



ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

EARLY JULY 2016 VESTRY NEWS

from Senior Warden Laura Ingersoll

In a special meeting on July 7, your Vestry approved a revised 2016 Budget reflecting certain net downward adjustments in both income and expenditures that have been actually realized as of July 1, resulting in a slight operating surplus. The revised Budget Resolution, with explanation, will be posted in the Wade Room and the revised Budget itself will be available on the Parish website. The Vestry elected Emily DiBari to serve as Secretary for the year.

The Rector reported on developments in the search for a new Interim Music Director to serve the remainder of the interim period, to no later than Pentecost 2017. There was extensive discussion of the Rector's July 6 message to the Parish describing the Clergy and staff decision to move the 11:15 a.m. Sunday service to 11:30 a.m. beginning in September, and their plans to develop an additional alternative service sometime in the winter. The Rector reminded the Vestry that these changes were evolving in response to the past year's strategic planning process in which over 200 members of the Parish participated.

In response to questions about her statement that: "We have added about 250 new members in the last two years alone," the Rector explained that the Episcopal Church defines a congregation's "members" in very formal terms based on the filing of letters "duly recorded" with the congregation; apart from this formal registration, there is no reliable way to count Parish membership, and so the Rector used it as the basis for her statement. She acknowledged that the 250 does not take into account any former members who had moved their registration to another congregation during 2014-2015. The Vestry expressed hope that the 250 new members had committed to financial support of the Parish, or would do so. The Rector also assured the Vestry that the professional choir had not been disbanded, as was incorrectly rumored, but rather the number of paid singers was being reduced from 8 to 5, in line with what had been budgeted for the year. The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be July 26.