

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2022 Annual Meeting
January 15, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1-2
MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

3-6
RECTOR'S REPORT

7
SR. WARDEN'S REPORT

8
STEWARDSHIP

9
WORSHIP COMMITTEE
music

10
WORSHIP COMMITTEE
flower guild
LIVE STREAM MINISTRY
LABYRINTH

11-12
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
children

13-14
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
youth

14
PARISH LIFE
COMMUNICATIONS

15
SPIRITUAL FORMATION

16
BUILDINGS
GROUND

17-18
OUTREACH

19-20
INREACH/PASTORAL CARE

20
WELCOMING COMMITTEE

21
FINANCE COMMITTEE
LIFE OF OUR PARISH

22-27
TREASURER'S REPORT /BUDGET
Addendum
NEW VESTRY BIOS

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER & WELCOME

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in this Annual Meeting for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO ORDER

ELECTION OF NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

- ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- INTRODUCTION OF VESTRY NOMINEES - see addendum
- ELECTION OF NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

REPORTS

- RECTOR'S REPORT
- FINANCIAL REPORT - Les House
- BUDGET PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION
- STRATEGIC PLAN

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting
Saint Gregory the Great
January 23, 2022

The meeting took place via Zoom. Mother Nikki opened with a prayer and called the meeting to order.

Election of New Vestry Members

Jane Hudson read the vestry eligibility requirements. The proposed vestry slate for the January 2022 – January 2025 term of Stacie Court, Gail Eilers, Lane Norton, Maggie Reinberger, and Mark Richardson introduced themselves. Biographies for each candidate have been published in the Friday newsletters and service bulletins. Nikki recognized the outgoing vestry members, Kelly Black and Julie Worley, and thanked them for their service. Nikki explained the procedures to be used for voting (the poll feature) and noted that this was a slate election rather than an individual election, with the online poll asking for a yes or no vote of the full slate. The proposed slate was approved by unanimous vote. Nikki welcomed Stacie, Gail, Lane, Maggie, and Mark as new vestry members.

Rector's Report

Nikki highlighted her written report which was presented in terms of the Nourish, Grow, and Go Strategic Plan. She indicated that we are still doing Nourish, Grow and Go but it's been modified due to the pandemic. Nikki recognized individuals noted in her report and shared that ten new households joined during COVID. She noted that St. Gregory had been very active last year doing what God has asked us to do, with most of our ministry in giving.

Financial Report and 2022 Budget

Les House highlighted the Treasurer's Report and provided a review of 2021 which resulted in a surplus of \$11,102.

Les indicated that a budget has not been developed for 2022 because pledged income is 19% lower than the anticipated expenses for 2022. Most of these expenses are nondiscretionary and are mostly employee and utility related. Les indicated that based on current pledges received and expected expenses, approximately \$44,000 will need to be cut from expenses. Les indicated that a budget will be presented to the vestry on Tuesday, January 25, for the vestry to determine spending priorities for 2022. *Note- the budget provided in the Annual Report was copied over from 2021 and should be disregarded*

Nikki noted that this means that cuts will be made to ministry since that is the only area that can be cut. Discussion followed. Pledge and non-pledge revenues were discussed as were some expense line items. Nikki indicated that the doors would stay open and that no one will lose their jobs. As soon as the vestry can determine budget cuts, they will let everyone know.

Discussion was held on stewardship and its importance. Peter Rice indicated that he would be retiring as head of the Stewardship Committee. Nikki thanked Peter for his time as Stewardship Chair. Discussion followed. Alice Mohor, Anna Hiers, Jill Crandall, and Jamaica Miller volunteered to be on the Stewardship Committee. Stacie Court will help when she is available.

New Staff

Nikki noted that the Youth Program was cut in 2020 because of the pandemic and was reinstated in 2020. Wade McGlamery has been hired as the Youth Director.

Catherine Drewry will be taking an unpaid one-year sabbatical in 2022. Doug Adkins, who is in discernment to become a priest in the Episcopal Church, has agreed to fill in for the year, starting in February.

continued on next page...

Allena Armour, the church Sexton, needs to step away due to family responsibilities and a search is being made for a replacement.

Strategic Plan

Nikki reminded all that the Strategic Plan was made in pre-pandemic 2019 and that the church membership and budget were growing before COVID. She noted that the Strategic Plan goals will be reached at different dates and in different ways than originally planned but that we will continue to do God's work.

The meeting was closed with prayer and adjourned at 1:44.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Moffett.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Hi there All of You Most Beautiful Beloveds!

As always, I am so thankful this year for you, St. Gregory the Great, for our diocese, TEC worldwide and for God's goodness to us and through us this past year. And one blessing that I am particularly grateful for is that this is the first meeting since 2020 that will be in person again! Thank you so much to those of you who are able to greet and meet face-to-face this year!

And just imagine, this year, with the exception of 4 weeks, mid-January through early February of 2022, we were able to worship God together in person!! Yay! It's been a journey hasn't it? God saw us through 24 solid months of at first not meeting at all, and then on-again-off-again occupying the building, and here we are, still loving, growing, and giving as we follow Jesus into our holy future! At St. Gregory the Great, we continued to NOURISH, GROW, and GO* with God, because whenever the buildings have closed, YOU, the CHURCH, remained not only open, but hard at work.

This has been a year of communal renewal for us, since this is the first (almost) year we've been able to gather for worship, committee meetings, and events.

Nourish:

Our excellent **staff** has continued to do the work of God here as we praise God and nourish one another through our worship, both in person online through YouTube. Our Deacon, the Rev. Christina Dondero has continued to be a stellar preacher, teacher, and source of pastoral care. Joe Napoli and Jonathan Klein, continue to serve with excellence in their ministries of music. And this was the year that we finally were able to see to fruition the dream Joe had in 2019, with the stellar performance of a piece commissioned just for our 50th anniversary, Living Christ, Our Rock and Foundation by Lloyd Larson, (with the composer in attendance). Thank you, Joe! And Jonathan, as always, joyfully performed extra and new duties, so that online services continued for regular and special services (i.e. weddings, funerals, Blue Christmas, etc.), all the while making beautiful organ and piano music and working with Joe with the choir, soloists, and other musical guests. Bless you both!

And while Catherine Drewry has continued on sabbatical, the Rev. Doug Adkins (newly ordained transitional Deacon...yay!!) has been tireless and endlessly creative in his direction of Children's ministries, and our children have grown quite fond of him. Jude Red-Bear, our nursery director, and Missy Hamlin, provided fantastic nursery care for our littlest ones, pleasing parents and wee ones alike. Wade McGlammery, our Youth Formation Minister and Acolyte Coordinator, has had great success with formation visits for our youth to other houses of faith, as those field trips have been quite popular. He also continues to our young ones to prepare for a pilgrimage this summer and to attend our other fun EYC activities. Adult Formation chairs, Ron Hudson and the Rev. Ellen Richarson, have continued running the fabulous programs of Sacred Ground, regular Bible Study, and a beautiful in-person Advent series this past year. And Les House has carried on the wonderful traditional Sunday School class on the weekly Lectionary readings. Thank you all!

Mark Hein continues to extend excellent care for our grounds for which we are extremely grateful! His hard work allowed us to have shade on the patio courtyard, and to be able to hold on-site weddings and funerals again.

continued on next page...

While we don't have a singular sexton, we've received lovely service from the Peachy Green Clean Co-op company. Many thanks to their owner and employees who have worked hard to keep our buildings clean.

Of course, Kendall Kookogey, who does double duty as Parish Administrator and Bookkeeper, (and other duties as assigned) continues to be an amazing asset to me and to the entire church, keeping things running so smoothly.

And there is absolutely NO WAY we could have continued worship online without the work of Anthony Barkdoll, Livestream Coordinator and Terri Tillman, Webmaster and Livechat Moderator.

Last but not least, we added a new part-time staff person as Coffee Host...the ever-popular Danielle Vogt, (whoever offers coffee in the morning is most certainly popular!) who does set up, serving and clean-up for the coffee hour after our two Sunday services. As we have experienced in the past year, without her, there would be no coffee hour on many a Sunday, so thank you, Danielle!

The ministries of all these exceptional people form the firm foundation upon which the spiritual nourishment of our congregation rests. God is active in our church family through you all. Thank you!

The **Vestry** has accomplished so much this year, (see the stellar Sr. Warden report) and I am loathe to say goodbye but delighted to say thank you to our three outgoing vestry members: Caley Ross, Eddie Bennett, and last, but not at all, least, our spectacular Senior Warden, Jane Hudson, for their excellent service in the ministry of leadership. A special thank you to Chrissy Moffett, who has served nearly two full years running, as Clerk of the Vestry, and has trained Anna Thornton, who is already serving currently as Clerk of the Vestry.

Part of what nourishes us is this beautiful campus that is a reflection of God's glory in nature and we've been good stewards of that with

- In-person (and online) 51st Anniversary Celebration on our September feast day, with 112 persons in attendance and 123 views online.
- Folks continue to serve in their ministries with generosity and good will, now with a mixture of online up through March when we could meet. Those who have been able to continue via Zoom and other online means have done so, most notably: the Men's Group, the Book Group, Stewardship, Threads of Prayer, the Dream Group, a Let's Chat Group for the women of the parish, Bible Study/Lectionary Discussion.
- So many groups had to renew membership, with some even starting from scratch. Many thanks to Anna Hiers for heading up, assembling and training ushers this year; Barbara Dean, leading and training altar guild both new and old; Lane Norton continuing to lead the absolutely gorgeous work of the Flower Guild and the Labyrinth Ministry, and Alice Mohor who continues to lead the Greeters with open hospitality. All of these folks have continued their work in maintaining sacred beauty and function for our services of worship, with faithfulness, grace and more than a little elbow grease and sweat. Thank you!!

continued on next page...

Grow:

- Our Average Sunday Attendance (not counting online) began with an average of 69 and ended this year with an average of 117, with the majority of Sundays for the last 6 months reaching 110 or more (again, not counting online). That is a spectacular renewal in this age of uncertainty and decline in national church attendance in general. Bottom line, as happened online last year, is now happening in person this year...we are still growing in numbers and in spiritual maturity, and for that, I thank God and you.

Also, I include here our growth in our relationship with God through giving, as a church body. Budgets are holy documents that help determine how much and how well we can do the work God has given us to do here and in the world. Even in a time of financial uncertainty and, for some, financial difficulty, St. Gregory the Great has continued to give! Thank you to Les House, our Treasurer, Jeff Welch, chair of the Finance Committee, and Richard Cooper, Reconciler for all the hard work done to maintain our financial records! They do a stellar job!

And due to that financial difficulty and uncertainty that so many are experiencing, we did not receive enough in pledges this year to meet our ministry goals, while also paying employees and meeting our monthly utility and service obligations. Thank you to those who have already given in terms of pledging, because of you we can do some of what God is calling us to do. Thank you to those who wish to pledge and cannot. God and your family at church understand. God loves us from the tops of our heads to the tips of our toes whether we give or don't give.

For those who have the ability to give and are possibly still deciding how to give and how much, please consider pledging so that we can increase our budget to at least meet our minimum costs. And in the end, please pray for the vestry as we make hard decisions about this year's budget, making cuts to programming and ministry costs so that we may pay our employees a fair wage and meet our outreach and formation goals.

Go:

This is loving others through mission: giving in practical ways and sharing the good news out in the world:

- The Rector's Discretionary Fund has been used for aid with rent, food, heat, medicine, and camp scholarships. On the worldwide scale, this fund has also made donations, a world hunger organization, and the Episcopal Church in Ghana.
- Through our diocesan assessment (roughly half of which goes to outreach...so, around 18,000) we assist with Emmaus House (serving the impoverished in inner city Atlanta), The Friendship Center at Holy Comforter (serving those with moderate to severe mental and physical disabilities in Atlanta), The Church of the Common Ground (church without walls serving the homeless in Atlanta), Chattahooche Valley Episcopal Ministry (household essentials, transportation, medical needs, etc to the impoverished in the Chattahoochie Valley area), the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing
- We also lend our campus buildings at low or no cost to AA, Al Anon, Yoga Class, a ministry run by our own Anna Hiers, and a local Tai Chi class.

continued on next page...

All of this is over and above the excellent work done by our Mission and Outreach Committee (please see their report), Pastoral Care (they don't just do inreach, but care for those who are not members or attendees here), and those done by other ministries in our body (please see the Ministries Booklet, done by Katheryn Musholt).

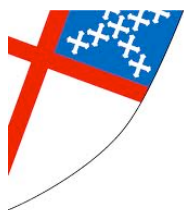
This means that more than 10% of our budget goes to outreach. And it is my intention that we keep growing in our monetary AND hands on commitment to GOING into the world, giving in love to the glory of God.

I have not highlighted everything we have experienced and done in the past year, simply because I can't. Jesus has been busy in this place, through all of us, in the power of the Holy Spirit! And I am so blessed as a rector to be able to say that! I love my church family here, so much more than you know! Thank you for an absolutely blessing-filled fourth full year (and some) in this church. I pray I'm blessed to experience many, many more!

In abounding love and great joy,

Nikki+

***What is Nourish, Grow, and Go?** As you may remember, NOURISH, GROW, and GO is what we as a parish discerned God was calling us to do, as we came together in prayer, holy listening, and sharing with one another in 2019. We began with more than 70 parishioners participating in the visioning focus groups, more than 100 in the CAT, and then over 2019-2020 more than 20 on work committees, and more than 30 provided feedback on draft strategic plan. Thank you all for being so diligent in this call, with special thanks to Rhonda Packer, Beth Thornton, and Kelly Black for spearheading the work on our Nourish, Grow, and Go Strategic Plan. (Please see this plan as detailed on our website at your convenience.)



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

At the Annual Parish Meeting, held virtually through Zoom on January 23, 2022, parishioners from the 51 households that signed in elected five new Vestry members for a three-year term, 2022-2025: Stacie Court, Gail Eilers, Lane Norton, Maggie Reinberger, and Mark Richardson.

At its January Vestry meeting the Vestry elected Jane Hudson for a second term as Senior Warden and LeeAnne Krause as Junior Warden for 2022.

The 2022 budget was presented to the Vestry by the Finance Committee at its February Vestry meeting and was passed unanimously. Between January 1 and February 12, 2022, St. Gregory the Great operated under a "Must Pay" budget that enabled payment of salaries, utilities, and contracts. This interim budget was necessary because pledges initially didn't meet the operating needs of the church.

A need for additional parking for less mobile church attendees was identified, along with possible ideas to meet the need. Until the number of parking places closer to the church can be increased, a suggestion was made to the congregation in Friday newsletters and in our service bulletins asking those who are able to park farther away from the church, enabling those who are less mobile to use the closer parking places.

St. Gregory the Great was given a gift of \$56,682 with no designation made for its use. The gift is from the estate of a church member, whose family asked that the donor remain anonymous. The Vestry has compiled a list of projects on which the money might be spent, and the list has been posted with the monthly Financial Report on bulletin boards in the Christian Education Building and in the Parish Hall.

The 2023 basic operating budgets and requests for one-time special projects (for possible funding from the \$56,682 gift) were due on July 1 in order to formulate an operating budget in advance of the fall stewardship drive.

In May the Vestry signed a Certificate of Endorsement for Ordination to the Priesthood, Diocese of Atlanta, for Will Drosos.

Without a chair, for which no one will volunteer, the Parish Life Committee has been suspended. Parishioners who participate in the coffee hour between services are providing baked goods for coffee hours, and the parish is paying a coffee host to set up for coffee hour, make coffee, and clean up.

The Vestry has approved a Native Land Statement, prayer, and a recipient for our financial contributions based on who first inhabited the land our parish now occupies. In our land statement we acknowledge the early injustice to Muscogee and Creek peoples and the distortion of the Christian principles we believe in. The statement, prayer, and recipient of our financial contributions will be voted on by the congregation at the Annual Parish Meeting on January 15, 2023. Further, the Vestry highly recommends that its members participate in Sacred Ground, a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith, during their term on the Vestry.

The roadside sign directing drivers to St. Gregory the Great, located at the intersection of Barnett Shoals and South Barnett Shoals Roads, had faded to illegibility and has been replaced with a new aluminum sign.

The Vestry unanimously agreed to support the recommendation of David Stooksbury's Parish Discernment Committee that he continue his discernment process at the Diocesan level. David later asked that this process be postponed for one year so he can address job requirements imposed on him by the University of Georgia.

Our Rector nominated and the Vestry unanimously approved Les House to continue as Treasurer and Jeff Welch to continue as Chair of the Finance Committee for another three-year term, 2023-2026.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Hudson, Senior Warden

STEWARDSHIP

In an effort to verify the postal contact information for our church parishioners and encourage the effectiveness of our weekly email church newsletter, we sent a letter to the known postal address of every church parishioner or family. This church-wide mailing was accomplished with the assistance of our parish administrator. Our church welcoming committee contributed a portion of its budget to fund the postage required to complete this church-wide mailing.

With the assistance of all of our committee chairs and parish administrator, we generated an updated church ministries booklet. The booklet included descriptions and contact information for each of our church lay ministry committees. Copies of the booklet were distributed among our church parishioners to encourage an increase participation in our many lay ministries.

Our annual pledge campaign included an additional parish-wide mailing to every church parishioner or family. This mailing included a request for a pledge of a portion of everyone's time, talent, and treasure to our church for the good of God's people through the mission of God's church. To encourage pledges, individual parishioners shared their personal reasons for contributing to further God's mission at our church at both worship services for six Sundays. Encouragements to pledge also appeared in several email newsletters. Pledges received were acknowledged in hand written thank you notes mailed to participating individuals and families. Our pledge drive was also assisted by our parish administrator.

Our committee members were Alice Mohor, Stacie Court, Anna Heirs, Jill Crandall and Jamaica Miller and our lay speakers were Alice Mohor, Stacie Court, Kate Avinger and Eddie Bennett.

Submitted by Alice Mohor, chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MUSIC

To: St. Gregorys Parish
From: Music area at St. Gregorys
Re: 2022 Annual Report for Music

The music program at St Gregory's is honored to have provided music each and every week for worship this past year regardless of size or format. In the last 12 months variety & flexibility were on the menu beginning with online offerings that once again transitioned to a more traditional worship in the Nave. We've also held memorial services for our beloved, hosted concerts and recitals, and provided a program & space that celebrates God's gift of music to us all. Our church choir has continued to serve and sing beyond expectations these many months and we are very grateful for the dedication and faithfulness of our volunteer singers. You all are the real reason this all is possible! It is our hope that this ministry has provided a soundtrack for fellow Gregorians to stay connected to their faith (and each other) through music and lyrics.

Additional thanks Vicky and Mark Tavernier for their music and leadership with the Band of Believers during the 5pm Christmas Eve service, and to ALL our guest soloists and instrumentalist throughout the year.

A special thank you to all the parishioners who have made financial contributions to the music program at St. Gregorys in 2022. Throughout the year your donations both big and small have made it possible to purchase many of the anthems, books, and equipment we use here at the church as well as invite special musical guests for worship. Your contributions make attaining these things a reality for a program of our modest size.

We look forward to making music in ALL of its forms this upcoming year. Regardless of the circumstances, it is always an exciting time in our music ministry to focus on faith through praise and song.

If you've ever thought about singing or making music at St. Gregory's please consider joining the choir and music ministry here at St. Gregory's. Everyone is welcome join in the fun, work, and fellowship of serving God and his people through music.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jonathan Klein & Joseph Napoli

WORSHIP COMMITTEE FLOWER GUILD

For 42 weeks of the calendar year, the Flower guild comes together to provide a ministry of seasonal flowers. The remaining 10 weeks consist of 6 weeks of Lenten and 4 weeks of Advent display. The current 6 member team divide the duties up, accordingly, with the full team coming together for Easter, Advent and Christmas.

Each individual is responsible for providing flowers and arranging them. Purchased flowers are reimbursed by the church.

We honor dedications requested by parishioners and quite often extend our ministry to parish funerals and special receptions.

Lane Norton

LIVE STREAM MINISTRY

To: St. Gregorys Parish
From: Livestream Ministry
Re: 2021 Annual Report

In Advent of 2021, St. Gregory's initiated a new Livestream ministry dedicated to providing weekly online access to all for our Sunday worship services (via Youtube). We are happy to report that the first year (2022) has been a resounding success with a service broadcast each week since beginning. Thanks to Anthony Barkdoll coordinating the Livestream ministry and to the Livestream volunteer team of Pete Nicolas, Alec Nelson, Jeff Welch, Ron Balthazar. Special thank you to Terri Tillman for her time and talents in moderating the online chat during worship and overall tech support. You all are awesome!

Respectfully submitted by Jonathan Klein

LABYRINTH GUILD

The canvas labyrinth that St. Gregory's purchased in 2001 as a replacement for the permanent Labyrinth which was displaced by the building of the sanctuary, was a joint acquisition made possible by parishioner donation and the Trinity grant.

Because of its size, 32 ft. diameter, it is only possible to lay it out in the Parish Hall. In 2022, this was done for a few days in Holy week and a few days around All Saint's. It is very difficult to find times that do not interfere with other activities in the Parish Hall.

The labyrinth guild has been investigating possibilities for a new outdoor, permanent labyrinth. Location, size, and building materials are all being considered.

An especially exciting possible design is based on the Reconciliation Labyrinth built in Cape Town, South Africa. Unlike the Chartres or Classical labyrinth, participants may enter via 2 separate entrances, walk their own path to the center, meet, and walk out of the center together.

Lane Norton

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN

Children's Ministries Annual Report for 2022 **St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, Athens, Georgia**

Doug Adkins began serving in February, as he was beginning the postulant period of his discernment process.

In late February, we resumed weekly Children's Chapel during the 10:30 service. In mid-March we resumed weekly Children's Sunday School, using "Weaving God's Promises" from Church Publishing for our curriculum and meeting back in the upstairs rooms of the Christian Education building. Children are provided a take-home sheet (front and back) to share with parents, detailing: the Sunday School discussion in a nutshell; weekly prayers and Bible readings to use at home; and an "Episcopal connection" which helps children learn about distinctives in Anglican formation, history, and worship.

Doug typically leads the Children's Chapel time, using "Come and Worship" children's liturgy curriculum. The prayers, Psalms, and lessons use translations that are child-friendly. Catherine Drewry often used the same material.

Jenifer Marquardt and Jenifer Borg rotate the Sunday School class teaching. Kate Avinger, Rheena Campbell, and Wayne Coppins have served as Sunday School shepherds. Jenifer Marquardt and Jenifer Borg also rotate serving as shepherds for Children's Chapel. Throughout the year, we have averaged 5-8 children for Sunday School; 10-17 for Children's Chapel. For the past few months, usually 1-3 children have been acolyting during the 10:30 service. We have not been counting them toward our overall Children's Church numbers.

For the Season of Lent, we provided daily devotions for families to use together at home.

In April, the Children's Ministry provided the first in-person Easter Egg hunt since 2019. Including the children; pre-schoolers; and youth helpers - the hunt involved over 50 people under the age of 18.

In late June, Doug attended the Christian Education/Formation conference/retreat at Kanuga. Besides making good contacts and swapping ideas in workshops with Episcopalians from across the country, the worship was inspiring and soul-nourishing.

Vacation Bible School was held in mid-July this year. The theme was "Compassion Camp," and it was so good to have nightly meetings in person. The VBS workers included too many names to mention. We averaged 55 people each night, broken up in this manner: 30 children campers; 10 adult campers; and 16 workers/leaders.

In August we provided book bag tags as part of the "Blessing of the Backpacks" for all students and adults who were preparing for another year of school.

continued on next page...

In late September, with the assistance of Catherine Drewry and Eddie Van Giesen, we arranged for the much needed repairs of the older children's playground equipment. A new beam was installed on top of the large swings, and the fence around the top floor of the raised playset was repaired. All of this work was paid out of the Children's Ministry budget.

In October, we planned and facilitated a "Trunk-or-Treat and Halloweenie Roast" fellowship. This event, along with VBS, vies for my favorite event of the year - for the simple reason that so many neighbors attended. We had between 110-120 people involved, and several of them told me that it was the first time they had set foot on our property. I hope we can give intentional thought to planning more events that serve as a similar type of engagement with neighbors, and forming a good plan for contact information and follow-up with them.

We spent the Sunday mornings during Advent preparing for the Children's Christmas pageant. Kate Avinger, Jenifer Borg, and Jenifer Marquardt assisted with the preparations and dress rehearsals. Before Thanksgiving, I met with Vicky Travernier, who was enthused to gather a 2022 edition of the Believers' Band. They have been rehearsing during the Sunday School hour throughout Advent as well.

We were graced with the faithful return of St. Nicholas in person at the December 4 10:30 service.

On a personal note: I fly to Spain December 22, with my wife and younger daughter, to spend Christmas with my oldest daughter who is teaching English to elementary children while living in Granada. Jenifer Borg, Jenifer Marquardt, and Kate Avinger will be leading the Christmas Eve pageant. I am grateful to have completed my postulancy with the St. Gregory family, and am so excited for the opportunity to continuing serving with you during my transitional deaconate.

Many thanks to Gail Eilers for her support and encouragement as our Vestry liaison this year.

-Respectfully submitted by J. Douglas Adkins, Director of Children's Ministries at St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, 2022.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH

2022 Annual Report- Youth (grades 6-12)

St Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

Our youth program has slowly been growing out of an extended pause due to the pandemic. As we began to move past the worst of COVID in the Summer and Autumn of 2022, regular programming made a comeback and we hope that we will be able to build on this as we move into 2023.

This year our youth program has been split into two components- Sunday school and inter-belief field trips.

Sunday School

Sunday school classes are held on the first and second Sunday of each month from 9:15am-10:15am in the youth room, located upstairs in the parish hall building.

These classes have focused on fundamental Biblical history, literacy, and interpretation. Students are generally presented with a video or concept before engaging in a group discussion about their thoughts, feelings, and relevant experiences.

Though attendance at Sunday school was still fairly low, maximum attendance at Sunday school was generally 3-5 students along with myself and another adult volunteer.

Inter-belief Field Trips

These field trips are scheduled for the third and fourth Sunday of each month, unless the host congregation meets on another day of the week.

In 2022 our group has visited:

- Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Athens
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Athens
- Athens Society of Friends (Quaker Congregation)
- St Joseph's Catholic Church, Athens
- Congregation Children of Israel, Athens
- Chestnut Grove Baptist Church, Athens
- Al Farooq Masjid, Atlanta

The visits generally consist of a tour of the host facility, a worship service, fellowship with congregants along with a snack, and a Q&A period with youth leadership and/or clergy. We have received warm welcomes at all of these congregations and they have all invited us to visit again in the future. Our students, parents, and volunteer chaperones who have traveled with us have also reported a largely positive and informative experience and have expressed interest in more trips like these in the future.

Attendance on field trips has certainly been more consistent than Sunday school classes, with the maximum attendance usually being 4-6 students along with myself and at least one other adult volunteer.

continued on next page...

I would like to thank all of those who have volunteered their time to serve our youth program this year, whether it be in Sunday school, on field trips, or at events you have made my first full year at St Gregory's much easier-

- Kate Avinger
- Gina Defalco
- Marge Massie
- Lane Norton
- Maggie Reinberger
- Ellen Richardson
- Mark Richardson- a special thank you to Mark as the vestry liaison to the youth program
- Paula Sanford
- Roger Schwenke
- Tristen Webb

Respectfully submitted by Wade McGlamery

PARISH LIFE

no report

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

no report - see live stream

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Once the window of safety was opened for in-person worship and other meetings in early Spring 2022, Adult Spiritual Formation began a Sunday morning group from 9:15 – 10:15 am to explore the Gospel of Luke, chosen to accompany our Lectionary Year C, when the Sunday gospel readings come (mostly) from Luke. Everyone who attended offered great insights for one another right up until the last chapter in November 2022. Mother Nikki then offered a three week class on the spiritual gifts of Tarot.

During Lent, 2022, LeeAnne Krause presented a Wednesday evening series on Practices of Prayer, with participants sharing a simple meal before the program.

During Vacation Bible School/Compassion Camp, a sizable group of adults participated in a Bibliodrama workshop each evening offered by Matthew Rodgers, a friend of Wade McGlamery who is a Masters Degree Student at Kansas State University in Drama Therapy. It was a new and wonderful way to experience bible stories, and the instructor is willing to return for another offering some time in the future.

On Sunday evenings in May and June of 2022, Ron Balthazar offered a Faith and Nature series, where participants met to travel to homes and gardens to learn about Celtic traditions and Labyrinths, Buddhism and Nature, Faith and Climate Action, the Green Mystics and Creation Care.

Adult Formation has continued to offer Sacred Ground, a program of transformative dialogue on race and racism. From January 2021 through November, 2022, 32 members of St. Gregory have completed the 10 week program, spending time reflecting on personal family histories and stories, as well powerful films and readings from the course. A reunion of participants and others in March, 2022 led to suggestions for “next steps” our congregation may consider in God’s call for racial justice in our own community.

With this follow-up in mind, the Adult Formation Advent Program in 2022 invited speakers to share with us local issues and some programs that have been developed to address them. On December 1, 2022, Dr. Sandra Giles from UGA presented a segment of a film of Athens Vignettes, by playwright Dr Roshaunda Breeden about Baldwin Hall at UGA and the effects of “urban renewal” on the Linnentown Community. The Linnentown Quilt was brought that evening by Hattie Thomas Whitehead, the head of The Linnentown Project in Athens. On December 8, Rachel Bjork came to do a presentation on Jubilee Partners in Comer, GA, which serves immigrants and refugees. On December 15, Kimberly Davis presented the work of the Friends of Brooklyn Cemetery, a long-neglected African-American burial ground that is being brought back with community support to an accessible and important landmark in Athens.

Sunday morning Adult Formation will return with the consensus choice to continue a Bible Study with The Book of Acts, beginning Sunday January 8 at 9:15 in the Parish Hall.

Members of Committee: Ellen Richardson (Chair), Ron Balthazor, LeeAnne Krause (Vestry Liaison).

BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Report of the Buildings Committee, for 2021

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

Athens, GA

The Buildings Committee spent 2022 more in planning than doing. Paul Davis and his crew did paint the Parish Hall; Paul thanks again for all you do! The front doors of the Sanctuary also got refinished. And finally, an electrician rehung the light fixture that had dangled precariously above the pulpit for months. Also, a sail covering was installed over the patio to keep us cool and dry. Otherwise, many small repair projects filled Mark Hein's time, such as replacing thermostats.

For 2023 we have several larger jobs planned. Our resident painting genius, Paul Davis, will again be at work, this time on the exterior of the Christian Education Building, thus performing the hat trick and making all three buildings the same color for perhaps the first time in the congregation's history. The Christian Ed. Building will also receive a new roof, only the second in the building's life (pretty good for asphalt shingles!). The main parking lot will also get a much-needed patch.

Respectfully submitted by Mark Reinberger, Chair of Buildings

GROUNDS

Maintenance of the grounds continues weekly year-round.

Pine straw was collected from other areas of the grounds and used at the Memorial Garden, thus saving hundreds of dollars.

An electric blower and battery blower were purchased this year. These reduce our emissions/pollution by avoiding gas blowers.

Many thanks to David Lowe and Evan Powell for their continued work on the grounds.

*Mark Hein
Grounds*

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Through St. Gregory's visioning process, parishioners said we want to be a church that identifies, communicates, and focuses our gifts and talents to help meet the needs of others in the wider community and the world.

In keeping with those desires, as found in the following GO TO GROW Strategic Plan goals and actions, the Outreach Committee prioritized volunteer initiatives and fiscal disbursements to impact our wider Athens community.

GO TO GROW

Strategic Focus Area: Using a Systematic Approach, Parishioners Provide Food and Other Support to Communities of People in Need.

Goal: Use a systematic process to determine disbursements to agencies and organizations for adults and children in need of assistance.

Actions:

- The committee reviewed existing and new agencies and organizations to ensure that their purpose aligns with the vision and mission of St. Gregory.
- The committee approved a prioritized list of agencies and organizations to which disbursements will be made.

Goal: Partner with other churches and community groups to provide food and other support for adults and children in need.

Actions:

- Participated in Family Promise, a coalition of Athens Area churches whose mission is helping homeless families in crisis situations achieve sustainable independence. Volunteers provided meals, served as van drivers, and served as hosts during the weeks of February 26 – March 6; July 3 – July 10; and October 16 – 23. Provided \$800.00 fiscal support.
- Contributed non-perishable food items to Athens Area Emergency Food Bank through filling the Little Red Wagon each Sunday. Provided \$530.00 fiscal support
- Provided \$1840.00 to Covenant Presbyterian Food Pantry and volunteers to prepare grocery bags and distribute the bags to community families each Thursday.
- Provided \$750.00 to provide 150 meals to adults and children through Our Daily Bread in months having a 5th Monday (January 31, May 30, October 31).
- Provided \$1000.00 to Casa de Amistad Fondosolidario to support the under-served Hispanic community.
- Provided \$2700.00 to The Ark to support low-income Athenians who are facing financial emergencies and are struggling to meet life's basic needs.
- Provided \$800.00 to the Athens Area Homeless Shelter to support comprehensive services to homeless individuals and families working toward sustainable independence.
- Provided \$2000.00 to Jubilee Partners to support refugees and immigrants who have left their homes because of violence or persecution.
- Provided \$1000.00 to the Athens Community Council on Aging to support Meals on Wheels.
- Provided \$500.00 to the Athens Nurses Clinic to support free evaluations, treatments, and education for acute and chronic medical and dental conditions to uninsured low- and no-income area residents.

continued on next page...

- Provided \$300.00 to Bethlehem Ministry to support the educational, economic, environmental, and healthcare initiatives of Haitians.
- Provided \$300.00 to the Athens Empty Stocking Funds to help families at risk of eviction pay rent and take care of many other necessary expenses, including medical, power and water bills.
- Provided \$300.00 to Oglethorpe Community Christmas to help families pay heating bills.

Strategic Focus Area: Encourage Parishioners To Go Beyond Our Doors To Serve Children in Need

Goal: St. Gregory the Great will partner with the Clarke County School District and Barnett Shoals Elementary School to offer students support to enhance their learning and well-being.

Action:

- Contributed four large boxes and several bags of clothing to replenish the school’s student clothes closet.
- Provided \$360.00 for student Afterschool Program tuition to Barnett Shoals Elementary.
- Provided \$250.00 for Barnett Shoals teacher appreciation.

Goal: Continue the partnership of St. Gregory with Clarke County School District (CCSD) to serve students living on the margins.

Action:

- Provided \$1000.00 to the Homeless-Migrant Education program for student Afterschool Program tuition.
- Provided \$360.00 for student Afterschool Program tuition to Gaines School Elementary.
- Provided \$360.00 for student Afterschool Program tuition to Whit Davis Elementary.

Susanne Burton, Outreach Committee Chairperson

John Bray, Vestry Liaison to Outreach Committee

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Our Daily Bread | \$750.00 |
| FEAST | \$1840.00 |
| Family Promise | \$800.00 |
| Casa di amistad | \$1000.00 |
| CCSD Migrant ASP | \$1000.00 |
| THE ARK | \$2700.00 |
| ASP Barnett Shoals | \$360.00 |
| ASP Gaines & Whit Davis | \$720.00 |
| Athens Comm. Council on Aging | \$1000.00 |
| Barnett Shoals Teachers | \$250.00 |
| Jubilee Partners | \$2000.00 |
| Athens Homeless Shelter | \$800.00 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Athens Area Emergency Food Bank | \$530.00 |
| Athens Nurses Clinic | \$500.00 |
| Bethlehem Ministry | \$300.00 |
| Empty Stocking Fund | \$300.00 |
| Oglethorpe Community Christmas | \$500.00 |
| | \$15,350.00 |

INREACH/PASTORAL CARE

During 2022, Pastoral Care focused our work on (1) developing a committee mission statement, (2) determining parameters for implementing existing ministries, and (3) expanding programs in accordance with St. Gregory's *Strategic Plan*. Pastoral Care has 22 members who bring myriad gifts in providing care and compassion to our parishioners.

1. In March and April, members developed the following mission statement that serves as the touchstone for our work. The mission of Pastoral Care is to provide a compassionate response to the spiritual needs of our parishioners.
2. In support of the clergy, Pastoral Care members served and cared for our fellow parishioners through existing ministries.
 - Card Ministry. A total of 231 cards were sent for birthdays, bereavement, and illness.
 - Checking In. 111 contacts were made through phone calls, emails, texts, or visits.
 - DME Lending Library. 4 walkers and wheelchairs were checked out by parishioners.
 - Let's Chat. 323 contacts were made through this weekly online Zoom opportunity for women of the parish to discuss a variety of topics.
 - Meal Train. 30 meal trains were offered to individuals/families in our parish and 15 meal trains were delivered. Meal trains can last for a week or two, or longer if the recipient needs more sustained assistance.
 - Men's Group. 185 contacts were made through this weekly opportunity for men of the parish to discuss a variety of topics.
 - Threads of Prayer. 13 knitted and crocheted items were offered to parishioners in need of healing and comfort and 7 were delivered.
 - Transportation. 60 round trips were made. In April, the following parameters for transportation services were determined by the committee. ***Pastoral Care provides transportation for current members of St. Gregory the Great who need rides to church, church-related events, and medical appointments. Currently, we do not have resources to accommodate other requests.***

3. In accordance with St. Gregory's Strategic Plan, the committee expanded programs.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA: EXPANSION OF SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

GOAL: Expand the variety of spiritual formation programs to increase the variety of worship opportunities and to complement the usual Sunday offerings, especially to emphasize multicultural practices. The church should

- offer a variety of programs that respond to different stages of spiritual life
- meet the spiritual needs of different seasons of life and relationships and look for ways for parishioners to share their experiences across differences in age and stage
- recognize the complex and shifting social and cultural characteristics and values of our community
- enliven the meditative/contemplative paths of faith and explore new ways of engaging Scripture

continued on next page ...

ACTION: Establish new groups and programs to meet the needs reflected in the congregational survey, including groups for parents.

- On August 21, Pastoral Care surveyed parishioners regarding topics they want to know more and that would enrich their lives. Survey results were used to expand Pastoral Care by offering a Buddy Ministry (2022), Brown Bag Series (2022), and a Grief and Healing Retreat (2023).
- Buddy Ministry. 52 (26 pairs) parishioners aged 55+ are participating. The Buddy Ministry fosters connections among St. Gregory's senior adults. Participation criteria include: (1) volunteer to be partnered with a buddy and (2) work with your assigned buddy to schedule a weekly "check in" phone conversation in which you both participate. Just as Jesus sent the disciples out two by two, parishioners are paired so they can encourage and lift one another. Phone calls are not time intensive and can be made in the comfort of one's home. Buddy Ministry participants benefit from increased socialization, reduced isolation, and increased comfort in knowing someone is looking out for you and that you are looking out for them.
- Quarterly Brown Bag Series. 27 parishioners attended the first session held in Parish Hall on November 7. Robin Lacrimosa, Life Care Coach, presented on Managing the Aging Journey and addressed options, procedures, and costs related to home health care, aging in place, assisted living, long-term care, Veteran's pension benefits, Medicare, and Medicaid. **Note: On Sunday, February 5, UGA Health Science and Gerontology faculty will present on Healthy Brain – Healthy Body from 3-5 PM in Parish Hall.**
- Christmas Goodies. Teams of Pastoral Care bakers, packers, and drivers ensured that 31 tins were distributed to parishioners.

Submitted By:

Rhonda Packer, Chair

Stacie Court, Vestry Liaison

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

A web-master welcomed visitors, newcomers, and members to worship services in the live-chat during our live-streamed worship services. A shepherd welcomed worshipers to our Sunday services when the covid-19 pandemic limited our in-person seating. A greeter welcomed visitors, newcomers, and members to our 10:30 in-person Sunday worship services when covid-19 pandemic seating restrictions were relaxed. A greeter encouraged everyone to join our church mailing list and wear a name tag when attending in-person worship services in email newsletter announcements and in announcements made during in-person worship services. Handwritten welcome notes were mailed to every visitor that completed a visitor's card. Parishioners staffed a booth to welcome visitors to our church at Athens' First Annual Pride Parade celebration in June. Church members welcomed and introduced themselves to visitors, newcomers, and other church members in the live-chat during streamed worship services and during in-person worship services.

Alice Mohor, Committee Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE

see Budget Presentation

Life of our Parish

Baptisms in 2022: Joshua Lee Heard, Katharine Lynn Ross

Confirmations in 2022: Joshua Heard, Rebecca Welch, Porter Welch, Ruth Vann

Deaths in 2022: Katherine Penn Maltese, Peter Stone, Patricia Titus, Stephen Corn

TREASURER'S REPORT

Included in this report are the following items in listed order for the year ended December 31, 2022:

- Treasurer's comments
- Parish financial statements and information:
 - Calendar year 2022: **Analysis of Revenues & Expenditures – Budget- 2022.**
 - **Balance Sheet – ALL FUNDS 12/31/2022** (this reflects the financial position of the parish and shows the cash balances for all the funds)
 - **2022 Finance Committee Proposed Budget. The Proposed Budget will be submitted to the Vestry during their January 2023 meeting.**

Treasurer's comments:

Background: Operating Fund

The **Operating Fund** is used to record the day-to-day operations of the parish. Parish revenues such as pledges and other non-specific contributions made to the parish are recorded in the Operating Fund. The Operating Fund also records operating expenses of the parish such as employee payroll, utility bills, program expenses such education and youth, music, local outreach, etc.

Two notes of importance to the reader:

- The **Revenue and Expenditure** report is a detailed analysis of the budgeted operations. When you review the **Revenue and Expenditure** report, you are reviewing the *Operating Fund* budget.
- Our financial statements are prepared on a "cash basis." This means they actually show what we collect and what we spend in a given month and year.

Comments on the 2022 results:

- 2022 Approved Budget called for revenues of \$442,414, and expenses of \$443,172.
- The actual revenue was \$329,061, which is \$13,353 less than budgeted.
- The actual expenses were \$425,207, which is \$17,966 less than the revised budget.
- The surplus was \$3,855.
- The total local outreach expenditures for 2022 was \$13,477 (budget=\$12,237 & designated=\$1,240).
- Please read the financial statements for the details.
- I am always happy to answer any questions you have.

Comments on 2023 Proposed Budget:

- The Proposed 2023 Budget has a \$36,008 deficit.
 - The Finance Committee is asking the Vestry to cover the deficit with a portion of the \$56K 2022 gift on a as needed basis.
 - Local Outreach and all parish programs were cut to different degrees compared to the requested amount. Historical expenditures and available designated funds affected individual cuts.
 - The proposed cuts did include a 6% cost-of-living adjustment, and no positions were eliminated.
 - The proposed budget fully funds Building and Grounds.
-

| 2022 Revenue & Expenditure | 2022 Actual | 2022 Budget | Difference |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Revenue (+ Difference = Above Budget, - difference = Below Budget) | | | |
| 001751 - LOOSE PLATE OFFERINGS | \$1,813.50 | \$2,784.00 | -\$970.50 |
| 001752 - GENERAL PLEDGE PAYMENTS | \$374,692.84 | \$383,414.00 | -\$8,721.16 |
| 001753 - NON-PLEDGE TREND | \$48,968.80 | \$53,816.00 | -\$4,847.20 |
| 001760 - Other | \$599.89 | \$600.00 | -\$0.11 |
| 02762A - Building Use | \$2,986.00 | \$1,800.00 | \$1,186.00 |
| Total INCOME | \$429,061.03 | \$442,414.00 | -\$13,352.97 |
| EXPENDITURES (- Differences = Above Budget, + Differences = Below Budget) | | | |
| OUTREACH | | | |
| 001864 - DIOCESAN PROGRAM | \$40,284.00 | \$40,284.00 | \$0.00 |
| 001866 - LOCAL OUTREACH | \$12,237.35 | \$12,400.00 | \$2.65 |
| 001867 - RECTOR'S DISC. FUND | \$1,643.00 | \$500.00 | -\$1,143.00 |
| 01865A - Deacon - Continuing Education | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| 01865B - Deacon - Travel & Professional exp | \$864.88 | \$1,000.00 | \$135.12 |
| Total OUTREACH | \$55,468.91 | \$55,024.00 | -\$444.91 |
| PARISH PROGRAMS | | | |
| 001868 - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION | \$3,123.35 | \$4,300.00 | \$1,176.65 |
| 001871 - STEWARDSHIP | \$356.00 | \$500.00 | \$144.00 |
| 001872 - WELCOMING | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 001873 - WORSHIP | \$185.76 | \$0.00 | -\$57.89 |
| 001874 - MUSIC | \$7,230.10 | \$6,950.00 | -\$185.78 |
| 001875 - ACOLYTES | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | \$100.00 |
| 001876 - ALTAR GUILD | \$826.59 | \$1,725.00 | \$898.41 |
| 001877 - PARISH LIFE | \$1,180.53 | \$1,000.00 | -\$180.53 |
| 001878 - INREACH | \$166.40 | \$500.00 | \$333.60 |
| 001879 - VESTRY RETREATS/DIOCESAN | \$95.12 | \$250.00 | \$154.88 |
| 01868A - YOUTH GROUPS | \$90.36 | \$5,000.00 | \$4,909.64 |
| 01868E - Chr. Ed. Dir. Cont. Ed. | \$1,122.00 | \$1,000.00 | -\$22.00 |
| 01873A - Flowers | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01873B - SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01874B - ORGANIST CONTINUING EDUC. | \$344.42 | \$300.00 | -\$44.42 |
| 01878C - Library | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | -\$100.00 |
| 01878D - COMMUNICATIONS/PUBS. | \$361.60 | \$400.00 | \$38.40 |
| 01878E - Nursery | \$228.18 | \$500.00 | \$271.82 |
| 01878G - Vision Oversight | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total PARISH PROGRAMS | \$15,210.52 | \$22,725.00 | \$7,014.48 |

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| 2022 Revenue & Expenditure |
|---------------------------------------|

| | 2022 Actual | 2022 Budget | Difference |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| CLERGY | | | |
| 001881 - CLERGY SALARY | \$65,768.90 | \$64,769.24 | -\$999.66 |
| 001882 - HOUSING ALLOWANCE | \$20,000.14 | \$20,000.04 | -\$0.10 |
| 001883 - PENSION/CLERGY | \$15,438.48 | \$15,258.47 | -\$180.01 |
| 001884 - INSURANCE/CLERGY | \$35,681.00 | \$35,550.00 | -\$131.00 |
| 001885 - CLERGY CONTINUING EDUC | \$351.26 | \$400.00 | \$48.74 |
| 001886 - SUPPLY CLERGY | \$2,209.24 | \$2,700.00 | \$490.76 |
| 008831 - Sabbatical Expenses | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01885A - CLERGY TRAVEL & PROF EXP | \$3,394.41 | \$2,800.00 | -\$594.41 |
| Total CLERGY | \$143,343.43 | \$141,977.75 | -\$1,365.68 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE | | | |
| 001887 - SALARY/ALL LAY EMPLOYEES | \$116,362.70 | \$129,833.56 | \$13,470.86 |
| 001888 - FICA EMPLOYER | \$9,039.46 | \$9,932.27 | \$892.81 |
| 001889 - Parish Administrator Pension | \$2,158.68 | \$2,158.80 | \$0.12 |
| 001890 - SERVICE CONTRACTS | \$19,739.45 | \$15,000.00 | -\$4,739.45 |
| 001891 - OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$2,821.08 | \$2,700.00 | -\$121.08 |
| 001892 - POSTAGE | \$174.00 | \$480.00 | \$306.00 |
| 001893 - TELEPHONE | \$3,781.14 | \$2,340.00 | -\$1,441.14 |
| 001894 - MISCELLANEOUS ADMIN. | \$1,395.89 | \$1,800.00 | \$404.11 |
| 01887G - SUPPLY ORGANIST | \$1,250.00 | \$900.00 | -\$350.00 |
| 01888A - WORKERS COMP INSURANCE | \$1,092.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$1,208.00 |
| 01888B - Commercial Insurance | \$8,096.00 | \$8,000.00 | -\$96.00 |
| 01889A - PA RETREAT/DUES/WORKSHOP | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| 01889B - Parish Admin. Health Insurance | \$624.00 | \$624.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01889D - CHRISTIAN ED DIR PENSION | \$869.30 | \$1,877.48 | \$1008.18 |
| 01889E - Organist Pension | \$1,541.84 | \$1,641.78 | -\$0.06 |
| 01889F - Staff Christmas Bonuses | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | -\$2,000.00 |
| 01889G - Annual Council | \$842.22 | \$1,000.00 | \$157.78 |
| 01894A - Audit Expense | \$4,812.07 | \$4,800.00 | -\$12.07 |
| Total ADMINISTRATIVE | \$167,246.82 | \$168,604.12 | \$8,738.06 |
| BUILDING AND GROUNDS | | | |
| 001895 - UTILITIES | \$15,475.83 | \$19,000.00 | \$3,524.17 |
| 001897 - DEBT SERVICE | \$2,007.36 | \$2,007.36 | \$0.00 |
| 001898 - BUILDING MAINTENANCE | \$12,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01898A - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE | \$1,300.00 | \$1,300.00 | \$0.00 |
| 01899B - Capital replacement | \$3,500.00 | \$3,500.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total BUILDING AND GROUNDS | \$34,283.19 | \$37,807.36 | \$3,524.17 |
| Total EXPENDITURES | \$425,205.86 | \$443,172.00 | \$17,966.12 |
| Net Total (+ Net Total = Surplus, - Net Total = Deficit) | \$3,855.15 | -\$758.00 | \$4,613.15 |

**St Gregory the Great Episcopal Church
(ACSDATA) Balance Sheet all funds
December 2022**

| Headings and Account | Balance (12/31/2022) |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Assets | |
| CASH IN BANKS | |
| 001001 - CASH - OPERATING ACCOUNT | \$46,506 |
| 001003 - Cash - J2A trip fund | \$11,152 |
| 001006 - CASH - DESIGNATED FUND | \$80,855 |
| 001010 Cash – Rector's Discretionary Fund (11/30/2022) | \$1,067 |
| 001090 Endowment Fund Cash | \$50 |
| 002001 - CASH - MEMORIAL FUND | \$5,153 |
| 002002 - CASH – BROTHERHOOD | \$983 |
| 002003 - CASH MEMORIAL WALL FUND | \$20,549 |
| Total CASH IN BANKS | \$166,315 |
| INVESTMENTS | |
| 001103 - CASH EQUIVALENT FUND-Vanguard (11/30/2022) | \$70,812 |
| 002101 - Endowment Fund-Charles Schwab (9/30/2022) | \$89,710 |
| Total INVESTMENTS | \$160,522 |
| OTHER ASSETS | |
| 001301 - FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT | \$20,004 |
| 001302 - Piano | \$26,493 |
| 001303 – Furn. & equip new sanctuary | \$64,433 |
| Total OTHER ASSETS | \$110,930 |
| REAL ESTATE | |
| 004401 - LAND | \$27,500.00 |
| 004404 - 2001/2002 Sanctuary | \$922,737 |
| 004405 - BUILDINGS | \$389,777 |
| 004406 - PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS | \$56,153 |
| 004407 - MEMORIAL WALL | \$5,653 |
| Total REAL ESTATE | \$1,401,820 |
| Total Assets | \$1,839,587 |

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 2023 Proposed Budget |
|-----------------------------|

Revenue

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 001751 - LOOSE PLATE OFFERINGS | \$1,015 |
| 001752 - GENERAL PLEDGE PAYMENTS | \$372,268 |
| 001753 - NON-PLEDGE TREND | \$41,000 |
| 001760 - Other | \$720 |
| 02762A - Building Use | \$3,000 |

Total Revenue**\$418,003****EXPENDITURES**

OUTREACH

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 001864 - DIOCESAN PROGRAM | \$41,739 |
| 001866 - LOCAL OUTREACH | \$11,000.00 |
| 001867 - RECTOR'S DISC. FUND | \$500 |
| 01865A - Deacon - Continuing Education | \$1,000 |
| 01865B - Deacon - Travel & Professional exp | \$1,000 |
| 01866B - Priest Discernment | \$500 |

Total OUTREACH**\$55,739**

PARISH PROGRAMS

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| 001868 - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION | \$2,500 |
| 001871 - STEWARDSHIP | \$250 |
| 001872 - WELCOMING | \$50 |
| 001873 - WORSHIP | \$200 |
| 001874 - MUSIC | \$6,000 |
| 001875 - ACOLYTES | \$0 |
| 001876 - ALTAR GUILD | \$1,200 |
| 001877 - PARISH LIFE | \$1,200 |
| 001878 - INREACH | \$200 |
| 001879 - VESTRY RETREATS/DIOCESAN | \$250 |
| 01868A - YOUTH GROUPS | \$2,400 |
| 01868E - Chr. Ed. Dir. Cont. Ed. | \$1,250 |
| 01873A - Flowers | \$0 |
| 01873B - SPIRITUALITY COMMITTEE | \$500 |
| 01874B - ORGANIST CONTINUING EDUC. | \$1,650 |
| 01878C - Library | \$0 |
| 01878D - COMMUNICATIONS/PUBS. | \$250 |
| 01878E - Nursery | \$250 |
| 01878G - Vision Oversight | \$0 |

Total PARISH PROGRAMS**\$18,150**

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 2023 Proposed Budget |
|-----------------------------|

CLERGY

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 001881 - CLERGY SALARY | \$64,715 |
| 001882 - HOUSING ALLOWANCE | \$25,000 |
| 001883 - PENSION/CLERGY | \$16,149 |
| 001884 - INSURANCE/CLERGY | \$38,874 |
| 001885 - CLERGY CONTINUING EDUC | \$1,000 |
| 001886 - SUPPLY CLERGY | \$2,700 |
| 008831 - Sabbatical Expenses | \$500 |
| 01885A - CLERGY TRAVEL & PROF EXP | \$3,000 |
| 01885B - Clergy Mobile Phone | \$672 |
| Deacon Stipend | \$600 |

Total CLERGY**\$153,210****ADMINISTRATIVE**

| | |
|---|------------|
| 001887 - SALARY/ALL LAY EMPLOYEES | \$127,200 |
| 001888 - FICA EMPLOYER | \$9,731 |
| 001889 - Parish Administrator Pension | \$2,289 |
| 001890 - SERVICE CONTRACTS | \$18,000 |
| 001891 - OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$2,900 |
| 001892 - POSTAGE | \$400 |
| 001893 - TELEPHONE | \$4,020 |
| 001894 - MISCELLANEOUS ADMIN. | \$1,560 |
| 01887G - SUPPLY ORGANIST | \$1,050 |
| 01888A - WORKERS COMP INSURANCE | \$2,400 |
| 01888B - Commercial Insurance | \$8,200.00 |
| 01889B - Parish Admin. Health Insurance | \$624 |
| 01889D - CHRISTIAN ED DIR PENSION | \$1,990 |
| 01889E - Organist Pension | \$1,741 |
| 01889G - Annual Council | \$1,000 |
| 01894A - Audit Expense | \$10,000 |

Total ADMINISTRATIVE**\$193,105****BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 001895 - UTILITIES | \$17,000 |
| 001897 - DEBT SERVICE | \$2,007 |
| 001898 - BUILDING MAINTENANCE | \$10,000 |
| 01898A - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE | \$1,300 |
| 01899B - Capital replacement | \$3,500 |

Total BUILDING AND GROUNDS**\$33,807****Total EXPENDITURES****\$454,011****Net Total****-\$36,008****(+ Net Total = Surplus, - Net Total = Deficit)**

Vestry Bios

Kate Avinger

I got some Presbyterian and Methodist “churching” up to age 8. I learned the basics of Christmas and Easter but never felt like a part of a church community. I was culturally Christian, but basically agnostic in my teens and 20’s. It was my wife, Gina Defalco, who started gently encouraging me to consider the Episcopal church when we got together in 2003. It took a while to turn me into a church-goer! I have many reasons to love the Episcopal church, but what really stole my heart was the openness and warmth of the St. Gregory’s community. The watershed moment for Gina and me was the 2013 commitment ceremony of Alice Mohor and her dearly departed Nancy Hobart. When Gina attended and brought me back news of the standing-room-only enthusiasm of the church, we knew we had found our church home. Since then, I’ve helped out as a shepherd for the kids’ Sunday School and Children’s Church, been a stage mom for several of the Christmas pageants, and generated content for online church for both children and adults (with the help of my wife and kids). Most recently, I gave my October 2nd speech on why I pledge to St. Greg’s, expressing my gratitude to the people of St. Greg’s for showing me what it is to be an integral part of a church community. (Check it out on YouTube, if you haven’t seen it already. It starts after the peace, at 59:29).

In my secular life, I’ve been a licensed psychologist with Positive Outcomes, working with children, adolescents, families, and the occasional adult, for over 15 years. I specialize in work with trauma survivors and LGBTQ folks. When I meet an LGBTQ teen client with religious trauma, I am pleased to tell them about St. Gregory’s and that Christianity is not necessarily synonymous with rejection and oppression. I am blessed to be the wife of Gina, who has pointed me in the direction of truth and growth so many times, and who nominated me to the vestry. She’s served as co-leader of youth group and on the discernment committee of the recently ordained Will Drosos. I am the proud mom of Gavin (13), who acolytes, and Vanessa (11), who recently edited the Christmas pageant script to eliminate confusing language. This is truly my family’s church home. I am so proud to be an active part of our church community. St Gregory the Great is where my children and I were baptized, and where I was confirmed. St. Greg’s is where I learned that I am God’s hands. I’m excited to start my next adventure in service as a member of the vestry!

John Barrett

After retirement, Linda and I moved to Athens (actually Oconee County) in 2016 to, of course, be closer to grandchildren in Madison and Tucker. We landed at St. Gregory about a year later. We love to travel, and we have a cabin in Tennessee, so we haven’t had a stellar involvement record since we joined our fellow parishioners here at St. Gregory. It really feels like it is time to change that.

Prior to moving here, we lived in Jonesboro, Georgia, attended Church of the Nativity in Fayetteville, and were both employed by the Federal Government (I was with the FAA, and Linda was with EPA). We were confirmed into the Episcopal Church at Church of the Nativity in 2003. I served on the Vestry and a Rector Search Committee. Linda and I were co-chairs of the Stewardship Committee. I sang in the choir for many years, and I served as an acolyte when there was a particular need. I also completed Education for Ministry, graduating in 2012.

We were United Methodists before our coming home to the Episcopal Church. I served in a variety of ways, Lay Leader, Staff/Parish Committee, choir, and youth and adult Sunday School teacher.

I grew up in Atlanta, attended a large Baptist Church (still processing some of that), graduated from Sylvan Hills High School, joined the Navy, and got hooked on seeing the world. I attended several universities (including UGA), finally negotiating a degree from Georgia State University.

Our daughter, Stacy, and her husband, Carl, live in Tucker. Their son, David, is a freshman at North Georgia Technical College in Clarksville. Our son, Lee, lives in Athens, and his daughters, Elle and Carson, attend Morgan County High School.

continued on next page...

Shelby Welch

I am a lifelong Georgian, having been born in Toccoa and living in several areas around the state. I was an English teacher and School Counselor for 33 years before retiring to care for my elderly parents in their last years. I met my husband, Jeff, at our first teaching job, and we have three amazing children and four delightful grandchildren. All of us “bleed red and black,” since both Jeff and I and all of our children are UGA graduates!

While I grew up in the Baptist faith, I felt as though I had “come home” when I started attending the Episcopal church with Jeff while we were dating. We attended Emmanuel in Athens when we first married, but we shortly moved to Social Circle, and we attended Church of the Good Shepherd in Covington. Our whole family was very active there, including serving on the Vestry, teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, acolyting, and lay reading. Later, we moved to Fitzgerald in south Georgia, where once again we enjoyed a very active church life in tiny St. Matthews Episcopal Church. Our family of four (Nathaniel was in college) learned to do every-thing for the church, since we normally had only 10-12 people at a Sunday service. On a normal Sunday, Toni took care of the altar, Amelia was the acolyte, I was the organist, and Jeff was lay reader, Eucharistic Minister, and Senior Warden.

We’ve been here at St. Gregory’s since 2003. I have led children’s music, taught Sunday School, sung in the choir, and been active in Parish Life. It is such a joy to have our youngest daughter, Amelia, son-in-law, Caley, and grandchildren, Jeffery and Kitty, become active in St. Gregory’s too! Jeff and I live in Lexington and enjoy retirement by growing fruits and veggies, keeping up our seventeen acres, making jams and jellies, and hosting family gatherings.

Anna (Lester) Thornton (Clerk of Vestry) comes to us by many avenues. With hometown being Winterville and Oglethorpe County, she has lived in places like New Mexico, Colorado, Alabama and-for many years-Wyoming. “Thursday’s child has far to go,” and life has offered a myriad of opportunities. Anna was born and bred in the United Methodist Church, accepting Christ and being active in the church from an early age. She “married into” the Baptist church and worked with the Woman’s Missionary Union under the auspice of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, volunteered with United Methodist Women as a young adult, and was employed in church administration in both Alabama and Wyoming.

Anna’s academic and professional background is as diverse (a nice way of saying crazy) as her travels. Educational endeavors have included education and psychology (University of Wyoming), and-most recently-a return to agriculture and animal science. She recently made the humbling decision to return to the University of Georgia after 30 years and “finish what she started” by completing a degree in Agriculture. It is never too late to learn! Professionally, Anna has served in the Cooperative Extension Service (fourth generation Georgia 4-H alumnus and third generation to work with Extension) and in the realm of behavioral health and special education.

After returning to Georgia a few years ago, Anna has pursued still other avenues such as running a small cake decorating/baking/catering business, serving as a support professional for adults with special needs, and returning to college. She has taught herself gardening, landscaping and yoga-just to name a few-and currently lives near Winterville with her dog/fifth child, Tank. Anna has four children, Carrie (and Curtis) in Washington, James (and Courtnee) in Wyoming, Will (and Jordan) here in the area, and Jonathan, who currently serves in the Navy and is stationed at Kings Bay, Georgia, as well as eight grandchildren.

The Episcopal Church has been in Anna’s heart for many years, and she was led to return to this faith and call Saint Gregory’s home a few years ago. She has been devoted to an ever deepening and intellectual study of the Bible and the Anglican Communion and hopes to not only serve her local congregation and community but the world through her gifts and talents. “There are three stages to our walk as Christians-if we choose it,” she says, “to accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, to endeavor to be Christ-like, and ultimately to become as Christ. But it all begins with a single step, and the determination to take that single step and add steps to it. Every day is a new day! Get up, show up, and the Lord will take care of the rest.”

