

The Annual Report of St. Anne's Episcopal Church



8th Annual Meeting - January 26th, 2020

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Agenda for the 8th Annual Meeting of St. Anne's Episcopal Church - Jan. 26, 2020

- 1.) Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- 2.) Appointments
 - Secretary: Susan Slavin
 - Parliamentarian: Pete Hearn
 - Teller: Cathy Battle
- 3.) Approval of the Minutes of the 7th Annual Parish Meeting (see page 3)
- 4.) Vote on Proposed Change to the St. Anne's Bylaws (see page 8)
- 5.) Nominating Committee Report and Nominations from the floor
 - Introduction of Nominees (see page 8)
 - Explanation of Ballots (if necessary)
- 6.) Balloting (if necessary) to elect:
Two (2) nominees for Vestry to serve three (3) year terms.
- 7.) Election of Delegates and Alternates to the 2020 Diocesan Convention
- 8.) Reports
- 9.) Financial Report & Presentation of Budget
- 10.) Courtesy Resolution
- 11.) Other business.
- 12.) Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Minutes of the 7th Annual Meeting January 27th, 2019

The Reverend Rob Donehue opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Appointments were announced: Secretary Susan Slavin
Parliamentarian Pete Hearn
Tellers Jane Holley Wilson and Cathy Battle

The Annual Report including the 2018 meeting minutes and the 2019 budget had been made available to parishioners in multiple forms – e-mail, online and hard copy. Mary Jo Roberts moved to accept the minutes; Karen Heacock seconded the motion. No discussion. All approved.

The Nominating Committee was pleased to report that the following candidates accepted a nomination to be on the Vestry for three-year terms:
Don Frazier, Jean Spedden Goldson, Kathleen Hearn

There were no nominations from the floor. Donna Catton-Johnson moved to close the nominations; Bill Collins seconded the motion. The three candidates were elected by acclamation and by applause! The following candidates have been selected by the Vestry as Trustees of the Saint Anne's Building Fund. Once elected, the Trustees will serve for a term of five years:
Paulette Bond, Mike Goldson, Pete Hearn

Mary Jo Roberts motioned to close the nominations; George Hearn seconded the motion. The three candidates were elected by acclamation and by applause! In accordance with Saint Anne's Bylaws, the Senior and Junior Wardens will be delegates to the Diocese Convention. Due to the fact that Saint Anne's is now a Parish Church, we qualify to send a total of four delegates. Rebecca Lovelace and Barry Dennis volunteered to be the third and fourth delegates. Martha Lewis moved to accept Rebecca and Barry as the additional delegates, Pete Hearn seconded the motion. No discussion. All approved. Alternates will be taken care of at a later time.

Reports

Priest's Report from the Reverend Rob Donehue

Father Donehue asked that parishioners take some time at their leisure to read his report beginning on page 10 of the Annual Report. The primary focus for 2019 will be LISTENING. The entire congregation will be meeting in small groups and, in

some cases, individually with Father Rob to have conversations relative to the future of our church. There has been much growth and we are in close quarters at Lackey Chapel. What does the future of our church look like? What is our hope for Saint Anne's? We are reminded the Gospel has power, we all share this power – and we are equal to the task. Father Rob shared he is excited to be the Rector at Saint Anne's and looks forward to doing the work with all of us. Father Donehue expressed his gratitude and thanks for the members of the Vestry who will be rotating off this year: Bill Parker, Cathy Battle and Pete Hearn. The three have been on the Vestry for a long time. We are all thankful for their hard work and guidance and for their willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty.

From the Senior Warden Pete Hearn

What a great year 2018 has been with Rob as our Rector and with our strong Vestry doing an amazing job for Saint Anne's. Thinking about Rob's remarks about listening, Pete reminded us all that God gave us two ears and one mouth. If we listen twice as much as we speak, our congregation will accomplish great things. We celebrate becoming a Parish Church, celebrate our growing education program and our courage in facing the community challenges presented by the flooding in 2018. Rob was able to distribute Episcopalian Relief funds to local organizations. We continued to meet and bring church to private homes while Lackey Chapel was closed down due to the hurricane. We continue to pray for all who still are facing hardships brought on by the flooding. Pete expressed how proud he is of our church and the welcoming way we work for the betterment of our community, sharing the love of Christ.



From the Junior Warden Mary Jo Roberts

Mary Jo shared information about our social life apart from Sunday Church. Saint Anne's Welcome Receptions continue to be a wonderful opportunity to get to know newcomers and to share information about our church community. We will continue the tradition of hosting these casual events into 2019. In 2018, 37 new Members were welcomed into the Saint Anne's community. Members of Saint Anne's met through 9 weeks of Bible Study with Palmetto Missionary Baptist Church of Conway and



participated in the Reclaiming Jesus Bible Study Program (ReclaimingJesus.org) to which Presiding Bishop Michael Curry is a signatory. Our time of study was a great experience and a fulfilling time of education, communication and fellowship. It is hoped that our future holds similar studies and programs.

EGALS and ECW (men's and women's groups, respectively) were very active last year. Many thanks go out to Kathleen Hearn for her leadership as President of ECW. Mary Jo also asked us to recognize Dan Ennis who founded EGALS and led the group for many years. Both groups will come under new leadership through 2019: For ECW - Nora Hembree Battle (President), Jacqueline Kurlowski (Vice President), Susan Slavin (Secretary), Rebecca Lovelace (Treasurer). For EGALS – Richard Lovelace and Mike Goldson.

Our Lenten Dinners, our Mardi Gras celebration and our Christmas Eve Drop-In have become gatherings our parishioners look forward to every year. In 2018 Saint Anne's Sunday School classes became a more formal program, utilizing the Deep Blue curriculum. Rebecca Lovelace and her team have been striving to organize and grow this ministry for the benefit of our youngest church members.

From the Treasurer Rebecca Lovelace

Mary Jo had just mentioned Sunday School and Rebecca and her "team" – before talking about financial matters, Rebecca noted that all of us should be on her "team." We all are called to be missionaries, not just Rob. We have a group of amazingly bright (and spirited!) children within our church family. Any of the congregation is invited to work with Rebecca, teaching and guiding our youth, growing our Sunday School program to full potential.



On to Finances: In 2018 our spending was \$29.00 more than our income. This is a phenomenal budget closing figure! To be within such a small amount to our budget is great news. Our major expense in 2018 was our full-time priest expense – the best expense we ever took on! Prior to this cost, Saint Anne's was able to save and invest

prudently. Memorial Funds had been earmarked for the Building Fund and have been transferred. That being the case, we have \$166,000 in the Building Fund to date. Pledges were up by about \$35,000. St Anne's total budget picture is a healthy one, well able to cover our expenses. The congregation is invited to review the budget as printed in the annual report. The full-time Priest wages/benefits is, as noted, the main expense followed by the costs of our music program. Our music program is well worth the money. Suade has given Saint Anne's the benefit of his musical talents in helping our choir bring hymns to life. Our Sunday mornings are full of spiritual, joyful song as a result. Rebecca reminded those present to utilize online information at onrealm.org

From the Director of Music Suade Anderson

Suade wanted to say thank you to everybody who needs to be thanked, including Mike Battle and those who step in when Suade is unable to attend services. He thanked all choir members for donating their time and talent so selflessly. Cathy Battle noted that Suade makes choir practice fun. Our congregation agrees we are blessed to have such a strong and harmonious Music Department!



Father Rob asked if there were any questions from those present. Marvin asked if the attendance numbers include the early service. Rob noted that yes, the 8:30 counts are included.

On a Motion by Mary Jo Roberts, seconded by Kathleen Hearn, the Annual Report was accepted. No further questions raised and the ayes were unanimous. On a Motion by George Hearn, seconded by Mary Jo Roberts, the Annual Meeting was adjourned. No further questions raised and the ayes were unanimous.

Our Deacon, the Rev. Dumont "Monty" Henderson: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!"

All present: "Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Slavin

A Proposed Change to the Bylaws

Explanation: After deliberating for many months, the St. Anne's Vestry felt that a change to our bylaws regarding the size of the Vestry and the process of election is in order. At the meeting on December 15th, 2019, the Vestry voted to recommend the proposed changes for full consideration at the annual parish meeting. If passed, the proposed changes would bring the number of members serving on the Vestry to seven (7). Currently, we have nine (9) members serving on the Vestry. The change would affect the number of candidates elected each year.

The current language of the provisions in our bylaws are listed below, and the proposed changes are listed beneath (the highlighted areas are additions, and words that have been struck through will be removed).

Current Bylaw:

Section 2. The Vestry. The Vestry of the Parish shall be composed of the Rector and nine elected members. The size of the Vestry may be changed by amendment to these bylaws.

Any person who has been an active member of the Parish since its founding, or for a period of one (1) year, whichever is less, and is at least twenty-one (21) years old shall be eligible for election to the Vestry. Beginning at the 2016 Annual meeting of the Parish, nine (9) members shall be elected to the Vestry. No member shall be prohibited from being elected or re-elected to the Vestry at this meeting by service on the Vestry prior to 2016. At the time of their election, the members shall be divided into three (3) classes of three (3) members each. Members of the first class shall serve for one (1) year, or until their respective successors are elected. Members of the second class shall serve for two (2) years, or until their respective successors are elected. Members of the third class shall serve for three (3) years, or until their respective successors are elected. Thereafter Vestry members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years.

Proposed change:

Section 2. The Vestry.

2.1 - The Vestry of the Parish shall be composed of the Rector ~~and nine~~ elected members elected members from the congregation.

2.2 - Beginning with the liturgical calendar cycle beginning in Advent of 2019, all subsequent vestry elections will take place according to the following scheme:

Year A - two members shall be elected.

Year B - two members shall be elected.

Year C - three members shall be elected.

2.3. - The size of the Vestry may be changed by amendment to these bylaws.

2.4 - Any person who has been an active member of the Parish since its founding, or for a period of one (1) year, whichever is less, and is at least twenty-one (21) years old shall be eligible for election to the Vestry. Beginning at the 2016 Annual meeting of the Parish, nine (9) members shall be elected to the Vestry. No member shall be prohibited from being elected or re-elected to the Vestry at this meeting by service on the Vestry prior to 2016. At the time of their election, the members shall be divided into three (3) classes of three (3) members each. Members of the first class shall serve for one (1) year, or until their respective successors are elected. Members of the second class shall serve for two (2) years, or until their respective successors are elected. Members of the third class shall serve for three (3) years, or until their respective successors are elected. Thereafter

2.5 - Vestry members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years.

2.6 - In the event of a vacancy caused by the death, resignation, or other event, a replacement member shall be elected by a vote of the remaining members of the Vestry. The replacement member shall serve for the remainder of the term of the departed member. At the conclusion of the departed member's term, the replacement member may then stand for regular election to the Vestry at the annual parish meeting; understanding that if elected, they will be starting a new three (3) year term.

The Nominating Committee (**Mary Jo Roberts, Jennifer Ennis, and Bill Collins**) is pleased to report that the following candidates have accepted a nomination to stand for the vestry: **Jennifer Boyle** and **Erik Schrader**. A personal statement from each of them is included below.



From Jen Boyle: I love St. Anne's Church and its intelligent yet grounded, action-based approach to ministry and discipleship. It is an open and inviting church that is on the threshold of growth and new models of inclusivity. I have experienced few churches that can claim the energy and commitment to Christian action that the St. Anne's community exemplifies. My spouse and I felt an immediate spark with the principles of St. Anne's. I'm excited and honored to be considered to become a member of the vestry and to have the opportunity to contribute to the exciting changes facing this church in the near and distant future. I am a lector, a crucifer/chalice administrator, and will soon begin service as an altar guild. I am also half way through my first year of participation in St. Anne's chapter of the Education for Ministry program. My involvement in EFM has become one of the most significant recent developments in my intellectual and spiritual life.

In my secular life, I am a professor of humanities, and I created and direct a program in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Coastal Carolina University, Digital Culture and Design. My academic successes have evolved into a skill set that I am passionate about sharing with the larger community: teaching; the translation of ideas and initiatives for multiple audiences; teaching; organizing events to transform ideas into action through rhetoric; oh, and teaching. One of my strongest personal interests: the connections that can be made and the barriers and lines crossed through the breaking of bread, the sharing of food has informed my journey as a serious amateur cook. I make food for as many good purposes as I can manage: for those in need of nourishment; for organizations to raise funds; and as a foundation for further teaching and connections across diverse communities.



From Erik Schrader: I moved to Conway, SC from Rochester, NY to become a public school teacher. I taught in Williamsburg County and at a charter school before I became a teacher at Conway High School. I have appreciated becoming part of the Conway community. I joined St. Anne's in March 2018. I was confirmed in June 2018, and I have been attending ever since. I was looking for a church home that had a clear vision and a sense of community. I have enjoyed singing in the choir, and I am excited to see how St. Anne's continues to grow. I attended a Vestry meeting in the summer to discuss some training opportunities that my friend can provide to foster and adoptive parents, and I was able to see first-hand the ideas and processes of a Vestry meeting. Serving on the Vestry will allow me to help the church

continue the process of expanding and growing, as well as defining our mission of outreach to the broader community. I look forward to hearing the ideas of the other Vestry members and contributing my own ideas as well. We have many issues to decide on as a Vestry and church community, and I am honored to be considered for the Vestry.

Reports

From our Priest

“But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness will be at home...Therefore grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”
(from the Second Letter of Peter)



It is always a blessing to look back over the course of a year at St. Anne's and to revisit some of the things that we have done as a community. 2019 was an amazingly full year for us as a parish, and I hope that everyone in the congregation shares in a feeling of gratitude for all of the blessings we have been given. One of those blessings is that St. Anne's continues to grow: on an average Sunday, there are 80 people who come to St. Anne's for worship. Our 8:30am service has about 15-20 participants every Sunday, and our 10am service is averaging about 65. Even though we do not yet have a permanent home, our congregation is one of the most numerically healthy in the diocese! But it's not just in numbers that we are growing. The grace of God is at work among us, drawing us ever forward in the knowledge and love of Jesus. The evidence is convincing!

In the Spring of 2019, we began putting plans in place for an Education for Ministry (EfM) group at St. Anne's. EfM is a four year program of intensive theological study where participants learn about the Old and New Testaments, church history, systematic theology, ethics, and the practical application of all of those subjects in the modern world. **Jim Gross** and **Dan Hitchens**, who graduated from the EfM program at All Saints Episcopal Church, Ft. Lauderdale, are leading the group of eight participants. Many Episcopal churches cannot boast an EfM program of their own, so our having one is a real testimony to the desire of the people of St. Anne's to grow in their faith.

In early September, we began an adult forum designed to take a closer look at the Book of Common Prayer. The course was great fun, and we had ten to twelve regular participants every Sunday. Partially due to interest shown by participants in the course, we used the Rite I service during the season of Advent, and it went very well. Thanks to this success, we will use Rite I during Lent 2020, as well.



Also in the Spring of 2019, we initiated plans to join with our brothers and sisters at St. James Episcopal Church in Wilmington, NC, on a mission trip to Glory Ridge, NC. **Alli Young**, a former CCU student who still attends St. Anne's, helped to make this partnership happen. Four members from St. Anne's made the journey to North Carolina in June. We spent a week working hard and praying hard and came back enriched by the experience. Our aim is to take an even larger group in 2020!



One of the major achievements of 2019 was the establishment of the St. Anne's Endowment Fund. Thanks to a generous gift from **Kimberly Smith** and **JaNell Boss**, we were able to set up a fund which will allow St. Anne's to develop Christian education programs beyond what our normal budget covers. This unexpected development was a major blessing for us, and I am excited to see how we put this gift to work for the benefit of the church. My hope for 2020 is that we will be able to add to the Endowment Fund so that we'll be able to offer things like camp scholarships and EfM scholarships to as many people as possible.

Our support of outreach programs in Conway continued to be one of St. Anne's greatest strengths. It is a point of pride that for at least the last four years, St. Anne's has been among the top five contributors to CAP. Several of our members volunteer their time at CAP, and **Sally Wilson** was elected to serve on the CAP Board of Directors. We continue to support Shepherd's Table both financially and with our volunteer hours, and in the conversations I have had with some of the guests who eat at Shepherd's Table regularly, I have learned that they always look forward to it when **Bobby Smith** and John Bittle cook and St. Anne's serves. **Mike Battle** continues to provide excellent music for the guests when it is our night to serve, and we have a steady group of volunteers who show up to help.



It is wonderful to note that we have expanded the number of our service participants. There are new faces on our teams of acolytes, readers, ushers, and altar guild servers, and we've been enriched by their involvement. I hope to see even more people volunteer as service participants in 2020.

Barry Dennis continues to do an outstanding job as our Verger. For those unfamiliar with that term, the Verger makes sure that all of the moving parts of the service run smoothly. We are aiming to expand this ministry in 2020 by adding another Verger to our roster.



As the year comes to an end, we joyfully and thankfully recognize **Karen Heacock** for her many years of dedicated service to the church in maintaining the stewardship calendar. This task of organization is one that Karen has carried out with grace and patience for many years, and she deserves all of our thanks for making sure that our worship service runs smoothly every single Sunday! Karen has handed off responsibility for the stewardship calendar, and I think everyone will agree that Karen is a tough act to follow!

THANK YOU, KAREN!

Speaking of tough acts to follow, if you attended the ECW Italian Dinner and Auction, then you already know what a superb event it was. Everything about the evening was simply grand! **Nora Battle, Kathleen Hearn, Jacqueline Kurlowski** deserve a tremendous thanks from all of us, as do **Lynn Smith, Mary Jo Roberts, Jean Spedden Goldson, Susan Slavin, Rebecca Lovelace**, and the many others who worked tirelessly to make the night one to remember.



George Hearn and **Rudy Leustek** continue to amaze us with their puppetry skills. As many of you know, George is the genius behind the Bartholomew character, and his brilliant sense of humor and comic timing have made the children's homilies a real source of joy; not just for the kids, but for everyone in the congregation. Thanks to George's encouragement, we grew the puppet ministry in 2019. Rudy Leustek offered to lend a hand - literally! - and we worked together to develop the character, Dominic the Donkey. Rudy has brought additional playfulness and wit to the children's ministry, and I

look forward to seeing what 2020 has in store as Bartholomew and Dominic keep helping us have fun while learning about the gospel.

The St. Anne's Building Search Committee continues to work diligently to find a permanent home for us. If you recall, in the Spring 2019, we took a serious look at purchasing a piece of land on which to build a church, but we decided that it was not the right place. We also looked at purchasing a building in downtown Conway that would have suited our needs, but we wound up being outbid (by Horry County!). These might sound like disappointments, but as the year comes to a close, I am encouraged by the Vestry and

Building Search Committee's patience and commitment to finding us the right place. This careful work has been greatly aided by the responses we received from the listening meetings we hosted (a detailed report of these meetings may be found in the Senior Warden's Report).

Our ecumenical partnerships continue to bear fruit. In 2019, we worked together with First United Methodist Church and Kingston Presbyterian for Ash Wednesday and Easter Vigil services, a series of Lenten and Advent luncheons, a Blessing of the Animals service in October, and a Blue Christmas Service in December. These special events bring us together to remind us that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ, and my hope is that these partnerships will continue to strengthen and grow.

My involvement with the CCU Chaplains' Council involves at least a few hours on campus each week (during term). I'm usually at the CINO Grille at the Chaplains' Listening Post. The Listening Post is wherever there is an open table where we can set up shop. For the last two semesters, the **Rev. Hank Moody** and I have been the most regular representatives of the Chaplains' Council at the Listening Post, and through this ministry, we have interacted with students, faculty, and staff at CCU on a regular basis. We're now familiar faces at the CINO Grille, and I look forward to spending time there each week.



I continue to serve on the Diocesan Council, entering my third year of service. In the coming year, the Diocesan Council will play a major role as we discern what our next steps will be as a diocese; particularly now that **The Rt. Rev. Skip Adams** has retired from his position as our bishop. I am proud to serve on the Council and look forward to what the coming year will bring.

Another point of pride in my diocesan involvement came back in March when I helped with Happening #1 at Camp St. Christopher. Happening is a spiritual retreat weekend for youth ages 14-17. There had not been a Happening in the diocese for over a decade, so it was an honor to help restart it.

In November, **Rebecca Lovelace** completed her three year term of service on the Diocesan Standing Committee. Her leadership and dedication to the wider church have been invaluable assets, especially as the diocese has wrestled with questions about who our next bishop will be. Her presence on the Standing Committee will be missed, but she has helped create a culture of positivity and collegiality that will carry on. We are grateful for Rebecca's leadership!

And of course, in 2019 we celebrated the growth of the church through some new arrivals in the world. **Paige Elizabeth Kurlowski** was born on September 20th, and **David Douglas Donehue** was born on December 16th. God-willing, they will be joined in early 2020 by two more newborns. It's a joy to see the church grow in this way!

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to 2020, there are a number of things that I hope we will all pay special attention to. As noted above, the Building Search Committee will continue its work to find us a more permanent home. My hope is that 2020 will be a hallmark year for us with regard to this search so that we can remove the word “Search” from the name of the committee and focus instead on what our future home will look like.

Christian Education opportunities will also to be a focus for us in 2020. I will be leading adult forums on different topics on Sundays throughout the year after the 10am service, with one of those offerings being an “inquirer’s class” for anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Anne’s. I’m hoping that we’ll be able to offer a regular Sunday School for our youngest members, as well. As summer approaches, we will begin our recruitment season for Education for Ministry (EfM). The initial EfM class has gone tremendously well, so I’m hoping that we’ll get some more interest from those who want to start the course in 2020.

Bearing in mind the need to find our own space and to provide for the Christian education of the next generation, and in confident anticipation of a very bright future, in 2020 we will begin an intentional campaign for the provision of our future needs. Information about setting up legacies and making arrangements to support the church will be made available throughout 2020, and our hope is that by the end of the year, everyone will have had an opportunity to learn about creative ways they can support the continued mission of St. Anne’s.



Another area where I’m hoping to see St. Anne’s grow is in our involvement with outreach ministries. We already provide substantial support for CAP and Shepherd’s Table, and I’d like to see that support increase with those organizations and others as well; not only in financial terms, but also with regard to our time and talents. My hope is that every member of St. Anne’s will give some serious thought to setting aside some time in 2020 to serve in a volunteer capacity with an organization that helps the less fortunate.

Pastoral Care is another area where I think we can expect to see some development in 2020. We will be looking for new ways to deploy our pastoral care team in the coming year, and the hope is that we’ll expand that ministry to meet any new needs that arise. We will also be developing a network of parishioners dedicated to intercessory prayer so that whenever someone asks for our prayers, they can rest assured that a whole team of people is holding them up and bringing their intentions before God.

We will be helping to host the Diocesan Convention in 2020. This year's convention will be particularly special because the keynote speaker will be the 27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, The Most Rev. Michael Curry. My hope is that St. Anne's will play a special role in offering a warm welcome to the Presiding Bishop, and I anticipate that the convention will be a joyful and fun time for us all!

Finally, a tremendous thanks is due to **Mary Jo Roberts, Jennifer Ennis, and Bill Collins** for their service on the St. Anne's Vestry. They were elected to the Vestry shortly after I began my time at St. Anne's, so they are the first Vestry "class" that I've served with from start to finish. I cannot give a more positive assessment of their service to the church, and I am deeply saddened to see them rotate off of the Vestry. Each one of them brought tremendous gifts of wisdom, creativity, and diligence to the Vestry, and we all benefited from their leadership. Their hard work has helped to secure our future, and we all should give thanks to God that they stepped forward in service!

- The Rev. Rob Donehue

From the Wardens

The phrase, "Ponder Anew" from the Popular hymn, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" was the theme for this year's Diocesan Convention. We borrow that theme for our report, in which we provide a summary of what was new and what we accomplished at St. Anne's in 2019.

As a Vestry

The Vestry tackled a number of big and small projects in 2019. The two largest undertakings, finding a new home for St. Anne's and the Year of Listening, will be discussed in more detail below. Additional new projects include: the development of a welcome packet for newcomers (credit to **Marvin Schubert** for his work); implementing an online scheduling system for ministry service (enormous thanks to **Karen Heacock** for her long-standing and dedicated work producing the schedule, and credit to **Holley Tankersley** for investigating new options); discussing an appropriate size for the Vestry, voting on a reduction, developing a plan to ease in the transition and re-writing our by-laws accordingly (credit to **Drew Kurlowski** for his work); and, increasing/improving our social media presence (credit to Father Rob for his work).

A new church home: In partnership with the Space and Finance Committees, the Vestry pursued two opportunities this year; a piece of land off of 501 in Conway and the former Santee Cooper Building on Elm Street in Conway. While neither option was ultimately successful, both provided lessons and laid important groundwork which strengthen our position going forward. There are many reasons to be encouraged about future prospects. We are pre-approved for a loan with the Episcopal Church Building Fund (ECBF) for \$610,000, we are familiar with the loan application process and have established

valuable contacts at ECBF. It is evident that ECBF can fast-track applications when circumstances warrant. Our efforts this year made it clear to the Standing Committee/the Diocese that St. Anne's is serious and working hard to find a home for our church. Their preliminary approval to back the loan was a sign of support. When the next opportunity does arise, the Vestry and congregation should feel confident in the ability to move quickly if necessary. Many of you are keeping your eyes peeled for buildings or land; please keep those suggestions flowing to the space committee (**Martha Lewis, Barry Dennis, Mary Jo Roberts**).

Summary from the Year of Listening project: Our thanks to those of you who shared lunch with us, took the time to write an email or provided your input through casual conversation. Engaging in this collective church self-reflection was important work for several reasons. It brought us together as a community to think about our future. It provided insight to the Vestry on our mission, and gave guidance to the space committee as they pursue opportunities for our new church home. Below is a summary of the responses to each of the four questions along with a few take-aways from the exercise.

- What is the Mission of the Church? Several good phrases were shared, including: to worship God, share in his love, minister to one another and serve the needs of the larger community.

- What should St. Anne's be known for in the community? Two comments stood out: "Inclusion. All are welcome no matter your position in life, or where you are in your spiritual journey." Another member highlighted a line from the hymn, "I come with Joy" which reads: "As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one and strangers now are friends".

- Thoughts on the growth of the church. This topic generated the most response and conversation. A couple shared that "Size was not a factor in our decision to join St. Anne's; we joined because of the environment and the service, because of the structure of the liturgy and the history of the church." One member pointed out that growth should not be a goal unto itself but rather a natural occurrence of being known as a welcoming spiritual home, with open doors that cares for its members. Still another commented that our welcoming nature is unique in Christian denominations, and is the basic reason why St. Anne's needs to continue growing and supporting the community. And, of course, several expressed the need to continue to attract and serve young families, as they are the future of the church.

- Thoughts on physical changes to our worship space. There was wide agreement about the need for more room and the importance of finding a permanent home. We also heard good feedback on the type of locations and space options which people are NOT interested in, which is very helpful to both the Space Committee and the Vestry.

Take-aways:

- St. Anne's embraces a mission to share the word and love of God with everyone; to be known as an inclusive church that extends God's mercy to those in need, and his grace to all who we encounter.

- In terms of physical location for a future church, people expressed an interest in remaining close to one of our “homes”. While we remain a flexible congregation, the most desirable radiuses are either around downtown Conway or the campus of Coastal Carolina University.

As a Congregation

Ponder this:

- We welcomed more than 40 new worshipers to our church family in 2019. Each new member enriches our faith community, and many have already become actively involved in ministry.

- Thanks to a generous gift, St. Anne’s is in the process of establishing our first endowed investment account.

- Stewardship Campaign: The 2020 campaign produced 60 pledges, totaling \$183,147.60 and included seven new pledges. These numbers are up slightly from last year, both in the number of parishioners who made a pledge and in the total amount that has been pledged.

- Episcopal Church Women (ECW): The group’s first event was a talk by Father Barry on the basics of feminist theology, with an emphasis on Jesus’ relationships with women. Several social and planning meetings followed, culminating in a very successful 2nd Italian Dinner and Auction on November 22nd at 104 Laurel Street in Conway. Proceeds from this fund-raising event went to local charities, Shepherd’s Table and CAP (Churches Assisting People). Congratulations to the ECW leadership, **Nora Hembree Battle** (President), **Jacqueline Kurlowski** (Vice President), **Susan Slavin** (Secretary) and Committee Chairs, **Kathleen Hearn, Lynn Smith** and **Jean Spedden Goldson**, on a fabulous event. This huge undertaking required the work and contributions of many people; deep gratitude to the silent and live auction committees, to those that donated items, to the food and decorations committees and the clean-up crew. Special appreciation goes to auctioneers **George Hearn** and **James Battle**. Lastly, enormous thanks to all who attended and bid on items.

- To finish up the year, **Jennifer Ennis** organized a gift drive which provided Christmas presents to 20 boys at the Waccamaw Youth Center and the group enjoyed a Mingle and Jingle Holiday party, hosted by **Cathy Battle**.

- Episcopal Gentleman’s Assistance and Libation Society (EGALS): When a member of our congregation needed new housing, EGALS responded. A group of EGALS volunteers, with a huge assist from **Richard and Rebecca Lovelace** and **Jean Spedden Goldson**, identified new housing, helped to clean and pack, organize the move and assist with settling in. EGALS members also handled clean up duties for the 2nd Italian Dinner and Auction and sponsored a “Fill the Truck” event to help stock the shelves of CAP.

While new programs are energizing, traditions keep us connected and enhance our sense of community. In 2019, St. Anne’s once again partnered with First United Methodist Church for Ash Wednesday, Blessing of the Animals and Blue Christmas services. We sponsored Pride in the Park, participated in the Thanksgiving Food Drive for CAP, hosted and attended Lenten Dinners and Advent lunches and enjoyed a fun Mardi Gras celebration.

A special note from Mary Jo Roberts:

Serving on the Vestry, and as your Senior Warden in 2019, has been an exciting and incredibly rewarding experience for me. Thank you very much for this honor. The Vestry will be expert hands under incoming leadership; my very best wishes to existing and

incoming Vestry colleagues. Good things await our special and loving congregation. I excitedly ponder what will come anew in 2020 and beyond!

A special note from Holley Tankersley: When I arrived at St. Anne's, I was hesitant to get involved in any leadership role. I even waited a whole year -- maybe even longer -- to succumb to Suade's insistence that I join the choir. Now I wonder why I waited so long to take an active role in the life of our community! Our vestry is full of thoughtful, joy-filled individuals who care deeply about each of you and our church as a whole. It has been a privilege to serve with them. I am especially blessed to have watched and learned from Mary Jo's example as senior warden; she is the epitome of a loving servant leader, and has left an indelible mark on me and St. Anne's. I know that we have a beautiful journey ahead of us, and I look forward to walking that path with you all.

From the Director of Music

Hellos and Goodbye

2019 was a great year for St. Anne's Music. We welcomed to our Soprano section, the fabulous, Megan Hoffman. In 2020, We are excited to introduce a new bass to our choir, Josh Hackley. Josh's first experience with St. Anne's was during our Italian Dinner and Auction. We were also very appreciative of our new Tenor and Dominic the Donkey, Rudy Leustek. We also said a warm hello during our winter season to our newest alto, Kayla Johnson. We said, "So long for now" to our beloved Charlie Johnson, who's been with the choir as an honorary member both in spirit and in the flesh since the first St. Anne's Choir Anthem of 2013. I was honored to be able to shake St. Pauls Conway with the power of that tremendous organ as we sang him home.

The Choir!

This year, the choir performed a number of new and exciting pieces including "Blessed One Messiah," "The Stone is Rolled Away," "To Live or Die," "Poor Man Lazrus," "We're Gonna Worship Christ the King," "You are Precious," and "Be Still My Child." We pushed the limits with our Advent 3 Anthem, a gorgeous and timeless concert arrangement of "Ave Maria." We've dipped our toes into music history with Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" and one of our favorites, Durufle's, "Ubi Caritas." The choir also had a successful Christmas Caroling night during which we jumped into the back of Fr Rob's hay-filled truck and went to a few locations to sing our hearts out.

Professional Development

This year, I will be traveling to the Mountains of North Carolina to participate in the Presbyterian Musician Retreat in Montreat. It serves as a refresh and reboot for all things music, and serves to connect Conductors, Composers, Music Directors, Pianists, Organists, and Vocalists.

What's to come?

2020 is still largely in planning and preparation. For the choir, we will sing as much a capella music as possible as we continue to develop our sustained balanced sound, and I hope that

with the amount of men that we currently have and perhaps will have, we can perform the occasional mens choir anthem. Many people have mentioned that they love when we have special non-congregational music during communion and I have heard that request--therefore, we will be doing more of that in 2020. I'm excited that we have in the works a type of anthem that previously hasn't been heard in a St. Anne's Service: a Pentatonix type arrangement of the popular Christian song "Good, Good Father." Given that it goes well, we can introduce more things like that. The Mozart piece, "Ave Verum Corpus," was so successful in the fall that I intend to bring more Music History to the music of 2020. 2020 promises to be an exciting year! Also, I'm always seeking feedback so feel free to get in contact.

Thank You

I would like to thank each and every choir member for their dedicated service to our music ministry. Their consistent attendance to our weekly rehearsal is crucial to our high-quality of performance that we have achieved here at St. Anne's. The secret of St. Anne's Music, aside from each individual bringing to the table an earnest love and longing for Choral Singing, is the amount of fun we have during rehearsal. I thank you all for that. Mike Battle is an amazing human being who continually seeks to help out the Music Ministry. From giving us rehearsal space, to lugging around music equipment to and from church and church functions, and being our musician and band leader for Shrove Tuesday and Sundays when I'm absent. Thank you Mike!

Scared to Join?

The way choir works: We rehearse every Wednesday, 7PM-8:30PM. The Goal: We try to rehearse about 7 weeks worth of music, but we work most on Sunday's anthem. We have a variety of experience levels in the choir so I send out sound files of individual parts to give us the greatest chance of being successful on Sunday morning. We meet on Sunday mornings for warmup and rehearsal at 9:15AM. We work hard and we play hard!

Want to join? Missing your favorite hymn? Got a suggestion? email me at Suade.anderson@icloud.com

From the Endowment Committee

Last year, St. Anne's received an Endowment gift of \$25,000. The Vestry has adopted an Endowment document and formed an Endowment Committee consisting of Richard Lovelace, Mark Jordan and James Gross.

The Endowment Committee has elected to invest the funds with the Episcopal Church Foundation to receive maximum return of investment. Per the Committee, no Funds will be withdrawn for the first three years and an aggressive investment strategy will be followed.

Funds withdrawn will primarily be used to support Christian Education and the Ministry activities of the Church.

The Endowment is another major milestone for St. Anne's Parish. We are now eligible to join CEEP (Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Churches). CEEP provides many resources to Endowed Parishes that will benefit St. Anne's going forward.

The Endowment Committee will also inform the Congregation of various avenues that are available to make gifts to the Church. Our goal is to grow the Endowment to benefit the long term ministry of St. Anne's.

From the Treasurer

ST. ANNE'S FINANCIAL REPORT for 2019:

CASH ON HAND (CHECKING ACCOUNT as of DEC. 31, 2019) : **\$25,167.92**

CASH IN BANK OF AMERICA MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT (as of DEC. 31, 2019):
\$238,181.18. The amount is broken down as follows:

\$25,000 Endowment amount (will be invested with the Episcopal Church Foundation in 2020),
\$50,000 in reserve,
\$133,181.18 in the Building Fund,
\$30,000 in prepaid pledges for 2020 that will be withdrawn as needed.
This account is insured, and currently pays 2.05 % interest.

PLEGGED FOR 2019:	\$182,040
PLEGGED INCOME RECEIVED IN 2019:	\$187,082.92
UNPLEGGED INCOME FOR 2019:	\$28,548.57
TOTAL INCOME FOR 2019:	\$215,631
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR 2019:	\$205,736
DEBT:	\$0
PLEGGED TO THE DIOCESE IN 2019:	\$18,000

SUMMARY

2019 was a good year financially for St. Anne's - our income exceeded our expenses by \$10,000, and with what we carried over from 2018 we were able to move \$24,000 to our "rainy day"/future plans fund. We also received a \$25,000 gift for the establishment of an endowment for St. Anne's.

Our biggest expense is the cost of having a full-time priest, and paying for his pension plan and health insurance. Our number two expense is our outreach - for such a small church, we are very strong in outreach, with over \$35,000 given to outreach in 2019 (this includes the priest's discretionary fund giving.) We supported victims of Hurricane Dorian flooding, CAP, Shepherd's Table, A Father's Place, the Waccamaw Youth Home, and Episcopal Relief and Development. \$12,500 of this outreach came from the very successful ECW dinner/auction.

Other big expenses include \$315 per week rent for Lackey Chapel and the nursery space, and our support of the Diocese (\$18,000 for 2019).

Overview of 2020 Budget¹

2020 Budgeted Income and Expense

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Pledged Income	\$183,147.60
Unpledged Income	\$24,537.25
Total	207,684.85

Overview of 2020 Budgeted Expenses

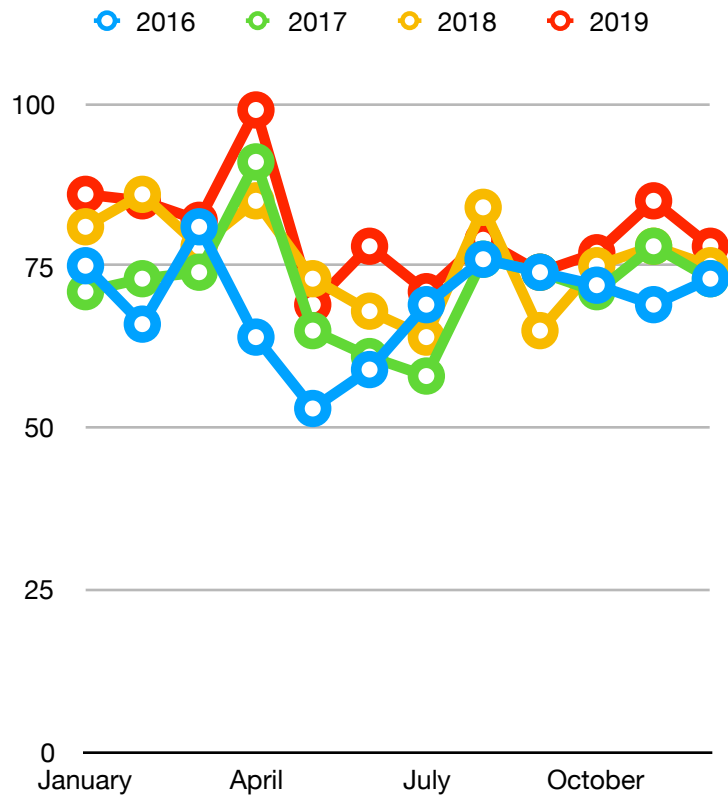
CATEGORY	BUDGET AMOUNT
Employee Salaries and Benefits (Rector, Director of Music, Choral Scholars, Nursery Workers, Supply Priests)	145,252.85
Worship (Rent for Lackey Chapel, worship supplies)	20,000
Outreach	17,750
Diocesan Ministry	16,950
Administrative Costs	4,282
Parish Life	3,450
TOTAL	207,684.85

¹ A detailed copy of the 2020 Budget is available upon request.

Parochial Reports

Average Monthly Attendance

	2016	2017	2018	2019
January	75	71	81	86
February	66	73	86	85
March	81	74	78	82
April	64	91	85	99
May	53	65	73	69
June	59	61	68	78
July	69	58	64	71
August	76	76	84	79
September	74	74	65	74
October	72	71	75	77
November	69	78	78	85
December	73	73	75	78



	2016	2017	2018	2019
Palm Sunday attendance	91	106	81	93
Easter attendance	102	110	128	153
Christmas attendance	120	116	115	135
Average Sunday attendance	69	72	76	80

Funerals: (8-6-2019) Charlie Johnson

Confirmations/Receptions: (6-9-2019) Rudy Leustek, Shawn Barrett, Mary Jane Barrett

ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA

A Resolution of Gratitude

Whereas St. Anne's Episcopal Church was founded in 2012 with just 22 members, limited resources, and no endowment;

Whereas in spite of its humble beginnings the St. Anne's community committed itself to being a church where all of God's children are welcomed, valued, and encouraged to grow in their faith and understanding of God's love;

Whereas Kimberly Smith and JaNell Boss found a spiritual home at St. Anne's and became valued members of the congregation before relocating to Savannah;

Whereas Kimberly Smith and JaNell Boss have provided a generous gift to St. Anne's to establish an endowment to ensure that the gospel message of God's grace and love will continue to be spread in Conway for generations to come;

Whereas the Vestry of St. Anne's enthusiastically supports the idea that Christian education is the right of all the baptized and is encouraged by Kimberly and JaNell's generosity;

Therefore be it resolved that Kimberly Smith and JaNell Boss be recognized as the Founding Contributors to the St. Anne's Endowment Fund and accorded the status of Honorary Members in Perpetuity.