

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022



PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

[Watch the Annual Meeting Here!](#)

January 28, 2023

1015 Del Webb Blvd. East

Sun City Center, Florida 33573

www.stjohndivine.com

**ST. JOHN DIVINE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JANUARY 28, 2023**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
AGENDA	3
MINUTES OF 2022 MEETING	4-5
RECTOR'S REPORT	5-6
ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT	7
SR. WARDEN'S REPORT	7-8
JR. WARDEN'S REPORT	8

SWEEPS MINISTRY REPORTS

SERVICE	9
WORSHIP	9-11
EDUCATION	13
EVANGELISM	12-13
PARISH LIFE	14-15
STEWARDSHIP	15-16
TREASURER	17
NECROLOGY	18

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER

APPROVAL OF 2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

APPOINTING OF BALLOT STEWARDS

1ST BALLOT FOR VESTRY

ED BROWN AWARD

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING VESTRY MEMBERS

Greg Diehl
Linda Floyd
Walter Powell
Howard Roshaven

2ND BALLOT (IF NEEDED)

2022 FINANCIAL REVIEW AND 2023 BUDGET PRESENTATION

SR. WARDEN'S COMMENTS

RECTOR'S ADDRESS

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

QUESTIONS

READING OF THE NECROLOGY

ADJOURNMENT

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, 2022

St. John Divine Episcopal Church
Annual Meeting – 1/22/22 – 6:30 – 7:35 p.m.
St. John Divine Sanctuary or by Zoom Due to The Pandemic

Fr. Lee opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes for the 2021 Annual Meeting were reviewed with no corrections. Motion to approve was made by Doug Roderick and seconded by Barbara Gingrich. It was voted to accept the minutes as presented.

Appointing of Lectors: Fr. Kevin appointed Scott and Gerry Gardner as lectors to count the ballots for Vestry Candidates and Convention Delegates.

The first ballot for Vestry was cast. Nominated were: Dennis Accardo, Sharon Bakay, Don Fisher, Mary Lane Kullmann, Walter Powell, Marianne Strehar, Clare Thompson, Steve Van Loan and Jackie Winder.

Elected on first ballot to a 3-year term to the Vestry were: **Don Fisher, Mary Lane Kullmann, Walter Powell, Clare Thomson, Steve Van Loan, and Jackie Winder.**

The following have been nominated to perform the duties of Convention Delegate: Katie Arp, Sandi Gaudet, Doug Roderick, Aubrey Thompson and Sharon Van Loan.

Elected Delegates for the 2022 Diocesan Convention are: **Katie Arp, Aubrey Thompson, and Sharon Van Loan.** Doug Roderick will be the 1st alternate and Sandi Gaudet will be the 2nd alternate.

Presentation of the Ed Brown Award:

Mark and Annie Hunter. Between the two of them, they have served as Warden, Jr. Warden, served on the Vestry, participated in the Praise Band and were always on call for any need. They are moving to the Dominican Republic where they will be a blessing to their new parish.

Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members and our Treasurer

Annie Hunter, Allie Maiocchi, Chuck Lieble and Val Bryant. They have all worked very hard on the Vestry and we appreciate their service.

2022 Financial Review and 2023 Budget Presentation by Sue Arp.

- - We finished the year \$36K to the good. This was the first time that Fr. Kevin saw the pledge income was well above that which was expected. We are truly blessed.
- The Thrift Shop, Divine Marketplace, and receipt of two major gifts contributed to our bottom line. We were very blessed at the end of the year.
- Next year we are still projecting a deficit but we are not worried.
- We do have an aging building and need to create a reserve to cover the expected upcoming expenses..

Rector's Address

- 2021 has been the most challenging year that Fr. Kevin has had with the pandemic, cultural unrest, and not having a clear vision on what to do next.
- We will try for a 3rd time to go to the Holy land. Hopefully the 3rd time will be the charm.
- We were excited to have Fr. David here, but an opportunity came for him to become a Rector of a parish in North Carolina, and they moved there.
- We received a prophecy at the Vestry Retreat that God was watching over us and we would be OK.
- More people are involved in worship on-line. Some of those that found us on-line are now members of our parish, including two that were baptized.

- We are holding educational classes via Zoom. The youth group continues to meet and grow.
- More people are sending prayer requests to Barb Gingrich who passes on the requests to our prayer team.
- Fr. Kevin thanked his paid and unpaid staff, Vestry, and the people that assist with our ministries.

Updates

- Tractors on our property belong to the county. Apparently, there is a water issue.
- On the lot next door, there will be a Florida Orthopedic expansion and an office building. Between these buildings and 301, a preschool will be built.
- We are hoping that with the addition of the preschool, we will be able to have access to 301 from our parking lot.
- Marian Fitzgerald, a long-time member of St. John's who lived across the street from our property, passed away at 103. Marian was very generous and left us the proceeds of the sale of her property. Marian was blessed and was able to live by herself on her property almost up to the time of her death.
- We do have a new organist and choir director, Aline Giampietro, who unfortunately came down with Covid and missed her 1st two Sundays. She has been working with the choir and learning the Episcopal Service.
- It has been noted that across the country, families are not coming back to Church services. Fr. Kevin will be sending personal invitations to all the families of our parish to invite them back to services. Youth activities are starting to pick back up. We are concerned that kids have so many things competing for their time and attention that they will lose the connection with church.
- We have started Satellite services at the memory units and at Aston Gardens. We do need a song leader, someone to set up, and lay readers. Services are well attended.

Necrology

Fr. Lee read off a list of 12 parishioners who have passed away in 2021.

Adjournment

Fr. Kevin closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer and a Blessing.

Minutes by Valerie Bryant, Clerk

RECTOR

2022 proved to be a year of change, far beyond what we could have imagined. For SJD the changes were dramatic:

- We said goodbye to our long-time organist/choir director Joan Frankel, welcomed a new organist, Aline Giampietro, only to see her resign in April due to her long commute and the spike in gas prices. God smiled on us, and virtuoso Val Southwell happened to be available and has ably led the choral music program since.
- In June Cheryl Savini joined the staff as a part-time receptionist and has done a wonderful job greeting folk at the front desk.
- In August we said goodbye to our longest standing lay employee, Tommy Blair as he exited the booth and headed off to college.

- Also in August, our Director of Christian Education, Thomas Kreidler, who since the beginning of the year had been expanding our elementary group, leading our Youth Group on a Mission Trip, and signing the 9:15 service for the deaf and hard of hearing, suffered a heart attack and died.
- Finally, we have been adjusting to the “New Normal” and how it affects churches. There has been a huge drop-off in both attendance and giving. This is not an SJD phenomenon, nor just an Episcopal issue, but one that crosses denominational lines. One priest at a recent Clericus meeting reported one of his members as saying they have “repurposed” their Sundays. We were hopeful that, coming out of Covid, we would see a return of folk and a resurgence of ministry. Instead, we have seen fewer people volunteering for positions and this, combined with lower attendance numbers resulted in going to a 2-service format on Sunday mornings. The one service unaffected by this has been our off-site, 6 p.m. service at Aston Gardens at the Courtyards. Fr. Lee has enjoyed a steady stream of folk, and the service has enough volunteers to continue. As I write these things seem to have changed for the good. Many people have joined the SJD community in the last few months, and we already have 10 more Estimate of Giving Cards for 2023 than all of 2022.

There were also changes in the wider church as we elected a new Bishop of the Diocese SW Florida in April. Doug Scharf, who grew up in this diocese was elected as our new bishop. Many from our parish went to his consecration in September, and to his Investiture and Seating January 7.

Covid still continued to rear its ugly head as many of us caught the latest strain. Thankfully, it was significantly weaker than the original version and I was only side-lined the minimum number of days prescribed by the CDC.

By far the highlight of the year was our trip to the Holy Land. It had been scheduled and cancelled twice due to Covid, and one of our twelve was unable to go due to illness, but eleven of us made it this year. This was my first trip to Jerusalem and Egypt, and I hope it will not be my last.

I would like to end this report by saying thank you. If I start listing names I will forget someone, and this report will become unwieldy, but I will go by categories and try not to miss anyone.

- **My Paid Staff.** This is a great group of people who are dedicated to SJD, and practice their vocations with diligence and integrity.
- **My Unpaid Staff.** These are people who, without them, this place would crumble. Many of them come to weekly “staff” meetings, and do much of the work behind the scenes such as data management, newcomer assimilation, altar guild, Sunday volunteers, etc.
- **Our Musicians.** Choir, praise team, occasional soloists, all add to the fabric of worship and bring the rest of us closer the His throne.
- **Our Prayer Warriors.** A friend of mine who was once part of this church called me recently and lamented his church did not have them. The difference, he said, was palpable. Thank you to all of you who pray for me, our parish, and all other concerns.
- **My Wife.** From the time we met in 1976, to our marriage four years later, and all the subsequent years, she has been my rock, my prayer partner and the love of my life. Being a clergy wife is not easy, but she has always handled it with aplomb and been an asset to me.
- **All of You.** SJD has been my parish home for the last eight years and your support, encouragement, and correction have been appreciated.

I will always give thanks for SJD and hold you all in my prayers. Thank you for a great 8 years!

Blessings!
Fr. Kevin+

ASSOCIATE RECTOR

PASTORAL CARE

I am hoping we will now be able to regain the enthusiasm we had a few years ago and develop teams who, with myself, go out, excited, to visit, minister, comfort and nurture those who need the prayers and compassion of the church. I am pleased to say that, to my knowledge, anyone unable to attend church services, for any reason, was able to receive the Sacrament, either from myself or from a licensed Eucharistic visitor.

ASTON GARDENS

As we, in our second year, at the 6pm service at Aston Gardens, the Courtyard, continue with a full Eucharist each Sunday, the attendance is growing. I have wonderful assistance in setting up for the service and great participation in the readings and in the serving of Communion. Justin Hill, master of the keyboard, thrills us at the piano, Jean Brown lends her beautiful voice for solos and Alyson Barrett masterfully leads our music. Our fellowship crew, led by Linda Waring, always has plenty of snacks to serve as we gather around the tables at the end of the services to share our weekly experiences with each other.

Father Lee†

SENIOR WARDEN

In the year 2022 our leadership hoped to see a return to pre-pandemic normal. That did not happen. In fact, reports around the nation from every major denomination reveal that 35% or more of the pre-Covid, pre-livestream church attendees never returned to in-person Sunday services. Our own Sunday attendance is slightly more than half of pre-pandemic levels.

And people who don't come are less likely to give financial support to their church. Weekly and monthly giving is significantly lower. There are, however, still many faithful givers among the St. John Divine congregation. We honor you and thank you for your generosity. There is a need for more people like you.

We have known for decades that our denomination, like many others, is declining. But that was happening so gradually that we barely noticed. I believe Covid-19 has given us a wake-up call. I get the feeling that the Lord has prophetically shown us what may amount to ten or fifteen years of decline compressed into two years. It can no longer be ignored. There are some decisions that need to be made. Do we simply continue to function as we have been until we fade away, or are we willing to change?

Last year, in my Annual Meeting report, a prediction was made about the Healing Center nearing completion. Please don't chuckle, but I'll make the same prediction this year. It seems the County has finally given their approval to finish the building and open the Center for its intended purpose. I am excited to watch God demonstrate His healing power through the prayer teams that will minister in the new facility. Where God's miracles are being reported, churches are growing and thriving.

During this past year I had the opportunity to meet with leaders of several of those churches that are growing because the power of God is being demonstrated and wonderful life-changing testimonies are being told.. The knowledge I gained may prove to be useful in the ongoing ministry of St. John Divine Church.

In 2022 I had the privilege of traveling with Thomas Kreidler and his youth group on a mission trip to Kentucky. Good ministry happened there. Then, just a short time later, we were shocked by Thomas' sudden death. I am grateful to know that Thomas had a life-giving relationship with his Savior. We do not know the final day and hour for any of our loved ones. There is an urgency to the message of the Gospel. Don't put off sharing Christ. And don't put off finding full assurance of your own salvation. Of all the things you might do, that is the one that has eternal consequences.

Father Kevin has recently announced his upcoming retirement. Fr. Kevin, we bless this new season of your life in which you can now take a well-deserved rest. Thank you for your tireless leadership. You have been a major blessing to St. John Divine Episcopal Church. We love you.

It has been an honor to have been your Senior Warden for the last two years. This meeting will be my last official function on the vestry. I look forward to continuing with all of you in offering my time, talent and financial support to St. John Divine Episcopal Church as we work as the hands, feet and voice of Jesus Christ in the Southshore region.

I love you, in Jesus' name,

Howard Roshaven

JUNIOR WARDEN

As the year ended and I am finishing my 1st year as Jr Warden, it has been quite a learning experience for me. I would like to start by thanking everyone for their patience and help through this transition. It's had its moments and rewards wrapped all into one. Thank you all for your help and comments. Let's continue to all work together in the coming year.

During the past year there were a lot of things that needed finishing from last year's planning. For example: the installation of all new windows (Now Hurricane Proof) as well as the new lighting installed throughout the church.

Four new items that popped up there was the parking lot lights that needed repair, the AC units, (which are showing their age), having the kitchen brought up to snuff with cleaning of the deep fryer, checking out all the other appliances, tracking down the gas smell which turned out to be the burning off of the cleaning solution, repairing the kitchen lighting and the list goes on both inside and outside the church with numerous maintenance requirements weekly.

Then there was the Hurricane which knocked down branches, the trash door and our sign on 301 along with the flagpole at the Banner Building. All have been fixed except for the trash door which we are still waiting for a contractor to put it back up. It will be done soon. Kudos go out to Mark Hunter for repairing the sign on 301. He did a great job, and it looks better than before the storm. Thank you, Mark! It was decided to stay with one flagpole with both flags flying in front of the Church and not replace the one in front of the Banner Building.

As we go into 2023 there is still lots to be done. Some general maintenance and some big-ticket items. We will just have to take them one at a time. After all we are in our 12th year, and we can expect other problems to pop up. You can be assured we will keep it all in good shape as we move forward.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Blessed New Year.

Steve Van Loan
Jr Warden

SWEEPS REPORTS

SERVICE COMMISSION

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." John 21:17

These words of Jesus define the mission of St. John Divine's Outreach Program. Our Outreach Committee is dedicated to helping people in need in our local area, nationally, and internationally.

The Outreach Committee designates an Outreach Project for each month and may provide assistance for other causes.

In 2022, over \$ 4,280.00 was contributed by SJD parishioners and from the SJD Outreach Committee budgeted funds, along with many non-cash donations and hours of volunteering to help the less fortunate.

Outreach Projects

Choices Women's Center
Meals on Wheels
South Sudan
Miracles Outreach
"Back to School"

Interfaith Council of Sun City Center
The Lord's Lighthouse Mission
My Service Dog's Place
The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem
The Gideons

Please consider volunteering your time and talent to the Outreach Committee. Join us the 3rd Monday of the month at 10:30 a.m. Become involved with one of our many existing outreach concerns or bring our attention to new needs that could be impacted by our efforts. For more information, contact our Outreach Chairperson, Connie Keister.

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me'. " Matthew 25:40

WORSHIP COMMISSION

"Seeking God's presence through prayer, praise and fellowship."

VERGER'S REPORT

"Let me be to You, as a brush is to a painter, worthless without You, but capable of transforming the human heart by the power of Your mercy." (From The Deacon's Prayer)

Mr. Chairman, my sisters, and brothers. The time has come when I am required to report to you on the activities of the Verger Ministries. As always, your constructive criticisms and suggestions are appreciated.

STRUCTURE:

Aubrey V. Thompson (**Head Verger**)

Philip Bethea (**Verger 8:00 a.m.**)

OPERATION:

I have stated this before, but I think it needs repeating for the benefit of the many new parishioners who have asked what is a Verger? The Verger apart from escorting the procession at any given service, is responsible for scheduling the Eucharistic Ministers (EM's), and the Lectors for the regular service on Sunday, special occasions like the Easter Vigil, Pentecost, Christmas Eve, funerals, memorial services, and weddings. The Verger also interfaces with the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and the A/V booth to ensure that your Sunday worship is smooth and pleasant. It might surprise you to note that on any given Sunday, it takes a little less than fifty people between the two services to execute a smooth worship experience. Most of this work is done quietly behind the scenes in the days leading up to the Lord's Day.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW:

We started the year still cautious in our worship and general interaction, governed by the fear brought on by COVID-19. As a result, we continued to offer communion in one kind. On Easter Sunday, we thought that the time was ripe to reintroduce the common chalice together with an intinction cup. This provided parishioners with three options. They could just receive the host, receive the host and have it intincted or receive the host and drink from the common chalice. This Sunday also saw the reintroduction of the Gospel Procession.

In June during Pentecost Sunday, the choir joined the Entrance procession.

During the summer, it was observed that the 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services were dwindling in attendance. After consultation, it was decided to combine the two services. On August 28th, we held our first combined service at the new time of 10:00 a.m. The Praise band begins the service for twenty minutes with Praise and Worship selections. At 10:25 a.m., the organ starts the Processional ushering in the Altar Party and the Choir. The Psalm is led by the Praise Band. The remainder of the service is led by the Organ and the Chancel Choir.

In this circle of life, we had the pleasure of four baptisms during the year, completing the circle with twelve funerals. Our Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors were always available to be a part of these life changing events.

On November 5th, the Ushers invited the Eucharistic Ministers to a meeting to discuss the reintroduction of the passing of the communion plates. The passing of the plates began on Nov. 6th.

The Eucharistic Ministers are constantly looking for additional team members. If you feel so called, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Morning prayer:

SJD has been offering in-person Morning Prayer on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:00 a.m. We continue to invite you to take an hour out of your busy day and join us as we offer up prayers. Come sit and share your quiet moments with all the communion of saints.

MEETINGS:

On February 19th. the Vergers and Eucharistic Ministers met to have a slight refresher course.

We had proposed to have a formal training course for the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and potential candidates in the fall, prior to their commissioning. However, the exigencies of time did not make it possible. We will attempt to execute this session in the early spring.

CONCLUSION:

I would like to thank all the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers and my colleague Verger, Philip Bethea, all who answered the call to service.

Thanks to Fr. Kevin, Fr Lee, and Fr. Carl for their assistance along the way.

To you my sisters and brothers of SJD, thanks for your support these past months.

UBUNTU!

In the name of Him who loved us first.

Aubrey V. Thompson

ALTAR GUILD

Altar Guild is one of the most gratifying ministerial efforts. It requires a love of your church, its traditions, and willingness to work with a variety of church members.

It is a team-based ministry that usually works in pairs or alone. Altar Guild members receive training and typically work with the Directress and then with an experienced Altar Guild member until they feel confident to be on their own.

Altar Guild members respectfully handle the sacred worship objects. Partnering with clergy, Altar Guild members create a true sense of camaraderie with other team members. Serving requires attending a few meetings annually and performing duties before and after your team's assigned services.

We have lost a number of our faithful members through various situations. Our team now operates with 3-8 members who prepare the Altar for all church services including Wednesday healing service, Baptisms, Weddings and Celebration of Life services.

We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to our Priests; Aubrey our Verger and his team and Yoniece, our Flower Guild Director for their support and assistance as we concentrate on rebuilding our ministry.

Of course we are always looking for those who may be called to serve on the Altar Guild. Please contact Maggie or me for more information.

Blessings,
Chér Cerebe,
ccerebe@verizon.net
(813) 526-1646

Maggie Pliska
maggiepliska@gmail.com
(813) 240-7214

EDUCATION COMMISSION

“Teaching God’s Word and integrating it into our everyday life.”

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We meet every at 11 a.m. Wednesday via zoom or in person in the Wirick room and have had good response and turn-outs. This year we began studying Isaiah all year. It is an exceptionally long book, 66 chapters, and we can see the end as we have passed into the 50’s. We are blessed to have Fr. Kevin’s leadership as he is excellent making us really think about what we have read by pulling out probing questions. He is ably backed up by Val Bryant, so we never have to miss a week. We sometimes get side-tracked, go down the rabbit hole, but it’s always, informative, thought provoking, and enjoyable!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

This year was a year of ups and downs in all categories: Youth Group, Sunday School, and Nursery.

- **The Youth Group** (Grades 9-12) did a great job of fundraising for its summer mission trip. This year they travelled to Mayfield, Kentucky, the area hit hardest by the tornadoes, where friendships were forged, and all who participated grew spiritually.
- **The Sunday School** (K-5) was active and growing. “Kid’s Corner” became a teaching time for during the 9:15 service and new families were beginning to attend. Thomas turned the Sunday School room into a different themed unit every few weeks and kept the kids’ interest through mad science and spy craft.
- **The Nursery** has grown in numbers, and we are still looking for more staff. With 6 regulars and as many occasional visitors it can be a challenging place to work. Thanks to Vivian Smalls who coordinates staffing it, our one dependable employee, Denise Smalls, and those who volunteer, especially Katie Freeman.

Unfortunately, with Thomas’ passing, all the progress, plans and momentum in the Youth Group and Sunday School has been lost. Coupled with a very tight budget and the need to recover from the shock, no plans have been made to replace him. The nursery families are in conversation with one another, and may restart the Sunday School with volunteers, and or appeal to the Vestry for staffing. Either way, doing nothing could result in the loss of 5 families and hurt future growth.

EVANGELISM COMMISSION

“Knowing Christ and making Him known through the power of the Holy Spirit”

HEALING CENTER

We Are Almost Good to Go!

County officials suddenly determined that the Healing Center was to be termed “commercial.” Initially, County planners indicated that considering the few number of occupants at a time, the building would bypass many of the strict guidelines for a standard commercial building.

Unfortunately, the pandemic came, County Buildings were closed, County employees worked from home and others found other jobs. The pandemic ended, the County opened, construction ballooned, and new people were hired. Then a new County Commission was elected and determined after years of random growth, they were cutting down and there would be “new rules. The Healing Center became a “commercial building.” Land Engineers, the General Contractor and all the sub-contractors complied with their new more restrictive and extensive requirements. The inspector who gave us a “final approval” was fired. A new requirement was that we had to have drawings submitted by the land engineer of something that was neither required nor done and was impossible. It took our General Contractor and Land Engineers close to three months and threats to hire an attorney for us to have that Occupancy Permit issued.

The occupancy permit is in now in hand! The interior contractors and their sub-contractors are being interviewed and bids taken for the build-out and deck construction. We are told that once we “make that decision” it will move swiftly. We have been told that before but this time we believe them!

SJD’S GROWING VIDEO OFFERINGS 2022

Hello Everyone! Another year, another Year End Report!

- Current Achievements – Since offering videos online with YouTube in May of 2018 we have 38,736 views! In 2022 we totaled 8,085 views with Live Streams being over 5,500 of those views. As expected, most of these numbers saw major drop offs from last year with congregants coming back to in-person worship.
- Most Popular Videos – The Top 10 videos of 2022 were a mix of mostly Live Streams with a couple sermons. A major portion of our most viewed videos were special services such as funerals and sermons by new speakers. Special mention to [Thomas Kreidler's Sermon on July 31st 2022](#) as our most viewed video of 2022 at 495 views and becoming the most viewed video ever on our YouTube Channel.
- Improvements – In 2022 the AV Booth saw no real equipment improvements. Most equipment was either maintained or replaced as needed. On the software end we saw many updates that improved our current offerings. I feel that our announcement slides have improved in look and quality through updates on Microsoft PowerPoint, and to the addition of contributions from Cheryl Savini and Ed Brown. Then our streaming software, OBS, has simplified the streaming processes making things more straightforward.
- Volunteers – I have added this section to both thank the current AV Booth volunteers and restate our need for more help in the Booth. We managed to get help from some congregants on the screens, but we need people who want to learn new things to run the cameras and sound. Howard Roshaven and I are eager to teach anyone who wishes to learn.
- Final Notes – As always, I encourage all to view our [Website](#), follow us on [Facebook](#), get connected on [Realm](#), and Subscribe to our [YouTube](#). We want to interact with the congregation on these platforms and grow them. Thank you for all the support you have shown our Ministry.

Faithfully,
Tristan M. Warner
Media & Tech Specialist

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

“Celebrating with, and caring for, our SJD Community”

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING

Our church is part of the Faith Community Nursing network sponsored by the Bay Care System. Our team will resume taking blood pressures monthly in 2023.

FELLOWSHIP

Coffee hours have been very well attended this year as parishioners have become more comfortable mingling with others after Covid restrictions were removed. Corporate dinners were well supported by members of the congregation including the pancake supper, Lenten soup suppers and various celebratory potlucks.

GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY (GSM)

Good Shepherd Ministry was created to fulfill part of the mission statement for St. John Divine; “Care for God’s people” and for the purpose of providing fellowship and regular social interaction for homebound parishioners and those who rarely get out (e.g., listening, Bible reading, playing card or board games, praying, etc.) Some members are also transporting shut-ins to church services and an afternoon out for lunch or dinner.

We have a faithful group of 12 members who are providing these services to several of our parishioners. There is an ongoing need and opportunity for more members. GSM needs go beyond visiting and providing fellowship to the homebound. Members are needed to maintain records, make phone calls, complete assessments of needs, schedule and coordinate visits.

We would like to reach out to more of our congregants in need and rely on members of St. John Divine to provide us referrals. Referrals for fellowship can come from anyone; family, friends, SJD and the individual themselves.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Morgan

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Grief Support Group is a very active group, meeting twice a month. It gives wonderful support to anyone facing a loss, be it loss of a loved one, loss of a pet, loss of connectedness, or feelings of isolation. Everyone is welcome to come.

PRAYER CHAIN

In 2022 we had 76 participants in the prayer chain ministry at SJD. We receive requests from our parishioners either by phone or email. The number of requests for healing prayers varies from week to week. The requests are on our list for 2 weeks. If further prayers are needed, the requester notifies the chain. The coordinator sends an email asking for prayers to those who are participants on our prayer chain list. No phone calls are made by the parishioners who are praying. We thank God for this ministry and know He always hears our prayers.

SMALL GROUPS

Study Groups: Faithful Followers and the Books of Faith Club discussion groups met regularly throughout the year. The SJD Book Club is inactive due to the need for a new leader.

Foyer Groups: Five Foyer Groups (monthly social gatherings of parishioners that take place away from the church, usually in parishioners' homes) were established midyear: three in-home potluck dinner groups, one eating-out group and one games group, involving approximately 35 parishioners. Sign-ups for next year's program are very strong, trending to surpass the number of 2022 groups.

WELCOME MINISTRY

We have revamped our greeting protocol to accommodate current attendance at our worship services and updated the handout materials we provide visitors and newcomers. The greeting team welcomed 45 newcomers to our church during 2022 (5 in the first quarter of the year, 9 in the second quarter, 13 in the third quarter and 18 in the fourth quarter, demonstrating a healthy rise in newcomer interest as the year progressed). Four newcomers have become members and six have become associate members; the others are in various stages of assimilation.

WOMEN OF ST JOHN DIVINE (WSJD)

All women of the church are automatically part of the WSJD. Due to Covid we have not met on a regular basis for some time. However, the women of this church are very actively involved in many ministries of the church. A Fall Festival was held this November as a fundraiser.

INACTIVE GROUPS

Daughters of the King (DOK), Eucharistic Visitors, and Men of St. John Divine (MSJD).

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

“Planning and managing the resources entrusted to us by God”

Triple T Ministry 2022

The Triple T Ministry was established after the February 2021 Vestry retreat and continued in 2022 to be viable and exciting new ministry. The focus of the Triple T is to provide wider visibility and knowledge for ways to contribute to mission and ministries of SJD.

Of course, most are aware of the “Treasure” aspect, that of providing a pledge of financial support, so that budgets can be established to fund the various ministries we have. But the function of this ministry is to expand on the “Time” and “Talent” areas of giving, and to show how all three are inextricably connected. Talent, to help define what one's gift is, and to help develop it. Time, to provide ideas as to how to utilize your available time to help yourself and your parish.

Goals were established, some accomplished and some not so much. Herein are some of them that occurred and with a few steps that will go forward into 2023.

- Emphasize Volunteerism: Articles were written in many monthly issues of Revelations that focused on the different SJD ministries that depend so much on volunteerism.
- Better Pledge emphasis: PLEDGE ON-LINE was established for the 2022 budget as well as the pledge capability through Realm. Letters were sent to all pledge givers & non-pledge givers to consider pledging or increasing their pledge. For the non-tech members, a paper card continued to be available.
- Volunteering Testimonials: Personal testimonials were given at services in 2022 & early 2023 on how God's gifts impacted their lives to give back in support of SJD's mission.

- Established Financial Planning classes: While an article was written in Revelations on Estate Planning, no classes were conducted, but classes are planned in 2023 with the assistance of our Thrivent representative.
- Increase SJD visibility in the community: The Triple T logo was established & was prominently utilized in articles & sanctuary screen slides. Ads were continued in the SCC edition of the Observer. SJD publicity screen banners were created in several community merchants; it is the hope that this effort will continue to grow with more merchants in 2023.

It has been exciting to see this new and exciting ministry grow at SJD and the community as a different way to communicate the needs of our varied ministries and how our parishioners can be involved.

2022 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Combined Building and General Fund

2022 Stats

68 Total Pledges Received, of which, 3 were building only
 Total Amount Pledged \$232,760

2023 Stats

80 Total Pledgers, of which, 4 were building only
 Total Amount Pledged \$215,896
 We have 30 new pledges totaling \$58,270

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee consists of three members, Doug Roderick, Carl Lingertot and Steve Van Loan. Our fund was ably managed by Carl as seen below.

2022 beginning balance	\$341,015
2022 income	\$50,963
2022 gain/loss	(\$57,476)
2022 disbursements	(\$14,912)
2022 fees	(\$3,672)

2022 Year-end balance \$315,918

(+ \$25,000 still in MMA from SAL payback)

GRACE MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Grace Memorial Garden continues to thrive. The walkway that floods after heavy rain storms will be corrected in 2023. It was suggested that the old stain glass windows from the Ruskin property be restored and placed in the garden. There are quite a few of the windows that are cracked due to being stored incorrectly, so the project will be researched. Anyone wanting information on the Grace Memorial Garden please contact Kbolduc21@aol.com or at 774-454-3499. Memorial bricks are also available for \$100.00 for loved ones or friends to write messages or names for the walkway.

2022 TREASURERS REPORT

Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary December 2022

	Annual Budget 2022	YTD Actual 2022	Annual Budget 2023
Revenues			
Total Contributions	\$ 412,000	\$ 327,800	\$ 357,000
Other Income	\$ 99,350	\$ 316,598	\$ 276,956
Building Income	\$ 46,700	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000
Total Revenues	\$ 558,050	\$ 673,398	\$ 662,956
Expenses			
Work Outside the Parish	\$ 96,445	\$ 94,945	\$ 95,893
Personnel			
<i>Clergy</i>			
Rector	\$ 160,706	\$ 169,061	\$ 30,743
Associate Clergy	\$ 40,200	\$ 37,550	\$ 41,810
Interim Rector	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 63,000
Supply	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 2,000
Total Clergy	\$ 201,406	\$ 206,611	\$ 137,553
Total Staff	\$ 209,906	\$ 205,075	\$ 200,577
Total Personnel	\$ 411,312	\$ 411,686	\$ 338,130
Operating Expenses			
Administration	\$ 29,450	24,550	\$ 25,900
Christian Education	\$ 6,950	\$ 2,087	\$ 2,700
Liturgical	\$ 5,950	\$ 6,377	\$ 6,950
Parish Ministries	\$ 3,250	\$ 541	\$ 1,850
Facility and Ground Keeping Expenses	\$ 117,100	\$ 127,850	\$ 129,600
Ad and non-ad valorum taxes	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 164,100	\$ 162,805	\$ 168,400
Other Expenses			
Total Mortgage Payment	\$ 41,340	\$ 41,340	\$ 41,340
Total Diocese Loan Payments	\$ 27,381	\$ 27,381	\$ 17,400
Total Other Expenses	\$ 68,721	\$ 68,721	\$ 58,740
Total Expenses	\$ 740,578	\$ 738,157	\$ 661,163
Net Operating Total	\$ (182,528)	\$ (64,759)	\$ 1,793

NECROLOGY

*Members of the parish who entered the
nearer presence of our Lord in the year 2022*

Barbara Geywits

Thomas Pagnini

Nancy Lillie

Barbara Garside

Maria Martucci

Florence George

Kathryn Collins

Joan Waldron

Cynthia Panka

Charles Lieble Sr

Mark Thomas Kreidler

Richard Gingrich

Lynn Selke