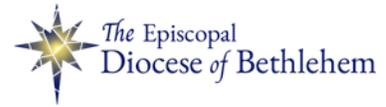

NA•IVITY
CA•HEDRAL



The Annual Report of
The Cathedral Church of the Nativity
in the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

The Twenty-sixth of January in the Year of our Lord 2020

*Our Mission:
To know Christ, to make Him known, and to serve all
people according to His example.*

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Hymn 349

Aberystwyth

1 Ho - ly Spi - rit, Lord of love, who de - scend - ed
 2 When the sa - cred vow is made, when the hands are

from a - bove, gifts of bless - ing to be - stow
 on them laid, come in this most sol - emn hour

on your wait - ing Church be - low, once a - gain in
 with your strength - ening gift of power. Give them light, your

love draw near to your ser - vants gath - ered here; from their
 truth to see; give them life, your own to be; dai - ly

bright bap - tis - mal day you have led them on their way.
 power to con - quer sin; pa - tient faith, the crown to win.

Hymn 349 from *The Hymnal 1982*, © Church Pension Group used by permission. Rite Stuff License #R20F-01384-7594

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
January 26, 2020
9:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer and Hymn #349

Call to Order

Establishment of Quorum

-Acceptance of Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting

Nominating Committee Report and Election of Vestry

The Cathedral in Mission – The Third Millennium Fund

Our Resources Shared- Annual Budget

Senior Warden Comments

Judges of Election and Balloting

Dean's Comments

Old Business

-Recognition and thanks to those who have served

New Business

Sending Forth – A prayer for our Mothers

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
Nominating Committee
Report for the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020

The Nominating Committee was elected at the Annual Meeting last January and met for one meeting in late Fall to create a list of parishioners to contact. After that one meeting we communicated with each other through email, text or phone.

We were able to assemble a group of nominees for election to Vestry, Diocesan Convention Delegate and Nominating Committee. All nominees were asked to complete a Nomination and Profile Form for distribution to the Cathedral members before they vote at the 2020 Annual Meeting. After we had a full slate of candidates we sent the list to the Vestry, the Church office and the Dean.

Barbara Appleton
Martha Capwell Fox
Jill Rothrock

Nominees

Vestry

Ray Arcario
Siobhan Adizzone
Rob Curzi
Barbara Solito

**Diocesan Convention
Delegates**

Betty Isaacs
Bob Lynn
Karen Norelli
Jodi Porterfield
Olivia Tramontana

Nominating Committee

Jeanie Earich
Richard Guyer
Melinda Rizzo
Heather Scattergood

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
BETHLEHEM, PA
ANNUAL MEETING – January 27, 2019 – MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by The Very Reverend Anthony R. Pompa, Dean and Rector, and a quorum was established.

Bill Yale made the motion to accept the minutes from the 1/28/18 annual meeting. Harry Johnston seconded the motion.

Richard Sause, Senior Warden's report highlighted the beauty and Spirit of the season. He is grateful to everyone who made this season special. He thanked the Altar Guild and the Cathedral staff, and he expressed his gratitude to Dean Pompa and Bishop Kevin for being here. He recognized the accomplishment from the Campus Planning Group and architect David Horn. He stated that the group has been especially faithful to an open, broader vision that is aligned to our mission and values.

Richard stated that in the coming year the planning group is moving to the next phase. This will focus on smaller projects that we can handle and the beginning of a fundraising campaign. The budget reflects two new open positions: associate clergy and lay formation leader. He stated that it's been a pleasure to work with our current vestry and thanked all who have given their gifts to the Cathedral.

The ministry highlight was the Better Buy Thrift Shop. Connie Gilbert, the Thrift Shop Coordinator, explained that we acquired the shop from Southside Ministries and give proceeds to ministries on the Southside. Every year we give vouchers to those in need. Sales are shy of \$28,000 this year. After expenses, we have \$22,000 and will donate most of it to charities on the Southside. Connie stated that we are not just a shop – we are truly a ministry. She thanked Wednesday's team: Jane, Patricia, Barbara, and Lynn for all their hard work. Thank you for all your support and to all volunteers. Patricia stated that they all enjoy what they are doing – Connie is the best!

Comments by Dean Pompa were shared:

Tony shared that we are blessed beyond measure and he has been blessed as the Dean and Rector for 12 years.

Gratitude to the staff of the Cathedral, both clergy and lay people – Deacon Rodney Conn, who works with Bethlehem Emergency Shelter and Property Committee; Deacon Charlie Barebo, who works with the Stewardship Committee; Bill Korp, Bookkeeper who works with our Finance Committee; Tracy Eisenreich, Parish Administrator; Peggy Bankowski, Secretary of the Parish; Jose Mendez and his team, Waldina and Tommy; Canon Stephen Williams and Winston Alozie for the music program.

Thank you to Becky Berkenstock, Lay Christian Formation Leader, and church school leaders for all their guidance and support of our youth.

Thank you to John Marcantonio for helping with adult formation and confirmation.

Particular thanks to the Vestry for being so dedicated and balancing our resources.

Tony stated that the Personnel Committee, along with Anne Kitch, would be interviewing candidates for the Canon Missioner position. We are looking for someone to be Spanish speaking, who will work with our neighboring community.

Grateful to all of us for answering our call to hurricane victims, domestic and foreign refugees. We are amazingly blessed for your generosity.

Thank you to Kit Hower for leading Foundations class during Lent.

Presentation of the annual budget by Tom Kolepp, Chairperson of the Finance Committee. Nativity Cathedral was blessed with a 2018 budget surplus and an approved 2019 balanced budget. These blessings do not occur by accident, but by the grace of God and the generosity and hard work of many dedicated people. Thanks be to God from whom all blessings flow – past, present and future; the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral who give their time and talent and entrust their treasure for our mission; those now in God's nearer presence who provided for Nativity through their estate planning; our Nativity staff & clergy – constantly mindful of expenses; Bill Korp – our very competent and dedicated bookkeeper.

The Hurd Trust deposits to DIT will end in 2019. We will receive our final check this year! Expenses will go up from \$789, 884 to \$908,465 because of positions back into the budget from last year.

This report is submitted by the Finance Committee on behalf of the Wardens and Vestry of Nativity Cathedral. The 2018 report is based on actual accounting for the year. The 2019 budget is based upon the budget prepared by the Budget Committee, reviewed by the Finance Committee, and approved by the Vestry at their January meeting.

Respectfully submitted by the Finance Committee: Dean Tony Pompa, Dick Guyer, Don Appleton, Tom Edwards, Kim Plyer and Tom Kolepp, with staff assistance from Bill Korp.

Dean Pompa thanked the Nominating Committee for their work.

Cathy Bailey provided the results of the election. Karen Boksan, Ray Arcario, Annalisa Kelly-Cavotta, Richard Sause and Joe Mazingo were elected to the Vestry. Cathy Bailey, Olivia Tramontana and Bill Yale were elected as Convention Delegates. Ken Andrejko and Rodney Weems were elected as Alternates to Convention. Martha Campbell-Fox, Barbara Appleton and Jill Rothrock were elected as the new Nominating Committee.

Cathy Bailey made the motion to move to election of slate by acclamation, Siobhan Ardizzone seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10a.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Annalisa Kelly-Cavotta
Clerk of the Vestry

3 Year Budget History

<u>Income</u>	2018 Budget	Budget %	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	Budget %	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	
Cash Carryover				\$ 25,000.00				Cash Carryover from prior year
Pledge and Plate	\$ 638,000.00	76.0%	\$ 629,090.00	\$ 649,000.00	71.4%	\$ 617,037.00	\$ 663,000.00	Pledges, Prepaid Pledges, Open Plate Contributions
Investment Income	\$ 60,427.00	7.2%	\$ 60,427.00	\$ 49,329.00	5.4%	\$ 49,760.00	\$ 220,544.00	Diocesan Investment Trust
Hurd Trust	\$ 90,167.00	10.7%	\$ 90,167.00	\$ 140,736.00	15.5%	\$ 138,740.00		Hurd Trust & Hurd Endowment (New)
TMF Grants	\$ -	0.0%						DIT Account - Grants managed by a Board
Gifts from Special Acct	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 17,204.00	Parishioner Unrestricted special gifts
Other	\$ 74,283.00	8.9%	\$ 62,423.00	\$ 70,200.00	7.7%	\$ 56,940.00	\$ 58,280.00	Rentals, Christian Formation, Fund Raising
Allow for Uncoll Pledges	\$ (23,604.00)			\$ (25,800.00)			\$ (31,500.00)	Estimate 5%
TOTAL	\$ 839,273.00	100.0%	\$ 842,107.00	\$ 908,465.00	100.0%	\$ 862,477.00	\$ 927,528.00	
<u>Expenditures</u>								
General								
Clergy & Lay	\$ 412,105.00	57.3%	\$ 366,673.00	\$ 447,313.00	58.8%	\$ 427,312.00	\$ 464,933.00	Clergy & Lay salary expenses, housing, pensions, benefits
Office Expense	\$ 36,853.00	5.1%	\$ 47,675.00	\$ 44,555.00	5.9%	\$ 36,281.00	\$ 42,343.00	Office Equipment - copying, mailing. Equipment expense
Current Maintenance	\$ 51,665.00	7.2%	\$ 45,141.00	\$ 54,993.00	7.2%	\$ 54,159.00	\$ 68,500.00	Current Maintenance
Utilities	\$ 64,892.00	9.0%	\$ 65,496.00	\$ 66,750.00	8.8%	\$ 56,748.00	\$ 58,600.00	Gas, electric, water, sewer, taxes
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 93,923.00	13.1%	\$ 93,923.00	\$ 96,434.00	12.7%	\$ 96,432.00	\$ 101,053.00	12% of normal operating expenses
Insurances	\$ 49,126.00	6.8%	\$ 47,209.00	\$ 49,383.00	6.5%	\$ 49,022.00	\$ 50,869.00	Property insurance
Contingency	\$ 11,018.00	1.5%	\$ 1,188.00	\$ 1,400.00	0.2%	\$ 433.00	\$ 200.00	Contingency other expenses
TOTAL General	\$ 719,582.00	100.0%	\$ 667,305.00	\$ 760,828.00	100.0%	\$ 720,387.00	\$ 786,498.00	
TOTAL Worship	\$ 81,920.00	100.0%	\$ 83,945.00	\$ 99,861.00	100.0%	\$ 105,002.00	\$ 102,783.00	Organist/Choirmaster, Interims, Music program, Liturgy
Renewal								
Program Ministries	\$ 14,400.00	52.3%	\$ 15,092.00	\$ 14,900.00	50.8%	\$ 9,686.00	\$ 13,200.00	Adult, Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Pastoral Care	\$ 13,144.00	47.7%	\$ 8,569.00	\$ 14,404.00	49.2%	\$ 14,540.00	\$ 15,726.00	Stewardship, Parish Life, and Van Expenses
TOTAL Renewal	\$ 27,544.00	100.0%	\$ 23,661.00	\$ 29,304.00	100.0%	\$ 24,226.00	\$ 28,926.00	
Evangelism								
Diocesan Acceptance	\$ 7,827.00	76.5%	\$ 15,654.00	\$ 16,072.00	87.0%	\$ 16,072.00	\$ 8,421.00	Voluntary Giving to Diocese (goal is 3%)
Escrow Future Acceptance								
Other	\$ 2,400.00	23.5%	\$ 3,318.00	\$ 2,400.00	13.0%	\$ 1,634.00	\$ 900.00	Missions, Communications, Education, Theological
TOTAL Evangelism	\$ 10,227.00	100.0%	\$ 18,972.00	\$ 18,472.00	100.0%	\$ 17,706.00	\$ 9,321.00	
TOTAL Expenditures	\$ 839,273.00	100.0%	\$ 793,883.00	\$ 908,465.00	100.0%	\$ 867,321.00	\$ 927,528.00	
Deficit	\$ -		\$ 48,223.00			\$ (4,844.00)		

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Outreach Report

The following organizations were recipients of Outreach funding from the Cathedral Church of the Nativity during 2019. These funds were distributed through ministries of Third Millennium Fund (TMF), Clergy Discretionary Fund, Thrift Shop Ministry, individual gifts, offering and annual budget.

The total amount of Outreach funding in grants and cash during the year to service organizations was \$88,810.

The recipients were:

- New Bethany Ministries
- ShareCare Faith In Action (Ministry to and with Sr. Citizens)
- Lanta (bus tickets for New Bethany)
- Diocese of Bethlehem – Annual Acceptance
- Christmas Outreach and Gift Card Ministry
- Dean’s Discretionary and Gift Card Outreach to Needy Families
- Emergency Shelter Ministry
- Lake Choconut Management Company Youth Camp
- Refugee Ministry – Joel Nafuma Refugee Center
- Northampton County Community College
- Episcopal Relief
- Fountain Hill Elementary School Tutoring
- Diocese of Rio Grande
- Turning Point of Lehigh Valley
- Federal Workers Relief Fund
- Farm to School Program
- Broughal Summer Program

The following Non-profit Partners were recipients of “in-kind” donations such as space, building use and utilities. The total amount of these “in-kind” gifts to these organizations was in excess of \$20,000.

- Bethlehem Steel Vets
- Lehigh University – After School Mentoring Program
- S-Anon and Al-Anon Groups
- New Bethany Ministries
- ShareCare
- Celtic Cultural Alliance
- Diocese of Bethlehem
- Moravian College Southside Christmas Family Outreach
- Bethlehem NAACP
- Bethlehem YWCA
- Rotary Club of Bethlehem Morning Star
- Bethlehem Special Olympics

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Dean and Rector's Report

I am living into my 13th year as your Dean and Rector. I mark the report each year that way. It remains truly my most humbling honor to love and to serve with this vibrant congregation.

My report this year will be brief. Most of the good work God has called us to is represented by reports for this annual meeting. I thank God that we are able to be faithful.

*Staff - The Cathedral community is blessed by a faithful and dedicated staff. What we do together happens because of their hard work and their assistance to us as we live out our baptismal covenant. The faithful and exciting addition of a part-time position for Christian Formation has borne much fruit. The call of a Canon Missioner has focused us and great ventures in new ministries including Latino ministry is exciting, challenging, and has already begun to open our hearts to new things. The Staff, Dale, Stephen, Becky, Tracy, Peggy, Bill, Jose, Waldina, Maria, Tommy, Connie, Charlie and Rodney are a constellation of full-time, part-time, and non-stipendiary presence of leadership. On a personal note, they are like family, we live like family, and I am honored to love and to serve with them.

*Mission - The spirit of mission is alive in this place. We have welcomed many new families and we have said goodbye to old friends. In the welcoming and in the goodbyes I am always struck by what holds us together as a community of faith. That is a sense of mission. A belief that God is active in our lives, that Jesus has called us to be hands and heart of love, and that we seek to be a light in the world around us! In addition to the many faithful things we live into, I would like to highlight the following new things:

*The Home for Healing and Wholeness is a new initiative grown out of our Celtic Spirituality nights. It is a comprehensive offering to the community and beyond of opportunities for healing and wholeness in mind, body, and spirit! This ministry is mushroomed and I commend you to read more about it in the report.

*The call of Canon Grandfield as Canon Missioner has solidified our connections with our neighbors and enhanced them. The partnership with Fountain Hill Elementary School is one example of the beauty of partnership. Tutoring and now a connection with our healing ministry to provide support and care for educators.

*The courageous move forward to test our appetite to pursue our campus plan. Our neighborhood is changing dramatically and we look forward to adapting new mission and for our campus to reflect a reaching out and a welcome in. I look forward to where God may be leading us here.

*Stewardship - I am grateful for this community of faith's support of our mission in the giving of time, and talent, and treasure! We have stretched! And we need to stretch! Sharing our resources generously allow us to do so much. We can always do more and I am grateful.

Blessings,



The Very Rev. Anthony (Tony) R. Pompa
Dean and Rector

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Canon Missioner's Report

- Our monthly meal service at New Bethany Ministries' Mollard Center continued with the gracious help of Nativity volunteers. Approximately 60 meals are served monthly.
- A school supplies collection in August in partnership with St. John African Methodist Episcopal, Zion of Fountain Hill provided backpacks filled with supplies to over 100 area kids.
- The First Community Walk took place in Fountain Hill on September 29. Seven parishioners walked from the Cathedral to Fountain Hill Elementary and back in order to take note of what's happening in the community. Additional walks are planned for 2020.
- The Welcome Center, our site for the Lehigh University Community Service Office's Homework Help program continues to offer after-school programming for approximately 12 SouthSide kids four days each week during the school year.
- The Adult Forum focused on our community connections and a theology of mission during the fall semester, with presentations by Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley, the Bethlehem Police Department, Lehigh University Community Service Office, New Bethany Ministries, and Canon Grandfield.
- The Bethlehem Emergency Shelter temporarily used Sayre Hall, the Dining Room and the Kitchen in late November due to zoning challenges with their NorthSide location. Nativity volunteers provided food, friendship and overnight supervision to between 4 and 10 individuals experiencing homelessness during the week of November 17.
- The South Bethlehem Historical Society's Ethnic Christmas Trees display at the Bethlehem Visitor's Center featured an "English" tree decorated by volunteers from Nativity Cathedral.
- The annual Gift Card Collection in Advent provided families associated with New Bethany Ministries with the ability to purchase gifts and food for the holidays.
- Renewed ecumenical conversations with local congregations, including St. John's Windish, and St. Peter's Lutheran; Central Moravian; Holy Infancy, and Holy Ghost Roman Catholic promise to yield new possibilities for partnership.
- Fountain Hill Elementary Relationship through the Community-Schools Program, engages 12 mentors from Nativity Cathedral in weekly relationship with students. Nativity also began providing Healing & Wholeness instruction to Fountain Hill faculty before an in-service day on November 18.
- Intentional fostering of a Hispanic/Latino community in Spanish within the Cathedral's membership began in November with a series of cenas (dinners) which then yielded the idea of a Latino Spirituality Night. Imagenes de la Virgen (Images of the Virgin Mary) kicked-off our worship in Spanish on December 14. This was followed by a Santa Eucaristia (Holy Eucharist) in Spanish on Christmas Day at 1pm. A weekly Sunday Eucharist and further evangelism and justice work is planned beginning in 2020.
- A group from Nativity Cathedral attended the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Center's Fall Gala.

The Reverend Canon Dale Grandfield
Canon Missioner

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Lay Christian Formation Leader's Report

One year ago, I took on the role of Lay Coordinator for Christian Formation. With much excitement, and a little trepidation, I jumped in, not knowing exactly what God had planned for me. Day 3...I stood in the bell tower holding a camel named Einstein, and I knew this job was going to be interesting.

This past year, two things stood out as areas of focus...the new structure of our church school as well as involvement in planning intergenerational events. Our church school has gone through many changes and improvements, both in physical space and curriculum. We have received positive feedback and our numbers continue to grow. Please read more about these changes in the church school section.

With four different services at four different times reaching many different types of families, it is easy for everyone to find their own particular niche for worship. Though this is a good thing, it is also important for us to have opportunities to come together as one community in worship and in fellowship. We had numerous intergenerational activities this past year that did just that. The Epiphany Breakfast in January was a huge hit with the help of Einstein the Camel. The Annual Spaghetti Supper, held in February, was a delicious way to come together whilst acting as the major fundraiser for Nativity Youth Camp. In March, the Pancake Breakfast led us into Lent and showed a new game called "Pancake the Dean". Good Friday's Stations of the Cross took on a new look and featured many of our new families. Towards the end of May, we celebrated the last day of Church School with a Game Day in Sayre Hall. Families brought their favorite games to play and fun was had by all. Kick-off Sunday brought us out of our summer hiatus and celebrated the beginning of the school year. In November, many of us gathered to assemble Thanksgiving Baskets and learn a bit about hunger in our world.

The Cathedral is alive and active everywhere you turn, and I am proud to be part of this community.

Becky Berkenstock
Lay Christian Formation Leader

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Cathedral Music Program

Over the past year, the music of a host of singers and instrumentalists has been beautifully woven into many, many regularly scheduled services, special events and concerts. The astounding commitment of these singers and instrumentalists continues to be evident in the quality of the singing and playing, and in the staggering quantity of music they present as part of our collective offerings. Thank you, dear musicians all, for helping make our artistic efforts sensible, worthwhile, and focused on the True Light!

Our **Cathedral Choir** continues to expand horizons with learning a number of new and stylistically varied anthems, and all the while staying comfortably within the good and solid Anglican Choral tradition. Ian Murphy is fulfilling his seventh full year as bass Choral Scholar, Lauren Smith her fifth year as soprano Choral Scholar, and Lauren Curnow her second year. We are very grateful and thankful for the generosity of those who have contributed toward the Choral Scholar expenses by way of gifts and memorials. These gifts have allowed us to welcome Joe Mozingo as our new tenor Choral Scholar! The Choir has welcomed new singers, returning singers, and have had to say goodbye to others. In addition to the numerous services throughout the year, this Choir has provided music for the sung Compline services, Evensongs throughout the year, and Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas, both highlights of the year. We were particularly blessed to be joined by the Choir from St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral Wilkes-Barre to sing Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem* for our annual Concert of Remembrance.

Our **Cathedral Choristers** include young singers in grades 2 through 6 who are learning music through the Royal School of Church Music method. This year, our singers are Emily Dieter, Elijah Lampe, Campbell Oswald, Amelia Strasser, and Piper Wiseman. These gifted singers have sung for 321 and 10:30 services, the Christmas Pageant, and truly transported us with their 'Silent Night' for Christmas Eve and Lessons and Carols. Bravo, Choristers!

Our **Cathedral Handbell Ringers** are Catherine Alling, Becky Berkenstock, Dave Brandt, Evan Choy, Nell Miller, Jodi Lynne Porterfield, Theresa Shaton, and Meg Storm. This is a GREAT group of enthusiastic musicians who are willing to tackle the challenging and unknown. They recently played for the Christmas Pageant and again for the early Christmas Eve Service, and were spectacular. We are definitely looking forward to what's next with this group!!

Cathedral Arts has continued with an intentional attempt to connect with community, culture, spirit, soul, and mind with offerings of 'extra' musical opportunities. All concerts were wonderful, and highlights this year included a series of organ concerts in celebration of the Cathedral organ's 20th anniversary – artists Neil Harmon, Eric and Anna Myer, and Robert McCormick all offered exceptional concerts. Then, of course, THE QUEEN'S SIX program was just outstanding in every way imaginable. And if I may 'repeat the sounding joy,' there just aren't enough words to describe the receptions that follow our concerts!! Thank you Susan, Eve, Sue, Linda, Angelica, Barbara, Catherine, Peachy, Nell, and the host of cooks and helpers that you gather for these occasions. There is a special place in heaven for each of you. And to Theresa who makes our publicity say the right thing in the right place at the right time, and so pleasantly greets our guests at the door, ever so politely nodding in the direction of the alms basket, we say a huge thank you!! And to our Patrons, Subscribers, and Supporters who have given beyond measure, we are forever grateful for each of your gifts that make these events possible.

Cathedral Instruments Emery Brothers (now Adam Dieffenbach) Pipe Organ Company continues to maintain and care for the Cathedral organ beautifully. The addition of chimes, and maybe harp, to the organ has moved forward – we now have a proposal, and will continue discussions. Bill Adamson does a great job tuning the Cathedral's pianos. Melinda Rizzo and Carol Yale continue as the Tower Bell ringing team, and always beautifully so. Those interested in helping this team with ringing on occasion are more than welcome to contact me, Melinda, or Carol.

Special thanks and gratitude to Dean Pompa for his welcome, encouragement, and seemingly endless patience as we all move along on this creative journey! And to the incredible Staff here at the Cathedral who always make the difficult and impossible happen time and again, thank you!

My hope and prayer is that we continue to be open to God's presence through the many and varied gifts that include music and the arts.

Stephen Williams
Canon for the Ministry of Music and the Performing Arts

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Altar Guild

The twelve monthly teams of the Cathedral Altar Guild prepare the Church and Chapels for all worship services: Saturday evenings, Sundays, the busy seasons of Christmas, Lent and Easter, mid-week services, ordinations, baptisms, weddings, funerals, Chrism Mass, etc. The Altar Guild presently consists of 36 members who give faithfully and generously of their talents and time.

Officers and Directing Committee members are:

Directresses	Sue Snyder, Barbara Iannelli
Treasurer	Sue Snyder
Secretary	Joan Bray
Sacristan	The Directresses
Flower Guild	Kit Hower

We have two local florists who furnish the altar flowers as well as our own Flower Guild who is responsible for Easter, Christmas and other special days. The flowers are recycled into small arrangements on Mondays and taken to Nativity patients in the hospital.

Thank you to Laura Drum and Olivia Tramontana for taking care of all our linens. A special thanks goes out to Bonnie Kuronya and Preston Smith for taking care of our candles. Once again our members worked in the kitchen and served a meal at one of our suppers.

We wish to thank all our members for the wonderful work they do. You help to make this a special place of worship.

We are always looking for people to join with us as we serve at God's table. We are looking for both men and woman. Contact the Directresses for more information.

Barbara Iannelli

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering (BES)

We now enter our 12th year of serving the homeless in the Bethlehem area. This is the third that has been at Christ Church UCC. The Cathedral and I am blessed by the participation and leadership of the groups that serve these men and women in need of warmth during the winter months. James Reader and Joe Tramontana serve officially as the volunteer coordinators to the BES operations team. I continue to serve as the chair of the board of directors.

This ministry survives because of the volunteers that help to check-in, feed and clean up, and act as chaperones overnight for the men and women we serve. Each night requires 10 to 15 dedicated volunteers. Certainly, the most highly choreographed function is in feeding the guests and volunteers for the evening. I would like to thank all who take the lead in planning this, but especially Meg Seltzer for her service. The overnight chaperones also have a difficult but rewarding task of ensuring the smooth operation and safety of everyone at the shelter. Joe Tramontana, Richard Van Wyk, Marian MacDonald, and Cathy Bailey have been regulars.

The 2018-2019 sheltering season saw a reduction in the number of guests from the previous seasons. Total male bed-nights, the standard for reporting level of service, was 2,851 and 1,378 for women. We averaged 35 individuals per night through the season, which was down from 62 the previous season. There are several reasons for this. During last season, BES aided in connecting 16 individuals with service agencies to obtain housing. Allentown was also able to expand its shelter service. Despite these efforts, the number of guests the shelter now serves is in the range of 45 to 50 per night.

The people that we serve have a wide variety of background stories. While mental illness and substance abuse are most associated with the homeless, those are not the predominant reasons for those we serve. We have at least two, Moe and Eric, who work full time but cannot afford housing on what they are paid. There are others that work part time and struggle to find employment. Lack of stable housing raises red flags to employers who are not willing to take a chance. Those that do are rewarded by the success of their employees such as David who was able to purchase his own home and invite Ben to stay with him. Through the Cathedral's involvement in BES and New Bethany Ministries, we can check up on guests such as Chris who are some of the most vulnerable on the streets.

In June 2019, Christ Church announced that it had decided to relocate and ultimately sell the church building. Christ Church is in a transition phase and has yet to announce further plans. BES continues to operate at that location but has begun a search process for a future shelter location. This offers an exciting opportunity to envision the future of sheltering in Bethlehem. Because of joint efforts already in place that have been fostered by having a single site, conversations have started on how BES can find a location that not only serves as a shelter but can offer space for other services needed by the homeless.

BES wants to not just be a shelter but be part of the continuum of care to reduce homelessness. A shelter should just be the first stop to getting the help needed to no longer be homeless. This includes families with children, minors, and adult individuals. The biggest vision is that of temporary emergency sheltering for families with children. Currently no such facility exists in the Lehigh Valley. Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley and New Bethany Ministries are potential partners to offer space prior to entering their programs. Valley Youth House works with minor children and is already a resource to get housing for minors. BES wants to deepen our relationship with Victory House in service to homeless veterans.

This new vision includes opening a health clinic for not only our guests but for low income neighbors. Access to health care goes a long way to improve stability in the lives of these individuals. Working with one of the regional health care networks would also give BES access to nutritionists. A cooperative partnership with other organizations providing food to the homeless would allow for a broader approach to providing balanced meals. Like the worst of America, the homeless eats too much fast food and has a carbohydrate rich diet that leads to obesity and diabetes in an at-risk population of people.

BES had intended to open early for the 2019-2020 season, but zoning issues with the City of Bethlehem complicated that hope. Eventually the City invited BES to open earlier than the traditional December 1 start date. Prior to opening, the Cathedral served as a warming station to give space to those who wished to come out of the cold overnight. BES opened November 24, 2019.

BES has also revamped its communications. A web designer has volunteered time to improve the web pages, and a Facebook page has been set up and is being used to communicate needs with the community. For any future updates, I invite you to follow BES on Facebook or to log on to the website from time to time.

www.bethlehememergencysheltering.org

If you are interested in volunteering or just visiting the shelter, please see James, Joe or me. The Cathedral continues to use SignUp Genius as a platform to schedule volunteers on our "odd numbered" Thursday evenings. Links to that site may be found on the Cathedral's website.

Respectfully submitted,

Dn. Rodney Conn

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Better Buy Thrift Shop

Our thrift shop exceeded all expectations last year with a total income of \$35,233. In addition, we gave away in excess of \$4,000 worth of clothing via our voucher system to New Bethany ministries, Turning Point, Trinity Soup kitchen, LVH Street Medicine program, the Emergency Shelter, and the Hispanic Organization. This amount included a \$250 gift from Horizon Church in Allentown and \$675 in memorial funds for Jeanne Zouck, a longtime volunteer of the thrift shop who passed away last fall.

We were pleased to give away \$1,000 to Fritz Memorial Church for their summer day camp program, another \$1,000 to New Bethany Ministries for all-day bus passes, \$1,000 to Turning Point for emergency personal items, \$6,000 to the Bethlehem School District for their summer program on the south side and \$10,000 to Broughal Middle School for their Farm to School Program. This giving is consistent with our mission to provide funding for agencies and programs that serve our community and people on the south side of Bethlehem.

In November our congregation responded overwhelmingly to our plea for winter clothing for the homeless men and women in our community. Thank you.

This year we added four part-time staff through AARP. This federal program assists low-income, older adults train for employment opportunities. These three men and one woman are fully funded through government money and have proven to be a wonderful addition to our ministry.

We are always in need of volunteers to assist in the shop. It is a welcoming presence to all and our volunteers enjoy being part of a vital mission in our church. Oh, yes, it's also a great deal of fun! Our hours are 10 to 3:00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and 10 to 1:00 Friday and Saturday. If interested, please contact Connie Gilbert at 484-554-6415.

Faithfully,

Connie Gilbert, Coordinator

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Bible Study

The Bible study group meets Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00AM in the Dining Room. We usually have bible study twice a year, fall and spring. If something interesting turns up, we may meet more often.

You are invited to join us for our next Bible study. It will take place in the spring. Keep a lookout for the start time and subject. It will be published in the bulletin.

Everyone is invited! Come join the discussion.

Barbara Iannelli

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Daughters of the King

The International Order of the Daughters of the King is a lay religious order of Episcopal women dedicated to service, prayer and evangelism. This year, the members of the order at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity have continued in that prayer and service. The chapter had the opportunity to serve at the homeless shelter last winter, with plans to serve again this coming year. In December, the Daughters placed luminaries outside the cathedral for Bethlehem's Light up Night. The chapter prays continually for all needs as requests are received. The chapter welcomed two new members this year, and is planning an informational event for those interested in finding out more about the Order.

Jodi Porterfield

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Education for Ministries (EfM)

Lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church's faith in a complex and confusing world. They need a theological education which supports their faith and also teaches them to express that faith in day-to-day events. As the emphasis on lay ministry has grown, EfM has come to play an important role by providing a program that develops an informed and knowledgeable laity. All baptized Christians are called to be active participants in the church's total ministry. This TOTAL MINISTRY is nothing less than the exercise of the church's vocation to continue the ministry of Jesus. He reconciled the world to God. We are called to incarnate that reconciliation in our own time and in our own place through worship, service to others, and by proclamation of God's Word to all people.

The seminar group is the nucleus of the Education for Ministry program. A group consists of six to twelve participants and a trained mentor who meet weekly over the course of a nine-month academic year. These meetings are usually from two to three hours in length. Through study, prayer, and reflection, EfM groups move toward a new understanding of the fullness of God's kingdom.

Participants are given weekly assignments to study with the help of resource guides. They are responsible for setting their own learning goals. Participants generally spend between two and four hours in study and preparation each week. In the seminars members have an opportunity to share their insights and discoveries as well as to discuss questions which the study materials raise for them. Through discussion and guided reflection, the seminars furnish an opportunity to deepen understanding of the reading materials.

More important is the development of skills in theological reflection. The goal is to learn to think theologically. By examining their own beliefs and their relationship to our culture and the tradition of our Christian faith, participants can learn what it means to be effective ministers in the world. In coming to terms with the notion that everything we do has potential for manifesting the love of Christ, we discover that our ministry is at hand wherever we turn.

Cathedral Church of the Nativity hosts two EfM seminar groups, one that meets on Wednesday mornings and the other on Wednesday evenings. There are currently 7 Cathedral members actively involved with EfM. Two are mentors and 5 participants.

Cathy Bailey
Co-Mentor of Wednesday evening EfM seminar group
Diocesan EfM Coordinator

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

The Gideons International

“...go into all the world...make disciples...”

This is a lay interdenominational outreach ministry, supported by prayers and donations of the Cathedral and other churches. It is not a church and is not a denomination.

We place Bibles or New Testaments around the world into 200 nations in many languages, at the rate of more than a million a week; God uses them, and we are all a part of this.

Last year, the Cathedral donated \$500.00, which bought 100 full Bibles, 400 pocket New Testaments with Psalms and Proverbs.

When you know someone in a hospital who may want a Bible, please have them ask a chaplain for one. They are available, but the patient needs to ask.

WEB

1. gideons.org – information, reports
2. blog.gideons.org – more reports
3. theLifeBook.com – This is a special book for students to take inside of public school, and it is to be requested by clergy to give to students at their church and is already paid for by donations.
4. APP – Gideon bible app, on the web. Many, many languages. Free

PRISONS

Our men members go into men's parts of prisons, and our women members go into women's parts of prisons to visit and to take Bibles or Testaments. See us if you would like more information.

VIDEO RESULTS

We have many first-person testimonies, from all over the world, on video. These are very significant. If your group would like to view one, please contact us. These include people from all walks of life, who did not know about “starting life all over.” In each case, their true story involved this outreach.

Charles and Laura Drum

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Healing Ministry – The Order of St. Luke



The Home for Healing and Wholeness was started in September 2019 to awaken the wonders of our spiritual lives and nurture healing, harmony, and hope. Through this ministry, there are a variety of offerings that our Cathedral community and others can participate in.

- * **Tai Chi:** Rooted in ancient Chinese martial art, Tai Chi helps to manage stress, promote health, increase flexibility, and invite one into meditation. Classes are taught by Mr. Tom Ardizzone, who has been practicing Tai Chi for over 25 years.
- * **Reiki:** This Japanese practice promotes relaxation, wholeness and healing through the laying on of hands and energy healing. Reiki treatments are offered on the last Saturday of the month before Celtic Spirituality night. You can also learn how to do Reiki yourself! Classes are taught monthly by Dr. Connie Andrejko. Finally, a Reiki Share is held the last Saturday of the month for those who want to practice their Reiki skills.
- * **Laughter Yoga:** Laughter Yoga classes are held the second Thursday of the month. Participants join together to enjoy the four elements of joy: Laughing, Playing, Singing, and Dancing. The gathering is a good laugh that can lift your mood! Classes are taught by Lucy Dadlani and Lisa King.
- * **Mindfulness Meditation:** Come learn, relax and be present with a gathering of people who are new to meditation or have been practicing for a while. Kevin Siddons, Ed.D has been involved with meditation since 1974 and leads his classes through Sitting Guided Meditation, Walking Meditation, and Sitting Silent Meditation.
- * **Group Spiritual Direction for Moms:** Held monthly, this group provides space for moms to tend to their own spiritual well-being and others. Led by Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, Spiritual Director.
- * **Candlelight Yoga and Compline:** A meditative yoga session is held monthly in the Cathedral to help one “detox” from the stress of the day using gentle stretching and comfortable positions. Following yoga, listen to the beautifully sung prayers inviting participants to holy peace.
- * **TonyTalks:** A short talk on Celtic Spirituality and prayer by Dean Pompa is offered the last Saturday of the month after Celtic Spirituality night. Learn about the Celtic Way, Wisdom, and Prayer.

- * **InterPlay:** A class of gentle movement and stories, silence and song, ease and amusement is offered monthly. Led by Sarah Carlson and Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, InterPlay Facilitators.

Please visit our website, www.nativitycathedral.org/healing-wholeness for more information.

Connie Andrejko

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY History Group

The History Group is happy to report that we have a new member, Terry Wentz, who attended our history meeting this month. Terry is from New York originally and loves the fellowship and spirit here at Nativity.

This coming year one of our goals is to grow our membership in order to better execute our Mission Statement which is “to preserve the church’s history through the collection of objects, photos, documents, oral histories, artifacts, memorabilia and written material”.

We are now very fortunate to have a spacious room on the first floor of the Deanery. This room now serves as the church archives and meeting room for both the History Group and ShareCare Faith In Action. Over the last few months our room was totally renovated after asbestos was found in the ceiling. The beam work above was reinforced, a new ceiling installed and the room totally repainted. We also thank ShareCare for donating two large file cabinets in which to protect our history material. Our church is truly fortunate to have this comfortable and secure room for all church members to enjoy.

We continue to work on organizing our computer data base and invite church members to stop in and do research or read some of our interesting books. We do require that all materials be left in the room, however copies can be made in the ShareCare office across the hall.

The History Group meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 PM. If you enjoy history and would like to learn more about Nativity, please join us at our next meeting.

Sandy Kelley
Chairperson, Cathedral History Group
484-860-3096

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

One of the richest blessings in our community of faith is our liturgy. Each time we gather we are invited to corporately participate in the life of prayer. Our Book of Common Prayer is a storehouse of the expressions of our soul's longing to be at one with our Lord, and the opportunity to open our hearts and minds to the needs of others.

What are your habits of prayer beyond our corporate worship life?

We each have our individual practices of interceding for those who seek our prayers. As I visit parishioners, either in the hospital or in their places of confinement, I realize how valuable are our thoughts and prayers for one another. When we are depressed, ill, grieved or hurting, it is difficult to pray for ourselves. But there are always others who are willing to pray. The sun never goes down on the praying church, with the faithful around the world offering up intercessions.

I have intentionally learned something about those whose names are listed in our weekly service leaflet, to pray regularly for them and for others who request prayer. Perhaps you would join me in this ministry of lifting up the needs of others - that together we may

“ Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (I Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Laura Drum

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Every Sunday one of seven Lay Eucharistic Visitors takes the consecrated communion elements to those hospitalized parishioners who cannot get to church. In some cases they are in nursing homes. A shortened version of the service is shared, including scripture and prayer concerns. This is our congregation's way of helping them to continue to feel that they are a valid part of our parish community and not forgotten.

Sharing the table of our Lord in this manner is as much a personal blessing as it is to those we visit. Many times we are encountering a parishioner we have never met and this can be a time to get to know them better.

Nativity Cathedral is blessed by the faithfulness of Bonnie Kuronya, Connie Gilbert, Laura Drum, Nanci Funfgeld, Jeanie Earich, Martha Golfphin and Kit Hower. We are thankful for the many years Sarah Norwine served in this ministry and we miss her. If you feel called to or have an interest in serving our Lord through this ministry, please speak to Dean Pompa or to Laura Drum.

Kit Hower

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Monday Flower Group

The Monday Flower Volunteer Group has completed 46 years of sharing love and hope through flower arrangements for our hospitalized church members and clergy.

Each Monday a volunteer from this Flower Group produces and delivers beautiful flower arrangements from the altar flowers to our hospitalized parishioners. This is only one of many ministries that brings a strong spiritual relationship within the Cathedral family.

Our sincere thanks to this devoted group for their continued service, and we welcome new volunteers at any time.

Angelica Baez and Linda Hafich, Co-Chairpersons

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Nativity Youth Camp

Nativity Youth Camp continues to be an amazing experience for our young people. The third week of June, 53 campers and 25 adult staffers enjoyed a time of prayer, fellowship, and fun. The rain was abundant, but that didn't dampen our spirits. Brian and Marie Mauro served as Camp Directors. The Cathedral enjoys a partner in ministry with Camp Choconut, the place hosting our camp.

The annual Spaghetti Dinner occurs each year in February and is a celebration of camp and an important fundraiser. Though the dinner itself brings in funds for camp, camperships were created a few years back as a way to offset additional costs of camp. Donations can be made in memory of someone, in appreciation of your favorite camper (or counselor), or just the wish to keep this ministry going for another 100 years. There is a strong push for camperships during the Spaghetti Dinner, but they are actually available year round.

Many thanks for the community support that sends young people to camp for this formational and transformational experience. Nativity Youth Camp continues to be offered at no cost to participants. The financial cost of camp is \$13,000. Maintaining a no-cost experience for campers is only made possible by your generous support through camperships.

Submitted by Becky Berkenstock on behalf of camp staff

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

New Bethany Ministries

Now in our 35th year, we continue to serve the working poor families and individuals living in vulnerable populations like children and the elderly, needing our services. In 2019, New Bethany continued again to enjoy a greater recognition and support from a very diverse donor and volunteer base. This enabled us to better provide for the needs of our neighbors. This is possible thanks to the generosity of The Cathedral Church of the Nativity. Nativity is an integral member of the New Bethany family and its partnership makes it possible for New Bethany to successfully fulfill its mission.

In 2019 New Bethany Ministries:

- ❖ Served approximately **37,400 meals** with an average of **3000** meals per month in our Mollard Hospitality Center.
- ❖ Distributed food baskets to average of 300 households a month in our Food Pantry, serving **5,694** individuals across the community. Annually, these households are comprised of **3,961 adults**, **1,062 children** and **671 elderly** individuals. **722** complete holiday baskets with turkeys were distributed for Thanksgiving giving us a grand total of 930 meals served to our neighbors.
- ❖ Provided **2,713** showers.
- ❖ Provided housing to **25 families – 28 adults and 73 children** – staying in our Transitional Housing Program over the course of the year. Over **12,030 nights** of shelter were provided, with an **average length of stay of 119 days**. We also made sure that all our children had backpacks filled with school supplies to start the year.
- ❖ Provided housing to **5 families and 2 individuals** living in our Wyandotte Affordable Housing Apartments.
- ❖ Provided housing in a supportive living environment to **47 adults** in our Single-Room Occupancy Program with sites in South Bethlehem, Allentown, and Coplay.
- ❖ Managed the finances and provided case-management to **61 individuals** to maintain their self-sufficiency through our Representative Payee Program.
- ❖ Completed renovation on the Elliott Center for Community Partnerships where clients can obtain housing assistance, job search tools and case managed care. Our Digital Choice Food Pantry- serving those in need with healthier fresh food options. The new program will allow us to distribute fresh and nutritious food to not just our Southside neighbors but to all who are able to make it to us.

Thanks to the continued partnership between us, our programs have continued to flourish. We completed renovations on our digital choice food pantry, expanded our garden to grow our own produce, continued to offer a free farmers market (4th & 5th Saturdays of month from July-October) and developed additional relationships with farmers and food distribution organizations. We continue to be supported by the Two Rivers Health and Wellness Foundation, Walmart, Grow-a-Row, Plant-a-Row Lehigh Valley, and many local community gardeners and individuals.

As you know, without a clean, safe, and affordable place to live, individuals and families can never reach self-sufficiency and maintain their health. We have taken steps to further improve and expand our digital choice food pantry by providing access to clients choosing their own food

for themselves and their families. We also made significant progress to our housing and community partnership programs. These included: renovating the Elliott Center (the former food pantry), replacing the transitional housing roofs, painting the exterior of our building, replacing and painting our building doors and interior walls in our shelter rooms.

We are truly proud of our accomplishments in 2019 and recognize that it would be incredibly difficult to complete our work without your support. We know that the next year we will face many challenges, especially with the Federal SNAP benefit ruling. We estimate that there will be more individuals utilizing our pantry and Mollard Hospitality services. We know that throughout the years, we can count on the generosity and partnership between us. In 2019 alone the Cathedral donated \$15,000, we thank you for being a steadfast ally to our mission.

We look forward to the continuous strengthening our partnership with Nativity as we look toward the challenges of 2020 and encourage you to learn more about our mission through social media, or by signing up for our e-newsletter on our website.

On behalf of those we serve with a warm meal, monthly food baskets, the families, adults and children who are sheltered with us, the board, staff, and all our community family members, we thank you for your generosity.

Respectfully and Humbly Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra S. Bieber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sandra" and last name "Bieber" clearly distinguishable.

Sandra S Bieber
Director of Development and Communications

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Past & Present Luncheons

Our vision for this ministry is to bring people of all generations together in fellowship, to give a sense of belonging and inclusion to members who have not had a chance to be active in parish life, to open new doors for people through the breaking of bread, fun and conversation. We have a vision of older members sharing with younger ones.

Our goals for the coming year are to continue as we have, hoping to add some new faces along the way.

We will continue to have a short program followed by lunch. We put out a basket for donations, but do not charge for the lunch.

Our programs are aimed to entertain and enlighten our guests. We have done programs about the history of the church, had an antique appraiser, and clergy. In this past year we have had a look back at the heyday of Hess's complete with memorabilia and a fashion show by our amazing Thrift Shop, a wonderful view of our young people's trip to Navaho Land and more. Once again we have our annual Christmas cookie exchange and music. The next two are yet to be determined but we absolutely hope you will keep an eye out for the Past and Present Luncheons and come join us. Bring a friend. We have a great time cooking and decorating, but it is twice the fun if you join us.

Pam Bayliss

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Pastoral Visitors

As newer members of the Nativity congregation, we were apprehensive about serving as Pastoral Visitors. We understood the need and felt a calling. A training meeting was called, we attended, and our first visitation was scheduled.

With a pretty red plant and service pamphlet in hand, we stood at the apartment door and knocked. As we waited for someone to answer, the first words we should speak bounced around in our heads. More quickly than expected, the door opened and all we could manage was a big smile. I held out the plant and said, "This is for you." It turns out that smile and that pretty red plant were enough.

"Hello! How nice. You're from the Cathedral! Please, come in and sit down!" That afternoon we sat and chatted. We learned about many details of a life well-lived at Nativity. We learned about choirs and camps, of baptism and weddings, of sons and daughters, of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Sooner than we realized an hour had passed and our visit was over. "Thank you for visiting me. Please come again!" "Of course!" was our reply as we parted.

The openness of the sharing that we experienced was a blessing. From it came a clear understanding of the loving faithfulness which this parishioner has served the Cathedral and in turn we felt inspired to continue in the same. There have been more visits to others since that day and each time we feel it a privilege and a blessing to reach out in the name of Nativity.

We believe our Lord calls us to visit those of our faith community here at the Cathedral who for various reasons are not able to come to church and reap the joys of our worship and fellowship. Are you interested in being a Pastoral Visitor for a member of the Cathedral whom you would bless, and by whom you would be blessed? You may contact Dean Pompa or Laura Drum through the church office to express your interest.

Faithfully submitted,

Olivia and Joe Tramontana

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Philia Book Club

The Philia book group meets once a month, the third Thursday of the month in Room 23 at 11:00 a.m. We bring our lunches. Our selections vary from fiction to non-fiction, historical to contemporary and are recommended by our members. We discuss literature and life. Check the bulletin for what we are reading next. All are welcome to participate. Come and bring your book suggestions.

Barbara Iannelli

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Property Committee

The Property Committee is organized to assist the Dean and the Vestry with the major maintenance, renovation, and improvement projects at the Cathedral and its associated properties and buildings.

Committee members handle many aspects of the projects from the development of the specifications through the selection of the contractors, development of the proposal for approval by the Dean and Vestry, participation in the negotiation of the contract and overseeing the work. Typically, one of the committee members, with the assistance of other members, takes the lead in coordinating the work on each project.

The committee generally meets in the Sayre Hall upper floor conference room (Room 23) from 9:00-10:30 AM on the second Sunday of every month. Check with the Cathedral office for the exact schedule. New members are always welcome.

Last year's major activities included the following work.

- Renovation of the Old Deanery to prepare the apartment for occupancy which included:
 - Bringing the electrical system up to code.
 - Repairing the basement boiler room walls, installing a 2-hr fire rated ceiling, and replacing the wooden doors with fire rated metal doors.
 - The brick arches of the interior bearing walls in the basement were significantly compromised in the past by removing bricks to allow various utilities to pass through these arches rather than below. These utilities had to be rerouted, the first floor joists temporarily shored up and steel lintels installed.
 - Repairing the roof & resultant water damage to the apartment ceilings.
 - Repointing a portion of the exterior walls to prevent water infiltration.
 - Leveling the southwest portion of the second floor to correct a significant slope created by over stressing the wood floor joists due to deficiencies in the original construction and notching of the joists in the past to allow plumbing and heating piping to pass through. This work also required removal of the existing plaster ceiling containing asbestos in the History Room to gain access to jack up the second floor wood joists and to reinforce the joists. Also a new lay-in ceiling was installed.
 - Repainting the apartment.
 - It is estimated that the total cost of this work was \$100,000.
- Replaced the heating system in the Thrift Shop.

Other activities included:

- Migration of the security system from ADT to Modern Wilderness. The system is now scalable to include security cameras & panic buttons.
- Installation of a security entrance camera and door lock for the Cathedral offices.
- Replacement of the Ice Maker in the Kitchen.
- Repaired leaks in the various roof sections in the Cathedral & Sayre Hall.
- Painted the exterior of the wooden framed windows on the basement and first floors of Sayre Hall. The window frames were repaired and one deteriorated window was

replaced. All of the metal doors were repainted and two had to be replaced due to very significant deterioration.

This coming year's major activities will include:

- Rebuilding/repainting the wall in front of the Thrift Shop and along the steps from the Terrace to the Lower Parking Lot plus adding through wall flashing below the capstones.
- Rebuilding the steps between the Old Deanery and the Memorial Garden's back wall.
- Development of the proposal and, when funding becomes available, awarding the contract to replace the roof on the Old Deanery.
- Adding security lights & cameras around all building entrances and the existing parking lots.
- Adding Panic Buttons as needed in the Cathedral, Sayre Hall and the offices.

Come and join this exciting and rewarding ministry – your time and talents would be greatly appreciated.

L. Richard Woodyatt
Committee Chair

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

ShareCare Faith In Action

YOU are NEEDED!

ShareCare Faith In Action is an interfaith network of faith communities and the community at large within the Lehigh Valley which provides volunteers to help people who are elderly and /or disabled and are living independently. ShareCare recruits, trains and enables volunteers from its member congregations and the community to befriend and assist individuals living with disabilities and without adequate personal support. Its purpose is to provide transportation needs, friendly visiting, reassurance calls, shopping, yard work and light housekeeping, even including an option of visitations with therapy dogs! Its mission is to provide needed services that will enhance the dignity, independence and quality of life for all participants. We currently have 149 active volunteers providing over 6,300 hours to over 276 clients in three counties. We currently have a WAITING LIST of over 80 people seeking our services, YOUR services! Training, insurance and support are provided to all our volunteers. ShareCare is supported by the Cathedral Community through financial donations, in-kind donation of office space, volunteers, coordinators and trustees. To volunteer, make a contribution, or just ask questions, see your Cathedral member and ShareCare trustee and Board President Bill Yale (wryarts@rcn.com or 908-528-7903).

Bill Yale

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY Stewardship Committee

Stretching Towards the Love of Christ

Stretching Towards the Love of Christ was the motto of this year's Stewardship program. In stretching towards Christ, we walk in His footsteps and answer His call to love and mission. Our Cathedral community's witness to Christ's love is seen in our response to one another, South Bethlehem, our diocese and the world. By loving others, we love Christ.

Our program this year included seven witnesses from members of the parish, videos and letters. Sermons were preached, messages were shared, hearts were changed. All were motivational and thought provoking. While coming from different disciples, the message was consistent – the people of the Cathedral motivate one another to stretch towards Christ's love.

For the fourth consecutive year we have increased our financial commitment to fund Christ's ministries.

- We received 161 pledges in total, 5 more than last year.
- 45 families increased their pledge or 28%.
- There were 20 new or renewed pledges.
- Our account Bill Korp estimates that we will receive an 8% increase or total of \$521,000 in pledges for 2020.

The Stewardship Committee: Carl Chegwidden, Kyle Cole, Karen Norelli, Tony Pompa, Tom Stone and I thank you all for your faithful generosity. It is indeed a blessing to be part of this family.

Stretching Towards Christ's Love,



Deacon Charlie

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Sunday School

Our Sunday School program has gone through many changes over this past year. During the summer, the classrooms and offices downstairs were moved around, walls were painted and carpets shampooed. New things were coming in September.

Though we have used the Godly Play curriculum with our youngest children for many years, we have expanded these Godly stories throughout all of the lower grades. The children are loving the hands on approach and the word is spreading. Our numbers have more than doubled since last year and our rooms are filled on a weekly basis.

Our upper grades have gone through some changes as well. Grades 6-12 are separated into two groups, the Jr. High Group and the Sr. High Group. Each group meets on Sunday mornings for various topics and keynote speakers. Many thanks to the parishioners who have blessed us with talks about their faith, their professions, and where to start with college preparations. About once a month, these groups gather after church hours for fun and fellowship. Laser tag, hikes, escape room, scavenger hunt, and a trip to NYC 9/11 museum are a few activities enjoyed by the youth.

A trip to the Navajo reservation
oldest members of Nativity's
was to clear out a church
Memories made, bonds
That's what mission trips are



last August was a highlight for the
Sunday School. Part of their mission
cemetery in need of much repair.
strengthened, and service to God.
all about.

All of this growth could not be possible without the dedicated Sunday School teachers and mentors who have given their time, energy and love to the children of Nativity. Our programs continue to grow and prosper because of these devoted people. I want to thank all who support Nativity Sunday School.

Sunday School Staff:

Godly Play 3 years-K	Becky Berkenstock, MaryAnn Lynn, Alex McKee
Godly Play 1 st - 3 rd grade	Barbara Iannelli and Bonnie Kuronya
Godly Play 4 th & 5 th grades	Heather Scattergood, Karen Kitabwalla, Siobhan Ardizzone
Junior High Group	Meg Storm, Rob Curzi, Joe Mozingo, Karen Dieter
Senior High Group	Meg Seltzer, Connie Andrejko, Kabir Golfphin, Sandy Milien

Becky Berkenstock, Lay Christian Formation Leader

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Third Millennium Fund (TMF)

The Cathedral Endowment for the Third Millennium (TMF) was created by a Vestry Resolution adopted on October 15, 2001 to enable the Parish to enhance its mission by initiatives beyond those possible in the annual operating budget. The Resolution established the Endowment Fund Board to serve as Custodian of the Fund and make recommendations to the Vestry regarding the use of the quarterly distributable income.

The principal of the Third Millennium Fund is invested in the Bethlehem Diocesan Investment Trust ("DIT"). Income based on this principal is distributed quarterly by the DIT to the TMF. The TMF Fund value was \$1,027,727 as of 12/07/2019.

Distributions from DIT to the TMF normally reflect average total returns on a three-year rolling basis. Distributions to TMF in 2019 were \$55,523. For 2020, it is expected that the distribution amount from DIT to TMF will be approximately \$55,350.

In accordance with the original Vestry Resolution, the principal of the Third Millennium Fund shall not be invaded, but the Fund income can be used in the following areas: 1) Capital Needs of the Parish, 2) Outreach Ministries, 3) Education and Training, 4) Projects of the Episcopal Church at home and overseas, 5) other purposes specifically designated by the donors.

The Third Millennium Fund Board usually meets quarterly. It considers petitions for funding from both within and outside Nativity. Board decisions are recommendations to the Vestry, which retains official authority over the allocation and expenditure of funds.

During 2019, the Board recommended approval for several funding requests of total amount \$55,523. These requests were for the New Bethany Spring Hunger Program, Fountain Hill Elementary School, Gideons International, The Nativity Youth Group Threshold Pilgrimage, Bethlehem Area Schools District Foundation Initiative, Share Care Faith in Action, Nativity Youth Camp, The Cathedral Choir Trip, The Seminary in the Southwest and the Cathedral Latino Ministry.

The TMF Board also encourages Cathedral parishioners to submit funding petitions which meet the criteria set forth in paragraph 4 above. All petitions should be forwarded to any of the TMF Board members listed below.

2019 TMF Board Members:

James Reader (Chairperson), John Randall, Siobhan Ardizzone, Karyn Arcario, Peter Hilgert, Ryan Bancroft, Karen Boksan, Meg Storm, and Alan Burke.

Ex-Officio: Dean Tony Pompa

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

The Wedding Belles

The mission of our committee is to provide hospitality and a welcoming atmosphere for the bridal party, family and guests. We make every effort to understand the presiding clergy's expectation, as well as the bride's and groom's desires.

We helped with two weddings at the Cathedral in 2019.

The members of the Wedding Belles are:

Barbara Appleton
Angelica Baez
Jeanie Earich
Linda Hafich
Marlene Malloy
Janet Martin
Patricia Sales

We are present at both the wedding rehearsal and wedding to help the bridal party in any way that is requested. The duties include:

- Showing them the areas where they can be comfortable before the wedding
- Making sure that any special seating requests are honored
- Making sure that all flowers are in the correct hands and places
- Assisting with the proper placing and timing of the wedding procession
- Helping the clergy to ensure the ceremony runs smoothly in a timely manner

Barbara Appleton
Janet Martin
Co-Chairpersons

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Welcoming Ministry Team

The Welcoming Ministry Team oversees the shepherding of new people into the parish. There are visitor cards and a pencil in each pew available to anyone looking for more information. When the office receives this card, one of our team members delivers a small gift of a coffee mug, with the church insignia on it, along with information about our parish, to each person expressing interest in our parish. We try to maintain some contact with that person or family with a phone call and an invitation to an upcoming event. A newcomer social event is held at the Dean's home once a year to help the newcomer get to know some members of the parish on a more personal level.

I enjoy delivering the newcomer information when someone is home. It is nice to put a face with a name. These people are always so very appreciative of receiving the information. What I hear the most from these people is "how warm and friendly" they feel our parishioners are to them.

With four services offered it is hard to know when someone is new. We want to be known as a warm and friendly church. To help accomplish this, team members should approach a new face and introduce themselves. Maybe they are a long-standing member, but maybe not. Take the chance.

We normally have only one meeting a year to keep in touch with committee members and discuss how their encounters go with possible new members.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like more information about this very important ministry at the Cathedral.

Jeanie Earich
Welcoming Ministry Team
610-248-5835
gearich@ptd.net

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Yarns of Love

Yarns of Love is a ministry of vibrant and passionate Cathedral and community knitters and crocheters who provide handmade prayer shawls, blankets, hats, scarves, mittens, bibs, prayer squares and washcloths to parishioners, family members, friends and organizations.

Cathedral recipients of these gifts include Cathedral's newly baptized, high school graduates, homebound and members in need.

Community recipients since the last annual report include the Celtic Classic, St. Luke's Rehabilitation and Hospice, Nurse Family Partnership, The Seamen's Church Institute, Mary's Shelter, Abington Manor, William Penn and Marvine Elementary Schools, Northeast Middle School, Keystone Mission in Scranton, Church of the Ascension in Silver Spring, Maryland, Home Care Assistance in Denver, Colorado and Crossnore School and Children's Home in North Carolina.

In the past year Yarns of Love has distributed over 145 prayer shawls, 36 lap and baby blankets, 333 hats, 67 scarves and cowls, 10 mittens, 70 bibs, 250 prayer squares, 30 soap sacks and washcloths.

In April members enjoyed the Yarns of Love Unwind weekend in Cape May, New Jersey.

In May we participated in the 6th Annual Community Retreat at the St. Francis Renewal Center.

In June we celebrated our 9th anniversary with a potluck picnic luncheon.

In October we attended the Annual Prayer Shawl Gathering where community knitting groups from across the Lehigh Valley shared patterns, stories and blessings.

Yarning Around of Lutheran Manor of the Lehigh Valley remains a satellite group of Yarns of Love.

Anyone interested in learning, as well as experienced people, are welcome to gather in Sayre Hall dining room on the second and fourth weeks of the month on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Lessons and supplies are provided.

Parishioners are encouraged to acquire prayer shawls, blankets and squares for people in need of comfort or as celebration gifts by contacting the church office.

Donations of washable yarn are appreciated.

This special ministry blesses all who participate and receive. To God Be the Glory.

Sally Snyder, Chair