

SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL



MISSION STATEMENT

To share Christ's life-changing love with all people, invite and welcome them into the Body of Christ, and equip them for worship, ministry, and service.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MISSION

The Rt. Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Assisting Bishop of San Diego

Sunday, January 27, 2019 ✕ Following the 10:15 am service

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AGENDA
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MISSION
St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church and School
Temecula, California
January 27, 2019

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| 1. | CALL TO ORDER | Fr. Timothy True |
| 2. | INVOCATION | Fr. Timothy True |
| 3. | APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of
The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Mission (<i>See page <4></i>) | Fr. Timothy True |
| 4. | NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:
a. Bishop's Committee Members: three, 3-year terms
1) Delegates and Alternates to the November 2019 Diocesan Convention
2) Senior Warden (Delegate 1)
3) Junior Warden (Delegate 2)
4) Delegate 3
5) Alternate 1
6) Alternate 2
7) Alternate 3 | |
| 5. | ELECTION | Fr. Timothy True |
| 6. | BLESSING/LUNCH | Fr. Timothy True |
| 7. | RECOGNITION OF GOD'S SERVANTS | Fr. Timothy True |
| 8. | PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS
a. Financial Report
b. Senior Warden
c. Junior Warden | Fr. Timothy True
Brian Hopley and Lynn Dordahl
John Crawford
Jon Floth |
| 9. | VICAR'S REPORT to the MISSION | Fr. Timothy True |
| 10. | BENEDICTION | Fr. Timothy True |

Thank you all for being here today.

MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MISSION
SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA
Sunday, January 28, 2018

CALLED TO ORDER

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Mission of Saint Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church, Temecula, California, was called to order in Julian of Norwich Hall on the above date at 11:37 AM.

INVOCATION

The Reverend Timothy True, Vicar, opened the meeting with a prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Peter Mandery called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting. A motion was made by Jack Bundy and seconded by Phil Mihok to approve the minutes; the motion carried.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Peter Mandery, Senior Warden, received nominations for three candidates to serve on the Bishop's Committee: Virginia Patton, Tom Reid, and Frank Rojas, each to serve a three year term. There was a call for nominees to the Bishop's Committee from the floor; no new nominees came forward.

Fr. Tim passed out a sheet of biographies for nominees for the Bishop's Committee and for delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention. The delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention will also vote on the next Bishop of the San Diego Diocese.

Fr. Tim announced that the Senior Warden and Junior Warden will automatically be delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention from St. Thomas of Canterbury. For the remaining delegate, the following four members of the congregation were nominated: Tess Crawford, Bill Liesman, Jenny Shreve, and Holly True. There was a call for nominees to serve as delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention; no new nominees came forward.

Phil Mihok moved to close nominations; Ed Rather seconded the motion; the motion carried.

ELECTION

Pat Grannan moved to approve the slate of nominees for the Bishop's Committee and to elect the three candidates for the three positions by acclamation; John Crawford seconded the motion; the motion carried. Members running for the Bishop's committee were introduced. By acclamation vote, the three new Bishop's Committee members serving three year terms are: Virginia Patton, Tom Reid, and Frank Rojas.

The four candidates for delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention were introduced. Voting took place by writing the name of the one candidate of choice on a piece of paper.

LUNCH

Fr. Tim offered grace before lunch. Members of the congregation enjoyed a potluck luncheon, organized by W.O.W. (Women of Worth).

RECOGNITION OF GOD'S SERVANTS

Fr. Tim first recognized the St. Thomas of Canterbury School for their service. He introduced Darlene Karnes-Versteegh, school director, who, in turn, introduced the staff of the school. Cary "Klip" Klippert, liaison to the school, added that the school, while being first and foremost a ministry, also contributes \$9,000/month toward the church mortgage payment. He complimented Darlene on the increase in enrollment since her arrival two and a half years ago, which is now up to 80+ from the 40+ students when she started.

Fr. Tim honored Barbara Bundy and Judy Pellam for their service to St. Thomas. Barbara served as volunteer administrative assistant to the Vicar for the past three years and also served as the clerk of the Bishop's Committee for the past three years; Judy served as an office volunteer, office volunteer coordinator, and ministry coordinator for many years. Both were presented with flowers and cards of thanks from the Bishop's Committee and the congregation.

Fr. Tim recognized all the members of the Bishop's Committee, those continuing, those who are newly elected, and those who are outgoing. Fr. Tim presented outgoing Bishop's Committee members, Jack Bundy, Irene Eisenhut, and Virginia Patton (who is both outgoing for completing a one year team and newly elected for a new three-year term) with pins. Fr. Tim recognized and thanked Peter Mandery for his five years of service as Senior Warden. The congregation responded with a standing ovation of appreciation for Peter's dedicated service. He was presented with a plant and cards of thanks from the Bishop's Committee and the congregation.

Jack Bundy, Bishop's Committee member for Fellowship and Hospitality, thanked Judy Pellam and Peter & Deniece Mandery for their years of service to the Coffee Team as they now step down. Jack presented each with a small gift of appreciation.

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Election Results – Fr. Tim

Fr. Tim announced the results of the election of the delegated to the 2018 Diocesan Convention: Holly True was elected to be the delegate to the 2018 Diocesan Convention; alternates, in order, are: Bill Liesman, Tess Crawford, and Jenny Shreve.

Financial Report – Brian Hopley, Business Manager and Lynn Dordahl, Treasurer
Brian Hopley presented the 2017 financial statements for the church and school.

STATE OF THE MISSION

Fr. Tim gave an overview of the last six months, since his arrival on August 1, 2017. The goal of his first several months at St. Thomas was to establish and build relationships. He reviewed the parish statistics from 2017 that were included in his written report. In addition to administration, Fr. Tim will be working with the Bishop's Committee in two more areas:

1. Facilities:
The facility issues of erosion in the back of the church property and resurfacing the parking lot are being addressed. We have a grant to help with the erosion and we are currently accepting bids to resurface the parking lot.
2. The mission of the mission (ministry):

Together with the Bishop's Committee, Fr. Tim will be looking at how we can better proclaim the Good News of Christ.

In five years, the hope would be to achieve parish status.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Peter expressed his gratitude for being able to serve as the Senior Warden for St. Thomas of Canterbury. He is proud to have served for Fr. Tim, welcomed him, and wished him Godspeed.

THANKS

Andrea Liesman, on behalf of W.O. W., thanked everyone for the food that was brought in for the potluck today.

BENEDICTION

Fr. Tim closed the Annual Meeting with a prayer at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bundy
Clerk of the Bishop's Committee

VICAR

The Reverend Timothy True

In my report this year I want to begin with a piece of financial transparency. St. Thomas is in a considerable amount of debt. Presently the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego is holding our promissory note (think mortgage) in the amount of approximately \$1.8 million. We are repaying it back at 5% interest. Without going into detail, what this means is that we paid down principal on the note by about \$30,000 in 2018. We're poised to do the same in 2019. Additionally, we have a "backburner" loan with the diocese of approximately \$900,000—*backburner* because we presently pay no interest on it but still owe (and will likely start paying interest once our promissory note is paid). Long story short, we're managing; but at our present tack it will take about 75 years to pay off our total debt.

It didn't take long after my arrival at St. Thomas to sense a feeling of anxiety here. This is understandable, isn't it? We are in a large amount of debt. The mainline church has been declining in membership and pledges steadily over the past four decades. Closer to home, the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego has had to make the difficult decision to sell several church properties over the last dozen years or so. So, what will happen to us if we can't keep up?

Anxiety isn't always a bad thing, though. I applaud the creativity I've seen since arriving here, especially with respect to space sharing (for a fee, of course). Our parking lot is a "Park and Ride" area. Cadenza Music Academy uses our nave for rehearsals on Wednesday night. We recently hosted a diocesan Walkabout event. Anxiety has motivated us to think in creative ways about how best to steward the property that houses our spiritual community.

Perhaps best of all, the diocese is motivated in this way too. There is keen interest on the diocese's part to partner with us in order to help us achieve the sustainability we so desire—maybe through developing the vacant part of our land, through rethinking our promissory note's terms, through a combination of these, or through some other means. Stay tuned in 2019 as these ideas begin to take form.

Indeed, we are moving forward with respect to our financial situation, taking action. Now, though a level of anxiety remains, what I sense is a stronger feeling of hope and vision. We are making great strides towards becoming a full-fledged parish.

But, of course, the church is not just about making ends meet. It's more—much more—about making disciples; about rallying together as a praying community to accomplish the mission Christ has left us, to proclaim good news to the world around us and heal and care for the sick and provide hope and advocacy for the marginalized and. . . .

The Bishop's Committee and I did a lot of hard work in 2018 around ideas. We studied a book together that examines the most important elements of church life and devoted time during each of our meetings to hash out these ideas in conversation. This year I will work with the Bishop's Committee to glean from the best of these mission-focused ideas and begin to put them into practice.

Exciting things are happening around here. Again, stay tuned in 2019!

Finally, then, the 2018 stats:

- Eucharist celebrated 238 times: 149 on Saturday nights or Sundays; 46 on weekdays; and 43 in homes and hospitals. 6,459 total persons received.
- Average Sunday attendance (ASA): 115.
- Daily Office services: 12.
- Baptisms: 1.
- Confirmations: 5.
- Reaffirmations: 1.
- Weddings: 1.
- Burials: 1.
- Pledging (as of 1/15/2019): \$163,014 (\$167,672 last year).

Peace!

SENIOR WARDEN

John Crawford, Senior Warden

Dear Saint Thomas of Canterbury Family:

As we begin a new year, it's a good time for reflection. On a personal note, I am wrapping up my term on your Bishop's Committee. My journey of service at Saint Thomas began when I volunteered to be a Greeter, represented our church as a Delegate for the annual Diocesan convention, and then ultimately served on the Bishop's Committee. These past three years I have been responsible for the Evangelism portfolio, served as Junior Warden, and finally, as Senior Warden. I provide that history to encourage any of you who may have an interest in volunteering at Saint Thomas (in any capacity), to challenge yourself and not set limits on what you can accomplish. We all have responsibilities and are busy, but if God plants a seed in your heart about possibly serving, I encourage you to please explore it fully. Serving at one's church can be deeply rewarding and satisfying outside of our normal work lives.

As your Senior Warden I worked in a variety of areas, from working with the San Diego Diocese for a grant for slope repair, exploring options for a solar energy program, to being available to listen to Saint Thomas members and visitors about any questions or concerns. One of my main areas of responsibility was the annual pledge drive for 2019. We concluded this pledge drive with 84 pledges, which is an increase from the prior year, and is approximately 91% of our goal! I am grateful to all those who value this church community and faithfully support our ongoing efforts to be the church that God intends us to be.

Last year was Father Tim's first full year as our Vicar. Part of his vision was to rearrange the responsibilities of the Bishop's Committee into three distinct commissions, which include: 1) Administration, 2) Property and Facilities, and 3) Ministry. Incorporated within each commission were individual Bishop's Committee portfolios. For 2018 I was chairperson of the Administration Commission and worked closely alongside Bishop's Committee members Patrick Grannan (Human Resources) and Frank Rojas (School Liaison). My areas of focus were Administration, Finance and general activities.

I am very encouraged about our future together at Saint Thomas. Our Church community has weathered many changes over the last five years, and we have proven time again that we are a resilient group! Our deep affection for each other, built upon our shared strong faith is a wonderful testament which allows us to continually strive to make a positive impact in the Temecula Valley.

Looking forward, Father Tim and your Bishop's Committee will be focused on ways to build upon what is working effectively, as well as trying new ideas and concepts to help ensure Saint Thomas is prepared for the future. I greatly appreciate all those individuals who have served before us and for the sacrifices they have made, as well as everyone today who makes Saint Thomas such a special place. Just as our faith is a journey, the life of our Church and its body (all of us), is a journey as well and it continually needs good stewards.

Thank you for granting me the privilege of serving.

Faithfully Yours,
John Crawford
Senior Warden 2018

JUNIOR WARDEN

Jon Floth, Junior Warden

I have enjoyed being Junior Warden this past year and would like to thank people who have greatly assisted in keeping St. Thomas in working condition.

Our former Sexton, Pete Hicks left in the summer. His efforts and contributions in keeping the Church and Preschool in good running order were greatly appreciated and deserve thanks. The Preschool especially misses his assistance. The Preschool was blessed by the volunteer maintenance work provided by military families this past fall.

Roland Steele stepped down as the main person who set up Julian Hall for Coffee Hour, along with various other assorted projects. It takes a dozen people or so to match his contributions.

As to ongoing projects, the Bishop's Committee has been actively pursuing the idea of putting solar panels on the south facing roof of the church and school building. It would greatly help in reducing our energy bill. The project is now being taken up by the Diocesan Property Committee. Our thanks goes to Nathan Stoddard and John Crawford for their efforts on this project. Nathan, for the drawing of the design plans and specifications; John, for organizing and getting contractor bids, along with communicating with the Diocesan Property Committee.

A recent upcoming project concerns the empty lot between the church and the office building next door. Various ideas have been presented and are for future consideration. Further updates will ensue.

Now I would like to thank the people of St. Thomas for letting me know of various situations that needed attention, helped with a property project, or simply have contributed to help keep St. Thomas the beautiful church that it is.

I still welcome any comments or suggestions in this coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Floth

COMMUNICATION

Virginia Patton

WEBSITE: The sites for both the church and the school are updated and maintained through the efforts of Doria Lore and Rick Barclay. Both websites have free and secure SSL certification. We are trying to keep the Member Directory on the site in sync with the office records.

WEEKLY EBLASTS: Each Wednesday morning, a new eblast is sent out to those on the eblast list with detailed information of all of the many activities going on internally. Photos from the school are included often. School families are on the list if they request. Information from the diocese is also included. Special eblasts are sent out only as deemed especially important. All masterfully prepared by Rick Barclay.

MONTHLY ACTIVITY CALENDAR: Jackie Klippert continues to efficiently maintain this calendar. All requests for dates for activities must go through her. She prepares a written report and the information goes to the website calendar with 3 months available.

WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN: Doria Lore prepares the weekly church bulletin which is no easy task with the many variations in services and activities going on internally. A small group reviews the draft each week before it is finalized, so it is a team effort.

CANTERBURY TALES: Bill Liesman is the Editor and has assembled a great crew to provide input. Special thanks to Michelle and Steve Lee for preparation of the photo layouts.

FACEBOOK: Doria Lore is now doing a fantastic job of updating our church and school Facebook pages. Be sure to “Like” us and follow us and share our posts.

VIDEO OF FATHER TIM’S SERMONS/CHURCH VIDEO: Thanks to Pat Grannan for videotaping Father Tim’s sermons and to Rick Barclay who then takes them from You Tube to post on other social media. We hope to work on a new video showing various church activities to communicate to others all the wonderful opportunities we have for worship and fellowship here at St. Thomas.

ANNOUNCEMENT/EASEL BOARD/INFORMATION RACK: Doria Lore and Virginia Patton keep the information up to date on the Announcement/Easel Board and in the Information Rack and on the table in the Narthex.

DROPBOX: We have a Dropbox account to hold photos and several people now have access to that to aid in getting photos into various communications. We are working on getting additional photos “In the Cloud” for easier access.

INSTAGRAM/TWITTER/YELP/SNAPCHAT: Doria Lore is posting on Instagram and Twitter and follows our Yelp account.

FLAT SCREEN TV IN THE NARTHEX: We are working to utilize the flat screen TV in the narthex both to show photos from a flash drive as well as to run announcements.

INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF MURIETA & TEMECULA VALLEY: Father Tim and Anne DiPardo attend this group monthly.

CONFERENCES AND WEBINARS: Bishop Committee members attend Diocesan conferences and webinars as time permits.

HOSPITALITY

Virginia Patton

The goal of Hospitality is to actively bring all people of the church together in community to participate in activities and experiences in order to share our common life together as Believers, through our relationship with God and through Jesus Christ.

Hospitality focuses on organizing activities and events which provide opportunities for members to spend time with one another, meet more people, become better acquainted with each other, share experiences and have fun.

Coffee Hours

Five teams prepare and serve the refreshments at the coffee hours after the 8:00 and 10:15 Sunday services. Thanks to the team captains and members who so faithfully provide hospitality on Sundays. More volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

Enhanced coffee hours were conducted several times during the year to celebrate special functions. In January we held a special potluck for the Annual Church Meeting. In June we recognized Graduates, those being Promoted and the Ritchie family who was relocating. We welcomed Bishop Katharine and honored those Baptized, Confirmed and Received with special food and a cake in September. November had a special potluck to celebrate the in-gathering of our pledges. Several of these were coordinated with our Women of Worth (WOW) group.

Victuals with the Vicar

These special events were held at homes with small groups to get to facilitate getting to know Father Tim and Holly better and vice versa. Several dinners were held including a backyard BBQ at the Reid's in May, and in July at the Hicks' home prior to their moving.

Dinner All Around/Special Events

Members of St. Thomas of Canterbury gathered on many months this past year for lunch or dinner and fellowship, either at a restaurant, at the church, or at the home of members who very kindly offered to host the event. Memorable times were spent at the home of Father Tim and Holly to celebrate Fr. Tim's 50th birthday!, at the Corner Bakery for the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, Soup Suppers during Lent at the church, a special fundraiser for the youth with Italian Night, the Annual Church Picnic, a wonderful evening at the Temecula Pizza Company, a fun Oktoberfest BBQ at the Reid's, a special St. Nicholas potluck after the Wednesday evening service and a lovely Annual Christmas Party and fundraising event.

Youth Italian Night Fundraiser

This year for the first time we hosted a fabulous Italian night dinner and fundraiser to benefit the youth. It was spearheaded by Monica Walton, Brigitte Sipra and the youth together with the Hospitality Committee members led by Michelle Lee, Tess Crawford and Deb Mitchell.

Annual Church Picnic

This year's annual church picnic was held in June in the Reflection Courtyard at the church. Many thanks to Pete Hicks for his tireless efforts in making this a success before he and Jean moved to Arizona. Thanks to the Hospitality Committee and others who brought food and helped make it a fun afternoon.

St. Nicholas Celebration – Kathy Foxen

Our celebration of the Feast of St. Nicholas took place on December 5. It was marked by a celebration of Eucharist, a potluck supper and the mysterious filling of shoes which were left at the altar rail. St Nicholas participated and many photos were taken with him and the children during the potluck. Many thanks to everyone who made the event a fun filled evening.

Christmas Party and Fundraiser

This year's theme of a "Starry Night at St. Thomas" was another memorable evening at the church. All enjoyed a fabulous dinner of ham and turkey and all the fixings. In addition to the spirited Silent Auction and Raffle, there were photos to be taken at the photo booth and great camaraderie. Organized by Michelle Lee, Virginia Patton, Deb Mitchell and Tess Crawford.

Greening of the Church

At the beginning of Advent, the church is officially decorated for Christmas. It is a group effort and the Sanctuary and Narthex looked beautiful. Decorations stay up through Christmas until the start of Epiphany.

Reverse Advent Calendar Outreach

During Advent 2018, parishioners were encouraged to pick up a purple/pink Advent bag along with instructions. This information guided them with prayers through Advent with a list of items to buy daily for Project Touch, our local agency to help the homeless and disadvantaged in our community. The school participated also and there was a great response. The bags were blessed at services on Epiphany. Thanks to Andrea Leisman and Barbara Bundy for the coordination and delivery.

Meals on Wheels for St. Thomas

This new program was officially started in October to provide meals to our parishioners who are in need of assistance with meals. A WOW program coordinated by Michelle Lee.

Ministry Fair and Ministry of the Month

A Ministry Fair was held on Sunday, September 16, in the Narthex and Julian Hall, following both services. The goal was to highlight the various ministries within the church and to encourage parishioners to sign up to participate. While the Bishop's Committee thought this was a worthwhile effort, we decided to focus each month on a Ministry of the Month which began in November with our Music ministry, ably led by Stephen Sturk. Stephen Ministry was featured in December with Deb Mitchell. Information is highlighted all month in various communications and on the second Sunday, the ministry has a special display in the Narthex hosted by the leader and/or volunteers. PLEASE stop by to see the displays, learn more about the services offered and thank those who have dedicated their time and talents to the special ministries.

Men of Saint Thomas (MOST) – Peter Mandery

The men of St. Thomas, otherwise known as MOST, gather at the church in the morning on the second Saturday of each month to enjoy fellowship, enjoy a shared breakfast, and participate in heartfelt discussions of the upcoming weekly Bible readings. To be useful and practice good stewardship of our facilities, they complete tasks and projects around the grounds and church building. Typical tasks are routine such as light cleaning in preparation of events, landscape maintenance with some replacement of mulch in the planters, repairing damaged sprinklers and drip lines, and providing preventative maintenance of the building HVAC filters and worn plumbing fixtures. All men are welcome. Are you interested in joining? Please contact Peter Mandery, John Crawford, Jack Bundy or Bill Leisman.

Women of Worth (WOW) – Andrea Liesman

The women of St. Thomas, also known as WOW, gather at church in the morning on the fourth Saturday of each month to enjoy fellowship, enjoy a shared breakfast and discuss the various activities going on at the church and in the community. The group helps organize special receptions and potlucks and provides service to other activities. They started a Friendsgiving coordination for Thanksgiving this year, began the Reverse Advent Outreach and helped provide the meals for Meals on Wheels. In addition there have been several off site get togethers. All women are welcome.

Canterbury Trails Hikers – Deb Mitchell

Several hikes were held this year although not at the pace as in previous years. Let Deb Mitchell know if you are interested in participating.

Baseball – Lee Eisenhut

A stalwart group from St. Thomas attended the Episcopal Night at Petco Park in July. A good time was had by all.

Pet Ministry

This year the Blessing of the Animals was held on Saturday, October 6, prior to the 5:00 service, in the Sanctuary by Father Tim. We were happy to see so many of our faithful pets attend along with their masters for the blessing. All were encouraged to stay for the 5:00 Eucharist.

Weddings

Hospitality assists with weddings held at the church along with other volunteers from Pastoral Care and Altar Guild as necessary. This past year we had one wedding with the reception also held at the church in St. Francis Courtyard. A grand time was had and we hope to encourage other wedding couples to hold their receptions on site as well. Policies and Procedures are being developed.

Baptisms and Funerals

Hospitality provides assistance with Baptisms and Funerals held at the church along with Pastoral Care and Altar Guild as necessary.

Greeters and Ushers

Greeters and Ushers all provide hospitality to our parishioners and to visitors. We thank them for all of their efforts.

Connections Ministry

John Priest, who is no longer in our parish, provided a wonderful service called our Connections Ministry. He called members once every 3 months to check in with them from St. Thomas. This was not only a social call but one to see if there were additional prayer requests or services needed from other members of the St. Thomas clergy/staff/volunteers. We are looking for a volunteer(s) to continue this important ministry.

Special Events

Throughout the year there are special events which come up and Hospitality is called upon to assist. This year St. Thomas hosted the Executive Council for breakfast and a meeting in June.

MUSIC

Dr. Stephen Sturk

The St. Thomas Choir provided music for services every Sunday throughout the year—plus a host of extra services for Holy Week and other occasions. Special thanks to faithful choir members Laurel McKee and Barry Weiss for acting as cantors when needed. Many guest musicians performed with our choir this year. We have forged a wonderful relationship with Nelson Ojeda, music director of St. Edward the Martyr Episcopal Church in New York City. Nelson’s parents live in Temecula, and when he visits them, he usually visits St. Thomas and always delights us with some fireworks on the piano (often four-hand works with our regular pianist, Wendi Turk.) The string ensemble students from the Cadenza School of Music continue to rehearse in our Sanctuary each Thursday night, and they occasionally perform at our 10:15 Sunday Eucharist.

Many visitors were drawn to St. Thomas of Canterbury this year to attend one of the special musical events or liturgical offerings. These are some of the year’s musical highlights—ALL in St. Thomas’ sanctuary with the exception of the February Evensong in Ramona:

Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 4 p.m.

Members of St. Thomas Choir joined forces with the choir and handbell ensemble of St. Mary in-the-Valley Episcopal Church for an Evensong in Ramona, conducted by Stephen Sturk. Our Vicar, Fr. Tim was the Officiant for the service.

Sunday, May 27, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Recital by 30 students of local piano teacher Connie Venti.

Sunday, June 17, 2018 at 4 p.m.

St. Petersburg (Russia) Men’s Ensemble offered a concert of traditional Russian church music and folksongs, marking the ensemble’s ninth annual performance in Temecula.

Saturday, July 14, 2018 at 1 p.m.

Flute recital by students of local teacher Kate Prestia-Schaub, accompanied by our own pianist Wendi Turk.

Sunday, September 9, 2018 at 10:15 a.m.

Festive celebration with the Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori presiding. A student string orchestra from the Cadenza School of Music in Temecula joined our choir to perform special music at the 10:15 Eucharist.

Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 7 p.m.

The Temecula Valley Master Chorale presented a concert “Celebrating American Composers” to a capacity audience in our Sanctuary! (Two of St. Thomas’ Choir members—Barry Weiss and Laurel McKee—also sing with the Master Chorale.) The Master Chorale will return to St. Thomas to present another concert in April 2019.

Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 1 p.m.

Pianist Wendi Turk accompanied the senior flute recital by Jillian Rawlins and the Winter Studio Flute Recital with students of Kate Prestia-Schaub.

Sunday, December 23, 2018 at 10:15 a.m.

A student string orchestra from the Cadenza School of Music in Temecula joined our choir to perform special music at the 10:15 Eucharist. The orchestra accompanied the St. Thomas Choir and soloists in a performance of the “Magnificat” by baroque composer Dietrich Buxtehude. We are grateful to the Village Community Presbyterian Church in Rancho Santa Fe (Juan Carlos Acosta, music director) for loan of a harpsichord this occasion.

I am deeply grateful to all those musicians who shared their talent and enriched the worship experience of this congregation during the past year. New singers and instrumentalists are always welcome and invited to join us at any time. The Choir gathers at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary for rehearsal prior to the 10:15 Eucharist, EVERY SUNDAY throughout the year! We add an occasional Thursday evening rehearsal as needed to prepare for major feasts. But, most of our work is done on Sunday mornings.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Sturk, Music Director

PASTORAL CARE

Deb Mitchell



It has been my pleasure to serve my second year on the Bishop's Committee in charge of Pastoral Care. After completing 50 hours of training, three Stephen Ministers (Lani-Karyn Jones, Elena Gimpel, and Suzie Grindle) were commissioned by Bishop Katharine.

In the fall, informational meetings were held after both Sunday services and a special presentation was provided for W.O.W. We have received one application to date and several members of indicated an interest. JoAnne Dreyfus and I, as Stephen Leaders, look forward to training more Stephen Ministers at St. Thomas but must have a minimum of four to begin instruction. Hopefully we will start a class later in the spring.

We continue to meet from 9-12 on Wednesdays for supervision and continuing education. Andrea Liesman provided an excellent presentation on the "ins-outs" of Medicare. We look forward to an informational tour at Temecula Valley Hospital in the Spring of 2019 and a visit from Hospice Care of the Valley. Providing this caring, interfaith ministry to our church members is of great importance to us. Everyone faces periods of crisis, transition, and personal difficulties in life. During these times, a caring relationship with someone who will faithfully listen, empathize, pray with and for them, and encourage them with Christ's love and care is of great benefit. To become the church Jesus calls us to be and to follow his command to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34) we need to recognize and then meet the needs of our congregation and community. While Father Tim is always "on the front lines of this care," it is impossible to provide care to all those who need it. By equipping a team of members to provide high level of Christian care, pastoral care becomes more effective. A Stephen Minister walks alongside a person in the midst of a crisis, meeting with the person regularly---to listen, to care, to pray, and to encourage---for as long as reasonably needed. In Galatians 6:2, Paul writes "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the laws of Christ."

Stephen Ministry also offers a welcome family room for funerals/memorial services providing coffee, tea, water and light snacks as well as spiritual care if needed.



This year Prayers and Squares, Chapter 46, has had the most quilt requests ever with 32 people receiving our beautiful prayer quilts. We are an interfaith ministry that combines the gift of a hand-tied quilt with the gift of prayer for someone in need. We have received many moving “thank you” notes as well as pictures of recipients with their quilts. Our quilters include Virginia Patton, JoAnne Dreyfus, Anne Dipardo and myself. We occasionally enjoy “drop-ins” from Letty Rojas and others as their time allows. You can find us in the St. Scholastica Room/Teachers Lounge Friday Morning from 9-12...sometimes we spill over into the Narthex for more room.

I am so grateful to be involved in both these ministries and look forward to my third and final year on the Bishop’s Committee.

In Christ’s Love,

Deb Mitchell

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Pam Bowen

Daughters of the King is a lay order of women who promise to pray, serve, and spread the knowledge of Christ in the world. We meet once a month to share our spiritual journey and learn ways to further God's kingdom. If you are interested in joining, please speak to a member. We wear the silver cross of the order, so you will recognize us around church. We will be happy to explain the process and welcome you into the order. Our meeting time is the second Tuesday of the month in the St. Benedict Conference room at 6:00 p.m. We hope you can join us!

KNIT W.I.T.S.* (*With Intent to Serve)

Barbara Bundy

Knit W.I.T.S.* (*With Intent to Serve) is a group of knitters who meet once a month to knit projects for charity organizations. The ministry has grown from just making beanies for kids undergoing treatment for cancer to knitting red scarves to support foster kids who have aged out of the system, blankets for nursing home residents, breast prosthesis for women who have had mastectomies, and teddy bears and dolls for kids in need of a smile. If you are a knitter (or crocheter) or you would like to learn how to knit, please join us. Meeting dates are published in the bulletin and posted on the announcements board in the Narthex. For more information, please contact Barbara Bundy at bjbundy@verizon.net.

WOMEN OF WORTH

Andrea Liesman

In 2018 Women of Worth (WoW) was active assisting and serving the congregation of Saint Thomas. Along with our meeting each month that includes a reading or prayer, fellowship, any open business that needs to be discussed, and noshing, WoW organized three congregation potlucks from beginning to end, coordinated and set up the Continental Breakfast for the Diocesan Executive Council when the meeting was held at our church, assisted with making Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday, had a fellowship event at Curry Winery, participated in the Ministry Fair, listened to a Stephens Ministry presentation, donated wine to drink for Starry, Starry Nights, and The Italian Dinner Night Youth Group Fund Raiser, donated baskets, items, or money to the Starry, Starry Nights auction, provided baked goods for our Youth Group to sell to raise money for their activities, and Michelle Lee through Wow started Meals-On-Wheels to provide meals for a temporary period to those who need it. Last, Irene Eisenhut mentioned this idea called Reverse Advent. It was perfect for us as an Advent Outreach project to support Project Touch and the homeless in the Temecula Valley. The members of WoW were generous as always and we delivered approximately one hundred bags full of items on the Project Touch Needs List to the President of Project Touch, and she was very grateful. We are looking forward to more fellowship and service in 2019. WoW will continue to meet the third Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM, at the church. All women are welcome.

ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Darlene Karnes-Versteegh, Director

Frank Rojas, Liaison

St. Thomas Episcopal School continues to serve 61 families with a total current enrollment of 73 children. The school provides a welcoming, nurturing, faith environment for children and their families who live in and around Temecula. Our academic curriculum provides a strong foundation for the current and future success of our children. We work closely to provide spiritual, social, academic, emotional and physical growth for all children in our care. We work with families to provide services, coordinate with outside agencies to provide support, and provide information for families who desire to learn more about our church.

KINDERGARTEN - Our kindergarten class, the Amazing Asteroids closed in August 2017. There was not enough parent interest to keep it open despite our marketing efforts. Parents are very happy with the Temecula Valley public schools and do not want to pay for private kindergarten.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN - Our pre-kindergarten class, the Super Stars, is taught by Mrs. Laura Wood, Miss Kayla Rees and our former kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Cynthia Hogan. Our teachers respond joyfully to the needs of our children. Mrs. Wood has more than 30 years experience in early childhood education, Miss Kayla has four years experience and is new to our school, and Mrs. Hogan has more than 20 years experience working with preschoolers and kindergarten age children. These teachers bring a wealth of knowledge to our 4 and 5 year old children. The time spent in class is divided between large groups, small groups, individual instruction and child initiated activities. The academic areas of writing, pre-reading, math, language, art, music, science and religion give our children a well-rounded education that will prepare them for kindergarten.

PRESCHOOL - Our preschool class, the Busy Bees, is taught by Mrs. Kristine Paplanus, (Mrs. P) Mrs. Carolann Gentile (Mrs. G), Mrs. Clara Escalante and Mrs. Linda Ray. Their “swarm” of energetic children keeps them busy each day. Mrs. Paplanus has over 14 years experience working with young children. Mrs. G has been teaching for over 25 years. Mrs. Ray has 12 years of teaching experience. Clara has been teaching for 20 years and is new to our school. Busy Bee children have the opportunity to explore and participate in small group activities such as art, sensory science, and math. These activities help prepare children to use invented spelling and left to right progression, which will lead to writing when they enter pre-k. Children are gathered each day for circle time where they learn about the weather, develop concepts like shape, color and color recognition, count by rote, choose helpers, learn songs, and listen to bible stories. There is time for child initiated activities that will enrich social skills, lengthen attention spans and build on their cognitive skills. This year our Busy Bee Class is very busy with 23 children. 5 children have some special needs, 3 children need help with maturity and one child who is learning English. A few children are working on becoming completely potty trained....Yes this is a busy room.

TODDLERS - Our toddler option class, the Little Ladybugs is taught by Mrs. Chantel Blas and Mrs. Kim Pargo, and Miss Kayla Rees. Chantel has been teaching children for 13 years and Kim has been teaching for more than 20 years. Chantel and Kim are new to our school. In this class, children, ages 18 months to young 2's are introduced to the wonderful world of preschool. Children begin to understand the structured environment of a classroom and the class schedule. Circle time is a group gathering activity used to share ideas, practice listening skills and enrich children's language and social skills. Small group time helps children express their creative thoughts through art and sensory. Other small group

activities include science and math activities. There is also time for child initiated activities such as dramatic play, block building, and using simple puzzles and manipulatives that encourage small motor development.

Toddler (2) class- the Friendly Fireflies-ages 2yrs-young three, is now in our former kindergarten class. This class opened on December 4, 2017. The teachers in this room are Mrs. Kristin Consedine and Mrs. Natesha Ellis. Kristin has more than 12 years experience working with young children here at St. Thomas. Natesha is beginning her second year with us. She is learning to teach and guide our young children. The children in this class are ready for more structure than the children in the Little Ladybug classroom. The Friendly Fireflies are becoming familiar with the school routine and classroom schedule. Children participate in circle time, small and large group activities as well as child initiated activities. Our focus is language development, faith development and beginning academics which include art, math, science, sensory activities.

CHAPEL - All children who attend school on Wednesdays or Thursdays walk with their Teachers to the church for chapel. The School Director, Darlene Versteegh, leads the children in “Jesus songs”, teaches the children church tradition, and reads a story from the bible. She uses props and visual aids to make the stories come to life. Chapel is a wonderful introduction to the wonders of God the father, the forgiveness of Jesus, and the divine grace of the Holy Spirit. We continue our ministry of care and concern for our children and families to incorporate prayer for people we know who need help or who are sick. There is a prayer jar on the welcome table for parents and parishioners to use. At the end of chapel, we pray for the people whose names are on the slips of paper in the jar.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Our school continues to act as a viable member of the Temecula community. We hosted our annual Thanksgiving Feast on November 15th, where our children invited their parents, grandparents, and friends. Parents brought food and drinks and the children recited their memory verse. Our annual Christmas program began in the sanctuary on December 20 and was very well attended. The children sang, helped tell the story of the angel visiting Mary, and recited their memory verse. There was a reception in the hall after the program.

MISSION AND MINISTRY FOR 2019 - As we continue to grow and enroll more children in our program, the school director is working on creating a bridge between the church and school. The school staff has been invited to participate in the monthly Dinners All Around church gathering. As part of our mission, we believe it is important for the parishioners to better understand our ministry. Other ministry opportunities include, the annual car show with a kid zone, ministry of the month showcasing the school, and possible on-site art show, and other community events. We are “The Little School with the Big Heart” and we are here to proclaim the word of God and spread the “Good News”. Blessings to you all.

ST THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUMMARY OPERATING STATEMENT CHURCH FOR YEAR END DECEMBER 2018

SUMMARY OPERATING STATEMENT											
YEAR 2018			12 Months Elapsed								
	Budget 2018	Budget Current	Actual Current	\$ Var- iance	Actual LY- Dec	Actual Jan 2018	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	\$ Var- iance	YTD LY- Dec	
SOURCES:											
General	203,672	16,972	19,098	2,126	18,594	14,628	203,672	190,534	(13,138)	186,527	
Other	46,840	2,984	4,736	1,752	6,128	4,384	46,840	49,055	2,215	62,093	
TOTAL SOURCES	250,512	19,956	23,834	3,878	24,723	19,013	250,512	239,589	(10,923)	248,620	
USES:											
Worship	17,020	1,310	1,482	(172)	2,129	1,240	17,020	20,154	(3,134)	22,358	
Personnel	152,567	12,626	13,125	(499)	12,508	11,737	152,567	146,233	6,334	119,658	
Administration	5,920	383	1,123	(740)	567	377	5,920	6,194	(274)	5,307	
Communications	6,100	507	472	35	474	482	6,100	5,712	388	4,778	
Mission	21,919	2,559	1,760	799	2,542	1,760	21,919	21,219	700	30,508	
Property	50,144	3,575	2,377	1,198	3,764	3,729	50,144	47,543	2,601	53,439	
Other	1,700	340	100	240	100	100	1,700	1,810	(110)	1,684	
TOTAL USES	255,370	21,300	20,438	862	22,085	19,424	255,370	248,866	6,504	237,732	
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(4,858)	(1,344)	3,396	4,740	2,638	(412)	(4,858)	(9,277)	(4,419)	10,888	

NOTE : Total Sources are lower by \$9,031 compared to 2017. \$ 8,600 of this is due to the lower subsidy received from the diocese. (We also received a special grant from the diocese of \$ 7,500, this was to assist with delay in finding a vicar which was negatively impacting our expenses.)

Uses are higher by \$ 11,134 compared to 2017. The increase in uses is due mainly to increased personnel costs of (\$ 26,575). Having a Vicar for the full year (\$ 12,247) and the new position of admin assistant to the Vicar (\$ 9,492).

ST THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUMMARY OPERATING STATEMENT SCHOOL FOR YEAR END DECEMBER 2018

SUMMARY OPERATING STATEMENT										
YEAR 2018	12 Months Elapsed									
	Budget 2018	Budget Current	Actual Current	\$ Var- iance	Actual LY- Dec	Actual Jan	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	\$ Var- iance	YTD LY- Dec
INCOME:										
Tuition	381,190	33,385	34,262	877	38,808	37,848	381,190	466,207	85,017	372,518
Other	40,800	3,755	(497)	(4,252)	(1,163)	9,297	40,800	53,444	12,644	53,690
TOTAL INCOME	421,990	37,140	33,765	(3,374)	37,645	47,144	421,990	519,651	97,661	426,209
EXPENSES:										
Personnel	239,520	20,959	28,683	(7,724)	22,066	22,948	239,520	329,454	(89,934)	237,642
Administration	17,600	2,023	2,866	(843)	1,012	1,223	17,600	17,990	(390)	16,604
Communication	4,150	343	194	149	188	288	4,150	2,412	1,738	2,986
Supplies/Operations	12,300	1,026	933	93	956	2,287	12,300	17,942	(5,642)	14,772
General	600	50	0	50	0	0	600	0	600	0
Special	660	55	0	55	0	15	660	726	(66)	1,030
Occupancy	147,400	11,429	12,347	(918)	12,523	14,077	147,400	148,807	(1,407)	140,788
TOTAL EXPENSES	422,230	35,885	45,022	(9,137)	36,744	40,838	422,230	517,331	(95,101)	413,823
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(240)	1,255	(11,257)	(12,512)	900	6,307	(240)	2,320	2,560	12,386

NOTE: Total income is up by \$ 93,442 over previous year, this due to the higher number of children enrolled.

Expenses are higher than the previous year by \$ 103,508. Personnel is \$ 91,812 higher due to more teachers being employed. Occupancy is \$ 8,109 higher. In 2017 a one month exemption of the payment \$ 9,000 was granted by the diocese when they paid off the mortgage and restructured our debt as a promissory note to them.