

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Minutes of Vestry Meeting (APPROVED)
Tuesday – December 20, 2016 – 6:30 pm
Nourse Hall

Vestry Officers Present: Laura Ingersoll (Senior Warden), Rich Turner (Junior Warden), Hollis McLoughlin (Treasurer), Emily DiBari (Secretary).

Vestry Members Present: Adrienne Allison, Julie Clements, Andrea Fraser-Reid, Ivan Fermin, Tom Gustafson, Kristie Hassett, Sandy Kolb, Tomás Montgomery, Ken Patterson, Donna Palmer, Marty Welch, Emma Morrison (youth representative).

Staff Present: The Rev. Jim Quigley (Associate Rector); The Rev. Emily Griffin (Associate Rector); The Rev. Debbie Kirk (Assistant Rector); Douglas Dykstra (Director of Finance).

Others Present: Susan Morris (WSA President); parishioner Barbara Manard.

Call-to-Order: A regular meeting of the Vestry was called to order at 6:30 pm by the Senior Warden, a Rector being absent and the Bishop having elected not to be present, pursuant to Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws. A quorum was present. An opening prayer was offered by Tomás Montgomery.

Presentation of Candidate for the Postulancy to the Diaconate, Sara Thorne: The Rev. Jim Quigley presented Sara Thorne as a candidate being sponsored by St. Alban's to enter the postulancy for ordination as Deacon. Also present was Alex Netchvolodoff, who has led her discernment committee, which is in the process of being re-constituted to conform with new Diocesan procedure. Other members of the committee are Andy Molchon, Maria Walker and David Johnson.

"Managing Church in the 21st Century": Senior Warden Laura Ingersoll reported that Diocesan Canon for Congregational Vitality Joey Ricks was ill and unable to address the Vestry this evening, but would come at a future date to discuss the challenges facing a Vestry having to make tough decisions in the face of competing demands and resources.

Approval of November 10, 2016, Vestry Meeting Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the November 10, 2016, special meeting of the Vestry was moved by Tomás Montgomery and seconded by Andrea Fraser-Reid. The Senior Warden asked that a second footnote be added, as follows: "All members present signed the Resolution; it was subsequently also signed by Adrienne Allison, Ivan Fermin, and Kristie Hassett." With that amendment, all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.01]

Approval of November 15, 2016, Vestry Meeting Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the November 15, 2016, regular meeting of the Vestry was moved by Tomás Montgomery and seconded by Andrea Fraser-Reid, who then noted that the minutes erroneously showed that she had been present; with that amendment, all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.02]

Consent Agenda: Acceptance of the Consent Agenda was moved by Tomás Montgomery and seconded by Sandy Kolb; all present voted in favor, with Donna Palmer abstaining. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.03] (Attachments A-C) In response to a question from Adrienne Allison, Kolb noted that one trending difference shown in the report is that there was not collection in June because of St. Alban's Day and special collection for the retirement of Ron Hicks.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Hollis McLoughlin reported that pledge income by November was off last year by \$48,000 below budget in actual dollars received toward the anticipated \$1.1 million pledge income. Director of Finance Doug Dykstra expressed cautious optimism based on the historical fact that any given year's pledge income after December is likely to be substantially improved because people have a tendency to overpay their pledged amounts. Ken Patterson asked how to address those parishioners who have not paid up their pledges; Dykstra explained he sends out written reminders to fulfill pledges. McLoughlin reported that 2016 expenses are trending below budget. The Senior Warden pointed out this is a reminder that we need to take a fine-tooth comb to the 2017 budget. The Endowment continues to hold its own. All investment funds are in Vanguard, with a 60/40 equities-to-bonds mix, so we have not benefited as much as we could have from the market uptick the Finance Committee will be looking at this mix. WSA President Susan Morris reported that she is thrilled with the Op Shop profit; sales have increased 7.5% and it is continuing to be a wonderful ministry. Dykstra noted the Op Shop is on pace for another record year that will surpass last year's record high. Ingersoll added the Op Shop will be closing on Friday, December 23, until after the New Year weekend.

Stewardship Campaign: McLoughlin reported that 227 households have pledged \$958,093. This is below goal by approximately \$150,000 and 99 households. Ken Patterson asked that the Stewardship co-chairs provide a list of who has not pledged and the new members that have not pledged. McLoughlin pointed out that there are 40-50 new prospects who have not yet pledged.

Developments in Support for the Spanish-language Eucharist: The Senior Warden reviewed the background and recent developments regarding support for the St. Alban's Spanish-language worship program. She reminded the Vestry that after the Rector's resignation Rev. Debbie Kirk had informed Ingersoll that she would not be able to continue working on a half-time basis at her current compensation level after her contract ends in December, and that she had tried without success to find additional half-time employment that would be compatible with her responsibilities to St. Alban's, and so she was seeking full-time employment elsewhere. Ingersoll had put together a team – consisting of Sandy Kolb, Personnel Committee chair Tom Gustafson, and Treasurer Hollis McLoughlin, and herself – to work on a solution. In the end, both parties recognized that Kirk's personal financial needs simply cannot be met by the appropriate compensation for her in a half-time clergy position, and that St. Alban's is simply not able, at this time, to sustain a clergy position for our Spanish-language worship program on more than a half-time basis – and without yet having our Priest-in-Charge on board, it would be inappropriate for the Vestry to undertake any significant change in our staffing structure, even if our finances allowed it. The Vestry team also recognized the need to better understand how our Spanish-language and English-language ministries related with each other. Debbie Kirk ultimately agreed to enter into a six-month contract, to enable St. Alban's to continue supporting the Spanish-language Eucharist while we work on these issues. (The Vestry will consider the terms of that contract in Executive Session later this evening.) And in late January the Vestry will begin

undertaking a serious, thoughtful discernment of this ministry, which has been so important to St. Alban's – a process that will eventually involve both participants in the Spanish language worship program and the Parish as a whole. Ingersoll emphasized that the fact that the draft 2017 budget at this point does not provide specific funding for clergy support to the program after Kirk leaves does not in any way indicate that any particular decision has been made, or is even anticipated, about the future of that clergy support or the Spanish-language service in general. It's simply a reflection of the fact that as we enter the discernment period we're holding open a wide range of potential options whose financial implications cannot yet be determined.

In response to a question from Allison, Rev. Kirk reported that in the past year the regular attendance at the Spanish-language service has risen on average from about 15-20 to about 30-45.

Junior Warden's Report: Junior Warden Rich Turner presented, and orally summarized, a written report (Attachment D). In addition, he noted that he was developing a list of the important maintenance work to be addressed in the coming year. He also noted that the plexiglass squares that were removed from in the columbarium niches were found to have supported some of the weight of the cover stones, so they will need to be put back into place before the snow comes. It was noted that one of the Wade Room bathrooms was out of order and needed to be fixed. Turner noted that the gutters were expected to be cleared before year-end.

Senior Warden's Report: The Senior Warden Laura Ingersoll presented a written report (Attachment E). In addition, Ingersoll reported that she and the Secretary had executed the promissory note to the Diocese to cover its interest-free advance to St. Alban's of funds to cover the non-Pension portion of The Rev. Deborah Mister's year of post-resignation compensation. Ingersoll expressed gratitude to Barbara Manard for her leading St. Alban's hosting of the Thanksgiving Dinner, which was attended by 180 people, and to Asha and Warren Matthei for coordinating the upcoming Christmas Day community dinner. A modest expenditure had been authorized for advertising of the Christmas services and dinner, to be coordinated by Deborah Potter with the assistance of Laura Roslof. Ingersoll expressed thanks to Tricia Pinkard, Kristie Hassett and Noell Sottile for their volunteer work supporting Rev. Emily Griffin in administering the Youth Program. The Vestry was reminded that beginning in January the regular meetings would be held in Room 301 in Satterlee Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Jim Quigley noted that on Wednesday, January 25, at 6:30 pm the Parish would hold a mini-retreat with Rev. Kathleen Staudt, of the Virginia Theological Seminary, inviting everyone in the Parish to participate in a process of reconciliation that will conclude with celebration of a Eucharist.

Continuing Budget Resolution: McLoughlin presented a written resolution:

In the absence of an approved budget for 2017, the Vestry authorizes the continued payment of 2017 operating expenses at the 2016 budget level, effective January 1, 2017 and until the 2017 budget is approved, subject to continuing terms of the current spending freeze (i.e., all non-obligated expenditures requiring prior approval by the Executive Committee) until such time as the Vestry determines otherwise.

Approval of the resolution was moved by Tom Gustafson and seconded by Adrienne Allison; all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.04]

Executive Session: At approximately 8:04 pm, Sandy Kolb moved that the Vestry go into Executive Session; the motion was seconded by Adrienne Allison. The Senior Warden requested that The Rev. Jim Quigley and Rev. Emily Griffin remain for a period to address certain pastoral issues. All present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.05]

The Vestry came out of Executive Session at approximately 10:10 pm.

Resolution: Staff COLAs for 2017: The following written resolution was presented:

The Vestry authorizes a 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase in the 2017 salary (including, for clergy, the housing allowance) for Associate Rectors Jim Quigley and Emily Griffin, for Director of Finance Douglas Dykstra, and for Parish Administrator Charles Porter.

Approval of the resolution was moved by Sandy Kolb and seconded by Tomás Montgomery, and all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.06]

Resolution: Staff Bonuses for 2016: The following written resolution was presented:

In gratitude and appreciation for their extraordinary service and dedication during the past difficult year, the Vestry approves the award in December 2016 of cash bonuses to staff as agreed upon in Executive Session.

Approval of the resolution was moved by Adrienne Allison and seconded by Ken Patterson, and all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.07]

Resolution: Approval of Letter of Agreement with Rev. Debbie Kirk, Assistant Rector: The following written resolution was presented:

The Vestry approves the financial terms of the proposed six-month Revised Letter of Agreement with The Rev. Debbie Kirk, and authorizes the Senior Warden to execute the Revised Letter of Agreement on behalf of the Vestry.

Approval of the resolution was moved by Ivan Fermin and seconded by Sandy Kolb, and all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.08]

Resolution: Reserve Fund Draw for Assistant Rector Retention Grant: The following written resolution was presented:

Having approved the financial terms of the six-month Revised Letter of Agreement with The Rev. Debbie Kirk, providing for her continued employment in ministry to the Spanish-language Eucharist community through June 2017, the Vestry approves a monthly draw from the Reserve Fund of \$1,666 for the purpose of financing the Agreement's provision

of a one-time retention grant to Rev. Kirk, payable with her monthly cash compensation beginning January 1, 2017, and continuing through the period of her employment under the Agreement.

The Vestry takes this action in recognition of the Parish's deep commitment to the *San Albano* community and as special consideration for the current pastoral needs of that community in a time of particular transition, as well as to facilitate Rev. Kirk's leadership of the intentional discernment of that community of its future as a body of Christ and its relationship with the broader St. Alban's Parish community.

Approval of the resolution was moved by Ken Patterson and seconded by Ivan Fermin, and all present voted in favor. [VESTRY ACTION 2016-12.09]

Statements to the Diocese of Support for the Postulancies of Diana Morgan Gustafson and Sara Thorne: Every Vestry member present signed the statements required by the Diocese in pledge of support for the postulancies of Diana Morgan Gustafson for ordination to the priesthood [VESTRY ACTION 2012-12.10], and of Sara Thorne for ordination as deacon [VESTRY ACTION 2012-12.11].

The Vestry concluded with a prayer led by the Senior Warden, and adjourned at approximately 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily DiBari, Secretary
(Post-Executive Session actions reported by the Senior Warden)

Vestry Report for December 2016
The Rev. Jim Quigley

Adult Formation:

- Sara Thorne and Rich Jensen will complete the Advent Sunday Forum series, *The Selfless Way of Christ* on December 18. They've done a great job and these simple conversations have been well received by those that have participated.
- The Wednesday Bible Study has concluded for the year 2016 and will resume in January
- All 6 Parishioners invited to serve on a newly constituted Adult Formation Committee have accepted. Our first meeting took place on Wednesday, December 14. Ed Roslof is the team's convener and the other members are: Sandy Kolb, Deborah Potter, Warren Clark, Sandy McCall, Marcus King.

Outreach:

- The November Mustard Seed for Hurricane Relief total was \$1,245. Our December Mustard Seed will benefit a feeding program for Harriet Tubman Elementary School.
- The Olive Oil sales for the Tent of Nations have exceeded expectations. As of last Sunday the total sales were \$2451 and an additional \$200.00 in direct donations has been collected.
- Thanks to Deborah Potter has made changes to the Outreach section of the website.
- The Annual Shabbat to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King and promote the ongoing commitment to community and social justice will be held at Washington Hebrew on Friday, January 13, 2017.
- The following report on changes in our Crossroads Housing Initiative was issued to members of that ministry by Bob Whitten on November 28:

Dear friends,

Here's where we stand, based on our meeting with Jermaine and Jean Michel on the 22nd and Jermaine's follow-up note of the 23rd.

The Crossroads Initiative will be moving to support individuals and small (probably single parent) families through Friendship Place, rather than paying rent on apartments. Jermaine is giving Tracy notice and closing her apartment as of January 1st. Deltrice and her son are moving out as of December 1st. Jermaine is closing that apartment as of February 1st. He says there may be someone in that apartment between Dec 1 and Feb 1, but isn't sure now. Some of our 2017 funding may go to finalize that lease, or \$2,050.

As Jean Michel said in our meeting, he envisions whatever funds we can provide them will now go to help many more people, rather than just provide rent for a few. They understand our financial commitment will probably shrink, depending our pledge income for 2017.

We are obligated for \$6,150 for the final 3 months of this year for the rental of the two Taussig place apartments. That money is budgeted and the Executive Committee should approve it.

We have been awarded a very generous grant by St. Alban's WSA, earmarked for rental payment. It is my hope that that only up to \$2,050 would be needed for rent in 2017 to finish out the lease on Deltrice's apartment, and my further hope that we might put the rest of this grant toward helping individuals and small families, as part of our new arrangement with FP. It all depends on St. Alban's pledge income for 2017 and what is budgeted for the Crossroads Initiative.

I came away from our meeting with Jean Michel and Jermaine with a good feeling that whatever funds we can send their way will have a larger impact and help more people than we have under the current arrangement. We'll see how it goes. I'd appreciate your comments and feedback.

Pastoral Care

- As part of our parishes preparation for Geoffrey's+ arrival I have been working with Kathy Staudt (known by many in the parish, Kathy is a Spiritual Director, and Adjunct Faculty member at VTS, etc.) on a mini retreat for St. Albans parishioners who been impacted, one way or another, by the events at St. Alban's the last couple of years. The retreat will take place from 6:30 – 8:30pm on January 25 and be called something like: A Season of Hope and Healing in Epiphany.
- Attended funeral and visitation for John O'Neill.
- Home visitations for parishioners unable to attend Christmas services have been scheduled.

- Celebrated home communion with Bill Hall and family.
- Celebrated final worship service at The Washington Home.

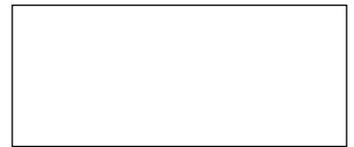
Liturgical

- Preached a total of 9 sermons at three Sunday Services, presided and celebrated at 11 services of Holy Eucharist, Presided at Advent Lessons & Carols.

In Deborah's Absence:

Have created agendas for and facilitated weekly Staff Meetings, taken the lead on Weddings and Funerals, planned all liturgies with Emily+.

The Rev. Emily Griffin
Associate Rector Report
December 2016



Children's Formation

We averaged 37 participants in Children's Chapel over the past month. We are using the music portion of Children's Chapel to learn songs for the Christmas pageant. Amie Vandersluis has recruited a few teens to narrate (Annie McLean, Katie and Matthew Farr), and we have four parents set to help with costumes and snacks.

The annual Advent Wreath Making Potluck Dinner was held on November 27. About 40 attended, down about 20 from last year – but the event itself went well. Thanks to Katie Wilson for helping to gather wreath materials and Deborah Potter for assisting with the potluck.

Speaking of intergenerational events, 48 came to the December First Wednesday, sponsored by the St. Alban's staff. Global Mission is hosting the next "First" Wednesday on January 11, followed by Stephen Ministry in February. It now looks like our annual Tres Reyes (Three Kings) intergenerational potluck will be held as a brunch on January 8 following the 11am Spanish service.

Sunday School is running smoothly. I did an initial training this month with Ann Swett, who is now working with the 1st to 3rd Graders. Jen Leonardo will also assist more regularly with that class starting in January. I'm currently finishing lesson schedules for the winter/spring and working on teacher scheduling.

Youth Formation

The J2A Wreath, Blanket and Poinsettia Sale (December 4) went well. Thanks to Kristie Hassett for her coordination and all the parents, teens and leaders who pulled together to make it work.

Tricia Pinkard has agreed to offer volunteer administrative help for our youth programs over the next six months. Kristie Hassett agreed to take charge of the J2A Chili Sale. Sales begin in early January. Noell Sottile and Tricia are starting to plan for the Rite 13 Celebration (January 28-29) and Pancake Supper (February 28). We are hoping that a newly reconstituted Youth Formation Committee will start meeting in January to discern long-term needs.

In the meantime, I went with Sr. Youth on Grate Patrol on December 9 and am working on their group's curriculum for January to May. We're having a guest speaker on January 8 – Elizabeth Gardner, Young Adult Missioner for the Diocese, who will talk about what church can look like in college, different kinds of campus ministries, and what to look for – no matter which college you attend.

Finally, I'm also working on scheduling the youth leaders for TSF (Teen Service Fellowship) from January to May.

Lay Ministry Support, Discernment, Newcomer Incorporation

Over the past month, I met for coffee with three different newcomers, all of whom have children or teens. John Daniel Reaves and Katherine Schinasi are currently recruiting more newcomers to pair with our younger families.

Liturgical/Pastoral/Other

Since November Report: Celebrant at 7 services (including Loss to Christmas Light on 12/14); Deacon at 2 services; Preached 2 Sundays; Children's Chapel 2 services; Washington Home 1 service. Started officiating at 7:30am Tuesday Eucharist (alternating with Jim Quigley)

Led Advent Retreat (December 2-4)

Attended lovely closing service at Washington Home on December 11 to honor our longtime ministry there
Met with Jim and head of lay readers (Suzy Mink), and later with vergers, to help streamline worship coordination

Meeting with Jim and Justin on 12/20 to plan for Epiphany season services

Created rota for Epiphany season 2017 and distributed to various worship chairs to coordinate efforts

Moved Sunday School materials out of Galilee Room downstairs (with help from Charles Porter and Bob Witten)



Liturgy

Since the November 15, 2016, vestry meeting, I have celebrated and preached at three Sunday services.

In addition to celebrating and preaching at our regular Sunday services on a weekly basis, I celebrated and preached at the one joint St. Alban's service on Thanksgiving. At that bilingual service we also celebrated a baptism from the 11 am community—a joyous occasion for all.

For the first time, St. Alban's hosted all the Spanish language congregations in the Diocese for our traditional Advent liturgy and fiesta. We also inaugurated the first collaborative Posadas in the Diocese with the other DC churches that have Spanish services and ministries in the Latino community--St. Stephen's of the Incarnation and St. John's Lafayette Square. The December 3 event at St. Alban's included an Advent liturgy and music as well as a procession with singing accompanied by guitar. Las Posadas is a traditional Advent reenactment of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the refusal of many to give them shelter until the very end. The procession began at Cactus Cantina. We walked with little votive candles down Wisconsin Avenue singing special Posadas songs. By the time we reached the church, we had more than 80 people for the liturgy "Advent—Light and Community." The service in the sanctuary was followed, of course, by a celebration fiesta with food, Advent and Christmas carols sung by our children of the 11 am community, dancing, and piñatas. Photos are on line. By the end of the evening more than 140 people had participated in some portion of the festivities. A special thanks to the St. Alban's parishioners who participated in this program from the English language services here at St. Alban's.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care continues as an important and on-going component of our community. In the past month weeks, I made 11 extended pastoral visits in addition to extended telephone pastoral support (extended being more than 1 hour) as well as routine congregational support through email and text. Pastoral care in the culture of this community is preferably face-to-face or at least voice-to-voice as is congregational development.

Christian Formation

During this time of transition between rectors and the negotiation of a new contract for my employment, I am deferring to the Senor Warden and the vestry committee handling the new contract to hold off on initiatives planned in this area and other areas.

Integration of "Hispanohablante y Angloparlante" Communities

The 11 am community continues to work with many of the existing committees in St. Alban's. We want to reach out to more bilingual speaker volunteers (and brave souls with

basic Spanish) from the other services who can assist our community in bridging language and cultural differences as we work together on church events and projects.

Ministries and Outreach

The 11 am community will be participating with Global Missions on a First Wednesday program for January that will feature the non-profit organization Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) who will come to St. Alban's to discuss immigration issues and rights as well as recruit lawyer volunteers and others to help the families in need.

Community Development

We will be celebrating Tres Reyes (Three Kings) on January 8 at 12:30 following the 11 am service. I am working with Rev. Emily as well as the 11am community to sponsor this fun event. We invite everyone from all the services, especially with children, to participate. Rev. Emily will be coordinating with those coming from the English speaking services.

Thanks to Charles Porter we have a new sign facing the Cathedral advertising our service in Spanish. I had discussed this signage with the new Dean who enthusiastically embraced working together to provide Spanish speakers a home for worship. The Cathedral has no Spanish language service. Our talks included the availability of our flyers in the Cathedral nave and space on their website as well as other possibilities for combined efforts.

Diocesan/National Church Participation

In addition to the Advent festival and Posadas event mentioned above, the 11 am community and I participated with the other two DC Latino congregations in two additional Posadas events—one held December 9 at St. Stephen and the Incarnation and one on December 17 at St. John's Lafayette Square.

The community and I continue to participate in Latino monthly leaders meetings (lay and clergy), and I attend the regular clergy meetings for diocesan Latino missionaries.

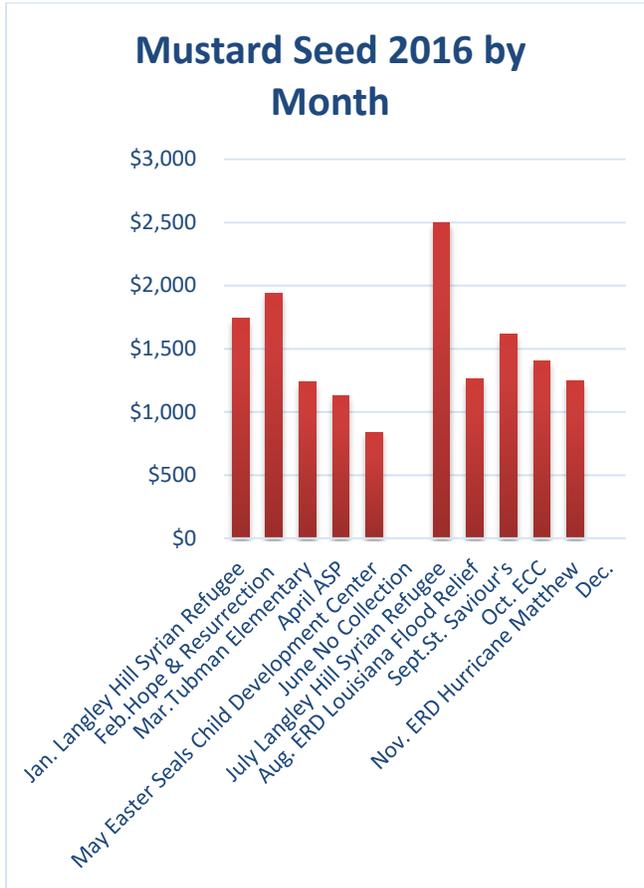
Administration and Other

I attended 16 meetings within the St. Alban's community, with Diocesan communities, with outside organizations.

I had replaced Rev. Deborah as clergy mentor for Sara Thorne in her discernment of a call to ordained ministry. It has been a joy to be with Sara during this time, to listen to her spiritual journey and hopes, so timely in this season of Advent. This past month we also had the opportunity to attend an excellent daylong workshop as an introduction to the new diocesan process for ordained diaconate ministry. It has been an honor to walk with Sara as she found clarity in her call to ministry. Rev. Jim will now be taking over as her clergy mentor.

Respectfully submitted *con gozo y paz*, Debbie+

December 2016 Mustard Seed Report



Jan. Langley Hill Friends Meeting Syrian Refugee Aid	\$1,740
Feb. Hope & Resurrection School in South Sudan	\$1,936
Mar. Tubman Elementary School Columbia Heights DC	\$1,235
April ASP Mission Trip	\$1,130
May Easter Seals Child Development Center DC	\$835
June No Mustard Seed	
July Langley Hill Friends Meeting Syrian Refugee Aid	\$2,495
Aug. ERD – Louisiana Flood Relief	\$1,260
Sept. St. Saviour's	\$1,615
Oct. Episcopal Center for Children (TLC)	\$1,400
Nov. ERD – Hurricane Matthew Relief	\$1,245
Dec.	



“The kingdom of heaven is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make nests in its branches.” Luke 13:19

January: Provided \$1,740 to Langley Hill Friends Meeting House to assist in resettlement of Syrian refugee family.

February: Raised \$1,936 covered two scholarships for girls at Hope & Resurrection Secondary School in South Sudan and contributed to the first half year’s salary for girls’ dorm matron and English teacher, Mary Mahindo.

March: \$1,235 will support the community dinners at Tubman’s Academic Nights for the 2016/2017 school year.

April: Raised \$1,130 for scholarships for ASP participants; left-over funds to be given to the Wyoming County ASP program.

May: \$835 was raised for the Easter Seals Child Development Centers of DC/MD/VA to provide scholarships for eligible children. This was a project of the senior youth.

June: No Mustard Seed was collected due to special requests for St. Alban’s Day and Ron Hicks’ retirement.

July: \$2,495 went to Langley Hill Friends Meeting’s Syrian refugee assistance fund.

August: ERD received \$1,260 for flood relief for Louisiana.

September: \$1,615 will support scholarships for children attending St. Saviour’s School in Zarka, Jordan.

October: \$1400 will go to buy Chrome Books for the Episcopal Center for Children.

November: The \$1245 will go to ERD’s Hurricane Matthew relief fund and will be matched by a challenge grant.

December:

**Senior Warden Report to the Vestry
December 20, 2016**



For three of the last five weeks, I've been away with Tom on a long-planned adventure in Patagonia, Buenos Aires, and Iguazu Falls – a wonderful and astonishing experience! – but with enough email connectivity to stay in touch on Vestry business. Otherwise, I've been mainly engaged in working with Geoffrey in preparation for his arrival, in addressing Debbie Kirk's contract extension, in supporting the Stewardship Campaign, and in financial and other Executive Committee work. In addition:

Youth Program – I'm overjoyed to echo Emily's expression of gratitude to Tricia Pinkard for taking on the management of administrative duties supporting the Youth Program, as well as to Kristie Hassett and Noell Sottile for continuing their leadership in supporting Emily. These, together with the youth and their parents, themselves, have enabled us to sustain the Youth Program for the first part of the year, enabling the Vestry and our new Priest-in-Charge to make the right decisions about how to best sustain it on a long-term basis.

Appreciation of Clergy and Staff – To state the obvious: on behalf of the Vestry, I want to specifically note the extraordinary dedication and Spirit-driven leadership being exercised by Jim and Emily in tending to our Parish community during this interim period. Also, the tremendous initiative and commitment of Charles Porter in handling so many myriad duties adeptly and with grace and unfailing good nature. And Doug's continuing steadfastness in so expertly managing our ever-shifting finances and their proper stewardship. And Debbie's energetic and skillful commitment to the Spanish-language Eucharist community. And Jo's profoundly prophetic and healing ministry to our Parish, both as a whole and as a family of individual souls. And David's boundless wisdom and generosity in supporting so many aspects of our community life. And Justin's sublime gifts of music and song that so enrich our common worship. And Laura's outstanding ministry to the Opportunity Shop's vision, volunteers, donors, and customers. And, not least, the many many members of our Parish who give so lavishly of their time, talent, treasure, and love to sustain this faith-family. We are, indeed, richly blessed

Change in Vestry Meeting Dates and Location – We'll be changing the location of our regular Vestry meetings to Room 301 in Satterlee Hall (the large room off the balcony above Trenbath Assembly). It's a much more congenial meeting space than Nourse Hall, with far better acoustics, and is large enough to accommodate observers without dwarfing us. Because Trenbath is used by the Choral Arts Society on Tuesday evenings, the Vestry members and clergy have agreed we'll meet on the third Wednesdays of each month, with the usual pizza and fellowship at 6 pm and the meeting convening at 6:30 pm. The dates for our regular meetings for the remainder of this Vestry's term are as follows (including, as a reminder, the names of those assigned to lead opening prayer):

- January 18** (opening prayer: Andrea)
- February 15 *** (opening prayer: Julie)
- March 15 *** (opening prayer: Marcus)
- April 19** (opening prayer: Sandy)
- May 17** (opening prayer: Rich)

[* Note: because February and March begin on Wednesday, our meeting is the week before the originally-scheduled date.]

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Ingersoll