

2025 Annual Report

St. John's Episcopal Church



St. John's Episcopal Church
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190th Annual Community Gathering
Sunday, January 25, 2026

“To know and to share the love of Jesus Christ”

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Appointment of Clerk
5. Bible Study and Discussion at Tables (Page 5)
6. Whole group sharing
7. Alpha invitation - Alison Barkley
8. Elections
9. Recognition of Vestry Members rotating off the Vestry
10. 2025 Year End Budget Presentation - Delores Landry
11. 2026 Budget Presentation - Delores Landry & Robert Ford
12. Senior Warden's Address - Robert Ford
13. Rector's Report
14. Closing Prayer

Minutes for the January 26, 2025 Annual Meeting

Meeting called to order, followed by a hymn and a prayer.

Motion for adoption of the 2024 meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Election for Vestry Officers – slate presented of Robert Ford as Sr. Warden, Jeffrey Perry as Jr. Warden and Delores Landry as Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously. Election for Vestry Members – slate – Chris Morin, Jacqueline Camm, Mary Wright, Charlene Boggins and Leon Souweine. The motion passed unanimously.

Delegates introduced, ballots passed out and collected / counted by Scott Burgess & Jim Blanchette. Delegates on ballot are - Mary-Frances Beesorchard, Justin Hall, Jeffrey Perry, Patricia Sprague, William Somes, Delores Landry, Christi Proctor and Ralph Whedon.

Don Lewis spoke about the finances. The pledge campaign is comparable to last year. Fr. Nutter expressed his curiosity about why the numbers were flat. David Field speaks about the budget. We ended up in the black in 2024. Reviews some of the significant items in the budget, but overall it all looks good. Don Lewis reflects on how the transfers with the investment work and how we are using the earnings. A round of applause for David Field, Don Lewis and Ralph Whedon for their work. Motion to support the budget as presented, seconded and unanimously supported.

Fr. Nutter speaks about how if we want “more Priest”, we need more support. We have more people in the pews, but the same number of pledges. He explains the importance of pledges so we can set the budget. A percentage of our budget goes to the Diocese and Fr. Nutter explains what is supported with that money and why it’s important. It’s a privilege to give to the Diocese and get support from them.

Appreciation for the outgoing Vestry members - Ralph Whedon, Don Lewis, Cindy Lufkin, Eric Boberg, David Field, Nyree O’Donald, and David Souweine.

Fr. Nutter reflects on his time with us. Eric Boberg will head up the search committee. Fr. Nutter does not think it will be as fast as 3 months. The Committee will find qualified candidates and then the Vestry will become involved in the process. Words from Lucy Nutter, and from many parishioners about the time we’ve had with Fr. Nutter. Thank you to the staff and to Lucy for all her support in Great Wednesdays and of Fr. Nutter.

Delegates elected– Justin Hall, Delores Landry, Jeff Perry and William Somes. Alternate Delegates – Ralph Whedon, Patricia Sprague, Christi Proctor, Mary-Frances Beesorchard.

Hymn 376, followed by Final Prayer. The meeting adjourned.

Bible Study and Discussion

Ephesians 4: 1 - 16 (the Message Version)

‘To Be Mature in Christ’

4 1-3 In light of all this, here’s what I want you to do. While I’m locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don’t want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don’t want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences.

4-6 You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

7-13 But that doesn’t mean you should all look and speak and act the same. Out of the generosity of Christ, each of us is given his own gift. The text for this is,

He climbed the high mountain,
He captured the enemy and seized the plunder,
He handed it all out in gifts to the people.

Is it not true that the One who climbed up also climbed down, down to the valley of earth? And the One who climbed down is the One who climbed back up, up to highest heaven. He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ’s followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ’s body, the church, until we’re all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God’s Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.

14-16 No prolonged infancies among us, please. We’ll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are easy prey for predators. God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love - like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.

1. Take a moment to read the passage from Ephesians.
2. Have one, two or three people read the passage out loud to the group in parts, or in the case of one person, the passage as a whole.

3. What speaks to you in this passage? Share answers around the table.
4. How is this passage speaking to St. John's? Share....
5. How is this passage speaking to Bangor? Share.....
6. How is God calling you to live out this message in your ministry?
7. How is God calling our church to respond to this passage?

The Rector's Report

"All things work together for good for those who love the Lord" Romans 8:28

To begin, I am very grateful. I am grateful to God for sending me to you and I am grateful that you have received me so graciously and supportively to St. John's. At your church, I feel at home. My love for all of you is genuine and deep and I am so eager to collaborate with the Holy Spirit and you as we move toward God's abundant future.

By calling me as your full-time Rector you acted on your faith in God and your sincere hope for the future ministry of St. John's. I commend you for not only taking this risk but also for backing up your trust in God with great generosity and open-heartedness. We must believe that God is making a way for us. When we stay close to the Gospel and our mission to share the Good News of God's love in Jesus we will be sure to discover that God is providing for us.

Focus, not distraction, needs to be our constant refrain. We can go off in a million directions and end up a mile wide and an inch deep. Instead, we need to take up the deep, rich tradition of faith we have as a gift and learn how to pass on that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

During a visit with the local Roman Catholic Monsignor I learned that they have 70 people in their Rite of Christian Initiation Class. To say I was impressed would be a huge understatement. To say I was envious is also true, I confess. To say I accepted that massive interest in faith as a challenge would be true as well. The interest in the fullness of the catholic faith is out there among people hungry for God. We need to be welcoming and evangelizing those same people.

I like to use the Annual Meeting as a time to build community, to teach and to build excitement for the clear and effective execution of our Parish Mission. One tool I use, and that I teach to my congregations, is below:

12 Keys to an Effective Church

Church researcher Kennon Callahan distilled his studies into 12 keys for effective churches. An effective church is a church that knows what it is about, and acts with purpose and competence to make its mission concrete and accountable. Effective churches have a clear mission, s.m.a.r.t. objectives, strategies that deliver, and the capacity to experiment and adapt as methods to achieve the objectives prove effective or ineffective. (Effective churches also have a vision, and a clear set of values.)

The first SIX characteristics of an effective Church are the most important and ought to be the focus of any church, especially a church experiencing renewed growth and vitality.

Relational Characteristics – Increase satisfaction in congregations:

- Specific, concrete missional objectives
- Pastoral and lay visitation
- Corporate, dynamic worship
- Significant relational groups
- Strong leadership resources
- Streamlined structure and solid, participatory decision making

Functional Characteristics – Decrease dissatisfaction but do not increase satisfaction churches:

- Several competent programs and activities
- Open accessibility
- High visibility
- Adequate parking, land, and landscaping
- Adequate space and facilities
- Solid financial resources

The lists above are good news for St. John's. We have a clear mission and with a clear missional objective, i.e. to grow the parish by bringing folks to Jesus. Hiring a full-time clergy and continuing our Lay Eucharistic Visitor program means we have solid pastoral and lay visitation. Our worship is warm, bubbly and vibrant! We also have really excellent mature people of faith with a high capacity for ministry and a good solid vestry. The one area of growth we need to address in the first list is "Significant Relational Groups." Once people are invited and welcomed at St. John's how do they connect and find the community we all long for? How do we offer smaller groups - bible studies, affinity groups, activity groups - that will provide a primary place of connection for new people?

The second list is less important than the first and this is also good news. No one joins a church because of a quality parking lot or landscaping. Even adequate spaces and facilities are not that important. Some thriving churches meet in High School gyms! Finances are not the be all and end all of churches either. We put our trust in God, not cash on hand. St.

John's is mostly invisible on French Street and we do need to find ways to become more visible in the community. Posters, banners, yard signs will all be used to this end.

Callahan makes the excellent point that churches grow into competent programs by extending their ministry piece by piece based on their existing strengths. St. John's has a history of great choirs, for example. How do we build on that and other strengths?

Lifecycle

In my opinion, St. John's has gone through a resurrection experience from a dying trajectory to rebirth. First, we say, "Thanks Be To God" for that gift! Next we say, "How will we respond to God's generous gift of new life?"

Please see the "Lifecycle of the Church" following my report.

Having moved from decline to rebirth, St. John's must invest in innovation, re-definition, and re-imagining to make the most of the gifts the Holy Spirit is pouring on us. Of course, we bring whatever is healthy, true, and good from our history and tradition forward into the future. However, we also leave behind whatever is toxic, false and unconstructive from our past.

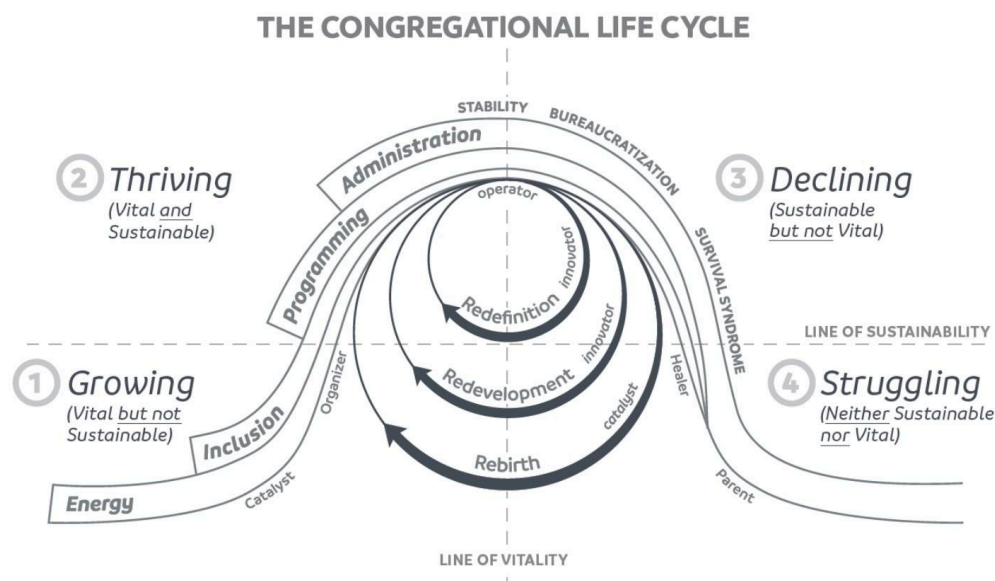
When I do marital counseling, I ask couples, "What from your birth family do you want to bring forward into your union and what do you want to leave behind?" Churches face the same question. When I worked in Philadelphia my church had a horrible tradition of snobbery. We needed to leave that behind. We also had a tradition of vibrant worship. We took that forward.

The process of rebirth will produce something new at St. John's and ask us to let go of habits and patterns to which we may be very attached. There may be letting go and grief here and there, yet we pray to keep our souls open to new gifts. We are not consumers after all. We are a community under the direction of God. For example....

Evangelism

We exist to introduce people to Jesus and nurture them as they build the trust in him that we call faith. Alpha is one initiative to meet this objective. We will also offer a class on evangelizing that creates space for participants to learn how to share your reasons for believing in an easy going and confident way. When we really love our neighbor we wish wellness for them and we share our best with them. If you can share your ladder with a neighbor, why not your testimony?

Take my report as notes to go with my presentation at our Annual Community Gathering! I am so excited to work with you in ministry together. Remember St. Paul's wise counsel: There are many gifts for many different people in a community. Not everyone is called to everything, and no one gift is above any other. God will raise up the people we need to pursue our mission.



Office Staff Reports

Office Manager Report

It was a busy year filled with changes. In March the office welcomed Dakota Miller as our new bookkeeper. Dakota is filled with energy and welcomed the challenge of helping to move us from QuickBooks to our new accounting system in Realm.

Fr. Nutter led us with enthusiasm for the majority of the year, while working hard to help guide us through a very smooth transition. Thank you all for coming out to say good-bye in September to Lucy and Fr. Nutter and for all of you who pitched in to make it a fabulous farewell party. I know they both appreciated our send off.

Thank you all for coming back the very next week to welcome The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel! And welcome to The Rev. Kerbel! I know you made him feel welcome with your greetings, and wonderful goodies at the welcome party. A short discernment and quick transition isn't the usual, but thanks to the hardworking discernment team, everyone at the Diocese of Maine who helped and everyone in this congregation, we did it! Thank you.

Thank you to our Office Volunteers, including Lorna Whedon, Sheila Singer, Kay Surpluss, Jacquie Wingert, Cindy Lufkin, Patricia Sprague, Kelsi Hobbs and Lucy Ballard for coming in regularly and helping out. The office works hard to support the Church, all of its leaders and the various ministries. We always welcome new volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in the office, or just want to talk about volunteer opportunities within the church, please contact me or The Rev. Kerbel.

Respectfully submitted, Vanessa Young, Office Manager

Bookkeeper Report

I was hired as the bookkeeper in March of 2025 and have worked tirelessly to learn proper bookkeeping protocols to help keep the transition not only smooth between accountants, but between accounting programs as well. I have worked closely with Delores Landry, St. John's Treasurer, to categorize and record expenses. Delores has been so supportive to me; many thanks, Delores! We have recently worked to put together a new Procurement Procedure. I look forward to using ACS (Realm accounting) which is now fully operational and set up for St. John's to track all income and expenditures. I am working towards an organization method so that all files are accounted for via using color-coded filing techniques for hard copy, and attaching PDF versions of invoices to the corresponding ACS charges. This method enables the Wardens and Officers to see a copy of the invoices without needing to be in-person at the church and allows for greater flexibility for everyone to be on the same page.

Best regards, Dakota Miller, Bookkeeper

Vestry Officer Reports

Senior Warden Report

My faith in God and His goodness towards us has grown enormously over the past three years. He sent Rev. Jim Nutter and Lucy to us from Texas when we most needed vision, inspiration, reassurance and leadership, and through Jim God provided it. And last year God again helped us by sending Rev. Jarrett Kerbel to us from Rhode Island in order that we be able to build off our new confidence and grow more into the church that God means us to be. It's happening.

Let me give specific examples.

The vestry is working with Jarrett and an education/evangelism committee to strengthen our education programs for children, younger people and adults. The education program will develop over the next few years, but the change is starting, including the Alpha program.

The community outreach programs, including clothing and food drives, Second Saturday and Fourth Tuesdays at Salvation Army, are providing help, fellowship and hope, as we've heard from those among us who visit homeless encampments and from those we serve.

The worship committee, respectful of Episcopalian tradition, is also trying out new ways to engage the congregation more during Sunday services. You'll see a new format for the weekly bulletins soon. We had a powerful but calming Taize service New Year's Eve and I eagerly await Evensong later this year.

Each weekly bulletin has a list of activities at St. John's, and I encourage everyone in the congregation to try some of them – maybe the book group or the altar guild or the choir or helping at a community outreach event or joining for Great Wednesday or something else. St. John's aims to make God's love known, and God's love inspires us to build relationships within the Church and beyond. And look around – most Sundays you will see new people checking out St. John's Episcopal. A reaction I hear from so many of them is how welcoming we as a congregation are. The large turnout two weeks ago at the funeral for Kristin Weeks vividly demonstrated our strong sense of church community as well.

Lastly, a quick comment about the 2026 church budget. Our overall financial situation is good, as you will see with the spreadsheet that lays out our endowments and the balance sheet. The 2026 budget is a lean budget – operating expenses are to drop about five percent and we projected conservatively a one percent drop in operating revenues. We will manage administrative expenses and those for ministries carefully even as we aim to increase spending for education and outreach programs. Notably, the vestry changed our internal procurement policy to ensure that ministry leaders know their remaining budget funds at the end of each month and can thus adjust their spending through the year to stay within their budgets. Along similar lines, the vestry also approved a new policy to ensure that only those persons with a real need for access have keys to our building and specific offices. All of us in the vestry thank the congregation for your outstanding support, including those who made pledges. We ask you to continue that support through prayer for our church and contributions, especially as we look ahead to a major elevator expense.

With love in Christ Jesus and gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Senior Warden,
Robert Ford

Jr Warden Report

This past year was, as always, a busy year for the Jr. Warden. I started the year completing the lighting project that had been started in 2024. I think we can all agree that the additional light has enriched our worship space.

The exterior doors had their growing pains and I made sure that they were all adjusted so they properly close and secure our building. Additional cameras were also installed to monitor all entrances.

Yearly outdoor spring and fall clean-up was done, including the cleaning out of the gutters.

During the December snow and wind storm, the large tree on the corner of the lot fell. Thankfully it did not do any damage to the building, and with the help of David Mitchell, long time member and our landscaper, the tree was quickly removed.

The elevator broke this fall, and we did our due diligence and secured multiple quotes for its repair. The broken valve needs to be custom made by the manufacturer, which has slowed the process. The manufacturer currently has the order, and as soon as it arrives, the repairs will take place. We hope to have the elevator operational again in February.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Junior Warden.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Perry, Jr. Warden

Treasurer Report

The 2025 year started off with some big changes. Our bookkeeper left her position at the beginning of February. Together Don Lewis and I tackled the task of wrapping up last year's books and getting us set up for 2026.

One of the goals was to switch our bookkeeping software from QuickBooks to REALM. The church was already using REALM for the database management and it made sense to start using the accounting function of the software. As with any new software, it is important to get the framework in place. We were fortunate to find Wendy Kopera, who does bookkeeping for the Cathedral in Portland. She assisted us in transitioning from QuickBooks to REALM.

We hired Dakota Miller as our part-time bookkeeper in March. He is working closely with Wendy and has done a great job learning REALM. He has shown a true commitment to the task and I am extremely grateful for his efforts! Wendy will stay on for just a few hours a month to reconcile accounts and ensure our books are up to date and in order. Continuity is important when the volunteer roles of leadership change.

Our current leadership team has worked to create clearer spending policies and procedures. We have also committed to monthly budget reporting to ministry leaders to enable them to better manage their programs.

We started the year with \$29,985.30 in our checking account and \$1,486,646.68 in our investment portfolio. We end the year with \$43,590,83 in our checking and \$1,470,853.74 in our investment portfolio.

All in all, it has been a very busy year of transitions but we are in a great shape to start the new year.

Respectfully submitted, Delores Landry

Education Ministry Reports

Adult Education & Formation

Great Wednesdays with Rev. Jarrett Kerbel and Rev. James W. Nutter.

There are three parts to Great Wednesdays: a Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel, followed by a communal meal in the undercroft at 6:00, and culminating with Bible study at 7:00 in the chapel. Through these three activities we confirm our discipleship to and dependency on God; we strengthen our bonds to one another; and open ourselves to the transforming power of Scripture – all this in one evening! In 2025, Great Wednesday participants studied The Gospel According to Mark (Spring) and The Book of Acts (Fall).

Other Educational Programs:

Christian Theology: An Introduction, by Alister McGrath. The author, Alister McGrath, believes that “Christian theology is amongst the most rewarding, fulfilling, and genuinely exciting subjects anyone can ever hope to study.” It is likely that participants in this book study would agree.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Sprague

Alpha

ALPHA: To fulfill our mission to Know and Share the Love of Jesus Christ, we will be offering our first Alpha Course at St. Johns on Sundays during Lent. As our website will soon declare: Alpha is:

A course that provides time and space for participants to ask every question and explore life and faith through a series of presentations and conversations that provide an introduction to the Christian faith in an informal, fun, and friendly environment. Millions of people the world over have attended an Alpha Course - an opportunity to explore the meaning of life from a Christian perspective. Millions have found a fresh and engaging space and time to ask their most probing questions about God as they consider the life of faith. Participants have found inner healing, positive changes in attitude and character, and the security of a lasting

relationship with our loving God. Alpha invites all participants to experience the life giving, and soul reviving walk with God.

All questions are welcomed! Bring your curiosity and a spirit primed to explore!

If you are interested in joining or learning more please contact us at: alpha@stjohnsbangor.org. The clergy and lay-leadership of the Church are ready to address your questions.

During Lent we want as many members of the parish INCLUDING HS YOUTH to participate for the following reasons:

1. Because ALPHA helps us all grow deeper in our faith.
2. Because ALPHA helps us become more articulate when we give an account of the faith that is in us. When we share our faith we will have more to say.
3. Because having experienced ALPHA you will know how to invite your neighbors and friends and represent the program in the congregation.
4. Because by participating you may discover a calling to be a table leader and/or part of the leadership team.

What am I asking from our members?

1. Please attend ALPHA!
2. Please be a promoter of Alpha in the congregation!
3. Please PRAY for the Holy Spirit to vitalize and empower our ALPHA!
4. Please take ALPHA posters and put them up in public spots!

Promotion of ALPHA includes: Banners, Posters, Prayers, Announcements, a new page on our website and FB posts. We have also created an email address for registration and inquiries. Alison Barkley is an important leader in this endeavor!

Love in Christ, The Rev. Kerbel

Children's Christian Education Ministry

It has been a joy and a delight to serve the youngest members of St. John's this past year. Our Children's Program has experienced a season of growth—not only in the number of children joining us each Sunday but in the depth of the spiritual connections being formed. Sharing the Word of Christ and watching our children grow into their individual relationships with God and the wider parish community remain the most rewarding aspect of this ministry.

The past year was marked by several milestones that brought our community closer together. Our Family Night was a resounding success, and we are so encouraged by the response that

we plan to make these gatherings a regular part of our calendar. Additionally, the Epiphany Pageant was a highlight, as our children stepped into active roles to bring the story of the Nativity to life for the entire congregation.

Looking ahead, we are committed to the faith formation of our youth as they mature. We are excited to announce the upcoming launch of a Bible Study program for our intermediate-aged children, designed to help them engage more deeply with Scripture. Thank you all for your unwavering support as we continue to nurture the love of Christ and the faith of our children at St. John's.

Respectfully submitted, Mary-Frances Beesorchar, Director of Christian Education

Evangelism Efforts Upcoming

In 2025 the Congregation participated in the Pride Parade in Bangor. During the fall the Rector pioneered Cafe Ministry at Coffee Shops around Bangor and at local universities. Other efforts - not including Alpha - are below:

Ashes on the Way: On Ash Wednesday I plan to spend time at Husson and The University of Maine Orono offering Ashes and prayer cards to students, faculty and staff. I will probably be at U Maine in front of the Student Union in the morning and at Husson in the afternoon, possibly in the Student Center or some other strategic location. Please feel free to join me!

Easter Yard Signs: I propose we make yard signs inviting our neighbors to Easter Sunday that our members can post in their yards. We can invite a lot of people in a relatively inexpensive way and invite conversations about our church with your neighbors.

Evangelism Class: The Education and Evangelism Committee liked the idea of an Evangelism 101 class that I could offer, perhaps, after Easter. The class would provide a safe, warm, fun space to practice sharing the faith with others.

Pet Blessing: For St. Francis Day in October we will get back into the groove of Pet Blessings both here at the church and at the Humane Society event on the RiverFront.

The BIG Evangelism/Growth Question for Vestry: How are we relationally available to newcomers and new members? How will they find fellowship here at St. John's? How will they find community connection? As far as welcome goes, we are doing a good job, and we have plans for inviting new people listed above. Once people get here, how do they form lasting connections? Do we want to develop a small group structure, or affinity groups, or other intentional ways for folks to belong. We need to plan for growth if we want to grow.

Love in Christ, The Rev. Kerbel

Music and Arts Committee

The Committee on Music and the Arts has an ambitious mission: to welcome people who otherwise would not enter the building; to build deeper and more complex ties with the City of Bangor; to make St. John's a place where difficult issues are discussed with generosity and love; and to love God and our neighbors through the gift of artistic beauty. In 2025, with much help, we succeeded.

In March, we hosted the final installment of FeverUp's Candlelight Concerts. All of the concerts drew well, we learned from the experience, and the financial compensation was handsome. Another outside group, director Molly Webster's Divisi, uses the church for weekly rehearsals and presented a concert on December 15. We have received inquiries from other performers and hope some will come to fruition.

Last February, Roosevelt Andre Credit joined us and led the newly renamed "St. John's Ebenezer Church Choir" in an exhilarating concert to celebrate Black History Month and the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Notwithstanding a last minute change in date due to a snowstorm, the concert drew a large and enthusiastic audience. Only Nancy Dymond's laryngitis prevented the event from being a complete success.

On March 16, The Rev. Masud Ibn Syedullah, TSSF, joined us for "Prisms of Faith," a program commemorating the liberation of the Nazis' concentration camps. By his words and in his manner, Father Masud opened pathways of communication, understanding, love, and acceptance in the hearts of a sizable audience that drew heavily from our Jewish neighbors and the community at large. Reflections from Rabbi Bill Siemers of Congregation Beth Israel and our own Father James Nutter followed Father Masud's presentation, after which there were lively and frank comments and questions from the crowd. Noreen and Phillip Silver played music of the Holocaust on cello and piano. Eric Boberg expertly projected visual images of prewar Jewish life in Eastern Europe, life in Auschwitz, and scenes of liberation. The entire event was by turns gripping, cathartic, and nearly overwhelming. Words cannot describe it adequately but a visit to YouTube comes much closer.

We presented a second program on Veterans Day. "Fifty Years After the Vietnam War: Remembrance and Reflection" was the third in our commemoration of America's wars and their costs to those caught up in them. This event featured poetry, read by Jeff Sychterz, Jerry Lyden, Nancy Dymond, and Dillon Murray; memories and reflections from Tom Bennett, Nancy Dymond, Rabbi Siemers, and our new rector, the Rev. Jarrett Kerbel; and music presented by Marisa Solomon, Patricia Stowell, and Jack Burt. The centerpiece of the program was Lua Thi Nguyen's harrowing (and then hopeful) video account of her life in Vietnam during and after the war. Lua is the mother-in-law of our former parishioner George Wright IV who, with other family members, beautifully produced the video. Lua's memories and the music that began and ended the program were almost unbearably

poignant. Lee Souweine's photographs of Vietnam during the war and the program dedications to Lee, Judy Jones, and Chick Rauch all brought the war close to home and conveyed our parish's pride and gratitude. A trip to YouTube for this program will prove rewarding.

Thanks to our committee members: George Wright, Nancy Marks, Marsha Connors, Susannah Pathak, and Eric Boberg. Thanks to all in the parish who support us so generously.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce C. Mallonee, Chair, Committee on Music and the Arts

The Parish Library Project

Approximately 2,000 books and media are currently shelved on the ground floor of our church at 225 French Street. The collection is being reviewed and cataloged so books and media can be discovered and circulated to the St. John's community.

The project was developed in fall 2019 by Pat Sprague, Adult Formation Director, and Susanna Pathak, Parish Librarian, to support a suite of outreach programs for adult spiritual formation. A detailed Library implementation plan was presented by the Parish Librarian to the Vestry in March 2024 and approved. The Parish Librarian has worked primarily with Pat Sprague, Ed Ferguson (Education liaison to the Vestry), Jr. Warden Jeff Perry (site planning and logistics), and Vanessa Young (support).

Progress on Tasks in 2025

1. Define goals of parish stakeholders. IN PROGRESS
2. Create collection development and management processes that are relevant and sustainable. ONGOING
3. Develop collection scope notes to guide title-by-title review and selection of materials for the general, special, and reference collections. IN PROGRESS
4. Choose and test cataloging system. COMPLETED
5. Add items to the catalog (in phases), design and print labels, and document procedures. IN PROGRESS
6. Physically prepare the cataloged items with call number labels, label protectors, and property labels. IN PROGRESS
7. Design the shelving areas of the Library to facilitate finding materials by call number and by exploration/browsing. IN PROGRESS
8. Design and print bookmarks for Library promotion. NOT STARTED
9. Develop education and outreach programs. STARTED
10. Document relevant information about the Library to make its ongoing management and use sustainable. ONGOING

Progress Notes

1. The initial goal of the Library project is strengthening adult formation in the St. John's community through access to religious, spiritual, and theological books in the parish Library.
2. The circulating collection is to be shelved in the Undercroft, and the Library is expected to be open and operating in late spring 2026.
3. To date, the Parish Librarian has reviewed and made retention decisions on over 1,700 items. Approximately 1,200 items have been cataloged.
4. The Library of Congress (LC) classification system is being used to organize items by call number. LibraryThing, an online system, is being used to catalog the items. Parish member Nancy Nicholson works as our Library Assistant, cataloging hundreds of items to date. She is currently preparing call number labels. Volunteers will be needed to help with the work of moving and shelving books. The Parish Librarian has cleaned over 1,000 books.
5. The TinyCat system provides an accessible online catalog facilitating searching the collection, hold requests, and checkout. TinyCat is used by small nonprofit organizations as a low-cost, easy-to-use interface with features similar to systems used in public, academic, and special libraries.
6. Circulation policies are being developed.
7. A test database of library users has been created and uploaded to TinyCat.
8. The Parish Librarian prepared a budget request of @\$1,300 for 2026 for ongoing costs for software and supplies, new books, and one-time purchase of items for education support. The 2025 budget of \$500 was spent on supplies, labels, and new books.
9. Guidance and support from the Vestry, the Rectors, and St. John's staff and community were invaluable in moving the Parish Library project forward in 2025.

Explore St. John's Bangor Library now on TinyCat at:
<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/StJohnsBangor>

Report prepared by Susanna Pathak, Parish Librarian

Fellowship Ministry Reports

Coffee Hour

Every Sunday after the 10am service, Coffee Hour is held in the Undercroft. Coffee Hour is really an extension of the church service- it provides the opportunity (especially for those who are visiting St. John's for the first time) to connect with parishioners on a casual level. Brian Ford and I handle all aspects of Coffee Hour – preparation, refilling the plates of donations as needed and cleanup. Volunteers need only provide the snacks.

Volunteers are needed every Sunday to bring in Coffee Hour items which may be left on the counter in the church kitchen prior to the Sunday service. The following are the sorts of items that are generally served at Coffee Hour: cakes, cookies, cheese and crackers, strawberries, grapes and clementines. There is a sign up sheet in the Undercroft for individuals to “adopt” Coffee Hour for a given Sunday. Many thanks to those of you who have so graciously donated Coffee Hour items in the past!

Respectfully submitted, Alison Barkley

Men's Breakfast

Membership: Open to all men of the parish. Our usual attendance is 8-10 with fewer numbers in the summer months.

Mission & Purpose: Fellowship and food on the second Tuesday morning of each month. We meet for breakfast at the Coach House Restaurant in Brewer at 7 AM. We discuss current events, church history, individual experiences, share stories, and occasionally invite quest speakers. We usually finish by 8 AM so everyone can go to work or continue with their day.

2025 Highlights: At our July get-together, I shared the experience that Claudia and I took to Prince Edward Island with the Cyr Bus Tour. We left on Claudia's birthday, June 7. We visited the beautiful rock formations at Hopewell Rocks in New Brunswick, drove across the Confederation Bridge, saw an impressive performance of “Anne & Gilbert,” toured Anne's Landing Green Gables, Prince Edward Island National Park, Cavendish Beach, etc. It was a great trip. At our October get-together we were pleased to have Rev. Jarrett Kerbel join us for the first time. He shared with us a little about himself. In November, Lee Souweine talked about his deployment to Vietnam and how he became a helicopter pilot for about one and half years. It was very interesting. We also have had a couple new men join us this year.

Hopes for 2026: To continue our monthly breakfasts no matter how many can attend and hope to encourage more men from St. John's to join us. There are always enjoyable conversations, delicious food, and good fellowship. We also welcome suggestions for more speakers.

Respectfully Submitted, Jim Blanchette

Prayer Shawls

Prayer Shawls are crocheted or knitted shawls which are given to provide physical and spiritual comfort, symbolizing God's embrace, love, and presence for the wearer, acting as a reminder of faith. Parishioners knit or crochet the shawls; regularly we also receive shawls that are mailed to St. John's from individuals living elsewhere in the country. Prayer shawls may be created using any number of patterns-a popular one uses the repetition of 3 stitches, representing the Trinity.

We blessed and distributed about 25 Prayer Shawls during 2025. Some of the Prayer Shawls stayed within the St. John's community but many were distributed beyond the greater Bangor area and some even went out of state—how wonderful is that!

Are you interested in working on a Prayer Shawl but you have questions? Please contact Susan or Lorna or the Church Office.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Johnson and Lorna Whedon

St. Andrew's Guild - Ministry of Feeding the Church

Overview and Mission - St. Andrew's Guild exists to share Christ's hospitality by preparing and coordinating meals and receptions for our parish family. Our name recalls the Gospel story of the Feeding of the 5,000: the boy who offered his loaves and fish to Andrew, who presented them to Jesus. Our offerings may not be miraculous, but they are heartfelt, abundant, and a blessing to many.

Note on Weekly Coffee Hour - The regular weekly Coffee Hour is not part of St. Andrew's Guild. It is faithfully led by Alison and Brian. Their ministry is an important part of parish life, and we are deeply grateful. To support them, St. Andrew's Guild hosts Coffee Hour on the third Sunday each month to give Alison and Brian a well-deserved break.

Guild Structure - We carry out our ministry through three departments: Coffee Hour (3rd Sunday); Great Wednesday (Eucharist, meal, and Bible study); Church Events (special receptions and parish gatherings).

Primary Members - Charlene Boggins, Donna Cochrane, Nancy Dymond, Ellie Hooper, Karen Keim, Delores Landry, Emma Perry, Joyce Philbrick. - Plus many others who generously donate food and time

Who We Are - We are a strong, joyful team. We serve from the heart, support one another, and are ready to act at a moment's notice. We love this ministry and are grateful for the fruits it bears in our parish family.

Program Highlights:

A. Coffee Hour (3rd Sunday)

- Brunches donated by Guild members and parishioners.
- Entire meals occasionally provided by generous individuals
- Potluck offerings from the wider congregation (e.g., Thanksgiving).

B. Great Wednesday (Eucharist, Meal, and Bible Study)

- Rhythm: We are currently in Year 3- Our seasons run like a school year: two seasons each year (Fall and Spring), running September–May or June with breaks for Advent and Lent—approximately 25 weeks total per “year.”
- Attendance: Typically 15–25 participants.
- Suggested donation: \$5 per person.
- Volunteer model - Planning, home cooking, shopping, setup, serving, and cleanup.

C. Church Events (Special Events):

In 2025, St. Andrew’s Guild supported 11 events, most serving between 100 and 120 people. Food for these gatherings was donated by the congregation and Guild members. Events included: Bishop Brown’s visitation in the spring; Wedding reception; Parish picnic; Two funerals; Farewell for Father Nutter; Welcome for Fr. Kerbel; Veterans Reception; Advent Tea after the Advent Lessons & Carols; Christmas Eve dinner.

Financial Summary - Last year we raised over \$1,000. This year, we have deposited over \$300 to date. Funds are used to underwrite the annual parish picnic in June; remaining funds are given to the church. Food costs may be reimbursed, though some volunteers decline reimbursement. All shopping, cooking, setup, serving, and cleanup are generously offered as volunteer service.

Gratitude - Our heartfelt thanks to Alison and Brian for their steady leadership of the weekly Coffee Hour. To the Guild members and the many parishioners who donate food, funds, and time. And to everyone who attends, brings dishes, welcomes newcomers, and helps make our gatherings warm and hospitable. Thank you for supporting St. Andrew’s Guild and the ministry of feeding the church.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Boggins

Finance Ministry Reports

Discernment (Search) Committee Mid-Year Pledge Campaign

As part of the discernment process to search for our next rector, following the announcement of Fr. Nutter’s impending departure, we needed to assess whether we, as a church, could responsibly commit to a full-time rector position. A mid-year pledge campaign was launched on May 13 to raise an additional estimated \$50,000 to support this call.

With very generous support from 30 households, including three new pledges, we increased total pledges by more than \$31,000 by the close of the campaign on June 15. This strong

expression of financial commitment enabled the Discernment Committee, with the approval of the Vestry, to move forward with the search for a full-time rector.

With gratitude,

Eric Boberg, Discernment Committee Chair

Finance Committee

Membership: David Field (Chair). Ken Huhn, Marsha Connors, Jim Blanchette, Roger George, Robert Ford, Don Lewis and Delores Landry (*ex officio*). We held no face-to-face meetings and operated primarily through e-mail exchanges and occasional ZOOM meetings.

Mission & Purpose: We draft an annual budget to help guide the Stewardship Committee and advise the Vestry, review actual income and expenses monthly, comparing results with expectations and advise the Vestry regarding budget adjustments. Through the Investment Subcommittee (Ken Huhn, Chair), we monitor fund balances, loans, and earnings (managed by Bar Harbor Bank & Trust) and advise the Vestry regarding loans and investments. We also count offerings and other donations weekly, rotating this duty among our members, and reconcile bank statements with the Bookkeeper. Don Lewis has accepted the duties of overseeing the offering counting process.

Ministry Hopes for 2026: We plan to continue our regular duties as we continue to adjust to changes in our accounting system designed to improve clarity, simplicity and transparency. We remain mindful of the need to ensure that earnings on restricted endowment funds are directed appropriately.

Respectfully submitted, David Field

Stewardship Report

This Stewardship report to you is one of highlights representing all of the great strengths of this parish. As Eric has shared in the Discernment (Search) Committee Mid-Year Pledge Campaign report, we could not have called Father Kerbel to join us without your financial commitment. Many of you pledged to make it possible to ask Father Kerbel to join us. Thank you.

While I must admit I was concerned in the fall regarding a Stewardship Campaign after our spring initiative, I was proven wrong. The highlight of this fall campaign was not the appeals from clergy or vestry members. Richard Waite, Grant Proctor, and David Conaway each spoke eloquently to their faith, stewardship and commitment to this parish. How fortunate we are to have those words to direct us as we support this parish. Our stewardship allows us to enjoy programs making us a vibrant parish. As a more than 4 decade member of this parish, I am confident we do have a future to serve our community.

At this time we have heard from 73 households.

A request. Many of you give to the church regularly without pledging. A pledge allows work of the church to go forward. As you review and vote on this year's budget, recognize every pledge makes it possible.

Thank you. Mary Wright, Stewardship Chair

Outreach Ministry Reports

Christmas Basket Report

Beginning Xmas Basket Fund Balance \$3776.18

Contributions from parishioners \$3581.46

Groceries for 13 families (\$1947.75)

Ending Xmas Basket Fund Balance \$5410.47

The Christmas Basket Project provided food and groceries to 16 families and 23 children from the Penquis Cap Child Care Center at Eastern Maine Community College. This year marked a special moment as parishioners took the initiative to fund the gifts after several years in which the church had covered the cost. I ordered the groceries from Hannaford through their Stillwater store. The store was generous enough to divide the groceries into two boxes per family. Vanessa, my daughter, Rachel, and I picked up and delivered the groceries to the child care center. Our contact at Penquis, Connie Jipson, expressed that the 16 families will be particularly grateful for the food and gifts this year. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who generously contributed to the Christmas Basket fund or purchased a gift for a child. Your kindness truly makes a difference.

Respectfully submitted, Cassy Palmer

Fresh Start

Fresh Start Sober Living supports people in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction by creating and maintaining safe and affordable housing. St. John's continues to support members of Fresh Start through generous donations of sheets, blankets, towels/wash cloths, toiletries, and many other essential items. Over the past year, the ministry has expanded in some meaningful ways. A group of St. John's parishioners now regularly attends Fresh Start's Open Meetings at the Bangor Area Recovery Network on the third Sunday of every other month. A long-time parishioner with employer connections in Bangor offers application support to members of Fresh Start looking for new careers. Another member of our church, a physician, also offers complimentary medical services to members in need of treatment and recovery support.

Over the course of just one year, the expansion and impact of this ministry far exceeded what I thought was possible. I continue to be inspired by the generosity and love that binds our community so strongly together in solidarity with the vulnerable and underrepresented groups in the greater Bangor area. Thank you for sharing the Love of Christ with our friends and neighbors. I believe Jesus has been walking alongside us every step of the way.

Love in Christ, William Some

Food Cupboard

Membership: Parishioners of St. John's

Mission & Purpose: To transport food given by parishioners to the Bangor Homeless Shelter for their food pantry every Sunday.

2025 Highlights: We continued having parishioners bring non-perishable foods to church on Sundays and placing it in the back of the church. We would then take it to the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. Most wanted items are peanut butter, tuna, canned meat, pasta, and pasta sauce, socks, hats, gloves, and toiletries. This year our big food drive was organized by Hilary Graebert for the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday. This occurred on Nov. 23 from 9 to 1 where we were seeking non-perishable foods such as stuffing, gravy, canned green beans, cream of mushroom soup, instant mashed potatoes, etc. It was an enormous success. We filled the back of "THE BIG BLACK TRUCK."

Thank you to all who donated and the Shelter was extremely thankful.

Ministry Hopes for 2026: To continue taking the food donated by the parish to Bangor Shelter. The Bangor Area Homeless Shelter thanks you for all your support.

Respectfully Submitted, James Blanchette

Sidewalk Ministry

Hilary Graebert started a wonderful ministry to our neighbors who are homeless by walking the sidewalks of Bangor handing out food, clothing, warm weather gear, etc. She also takes the time to get to know the people she meets and solicit their prayer needs. David Conaway, Rex Burrill and Jarrett Kerbel joined Hilary in her ministry later. Because of the relationships Hilary pioneered, we also became involved as advocates for the residents of the encampment and some as overnight supervisors at the Together Place shelter. Below is a typical report Hilary sends out on a Wednesday after we do our Sidewalk Ministry on a Tuesday.

This week we began a new partnership with the Bangor Public Library to supply winter gear which will be available at the resource desk for our unhoused community. Thanks to a generous Graebert family member, we were able to deliver 20 brand new fleece lined jackets and hoodies to get them up and running. The Bangor Public Library is one of the few warm

indoor spaces open to the public during the day, and as a result they have a large number of homeless through their doors on a daily basis. St. John's parishioner Karen Corbett, who works at the library, helped make this possible and we look forward to where this partnership will lead to in the future.

Prayers of Comfort and Warmth to all those sleeping in shelters, streets, or tents tonight; including Shane, Amy, Josh, Taylor, Dave, Dustin, Elton, Destiny, Heidi, Tanya, Devon, Chad, Patty and David, Jessy and Josh, Andrew, David, Trent, John, Ricky, Dave, Jenna, Alex, Adrina, Number 63, Holly, Lisa, Jordan, Tamara, Emily (and her dog Piglet), Steve, Alexander, Emilie, Scott, Ben, Morgan, Gabby, Sterling, Dustin, Harley, Jim, Josh, Robert and all those who find themselves unhoused.

Prayers of Peace for all those who work and serve at The Bangor Area Homeless Shelter; especially Gretchen, Michelle, Archie, Alicia, and Boyd. As the first winter snow has fallen, the demand for beds at the shelter now increases. Thankfully overnight warming shelters at The Together Place, The Brick Church, The Well, and The Mansion Church are open and welcoming people now that operational funds have been released by the City of Bangor.

Prayers of Joy for Gabby who found out yesterday she is receiving a long awaited housing voucher. She has been residing in the encampment for some time and was overjoyed to share that she is finally on her way to stable housing. No more outdoor living in tents for Gabby - thank you Lord God.

Prayers of Joy and Healing for Robert who due to a car accident earlier this fall lost/broke many of his teeth; however, next week his new dentures will be ready. Robert shared that his dental challenges have made eating a monumental, painful task and that replacement teeth will dramatically improve his quality of life. No more painful eating for Robert - thank you Lord God.

Prayer of Safety and Warmth to all those who are living outside. We were able to provide a beautiful pair of L.L.Bean boots and dry wool socks to a young man named Dustin. When we encountered Dustin he had soaking wet summer style sneakers and wet socks on his feet; a sure way to get frostbite in single digit weather. We were able to provide a much needed blanket to Harley who was freezing cold in her shelter and anxious for the frigid temperatures last night. We were able to provide a better jacket to a man named Sterling who had an ill fitting outer layer along with a broken zipper; it's impossible to stay warm with the cold hitting your chest. We encountered a man named Raphael whose hands were purple from the cold. With no gloves left to give out, I gave him my own personal pair of gloves off my hands and we prayed that he was able to warm up enough with them to not cause long term damage or frostbite.

Prayers for the Recovery of Addictions for the many, many in our homeless community who struggle with Substance Abuse Disorder.

Prayers for the Safety and Health of all who start makeshift fires to stay warm. Many, many people asked us for hand sanitizer as it's burned in small empty food cans for heat. Lord God, keep them warm and safe as many dangerous means of keeping warm are being used.

Prayers for all those who currently live in the encampment as the City of Bangor has set a December 19th clear out date. The plans for eviction, rehoming, storage of goods, transportation, etc. are still being figured out and no concrete plan has been shared by the City yet. The already overwhelmed shelters will become even more crowded, as a result straining an already strained system.

Prayers for our church and the newly formed *Serving Our Neighbors* committee along with Rev. Kerbel. May we all work together to bring compassion and care to those most in need.

Today we gave the following out:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| ● 34 bagged dinners (containing a sandwich, clementine, crackers, bag of chips/pretzels, and Fruitfuls) | ● 3 hand creams |
| ● 34 mini bottles of water | ● 2 Chapstick |
| ● 24 bananas | ● 1 blanket |
| ● 8 slim jims | ● 2 fingernail clippers |
| ● 17 granola bars | ● 2 men's boxers |
| ● 6 hygiene kits (containing a toothbrush, mini toothpaste, and hair comb) | ● 4 women's underwear |
| ● 3 feminine hygiene kits (containing 3 pads & 3 tampons) | ● 12 pairs of socks |
| ● 6 band aid kits w/ triple antibiotic ointment packets | ● 7 pairs of gloves |
| ● 4 packs of tissues | ● 3 scarves |
| ● 30 no rinse, shower body wipes | ● 8 winter hats |
| ● 30 hand warmers | ● 7 sweaters |
| ● 20 toe warmers | ● 7 winter jackets |
| | ● 1 pair of winter boots |
| | ● 3 hair barrettes |

Today we gave The Bangor Area Homeless Shelter:

- 1 bag of women's Poise pads
- 1 bag of women's Depends
- 12 pairs of shoe laces (Michelle at the Homeless Shelter sends a major thank you for these! A number of homeless residents had shoes with no laces.)
- 2 packs of feminine hygiene wipes
- 1 pair of winter boots

Salvation Army's Dorothy Day Kitchen

Salvation Army's Dorothy Day Kitchen offers meals at their facility on Park Street, Bangor, during the week thanks to various organizations, synagogues, and churches who supply food and volunteers. St. John's Episcopal Church crew has been cooking and serving a hot meal there for 40+ years on the 4th Tuesday of the Month. It is an extremely rewarding outreach ministry, and our group has fun "catching up" and enriching our fellowship, as well as serving and nourishing the souls of those who come to eat. The people who attend really appreciate the ability to sit in the dining room, eat together, and enjoy friendship among themselves.

Several groups were serving similar food (spaghetti, lasagna, chop suey etc.) so the Salvation Army asked each group if they would serve a more diverse menu. We came up with a hamburger mushroom stroganoff recipe. We supplement that with applesauce cups and fruit granola bars (or dessert). We got honest feedback on our stroganoff that it was delicious, so we have made that our new offering each month.

One new requirement this year was the Salvation Army asking all volunteers to take ServSafe training. They provided a one-day training course on May 13th. We had 5 people pass the course and get certificates as ServSafe Food Handler.

Due to budget shortfalls at Salvation Army groups were asked if we could supply the paper goods (plates and napkins), which we get at Dennis Food Service, and also supply more of the menu ingredients. The Salvation Army now just provides the hamburger and beverage, we supply the rest. A big thank you to Nancy Henry for picking up a good portion of the items we need.

The number we serve differs each month, averaging about 80, but occasionally as many as 115. Our crew arrives at approximately 9 AM to start chopping onions, browning the hamburger, cooking rotini pasta, and getting everything else assembled. We finish serving and clean up by 1 PM.

Volunteers who helped this past year: Jim & Claudia Blanchette, Kevin & Pamela Batchelder, Nancy Henry, Linda Bennett, Robert & Brian Ford, Pat Sprague, and Donna Cochrane.

Respectfully submitted, Claudia Blanchette

Second Saturday

It has been our pleasure to coordinate the Second Saturday ministry during the second half of 2025, and we look forward to continuing to serve in this role in the coming year.

Second Saturday has been a meaningful and rewarding experience each month. The ministry provides an opportunity to build relationships within our community while serving

individuals and families who are experiencing significant need. Opening our doors with a message of love and hospitality, along with a warm meal, reflects the heart of our church and our commitment to compassionate service during challenging times.

Lunch is served from noon to 1:00 p.m., with volunteers typically arriving between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. to assist with preparation. In addition to the meal, we prepare take-away bags containing sandwiches and snacks. Guests are also invited to select from a table of donated clothing items, taking as much or as little as they need. When food supplies allow, guests are welcome to receive second servings, and we often provide to-go containers filled with leftovers. Any remaining food is delivered to a local homeless shelter or, when appropriate, distributed directly to nearby homeless encampments.

We are deeply grateful for our dedicated and generous volunteers. Their commitment and compassion make this ministry possible, and we could not carry out this work without them. Looking ahead to the new year, we hope to expand the Second Saturday ministry by increasing the variety of items available to our guests and exploring opportunities to bring church-prepared meals directly into the areas of our community with the greatest need.

With Respect, David & Rex

Worship Ministry Reports

Acolytes

I am pleased to offer this annual report on the acolyte ministry for the 2025 liturgical year.

First, a word of thanks to Nancy Dymond. After more than fifteen years of service as St. John's Head Acolyte, Nancy was recently able to step down from her duties and pass the mantle of responsibility for the acolyte ministry to me. Her long tenure of faithful service is deeply appreciated by the generations of acolytes she has trained and led. As the results of her efforts, she leaves the St. John's acolyte team in a position of strength and maturity for which we are grateful. We all wish Nancy well as she explores new adventures and new avenues for ministry.

Secondly, it is with deep sadness and a heavy heart that I report the passing of one of our very own, namely, Kristin Weeks. For more years than most can count, Kristin was a constant and abiding presence among those who serve at the altar. As Nancy Dymond pointed out in her brilliant eulogy at Kristin's funeral, Kristin served under six priests and under three different bishops during her tenure as acolyte. In honor of Kristin, almost all of the active duty acolytes vested and served at her funeral. We were even able to coax John Connors, an alum of the acolyte corps, out of "retirement" to serve as crucifer at Kristin's funeral. I've never been more proud of our acolytes than at the funeral, whose show of

support was awesome. Kristin's amazing example of service and dedication as an acolyte will continue to inspire us, even as we mourn her absence.

This past year has been one of positive growth for the acolyte ministry. The number of acolytes has increased and currently stands at twelve. There are eight youth and four adult acolytes. Youth acolytes include Gavin Fogarty, Eric Graebert, Ruth Graebert, Edmund Haluska, Molly Meservey, Obi Okafor, Grant Proctor, and Isaac Proctor. Adult acolytes are Scott Burgess, Robert Ford, Cindy Lufkin, and Dakota Miller. All have been well trained for their jobs, be that as crucifer/principle server or as torch bearer. Further training as needed will be done on a continuing basis.

Grant Proctor this year was named "Acolyte Captain." He will help lead the acolytes during services and will also help in training.

I am extremely proud of our excellent acolytes. Their superb performance, persistence and dedication are amply recognized and deeply appreciated. With God's good grace we will continue to improve and grow. New acolytes are always welcome!

Yours in Christ, Scott Burgess, Head Acolyte

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild takes joy from setting up for church services, including the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and enjoys fellowship after services when we collect and wash items after the service and do initial preparations for the next service. There is a short preparation before the Wednesday evening service and on Saturday in advance of our Sunday service. We would welcome more volunteers who want to share these joys and also get a peek at how the service is performed. It's usually less than an hour per week per person now and will be less with more volunteers so that we would alternate weekly schedules. Please join us!

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Lufkin and Robert Ford, co-chairs of Altar Guild

Chalice Bearers

Chalice Bearers are lay ministers licensed by the Episcopal Diocese of Maine to administer the cup containing the consecrated wine during a Eucharistic service. There are currently ten parishioners on the active roster of Chalice Bearers: Scott Burgess, David Conaway, Nancy Dymond, Robert Ford, Cindy Lufkin, Cassy Palmer, Pat Sprague, Richard Waite, Jacquie Wingert and Grant Proctor. While we are grateful for all those serving in this ministry, we would welcome more participants. Being at least 16 years old is the only requirement. Training will be provided.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Sprague

Choir

Being a member of St. John's choir is the Stewardship offering of time and talent. It requires responsibility, dependability, and the eagerness to strengthen our musical knowledge and ability. The challenge is to blend our voices and present a worthy offering for the parishioners, the spirits who dwell in this holy space, and God. St. John's makes available our services on-line (You Tube) to those near and far who cannot be present.

As head chorister, for the past 25 years, my duties have been to lead by example. I see that new choristers have proper robes, music, and cubbies. I take attendance and post a sign-out calendar for singers to mark dates that they will be away helping the choirmaster plan music. I assist in any organizational tasks that are necessary. Thank you Lee Anne Mallonee for helping to organize and file music.

Weekly rehearsals are a time to learn and fine tune our music (hymns, psalms, and anthems) but also a time to share fellowship with each other, pray, make lasting bonds, and live up to the Choristers Prayer that we say each time we meet. We are blest to have the talented skills of Josh Singer, organist, and Colin Graebert, choir director, at St. John's. They strive to bring out "the best" in us.

It was a blessing to have the ministry of Fr. Nutter until fall, then Fr. Jarrett Kerbel became our new rector in October. The choir hopes to grow the number of singers in the coming year. Highlights in 2025 were potluck supper at the end of August, offering Advent Lessons & Carols, Holy Week music, and of course Easter and Christmas Eve services. The choir sang at several funeral services and even at the wedding of fellow chorister, David Souweine, in September.

The choir ends each warm-up and rehearsal with the Choristers Prayer:

Bless, Oh Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple.

Grant that what we sing with our lips,

We may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts,

We may show forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Head Chorister, Claudia Blanchette

Choir Director

It has been a busy year in the music ministry at St. John's. Growth in the choir continues with several new members joining our robust ensemble. Our repertoire continues to expand from the Renaissance to the present day. We have also been pleased to present Evensong and Advent Lessons and Carols, and we are looking forward to our Festal Evensong for Lent in February. I am also grateful for the work that the Music and Arts committee has done to

bring outside programming to our community. The Arts are alive and well in St. John's Parish!

I am especially grateful for all the support I received to attend the Association of Anglican Musicians Conference; it was a marvelous experience! While I attended several interesting educational sessions, it was the opportunity to sit and be a congregant and experience the liturgy without responsibility. I truly came home with a much deeper understanding of the way that we worship. Thank you to everyone who helped me have this adventure.

Respectfully submitted, Colin Graebert, Choir Director

Greeter Report

The need for a dedicated team of people to welcome newcomers and help connect them to our community of faith is as strong as ever. Greeters represent an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace--that is, the knowledge of the abundant Love of Jesus that compels us to share that Love with the world. Every Sunday, a small team of greeters assist Jarrett at the end of each service by recording the names and contact information of visitors, guests, or those seeking a new church home. Jarrett and others then use this information to send a written note to every new individual or family who walks through the doors of our church. Greeters also accompany newcomers to coffee hour and answer questions about our community. This system helps ensure that all persons feel welcome to bring their full and authentic selves before God in worship.

These efforts are being rewarded. Newcomers feel welcome, they feel seen, and they feel accepted by our community. Below, I have included some remarkable first impressions that were shared by newcomers in response to my welcome message:

"I am very grateful for the spirit of welcome I have already experienced at St. John's. [What has stood out to me is] the deep commitment to living and sharing Christ's love in such an open, generous, and authentic way. It is clear how powerfully that vision shapes the life and work of the congregation, both within the church and beyond it."

"It was the love and kindness that we saw at St. John's that made us want to stay, coupled with the fact that this is very obviously a church that loves God and desires to adhere to the scriptures."

In practice, being a greeter is about more than just welcoming newcomers. It is also about welcoming back folks who have called St. John's home for five, ten, or twenty years. It's about keeping our souls aligned with a spirit of hospitality and opening our hearts to more fully know and share the love of Christ through new encounters with His created beings.

We believe that all people need to be seen, need to be welcomed, and need to be invited into

fellowship. It is our hope that this ministry will continue to touch lives at St. John's. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact me (williamlauringsomes@gmail.com) or Lorna Whedon (lornawhedon@gmail.com).

Love in Christ, William Some

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Ministry

Our cohort of faithful eucharistic visitors regrouped this year, with new visitors and new homebound members to see. Our enthusiasm was great but progress was limited; several of our visitors were hampered by illness and others could not for other reasons continue to serve. At the same time, a number of longtime homebound parishioners died, declined visits, or were unable to respond to our inquiries.

Eucharistic visiting is deeply rewarding. Our group will consolidate, reorganize, and try again. Please: if you know a person who would appreciate a eucharistic visit, let me know. We are not limited to visiting members of the parish or even Episcopalians—we visit all who want the body and blood of Christ brought to their homes. And please tell me if you might like to join this ministry—we are all blessed as we take blessings to others.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce C. Mallonee

Lectors

How do you become a Lector???? Express an interest in doing so! We would like to increase the number of Lectors at St. John's, both Youth and Adult Lectors. Becoming a Lector is a meaningful way to become more involved in the services at St. John's.

During 2025, we increased the number of Lectors to about 35 individuals - and let's get even more Lectors! The Lectors now regularly read both Lessons and the Prayers of the People at the regularly scheduled services on Sunday mornings and at special services throughout the church year.

Are you considering becoming a Lector? Please see Jarrett or contact the Church Office. Many thanks!

Respectfully submitted, Lorna Whedon

Organist

The organ is in truth the grandest, the most daring, the most magnificent of all instruments invented by human genius. It is a whole orchestra in itself. It can express anything in response to a skilled touch. Surely it is in some sort a pedestal on which the soul poises for a flight forth into space, essaying on her course to draw picture after picture in an endless series, to paint human life, to cross the Infinite that separates heaven from earth? And the

longer a dreamer listens to those giant harmonies, the better he realizes that nothing save this hundred-voiced choir on earth can fill all the space between kneeling men and a God hidden by the blinding light of the sanctuary. The music is...prayer in its omnipotent moods...tinged by the melancholy of many different natures...upspringing with the impulse of repentance...In those long vaulted aisles the melodies inspired by the sense of things divine are blent with a grandeur unknown before, are decked with new glory and might. Out of the dim daylight, and the deep silence broken by the chanting of the choir in response to the thunder of the Organ, a veil is woven for God, and the brightness of His attributes shines through it. - Honore de Balzac.

I try every Sunday to create the beautifully written sentiments above in practice and grace to enhance our worship. It is indeed an honor.

Respectfully submitted, Joshua Singer, Organist

Security Planning

The vestry is in the process of developing a security plan for St John's Episcopal church in order to align our efforts with current policies and procedures for gathering places of large groups. There will be a written security plan listing the emergency situations: medical emergencies, severe weather events, fire, and active shooter events. The plan will include actions to be taken: calling of medical personnel, sheltering in place, and evacuations. Additional efforts will include improved exit and information signage. Lastly, we will consider a digital door lock as appropriate to supplement and simplify improved key control. Feedback from the congregation is welcome.

Respectfully submitted, Lee Souweine

Technology Team

The primary purpose of the Technology Team is to provide Sunday morning services online for those who cannot attend in person. This year was marked by success through the dedication of our streaming volunteers: Jim Blanchette, Barbara Clarke+, and David Souweine. Please be sure to thank them for their ongoing efforts in this important ministry. As always, we welcome feedback, ideas, and additional volunteers.

We are grateful to have been able to invest in reliable equipment that makes this work possible. However, equipment is not immune to failure, and this year was no exception. In September, our primary amplifier—used to power the church speakers—began cutting out for 5–7 seconds at a time, which was particularly noticeable during the sermon. Although the amplifier was more than ten years old, it is a higher-end unit and was still worth repairing; it was repaired, tested, and reinstalled in December.

The Technology Team also assisted with two additional programs: *Prisms of Faith* in March and *Fifty Years after the Vietnam War* in November. Both programs made use of a newly purchased 150-inch screen for content projection, enhancing the overall experience. We hope to purchase the projector used for the Vietnam program in 2026.

Respectfully and prayerfully, Eric Boberg

Ushers

Membership: We currently have 11 parishioners who usher for Sunday services and special events. This year we had 2 that stepped down from ushering, but we did gain two. (Thank you to all who have faithfully served the parish and community in this valuable ministry).

Mission & Purpose: Greet people as they arrive at our church, pass out bulletins, assist new worshipers and visitors, pass the plate for the weekly offering, guide people to communion, and handle any issues that may arise during the service.

2025 Highlights: It was a great pleasure to serve at the Easter and Christmas Eve services and see the pews so full.

Ministry Hopes for 2026: We need to recruit more people to help with this ministry. I will keep all ushers informed of any changes to our procedures. We will continue to faithfully serve and assist St. John's parishioners and newcomers at all our services.

Respectfully Submitted, Jim Blanchette

2025 and 2026 Budget

	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
<u>Income</u>		
Outside Endowments	\$ 10,064	\$ 15,750
Transfers from Non-Operating Funds	\$ 85,600	\$ 42,600
Grants	\$ 0	\$ 13,700
Moses Williams Jr Trust Grant	\$ 6,000	\$ 0
Parishioner Support		
Plate Offerings	\$ 11,203	\$ 14,000
Holiday Offerings	\$ 2,375	\$ 3,000
Pledge Payments	\$ 249,321	\$ 265,000
Prior Year Pledge Income	\$ 0	\$ 1,000
Undesignated Contributions	\$ 23,747	\$ 20,000
Initial Envelope Donation	\$ 58	\$ 25
Altar Flower Donation	\$ 0	\$ 2,600
Fundraisers	\$ 0	\$ 7,000
Building Use Donation	\$ 1,009	\$ 1,000
Outreach Revenue	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 126	\$ 0
Total Revenue from Parishioner Support	\$ 288,989	\$ 314,625
Total Receipts	\$ 390,653	\$ 386,675
Operating Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 225,957	\$ 249,732
Material Support	\$ 9,143	\$ 8,540
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,701	\$ 200
Music Program Expense	\$ 10,871	\$ 5,550
Education Supplies & Expenses	\$ 1,994	\$ 1,625
Office Services & Expenses	\$ 23,449	\$ 18,500
Building Maint & Utilities	\$ 42,637	\$ 39,650
Insurances	\$ 11,499	\$ 14,000
Diocesan Assessments	\$ 46,329	\$ 49,316
Outreach Expenses	\$ 4,262	\$ 4,500
Transfers to Restricted Funds	\$ 31,932	\$ 0
Total Operating Expense	\$ 412,774	\$ 391,613
Net Difference	\$ -22,121	\$ - 4,938

Necrology

Judi P. Clark
 Lynn Johnson
 Ann Khoury Heitmann
 Patricia Totman
 Kathy Cook
 Nadine Pech
 Sheldon Scribner
 Charles Waite Maclin+
 Victoria Hara
 Carolyn (CJ) Warren Mowers
 Gary Sudsbury, Sr.
 Raymond W. Fournier
 Roger Allen
 Shannon Newton
 Inez George, Leslie Francis Nesin+
 Almon Williams
 Claire Winne
 Judith Burleigh+
 Kelly Groulx
 Russ Irwin
 Charles Carroll+
 Susan Winter
 Jane Sheldon Chatfield +
 Julie Gagnon
 Michael Hewes
 Joel Wilcox
 Levering B. Sherman, Jr+
 Richard C. Soule
 Charlie Kirk
 Dorothy Boberg
 Gary Norton
 Elizabeth Russell
 Marilyn H. Chase
 Frank Shaw
 Ellen Davis Call
 Mary Louise Chin+
 Dean Neal
 Chris Royal
 Kristin Weeks
 Terence McCarthy
 Margaret Clancey

Constitution and By-Laws
of
The Parish of St. John's Episcopal Church
Bangor, ME

Article 1 - Authority Acknowledged

This parish accedes to the Constitution, Canons, doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Maine, and acknowledges their authority.

Article 2 - Definitions

“Communicant” shall mean a member of this Church who has received Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church at least three times during the preceding year; and as may be further defined by the Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America and the Canons of the Diocese of Maine.

“Vestry” shall mean “The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry” and consists of the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and nine other members. The Clerk is appointed by the Vestry from among its members.

“Officers” shall mean the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer.

Article 3 - Membership

Any communicant who is at 16 years of age and has been, during the previous year, faithful in corporate worship (unless for good cause prevented) and has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, and who has signed an Intention to be attached to the Parish and to accept its Constitution and By-Laws, shall be considered a member in good standing of the Parish and entitled to vote in its affairs at any annual or special meeting.

No person who disclaims or refuses conformity to the authority of the Protestant Episcopal Church shall be eligible to vote in the Parish's affairs.

Any member who shall have refrained for twelve consecutive months, from regular corporate worship (unless for good cause prevented) and from contributing to the support of the Parish shall no longer be considered a member in good standing and shall be subject to removal from the Parish list of members, after due notice and opportunity to be heard thereon, by a majority of the members present at an annual or special meeting of the Parish.

Article 4 - Annual and Special Meetings

The annual meeting of the Parish shall be held at such time and place as the Vestry shall appoint.

Special meetings of the Parish may be called by the Wardens at any time, and shall be called by the Wardens whenever requested by the Vestry, the Rector or by petition of twelve or more members of the Parish.

Notice of any meetings of the Parish shall be signed by a Warden or by the Clerk, and an attested copy of the notice shall be posted within the vestibule at the main entrance to the church at least seven days before the day fixed for the meeting.

The Rector, if present, shall preside, and in the Rector's absence, the Senior Warden (or in the Senior Warden's absence, the Junior Warden) shall preside. In the absence of the Rector and Wardens a Moderator shall be chosen by ballot, but any member of the Vestry may preside while such moderator is being chosen.

Thirty members shall constitute a quorum.

Nothing acted upon at any special meeting of the Parish shall have any legal force or effort unless the subject matter is stated in the notice for such meeting.

Members of the Parish may participate in any Annual or Special Meeting of the Parish by means of conference telephone, video conference, or similar communications equipment or methods whereby all persons participating in the meeting can identify and perceive the communications of one another at all times. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this subsection shall constitute presence in person at such meeting, even if no members of the Parish are physically present with each other and the meeting is conducted entirely remotely.

Article 5 - Elections and Qualifications

At the annual meeting, the following Officers shall be elected, each to serve for a term of one year: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Treasurer; the Clerk shall be appointed by the Vestry. No one shall be elected as an Officer who is not at least 20 years of age, a communicant and a member in good standing of the Parish. There shall also be elected at the annual meeting Vestry members to fill vacancies and expired terms. No one shall be elected as a member of the Vestry who is not a communicant and a member in good standing of the Parish. All elections of Vestry members who are not Officers shall be for a term of three years, except for elections to fill vacancies in unexpired terms.

The procedure for election of the Vestry shall be as follows:

(a) The Officers shall be elected first, each by separate ballot, in the following order: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Treasurer. The person receiving the most votes on the ballot shall be elected. If there is a tie between the persons receiving the most votes, a second ballot shall be taken between those persons receiving the tied votes.

(b) After the election of the Officers there shall be one ballot to fill expired terms on the Vestry. Members may vote for as many candidates on their ballot as there are expired terms to fill, but cumulative voting is not permitted. The tellers will make a list of those persons receiving votes in the order of the number of votes received beginning with the highest number of votes. Those persons will be declared elected to the Vestry in the order of the list until all expired terms are filled. If there is a tie between the last persons on the list needed to fill all expired terms, a second ballot shall be taken between those persons receiving the tied votes to determine which of them will be elected to the Vestry.

(c) After the election of persons to fill expired terms of the Vestry there shall be one ballot to fill vacancies of unexpired terms on the Vestry. Members may vote for as many candidates on their ballot as there are vacancies to fill, but cumulative voting is not permitted. The tellers will make a list of those persons receiving the votes in the order of the number of votes received beginning with the person receiving the highest number of votes. Those persons will be declared elected to the Vestry in the order of the list until all vacancies (beginning with the longest unexpired term) are filled. If there is a tie between the last persons on the list needed to fill all vacancies, a second ballot shall be taken between those persons receiving the tied votes to determine which of them will be elected to the Vestry.

Members of the Vestry shall serve for their respective terms of office until others are elected in their stead. Vacancies in the Vestry except that of Rector, may be filled by the Vestry and the persons so chosen by the Vestry shall serve for the unexpired terms and until others have been duly elected in their stand.

Lay delegates to the Diocesan Convention may be elected at the annual meeting in such manner as the members present may determine, but if not so chosen they shall

be elected by the Vestry, such delegates shall be members and shall be Communicants. Alternates may be appointed by the Vestry, or if the Vestry fails to do so, the Rector.

In addition to the procedure for elections set forth above, the members of the Parish may use the following procedure when it is not possible to meet in person and they meet by video conference. Specifically, when meeting by video conference, the election of Officers, Vestry members and Delegates to Convention may be by electronic communications submitted directly by the members to the annual meeting teller(s) provided that any such electronic communication shall clearly and unambiguously identify the sender thereof and that the teller(s) keep a permanent record of such collective votes for such offices while preserving the confidentiality of individual voters.

Members of the Vestry (except the Rector) may be removed by vote of two-thirds of the members present at any Parish meeting called for that purpose, but such two thirds vote must equal or exceed thirty.

Article 6 - Vestry

The Vestry shall constitute the Steering Committee of the Parish and shall exercise all the powers thereof. It as a body corporate shall take and hold, in succession, all grants and gifts of any property to the Parish in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Maine, as the same now are enacted or hereafter may be amended. It shall be the duty of the Vestry to manage the prudential affairs of the Parish and to care for its property, to supervise and direct the Officers in the discharge of their duties. The Vestry shall have the power to appoint the Clerk and any Deputy Clerk, as well as agents, employees and committees it deems necessary to carry out its duties.

The Vestry shall meet on a regular basis. Special meetings of the Vestry may be called by the Rector, by either of the Wardens, or by three or more members of the Vestry.

Members of the Vestry, with the Rector and Officers, may participate in a meeting of the Vestry by means of conference telephone, video conference, or similar communications equipment or methods whereby all persons participating in the meeting can identify and perceive the communications of one another at all times. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this subsection shall constitute presence in person at such meeting, even if no members of the Vestry, Officers or Rector are physically present with each other and the meeting is conducted entirely remotely.

The Rector, when present, shall preside at all meetings of the Vestry and, in the event of a tie, may cast the deciding vote, unless the business or question to be decided has relation to the personal interest of the Rector. Seven members of the Vestry shall constitute a quorum.

Notice of any meeting of the Vestry may be communicated in person, by regular mail, telephone, telefax, or electronic mail at least 48 hours in advance.

Article 7 - The Rector

Consistent with all requirements of the Canons, the Rector shall be elected by the Vestry, at least two-thirds of the members thereof concurring, and the Vestry shall promptly make a report to the Parish of its selection of the Rector at the Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting of the Parish to be called for that purpose.

No person shall be eligible to the office of Rector unless that person is a qualified Minister in good standing in the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Article 8 - Officers

Wardens: In the absence of the Rector, or during a vacancy in that office, the Wardens shall provide for the temporary performance of the Rector's duties.

The Senior Warden shall, in addition to such other duties as may be delegated by the Vestry, be responsible for preparing and presenting to the Vestry an annual budget and for funding the budget adopted by the Vestry.

The Junior Warden shall, in addition to such other duties as may be delegated by the Vestry, be responsible for the care and maintenance of the property of the Parish.

If either Warden is absent or disabled or if there is a vacancy in either Office, the powers and duties of both Wardens shall devolve upon the remaining Warden.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect all monies due to the Parish and receive all sums contributed for its support. The Treasurer shall keep a proper record of receipts and disbursements and shall present a full statement thereof, and of the financial condition of the Parish, at each annual meeting. The Treasurer shall present to the Vestry, at such times as it shall require, a written statement of receipts and disbursements and of the financial condition of the Parish. The Treasurer shall give bond for the faithful performance of the duties described in this paragraph.

Clerk: The Clerk shall keep the records of the Parish and of the Vestry and shall keep a roll of the members of the Parish entitled to vote in its affairs. The Clerk shall prepare the notices for all meetings and duly shall post such notices or deliver the same to the Rector, a Warden or another member of the Vestry for posting. The Vestry may, in consultation with the Clerk, appoint a Deputy Clerk to assist the Clerk.

Article 9 - Amendments

This Constitution and these Bylaws may be amended at any Parish meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided the subject matter of the proposed amendment is inserted in the notice calling the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. Provided always that no amendment ever shall be made which in any degree shall release the Parish from its allegiance to the authority of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, or of the Diocese within the limits of which the qualifications required for eligibility to the office of Rector, from the rights of the Rector as they may be defined by the General Convention of the Church; nor which in any way shall be inconsistent with the laws of the State of Maine, the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church of with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Maine.



St. John's Episcopal Church
225 French St.
Bangor, ME 04401

STATEMENT OF INTENTION

It is my Intention to be attached to the Parish of St. John's Episcopal Church, Bangor and to accept its Constitution and By-Laws.

Signed _____

Today's date _____

Baptismal Date: _____

Baptismal Place: _____

Confirmed: YES NO (please circle)

Date & Location _____

Received: YES NO (please circle)

Date & Location _____

Contact Information

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State & ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

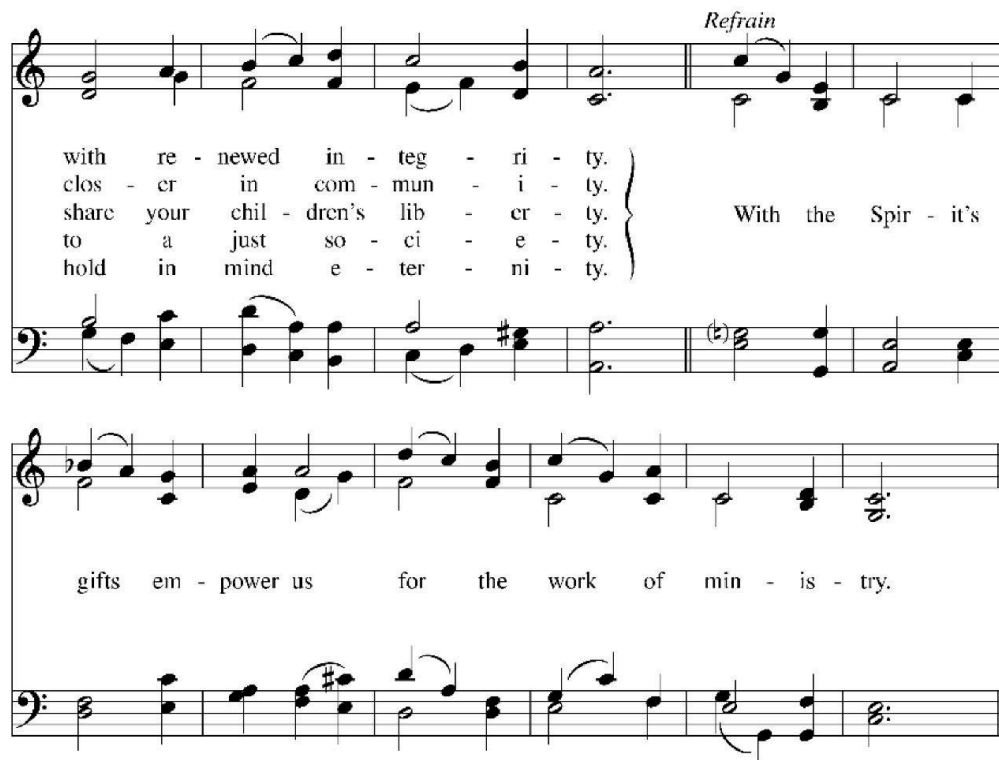
1. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the
 2. Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my
 3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my
 4. Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther,
 5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing; "I am

sick and preach the word." Lest the church ne -
 name bap - tize and teach." That the world may
 bod - y, this my blood." Let us all, for
 what they do, for - give." Yet we heard as
 with you to the end." Faith and hope and

glect its mis - sion, and the gos - pel go un -
 trust your prom - ise, life a - bun - dant meant for
 earth's true glo - ry, dai - ly lift life heav - en -
 pri - vate trea - sure all that you so free - ly
 love re - stor - ing, may we serve as you in -

heard, help us wit - ness to your pur - pose
 each, give us all new fer - vor, draw us
 ward, ask - ing that the world a - round us
 give. May your care and mer - cy lead us
 tend and, a - mid the cares that claim us,

Refrain



with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty.
 clos - er in com - mun - i - ty.
 share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty.
 to a just so - ci - e - ty.
 hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty.

With the Spir - it's

gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

Got Questions?

Does life have meaning?

What is my purpose?

Why did Jesus have to die?

All Questions Welcome!

**Sundays 12:30 pm
Feb. 22 - March 29
St. John's
225 French Street
Bangor
stjohnsbangor.org**

