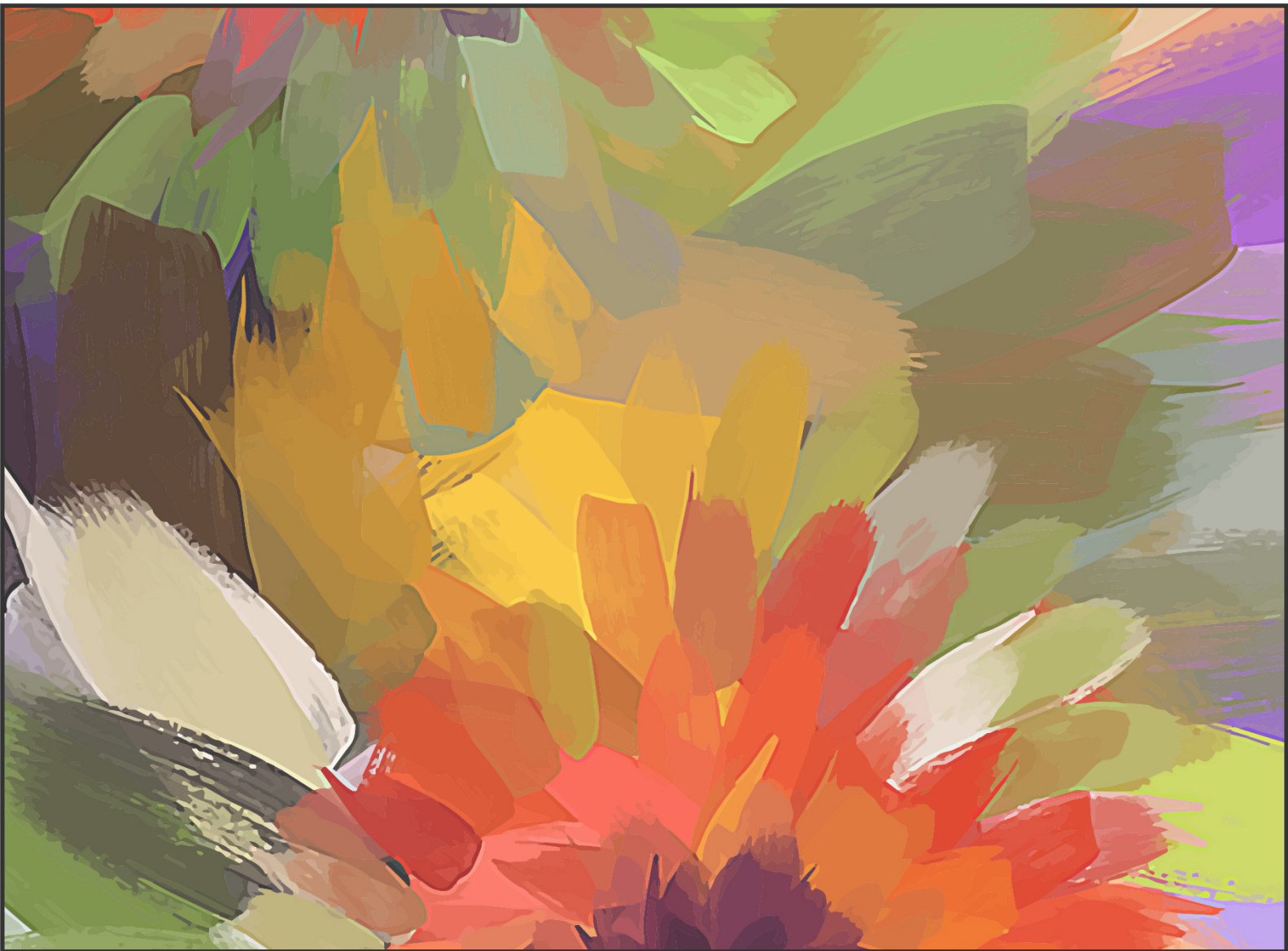




EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE
Transfiguration



2015 ANNUAL REPORT



*“I am about to do a new
thing; now it springs forth, do
you not perceive it? I will make
a way in the wilderness and
rivers in the desert.”*

-Isaiah 43:19

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RECTOR'S REPORT

By The Rev. R. Casey Shobe

MISSION STATEMENT:

To seek and serve Christ in all persons. By our Anglican heritage and community life, we strive to present Jesus Christ as Savior through worship, education, evangelism, pastoral care and outreach. The mission of each member is to support this parish with time, talent, and money, and be faithful in worship; dedicated to the study of Scripture and to a life of prayer; open to the power of the Holy Spirit; and active in spreading Christ's love and reconciliation.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE:

Chris Ahrens, Youth Choir Director
Kim Ahrens, Children's Choir Director
Ellen Dingwall, Minister of Congregational Life and Outreach
Suzanne Finan, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Rebecca Gingles, Director of Communications
Cindy Haddock, Controller
Colin Hills, Director of Youth Ministries
Joel Martinson, Director of Music
Meghan Mazur, Administrative Assistant
Michael Merriman, Priest Associate
Jose Mieles, Sexton
Elizabeth O'Donnell, Deacon
Bracken Reece, Director of Facilities
R. Casey Shobe, Rector
Wilhelm Sollie, Organist
Chris Thomas, Chief Administrative Officer
Erin Jean Warde, Associate Rector for Christian Formation

STATISTICS AND SUCCESSES:

- Average Weekend Attendance: 602
- New Members: 69
- Baptisms: 15
- Confirmations and Receptions: 25
- Marriages: 6
- Burials: 13
- Number of Eucharistic visitations – 511 (communion administered to total of 1081)

I am tremendously grateful to be rector of Church of the Transfiguration, and this past year I've been blessed by the opportunity to ease more completely into my role. I've been blessed by the opportunity to better get to know many of you, and I've had the privilege of serving or supporting some of you at important moments in your life. Every day has been a gift, and I give thanks for it all.



It is important to begin with thanks to our wonderful staff team. We have a foundation of wonderful people who have served faithfully at Transfiguration for many years like Michael Merriman, Ellen Dingwall, Liz O'Donnell, and Joel Martinson. In addition, this past year we were able to make several new additions:

- The Rev. Erin Warde as Associate Rector for Christian Formation
- Rebecca Gingles as Director of Communications
- Meghan Mazur as Administrative Assistant
- Wilhelm Sollie as Organist
- Cindy Haddock as Controller
- Colin Hills as Director of Youth Ministries (formerly the interim)
- Suzanne Finan as Director of Children and Family Ministries (leaving the position January 31)

These folks have made a huge impact in a short time. Our formation opportunities have not only multiplied, but they've become more compelling and inspiring to our lives as Christians. Kids, youth, and adults are regularly being offered spiritual nourishment to help them grow as followers of Christ. For example, in the fall our whole community engaged with the theme of "enough," and what it means to pursue a simpler, more generous existence. We heard about it in sermons and reflected on it in our classes, and that multifaceted engagement helped us to more deeply ponder these practices.

Over the last year our communications improved radically, too. We have begun producing a quarterly magazine, *Illumine*, to tell the stories of our church and to help us showcase the ways our community is alive and active in the world. We've also focused on improving the signage and information about events and ministries, and our newcomer materials are in the midst of a "makeover," too. In 2016, thanks to funding from our Endowment, we will perform an overhaul of our website and social media presence, which will help us even more. We must present our witness as a church to the world in beautiful and compelling ways, and we are beginning to do just that.

The hires we've made have assisted us as we seek to administer our church more effectively and efficiently. We are a large church with lots of dimensions and moving parts, and it is imperative that our business office runs smoothly. I have been particularly grateful for the smoothness of our transition to full administration of the maintenance of the Parish Episcopal School buildings. PES continues to operate on our campus independently, and we are reimbursed for all expenses incurred. However, much more of the management of this maintenance runs through our staff, and they are doing an excellent job.

Speaking of facilities, did you know that we have more square footage in our buildings than St. Michael and All Angels – not even including the PES buildings! Between the Nave, childcare wing, Roper Hall, Gathering Space, South Building (offices downstairs and music and classrooms upstairs), Youth Center, and Niles Building, we have an enormous physical plant. Maintaining such an expansive footprint requires knowledge, commitment, and significant resources. Thankfully, Bracken Reece, our Director of Facilities, has the knowledge and commitment, and our Vestry is doing its very best to provide the resources. We are putting as much as we can into the fulfillment of a capital needs audit conducted several years ago, which lays out the variety of projects we must perform to properly preserve our buildings, but it is not easy. Capital maintenance is expensive, and without a sufficient endowment, it comes directly from our operational budget. That means our budget is a balancing act between care for our facilities and funding the programs that inhabit them. In the future, it will be crucial that our endowment grow to provide a greater portion of our capital needs budget.

In the meantime, we're doing our best to use our facilities to their maximum potential. You can come to the church any night of the week and encounter people serving, praying, learning, or meeting. The parking lot never seems empty. I'm particularly proud of one of the new ministries we launched this past year, which is one more outreach ministry inhabiting the Niles Building: the new Food Pantry. This ministry to feed our hungry neighbors is the culmination of several years of prayer and preparation by a number of dedicated parishioners and volunteers, and it currently provides food for over a dozen local families. Wonderfully, the Clothes Horse is now partnering with the Food Pantry to offer free clothing. It is likely that this ministry will only grow as we seek to more fully and compassionately serve our neighbors.

Speaking of outreach, two other events in 2015 deserve mention. First, we've begun a partnership with Gateway of Grace to serve refugees, something that aligns with our mission to "seek and serve Christ in all persons," and the Biblical mandate to take care of the stranger in our midst. Several dozen volunteers are serving every month, and we have adopted a refugee from Senegal. Second, I am proud of the Vestry's decision last year to give away the "loose plate" offering from Easter and Christmas to organizations doing God's work in the world. The total collected on those two holy occasions and then given away was nearly \$33,000, which is a remarkable sum! Add to that the \$48,500 in outreach grants, along with the many thousands from other collections and ministries, and it was a year of true generosity in support of the world's most vulnerable people.

In my first year I have been asked consistently for my "vision for Transfiguration." Initially I struggled to figure out what that meant, both for the people asking and for me. Ultimately I've come to realize that my vision for the Fig is not especially unique or clever or new, because it is the vision of the Kingdom of God taught by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and perfectly embodied by his life. My vision is that our church will consistently seek out people who are hurting or lost in order to love and serve them. It is that we will constantly proclaim forgiveness and reconciliation. It is that we will be relentless wagers of peace. And it is that we will be radically, sacrificially generous. Ours must be a compassionate community, one that not only recognizes the brokenness of the world, but also actively pursues its healing and restoration.

This year, and every year, I hope we move to become more fully that kind of a community. We are going to do a lot this year that is good and holy and I hope will please the heart of God. I hope you will pray for me, that I be the faithful, loving leader you need and deserve. I am certainly praying for you.



STAFF



REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION

By Christopher Thomas, Chief Administrative Officer

The office of administration exists within Transfiguration to enable and support the many ministries of the church that rely on a solid infrastructure to be able to function and flourish. We take our cue from its mission statement, "To seek and serve Jesus Christ in all persons;" this informs everything that we do. As such, our goal is to provide a high level of excellence and transparency in the areas of ethical human resources management, accounting and reporting practices, risk assessment and management, legal and tax issues, and other areas directly affected by administration.

2015 was an exciting year of growth and change within the staff of Transfiguration. Several long-term staff members retired after many years of faithful service, including Mrs. Deanie Winstel, Assistant to the Rector, and Mr. Sokhom San, Assistant Sexton. Additionally, Ms. Paula McCormack, Controller, retired during 2015.

During the course of 2015, 11 new employees were on-boarded. They bring a wealth of talent and skill in their respective ministry areas.

- Rev. Erin Jean Warde, Associate for Christian Formation
- Rev. Terence C. Roper, Rector Emeritus
- Suzanne Finan, Director of Children's and Family Ministries
- Colin Hills, Director of Youth Ministries
- Rebecca Gingles, Director of Communications
- Meghan Mazur, Accounting/Administrative Assistant
- Cindy Haddock, Controller
- Gerald Brown, Assistant Sexton
- Francisco Negrete, Assistant Sexton
- Cindy Hauser, Children's Chapel Coordinator
- Wilhelm Sollie, Assistant Organist

A process of mutual ministry reviews was instituted, in which each staff member participated in conversations with his/her supervisor to discuss performance and goal-setting for the upcoming year. This will become an annual mid-year event. The Vestry also voted to add an additional component to the staff benefits package, short-term disability insurance. This is key to being able to adequately provide fully-funded maternity leave to our eligible employees.

In the area of legal services and issues, the Transfiguration Vestry was approached, negotiated with, and ultimately accepted a 25-year agreement with Verizon Wireless Services to provide rooftop space on the South (Administration) Building to house cellular signal transmission equipment. This agreement will provide the church with an income stream of \$2000 per month, and will be unnoticeable, completely contained within the equipment guard panels of the South Building roof. (This is not unlike the ongoing AT&T Cellular Services agreement in place which funded the construction of the Bell Tower.)

With respect to risk management, we have been studiously combing our records and working with the different ministry groups to insure that everyone who is mandated to complete Safe Church training is complete and up-to-date. This is critical training because it protects the most vulnerable of our ministry areas (children, youth, and elderly).

It has been an honor for all of us in the office of administration to serve this community of faith over the past year, and we look forward to an exciting and fruitful 2016!



COMMUNICATIONS

By Rebecca Gingles, Director of Communications

Since joining the staff at Transfiguration in mid-April, I have been excited by the opportunities for growth in the Communications Department. Shortly after my arrival, we purchased a poster printer to enable us to promote events around the building more effectively. In addition to producing postcards for several big-name speakers this fall, I laid out materials for the Advent Retreat, helped with signs for the new Library, and began creating banners for the Gathering Space. I worked closely with the Christian Formation team to promote new curriculum and class offerings, and worked with Suzanne to start a weekly Children and Family e-newsletter.

We fully implemented the new branding done in 2014 to include our letterhead and business cards. I also designed new nametags for the staff and ushers for easier identification. We have made small changes to the weekly Notices and e-news to allow for quicker identification of important information. In August, the first issue of the new magazine Illumine was produced, followed by two more issues for Advent/Christmas/Epiphany and Lent/Easter 2016. I am currently in the process of a website overhaul, which will greatly impact our digital reach and ability to promote programs online. Simultaneously I am working with Ellen Dingwall on new visitor packets to welcome people who walk through our doors and to provide a glimpse of the many wonderful opportunities for worship, outreach, education, and engagement Transfiguration has to offer. In order to expand our access to idea sharing, best practices, and helpful resources, I joined two local and two national groups of church communicators. I am excited to solidify our online presence and streamline our communication processes in the year ahead.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND OUTREACH

By Ellen Dingwall, Minister for Congregational Life and Outreach

The primary function of the Minister of Congregational Life and Outreach is to welcome and assimilate visitors and new members into the life of the parish; to support the rector, staff and church members with education and programs involving evangelism, church growth, and volunteerism; to work closely with all non-liturgical adult ministries to help them become welcoming and to help them plan and implement programs and activities that will enrich and enhance their life as members of this parish family; to work closely with outreach ministries to help them reach out to those in need in this community and beyond; to facilitate our reputation in the community as an inclusive and accepting parish and especially to uphold and support the mission statement of Transfiguration to "Seek and Serve Christ in all Persons"; to initiate changes in the system that are the focus of these efforts with the intent being that these changes improve the congregation; to build the capacity of the congregation to change in the future by always actively involving parishioners in the process of hospitality, outreach and community building.

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES:

Outreach ministries broadened their scope and implemented many new and innovative ways for all of our members to participate in some form of outreach. We no longer strictly write checks, although money is important to many of our outreach partners, but we are actively balancing the check writing component of outreach with hands on ways to get parishioners and their families to share their time and talent with those in need. In July we launched our monthly food distribution ministry and are currently serving 14 families with food, toiletries, love and support each month. See the Outreach Ministry report for more details.

We welcomed 66 new members who joined the church in 2015 compared with 40 in 2014. Those numbers represent 33 family units compared with 21 in 2014. There were 20 individuals from the active member list who transferred out of the parish in 2015 compared to 24 in 2014.

ADULT FORMATION

By The Rev. Erin Jean Warde, Associate Rector for Christian Formation

The year 2015 has been an exciting year in the world of Christian Formation. I am biased, but I think it is exciting to be the associate for Christian Formation, a position I started on June 1. I'm continually overwhelmed with gratitude to be serving here, and always impressed with the amazing teaching talent we have in this church.

In the past 7 months, I have been able to offer two sets of classes for adult formation, one of which focused our attention on the stewardship campaign.

For the stewardship season, we were able to enjoy the following 4 classes:

- Hebrew Bible 101: Abraham & Stewardship with Dr. Roy Heller
- Raising Generous Children with the Rev. Casey Shobe
- Being Consumed: Economics & Christian Desire with the Rev. Erin Jean Warde
- Sacraments and Sustainability with the Rev. Michael Merriman

During this session, we focused our attention on the Enough campaign, which called us to think about simplicity and generosity. Through these classes, we were able to look at those basic tenets of stewardship through the lens of our families, the Old Testament, economics, and how we treat the Earth. The classes reflected the reality that stewardship can take on many forms, and I hope that it encouraged us as a parish to think about what form stewardship should take on in our lives.

Following our stewardship season, we debuted another set of 4 classes:

- Hebrew Bible 101 with Dr. Roy Heller
- The Gifts of Imperfection with the Rev. Erin Jean Warde
- SoulFeast with Nancy Jagmin
- Advent Before Christmas Strikes with the Rev. Michael Merriman

During this session, we were able to think about spiritual practices, how to live wholehearted lives, how to live intentionally into the spirit of Advent, and a continued exploration of the Old Testament.

We also had the privilege of hosting two guest speakers. In September, we welcomed Dr. Gary Anderson, Professor of Catholic Theology at Notre Dame, to speak on his book *Charity: The Place of the Poor in the Biblical Tradition*. This lecture served to highlight our stewardship season, as it helped us think about the ways in which stewardship requires us to be thinking about the poor among us.

In October, we welcomed Dr. Lauren Winner, priest, writer, and Assistant Professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School, to speak about her book *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God*. I am thankful for the opportunity to welcome her wit, candor, and theological reflection to our parish.

It is impossible to talk about adult formation offerings in 2015 without a word of gratitude to the many people at Transfiguration who have made this possible, whether it be through generous financial contributions, teaching a class, helping set up for an event, or blessing us with your attendance at events and classes. I feel blessed to serve at Transfiguration, and I'm grateful that we share a belief in the importance of Christian formation in the church.



THE WAY – ADULT CONFIRMATION

By The Rev. Michael W. Merriman, Priest Associate

Our congregation's method of preparing adults for church membership for those who are new and of reaffirming the commitments of membership for current members. The Way meets twice yearly. One series meets in the Fall on Monday evenings, the other in Winter/Spring on Sunday mornings. The two series in 2014/2015 had a total of 26 inquirers. All of them were confirmed or received. Two of those were baptized. At present we had 15 inquirers in the 2015 Fall series and now have 11 inquirers in the 2016 Spring series. This program can only perform well because of a number of members of the congregation who serve as leaders, Lay Catechists, Sponsors and/or helpers. In 2014-15 we had more than 30 members who gave generously of their time and gifts to support member formation process. Special thanks to Chris and Jennifer Rodgers who have helped lead the Way for all of its nine years and now are in Virginia as Chris studies theology.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

By Colin Hills, Director of Youth Ministries

MISSION STATEMENT: To seek and serve Christ in all people.

MEETING DATE & TIME: Sundays 10:15 - 11:00 a.m., Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., assorted Saturdays and weekends.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 70 - 80

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: Crossover: 15 - 20, Sunday Formation: 20 - 30

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Colin Hills, Director of Youth Ministries

Christian Formation Leaders: Liberty Ford, Lindsey Hill, Beth Kirner, Kathleen Taylor-Gadsby, Marcy Ohl, David Wilson

Youth Council: Steven Hendricks, Alexandra O'Brien, Becca Hodge, Lauren Finan, Rachel Wilson, Caroline Schmidt, Suzie Fruth, Madison Hotchko, Cannon McClure, Noah Allred

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES:

- Increased overall attendance
- Addition of new programming despite significant budget cut
 - New programs include Summer Movie Nights and Real Talk
- Cultivated relationship with Church of the Ascension's youth group for joint programming
- Held successful pilgrimage to Scotland
- Increased number of regular youth volunteers six fold
- Successful Advent Outreach Day, with approximately 75 participants at four locations
- Added more intergenerational programming with Children & Family Ministries
- Changed Crossover structure to allow interaction between Jr. & Sr. High students
 - This has increased Jr. High attendance and retention
- Increased focus on growing Youth Endowment fund

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS:

The goal of youth ministry, year in and year out, is simply to point to Jesus. For next year, we plan to do this by focusing on growing the youth ministries budget, instituting intern programs for graduates of the youth ministries, and reinvigorating our pilgrimage curriculum for 2017 to name a few.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

By Suzanne Finan, Outgoing Director of Children and Family Ministries

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Children and families came together during the Lenten season for Eucharist, soup suppers and hands on experiences on Wednesday evenings. Children got to hear favorite story book and Bible stories while engaging in meaningful creative projects like fabric dying, journal making and clay prayer bead rolling.

PASSION EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES

Palm Sunday families gathered on the Labyrinth to walk the Passion of Christ in a meaningful way through storytelling, roll-play and hands-on experiences, led by our Youth and Rev. Casey Shobe. Children got to sit at the table with Christ and his Disciples and experience the last supper. They also got to go inside the tomb and hear about the final hours. The hour ended with music, fellowship, crafts and good discussion.

FIRST INFORMED COMMUNION

Transfiguration's first graders spent a Sunday afternoon together diving deeper into the meaning of The Holy Eucharist. The retreat began with God parents, grandparents and moms and dads gathered in a circle of love around the children sharing their baptism experiences. The second half of the day was spent exploring the Sacristy and altar with the Altar Guild and Clergy with a few sessions of Godly Play as well. The day ended with extra special experience where the children painted and designed their own chalices that would be glazed, fired and used for Holy Eucharist by the congregation for weeks to come.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- LOOKING BACK...G-FORCE VBS 2015

This summer Transfiguration celebrated a tremendous Vacation Bible School experience. In total we hosted over 105 children during the week of June 15th-June 19th for a week of movement and motion called G-Force! Hand-painted wooden surfboards, glow in the dark staircases, morning dance parties and priest riding big wheels in Roper Hall only name a few of the joyous moments children experienced during VBS week. One special highlight was the new partnership that formed between our friends at The Saint Philip's School. A generous gift from our own Transfiguration Theater Company sparked the idea to invite 25 Saint Philips children, volunteers and staff to join us for VBS week. The icing on the cake was having the distinguished Rev. Dr. Flowers preach at the VBS Sunday 9:00 service. The saying "It takes a village to raise a child" could not have been more evident than during the VBS preparation. Hundreds of volunteers of all ages filled the building weeks before as well as each morning of VBS to make it a true success. The Holy Spirit flowed endlessly through the outpouring of love and generosity of our Transfiguration community.

NEW CHILDREN'S FORMATION CURRICULUM: STORY TELLERS AND GODLY JOURNEY

Storytellers, is a home-grown curriculum based on Christian themes, such as, forgiveness, tolerance, redemption, and empathy, through children's literature and hands-on Bible study. Each Sunday guest readers are invited to read to our youngest members, creating a multi-generational experience during the formation hour. Creative responses as well as attention to the Episcopal calendar rounds out the curriculum.

Godly Journey, is a Sunday morning curriculum designed for the fourth and fifth grade children entering the wonderful yet complex years of tweens! Godly Journey uses one word such as, compassion, to encompass a goal for tweens to implement into their everyday life. It gives them a spring board or building block in which to grow upon. These two years are also considered actions years to embrace the autonomy and leadership tweens are striving for as well as putting prior years of Sunday School knowledge into action. Therefore Godly Journey second element is centered around outreach. Each Sunday the tweens will plan and execute a monthly outreach project that is voted on by the group.

MUSIC MINISTRY

By Joel Martinson, Director of Music & Organist

2015 proved to be another dynamic year in Transfiguration's Music Ministry! Additional information on the individual choirs and music program is printed in the 2015-2016 Music Ministry Brochure available at the Visitors Center and Gathering Space.

STATE OF THE CHOIRS & MUSIC STAFF

1) Children's Choirs

- The Holy Family Choir (18 choristers, grades 1-3) continues to form our younger parishioners for musical leadership in the service. A special thank you to choristers' parents for showing your strong commitment to this important ministry of the church by bringing your children to rehearsals and services so regularly.
- The Canticle Choir (12 singers, grades 4-7) received several strong choristers this fall who were promoted from Holy Family Choir in the spring. They continue to excel under the leadership of Kimberley Ahrens, can sing in 2-parts very ably, and are a joy to accompany in the service.

2) Youth Choir

Membership in this choir is around 15 young women and men in grades 8-12 who are very much devoted to the ministry of music. They are able to sing in 3 or 4 parts (SAB and SATB) and give strong choral leadership in the service under Chris Ahrens' direction.

3) Bella Musica Handbell Choir

We continued to develop as an ensemble during 2015, as the new ringers from 2014 became fully-integrated into the group. We are still very much in need of veteran substitute ringers, to cover for those who are travelling.

4) Transfiguration Choir

The Transfiguration Choir (58 choristers) had another great year together. Seven experienced choristers joined us in the fall, which has put our membership at an all-time high, and has filled all our 60 folders with active singers. The spirit and commitment of the Transfiguration Choir always astounds me, and I look forward to our 2016 England Tour this summer, which is actually over-subscribed in numbers!

5) Staff Changes

Assistant Organist Glenn Stroh resigned in January and accepted the position of Organist/Choirmaster at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in McKinney. Kelly Silverthorn, one of our 2 soprano section leaders resigned in the summer in order to be free to participate in musical theater productions. Whitney Andersen was hired this fall to replace her. In August, we teamed with the organ faculty at SMU in bringing Wilhelm Sollie on staff as Assistant Organist during his two-year residency in the Meadows School of the Arts Performer's Certificate program.

RECOGNITIONS

- My 2015 special choir recognition gift was presented to Evan Brown in the spring for her exemplary service to the Music Ministry. She has assisted Kim Ahrens during the past two years by working with young choristers who need extra help on pitch-matching. She was presented with a leather-bound Prayer Book/Hymnal combination.

SPECIAL PROJECTS & GIFTS

- Tower Bell Expansion Project
- Our six new tower bells were installed by the McShane firm on March 11-12. Further wiring work was

done in the weeks following, and the bells were dedicated on Easter, April 5, and officially blessed by Bishop Lambert during his visitation on May 17.

- Additional Gallery Chairs Arrived
20 additional wooden chairs and book racks for the Gallery arrived in late September and were inaugurated by three of our choirs (70 singers) during our Stewardship Ingathering service on October 11. Thank you to Bruce and Elaine Culver for this gracious gift to our ministry!

MEMORIAL & OTHER GIFTS

- In the fall of 2015 gifts were given to the Music Ministry totaling \$9,000.00:
- In memory of The Rev. Ronald Martinson by the Transfiguration choirs, family, and friends.
- In memory of Catherine M. Culver by Bruce Culver.
- By Scott Daniels.
- In memory of Karen Bybee & Hal Bybee, Sr., by Hal Bybee, Jr.
- These funds have been placed in the Special Music Account #8512 until which time they can be combined with others to create a Music Endowment.

FUNERALS

- The Transfiguration sang for funerals of three parishioners during 2015:
 - Dianne Muller, beloved music teacher at Parish Episcopal School and long-time member of the Bella Musica Handbell Choir, on May 17.
 - Karen Bybee on October 10.
 - Catherine Bienfang on October 31.

NEW SERVICES DURING 2016

- A Solemn Eucharist for Epiphany was celebrated on January 6, with the participation of the full Transfiguration Choir. The service ended outside with the Burning of the Greens.
- A Taizé service for Advent was led by members of the Transfiguration Choir and others on December 13.

OTHER MUSIC (NON-TRANSFIGURED NIGHTS) EVENTS

- Transfiguration hosted the Dallas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Regional Competition for Young Organists (RCYO) competition on Saturday, February 28.
- Orpheus Chamber Singers presented one of its three Christmas concerts at Transfiguration on December 17. We had a packed nave and gallery for the concert, and many Transfiguration parishioners were in attendance.

ORGAN TOURS, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND CLASSES

- I gave a four demonstrations of the organ to 1st and 2nd graders from Parish Episcopal School on February 10.
- Throughout the year we had many visitors to the Jerry D. Godwin Organ, Richards, Fowkes & Co.'s Opus 17.
- I followed up on my Transfigured Night's presentation about my sabbatical (February 9) by presenting two classes during the Christian Formation hour in the summer: Organ 101 (August 16) and Organ 201 (September 6).
- We had an "open keyboard" hour with two young players on June 14 between the services.

SPECIAL NOTES

- Our organ was chosen to be the instrument on which the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP) semi-finals will take place in preparation for the finals held at the Houston National Convention. Transfiguration will host the competitors who will compete on Wednesday, July 15. Please come!

- With the signing of a third contract in December, I am proud to announce that three churches whose committees visited Opus 17 have now signed for major organs from Richards, Fowkes & Co: Prairie Village Presbyterian Church in KS, Christ Church Cathedral (Episcopal) in Cincinnati, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor, MI!

GOALS MET IN 2015

- 1) Six new tower bells were installed, dedicated, and played regularly on Sundays.
- 2) Most music for the Transfiguration Choir's third CD – "With a Voice of Singing" – was recorded by the choir in early June.
- 3) Work has begun on the choir's 2016 England Tour, which will include a one-week residency at Bristol Cathedral.
- 4) Fundraising activities were undertaken for the 2016 England Tour.

REMAINING FROM 2015

- 1) Adjust the clappers of the new tower bells to match the older bells.
- 2) Record final tracks, edit, and produce the third choir CD.
- 3) Finalize work on the choir's 2016 England Tour, including remaining funding and final music selections.
- 4) Produce a recording of my compositions for organ with instruments or voice.
- 5) Repair the Ross Organ.

NEW GOALS FOR 2016

- 1) Establish a Music Endowment Fund.

THANK YOU!

- To all who so generously direct, volunteer in, support, and assist in this great Music Ministry program, especially Dorothy Baker, choir librarian, and Emily Eason, children's choirs rehearsal accompanist.

PASTORAL CARE

By The Rev. Elizabeth G. O'Donnell, Deacon

My major responsibilities center on pastoral care to the elderly and homebound of the parish, along with supervision of the Stephen Ministry and Eucharistic Visitors, facilitation of the Women's Tuesday Morning (now afternoon) Book Study and liaison to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. I oversee the selection, training and supervision of Eucharistic Visitors, meet regularly with the Stephen Leaders, meet weekly with the book group and monthly with Prayer Shawl Ministry and make pastoral care visits to those who are homebound or in hospitals or healthcare facilities.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS: The Mission of the Eucharistic Visitor Ministry is to extend the worship of the church to the homebound and those in hospitals/healthcare facilities by taking the Eucharist to them directly after the nine o'clock service each Sunday. 19 parishioners served as Eucharistic Visitors. The visitors meet once a year for mutual support and continuing education.

R.O.S.E.S.: The mission of the R.O.S.E.S. ministry has been to provide friendship and loving concern to elderly parishioners and other members of the community who may be isolated and have limited social connection with family and friends. One visitor was matched with a parishioner this past year until the parishioners died a few months ago. One of my goals is to revitalize this ministry.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 19 active Eucharistic Visitors, (two have been on leave this year, one moved from the area and one resigned) 2 active R.O.S.E.S. visitors. I made 37 visits with parishioners and family members at home and in hospital or rehabilitation facilities and had a communion service with 5 of those visits. Eucharistic Visitors made 511 home visits and served 1081 communions.

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP: Attendance ranges from 8 to 20 for this reading and discussion group. Books are often chosen for a seasonal theme, especially for Advent and Lent. 2015 book selections included: Getting Involved with God, Ellen Davis; Being Christian, Rowan Williams; Surprised by Scripture, N.T. Wright; Parables of Paul, J. Ellsworth Kalas; and Mudhouse Sabbath, Lauren Winner

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: This ministry began two years ago under the leadership of Sally Manning with the mission of providing a hand knitted or crocheted shawl to members of the parish who were ill, homebound or recovering from a medical event or bereavement. See separate report.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: See separate report

DEACON ON STAFF: Served as deacon at assigned services throughout the year. I was the presenter on servant ministry and the role of the Deacon at two sessions of The Way. Off-site I am a member of the Attending Clergy Association of Texas Health Resources Presbyterian Hospitals and meet monthly with other area clergy for a luncheon/seminar. I also meet at least twice a year with the other Deacons of the Diocese of Dallas. I completed training this summer to be a Stephen Leader and helped facilitate Stephen Minister training this fall.

One major and unexpected event this summer was working with a stranded family of seven (due to an accident that totaled their van) as they traveled from Ohio to Dallas for the father to begin a new job in construction. Over a period of several weeks, ministries and individual members of the congregation provided support as the family members worked to recover from their injuries, find an affordable place to live, employment for the adult family members and a school for the children. They have relocated south of Dallas and they continue to update us with their progress.

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: I continue to be grateful that God has called me to serve at the Church of the Transfiguration. I am most grateful for the parishioners who give their time and talents to serve as Eucharistic and R.O.S.E.S. Visitors and Stephen Ministers. Successes are listed above in the reports on these ministries.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: To continue recruiting and training new members to serve as Eucharistic Ministers, find the personnel to revitalize the R.O.S.E.S. ministry, as well as potential Stephen Ministers to be trained in 2017 and to support this ministry through advocacy for this ministry and training of a new Stephen Leader and to provide continuing education for these ministries. Identify parishioners who are in need of continuing pastoral care and be open to new ways to serve the parish. Recruit an EV to take on responsibilities for quarterly scheduling and for co-training new EVs.



VESTRY AND
FINANCIAL



REPORTS

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

By Bill Edwards

As my term as Senior Warden draws to a close, I want to acknowledge the very generous support of the entire vestry, church staff and parishioners. Because of each and every one of you, my job as senior warden was made not only easier, but also more fulfilling. I especially want to recognize the following:

Louise Harms, Junior Warden, for being such a good listener and advocating the needs and concerns of our church family so well.

The chairs of our new vestry committees: Bridget de Bruyn, Chris Holley, and Jonathan Maedche. It was your leadership that helped in the success of our new vestry structure.

Bob Button, for your role as treasurer these past several years. Your financial acumen is only matched by the smile you (almost) always seem to have on your face.

Tudi Owens, for recording the minutes of our meetings so well and for your faithfulness and dedication to your role as clerk.

Last, but certainly not least, Jay Madrid, our chancellor, whose legal expertise the vestry has relied on so many times throughout the past year. The vestry and the parish can never say THANK YOU enough for ALL you do for us.

I consider this past year as one of "settling in": Father Casey's first full year with us, several new staff members, a new associate rector, a new vestry structure. Just as it takes some time to settle in to a new home, (Think: "where should we put this or that? Where did we put this or that?") we've had a similar experience in our roles this year on the vestry, and even as a parish --- I know I certainly have, as Senior Warden. I sincerely thank everyone for your patience and your prayers as we've "settled in" together.

Looking ahead, if there is one thing I would ask of our next Senior Warden, Laurel Brewster, and the 2016 vestry is that you make a concerted and consistent effort to communicate with the parish on a regular basis. In hindsight, among many of my shortcomings as Senior Warden, I think this was my greatest.

In closing, I look forward in the coming months to see how God will lead this new vestry and our parish to more fully and ably "Seek and Serve Christ in All Persons".

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ADMINISTRATION

SEE HANDOUT



BUILDING GROUNDS AND TECHNOLOGY

By Jonathan Maedche

2015 was a busy year for BG&T, and it afforded opportunities to make considerable progress on many needed capital maintenance repairs and updates. An audit was performed the previous year, providing us with a long list of items. Bracken Reece prioritized the list and spread the work out across the year.

MAINTENANCE SUMMARY

Transfiguration is responsible for maintenance of the entire campus. This summary categorizes the work done by building or area of the campus.

- Sanctuary: Emergency lighting was updated, leaks in the hospitality/library area were repaired, an air handler unit received mechanical repairs, and one condensing unit on small West roof was replaced.
- Roper Hall: Room partitions were repaired, minor roof and drainage repairs were made, and windows were added to the doors of the hall.
- South Building: Updated software and necessary repairs for the energy management system were implemented, additional ductwork for improved server cooling was added, walls were repaired and repainted, and protection to condenser coils was added.
- Youth Center (Building A): A transformer and electrical panels were replaced, the roof patched, and a failed HVAC unit replaced.
- Niles (Building B): The transformer and electrical panels were replaced at the same time as those of the Youth Center, and an elastomeric coating was applied to the roof to extend its life.
- Building C: Air handlers were replaced and the roof repaired.
- Site: An infrared study of all electrical panels was performed along with subsequent repairs to address potential hazards. A number of paving issues, trip hazards, and parking lot markings were addressed.
- Information Technology: New antivirus software was installed on all computers, and we have contracted with a new IT service provider.
- Storage: The old garage has been refurbished and is now being used for Fig Theater storage. We are looking at additional ways to maximize efficiency in the spaces to meet the needs of our many service organizations.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Though capital maintenance items occupied a large portion of activity, additional projects enhanced our community space:

- Food Pantry: Two rooms in the Niles Building were reworked to support the food pantry ministry.
- Library: The old parlor was remodeled, and the library was moved from Roper Hall.
- Sanctuary Audio System: Through a generous gift the installation of a new system should be completed in January.
- Signage and Way-Finding: This project is in collaboration with PES. It was initiated with a study to look at our signs, how we present ourselves to the public (street view), as well as traffic flow and navigation on campus. Recommendations are being evaluated and work will be planned in phases. The subcommittee includes Laurel Brewster, Hollye Fisk, Rebecca Gingles, Bracken Reece, and additional members representing PES.

THE YEARS AHEAD

Remaining items from the facility audit will be addressed in the coming year. They include evaluation of the skylights over the sanctuary, replacing the small roof over the sacristy, mechanical/HVAC repairs and replacements, the first phase of Way-Finding, and other site improvements. Looking ahead to 2017, we will need to consider replacement of the sanctuary roof.

Respectfully submitted:

Jonathan Maedche (chair), Hal Bybee, Laurel Brewster, Paul Sternweis, Bracken Reece (ex officio)

ENDOWMENT FUND

By Mat Thekkil

MISSION STATEMENT: The Endowment Fund promotes the mission and vision of the parish by overseeing the investment and disbursements of money from the funds that trustees manage.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: usually third Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 5 Trustees

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 8

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE:

Trustees:

- Mat Thekkil, chair
- Jim Kirkman, secretary
- Mikkell Bassett
- Susan Fisk
- Susanne Gray

Also attending:

- The Rev. Casey Shobe, Rector
- George Banitch, Vestry Liaison
- Bill Edwards, Senior Warden
- Paul Welch, Financial Advisor/Investment Manager
- Michael Gavett, Financial Advisor/Investment Manager

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES:

Major projects funded this year:

- Installation of Library into new space with bookshelves and furniture
- Seed Money for wayfaring/signage project
- Website Redesign
- Made \$100k disbursement towards Burn the Note
- Scholarship for one youth to attend Youth Pilgrimage to Scotland
- Started centralizing documentation in Dropbox
- Started path towards incorporating
- Created policies and procedures for projects and travel
- Participated in annual CEEP conference in Florida
- Hosted CEEP Planning Committee for Dinner at their Dallas meeting

Fund Balances as of Dec 31, 2015:

- General Fund: \$1,053,258
- Outreach Fund: \$144,567
- Youth Fund: \$55,524

The Trustees would also like to acknowledge those who gave memorial gifts to the Endowment Fund:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Memorial/Honoree</u>
Ann & Ben Cunningham	Joan Echols Sleight
Ms. Robbi R. Dietrich	In honor of new grand daughter
Fiduciary Financial Services	Catherine Bienfang
Mr. Hollye & Mrs. Susan Fisk	Catherine Bienfang
Mrs. Andrea C. Lee	Marvin Muller
Mr. Robert & Mrs. Frances Martin	Catherine Bienfang
Ms. Marianne Bouvier & Mr. Burton L. Scott	Eleanor Lasater Scott & William B. Scott
Mr. Paul & Mrs. Luann Welch	Youth Fund
Barbara F. Arnold	Harold Secker
Dr. & Mrs. John F. Roberts	Harold Secker
Ms. Nancy Gilmore	Harold Secker
Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Brunkhorst, Jr.	Harold Secker
Ms. Susan F. Alt	Harold Secker
Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Banksto	Harold Secker
Ms. Barbara P. Chapman	Harold Secker
Ms. Peggy J. Beck	Harold Secker
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Wood	Harold Secker
Ms. Rosemary Johnson	Harold Secker
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Secker, Jr.	Harold Secker
Mrs. Joan Gearner	Harold Secker
Dr. Robert Wayne Perrin	Harold Secker
Ms. Inez Amirkhan	Harold Secker
Mr. Gene & Mrs. Cassie Bledsoe	Catherine Bienfang

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS:

- Continue to promote the Legacy Society and its significance for the future of the church
- Be responsive to the needs of the parish
- Complete the on-line pdf file "Planning for a Graceful Exit"
- Complete incorporation
- Expand board of trustees

STEWARDSHIP

By Oliver Cone

Our campaign this year centered on the themes of simplicity and generosity, of recognizing that what we have is enough and responding to God in thanks for that sufficiency. Following from last year's move to clearly defined start and end dates, we shortened the campaign to four weeks, again concluding with a combined Sunday morning Ingathering and parish-wide celebration.

With the staff resources added during the year we were able to improve on the nature and variety of communications during the campaign without additional expense. The emphasis on higher quality content and appearance was deliberate as a reflection on the importance of the campaign and the vital work of Transfiguration. We emphasized the opportunity for self-examination and a focus on our true priorities throughout the campaign using a variety posters, brochures, handouts, member responses, sermons and testimonials from three parishioners during weekend services.

We expanded the size of our committee to 14 this year, including staff and vestry members, and also had regular clergy participation. The changing composition of the committee has helped tremendously in ensuring proper coordination and execution of the campaign.

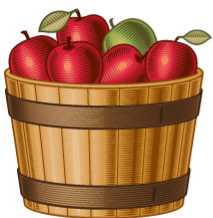
In last year's campaign we succeeded in reversing a sustained trend of declining pledge count and reached the highest dollar total for 10 years. Unfortunately the response has not been as strong this year. As of January 4, 151 of our returning households have increased their pledges by \$109,000 collectively and we have received pledge certificates from 46 new households representing \$78,000 in aggregate. However, at the same time we have lost almost \$190,000 of last year's funding through a combination of decreased pledges and transfers out of the Church.

Overall we have received a total of \$1,583,262 in pledges from 431 households and remain more than \$60,000 short of simply matching last year's total, which is a clear concern heading into the budgeting process for 2016. Our hope is that we will receive pledges this month from the 35 active households who participated previously and from whom we have yet to hear. If these households pledge at the same level as 2015, we will end up within \$3,000 of last year's total, which still obviously limits Transfiguration's ability to expand its ministries and programs and do much more than keep up with rising operating costs and maintain the status quo.

Our plans for 2016 include clearer communication of Transfiguration's annual budget and the need to increase income if we are to support growth in the programs and ministries that make such a difference for our members and the broader community. Our goal continues to be to increase household participation in financial pledging, towards a target of 100% of average Sunday attendance versus the current 75%.

Committee members:

Chris Ayres	Bill Edwards	ET Manning	Nancy Torell
Linda Ayres	Rebecca Gingles	Sally Manning	Evan Williams
Oliver Cone (Chair)	Chuck Hodge	Jill Matthews	
Ellen Dingwall	Elizabeth Jenkins	Chris Thomas	



ENOUGH
SIMPLICITY  GENEROSITY





MINISTRIES AND ORGANZIATIONS



ACOLYTES

By Bill Grona

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide young people with an opportunity to become familiar with the liturgy of the Church and provide a service to the parish.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: As Scheduled

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 42 Acolytes Grade 2-12 and 8 Adults/Wardens

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: Serve at 9:00 a.m. Sunday Eucharist and some of the special services. Positions are: Crucifer, First Server, Second Server, and two Torchbearers.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Acolyte Wardens: Dana Bartholomew, Nancy Button, Jim Cates, Judy Loveday-Corbett, Dee and Sherri Daniel, Bill Grona, and Bill Keslar

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: Graduating Seniors in 2015 were Ben Guion, Elizabeth Mayfield, and Lauren Mignardi.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: To attract new members. We will graduate 2 seniors in 2016.

ALTAR GUILD

By Mary Ellen Horan

MISSION STATEMENT: The Altar Guild assists the Clergy. We are responsible for preparing the Altar and Sanctuary for the celebration of the Eucharist and other Church Services including preparing the Communion boxes for the sick. Our duties include taking care of the Vestments, Vessels, Wine, Wafers, Candles, Linens and distilled water for the Font. It is our Privilege and responsibility to perform these Duties with Dignity and Devotion.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Regular meetings are held prior to Christmas and Easter Seasons. Other meetings are held on an as needed basis. Usually in the summer we meet to assign committee chairs for the next liturgical cycle. We have four rotating Teams. Each Team has a Team Captain and six Members. Every Saturday, the Team that is assigned to serve that week meets at 9 am to prepare the Church for the next week. We prepared close to 400 services in 2015.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: We had 26 members as of December 31, 2015. Ginger Kline and Brenda Brooks moved and retired at the end of November 2015. We will continue to encourage Members of the Church to join our Guild.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: The average attendance at meetings is approximately 22 Members. On June 28 we had our first Altar Guild Social at the Whiskey Cake restaurant. Members and their families and friends were invited. We had 41 people in attendance. It gave us a chance to become better acquainted.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Mary Ellen Horan – Directress ; Gabrielle Guion – Vice Directress; Ann Huffman – Funeral Guild ; Elizabeth Jenkins – Wedding Guild.

MINISTRY SUCCESSES: The Altar Guild continues to prepare the Church for Services for the Glory of God. Our members are dedicated to our calling and we become lifelong friends. Last year, we were able to purchase a new Fair Linen for the Altar. The EMF approved a Grant of \$950 for the Fair Linen. We also raised funds for Altar Linens by selling framed Pictures of Retired Linens.

MINISTRY GOALS: The Altar Guild will continue assisting the Clergy with all the Worship Services, maintaining the Priests' Sacristy and keeping the Altar Guild Sacristy in proper order. The Altar Guild invites everyone to join this important Ministry that is critical to our Worship Services.

We would like to thank the Flower Guild and all Members of the Church who helped us last year.

AUSTIN STREET CENTER

By Ron Damholt

MISSION STATEMENT: Our primary mission is to support the Austin Street Center and its 350+ homeless residents by providing a monthly evening meal at the Austin Street Center. In addition, the Austin Street Center asks the parish to support their special requests for donations such as food and clothing throughout the year. The parish also provides a traditional, complete Thanksgiving meal for the residents on Thanksgiving Eve each year.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: There are no traditional meetings. We serve each month on the evening of the third Wednesday of the month. In November, we also serve a special Thanksgiving dinner as a substitute for our normal third Wednesday meal.

- Three teams have been staffed to serve the monthly evening meals at the Center. This means each team only serves once a quarter.
- In addition, we have parishioners that provide baked goods such as deserts and cookies for each of the servings.
- We also have a number of parishioners that purchase food items for the servings such as bread, meat items, cheese, bananas, milk, condiments, paper products, etc.
- We also have a couple of parishioners that use the Roper kitchen to cook some of the food that is served at the Center.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS:

Parishioners Involved With ASC	Total
Wednesday food service team members	62
Substitute food service team members	15
Wednesday meal cooks	3
Bakers (deserts/cookies)	18
Food suppliers	4
Total Parishioners That Participate	<u>102</u>

47 volunteers, most of whom were not our normal monthly volunteers, served at the Thanksgiving Eve meal this year.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE:

ASC Overall Coordinator: Ron Kerker

Wednesday Night Team Leader One: Judy Loveday-Corbett

Wednesday Night Team Leader Two: Judy Loveday-Corbett

Wednesday Night Team Leader Three: Elizabeth & Jim Jenkins

Cook Team Leader: Ron Kerker/Shawn Coffee

Thanksgiving Meal Planner/Coordinator: Ron Kerker

2015 MINISTRY SUCCESSES:

- The team during 2015 provided and served about 6,000 meals to the homeless residents of the Austin Street Center.
- In addition, with the financial support of the Episcopal Men's Fellowship and St. Hilda's Guild, we funded and served a complete, traditional Thanksgiving meal to the Austin Street Center residents.
- The parish also provided a number of food donations throughout the year to the Center.
- In addition, the parish "Clothes Horse" donated clothing to the Center throughout the year.
- We enhanced the meal service by increasing the quality and quantity of food provided to the clients. The amount of food provided to each client was doubled.
- With much consternation and thoughtfulness from the team members and leaders, we changed from serving meals at ASC twice a month to once a month in order to stay within budgetary requirements.
- We revised our serving process at ASC to make it more efficient and less time consuming thereby

- reducing total serving time by 50%. We can now serve the 350 to 400 clients in less than 45 minutes.
- Lastly, the ASC Outreach Ministry met our budget goals for 2015.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: We will continue to serve our monthly meals and the Thanksgiving meal as in the past. We will also support Austin Street Center's request for special donations. We will continue to involve our Youth Ministry in more activities including the food service program and special volunteer work at the Center. We will continue to obtain funds for the Thanksgiving meal through donations outside of our annual budget. This should ensure that we can stay within our annual budget allocation provided by the Outreach Committee.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 897

By Dave Anderson, Scoutmaster

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Troop 897 is to develop our youth into productive citizens. We will provide the opportunity for boys to learn how to effectively lead others, and learn how to cooperate and contribute when led by others. We will emphasize respect for and service toward individuals, the community, nation and world. We will provide a Scouting program that places boys in an environment where events are designed and organized to encourage growth through intellectual and physical activities in a safe setting. We will build young men of integrity and character through teamwork, high adventure and fun learning experiences.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 10 youth, 13 adults

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 7

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Dave Anderson, Scoutmaster; Fred Flores, Committee Chair

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: 6 youth advanced to 2nd class rank, 3 youth advanced to 1st class rank, 1 youth advanced to Star rank, 1 youth advanced to Life rank, 1 youth advanced to Eagle rank. 50 merit badges were earned, service to support Scouting for Food drive.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: continue promoting and teaching scouting methods

Starting year balance – \$1979.71

Year end balance - \$886.67

Income from wreath and greenery sales, Yankee Candle fundraiser sales

Expenses for campouts, fees, transportation, summer camp, equipment, advancement awards, and webpage hosting.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

By Sally Manning

The Daughters of the King is a spiritual, praying Order for women, both lay and clerical, who are communicants of the Episcopal Church. The Order is 140 years old and was instituted in New York City in 1885. The Order of the Daughters of the King is distinguished from other church organizations by its commitment to practice a Rule of Life on a daily basis, a self-imposed discipline to pray daily and practice service to the parish and clergy at Transfiguration. This Rule leads to a pattern of Christian fellowship personally, in chapter groups, and in corporate worship.

The Purpose of the Order is evangelism. Daughters are called to be Christ's hands and feet in the world, and to do service through the exercise of individual talents and blessings. The sign of our discipline is the emblem of the Order – our cross – that we wear daily as a visible witness of a life committed to showing forth the love of Christ to all people.

The Church of the Transfiguration in Dallas, Texas instituted a new chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King, the Mary and Martha Chapter in the Diocese of Dallas, on September 27, 2015. The chapter joined over 47 other churches in the Diocese of Dallas with active DOK chapters. Twenty-five new members completed their discernment classes over the summer and joined seven (7) other Daughters who were active members of Transfiguration but without an active DOK chapter.

Current members include Daughters Susie Alt, Linda Ayres, Dana Bartholomew, Barbara Cody, Ann Coley, Martha Cordell, Sarah Cox, Barbara Delissa, Lisa Green, Wilma Hanger, Minnie Harper, Deborah Hicks, Kathryn Hudiburgh, Eloise Jackson, Nancy Jagmin, Darlene Justice, Nancy Kaiserman, Tammy Kirkman, Paulette Legg, Sally Manning, Billie McMiller Daniels, Pat Miller, Marina Pufpaff, , Debbie Riney, Kathey Roberts, Sheila Runnels-MacLennan, Bee Skinner, Pat Tarpley, Beth Ygartua, Melody Yuhn, and Libba Zak.

The Rev. Erin Jean Warde, Associate Rector, was selected as Chaplain of the new chapter, and Sally Manning, Lisa Green, and Darlene Justice were installed as President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. The installation service included the presence of then Bishop-elect, Rev. Canon George Sumner as guest preacher.

The Chapter meets once a month, on the third Thursday, at 7:00 p.m. For information on the Daughters of the King ministry, please contact Sally Manning, etsal@sbcglobal.net, or by phone: (806) 681-6486.

EPISCOPAL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP (EMF)

By Jody Hardman

MISSION STATEMENT: Fellowship for all men of Transfiguration with monthly programs and service activities. EMF also donates funds for special needs of the Parish and Outreach Ministries.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Monthly Meetings usually third Thursday of each month from September to May. Board Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Approximately 20 Board Members. All men of the parish are members of EMF.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 35 men. If monthly program is open to all members of the parish, attendance can be 75 or more persons.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: 2015/2016 Jody Hardman-President; Paul Sternweis-Treasurer; Jeff Frauenheim- Scribe; John Donaldson-Publicity/Evangelism Chairman

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: EMF sponsored lunch for the Gathering in Thanksgiving Square for the needy and homeless. EMF held successful monthly programs, including speakers from Transfiguration and also from outside the parish as well as annual outings to a baseball game and fishing trip to support our annual Fish Fry and Silent Auction which raised nearly \$22,000 for Parish needs and outreach. Sponsorship of the Memorial Golf Tournament held in November and raised another \$1200. During 2015, funds raised by EMF were used to support over \$25,000 in donations to various ministries (see below). Also gave time,

talent and money to Fall fest, Decacon Liz discretionary fund, library renovation and Rectors fund. Donations for Ministry were made to Transfiguration Youth, Children's Ministry, Altar Guild, Rector's Discretionary Fund, Austin Street Center, Congregational Development, Fig Theater Company and Happy Homes Ministry.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: More fellowship and service to Transfiguration from the men of the parish. Speakers are planned from inside as well as outside the Parish for EMF Dinners. We hope for an even more successful Silent Auction to raise money to support ministries.

2015 FINANCIAL REPORT:

Assets:	
Beginning of 2015	\$5,434.24
Income:	
Event Fees and Payments	\$10,733.00
Donations (Auction/Other)	\$25,520.50
Expenses:	
Costs of Activities	\$10,637.03
Donations to Ministries	\$18,574.72
Gifts	\$7,376.24
Net Balance:	\$5,099.75

EPISCOPAL PEACE FELLOWSHIP

by Ron Damholt

This year several Transfiguration parishioners came together to form the North Dallas Chapter of Episcopal Peace Fellowship. This organization, which has a strong presence in the national church, has been in existence since 1939. Its mission is to pray, to study/educate and to act on behalf of peace and justice.

"Having been encouraged by the national director of EPF to limit our scope for the sake of effectiveness, in our first couple meetings we discussed what single issue we might choose as a focus during this first year. A clear consensus emerged that everyone present wanted to work together to end capital punishment, a position which has been affirmed by the national church on several occasions; in subsequent meetings we have been taking steps toward that goal. Also, during Lent, members of the group will be leading a Sunday morning adult education series focusing on persons who have led the struggle for peace and justice in the past.

The North Dallas Chapter of EPF meets at the Fig on the third Tuesday evening of every month. We invite everyone to visit with us and to explore whether they might want to join in our work.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

By Pam Sternweis

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is the Episcopal Church's compassionate response to the words of Jesus (Matt 25: 37-40) to feed the hungry, care for the sick and welcome the stranger. This international agency partners with churches, community based programs and local organizations to customize responses to annually meet the unique challenges of over 3 million people in communities located in 40 countries worldwide.



Advent and Lent are the two seasons designated by the Episcopal General Convention to be a time to encourage congregations and individuals to remember and support the life-saving work of Episcopal Relief and Development. In Lent we are asked to consider taking time during this season of reflection to consider how to mirror Jesus' teachings of compassion, justice and sacrificial giving. Donations to ERD projects will help address global needs and create opportunities for deeper engagement on issues that impact us all. During Advent, we are asked to consider simplifying Christmas gift giving by giving Gifts for Life to loved ones on our holiday gift list. These gifts empower both individuals and communities to transform their lives and are a powerful way to fight poverty, hunger and disease worldwide.

FIG THEATRE

By Tim O'Bryen

Our theater group began 2015 with a true blessing as we were invited to perform "The Gift of The Magi" by O. Henry for the entire student body and staff of St. Philip's Academy. I know they enjoyed the show, but for us having the privilege to meet everyone and tour that wonderful school was really the best! We immediately began making plans to work closely with St. Philip's (more on that later). Our Spring Show was *The Big Broadcast*, Directed by Larry Groebe curator of the *Old Time Radio Archives*. The large cast used original scripts, props, sound effects. I need not say we had a wonderful time. This show was a benefit for all of our many volunteers and those who have helped build the company to what it is today. Money collected was for The Harry Mccament Summer Scholarship Program, and you guessed it, FTC was proud to be able to sponsor over 35 students and teachers from St. Philip's Academy to our Transfiguration Vacation Bible School. What fun! Some of our actors enacted the bible stories for the day to each of the classes and some of the hardest working volunteers I have ever witnessed provided a lovely picnic lunch for all of the students after VBS ended each day. A Special thank you to our Director of Christian Education, Suzanne Finan and St. Philip's own LaCheryl Walker for making this all happen. Of course we hope to continue the tradition this year and the years to come. Thanks to the generosity of our own Episcopal Men's Fellowship and the hard work of Bracken Reece and his crew we were able to transform the old garage into a safe and much needed storage space for our overload of equipment, leaving the downstairs storage room available for actual storage. I have always been so impressed at how every organization, individuals pitch in to help however they can to help us put on intricate shows. We finished the season in November with *The Importance of Being Earnest*, by Oscar Wilde. The wit as dry as Fr. Merriman was very well received and the two-weekend run was full for almost every show. Our rector and clergy have been so supportive of what we do. We were proud to be asked to read the Passion Gospels on Palm Sunday as well as taking part in the ancient service of ALL HOLLOWS EVE. When we came to Transfiguration, the first thing I noticed in the notices was that auditions for a show were being held that night...Well as they say the rest is history. So with fond memories and dear, dear friends my spouse Shawn Coffey and I will be taking leave of our wonderful family of Transfiguration. In the late spring we will be relocating to Colorado and will miss you all everyday (although they do use ALOT of incense up there and we love that). We have so many talented parishioners in so many ways, please continue to support and take part in this incredible and unique ministry. Please join us for *The Adventures Of Robinhood* this spring!

Tim O'Bryen, President; John Hanby, Artistic Director; Pat Shaughnessey, Secretary; Bob Button, Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

By Robert Button, Treasurer, Transfiguration Theatre Company

Statement of Income and Disbursements
January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

INCOME

Revenue less prior period adjustment	\$5,787.75
Fig Angel Donations and Other Contributions	\$5,125.00
Prior Period Adjustment	\$(2,808.50)
Total Income	\$8,104.25

DISBURSEMENTS

Director's Fee	2,750.00
Concessions\Gala	2,216.57
Contributions and Donations	1,950.00
Costumes	1,710.85
Storage Moving Expense	1,550.00
Props, Supplies, Stage Sets	1,095.19
Scripts	450.00
Stage Manager	300.00
Other Expenses	249.78
Advertising\Promotion	205.40
Total Disbursements	\$12,477.79

Excess of Disbursements over Income \$(4,373.54)

STATEMENT OF CASH RECONCILIATION

January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

Beginning Cash Balance at January 1, 2015	\$16,290.82
Less: Excess of Disbursements over Income	(4,373.54)
Ending Cash Balance at December 31, 2015	\$11,917.28

FLOWER GUILD

By Carolyn Lewis

The mission of The Church of the Transfiguration's Flower Guild is twofold: the first is external--flowers are offered as a visual celebration of God's love for us and the second is internal -- to support and nurture the innate creativity that resides in everyone. There are about 10-12 active members who meet each Saturday to clean up, plan and create that week's arrangements. In 2015 we provided floral arrangements on a weekly basis for the altar, font, children's chapel, clergy offices, gathering space, the columbarium, restrooms and individual arrangements for home bound parishioners who receive communion from a LEV. In addition, we have provided flowers for weddings, funerals, receptions, Transfigured Nights and the Theater Company Gala as well as two design classes. We are largely supported by designated funds and donations.

FOOD PANTRY

By Judy Drotman

Transfiguration opened a food distribution ministry in July 2015. We joined a program offered by the North Texas Food Bank through Crossroads Community Service. Transfiguration is one of 80 organizations to participate in the food distribution network. Our clients include some of the neediest families at Spring Valley Elementary School. Each month our families receive enough food to feed their family for a week.

Parishioners generously donated equipment required to open our doors and continue to grow the ministry through donations of non-food items and Christmas gifts for the children of our families. We will continue the tradition of helping some of the most vulnerable in our area with collection projects during 2016. On a monthly basis we have a core of 15-20 volunteers who help with food pick-up, sorting and distributing the food which takes place in the Niles building.

FUNERAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

By Elizabeth Jenkins

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide an opportunity for friends and family to gather and visit after a funeral or memorial service

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Immediately following a funeral or memorial service.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Currently there are 35 people on the committee who provide food and help with receptions

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: Receptions average 75 – 100 people with some as many as 350. The committee does not hold meetings.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Chair: Elizabeth Jenkins; Co-chair: Tish Maedche

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: Provided receptions for twelve families. In all cases families were most appreciative. Larger receptions were held in Roper Hall which provides more space for guests and is easier for committee members to serve refreshments. Smaller receptions continue to be held in the Gathering Space.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: Continue to provide receptions in accordance with the wishes of the families and guidelines of the parish. Increase the number of members of the committee.

Financial reporting is done through the Ministry of Joy. There is no income except for occasional donations by families of the deceased, and expenses are minimal. The only expenses are for food, flowers and beverages most of which are donated by the committee members. The Flower Guild has provided flowers for the tables for many of the receptions.

iPARENT

By Amy Ferrell

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the iParent ministry is to connect a community of parents of children living at home as we model seeking and serving Christ for our kids in today's information age, through worship, education, evangelism, outreach, pastoral care and fellowship. We also take time for activities and conversations designed to help us get to know each other better and enhance our own spiritual growth as parents. Social events and volunteer opportunities throughout the year strengthen our connections to the Fig and each other.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: We have a mix of adult focused and family gatherings throughout the year.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Approximately 70 people.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: Event attendance ranges from 20 to 40, with an average of around 30.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Amy Ferrell acts as coordinator for the group with the help of Debra Boopsingh, and Brooke Robb.

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: Twenty families gathered in November to bake pies for the Thanksgiving Meal at Austin Street Shelter. This is our fifth year to bake Thanksgiving pies, and, as always, it was a roaring success. Additionally, iParent hosted several well-attended fellowship opportunities including the Spring Fling, Fall Family Picnic, and an Advent Parents' Party.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: To continue to provide fellowship and service opportunities for families at Transfiguration.

BUDGET: iParent is self-sustaining and does not require money from the parish.

MACMASTER LIBRARY

By Nancy Banitch

The mission of the MacMaster Library is to seek and serve Christ in all persons by providing books, and other educational formats, that promote scripture, tradition and reason, and enrich the spiritual life of our church and parishioners. 2015 was a year of positive change for the library, as we moved into the lovely renovated space of the former parlor. The Endowment Fund and Episcopal Men's Fellowship generously provided funding for this project. Bracken Reese did a great job on designing and implementing it.

We have partnered with Suzanne Finan and Storytellers, the new children's Sunday School program, to keep over 50 new titles, with multiple copies, of the picture books being read to preschool and early elementary students. Many thanks to Suzanne and a grant from St. Hilda's that helped to fund the purchase of these excellent new children's books. A successful book sale was held in the fall and monetary contributions given will enable the library to purchase more new materials in 2016.

Library hours: the library is staffed before and after the Saturday evening service and between services on Sunday morning. Whenever the church is open, though, parishioners are invited to use the library on a self-service basis. The computer catalog is on the desk, and to check out a book please remove the card from the inside cover, fill in your name, and place the card in the white basket.

Library board members: Nancy Banitch - Chair/Librarian, Lynn Campbell, Scott Daniels, Julie Evans, Richard Harmon, Karen Kahl, Betsy Warren, Carolyn Whelan, and George Banitch

NURTURING FAITH THROUGH FICTION

By Ron Damholt

Nurturing Faith through Fiction has been meeting regularly since the fall of 2013 to watch and discuss movies, and to read and discuss novels and short stories. While personal enjoyment is certainly involved, our main goals are to help shape our own characters, deepen our reflection on life and develop our faithfulness as Christians. Some of these works of fiction are well known - we've watched *Stagecoach* and *Places in the Heart*, and read Lewis's *Till We Have Faces* and Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*. Others are more obscure, like the movie *The Bicycle Thief* and Myles Connelly's novel *Mr. Blue*. Taken as a whole, our experiences together seem to confirm John May's statement, "The books that we read and the films that we see will affect our vision of the world just as surely as breathing and eating enable us to live." We meet on the first Tuesday evening of every month, and invite you to join us to experience the power which good works of fiction (accompanied by fine discussions) may have in your own life.



OUTREACH

By Bridget de Bruyn

MISSION STATEMENT: The Outreach Committee leads efforts of our parish to seek and serve Christ in all persons by reaching out into communities where a need for help has been established.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: First Wednesday evening of each month

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 18

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 10

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Ellen Dingwall attends every meeting, Chair: Bridget de Bruyn; 2016 Chair Jodi Dalton

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: The most important project completed in 2015 was the opening of our own food distribution ministry in 2015. We joined a program offered by the North Texas Food Bank through Crossroads Community Service. Our clients include some of the neediest families at Spring Valley Elementary School. Each month these families receive enough food to feed their family for a week. Parishioners generously donated equipment required to open our doors and we furthered the ministry through donations of non-food items and Christmas gifts for the children. We will continue the tradition of helping some of the most vulnerable in our area with collection projects during 2016. On a monthly basis we have a core of 15-20 volunteers who help with food pick-up, sorting and distributing the food which takes place in the Niles building.

Over the summer, several high visibility collection projects were completed to aid our Food Distribution ministry, Genesis Women's Shelter and the teachers and staff of Spring Valley Elementary prior to the start of the school year. Parishioners outdid themselves participating at high levels including not only donations but also sorting and distributing. Other examples of outreach included our annual grant money distribution (see the 2015 awards below), the ongoing ministry of parishioners at Austin Street Center, parish involvement in the Annual Meals on Wheels Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Caring, the Human Trafficking Symposium, Mother's Day gifts for St. Philip's School, numerous visits by parishioners especially from EMF to the Gathering (at Thanksgiving Square on a Sunday for homeless folk), liaison with Gateway of Grace helping refugees, the annual Turkey Drive for Voice of Hope, ongoing support for North Dallas Shared Ministries, ingathering for the Angel Tree and for our families supported by our Food Distribution program and our Youth's Advent Outreach program. We also participated in the United Thank Offering program and through the Loose Plate Offerings at Easter and Christmas were able to donate additional funds to Happy Homes Pre-School in South Africa, Episcopal Relief and Development, North Dallas Share Ministries, CASA, Gateway of Grace and the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: Work to grow our food distribution project for needy families in our area. Continue the grant application process to benefit nonprofits important to parishioners.

2015 GRANT AWARDS

Assistance Center of Collin County	\$5,000
Austin Street Center	\$10,000
Cathedral Gardens	\$5,000
DME Exchange of Dallas	\$1,000
Happy Homes-Africa	\$3,000
North Dallas Shared Ministries	\$5,000
St. Phillips School	\$5,000
St. Simon After School	\$7,000
The Gathering	\$2,000
Transfiguration Youth Mission Trip	\$2,000
Voice of Hope	\$5,000
Total Grants Awarded	\$50,000

PARISH NURSES

By Tish Maedche

MISSION STATEMENT: The Church of the Transfiguration embraced the concept of a Parish Nurses' Ministry in 1997 and recruited a dozen or so nurses on rotation to perform blood pressure screenings for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning services. Glucose screenings were offered for Sunday mornings. Parish nursing started in the 1800s, when religious orders in the U.S. and Europe offered care outside of their church homes. The modern program, recognized by the American Nursing Association, has spread internationally. Domestically, some 15,000 parish nurses are now at work in the United States. The nurses at Transfiguration are also health counselors and advocates who assist with minor health emergencies during worship hours and special events. Of note: the Parish Nurse Ministry at Transfiguration has been in place since 1997.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Currently there are 12 Registered Nurses and 1 Registered Medical Technologist volunteers. Two of members are new to Transfiguration and our Parish Nurse Ministry.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Contacts - Tish Maedche, R.N. and Michelle Jenkins, MT

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: Nurse volunteers are usually available during weekend services.

A Blood Pressure and Glucose screening clinic was conducted the first weekend of each month.

Testing performed for the calendar year 2015:

- Blood pressure screenings – 189
- Glucose screenings – 71; The average ~6.5/month, is slightly lower than the 2014 testing, which included 12 months. Normalized, there was actually a slight increase in the number of tests performed. Although the majority of the glucose tests performed are for monitoring known diabetics, 10 new parishioners who had never been tested before took advantage of this service.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: We would like to increase participation in both blood pressure and glucose screenings.

PRAYER CHAIN

By Nancy Banitch

The mission of the Transfiguration Prayer Chain is to seek and serve Christ in all persons through daily intercessory prayer for requested individuals. There are currently 39 members. Chair: Nancy Banitch; Co-chair: Phyl Kerrigan

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

By Sally Manning

Transfiguration's Prayer Shawl Ministry began in the spring of 2014 when members of Deacon Liz O'Donnell's Tuesday Morning Book Study began to meet to discuss the possibility of a shawl ministry at the Fig. What began small, has grown to over 25 parishioners interested in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, meeting once a month in the evening on the third Monday in the Library at the Parish.

In addition to enjoying the fellowship of new and old friends, participants, whether beginning or experienced knitters or crocheters, help and teach each other with new patterns and techniques. Each shawl session begins and ends with prayers, and we all "lay hands on" and bless each shawl being created and the recipients who are to receive them.

Initially, shawls were given to parishioners who were on the visitation and hospital lists. However, we have expanded our recipient list to include friends, family, and community loved ones who just "need a little extra love". Shawls are taken to the recipients by members of the prayer shawl ministry or clergy. In the year 2015 we have given approximately 30 shawls. Parishioners who are interested in helping to knit or crochet a shawl are encouraged to contact Sally Manning at etsal@sbcglobal.net or by phone, (806) 681-6486.

SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

By Pam Sternweis

The Salvation Army/Transfiguration Angel Tree Program provides Christmas assistance to disadvantaged families and individuals throughout the DFW Metroplex. This year, over 50,000 hearts felt the joy of Christmas, thanks to the generous giving of Angel Tree sponsors. Through this program, children, special care individuals, senior citizens, veterans and disabled adults receive toys, clothes and other personalized holiday gifts that make their holidays a little brighter. Over the past six years, the number of angel adoptions at Transfiguration has grown along with Fig Angel's enthusiasm and generosity. This Christmas, 181 Fig households provided the wishes and needs for 250 Angels (175 children and 75 seniors), by spending time and energy to lovingly purchase 1,473 personally selected gifts for an estimated monetary value of approximately \$22,500.

ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD

By Richard Wiencek

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Saint Elizabeth's Guild at The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration is to nurture and strengthen our parish community by bringing people together for fellowship to an atmosphere that supports Transfiguration's mission of "Seeking and servicing Christ in all persons." We accomplish this by holding monthly pot luck dinners in the fall, winter and spring months for guild members to share a meal, get to know each other, and develop friendships.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: The second Tuesday of each month from September through May. 6:30 p.m. is social time and dinner is served at 7:15 p.m.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Approximately 100.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: Monthly attendance ranges from 50 to 80, with an average of around 64.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICES: Elaine and Bruce Cluver and Maureen and Richard Wiencek are the coordinators.

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: The ministry continues to grow in both size and dedication by providing a social outlet in which members can get to know one another better regardless of which service they regularly attend. The Guild meetings are also considered an entry gateway for new parish members to meet people and learn more about the parish. Again this year Pam Sternweis has done an excellent job of inviting new members and introducing them into the community. Volunteer hosts and co-hosts each month make the gatherings a success. Many of the members are active in other ministries of the church, and regularly invite new members to participate in those activities. Many of our members worked with the EMF to provide and deliver sandwiches to the Gathering Place in Dallas, and regularly participate in other Parish activities.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: To continue to provide a valuable outlet to support the parish with social outreach to new members, visitors and longtime parishioners while building on the past years' successes and growing membership. Continue to expand St. Elizabeth's contribution to parish outreach projects by providing monthly opportunities for our members to contribute.

BUDGET: St. Elizabeth's is self-sustaining and does not accept any money from the parish. A modest fee is charged per person (except for first time attendees) to cover the cost of decorations and beverages, and to help support various parish missions.

2015 Balance Forward:	\$ 368.00
Attendance Fees:	\$ 1,755.00
Expenses and Donations:	\$ 1,796.00
Current Cash on hand as of 1-1-16	\$ 327.00

Note: All numbers to the nearest dollar.

ST. HILDA'S GUILD

By Debra Griffin

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide our community with a place to donate clothing and household items, and offer customers good quality apparel at the Clothes Horse and reasonably priced new religious books, cards, and gift items at the Kay Andrews bookstore along with service opportunities and fellowship for St. Hilda's members. Our profits from these ventures help support many ministries within the church, especially our children, youth and women's ministries. We keep our church's mission to seek and serve Christ in all persons in mind in all we do.

MEETING DATE & TIME: St. Hilda's Guild operates the Clothes Horse and Kay Andrews Bookstore. The Clothes Horse is open to Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m.. The Kay Andrews Bookstore is open before and after all Transfiguration services on Saturday and Sunday, and also Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m..

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 62 members, including 2 inactive and 4 Clotheshorse subs

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: The Board of Directors holds meetings at least three times a year with an average attendance of at least 90%

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICES:

Chair: Debra Griffin

Vice-Chair: Judy Loveday-Corbett

Recording Secretary: Laura Davis

Bookstore: Carolyn Georges

Bookkeeper: Jennie McCament

Assistant Bookkeepers: Barbara Smith, Luann Welch, Pat Harper

Scheduling: Debra Griffin

Recruiting: Betsey Hardman

Pricing: Venelle Prince

Markdown: Jane Wells

Communications: Betsey Hardman

Facilities: Luann Welch

\$1 Sale Co-Managers: Susan Laster, Joyce Deegan

Special Events: Judy Loveday-Corbett

Historian: Susan Laster

Staff Liaison: Ellen Dingwall

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: St Hilda's hosted a Lenten Soup Supper and provided one of the summer breakfasts, set up and staffed a table at the Ministry Fair, and participated in FigFest. We held two Dollar Sales (grossing over \$1300 dollars) and Half-Price Sales during the spring and fall of the year. Our annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon was held in May. We honored our members with at least one year of service. At least 8 of our members have served for over 40 years, but we are always interested and active in recruiting new volunteers.

In 2015, St. Hilda's Guild gave over \$20,000 to the following groups:

Spring Valley One Church, One School	- \$ 1,000.00
GLBT Community Service Project	- \$ 1,000.00
Children's Ministry	- \$ 2,100.00
McMaster Library	- \$ 250.00
Women's Forum	- \$ 1,600.00
Pastoral Care Ministry	- \$ 860.00
Youth Ministry	- \$ 2,600.00
Fig Theater Company	- \$ 2,200.00
Vestry	- \$ 750.00
Austin Street Center	- \$ 2,500.00
Adult Formation Program	- \$ 1,250.00
Pastoral Ornament Project	- \$ 1,920.00



Staff Discretionary Funds	- \$ 800.00
Tithes to Transfiguration, Jan-Dec 2015	- \$ 3,487.72
2015 TOTAL DONATIONS	- \$22,317.72

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: Our plan is to continue our ministry and to partner with the monthly food pantry to provide families from Spring Valley Elementary with needed clothing when they come to shop for groceries. To this end, we have set up an additional space in the Niles building, which will also house Dollar sale items for our twice yearly sales. We are striving to become more tech-savvy in our publicity with the help of Rebecca and other staff members. Debra Griffin will continue as chair through December of 2016.

ST. PHILIP'S SCHOOL & COMMUNITY CENTER

By Susan Fisk

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue / Note the address of this outstanding school, located in an economically challenged area of South Dallas. Serving almost 240 students and additional students and older adults through the Community Center, St. Philip's improves and transforms lives. As the Headmaster Dr. Terry Flowers says, "Next to God, an excellent education is the most effective means of developing human capital."

Three Transfiguration members serve on the Board—Susan Fisk, Bill Keslar, and Paula Mitchell. During 2015 Transfiguration has supported St. Philip's by supplying, through a spring ingathering, most of the items used at the Community Center's Mother's Day Store. Church volunteers also help the children "shop" when they come in on a Saturday to "shop" with vouchers for their mothers. Gift bags are also provided. Our parish invited St. Philip's students to attend our Vacation Church School in June. The Fig Theater Group helped fund this successful project. On March 4, 2016 actress Viola Davis will be the speaker for the fundraising luncheon Destiny, held at the school.

The school offers an outstanding educational experience with chapel every day for preschool through sixth grade; 100 percent of the graduating sixth graders graduate from high school, and almost all go on to attend college. The Community Center offers a variety of activities and programs. There are sports: lacrosse, football, baseball, basketball, track, soccer, cheerleading; the center provides after school care, a Food Pantry, legal aid, and senior citizen programs.

In 2016 St. Philip's will celebrate 70 years of faithful service. St. Philip's was founded in the 1940s by African American Episcopalians working with the Diocese of Dallas to bring better resources to a segregated part of Dallas. Dr. Flowers has been Head of School since 1983. For more information please go to www.stphilips1600.org --- There are many opportunities for service!

STEPHEN MINISTRY

By Lisa Edwards

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide quality one on one Christian care to members of our congregation who are experiencing a crisis in their lives. Stephen Ministers are there to listen, to pray with and for their Care Receivers, and to walk with them through whatever life challenge they are facing. Our ministry is an extension of the Pastoral Care ministry at Transfiguration.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Stephen Ministers attend Supervision meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. Deacon Liz O'Donnell, who oversees our ministry, meets with the Stephen Leaders on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Stephen Ministers strive to meet weekly for one hour with their Care Receivers.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 8 active Stephen Ministers including 3 commissioned Stephen Leaders. With two newly trained ministers who will be commissioned on Jan. 24th, we will have a total of 10 active ministers. In addition we have one retired minister who is helping on a temporary basis due to a shortage of available Stephen Ministers.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 7

LEADERSHIP NAMES: Deacon Liz O'Donnell, Lisa Edwards, Jack Skelton, and Linda Horton

STEPHEN MINISTERS (in addition to leaders): George Banitch, Penny Bonneau, Bob Brewster, Joney Ferguson, and Bee Skinner.

2015 MINISTRY SUCCESSES: In July 2015 Deacon Liz O'Donnell attended the week-long Stephen Ministry Leadership Training course in order to be more fully immersed in her understanding of the specifics of how Stephen Ministry functions as she leads the ministry for Transfiguration. She also attended, and helped teach, the Stephen Ministry Training courses for new Stephen Ministers at Transfiguration during the last four months of 2015 and were officially commissioned as a Stephen Leader and as a Stephen Minister on January 24, 2016.

In addition to Deacon Liz, we have also trained two new ministers: Deborah Diehl and Brett Vanderbrook who were also commissioned on January 24. We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming Deborah and Brett as highly qualified and energetic new Stephen Ministers. We were able to provide much needed care to parishioners throughout the year with each minister being assigned to a care receiver. Stephen Ministry has become an integral part of Transfiguration's Pastoral Care Ministry. Care is currently being provided to eight members of our congregation.

OUR MINISTRY GOALS FOR 2016:

It is our hope to send one of our current Stephen Ministers to the 2016 Leadership training course. We are not planning on starting a new training course for ministers at Transfiguration until the Fall of 2017 and will be hoping to train a minimum of four new ministers at that time. We are working to create more awareness of our ministry and to continue to grow the program in our church in order to provide care and support to more people. We would also like to urge others who feel the calling to become a trained Stephen Minister to join us in this powerful and much needed ministry.

We will continue to meet and interact with Stephen Ministers from other area churches where we share our experiences and pursue continuing education through outside guest speakers who are experts in various fields of care giving. We will also continue to seek advancement and depth in each of our own spiritual journeys through thought provoking book studies as a group. We encourage anyone who feels that they could use the caring support of a Stephen Minister as they struggle through a life crisis to please contact Deacon Liz O'Donnell or any of the Stephen Leaders to get more information.

TRANSFIGURED NIGHTS

**by Russell Bourdette, Executive Director
& Joel Martinson, Artistic Director**

MISSION STATEMENT

Transfigured Nights continues in the Anglican tradition of enriching the lives of the people of God through art and music, whether in the liturgical rites of the church, in concerts or other programs. Striving to create and host unique offerings of quality featuring the finest sacred and secular music, we utilize the talents of parish musicians and local artists, as well as present concerts by national and international performers. The series offers musical experiences to Transfiguration parishioners and serves as an outreach to those in the broader community.

INTRODUCTION

During the year 2015, Transfigured Nights continued to live out its mission statement and enriched the lives of the people of Transfiguration, our friends, and our neighbors. As Transfigured Nights depends solely on the gifts it receives from its patrons and receives no income from the parish budget, we continued to be gratified by the generosity of our patrons, and thankful for their support of this extension of the Music Ministry at Transfiguration.

TRANSFIGURED NIGHTS:

2014-2015 SEASON EVENTS (SPRING 2015)

- Concert – Kimberly Marshall, organist
 - January 25. Attendance: 113.
- Lecture – Kimberly Marshall
 - January 26. Attendance: 13.



- Presentation – Martinson's Quest for the Historic Organ
 - February 9. Attendance: 75.
- Gala Concert – Tea & Tallis – Two!
 - April 26. Attendance: 145 (114 tickets sold; 100 used + 45 choir participants).
- Evensong for Eastertide (replaced Handel Concert)
 - May 10. Attendance: 89.

2015-2016 SEASON EVENTS (FALL 2015)

- Solemn Evensong for Holy Cross Day
 - September 20. Attendance: 133.
 - Benefit & Auction – From Broadway to Bristol
 - October 17. Attendance: 172 (147 tickets sold; 132 used + 40 choir participants).
 - Evensong for All Souls' Day
 - November 1. Attendance: 200.
 - Advent Lessons and Carols
 - December 6. Attendance: 294.
- Total Transfigured Nights Attendance for 2015: 1,234 persons in 8 events & 1 lecture.
Average attendance at the 8 events (concerts): 154

ART MUSIC MONDAYS:

SPRING 2015

- Flute & Strings
 - March 9. Attendance: 70.
- Dvorak Quintet
 - April 13. Attendance: 59 (Rescheduled from January 12, due to illness).
- Beethoven String Quartet in B-flat Major
 - May 4. Attendance: 69.

FALL 2015

- Smetana Piano Trio
 - December 14. Attendance: 58.

Total Art Music Attendance for 2015: 256 persons in 4 events.
Average attendance: 64.

Grand Total Transfigured Nights & Art Music Mondays: 1,490 persons in 13 events.

NUMBER OF PATRONS (INDIVIDUALS OR COUPLES):

For the entire 2014-2015 Season: 89 (up from 82 in 2013-2014).
For the 2015-2016 Season thus far: 79.

SUCCESSSES AND GOALS:

- The generosity of our patrons continues to be exemplary and humbling!
- This current season (2015-2016), we experienced significant growth in the three highest categories of patrons – both in numbers of contributors, as well as their donation amounts. Quite a few "Sponsors" and "Contributors" have increased their giving, as well. Overall, donations are running higher than 2014-2015 and we have added several new patrons.
- We presented very high quality musical offerings in both Transfigured Nights and Art Music Mondays. Both "brands" continue to have good name recognition and reputation in North Dallas.
- Over the past 11 seasons of Transfigured Nights we have built up a substantial reserve, and are looking toward contributing some of that to a new Music Endowment fund in 2016.

Special thanks goes to all those who volunteered this past year to make our programs a success, particularly the members of the Transfigured Nights Executive Committee:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (INCLUDING PERSONS FROM BOTH 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 SEASONS)

Russell Bourdette, *Executive Director*

Joel Martinson, *Artistic Director*
Meghan Mazur, *Treasurer* (2014-2015)
Bart Stockton, *Treasurer* (2015-2016)

George Banitch, Laurel Brewster, Alan Dunlop, Janet Dunlop, Carol Frauenheim, Jeff Frauenheim, Robert Hacker, Carolyn Lewis, John Makowski, E.T. Manning, Sally Manning, Diana Rawlins, Mike Rawlins, and David Reece.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015

By Bart Stockton, Treasurer 2015-2016

2015 Beginning Cash Balance \$27,425.47

Income

Patronage & Donations \$28,146.10

Total Cash & Income \$55,571.57

Expenses

Performer Fees	\$ 5,044.00
Art Music Mondays	\$ 4,000.00
Child Care	\$ 266.31
Misc Expenses	\$ 335.27
Reception Expenses	\$ 2,310.54
Printing & Postage	\$ 2,387.07

Total Expenses \$14,343.19

2015 Ending Cash Balance \$41,228.38

Less budgeted encumbrance for
second half of season* \$14,280.00

Unencumbered Cash \$26,948.38

*Transfigured Nights runs on a season schedule from July 01 to June 30

WEDDING GUILD

By Elizabeth Jenkins

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide assistance and guidance to families of couples preparing for marriage in the Church of the Transfiguration.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 8 members

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: One organizational meeting a year. Usually 4 members at each wedding, depending on the size of the wedding party and number of guests.

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Elizabeth Jenkins, Directress; Gabby Guion, Assistant Directress.

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: The Wedding Guild assisted with six weddings this year. The bride, groom and their families have expressed their appreciation for our help with this very busy and, often, stressful time. We continue to present each bridal couple a copy of "The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage" book used during their wedding service. Kerry Tate is doing the calligraphy to personalize each book.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: Continue assisting with weddings and revise Wedding Customary.



WOMEN'S FORUM

By Elizabeth Jenkins

MISSION STATEMENT: The Women's Forum evolved in response to a survey formulated by the Women of the Church in 1994. The founding women of Women's Forum wished to unite the generations of the women of Transfiguration by creating a forum with a speaker and luncheon that would offer something of substance to enrich the spirit in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship.

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Second Thursday of February, March, April and October and the third Thursday of November at 11:30 am.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: All women of Transfiguration over the age of 18

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR MEETINGS: 40

LEADERSHIP NAMES AND OFFICE: Chairman: Elizabeth Jenkins; Programs: Phyllis Hudson; Treasurer: Pat Tarpley; Publicity: Elizabeth Jenkins; Reservations: Pat Tarpley; Tabletops: Ann Huffman & Phyllis Hudson; Beverages/Set-ups: Pat McGowan & Ginger Kline

CURRENT YEAR MINISTRY SUCCESSES: Programs in 2015 focused on a book review, a Lenten Meditation, two outreach projects, and a musical program.

NEXT YEAR'S MINISTRY GOALS: To continue providing interesting and appealing programs; to increase attendance especially among younger women of the parish. Continue the policy of focusing on outreach, promoting the bookstore by featuring seasonal items for sale, and providing a Lenten meditation with a complimentary soup lunch.

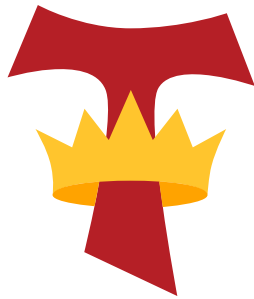
The Women's Forum charges \$10.00 for the luncheon and is subsidized by St. Hilda's Guild. We now offer box lunches instead of a catered meal.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

By Betsy Warren

This group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and reads a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction books chosen each year by the members. All women are welcome. Clare Lattimore and Betsy Warren are the facilitators





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www.transfiguration.net