018, the EHC has committed to funding one-third of a townhouse in the same project in Tempe that the last two builds were located in, and anticipates funding an addition home in the fall. The building of the current home project began on January 6th.

Since its inception, EHC has completed 38 metro-area homes, and helped with 37 international homes, for a total of 75 homes built. Each year St. Anthony donates money to the EHC to help fund the homes, and provides significant volunteer labor hours to assist building the homes.

Builds are on Saturdays and usually involve 20 - 25 volunteers. New homeowners work side-by-side with volunteers to fulfill the 400 hours of sweat equity required as the down payment on their home. Over the past year, St. Anthony volunteers performed many tasks including framing, hanging drywall, painting, and trim carpentry. In addition, St. Anthony volunteers usually provide either snacks or lunch for the 25-30 volunteers on the Saturdays we work.

We achieved our objectives for 2017, for the fourth year in a row, to increase St. Anthony's annual financial contribution to EHC and develop more diverse revenue sources for St. Anthony's HfH build fund. This was largely made possible through a grant from the Golf Tournament funds, as well as additional parishioner support. Total EHC contributions recovered in 2017 from their recent downturn, due to some parishes contributing more than in recent years, and contributions from parishes that had not previously or recently contributed. Again, we also expanded our volunteer base, increasing the number of Saturday participants and bringing in more new volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity Central AZ is a Christian-based, valley-wide ministry that is a hand-up, not a hand-out. New Habitat families earn the ability to become homeowners through hard work, education, and by financially qualifying for the home that they purchase with a zero-percent interest mortgage. If you like the idea helping a worthy family move up from substandard housing to get a new start as a Habitat homeowner, contact Jon Thom at (480) 286-4724 or [jon@thomdirect.com](mailto:jon@thomdirect.com).

### **Men of St. Anthony's (MOSA) 2017 Annual Report – submitted by Bob Clarke**

Members and Supporters: All interested male parishioners and women and youth who want to support us.

Mission: The Men of St. Anthony's provide support and fellowship to each other, St. Anthony ministries and the local community.

MOSA continues to provide and serve a monthly meal at the EVMC to 75 - 90 men. MOSA's impact on the community at large is evidenced by the dinner volunteers who are not members of St. Anthony but wish to serve in this ministry. During 2017, the parish supported this program by donating to the dinner fund used to purchase the pulled pork needed for each dinner.

In 2017, MOSA supported the bicycle repair shop at EVMC originally funded by our Outreach Grant Fund. Grants from this fund continue to support this endeavor by allowing the shop to purchase parts for the men. Three local bike shops have contributed over 80 bikes to the shelter this year. These men are not allowed to have cars, so the bikes are of great importance to them to get to work. It allows them to repair their bikes at

cost on the grounds of the men's center. All the men use the bike shop throughout the year. The men have appreciated St. Anthony's efforts with the bike shop. The Outreach Grant Fund continued to support the bike shop this year.

### **Phoenix Dream Center** – submitted by David Johnson

A member of MOSA continued volunteering weekly in the Dream Center Living Section, which serves young adults aging out of the foster care system. Primary activities included contacting volunteers, scheduling interviews and reference checks.

Members of MOSA and the Golf Tournament committee painted ceilings, walls, doors and trim for a prototype living suite where each of the three residents have private living space. A bath and common area are shared. With the help of Golf Tournament funds, St. Anthony supplied the cabinets for the kitchenette. If others are interested in participating in projects at the Phoenix Dream Center, please contact me. Respectfully submitted, David Johnson

All of these MOSA volunteer activities will continue in 2018.

### **Vista Del Camino and Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank** – Submitted by Grant Gilfeather

Team Members: Grant Gilfeather and generous donating members from St. Anthony's Contributions from St. Anthony's to both organizations have helped individuals and families in need to feed their selves in challenging times. St. Anthony parishioners and friends can regularly donate non-perishable food in the bin in the narthex. Grant Gilfeather volunteers weekly at the Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank (PVEFB) and at the Vista Del Camino Career Center (now Scottsdale Community Partners). At the food bank, a volunteer's job involves receiving donated food, sorting it, properly shelving, making up food boxes or set ups to give out and interacts with the clients. At the Job Career Center, a volunteer assists walk-in job seekers with computer job searches, employment resources and directs them to job postings currently available. Grant works four hours on Thursdays at the Career Center and two hours at the Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank on Fridays.

2017 has been a challenging year for the Paradise Valley food bank due to the large amount of produce delivered from several grocery stores on Fridays. In addition to the surge of produce donations, the clients need to be served. The food bank is always looking for volunteers to help on a regular basis each week and if you are interested, contact [volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org).

In April, St. Anthony's Charity Golf Tournament awarded \$2,800 to help fund Scottsdale Community Partner's Healthy Packs Program in Scottsdale schools. This award would provide 536 students food for a little over a weekend in 2017. In early 2017 Grant was asked to join the Healthy Packs Advisory Board which now gives him more insight into the program.

While volunteering at Scottsdale Community Partners Career Center, Grant interacts with job seekers regarding their goals and dreams. One out-of-state client, Wanda, appeared very well educated, mature and eager to find employment to hold her transported family together. I was encouraging enough for her to take an entry-level job at Phoenix Zoo which she enjoys and allows her to network with other underemployed professionals. She eventually will be able to do her own consulting in developing environmental meditative spaces. The zoo job, although low paying, will provide a learning and launching pad for her dreams. It is my hope that more donors and volunteers will come forward to help at both the food bank and the career center in the coming year. If you are interested, please contact Grant Gilfeather at [g2feather@cox.net](mailto:g2feather@cox.net).

## **Council Against Domestic Violence**

Members: Eloise Crosman, Susan Mitchler, Rosemary Viets

The Council Against Domestic Violence held one major event in 2017. Santa's sleigh was held three Sundays in late November and early December. The congregation very generously donated gifts and gift cards for infants, children, teens and parents living in domestic violence shelters sponsored by A New Leaf, Autumn House and Faith House

The items were much appreciated by the residents of the shelters, not only for the material gifts, but for the assurance that they are supported by others as they struggle to escape bad situations and rebuild their lives.

While the CADV no longer holds, "Clear Your Clutter," drives, members will see that donations of gently used (or new) items are delivered to A New Leaf, Save the Family or the Sojourner Center. Please speak to Eloise Crosman, Susie Mitchler, or Rosemary Viets for further information.

This year the CADV helped raise funds for the church by contributing packages of note cards for sale at the Christmas Bazaar. The cards this year were photographs of our church and Christmas alter by Rosemary Viets. Along with previous Christmas note cards they were part of many items offered for sale. They were also placed in the narthex for purchase.

## **Needlecrafts For Need** - submitted by Claudia Sullens Johnson

Members: Jean Sullens, Gina Baker, Jeanette Luke, Gene Tarry, Inge Bolan, Lillian Roodveldt, Maxine Walker, Linda Law, Susan Boone, Jeanne Paige, Pat Peterson, Cathy Anderson, Sue Vold, Pat Vassaux, Ann Zemper, and Claudia Johnson.

The group supplied 50 hats to the homeless men of the East Valley Men's Center (EVMC, a MOSA ministry) and prepared and served a meal in October. In addition, we provided 25 hats each, for female and male teens, that found themselves in A New Leaf shelter this year.

We continue to help those at Fountain View Villages Skilled Nursing facility in Fountain Hills by delivering fleece lap robes. This facility provides post hospital and extended care to individuals from all over the valley. Sixty-five lap robes were distributed this year.

As in other years we provided 25 hats, scarves and fleece lap robes to Ability 360, but we also supplied 100 lap robes to other consumers and their aides.

Thirty-six prayer shawls were knitted or crocheted and distributed to St. A members or others. One of the 36 was given to the family of the St. A. Habitat build. The prayer shawl ministry is an important aspect of this ministry, so if you know of someone facing an illness or is grieving, please let a member of this ministry know so we can provide a prayer shawl. It is also one of the more moving ministries as people share the importance of the prayer shawl in their or their loved ones lives.

For the fourth year we collaborated with St. Anthony's Clothing for School Kids. This ministry helped cloth 50 children with matching funds from the Baptist Legacy Foundation and the AZ Diamondbacks. These children are in a Title 1 school in Scottsdale. We provided 50 hats/beanies that were to be given as Christmas presents.

The ministry expanded by providing baby blankets and other baby items, adult blankets and non-perishable food in two different drives for the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Bylas, AZ. This community is impoverished with great need of support and is near Safford, AZ and All Saint's Episcopal Church.

Finally, instead of having a Christmas Bazaar that provided funds to the general fund in 2016, NFN took the lead in a Christmas festival in 2017. The festival was a church-wide involved event open to the public with funds going to the general operating fund. This first time event raised over \$5800 for the operating budget, because of your creativity and generous participation! Thank you.

### **Global Outreach - Haiti Ministry** - Submitted by Jeanne Paige, Cyndi Sax and Jon Thom

The current members of the Haiti Ministry are Jeanne Paige, Kelle Hohl, Jill Kyler, Henry Male, Cyndi Sax and Jon Thom.

2017 has been a year of reflection and discernment for the Haiti team. The team is committed to honor the legacy of David Paige and build on the relationships David had established with the Saint Croix community. The team has been working to determine the best and most realistic ways to serve the needs of community of Saint Croix, recognizing that adjustments need to be made to continue to maintain the close relationships that have been established with the members of the Ste. Croix community.

Fortunately, as a result of the trips made in 2014 and 2016, current members of the team have established solid working relationships with key members of the Haitian community. Ministry team leader Jeanne Paige and team members Jon Thom and Cyndi Sax have stayed in communication with Pere Joseph Sonley, the Rector of Ste. Croix church and school. Going into 2018, the team will be exploring expanding the number of participants in the ministry, both inside and outside of the St. Anthony community, and well as explore additional sources of funding for the projects. Additionally, a focus on expanding the employment local Haitian tradesmen for projects will be considered. Skilled labor is available in the Ste. Croix community, and providing wages, even short-term, enhances the health and well-being of the community.

In 2015, the ministry members adopted the aspirational goal of sending a mission team to work at Ste. Croix School and church in alternative, even-numbered years and to provide funding for additional projects on the premise in odd-numbered years. In 2017, \$7000, as provided through a grant request, was provided to Saint Croix School to secure the schoolyard in order to enhance the safety of the students, and to reduce the potential for theft from and vandalism to the school facilities.

Looking forward to 2018, Pere Sonly has communicated to the ministry a series of needs of the Ste. Croix community that will be taken into consideration as projects for a team trip to Haiti in the summer of 2018. Jeanne Paige and her son Charlie are taking a trip to Haiti in January 2018 to further explore and review the recommendations of Pere Sonley, as well as to inspect the work that was funded by the 2017 grant. As of this writing, Jeanne and Charlie have arrived in Haiti and have reported that the 2017 work has been completed and the school grounds are vastly improved by the work that was done with the funds. The ministry will meet following Jeanne's return to discuss the options for a 2018 trip and projects, as well as to secure the funding required to accomplish agreed upon projects.

### **Kid's Care Ministry Report - 2017**

Team Members: Mark Close, Grant Gilfeather, Rachel and Deb Misra, Becky Evans and Ruena Close



Our mission is to serve as a support ministry to St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales, Arizona - providing education and publicity about the clinic to members of St. Anthony on the Desert and to the greater community of faith by encouraging service to the clinic. St. Andrew's Children's Clinic is a non-profit, non-denominational clinic that reaches across the border providing free, specialized medical care to children living in Mexico who cannot get the care they need in their home country. The clinic is celebrating it's 43rd anniversary in 2017.

Ministry team members participating in this year's charity golf tournament helped St. Anthony raise \$45,000.00 that will be used to support the church's outreach programs in 2018. Our ministry will help this event continue to grow in 2018.

The 2017 Kid's Care Ministry grant of \$3,400 was provided by the Vestry plus a special, added dream gift provision of \$1,540 was provided to fund our ministries "Give A Child A Voice Campaign." These most appreciated sponsorships included funding for the following: Samuel Isaac Torres, initially completely non-verbal, used his updated iPad 4, learning how to form short sentences using the new word power vocabulary. Emiliano Lara began using his iPad 4 providing his teacher an extra tool at school - significantly developing Emiliano's communicative skills this past school year.

Gloria Soto was provided with her new word power software. Gloria used to be afraid of just about everything, not gesturing or speaking and spending a lot of time under the table. She now sequences symbols to say short sentences, gives "Hi5's" and shares her device with other children. She's also learning to trace letters. Gloria now loves to use new words on her iPad 4, using her device for greetings, introducing herself, requesting foods, play activities, and participating in group activities. Indiana Martinez lost her dad in an accident that injured all family members. Her newly provided articulation and introductory reading software has significantly improved Indiana's self-esteem and helped her mother work with Indiana on a daily basis to improve her communication skills. Paulina Cazares was also provided an iPad 4 and word power software helping her to repeat words and enhance language articulation skills. She is making significant progress in school. Jusus Angel Enriquez's speech is also progressing due to his new iPad 4. An older unit had to be replaced due to a repair/software compatibility issue. His mother thought it would not be possible to obtain but Jesus' need was met. His mom has become increasingly engaged in his therapy.

The newly provided reading programs are helping these children use their new iPad 4's reach grade-level in reading. New patients and their parents are increasingly excited to start using the new augmentative communications equipment when they see the success that other children are receiving from its use.

The added special gift our ministry received was used to wifi wire the Saint Andrew's Children's Clinic allowing the Augmentative Communications Department to download additional vocabulary and other therapy software on-site. Moms are helping to teach other moms how to use the devices and how to "lock" them using a function called Guided Access so that they can only be used for speech purposes or, in the evening, for reading. All iPads now have a program called Raz Kids which gives each child a personal library which parents can use to introduce reading. This is really important as almost all children are in large classes in schools/communities which have no libraries. Without literacy, the children will have great difficulty finding work. The moms have become very proud of the developing skills supporting the children's reading abilities at home. In addition, the clinic's Communications Department's chair can now track the children's progress on line. As the program progresses, more teachers from Sonora are attending the clinic to learn how to use the new communications hardware and software with the clinic's students.

In Christ,  
Mark Close and Grant Gilfeather, Ministry Co-Chairs

# Spiritual Nourishment

**Acolytes** – submitted by Janelle Liffiton

Coordinator: Janelle Liffiton

Assisting: Deacon Susan Cihak,

Ministry Members During 2017:

8 AM: Sue Vold, Rosemary Viets

10AM: Spencer Cihak, Faith Taylor, Alexa Twibell, Rex Twibell, Caroline Tetlow, David Woods, Harrison Woods, Emily Mitchell, Sarah Cihak, Andrew Mitchell, Derek Dearborn, Olivia Shockness, Demetria Waibel, Natalia Culbertson.

The Acolyte Ministry is a ministry of service that takes place during our worship. The Acolyte serves God and the Church through this service. Youth and adults participate in this ministry, performing tasks that support the worship service, and assisting the priest in celebrating the Eucharist. Some of these tasks include carrying a processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, holding torches, handing the offering plates to ushers, assisting the deacon with set up and clean up at the altar, washing the priests hands during Holy Eucharist, and other tasks as directed by the priest. Participation in the service in this way can deepen connections to worship. These connections create a feeling of belonging and can last a lifetime.

New members from our youth group are recruited annually, and this can satisfy their individual service requirements. Several individual training sessions were held during the year. New members are mentored by experienced Acolyte Ministry members until they are comfortable in their role.

We have had several of our youth graduate high school and go on to college. Also, our long time 8 am member, Sue Vold , has relocated. In the coming year, the Acolyte Ministry will explore having Eucharistic Ministers at the 8 am service perform some of the First Server/Crucifer duties.

**Altar Guild** – Submitted by Kate Fauster

Our long-time Altar Guild coordinator, Sue Vold, resigned in October after many years of serving St. Anthony on the Desert. She has relocated to Minnesota in order to be closer to family. We appreciate all the years of dedicated service which she provided to St. Anthony, and we wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her life.

At this time, Rosemary Viets and Kate Fauster became Interim coordinators.

In October, we recruited eleven new members to serve on the Altar Guild (including two men! ) A training day was held in November to inform the new members and re-invigorate those who have been serving in the past.

We have also made some structural changes. This reorganization 'spreads the wealth' so that all of the time-consuming chores are not left on the shoulders of one or two persons.

We serve by preparing the Lord's Table and Sanctuary ( or Chapel) for Eucharistic services, weddings, baptism, funerals and memorial services. We also play an important part in preparing and decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas and Easter.

In closing we thank each Altar Guild member for her or his dedicated service, and offer this prayer by Charles L. Wood: Almighty God, accept from grateful hearts our thanks for the call to serve you amongst the things of your Altar. Help us always to be grateful for this and all your blessings, and by the power of the Holy Spirit assist us to walk worthily in this vocation to which we have been called; for in Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

### **Eucharistic Ministers** – submitted by Cyndi Sax

The Eucharistic Ministry is comprised of approximately 25 individuals who are dedicated to serving as lectors and/or chalice bearers during worship. This is a ministry that members feel called to by God. That calling can come when one recognizes that they have the desire to serve God in this capacity and the gifts to do so.....or sometimes when a clergy member, friend, or ministry member recognizes those gifts in another person. Regardless of how one becomes a lector or chalice bearer, individuals who serve God and God's people in this capacity share a sense of honor, awe, and respect for the privilege to read God's Word and administer the chalice.

Ministry members serve at virtually every service held at St. Anthony – regular Sunday worship, Holy Days like Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, memorial services, and other events. The reading of the Word and bearing of the chalice is the ministry's way of contributing to the spiritual well-being of all who come to worship.

During 2017, several members retired due to relocation or other personal reasons. In turn, we welcomed several new members, including Dan Austen, Gail Austen, Rachel Misra and Robert Camp. In order to breathe new life into the ministry and more fully support its mission, we have expanded the leadership team. Many thanks to Gail Austen, who has recently stepped into the role of ministry leader. Gail will be the link between the ministry, the rector and vestry, will provide overall direction and will be responsible for recruiting new members. Stephen Cihak will serve as scheduler and Cyndi Sax will continue to train new members.

The Eucharistic ministry is one that requires constancy, commitment, and dedication to serving God and others. Many describe their experiences as lector or chalice bearer as being integral to their spiritual practices, deepening their own faith as they serve others. We always have room for more. If you feel a stirring in your heart or hear a whisper questioning "What would it be like to do that?", feel free to bring that question to a member of the clergy, or to Gail Austen.

Prayerfully submitted,  
Cyndi Sax

### **Music Ministry** – submitted by Joe Hacnik

Music Ministry – submitted by Joe Hacnik, Director of Music Members of the music ministry include an Adult choir presently consisting of 18 members (vocal), in addition to the vocalists we have one trumpet player, and myself directing and accompanying the choir on both organ and piano. Henry Male is the cantor for both the 8:00 and 10:00a.m. liturgies.

Music Ministry is a vital part of our worship as a faith community, providing quality music for parish liturgies on a weekly basis, as well as special parish liturgies and events throughout the year. In addition to the Sunday liturgy, music ministry volunteers participate in a weekly rehearsal. We are always recruiting new members both vocally and instrumentally.

**Ushers** - Submitted by Sam and Suzi Edmondson

### Description of Ministry

Our connection to the church mission statement revolves around a warm and friendly welcome to all coming through the parish doors. The welcome will allow the worshipers to feel the spiritual communion of the congregation – the outreach will follow as they enjoy the warm feeling from the ushers initially and the congregation as they decide to participate in the church. We are also responsible to help those members that maybe in physical need before, during, and after the service.

### Growth of the Ministry

Our ministry is focused mainly on the various worship services on Sundays and Holidays, as well as special events such as funerals. Growth entails adding interested people to our usher team. Our own feelings of connection have grown through our interaction with other ushers as well as meeting people as they come through the doors of the parish. Most of the usher team shares the same feeling of connection.

### Ministry Hopes for 2018

Our plan for 2018 is to encourage more of the congregation to be a part of our usher team. We are fortunate to have the awesome group of ushers who continue to participate on a regular basis. We will continue to pursue the members to be a part of our great ministry.

## **Operations/Facilities**

**Office Angels** – submitted by Debbie Hubbs

The Office Angels support the office responsibilities of the Treasurer, Accountant, Walking the Mourner’s Path and the Parish Administrator.

### **Thank You to the following dedicated volunteers who have been of service in 2017!**

Cathy Anderson	Weekly front desk support & special projects
Sharon Bailey	Weekly front desk support, special projects & help with the Church Registry
Gina Baker-Garrett	Weekly offering counting
David Ells	Weekly offering counting
Kelle Hohl	Weekly offering counting
David Johnson	Weekly offering counting
Kate Fauster	Verify all bank deposits prior to making deposits & then making the deposits.
Susan Gilfeather	Posting contributions & giving statement preparation
Eloise Crosman	Help with the Church Registry

We continue to welcome new volunteers into the office for special projects or regular weekly support.

**Investment Management team** – submitted by Jackie Ernst

Team Members: Jackie Ernst, Chairperson; Mike Galloway, Secretary and George Mulvey

Ex-officio: Barbara Ells, Dorian Mulvey and Harry Boysen

The Investment Management Team oversees and invests the funds of the St Anthony Legacy Fund.

In May 2011, the fund was initiated with an investment of \$105,641.64 at Fidelity Investments. It was invested according to the Legacy Fund directive.

The value of the fund on 12/31/17 was \$252,258.86 an increase of \$44,952.14 over year end 2016 and an increase of \$146,617.22 since inception in 2011. This total includes additional contributions of: \$7500 in 2013, \$10,000 in 2014, \$10,000 in 2015, \$10,000 in 2016, and \$10,000 in 2017 for a total of \$47,5000.

At year end, Equities were \$157,587 or 62%; Bonds were \$93,065 or 37% and cash was \$1605.63 or 1%. Cash total on the year end Fidelity statement includes \$15,154.37 which is cash from the sale of pledged stock which was sold and was in the process of being transferred to the church credit union so that cash amount is not included in our Endowment Fund totals.

Year to date dividends and interest received was \$3295.05

### **2017 Stewardship Ministry Report**

Team members: Dan Austin, Harry Boysen, Joe Dearborn, Kathy Phillips and Dorian Mulvey

The Stewardship team tried an innovative approach to sharing stories about St. Anthony. Hiring a professional videographer, a number of parishioners were interviewed. Questions asked focused on ways they were nurtured in their faith at St. Anthony, how their faith called them to make a difference in the lives of others and how their faith informs their financial giving. What emerged were heartwarming stories of families raising children in the church, of faith formation that deepened commitment, and of faith put into action through many different ministries. There were also candid stories of the struggles and rewards of giving to the church.

The Stewardship team also offered teaching on what it means to be a “Biblical giver”, encouraging intentionality by making a planned commitment, generosity by giving to God first and by using a proportional approach in determining a pledge commitment. Proportional giving starts with an analysis of one’s current giving as a proportion of income and then discerning a plan to step up that proportion each year.

This approach was well received by the congregation with many accepting the challenge to take a “step-up”. We are thankful for the 112 households who made pledge commitments.

Comparative stewardship results are listed below:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pledges	\$312,533	\$324,757
Average Pledge	\$2,564	\$2,900

### **2017 Treasurer’s Report**

Barbara Ells  
Treasurer

This church continues to inspire me in many ways - our Sunday worship, our many programs, ministries, outreach and fellowship. But as your Treasurer, and responsible for seeing that we have money in the bank to pay our bills, I am truly inspired by your generosity. In 2017, our budget, based on your pledges and other income, projected a deficit of over \$25,000. We had surplus funds from prior years and some designated funds that could be used to cover the deficit. But as the year went on, all giving categories – pledges and

Sunday and Holiday offerings – exceeded our budget. Not only did many increase their giving, you also supported two new fundraising events – our Rummage Sale and Christmas Festival and Bazaar – which were both a huge “first year” success and showed the talent and generosity of our church and community. The Golf tournament exceeded all years raising over \$39,000, and Walking the Mourners had programs through the country. Nine of our high school youth went on the Youth Group ‘s 17th annual mission trip, this year to Norristown, PA to rehab homes for disadvantaged and disabled citizens. Our Inspire Labyrinth and Garden flourished, and our Golf Tournament Outreach grants touched many.

The result for 2017 was that we did not have a \$25,000 deficit – or a deficit at all! We virtually broke even. Increased giving was the main variance, but many expense categories were also under budget. We therefore did not use any of the surplus funds from prior years, making those funds available to fund future expenses. The financial results as compared to the budget are included in the Cash Receipts and Disbursements statements included as part of this report.

Our Stewardship campaign is the driving force of our budget, as pledges are responsible for covering almost 70% of our expenses. Almost half of those pledging took a step up in giving and pledged a larger portion of their income than they had in the past. Overall our pledges totaled almost \$325,000, a 4% increase over 2017. We have also received pledges towards our Youth programs, and with your help we hoping to see increases in both our Rummage Sale and Christmas Festival and Bazaar.

Our budgeted expenses for 2018 reflect a small increase in personnel expense and small increases in other categories. The detail of the budget is included in the Cash Receipts and Disbursements Statement and can be compared to the budget and results for 2017. Based on our projected income, we expect a deficit of \$17,432. This deficit can be covered by the surplus funds from prior years of over \$19,000.

Thank you to those who support the financial operations of the church – Debbie Hubbs, our Parish Administrator, our weekly counters and bank depositors, and data entry support.

And thank you all for your financial support of St. Anthony – allowing us to spread God’s word to many.