2019 Annual Meeting

November 17, 2019 – 9:30 am
Agenda

- Rector’s report
- Wardens’ report
- Reaching Up, Reaching Out and mortgage repayment report
- Communications survey report
- Outreach report
- Current financial report
- Stewardship 2020 report
- Election of new Vestry members
Opening Prayer

People:
God of Light and Life, you have accompanied generations around the globe, through bright times of generosity and dark times of waste. Today walk with us as we proceed forward into a future that honors our environment and cares for the next generation who will journey with you.

Amen.
Rector’s Report

- Nativity is a spiritually healthy place and a lively community.
- I have been rector for close to 9 years and continue to be grateful to serve and do ministry with the people of Nativity.
- Looking to the future, church life is changing across all denominations. Many denominations, including main-line denominations are declining.
- The way we do church is changing and will continue to change as we undergo a profound shift in religiosity in the country. We need not fear this change, but ask how we can be part of it.
- Thank you and gratitude for Sarah Bernart - an example of forward thinking about church as she built our strong social media presence.
- Thank you to our Senior Warden, Matt Dutton and Junior Warden, Matt Chytka for their leadership and ministry. It has been a true joy to work with “the two Matts.”
Junior Warden – Matt Chytka

• 2019 was a busy year, there were multiple major and minor projects underway simultaneously

• Examples: HVAC, parking lot re-seal, campus wide carpet cleaning, security fence, campus wide window cleaning, Corlett Hall lighting upgrade, 2 very well attended clean up days, and numerous other repairs, improvements or maintenance work

• None of this is possible without the strong leadership of our Building & Grounds (B&G) committee leaders. We have been blessed with two very capable committee leaders this year - David Johnston and Marc Marotta. Due to their efforts, we had two of the most heavily attended spring and fall clean up days ever this year.

• B&G members worked hundreds of volunteer hours on our campus this year. I thank each and every one of you for answering the calls when we needed you. Every time we needed help, we got numerous replies accepting the job. This is a terrific group of people I am proud and very happy to be a part of.
Senior Warden – Matt Dutton

• (To be added)
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REACHING UP, REACHING OUT REPORT
Reaching Up, Reaching Out

• Our capital campaign, “Reaching Up, Reaching Out”, began in June 2017.

• It was launched as a three-year effort to raise money for the following uses:

  1. Installation of solar panels on Curry Hall ✓
  2. Replacement of the HVAC system in Estill House ✓
  3. Pay down our long-term mortgage (√)

• The overall purpose of the campaign was to reduce operating cost and interest expense so that we will have more funds in our annual budget for outreach and other programs that benefit our community.
Reaching Up, Reaching Out

- Mortgage was $611,000 in 2016. As of 11/13/2019 it was $367,000 - paid down by funds from the campaign.

- We currently have $22,229 in our campaign account today and we expect to receive $70,000 in outstanding pledges within the next six months – expecting our mortgage to be paid down to approximately $276,000 by mid 2020.

Thank you all for your wonderful support of this campaign!
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COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY REPORT
Communications Survey Goals & Methodology

• The objective of the survey was to gauge the level of communication effectiveness and determine which communication tools are useful for our parishioners

• Methodology:
  – Fielded 10/21 – 11/11
  – 11 questions
  – Anonymous responses
  – Received 133 completions
    • 121 electronic, 12 paper
Respondent Age

- 52% of respondents aged 65+
- Second largest group was 55-64 (18%)
- No responses were recorded for 18-24 group
Is Nativity Satisfied with Communications?
Is Nativity Satisfied w/Communications?

YOU LIKE ME
YOU REALLY LIKE ME!
Is Nativity Satisfied w/Communications?

- 90% of congregation is satisfied with the level of communications at Nativity
- 47% are very satisfied
- Only 5% are dissatisfied with level of communications
Platforms Used In Everyday Life

- 82% of respondents use e-mail daily
- 75% use text/SMS daily
- Facebook is split with 54% using it daily/weekly while 35% never use
- Twitter and Instagram are not terribly popular with 81% and 74% respectively never using
- Mailed letters are good for monthly communication

Q4) Which of the following platforms do you use to convey non-church related messages or communicate with others in your daily life?

- Email
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Mailed Letter
- SMS/Text
- Telephone Call
- Twitter

Graph showing daily, weekly, monthly, and never usage.
Effectiveness of Nativity Tools

Q6) Below is a list of communication tools used at Nativity. When you think about your preferred method of receiving communication from Nativity, please rate each tool below based on your preference.

• Sunday Announcements, mail sent to home, and Glad Tidings (printed & email) are most effective

• Weekly Glad Tidings e-mail ranks highest for very effective

• Campus Posters and Twitter seen as least effective

V. Effective  Effective  Not Effective

Sun Announcements  Mail  Glad Tidings (Printed)  Glad Tidings (E-mail)  Word of Mouth  Roadside Signage  Campus Posters  Nativity Website  Facebook  Twitter
Nativity Website

- 41% feel information is easily found on the website
- Almost 1/3rd of respondents (31%) don’t visit the Nativity website

Q9) Do you believe information about church news and events is easily found on the website?
Well I caught it
Now what?
**Initial Learnings & Next Steps**

**Learning**

- Parishioners are generally satisfied with communications

- Comments were posted about trouble with Nativity newsletter sign-up

**Action Item**

- Continue doing what we do, understanding a variety of tools and platforms is beneficial

- Currently investigating; discovered an issue and fixed it, adding 22 names to distribution list
# Initial Learnings & Next Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity to explore new ways to communicate with parishioners</td>
<td>Will explore a church-wide SMS/text system (Opt-in); increasing Twitter presence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surprised with website response</td>
<td>Further investigate site visitation barriers; discuss ways to improve overall experience</td>
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OUTREACH REPORT
Outreach Report

- Windsor Springs Grocery Bags for Seniors
- Nativity Community Garden (produce for Seniors)
- Inter-Faith Food Shuttle
- Leesville Elementary School Pride Packs
- Rise Against Hunger
- MLK Day of Service

- Disaster Relief
- Blood Mobile
- Sacred Ground
- Spanish Classes
- Episcopal Habitat Build
- Becoming Beloved Community Book Club
- Episcopal Farm Workers Ministry

- Interfaith Creation Care of the Triad
- Sustain Island Home
- Zero Waste Church
- NC Interfaith Power and Light
- NC Carbon Farming

- Episcopal Campus Ministry
- US-Uganda Orphans Education Fund
- Haiti Reforestation Partnership
- Botswana Business Development

* Means new project in 2019
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CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT
Current Financial Report

Net Ordinary Income as of 11/13/2019: -$6,034
Your B&G team has had a busy year: asphalt on parking areas, some hefty HVAC maintenance, AED purchase, fence around HVAC compressors, snow removal, plus many maintenance jobs performed by the B&G team members for free, but still requiring purchase of materials.
Between 2015 and 2018, we reduced the annual power bill by $5,500.00

Solar panels were installed in early spring 2018

Further reductions are anticipated after installation of the high-efficiency HVAC systems in the church building during the summer of 2019.
• Despite paying down our mortgage in 2018 and 2019, our liabilities did grow between 2018 and 2019 due to a new $114,000 loan for the new energy-efficient HVAC systems in the church building.

• However, Nativity is still solvent!
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STEWARDSHIP 2020 REPORT
Stewardship 2020 Status

- 50% of the Stewardship Goal reached!
- 50% of the Stewardship Goal remaining!

Pledges as of 11/13/2019:

$225,447

Goal:

$450,000

If you have already pledged, THANK YOU!

If you have not pledged yet, go to the NativityOnline.org website and click "Online Pledge" at the top of the home page – or scan this QR code.
If you pledged for 2019, but have not yet pledged for 2020, please consider doing so.
Stewardship 2020 Status Details

- 80 households out of 270 have pledged
- 11 new pledging households
- 69 repeating pledge households
Will we get there?

Keep up the good pace and we will!
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ELECTION OF NEW VESTRY MEMBERS
The New Vestry Member Candidates

Stephanie Sumner  Josh Booth  Kim Stoke  John Oldham
Questions