

The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

Lake Saint Louis, Missouri Annual Report for 2017 and the Annual Meeting of the Congregation **January 28, 2018**

2017 Annual Report to the Congregation of The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration Sunday, January 28, 2018

*The mission of the Church of the Transfiguration is to be a Christian
community; Accepting and inviting all persons to share in worship,
witness and service as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.*

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Staff Members

Rev. Lu-Anne Conner, Rector
Nancy Day, Parish Secretary
Laurie Mercurio, Nursery

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Jennie Kelly
Larry Hopen
Claire Reynolds
Cathy Murphy-Maijer, Alternate

Vestry

Rev. Lu-Anne Conner, Chair
Ron Howden, Senior Warden
Jim Furgason, Junior Warden
Judy Ducar, Treasurer
Carrie Mares, Clerk and Secretary

Chad Elledge
Chuck Laney
Tom Modde
Kerry Quinlisk
Kerri Robertson

Peggy Sloan
Kathy Strautz

178th Convention
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI
November 17 and 18, 2017
A Prayer for the Parish
BCP 817

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Junior Warden

This year was no different than past years in that there were many maintenance projects projected, some completed but yet many still to be accomplished.

The rectory received a new garage door and a new washer and dryer. Both were in need of replacement as they had outlasted their useful life.

We held two clean-up fix-up days, one in the spring and one in the fall. In addition to completing many clean-up activities, Norm Fadler led a group to replace the emergency exit ramp.

Other activities the Junior Warden participated in include:

1. Assisted in obtaining electrical bids for the proposed new sign
2. Assisted in replacing the main door closures into the Narthex
3. Assisted in investigating the feasibility of remodeling the kitchen
4. Arranged for new locks for the main entrance
5. Met with the Diocesan Archivist and Insurance specialist to review insurance and safety

concerns

2018 plans include examining the need to rebid the church cleaning contract and arranging for a new heat exchanger to be installed.

There are many projects that the new Junior Warden, along with the Vestry must address in the next one to three years. They include:

1. Need long term plan for the Memorial Garden Tower/Columbarium
 2. Repair steps to the upper lot
 3. Replace mail box posts and arm
 4. Repair screen around air conditioning units
 5. Replace kitchen cabinets and drawers
 6. Clean out storm retention pond
 7. Possibly replace HVAC units
 8. New landscaping after new sign installed
 9. Replace antifreeze in fire sprinkler system
 10. Replace lower level tile floor
- Replace/Repair concrete step at exterior entrance to Rector's office

Some of these projects will require special funding but also the financial and personal commitment of the entire congregation in order to maintain the facility we currently enjoy.

We can no longer count on a small group of dedicated individuals to accomplish the work required.

Jim Furgason

Camp Phoenix

This year (2017) Camp Phoenix staff of 32 worked tirelessly to host 83 campers and give them a camp experience that they will remember for a lifetime.

Transfiguration was able to help defray the cost for 8 campers with two-thirds of their camp cost being paid due to the following fundraisers:

- Pancake supper - \$560.00
- Car wash - \$451.00
- Trivia - \$500.00

The goal each year is for the church to provide one third of the cost per camper; one third of the cost will come from the camper volunteering at identified fundraisers and the parent pays one third.

A note to our grandparents. Did you know your grandchildren that don't belong to Transfiguration are welcome to attend camp at the same reduced cost as our campers? To qualify your grandchild must help with the car wash, pancake supper or any other identified camp fundraiser events.

2018 Camp Schedule - July 29th - August 4th. All campers ages 8-15 mark your calendars for a full week of swimming, horseback riding, crafts, creek walks and many more fun activities. Look forward to seeing you.

Pam Fadler

Children's Chapel

This year we have experienced a slight growth in Children's Chapel attendees. Although we do still experience Sundays with 0 to 2 children, we have also had several Sundays this Fall with 8 in attendance; and we now have 10 children on our "eligible" list. In August, we also changed the "teaching" part of our service to Bible Stories in place of the children's version of the day's Gospel and have purchased copies of the Whirl Story Bibles from Sparkhouse to help engage the children in the story. This change seems to be going well, and the accompanying teaching materials have made our preparation jobs as leaders less time consuming. We also like the fact that many of the stories have images on the beautiful stained glass windows in the Chapel.

The children still enjoy taking turns as crucifer, acolyte, carrying the offering and placing the day's story sticker on our wall chart. Several of them have memorized many of the prayers within our service.

We have been blessed with engaged, devoted leaders and assistants who make this important ministry possible. And one of our teens, Kaleik Jokerst, who grew up in Children's Chapel, actually led one of our sessions and hopes to do so again; he did a great job! We also could actually use one more leader, so if you have any potential interest in serving the church in this capacity, please contact Alice Foster for more information. If we can add one more, then each of us would serve only one Sunday a month.

Please thank the following volunteers for their service in 2017:

Leaders: Bob Daniels, Alice Foster, Dawn Henry, Karen Modde, Tammy Schuster
(and Kaleik Jokerst)

Assistants: Cathy Murphy-Maijer, Kelly Murphy-Maijer, Sue Stabenow, Jan Trendley

Alice Foster

Coffee Hour

Below is the list of those who served as Coffee Hour hosts in 2017.

8 AM service:

Ron Howden
Karen Modde
Matt Munro

Tom Wagner
Hank Wasmer

10:15 AM service

Rosemary Bagin
Kristin Darden
Mary Drew
Alice Foster
Larry Hopen
Jim Furgason
Kathy Furgason
Jennifer Kelly
Kate McCormick
Mari Moody
Rich Moody
Kelly Murphy-Maijer
Cathy Murphy-Maijer
John Purcell
Mark Schuster
Tammy Schuster
Peggy Sloan
Dan Smith
Kathy Strautz
Claire Reynolds
Cory Reynolds
Paul Richardson
Sherri Richardson
Carol Rushing
James Rushing
Jennifer Rushing
Dorothy Weimer

Sherri Richardson

Fall Fundraiser

As most of you have heard, we had one of the most successful Fall Fundraisers ever – thanks to a very active and dedicated planning team and to the incredible enthusiasm and support from the congregation! We sold 38 tables and raised \$13,097; after expenses, we were able to disburse \$10,465 to a variety of charitable organizations and ministries. We had made several changes to the event this year based on feedback from the previous year, and those changes worked well. In addition, we have established some changes in the check-in process for next year to alleviate some of this year's issues.

We are very grateful to the many parishioners who helped us obtain gift certificates for the raffles and even contributed full baskets. It was wonderful to see how many tables were formed

with friends, family, neighbors and co-workers from outside of our congregation; that was a major factor in the success of the event.

The hall has already been reserved for Friday, October 5, 2018 for our next Trivia Night – so mark your calendars now! And if you want to be part of an incredibly rewarding ministry at Transfiguration, consider joining our team, either as a member of the planning team – or as a worker at the actual event. Or – just as important – start planning for a table of 8! Paul Jokerst and Alice Foster have already volunteered to co-chair the event, so feel free to contact either of them with questions – or to volunteer!

Many thanks to the awesome 2017 planning team:

Terri Brittingham
Judy Ducar
Chad Elledge
Alice Foster

Louise Howden
Paul Jokerst
Kate McCormick
Michael McKenna

Cathy Murphy-Maijer
Bill Robertson
Kerri Robertson
Peggy Sloan

Alice Foster

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Transfiguration Prayer Shawl Ministry formed in 2016. This is a ministry of quiet service; we knit shawls, the shawls are blessed, and then we trust that the spirit will lead each shawl to the person they are intended to embrace. The prayer shawl ministry had thirty prayer shawls blessed during 2017.

Knitting is an act love. As we knit we envision the recipient wrapped in the work of our hands and hearts. The shawls are a gift of our love, time and prayers for fellow parishioners. The prayer shawls we knit are simple; however, each shawl contains almost 14,000 stitches. Each stitch is a prayer filled with hope and love for our church family members. Shawls are distributed to parishioners as a warm, tangible reminder of our continued thoughts and prayers for them during both trying and joyful times.

The prayer shawl ministry always has room for new members. We meet the first Sunday of the month between services for a knit-along. We use this time to knit together; weaving together a community with our hearts, hands and yarn. Whether you knit, crochet or would love to learn we will enjoy having you in the Transfiguration Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Carrie Mares

“You created every part of me,
knitting me in my Mother’s womb.
For such handiwork I praise you.
Awesome this great wonder.”
Psalm 139; 13-14

Social Committee

The Social Committee had a very busy and productive year! We hosted or helped with the following events in 2017:

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (Led by Bob Daniels)
- Easter Coffee Hour (after both services)
- Bishop Smith's Visit
- Welcome Back Ice-Cream Social
- St. Francis of Assisi/Blessing of the Animals Service
- Wine Basket Contribution for Trivia Night
- Veterans Appreciation Coffee Hours (after both services)
- In-Gathering Celebration
- Christmas Cookie Share

It took many people to help with these events! Our goal is to ensure ALL feel welcome here at the Church of Transfiguration! Thank you to the following committee members for all they have done this past year to make all of these events possible:

John Purcell
Alice Foster
Karen Modde
Mary Ruth
Kerri Robertson
Amrhein
Terri Brittingham
Kate McCormick

Larry Hopen
Sandy Taliaferro
Gayle Jennison
Mary Drew
Bill Robertson

Michael McKenna
Dan Smith

Rosemary Bagin
Peggy Sloan
Mark Ball
Marsha Thompson
Charlene

Chad Elledge
Cathy Murphy-Maijer

Jennie Kelly

Third Tuesday

This was our fourteenth year serving a free meal and entertaining seniors in our church and community on the third Tuesday of each month. We served 357 meals in 2017 and averaged 33 in attendance each month. Our numbers were almost a repeat of 2016. We cancelled one event due to weather.

Our guests along with our volunteers support this ministry with monetary donations, homemade desserts and bingo gifts.

Volunteers are listed by years of service:

Pam Fadler - 12
George, Judy and Paul Kirby - 11
Hank Wasmer - 11

Rosemary Bagin - 8 alternate
Terri Brittingham - 4 alternate
Linda Long - 4

John Purcell - 10
Larry Hopen - 10
Mary Ruth - 9

Anna Scorsone - 3
Cathy Murphy - Maijer - 3
Chuck Laney - 2 alternate

This ministry is supported by funds in the Episcopal Church Women's account.

Pam Fadler

Pam Fadler

Greeters

During the past year, we had 21 people serve as greeters. A big thank you to those people who set aside time to do so! Greeters are the first people seen by members of the congregation and visitors who are entering the church, so this first interaction makes a difference. A few things have been improved throughout the year. Towards the beginning of the year, the greeter guidelines/responsibilities page was updated. Another change is the way we are providing our information to visitors. A business card with the church's information has been created to hand out to newcomers. We hope this and our smiling faces, greeting them at the door, encourage people to become a member of our congregation. Again, thank you to those people who served as greeters!

Charlene Amrhein
Derek Beattie
Kari Cornelius
Kristin Darden
Chad Elledge
Darci Hillyer
Larry Hopen
Roxane Jablonski
Paul Jokerst
John Klaskin
Sally Klaskin

Kate McCormick
Michael McKenna
John Purcell
Claire Reynolds
Cory Reynolds
Carol Rushing
James Rushing
Dianne Schuster
Sarah Ruth
Tammy Schuster
Marsha Thompson

Claire Reynolds

Wednesday Bible Study

We use the lectionary scripture for the next Sunday as a guide to help prepare for next Sunday's worship. Members are Mary Ellen Antonio, Rev. Jim Erdman, Jean Presson, Fred Tilinski and Paul Godt. We welcome new members and regular participation is not required because each weekly session stands on its own. We meet on Wednesdays from 3 to 4 pm.
Paul Godt

Book Club

Book Club at Transfiguration: friends new and old, laughter, prayer, reading out loud, reading at home, discussions deep and not so deep, and always food. Book Club meets Wednesdays at 10

am in the Allen Room at church. We open with a prayer and follow with a short reflective reading aloud. In 2017 we read aloud from the book *Like Trees Walking: In the Second Half of Life* by Jane Sigloh, and later her second book *Gracious Uncertainty: Faith in the Second Half of Life*. We follow with a second short reflective reading aloud, for 2017 from Mitch Albom's book *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. Once a month those reflective readings then lead to a discussion of the book we have been reading at home for the month. Other weeks of the month we read aloud from a different novel that we have chosen to share.

Book Club is always followed by lunch, either a monthly potluck and birthday celebration at the church, or lunch out at a restaurant we choose jointly.

Some of our books for 2017 were:

The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton

Delicious by Ruth Reichl

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin

The Beekeeper's Apprentice by Laurie R. King

Clara and Mr. Tiffany by Susan Vreeland

The Last Child by John Hart

Like so many events at Transfiguration, Book Club eagerly welcomes new members.

Respectfully submitted,
Mari Moody

Carolyn Daniels

Marsha Thompson

Dawn Henry

Margaret Chopra

Karen Owen

Margaret Koenegstein

Roxane Jablonski

Lynda Wilmott

Mary Drew

Kate McCormick

Sally Klaskin

Judy Kirby

Cathy Murphy-Maijer

Marty Curry

Jean Presson

Janet Morris

Mari Moody

Karen Parr

Carole Price

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Chad Elledge

Newcomers

During the past year we met with folks as follows:

Mary Reed on 1/29/17 (Rosemary)

John, Audra, Henry and Toby Notgrass on 3/30/17 at home (Terri)

Eric, Emily and Maggie Majesik on 7/16/17 at home (Terri)

Dawn Cassara on 8/20/17 at Denny's (Terri)

Mary and Rich Moody informally at coffee, etc.

Efforts to contact and set up formal meetings with several of the people who signed the guest book more than once were not successful due to not being able to make contact, no return calls from the visitor or response through the methods listed. My experience is that those who are interested in becoming part of our church family return and those who are not or are truly just visiting will not come back except for specific reasons. Some of those visiting were due to their relationships to certain members of the parish or staff.

For this next year I would suggest that the vestry take a look at the purpose of Newcomers for the purpose of redefining the goal. The practice of providing the "tub of information, bread and salt" needs to be reviewed with the materials updated. Most folks pick up the pamphlets from the Narthex. I personalized the tub as appropriate with a child toy and a potted plant and usable salt in a shaker. Not everyone wants to take the time for a formal visit or want the tub, so when I had the opportunity I encouraged everyone to visit for game nights, coffee hour, etc. I found that a short summary of what we have to offer while briefly visiting with some at the service was as much as they were willing to accept.

It is my opinion that the warm, friendly welcome that we offer when people visit us the first time is what brings them back. Transfiguration rapidly becomes "their" church home.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Brittingham

Bread for Life

As some of you may know, the Panera's store that has been providing our product for Bread for Life is closing. Therefore we will need to terminate our program. I would hope that over time we can find a substitute provider and can restart the program. If anyone has any leads or ideas, please come forth.

We can attempt to contact other Panera's St Charles County but I would have a difficult time doing that until we return to Lake Saint Louis. Additionally most, if not all, of those locations stay open during the evening and that could affect our ability to pick up the product. We will not know until they are contacted. If any of you are in the Lake Saint Louis store, please feel free to talk to the Manager, tell them what we have been doing and who we support. There is an opportunity right under our nose.

I will contact Our Lady's Inn and the O'Fallon Senior Center to inform them of this change. In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions feel free to give me a call at 314-920-1039 or email at dbhammond66@gmail.com.

Don Hammond

Altar Guild

In 2017, seventeen parishioners belonged to Transfiguration Altar Guild Ministry. Although Terri Brittingham transferred to another Ministry, we welcomed Judy Ducar on our team. We are so thankful for our new member's enthusiasm in getting so fully involved with the Altar Guild.

As always, the dedicated members of the Altar Guild prepare the Altar for the Celebration of the Eucharist and when needed, for any other Sacraments and Offices of the Church. During Lent and Advent, the extra work required for the preparation of Easter and Christmas was shared by many and was done in good spirit.

Again, this year, we have received the support of the parishioners to help the Altar Guild with the Clean Up of our Worship area, the polishing of the Silver and Brass for Easter and Christmas and the Hanging of the Greens. The response was heartwarming, and all the tasks were done in a record time. Thank you, thank you for all your hard work.

Our Annual Fundraiser (Plant Gift Cards sale from Daniel's Farm) was very successful and we made a profit of \$355. We use these funds for "extraordinary" expenses related to the Altar Guild. This year, thanks to your support, we have used some of the Funds to purchase Linen Fabric and other notions and our two seamstresses "extradordinaires", Carrie Mares and Judy Ducar have sewn and embroidered new and much needed Purificators, Lavabo Towels and Corporal all needed for our Worship services. Our Church has saved a lot of money by sewing and embroidering the linens instead of purchasing them already made. Again, a big thank you to Carrie and Judy for their time and talent. It was also a great "pleasure" and extraordinary expense to purchase much needed new Christmas Garlands to beautify our Church this year. Thank you so much for all your support of our Fundraiser. We always have a "Wish List" so watch for our Plant Sale coming this Spring. On a last note, please know that Daniel's Farm has also been a contributor to all our Church wide fundraisers efforts for many years.

All the members of the Altar Guild deserve a special thank you for all they do during the year. In 2017, we were also very grateful to Carrie Mares who is now taking great care of our new linens every week and to Judy Ducar who continues to put her seamstress skills to good use.

The members of the Altar Guild are deeply committed men and women dedicated to serving our Lord. The work is done efficiently and reverently by all to make this Ministry run smoothly. We would welcome new members to be part of our Ministry: if you like to be part of a 2 or 3-person team, divide the work to suit your schedule, prepare for the Worship Services once or twice in a three-month period and prefer the "quietness" of serving, this most important Ministry is for you. If you are interested please talk to Rev. Lu-Anne, Louise Howden or any member of the Altar Guild. You can also indicate your desire to do so on the Stewardship Time & Talent sheet. Training is provided and you will be part of a team. Also, if you are interested in doing only the Set Up or the Clean Up for the Worship Services, because of travel or schedule, do not hesitate to talk to us. We are always in need of helping hands.

Thanks to you, members of the Altar Guild, your commitment and desire to serve and your willingness to help at all time make this Ministry very special.

Faithfully yours,
Louise Howden

Members of the Altar Guild 2017

Richardson	Rosemary Bagin	Roxane Jablonski	Sherri
Rushing	Margaret Chopra	Judy Kirby	Carol
Rushing	Carolyn Daniels	Sally Klaskin	Jennifer
Janice Trendley Modde	Judy Ducar	Carrie Mares	Karen
	Jeff Veenstra	Dawn Henry	
	Louise Howden	Paul Richardson	

Shepherd's Ministry

The mission of our Shepherd's Ministry is to coordinate compassionate caring to the Transfiguration community through prayer, action, and encouragement; respecting the dignity and confidentiality of those we serve. Some of the services we will help with are providing meals, making calls, respite care, transportation, resource referral, and grief support. Providing transportation to church services and other parish activities is also an important function of our group. One new activity this year is providing meals after surgery or during illness. This summer we provided 9 meals to one family after surgery.

The primary duties of the team leaders, or "shepherds," are to keep in touch with each family, and pass their needs along to the appropriate ministry leaders, then follow up with the family to make sure that needs are being met.

During the past year, we have developed ten flocks which hopefully include all families in the parish. We will be doing some rearranging of these lists, to assign new church members and hopefully bring new shepherds onboard, in the near future.

You should have been contacted by your shepherd at least once during the past year. If you have not, or do not know who your shepherd is, **please contact Kerry Quinlisk**, and we will make sure you are on our lists! With the growth of the parish family, some people may not have been assigned to a flock, and we want to make sure everybody is included!

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Quinlisk
Kerry.Quinlisk@transfigurationchurch.org

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is a new program that we registered for this Fall. It is very similar to the Schnucks Escript program that we have been involved with since 2007. It is a website operated by Amazon that allows customers to enjoy the same products and pricing as they receive using Amazon and at the same time donate to a participating organization.

Why not sign up and give a percent of qualified purchases to Transfiguration. On your first visit to smile.amazon.com use the same account information used at Amazon. Be sure to select Church of the Transfiguration LSL as the organization to receive the donation as there are numerous Transfiguration churches listed. You will then be directed to the Amazon site to make purchases. Each time you sign in and make your purchases, .5% could be donated to Transfiguration. There are NO additional costs to the customer.

Donations are deposited quarterly into our account. We have already received \$11 from purchases made the third quarter of 2017. We are all shopping more and more online. Let family and friends know that when they shop Amazon, they can also support Transfiguration.

Judy Ducar

Patriot Packages - Supporting Out Troops

We continue to send packages to our men and women deployed to countries around the world. We are receiving requests from family members of deployed soldiers and Unit Commanders asking us to send to their family member or to entire units.

We held our annual fundraiser at Sam's Club, Wentzville again this year. Almost 90% of the food items we shipped were donated by Sam's customers. Many of the items that are not available at Sam's Club have been donated by various groups, churches, and individuals. At Transfiguration we select a specific item needed each month and post it in the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter. Our member Jack Robinson chose Patriot Packages to benefit from his Eagle Project.

We do rely on grants from businesses and donations from groups and individuals to cover the cost of the postage to mail the packages. In 2018 we received a grant from Boeing and donations from Harmonie Church and Transfiguration. A very generous donation was received from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Because of all the support we received in 2017, we were able to increase the number of packages sent each month to our service men and women. The cookies we sent in 2016 were so well received, we have begun sending 48 dozen cookies each month purchased from Sam's Club. They have naturally been very well received by everyone.

We will continue to improve our website patriotpackages.org. A video was recently added to the site. We now also have a Facebook page for all to "like us".

We will continue to support these men and women, many deployed to counties and in harm's way, "till they all come home".

Judy Ducar

Schnucks Escrip Program

We have been participating in the Schnucks Escrip program for 10 years. 96 families have registered and selected Transfiguration to receive their donation. From the purchases made by 23 families who scanned their cards in 2017, we received \$246.37.

The earnings from Escrip have been used for several different programs and repairs over the years. In May 2017 the funds were used to purchase the AED Package for Transfiguration.

It is very easy to sign up for the program. Simply pick up a card at any Schnucks store, register the card and select Transfiguration to receive the donation. Then just scan your card each time you shop at Schnucks. We can receive from 1% to 3% of your total purchase. There are no additional charges added to the bill, any method of payment may be used, and it will not affect any cashback or air miles normally earned.

Let family and friends know how easy it is to sign up and support Transfiguration.

Judy Ducar

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>
		<u>Budget</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>	Pledges	209991.00	199377.66
	Plate	10000.00	10321.70
	Parish Hall Use	1500.00	2276.00
	Clothing Box Fundraiser	200.00	213.07
	Other non-budget income	50.00	205.69
	Coffee Hour etc		72.26
TOTAL REVENUES		<u>221741.00</u>	212466.38
<u>EXPENSES</u>	Clergy		
(Payroll)	Cash salary (gross)	48000.00	48000.00

	Rectory Expense*	11810.00	12424.66
	Auto allowance	2000.00	1062.72
	Pension & Annuity	11232.00	11232.00
	Rector Business Expenses	500.00	177.95
	Continuing education	500.00	145.00
	Health, Dental and Life Insurance	11760.00	11760.00
	Supply Clergy	800.00	412.29
	(Clergy Subtotal)	86602.00	85214.62
	Organist	14545.00	11647.71
	Secretary	15000.00	14258
	Pension	742.00	712.90
	Nursery Caregiver	1644.00	1494.14
	Employee Health/Dental Insurance	10740.00	8610.00
	Supply organist	170.00	1455.00
	Social Security/Medicar e (employer portion)	2300.00	2096.22
	Worker's Comp insurance	150.00	172.00
	(Total Payroll)	<u>131893.00</u>	<u>125660.59</u>

(Property)	Insurance	7259.00	7259.00
	Bldg Mortgage	22877.00	22877.16
	Maintenance	5000.00	6439.29
	Janitorial	3500.00	3006.54
	Lawn Care/Snow Removal	5500.00	3828.00
	(Total Property)	<u>44136.00</u>	<u>43409.99</u>
(Operating)	Worship/Education Program Materials	500.00	588.16
	Children's Chapel	100.00	152.24
	Adult Forum	200.00	121.45
	Nursery Ministry	25.00	0
	Altar Guild	1000.00	984.62
	Utilities	5800.00	5388.24
	Phone	1500.00	2279.64
	Office Expenses	4400.00	3772.26
	Copier Maintenance Agreement	1325.00	1400.00
	Postage	600.00	442.73
	Advertising	100.00	0
	Music	200.00	314.00
	Hospitality Supplies	1250.00	993.29
	Diocesan Convention	1200.00	900.64
	Seminars & Conferences	200.00	232.00
		away in 2016	

	(Lay)			
	Stewardship		700.00	360.13
	Evangelism		150.00	104.37
	Miscellaneous			27.22
	Bi-Annual State Registration		25.00	21.25
	Sabbatical Expenses		250.00	250.00
		(Total Operating)	<u>19525.00</u>	<u>18332.24</u>
(Outside Congregation)	Pledge to Diocese		20685.00	20685.00
	Outreach		5500.00	5499.00
		(Total Outside)	<u>26185.00</u>	<u>26184.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES			<u>221739.00</u>	<u>213586.82</u>
		Difference	2.00	-1120.44
* Rectory Expense:				
	Mortgage		6205.00	5687.55
	Condo Fee		2400.00	2200.00
	Community Assn.		370.00	370.00
	Maintenance		500.00	510.00
	Utilites		2300.00	2329.73

Insurance	35.00
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Total	11810.00	11097.28
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Transfigurati
on 2018
Budget

<u>INCOME</u>	Pledges	203146.00
	Plate	10000.00
	Parish Hall Use	2000.00
	Clothing Box Fundraiser	200.00
	Other non-budget income	
	Coffee Hour etc	
TOTAL REVENUES		<u>215346.00</u>

<u>EXPENSES</u>	Clergy	
(Payroll)	Cash salary (gross)	48000.00
	Rectory Expense*	12130.00
	Auto allowance	2000.00
	Pension & Annuity	11232.00

Rector Business Expenses	500.00
Continuing education	500.00
Health, Dental and Life Insurance	12132.00
Supply Clergy	800.00

(Clergy Subtotal) 87294.00

Organist	15000.00
Secretary	14722.00
Pension	736.00
Nursery Caregiver	1584.00
Employee Health/Dental Insurance	0.00
Supply organist	250.00
Social Security/Medicare (employer portion)	2350.00
Worker's Comp insurance	175.00

(Total Payroll) 122111.00

(Property) Insurance	7550.00
Bldg Mortgage	22877.00
Maintenance	5000.00

Janitorial	4000.00
Lawn Care/Snow Removal	5500.00

(Total Property) 44927.00

(Operating)	Worship/Education Program Materials	350.00
	Children's Chapel	200.00
	Adult Forum	150.00
	Nursery Ministry	0.00
	Altar Guild	1000.00
	Utilities	5800.00
	Phone	2280.00
	Office Expenses	4000.00
	Copier Maintenance Agreement	1400.00
	Postage	500.00
	Advertising	0.00
	Music	200.00
	Hospitality Supplies	1250.00
	Diocesan Convention	600.00
	Seminars & Conferences (Lay)	away in 2016 200.00
	Stewardship	500.00
	Evangelism	150.00

	Miscellaneous		
	Bi-Annual State Registration		0.00
	Sabbatical Expenses		250.00
		(Total Operating)	<u>18830.00</u>
(Outside			
Congregation)	Pledge to Diocese		26697.00
	Outreach		2500.00
		(Total Outside)	<u>29197.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES			<u>215065.00</u>
		Difference	281.00
* Rectory Expense:			
	Mortgage		6205.00
	Condo Fee		2520.00
	Community Assn.		370.00
	Maintenance		500.00
	Utilitles		2500.00
	Insurance		35.00
	Total		12130.00

<u>2017</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>
<u>Budget</u>	

Report from the Nominating Committee

The 2017 Nominating Committee was tasked with seeking qualified candidates to fill open vestry, delegate, and alternate delegate positions. The members of the 2017 Nominating Committee were Tom Modde, Kerri Robertson, Jeff Veenstra, Anne Wright, the Rev. Lu-Anne Conner (ex-officio). The Vestry approved this final slate of candidates at its December meeting:

Nominees for Vestry (vote for four*)

Nicole Jones
Jennie Kelly
Rick MacIvor
Mari Moody
Sarah Ruth

Nominees for Convention Delegate (vote for one)

Marty Mares
Michael McKenna
Anne Wright

Nominee for Alternate Convention Delegate (vote for one)

Jeanette Hollmann

A Note from the Rector:

*When the January Newsletter was printed, there were three open slots for three-year vestry terms. Since then a vestry member has resigned, which added one two-year slot to be filled. The parish by-laws state that “if a vacancy on the vestry occurs within thirty days prior to the annual meeting or next regularly scheduled election, the vacancy shall be filled at the meeting or election.” The wardens and rector met to determine how best to add this newly-opened two-year slot to the vestry elections, and we agreed to proceed as follows:

The ballot will have all five names of vestry candidates listed in alphabetical order. People will be asked to vote for four of these candidates. When the results are tallied, the three candidates receiving the most votes will each be elected to a three-year vestry term. The candidate who receives the fourth-highest vote total will be elected to the two-year unexpired vestry term.

All candidates and current vestry members have been notified of this change.

Rector’s Annual Report January 28, 2018

Dear Friends,

My annual report a year ago was based on five month’s experience as your new rector. I have now completed just about a year-and-a-half as rector of Transfiguration, and these additional months have allowed me to see things from a wider angle. 2017 was a year of continuing

transition and new opportunities, some of which I've highlighted in my report. No one person can capture the entirety of life at Transfiguration Church, so I encourage you to read and reflect on the many reports that comprise the Annual Report of this parish.

Transition

Perhaps the most widely-felt transition this past year involved our music program. After careful consultation with the vestry, the senior warden, and the music director himself, I made the decision in June not to renew the music director's contract, which was to expire at the end of December. Barry Luedloff had faithfully served as organist and choir director at Transfiguration Church for ten years, and I very much enjoyed working with him. He and I both agreed that it was time to explore new possibilities for the music program, and that finding a new director would be the best way to accomplish this.

We ended up bidding farewell to Barry earlier than expected, as he accepted a call in October to be the interim music director at Parkway United Church of Christ in St. Louis. October 15 was Barry's last Sunday at Transfiguration, and he played at both morning services that day. He was presented with a plaque of appreciation, a purse, a prayer shawl, a special song from the choir, and festive coffee hours after each service. It was a true celebration of Barry's time with us.

Transition is never easy, and for some in the parish the announcement of Barry's departure was understandably upsetting. During his remaining time with us, Barry and I worked together to personally address these concerns. It was important to us to offer time and a safe space in which individuals could openly and honestly express their concerns, and we are grateful for the conversations that took place.

Next Steps

In November the vestry approved a proposal for a search process for a new music director, including the establishment of a search committee. I then notified the parish of the opportunity to serve on this committee, and received inquiries from several parishioners. At its December meeting the vestry appointed the members of the Music Director Search Committee: Carrie Mares (chair), Carolyn Daniels, Drew Lawless, Karen Modde, Nancy Rediger, and Lu-Anne Conner (ex-officio). The committee has begun its work in earnest, and in the coming weeks it will seek input from the parish in a variety of ways to be sure all voices are heard. Your input will inform the committee's work of developing a job description, advertising the position, evaluating candidates, and recommending candidates to the rector, who will make the final selection. I am hopeful that the committee's work will be substantially completed by late spring or early summer.

Throughout the remainder of the fall, various musicians filled in as accompanists for the 10:15 am service. At the same time, I began searching for a supply organist who could serve for several months while the search process was underway. We are very fortunate to have found Karen Bretz, who began her duties as a long-term supply organist just before Christmas. Karen will be with us through the end of May. She took it upon herself to gather together a Christmas Eve choir, which was a great addition to our Christmas Eve liturgy. She also presented a mini-concert of Advent organ music. I am grateful for Karen's talent, initiative, and pastoral sensitivity, as well as her familiarity with Episcopal liturgy.

Vestry and Delegates

Every year we experience transition on the vestry, with members finishing their terms and others newly-elected. There are three members of the vestry who are rotating off in 2018 after serving a three-year term: Ron Howden, Kerri Robertson, and Peggy Sloan. In addition, Tom Modde has decided to resign his vestry position after one year of service. Ron, Kerri, Peggy and Tom deserve our thanks for their hard work, especially during a time of clergy transition in the parish. They have served with distinction, and it has been a pleasure working with each of them. It should be noted that Kerri Robertson did double-duty as the vestry liaison to the rector search committee during her term.

You might not know that our three diocesan convention delegates and our alternate delegate have seat and voice at vestry meetings. This ensures that our delegates to the annual diocesan convention are up-to-date with what's happening in the parish, and this in turn informs their voting decisions at convention. Additionally, they also attend quarterly meetings of the Kemper Convocation, which is one of several convocations of parishes within the diocese. Jennie Kelly has completed three years as a convention delegate, and Cathy Murphy-Maijer has completed her third and final year as an alternate convention delegate. Transfiguration Church has been well-represented by Jennie and Cathy, and I am grateful for their efforts.

Special Thanks to our Retiring Senior Warden

It is impossible to adequately thank Ron Howden for his service as senior warden for the past two years. Ron's tenure spanned the last several months of the interim period, as well as the arrival and settling in of a new rector. He has been a catalyst for many initiatives in the parish, among them the completion of the stained glass windows and the planning for our anticipated outdoor electronic sign, to name but a few. Ron's wise counsel and insights have been invaluable to me. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have worked so closely with him. Ron was definitely the right person at the right time to have assumed the duties of senior warden, and his leadership has benefited not only me but the entire parish.

A Word About Wardens

According to our Parish By-Laws, "The Rector shall appoint annually from the Vestry a Senior Warden, and the Vestry shall elect from its members a Junior Warden, both of whom shall be canonically qualified for office. The terms of the Senior Warden and Junior Warden shall be one year each. No person who has served three consecutive one-year terms as Senior Warden or Junior Warden shall be eligible for further service in such capacity until the expiration of one year." Ron Howden's retiring from the vestry leaves open the Senior Warden position; and Jim Furgason, having completed one year as Junior Warden, will continue to serve on vestry but has decided to step away from the Junior Warden position. I discussed these open positions with the vestry at its January meeting, and it was agreed by all that appointment and election of the wardens would be best postponed until the new vestry is seated.

Creating and Re-Creating Communities

Every time we gather for worship we re-create the community that is Transfiguration Church. It is a community that is always in motion: we welcome newcomers, we say goodbye to people

who have died or moved away, and we are always delighted to have guests and visitors among us. Within this parish there are a variety of smaller communities that also form and re-form throughout the year: Third Tuesday Luncheons, the Book Group, the Wednesday Bible Study, the Vestry, Adult Forum, Children's Chapel, and Chair Holy Yoga, among others. These mini-communities are essential to the well-being of the parish; through them we have opportunities to learn about and practice our faith, and to serve and care for others. And yet as much as God calls us to various communities and ministries within the church, there is also a call to the gathered community that often takes the form of a question:

What should we be doing, for God's sake?

*The mission of the Church of the Transfiguration
is to be a Christian community:*

*Accepting and inviting all persons
to share in worship, witness and service
as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.*

Our mission statement is clear that we intend to be a community of Christians, a community that meets regularly for worship, whose members witness to the love of Christ in their daily lives, serving others for the sake of the One who came not to be served but to serve. We accept and invite others to join us in these practices, and many have found a spiritual home here.

But, what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in the world? A disciple is one who learns and one who follows. Each of us has the responsibility to learn for ourselves who Jesus really is, and some of that learning takes place in church, through worship, education, and being an active part of the community of faith. But church is not the only place where we encounter Jesus. In our post-communion prayer we ask God to "send us now into the world in peace....to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart" (BCP p. 365). We are sent out to all of the other communities of which we are a part - our families, our friends, our workplaces, etc., in full confidence that Jesus will meet us there.

But Jesus is not just Lord of all that is familiar to us. Jesus is Lord of all things and all people, and he is to be found especially in those people and places that are unfamiliar to us. When we dare to follow Jesus into the unknown, so often we will find that God is already present and working there. As disciples of Jesus Christ in the world, then, our task is to seek out the places where God is at work, and offer ourselves as servants in that work. We may find ourselves becoming part of new communities, ones that are not necessarily connected to the institutional church. New communities and new opportunities for meaningful service abound, and at Transfiguration we have the potential to grow one of our signature ministries, Laundry Love, into the rest of St. Charles County.

Laundry Love

Briefly, Laundry Love is a ministry involving quarters, laundry detergent, and love. Volunteers from Transfiguration serve once a month at one of two locations - the Starcrest Laundry in St. Charles (serving with volunteers from Trinity St. Charles) and more recently at Crossroads Laundromat in Wentzville. The goal is to offer assistance with laundry costs to those who are struggling financially. That simple goal has led to connections with people we might not otherwise have met, and the opportunity to listen to - and learn - from one another. Sometimes volunteers bring sandwiches or cookies or activities for kids. Gas cards were given out in December. There are now "regulars" who show up at these locations once a month because of the dignity and respect with which they are treated. A community is created and re-created every time we bring Laundry Love to those in need. What would it take to grow from two laundromats to four, so that every week volunteers from Transfiguration were offering Laundry Love in different parts of St. Charles County?

I have asked Tammy Schuster, who coordinates Transfiguration's Laundry Love, to speak to us this morning about her personal experience with this ministry, and to challenge us to reach out to new places and people for whom a free load of laundry and some kind words will make all the difference. It's just another way to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in God's world.

Thank-you's continued...

This parish could not function without the hard work and dedication of so many people. Some work behind the scenes, others are more public, but almost everyone gives of their time and talent so that the work of the church is strengthened. I offer my thanks to our parish secretary, Nancy Day, who works hard to produce the Sunday bulletins as well as tending to many different aspects of the parish office. Alice Foster has continued her superb oversight of Trivia Night, as well as coordinating the curriculum and leaders of Children's Chapel. Our treasurer, Judy Ducar, has given countless hours to a very particular ministry in the church - that of overseeing and managing our finances and our budget; I am glad to report that she has agreed to serve a fifth and final year in this position. Carrie Mares does a consistently wonderful job as vestry clerk, and I am happy to report that she will continue her duties this year. It's an ongoing delight to work with Louise Howden, who oversees the work of the Altar Guild. Tammy Schuster gave heart and soul to the stewardship campaign this year, and people responded with great generosity. Chad Elledge has brought new energy and expertise as chair of the Community Presence Task Force. Pam Fadler helps to create a new community at every Third Tuesday Luncheon, as she does for Camp Phoenix every summer. Deb MacIvor and Dawn Henry have introduced many of us to a new spiritual and physical discipline called Chair Holy Yoga. Jeff Veenstra continues his work as our "IT go-to guy," and Paul Jokerst faithfully updates the parish website, while working to create a new version. Sherri Richardson magically produces comprehensive 3-month schedules for all worship and associated Sunday ministries (how does she do that??). Jennie Kelly and the Social Committee have done excellent work in planning and preparing for fellowship functions. And thank you, Jack Robertson, for making all of us proud by becoming an Eagle Scout!

May God continue to bless the people of Transfiguration Church, so that we might be a blessing to others.

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner, Rector

From the Parish Register for 2017

Baptism

Brent Alexander Reese

Confirmation

Jennifer Lynn Mendenhall

Reception

Mary Elizabeth Reed

Marriage

Sharyn Jolly & Gordon Prinster

Transfers In

Megan Marie Jolly from St. Peter's, Ladue, MO

Ed Jones from St. Paul's, Katy, TX

Nicole Jones from St. Paul's, Katy, TX

Wynne Jones from St. Paul's, Katy, TX

Susan Meyer from St. Francis, Eureka, MO

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Transfers Out

Frances Caradonna to Holy Communion, University City, MO

Barbara Brown to St. Francis, Rio Rancho, NM

Jessie Clawson to St. Jude's, Fenton, MI

Becky Trier to St. Jude's, Fenton, MI

Mary Drew to Bethel Lutheran Church, St. Louis, MO

Burials

Charles Hamilton Morris

Jessie Margaret Pauls

Cory Michael Jokerst

**Church of the Transfiguration
2017**