

Sr. Warden's Report: January 2015 Faye Jacobson

St. David's has had another active year.

We had a group go to Panama for the final time as a part of Project Panama. There was an Altar Guild Brunch, a Lenten study group with several options for participation. Vance organized another Shrove Tuesday Pancake Super that was well attended and a great success.

Parishioners were given an opportunity to participate in the selection of our new Diocesan Bishop through an online or pencil and paper survey.

Jim Bowles and Jake Jacobson used their wood working skills to build our beautiful new cabinet for the Parish Hall.

Steve Steinbrueck and his crew of volunteers conducted two very successful wine tasting fund raisers while Alice Mason and Donna Ross had a large Yard Sale.

Safeguarding God's Children Training was offered at St. David's in April and was well attended. Kendra Graham, one of our child care workers, attended and was an active participant. She has done a wonderful job working with our children. People who could not attend the Saturday workshop are encouraged to complete the training online.

Nancie Wilson and Alice Mason's Blessing Service and the feast and celebration that followed was a joyful occasion for all of us.

A group of volunteers did the dirty work of cleaning out the Canterbury House in anticipation of the final sale.

A large number of our members participated in the first ever Soles for Sole Hope – cutting shoe soles from old jeans – recycling and reusing.

We had volunteers who arranged flowers and decorated our church for Easter, and much of the Parish participated in Greening the church for Christmas.

On a sad note we lost three members of our church family. Joanne Cleary, Charles Rush and Phyllis Hulbert will be greatly missed. We also had sickness and accidents and we provided food, transportation and whatever else was needed. Jim, Jake and Vance even built a wheelchair ramp. What a multi-talented group of people we have in our church family and everyone is always willing to help others.

Michael continued his Monthly Mindfulness Group and Chad his yoga classes.

North Carolina's own Bishop Michael Curry was elected as Presiding Bishop.

Individual members not only made all of these church events possible but also continue to volunteer for numerous community groups in both Jackson and Macon Counties.

Our children are such a delightful addition to all that goes on at St. David's. With Wesley's leadership they have continued the Rice and Beans Ministry. They take part in Sunday School, coffee hour, planned a St. Lucy's Day event, participated in Bible School with the Methodist Church and end our service each Sunday with their joyful noise.

Vestry:

It was also a busy year for the Vestry. With the generous help of the parish we set up a fund for Camp Henry Scholarships and developed guidelines.

By unanimous vote of the Vestry our playground has been named Jo's Playground in honor of Joanne Cleary who was a great advocate for all children and instrumental in getting the playground as an integral part of the new parish hall plan. Jody, Michael and I are still looking for just the right plaque to be placed near the entrance.

We continued our support of 5 Jackson County charities and 1 charity in Macon County. Each group was given \$500.00. We also voted to write a letter of support for Neighbors in Need to be included in their application for a Diocesan Grant. Neighbors in Need is also one of the charities we support each year.

There has been much discussion since we moved into the new Parish hall about the acoustics. Margot agreed to research the subject. She met with 3 consultants and a recording engineer from Western was selected to do the work. The Vestry approved the expenditure for the system that is now in place. Margot and Maggie Bowles have also explored obtaining Roman shades for each of the windows to further absorb sound. That, however, is a project for the future.

Early in the year Margot placed an ad in the Coracle for a new Treasurer. Margot has been Treasurer at St. David's for many years and is now ready to retire. Betty Lynn retired as Assistant Treasurer earlier in the year and Bill is currently serving in her place. We thank all three of them for their service.

The Vestry spent much of the year exploring options for a new Treasurer. An insured and bonded bookkeeper seemed to be the best solution. We also began the development of policies for a Finance Committee that would be responsible for in-house duties of the Treasurer, coordinate with the Bookkeeper while reporting directly to the Vestry. Bill Kirwan and Margot contributed many practical and necessary suggestions for this process. Given the serious pledge shortfall we did not move forward to the hiring process. This will be a task for the 2016 Vestry.

Margot's job has grown well beyond the actual duties of a church treasurer and we were also working on resolving those issues.

The wonderful news of the year came in December when the Canterbury House actually closed and the Jackson Savings Loan is paid in full. Many thanks to Newt, Bill Kirwan, and Vance who played a part in the final push to get this concluded.

The new Vestry faces many challenges including monetary shortfall and the final building phase for our Parish Hall. I thank them in advance for all the work they are about to do!

Faye Jacobson
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