

ANNUAL  
MEETING

REPORTS  
FOR  
2018

## Grace Episcopal Church

Elmira, New York

Grace Episcopal Church  
153<sup>rd</sup>. Annual meeting  
Sunday, January 28, 2018

Number attending: 33

Presiding: Calvin Barnstead, Senior Warden

Opening prayer was led by the Reverend Kit Tobin, our Parish Priest.

The Reverend Tobin, in brief remarks, reminded the attendees that Grace has done an amazing job dealing with all the hurdles that have come as we are in the middle of change and transition.

**Appointment of Clerk:** Mary Jane Belinky was appointed clerk.

**Remarks by the Senior Warden:** Calvin Barnstead thanked the many, many people who have contributed so much in the past year: Carl Vallely, the Treasurer; Elli Haber and Liz Haralson as they step down from the Vestry; Mother Kit, Mary Jane Belinky, Judy Welliver (for all her efforts in the kitchen), Chris Jansen, our sexton; Ian Adkins for his endeavors on behalf of Christian education; Barbara Brownrigg for the Community Kitchen, the rummage sale ministry, and Altar Guild; Ira Heyward for his work with Second Place East and his musical contributions; Betsy Sentigar for Centering Prayer; Elli Haber for pastoral care and Centering Prayer; Marian Ruddy for her work on the rummage sale and prayer shawls; Deb Todd and Michele Sanford for their service to the altar; Julia Heyward for UTO; Liz Haralson for organizing fellowship activities; Brenda Barnstead, in charge of fund-raising; Pam Draper, our bookkeeper; Alan DeWolfe as head usher; Jim Baker for support in so many areas; and all who volunteered to put together Race with Grace.

Thank you also to the many parishioners who have stayed on course, remained positive, and continued to be supportive to Grace as we move through the transitions that have occurred.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Ian Adkins moved to accept the agenda as written; Laura Adkins seconded. The agenda approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Barbara Brownrigg corrected the spelling of the word “intern” to “interim”. William Palmer moved to approve the amended minutes; Judy Welliver seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Balloting:** There was an uncontested slate of candidates; the Senior Warden directed the clerk to vote the ballot. The ballot was approved. Calvin Barnstead will serve a one-year term as Senior Warden; Alan DeWolfe will serve a three-year term on Vestry.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The budget is out of balance. It costs \$100.00/person/per week just to meet expenses. We are running out of things to cut. This will be a very challenging year!

A parishioner commented that our assessment to the Diocese seems excessive. The response – our assessment is based on a three-year rolling average of income. Utilizing income from our investments to maintain operations increases our overall income and, therefore, our assessment. In addition, the grant from New York State counted as income. Requests to the Diocese for forbearance on the assessment have been unsuccessful.

A parishioner wondered what would happen if we just said no to paying our assessment. The Diocese will not recognize us as a church if we do not pay the assessment.

A parishioner asked how much we are taking from our investment; the Treasurer did not have the figures off the top of his head.

Calvin Barnstead plans to talk to the Diocese about our assessment. Questions around this followed: how long can we manage if we continue to draw additional income from our investment accounts – possibly 7 years. Could we go to donors? Could we ask for a variance?

**Vestry Report:** See Wardens' Report on the last page of the meeting bulletin.

In addition, all repairs done in 2017 were paid through capital funds; repairs were made to the narthex, the parking lot and sidewalks, as well as the windows above the great doors. The annex repairs will be done in the spring.

A security system, with card swipe monitoring on the back door, will be installed in March.

Carol Drake pointed out that the expenditures from capital funds count as income.

The Vestry anticipates the placement of a long-term transition priest in the next year. This clergy will be able to assist Grace in the search for a settled clergy. This will be led by the Vestry.

**Ministry Reports:** Presented as written in the meeting bulletin

### **Questions and Discussion:**

- Definition of transition priest
- Where are we in the process of calling a long-term priest
- A transition priest will help us define who we are
- When is the next visit by the Bishop - the visits are on a three-year cycle; the Bishop was last here in 2017.
- Grace needs to foster an environment that makes others want to join us
- We are the “they”
- The revitalization of Grace Church is just around the corner....we just have to go out and get it
- Please join us at fellowship breakfasts
- Clarification of “whispers” – especially that Fr. Matthews will be rejoining Grace Church very soon. The Senior Warden read a paragraph from a document entitled “Covenant of Understanding Upon the Departure of Clergy”, which makes it clear that departing clergy and their family will be absent from the congregation for a minimum of one year following the arrival of new settled clergy.
- Some attendees indicated they feel uninformed about what is happening with Grace. The Senior Warden commented that he is always available after the 8 o'clock service to talk with people. He also provided his cell phone number and encouraged people to contact him and Vestry members with questions and concerns.
- The Wardens and Vestry might present an update at the monthly fellowship breakfast.
- Wardens' report in each Grace Notes
- Quarterly parish meeting – the Senior Warden will talk to the Vestry – mid-to-late April
- Given the state of our finances, Grace Church cannot continue to do all the things we have traditionally done ; choose what we CAN do and what we CANNOT do

- Look at music as a fellowship and a fundraiser
- More openness about where and how we are spending money
- Little ‘informal’ communication; the Senior Warden feels that communication is a two-way street; too much happens in a day that just cannot be re-capped all the time. The parish elected the Vestry to make decisions.
- Much we can do to improve our image in the community; Grace is been seen as a wealthy church, not as a church in need.
- Room for more outreach
- Grace can broaden its base of music
- Grace could have an “open” organ
- Need to monetize our physical plant
- Why four services on Ash Wednesday – we need to be practical.
  - At least three services are traditional in most Episcopal churches.
- The church cannot be totally practical, but we need to be talking to each other about what is important
- We need to be talking to those who have left; several parishioners volunteered to make those phone calls. The Vestry will discuss this at a planning meeting and will determine a ‘calling committee’>
- Pray for the church.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Belinky  
Meeting Clerk

# —From the Priest-in-Charge—

**GRACE TO YOU**, and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

As most of you know, I have been deployed to Grace Church, half-time, for a term of one year—May 6 through May 5—to let the dust settle on some trauma and help Vestry resolve some issues about your future. As I warned, I don't come to baby-sit. My job is to make an assessment of where you are and how you got there; mid-wife a response from you; and have you make a decision about your future for which you will take responsibility. When the job is done, so am I.

I try to be as transparent as possible about my work. To that end:

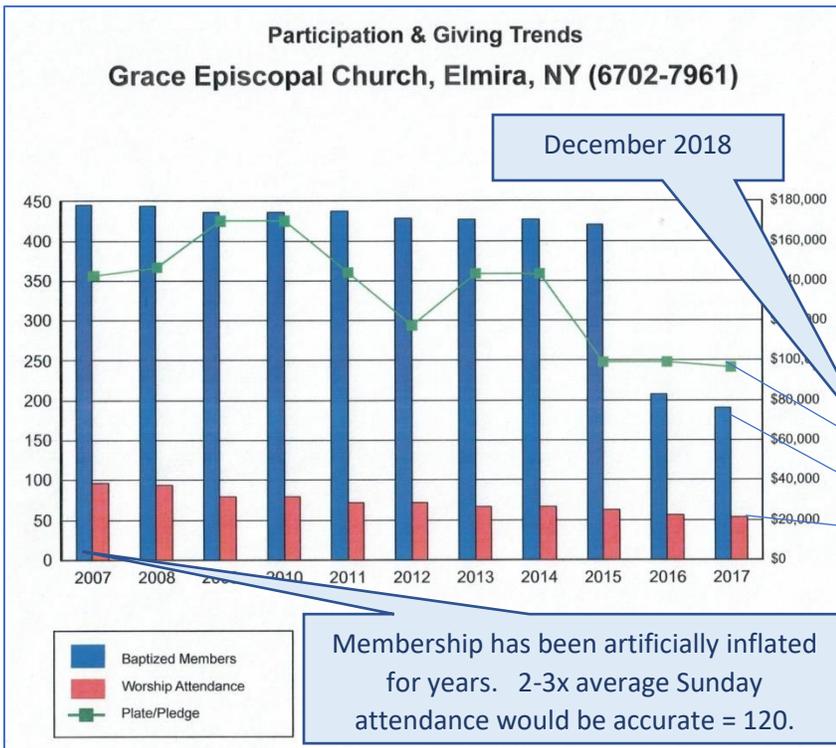
- Please know that all Vestry meetings continue to be open to the congregation. Of late, we have had as many as a dozen communicants—in addition to elected Vestry members—at Vestry meetings and the parish has benefited greatly by their wisdom and witness.
- All working papers have been made available to the congregation, both on tables in Welliver Hall and on the parish website.
- This includes the “mid-term assessment” issued in October. It has been widely distributed and copies are available today. It should be read together with this report as one document.

In my work with vestry, there have been three areas of concern.

## 1. Participation and Giving Trends

**Grace Church has contracted significantly over the last decade.** Currently, your

2018 average Sunday attendance is around 34 (60% drop since 2005). Your 2018 income looks to be around \$76,000.



Grace is drawing down increasing amounts of its cash reserves. At the present rate of cash burn, it will run out of money in six years.

These problems are not unique to Grace, the Diocese of Central New York, The Episcopal Church, or traditional churches nationwide. Nor, is the trend going away.

2018 Grace Church Income vs Budget



As I have told the congregation in sermons, we are experiencing the “end of the world” in the American Episcopal Church as we have known it. We are faced with a tsunami of change<sup>1</sup> in our culture which we did not cause, cannot avoid, and little understand.

Like our corporate and factory jobs, the church’s glory days of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s are not coming back. Generation Xers and Millennials generally uninterested in traditional churches. Even the revered Baby-boomers are increasingly “done” with us.<sup>2</sup>

Across denominations, the life expectancy of a church is 70 years without a major

Grace Church Projected Principle Drawdown



revisioning; seven out of ten suburban churches built in the post war 1950s and 60s will close by the end of this decade. Downtown churches are victims of urban renewal which have taken their neighborhoods. Like family businesses and family fortunes,

without a radical repurposing and redevelopment, American churches do not survive many generations from their origin. Grace was overdue; the delay and denial has come at a cost.

The story of declining churches is the story of the dinosaurs. We lumber along into decline, incased in a shell of presumed biological necessity, maladaptive, reptilian brain programmed by past precedent and unexamined instinct. Left unchallenged, the outcome is predicable. Grace is not alone. Nor, can you take the decline personally. Nevertheless...

<sup>1</sup> *Tsunami of Change* language I owe to The Rev. Mark Beckwith (Newark).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2015/summer-2015/meet-dones.html> The Rt. Rev. Stephen Lane (Maine) is more emphatic: “They are **done** with church because their children are gone; **done** because they have been swept up in the rising tide of secularism; **done** because of conflict perhaps they themselves started; tried to prevent, or otherwise got caught up in; **done** because of the ‘killer bees’ (buildings, budgets, boilers, brass, bulletins, blame, burnout...)”

## **2. Grace Church's Future**

**My submission to your Vestry is that Grace's self-concept and business plan is not sustainable.**<sup>3</sup> Vestry has had some choices in how to respond. These choices are laid out in a document "Facing Significant Decline in Your Congregation."<sup>4</sup>

Certainly, there are those at Grace that did not, and do not now, accept my assessment; they believe Grace can recover its past glory as a regional Anglo-Catholic temple. Some say that they have heard of impending demise for years and it has not happened yet; things go in cycles, and this too will pass. In the meantime, we can hunker down, shrink budgets and have a few more fundraisers, and hope for better times.

There are those who believe that Grace can be saved by turning the calendar back to 1994, and reenacting the old rituals, patterns, and events. There are those who believe Grace can be saved by calling the right Rector, singing the right music, praying the right liturgy, adopting the right budget, convincing those who have left to return.

However, as I stated in the Mid-Term Assessment, I see no credible path for Grace Church to survive in its old form. I do see two Christian choices for those who have the courage to live them out:

- Death. In God's creation, when a gene has fully expressed itself and can no longer adapt to a changing environment: it dies. And, as Christians, we believe that from death comes new life. Sometimes, we just naturally reach the end. Dying things need to die. The goal is not to see our death as a failure, but to let it liberate us to truly live. I have seen churches (and people) who have accepted the reality of their impending death several years down the line, but have used their circumstances to truly live out the gospel and enact the mission of God—perhaps for the first time in their lives. Some have thus survived far beyond their expected expiration date. Others died on schedule in peace. Both lived and died in a state of grace.
- A radical revisioning of who we are. St. Paul teaches in his First Letter to the Church in Corinth: *We shall not all die, but we shall be changed.*<sup>5</sup> Perhaps, if we cannot yet accept our death, we can accept to need for redemption. Sometimes we just get it wrong. Sometimes the resistance we encounter to our old plans is God calling us to return to God's Plan. The history of God's People **does** run in a cycle, but the biblical cycle is *Creation, Sin, Judgement, and Redemption*. If we are supposed to be something other than who we are, to do something other than what we are doing, it would seem like this smart thing to do would be to accept God's judgement and allow God to change us.

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<sup>3</sup> Grace Church Mid-term Assessment, line 314,

<sup>4</sup> We will have some copies available, but you can download it at:

<https://nebula.wsimg.com/bf60e745437a8cc02bd3f6372c7f0a49?AccessKeyId=604FC0AF353AFC216682&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

<sup>5</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:51

Christianity has always been about death and resurrection, sin and redemption. For those who do not accept either death nor change, as a Christian priest I have little to offer.

### **3. Maintenance vs Mission**

The late management guru Peter Drucker brought church boards to their knees with one question: “What business are you in?” Churches who have a clear understanding of why they exist—who they are, what business they are in—can most easily figure out what to do and how to do it. Churches who are confused wander in the desert and die a painful death. Vestry has had to figure out what business Grace Church is in. There is a lot of confusion, so let me be clear.

*There is nothing wrong* with being a historical society to maintain the beauty of Grace Church and its peculiar religious culture and accoutrements. *There is nothing wrong* with being a religious society or fraternal organization to offer a place to worship and celebrate life events: births, marriages, deaths. *There is nothing wrong* with being a civic service organization that does good deeds in the community. If Grace wants to do these things, then it should marshal its dwindling resources to re-organize and execute accordingly. Decisions about where to focus, how to deploy resources, and who to hire as staff and clergy will follow easily.

But if Grace wants to be the Church—the sacramental manifestation of the risen Lord—to enact God’s mission for the redemption of the world; then that is a very different understanding of why we are here and how we order our lives together. Museums enshrine beauty, the beloved community lives beauty; Jesus never asks for our worship, he asks us to follow him; Rotary and Lion’s Clubs do good works in the world; Eucharistic community recognizes that people around us are the very incarnation of Christ and respond accordingly. These understandings would drive our understandings about where to focus, how to use our resources, what programs to implement, and who to hire as staff and clergy.

Vestry has had to wrestle with whether Grace is here to maintain an institution, or to do the Mission of God. At the 17 December meeting they passed the following resolution and forwarded it to The Rev. Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Canon for Transition and Church Development:

Be it so resolved that after further consideration and discussion, this vestry reaffirms the intention stated to the Rev. Canon Carrie Scholfield-Broadbent on 11/19/2018, to wit:

- we would like diocesan assistance in helping us call a priest to a full-time position at Grace Church
- the primary skill sets being church planting and community development
- the primary goals to be to reorient us to mission and ministry to the community
- we pledge the financial resources for a minimum 5-year term
- and to provide Canon Schofield-Broadbent with the necessary materials before her presentation at Transitional Ministry Conference in March 2019.

In other words, Vestry has decided to take the remaining financial resources and bet it all: “Grace will make God’s love known by active ministry in the community in which God has placed us.”<sup>6</sup> Grace will call a full-time priest to lead the congregation to that end. The primary skill sets sought will be church planting and community development.

### **So, What Happens Next?**

This is the way the process works in the Diocese of Central New York in 2019.

1. Vestry issues a simple statement about Grace’s mission and purpose. What business are we in? If you don’t know what you are trying to do, you can’t find a leader to help you. [December, January]
2. Materials describing who we are and what we wish to accomplish are integrated into our website and forwarded to Canon Carrie. [February]
3. Canon Carrie takes our material to Transitional Ministry Conference where it is traded with Transition Officers from across the country who bring both positions and candidates for presentation. [March]
4. With any luck, she will receive a handful of recommended and vetted names from other Transition Officers. She will contact those clergy, continuing to talk, vet, exchange information and check references until she is confident of a reasonable match. [April]
5. She will present well qualified, properly skilled, fully vetted candidates to Vestry to interview. [April-May]

### **Talk, Talk, Talk. Nothing gets done.**

I suppose that depends on what you want done. From my perspective, since May, Grace has:

- Reduced its level of melodrama and the resulting exhaustion and toxicity. As one parishioner reflected, “It’s safe to come to church again.”
- Consolidated into a single Sunday congregation with accessible music and liturgy appropriate to its size and within denominational mainstream.
  - And hired a fantastic organist choirmaster in the process!
  - There is even a tiny volunteer choir.
- Begun two ministry initiatives into the community and reconnected a third with its source:
  - A monthly neighborhood lunch combined with its already successful rummage sale.
  - A partnership with The Transformation Center to provide music lessons for children enrolled in their after-school program.
  - Formalized an existing craft fellowship into a ministry partnership with Seaman’s Church Institute.

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<sup>6</sup> Mission statement approved by Vestry on January 21, 2019.

- Tightened, streamlined or eliminated several administrative processes.
  - Better controls and accounting on financial distributions.
  - The current “parish administrator” is a 3 day per week outside contingency worker from an agency. We continue to evaluate what is really needed in this position going forward.
- Upgraded building security.
- Returned to audit compliance with Episcopal Church standards. [ongoing]
- Returned ministry functions to compliance with Episcopal Church Canons.
- Joined the diocese in the “Learning Communities” initiative, giving us continuing outside ideas, support, and direction. We are not alone.
- Opened up governing processes to anyone who makes the commitment to participate, take responsibility, and learn. Increased transparency of vestry process.
- Completed vital physical plant maintenance and upgrades too numerous to mention.
- There seems a move away from factions who try to “outvote” or “out argue” each other to a sense of shared destiny. Decisions seem less about personal preferences and more about what is in the best interest of Grace as a whole. This has come a long way from my first coffee hour meeting when we were trying to plan summer worship.

And it hasn't been a year, yet. We still have Lent and Easter ahead of us. There is a lot that remains to be done.

For those who support this effort, I give you my gratitude for the honor of doing God's work among you. For those offended by my presence and style, I give you hope that when the flowers bloom in the Spring, I will be gone.

I give glory to God in thanksgiving for all the hands that work in this place, and all the prayers that are offered for its ministry.

I give Glory to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask of imagine. Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. —*Ephesians 3:20-21*

*Doc +*  
Annual Parish Meeting, 2019

## **ALTAR GUILD**

Altar Guild is a ‘behind the scenes’ ministry, responsible for the care and preparation of the vessels, linens, and priest’s vestments used during services and the Holy Eucharist. Twice a year, members meet to polish and refurbish the silver and brass used on the altars and throughout the church. Altar Guild members work in teams and are on duty for a month at a time. New members are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Barbara Brownrigg & Mary Jane Belinky*

## **Annual Report for the Music Program of Grace Church, Elmira, NY**

Grace's music program is in a state of transition and, like elsewhere in the parish, we are working diligently to determine our future direction. When I became the parish musician in May, there was 1 person in the choir, valiantly holding on in hopes of brighter days. We ended the year with 7 dedicated members who never miss rehearsals or Sundays unless they are sick or out of town. There are no paid soloists – our singers are “amateurs,” which means they participate because they love to sing. This diligence and love of music has created tremendous growth in musicianship and confidence in their own abilities. We work hard in our ministry, but we also have fun together. We are a family.

Still, it is very difficult to sustain a choir of only 7 members. 2 of those head south for the winter, and 1 splits his time between Elmira and Virginia. While I hope the choir will continue to grow, I am concerned about its longevity if we do not welcome new members. Plans for 2019 include a musical outreach, inviting local children to “Wednesdays at Grace” for piano and music lessons, and special music presented by our choir throughout the year.

*Nancy Saultz Radloff, D.M.A.  
Organist & Choirmaster*

## **Parish Annual Report 2018**

### **Rummage Sale Summary**

The year's total rummage sale proceeds of \$4815 exceeded the budgeted expectation of \$4200. We continue to assist our neighbors by providing low cost clothing and household goods. A small group of dedicated workers meets every Tuesday morning at nine for coffee and fellowship followed by sorting, pricing and staging items for the annex. We continue to be grateful for your donated items. Volunteers are always welcome for this important ministry which creates a transition to the monthly free community lunch.

### **Monthly Free Community Lunch:**

Last June the parish began providing hot meals following the monthly rummage sale. In the warm weather we have cookouts and during colder months hot meals cooked indoors. The attendance averages 50 guests who are appreciative of good, nutritious freshly prepared meals. In addition to these events Grace Church has joined with our sister parishes, Trinity, Emanuel and St. Matthew's to provide quarterly hot meals at rotating sites. Thank you to all the shoppers, cooks, servers and clean-up crews for these events. If you are interested in assisting with these meals please leave a message for me at 734-9880.

Respectfully submitted;  
*Barbara Brownrigg*

## Warden and Vestry Report

2018 proved to be another busy and challenging year for the vestry. We began our year searching for a priest, as the next step of our transition, placing Reverend Whitaker in that position, the first of May. The vestry oversaw the monks dinner that was hosted in the spring. We focused on church security in early spring after several building break-ins. A full security system was installed allowing for the monitoring of the church 24/7 by cameras and an alarm system. This system was put to the test several times over the past few months with several break-ins. Minimal damage occurred as a result of the alarm, frightening intruders out. In early spring, we awarded a contract for the annex repairs. These repairs were completed by early summer and will effectively secure the building for years to come. With the adoption of new office hours, the decision was made to put a mail drop box in the front door, which was donated by a parish member allowing for consistent mail delivery. We also purchased a new safe as the old one was at a point of non-repair.

The focus of the vestry this year was assessing and readjusting to needed changes and developing a new sense of direction for the parish. Grace started hosting monthly free community luncheons the first Saturday of each month, in coordination with the monthly rummage sale. This started in April and continue to be successful. We serve, on an average, 50-75 people each month. We also continue to be active members of The Elmira Episcopal Church Group, which meet monthly to share ideas and concerns and work collaboratively to put on a joint community luncheon once each quarter. These also are received well feeding an average of 75-100 each time.

Planning and collaborating took place in a successful launch of an after-school program at Grace. The first step of this program in December, offering free piano lessons for children interested. We have worked in partnership with the Transition Center, down the street, for this part of the program. Discussions continue to take place for continued growth and development of the program, to include other aspects in the coming months.

We hosted a Jazz Festival this year attended by many. A wonderful evening of food, music, and great fellowship with those in attendance. The profits from this event are helping to cover the costs of the after-school program.

We are working with the diocese in the process of calling our next priest. Reverend Whitaker's last day is May 5. The vestry has developed a revised mission statement to determine our requirements for the next Priest. A committee will be established to interview provided candidates from the diocese for this position. We will be looking for a priest that will be able to help direct Grace on its mission of community outreach while maintaining a balance of church as we have become to know over the last few months; one that is rich with some traditions and open to change for the betterment of others.

Respectfully submitted:  
Calvin Barnstead  
James Baker  
Wardens Grace Church Elmira  
1/27/2019

## **St. Vincent's Guild**

**St. Vincent's Guild** is a group in the Episcopal Church that comprises all lay persons who serve at the altar. Most commonly, this group includes acolytes, readers, and Eucharistic Ministers. For many years St. Vincent's Guild at Grace, Elmira had numerous members who were guided by a "high" (quite formal) hand. As parish membership has changed considerably, so too has St. Vincent's Guild. With a single mass on Sunday and a small parish family, just a handful of persons serve regularly as acolytes, readers and Eucharistic Ministers. Deb Todd leads the group now; we are reverential but informal, and very proud to serve.

I sincerely appreciate service of the few who step-forward every Sunday, and for holiday and funeral services also. I am grateful to church members who on very short notice will read during services. 2018 was certainly a transitional year for so many who love Grace Church. I heartily extend an invitation here, to all individuals who will stand beside us at the altar, to join the ranks of St. Vincent's Guild in 2019.

Respectfully,  
Deb Todd

## **The Friends of Second Place East, Inc**

The Friends of Second Place East, Inc. (SPE hereafter) is an inter-denominational group forged some 20 years ago to address needs of people facing homelessness in Chemung County. Grace Church Elmira was a founding member of SPE.

The ways SPE provides service has evolved over the years; extraordinary support from multiple church families has not wavered. Each parish-member of SPE sends a church member to the organization's Board. The SPE Board coordinates services (in conjunction with Catholic Charities,) and individual Board members report back to their home church.

The on-going, visible means of support Grace and all member churches provide is in the form of donations of home-establishing goods. From cleaning supplies to pots-and-pans to toiletries, each church is "assigned" a category of giving, and impressive "home-starter" kits are assembled and distributed. SPE Board itself collects new supplies, assembles kits, and work from a shop to distribute to individuals and families who have been referred by Social Services or another group.

SPE has a record and reputation of providing critically-needed services to some of the most vulnerable children, women and men in our community. Grace Church helps the cause. Please look in Sunday bulletins for information about what's collected, or ask Ira Heyward. Bring just small amounts to church...the rewards are immeasurable.

Respectfully,  
Deb Todd & Ira Heyward

## **From Start to Finish**

This is a craft group meeting once a week at Grace Church. The group concentrates on knitting caps and scarves for The Seaman's Church Institute (an ecumenical ministry of the Episcopal Church) to go to seafarers and merchant sailors. The group took a road trip in December to Port Newark to deliver our knit items, as well as toiletries, puzzles, pens, paper, popcorn, and other supplies for the seaman. We were warmly welcomed, toured the facility, spoke at length with a seaman from the Philippines who supports his large extended family with his work. We packed 150 "Ditty Bags" for the Christmas at Sea project and picked up new patterns and ideas. We left knowing something worth was being done.

The group also works on prayer shawl, quilting and other "clean out your closet" ministries.

—Peggy Chaffee

# Treasurer's Report

## 2018 in Review

2018 presented many challenges as we worked through a period of uncertainty with respect to clergy. We had anticipated low offerings and guests income and we were pleasantly surprised to have exceeded that budget item by almost 12 percent.

Our investment portfolios enjoyed a strong first half of the year, only to give it all back in the fourth quarter. We did need to access investment funds but to a much lesser degree than projected.

Expenses for the year were lower than budget, but only by about 3 percent. Utilities and clergy cost exceeded budget while most other costs were at budget or lower.

Looking to this year we are still challenged to do more with less. If we are to call a new priest, our salary and benefits costs will rise. Hopefully support from the parish will grow also. We are facing many challenges, not the least of them financial but we will strive to meet them.

Respectfully submitted  
Carl Vallely  
Treasurer

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### **Budget 2019**

#### **Income**

Offerings and guests	\$87,272
Rummage Sale	4,750
Building fees	500
Fund Income	37,133
Music Fund	2,897
Altar Guild	1,150
Investments	<u>35,547</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$169,249

#### **Expense**

Diocesan Assessment	\$25,181
Wages and Salaries	88,000
Benefits	11,899
Church Expenses	
Utilities	\$18,269
Maintenance	4,000
Insurance	7,500
	29,769
Ministry Programs	2,500
Administrative and Office	<u>11,900</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$169,249