

St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church

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As members of The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness, we seek to provide a spiritual home for children, youth and adults as they travel on their journey of faith through the wilderness of human experience.

Staff

The Rev. Mark W. Kelm, Rector
The Rev. Joanie Delamater, Associate Priest
The Rev. Andrew Jensen, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Rick Todd, Deacon
The Rev. George Glander, Deacon Emeritus
Dianne Del Giorno, Warden
Steve Johnson, Warden
Dr. David Gehrenbeck, Organist/Choirmaster
Vladimir Panov, Youth Choir Director
Alison Feigh, Youth Minister
Maureen Vruno, Parish Administrator
Beth Wanna, Sexton
Elizabeth Ness, Nursery

2004 Annual Report

Presented during the Annual Parish Meeting

January 16, 2005, 9:00 am

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Agenda

Opening Prayer and Hymn

- I. Election of Secretary for this Meeting
- II. Minutes of Previous Meeting – January 18, 2004
- III. Elections:
 - A. Review voter qualifications
 - B. Nominating
 - C. Distribution of ballots and voting (if applicable)
 - D. Tellers collect ballots (if applicable)
- IV. Annual Reports:
 - A. "Our Life Together" Rector's Report
 - B. Financial Reports
 - C. Budget Report – 2004
 - D. Other Reports
- V. Recognitions:
 - A. Presentations to Retiring Vestry Members and Warden
 - B. ECW Cornelia Whipple Award Presentation
- VI. Benediction and Close

"I want to walk as a child of the light"

by Kathleen Thomerson

Copyright 1970, 1975 Celebration

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

*In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting – January 18, 2004

Fr. Mark Kelm called the Annual Parish Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Barbara Merrill was elected secretary of the meeting. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on January 19, 2003. Motion carried.

The qualifications for voting at an annual meeting were reviewed by Fr. Mark. Mary Bartley then presented the Nomination Committee's report. The following were nominated for Vestry membership:

Warden	Steve Johnson
Outreach	Peggy Holper
Children's Ministry	Christine Karp
Welcoming and Evangelism	Tim Hammond
Hospitality	Janet Kelber

Also nominated:

Nomination Committee	Alice Cox and Dick Halbert
Diocesan Delegates	Stephanie and Jim Allen-Davis
Personnel Committee	Fosten Boyle, Bonnie Peck, and Rich Hovland

There were no further nominations. It was moved and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.

Fr. Mark stated that committee and financial reports were printed in the Annual Report. Larry Mahoney explained the financial report for 2003, and he explained the process for developing the 2004 budget.

Fr. Mark announced the offer of a \$15,000 matching gift in order to have an associate priest.

Recognition was given to members whose terms on the Vestry had ended:

Sherri Afryl
Jeanie Long
David Seitz
Jeanne Thoemke
Therese Branby

Beverly Boyle presented the Cornelia Whipple Award to Nancy Brown.

Sherri Afryl was recognized for how well she had handled this past year.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Following the close of the meeting there was the blessing of the entryway stained glass window.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Merrill, Clerk of Vestry

Vestry

(Terms expire at the annual meeting of the stated year)

- Dianne Del Giorno** Senior Warden **2005**
- Steve Johnson** Junior Warden **2006**
- David Monyak** Adult Education **2005**
Plans Sunday morning adult education and Lenten programs
- Emily Waymire** Communications **2005 (Vestry appointed to fill vacancy)**
Coordinates the dissemination of information about the parish and its activities, both within the church and outward to the community at large
- Larry Mahoney** Finance **2005**
Oversees the parish budget
- Chris Hawley** Liturgy & Music **2005**
Advises clergy in planning worship services and programs. Also offers guidance to acolytes, Altar Guild, choir and lay liturgical ministers
- Jason Knauss** Fellowship **2006**
Fosters activities and events designed to enhance fellowship among the members of the church community
- John Vruno** Property **2006**
Plans maintenance and repair projects for the church. Reviews building equipment needs
- Anne Hovland** Stewardship **2006**
Works on projects to increase gifts of time, talent and treasure
- Deb Schmit** Youth **2006**
Supervises junior and senior high youth groups and special activities for youth in the parish
- Christine Karp** Children's Ministry **2007**
Plans and directs Sunday School and Vacation Bible School
- Janet Kelber** Hospitality **2007**
Recruits hosts for the coffee hour after Sunday services and for special events
- Peggy Holper** Outreach **2007**
Researches and recommends recipients for general benevolence funds. Also in charge of monthly free lunch program "Out-to-Lunch", the United Thank Offering, Adopt-A-Family, Adopt-A-Room, and various other helping ministries
- Tim Hammond** Welcome/Evangelism **2007**
Welcomes those new to St. John and increases the visibility of our church in the community
- Barb Merrill** Clerk of the Vestry **2005 (non-voting)**
- Pat Pickering** Episcopal Church Women (ECW) **representative (non-voting)**
- Diocesan Delegates** Pris Campbell and Tim Hammond, **2006**; Stephanie and Jim Allen-Davis, **2007**

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee consists of Alice Cox, Molly Anthony, Dick Halbert and Judy Kroesch.

The **outgoing** persons:

Vestry

Dianne Del Giorno, Warden
David Monyak
Chris Hawley
Larry Mahoney
Emily Waymire (completed Deirdra Barron's term)

Diocesan Delegates and Alternates

Pat Pickering
Greg Harris
Jeanne LeFevre
Nancy Jagusch

Persons being **nominated** for these positions:

Vestry:

Therese Branby, Warden
Tom Long
Emily Waymire
Michael Carpenter
June Bennett

Diocesan Delegates and Alternates:

Jan MacNally, Delegate
Bill MacNally and Sharon Lund, Alternates

Nominating Committee:

Beverly Boyle and Jeanne LeFevre

Personnel Committee:

Loretta Seitz and John LeFevre

Respectfully submitted, Judy Kroesch, Chair

Rector's Annual Report



Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP Page 832)

From the time of Laura Aubrey in the 1860's to the present, God has been at work with the people of White Bear and its surrounding communities through the parish of St. John in the Wilderness. Our rich history continues with great energy and enthusiasm in this present generation of the faithful. Through your hands and mouth, God's unconditional love for all is being proclaimed.

The year 2004 was a year of growth at St. John's. Building upon the excellent ministries that already exist, we welcomed the exciting additions of Families Inc., the Reverend Joanie Delamater, and the Reverend (Deacon) Rick Todd. Also, our new parish administrator, Maureen Vruno, has added to the warmth of this community and its parish staff. The reformation of the staff has been a critical point in fulfilling our vision to live out our life as a program-size congregation.

Along with our staff, our membership has grown as well:

12 Baptisms

Devin Quinn Truchon, Chad William Hager, Kaitlyn Renee Hager, Joshua James Hoover, Samuel Mark Kelm, Carter Michael Ballard, Mason James Matko, Tyler Charles Matko, Isabelle Vi Carpenter, Benjamin Layton Davis, Sara Elise McBride, and Dustin Frederick Reichert

4 Receptions and 3 Confirmations

Richard Allen Larson, Susan Beth Larson, John Michael Vruno, Lawrence Charles Mahoney, Anne Sheridan Moertel, Rachel Christine Ford, and Muriel Rae Gilbert

6 Marriages

William and Lois Beebe, Edwin and Dawn Anderson, Alexander and Mary Beth Zeece, Christopher and Nicole Bly, David and SallyJean Penna, and Marc and Rosemary Senjem

32 Transferred their membership into St. John's

Matthew Hoover, Mary Pat Hoover, Alison Feigh, James Marier, Kathy Marier, Emy Marier, Michael Marier, Will McBride, Lisa McBride, Richard Oswald, Kirk Matko, Deborah Matko, the Rev. Rick Todd, Jill Todd, Samuel Todd, Wayne Todd, Wendy Brilowski, Joseph Brilowski, Katherine Brilowski, Colleen Johnson, Eric Thor, Margaret Thor, Caryn Thor, Peter Thor, Michael Harnois, Vimala Paulus, Ivan Fletcher, Teena Fletcher, Alice McClaren, John Kissel, Helen Kissel, and James Matko

In the course of this year we have also said goodbye to some of our beloved members:

2 Transferred their membership out of St. John's

Paul and Barbara Toren

16 Burials

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servants, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Katherine Marlene Curtis, Roger C. Smith, Jaya Kasmani, LeVere Donald Shisler, David Price Borders, Lucy Mack, Janet Graham Schuneman, Elizabeth Ann Shephard, Jane Carol Hall, Robert Albert Marquardt, Donald Arthur Smeed, Vinella Phylisidal Barrett, Joanne Frances Blien Murnane, Cruzan Alexander, Kathryn Ann Marier, and Blanche Anderson Weaver

Liturgies and Attendance

Fall/Winter/Spring Schedule:

7:30 a.m. 1045
9:00 a.m. 3712
10:30 a.m.2234
TOTAL.....6991
Total services..... 102

Summer Schedule:

8:00 a.m.870
10:00 a.m.1865
TOTAL.....2735
Total services.....32

Easter:

5:00 p.m. (vigil)... 248
8:00 a.m.148
10:00 a.m..... 204
TOTAL.....580

Christmas:

4:00 p.m. (eve)... 238
10:30 p.m. (eve)..136
10:00 a.m. (day)... 54
TOTAL..... 428

59 Lay Eucharistic Visitations

11 Lay Reader led services of Evening Prayer/Compline

The most significant liturgical change has been the addition of the healing station found in the narthex. During Sunday morning liturgies, parishioners are invited to partake in the laying on of hands for healing by a clergy member.

Along with Church growth and new liturgies, our church building underwent major repair work in 2004. The Church roof had a complete tear-off and re-roof, the parish hall trim was repaired/replaced and repainted, and the doors were all painted traditional Anglican red as a sign of welcoming.

Yet, many questions remain about the future of St. John's. During 2005, I plan to pose the following questions to the vestry, our committees and the congregation as we continue our spiritual journey together.

1. **Identity:** "Why are we in business? What are our assets and strengths?" Members rediscover who they are and why they exist as a congregation in this place and time.

2. **Vision:** "Where do we want to go?" Members reaffirm their obligation to become more faithful to their congregation as it could be in the future.

3. **Strategy:** “How will we get the job done?” Leaders re-equip members and themselves with whatever it will take to reach for their new future. They plot and prepare for the step-by-step progress that will make the dream come true.

4. **Experimental Action:** “What are we ready to try?” Members choose the highest priority and closest possibility in their plan and commit themselves to a metamorphosis, one small step at a time until the dream turns into a revised vision or a full reality.

5. **Reflection:** Finally, “How is it going, and what’s next? Where do we adjust our course?” The congregation should always pause for thanksgiving, absolution, offertory, and celebration. The insights and prayers of the membership guide the evaluation of how they are doing.¹

The path that lies before us awaits. In the life cycle of the parish, we are at a point of renewal. As God has done so many times throughout our history, I wonder what new things God will create through us? How will we change and how will we stay the same? Most important, what will you do to further God’s kingdom in 2005. . .

In Christ’s Love,
The Rev. Mark W. Kelm

¹ Arlin J. Rothauge, *The Life Cycle in Congregations* [Vol. 2, Congregational Vitality Series], (New York: The Episcopal Church Center, 1985).

Associate Priest’s Annual Report

I joined the staff at St. John’s at the end of May for Pentecost. What a joyful time to begin my ministry with all of you! Since I arrived, I have focused on meeting the members of this congregation and assisting Fr. Mark with liturgical and pastoral care needs.

Fr. Mark and I shared the responsibilities of celebrating Eucharist, preaching and administering the sacraments of baptism, unction, and marriage. I have officiated at one funeral and assisted with others. Celebrating Eucharist and visiting with people at St. Andrew’s Village and the White Bear Lake Health East Care Center has brought me great joy. Personally, I had the opportunity to sing with the choir for Lessons and Carols this year. What a powerful and spirit-filled experience!

My pastoral care experiences have included visiting parishioners in the hospital, those residing in assisted living settings and those at home recovering from illness or unable to come to church. I have worked with our Lay Eucharistic Visitors to meet the needs of our shut-in members, listening to life stories and sharing in the many ways God has been acting in their lives. Educationally, I attended some of the Via Media classes this fall, a series I highly recommend.

During Advent, I offered an experiential class in spiritual practices, called Circle of the Spirit, as an opportunity for people to deepen their spiritual life and relationship with God, themselves and others. This class was offered both at 9:30 am and 6:00 pm on Wednesdays, allowing people available during the day to attend as well as after work. Circle of the Spirit, an hour-long class, will continue next year as part of the faith formation programs at St. John’s.

Many members of our faith community have experienced losses, deaths or transitions in their lives. To assist them in journeying through grieving and mourning, we have started a grief support group. Everyone is welcome. We meet twice a month on a Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30 pm.

My position as associate is part-time, only 20 hours a week. I work on Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Gradually, I am becoming familiar with individuals, the many committees and the ministries at St. John’s. I am pleased to be able to serve God here where I can use my gifts in preaching, teaching and healing. I look forward to growing and journeying with you in the years ahead.

Yours in Christ, The Rev. Joanie Delamater

Wardens' Report

As a warden team, we have been a pair of historians. As well as being a member of St. John's since birth, Steve was the parish treasurer from 1996 to 1999 and a member of the search committee in 2002 & 2003. In recent years, Dianne was Vestry representative for Youth Ministry from 2000 to 2003, acting as youth minister for a few months before Alison arrived. She has been a member of the Executive Committee for the past three years, first as Vestry representative during the interim period and then as Warden during the search period and the first year of Father Mark's rectorship. From those years of experience, we offer an overview of the recent history of St. John's and goals for the future.

During the last seven years in particular, the parish has weathered turbulence and change. We entered 1998, unsure about the future of a pipe organ, and in 2000, we celebrated the installation of a new one. We entered 2001 with uncertainty about staffing and with concerns about Father Joe's health. By the year's end, we were a parish in deep mourning over a rector's death, but at the same time, a parish committed to maintaining its programs despite the loss of both our priest associate and our rector.

The "worst of times" brought out the best gifts in many, and the many trials and uncertainty in 2001 and 2002 brought people together in a spirit that was guided by special grace. Vestry members, each responsible for an area of parish ministry, worked countless hours to keep programs healthy and growing. The Altar Guild, the diocesan delegates, the Cemetery Committee, the E.C.W. activities and grants, the gardeners, the teachers, the choirs, ushers, lectors, lay ministers, and many, many others continued to serve. In the midst of the interim period, the Vestry approved the initiative for the development of house groups, the Property Committee began renovation of the parish offices, and a program of Lay Eucharistic Visitors blossomed.

Behind the scenes, parish leaders dedicated many, many hours of love labor for St. John's. For more than two years, the Wardens worked in all aspects of parish life, consulting with the staff, with supply clergy, with five different interim clergy, and with the heads of all the parish programs. During the

uncertainty of that first year, they also helped guide the search for a new youth minister. That search concluded with a call to Alison, who arrived in October of 2001 and began her first work as a youth minister. By August 2002, the Wardens and Executive Committee had created a Search Committee with Janet Waller as chair. The diligence and dedication of the committee members and chair led to the call of Father Mark in late July 2003.

The first year and several months of Father Mark's time as our rector have been an important transition for the parish. Visible to all has been a renewed spirit in worship, as well as the assembly of a wonderful team of lay and clergy staff. What is less visible to the eye is a growth of spirituality interests and a deepening of person-to-person connections within the parish.

Perhaps that spiritual deepening began on September 11, 2001, when we were without a team of lay and clergy staff to help us pray in the face of national disaster. Or perhaps it was during the many, many phone calls that leaders and volunteers made to members of the parish as we shared the sad news about Father Joe that same month. Perhaps, as Canon Susan Moss called it, September 2001 was the point at which the parish began its "journey without a map."

Whatever the constellation of causes, the parish began a deep spiritual journey, and as painful as the journey was, it prepared us to welcome and embrace Father Mark and Rev. Joanie as spiritual leaders. The journey also prepared us to embrace growth and change.

During the journey, we were inspired by the words and actions of our youth. Their suggestions led us to seek a youth minister dedicated to relational ministry, and we continued the search through four candidates as we sought a person of strong faith and commitment to young adult formation. Under Alison's guidance, even in the uncertainty of the interim time, our youth became an inspiration for a hurting parish. Youth embraced the new mentor program, and the program, which connects youth and mentors in a guided nine-session program, has become an integral part of the Confirmation program. The program culminates with the Confirmation Banquet each spring at which mentors speak about the experience of journeying

with teens in their faith formation. Youth also embraced the Teens Encounter Christ retreats, returning again and again to serve, giving spiritual talks and working as team members and table leaders. Their fervor inspired other teens and adults in the parish to take part, and their enthusiasm infused our worship as they offered song, special prayers, sermons, and youth-led services.

During the journey, we explored. Interest and attendance at adult education classes increased, both on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings during Lent. Both youth and adults tried different ways to pray, including Taize, centering prayer, “pocket” prayer, and labyrinth walks. During the journey, we more deeply connected with others in many ways, most notably through the growth of house groups and the birth of a Moms Group (mothers of youth in post-high school studies). This past year saw the establishment of a young families group (Families in Christ), the beginning of an in-reach food ministry (Caring Meals), a Via Media education series, the revival of parish participation in Cursillo, the introduction of a healing station during services, and the renewal of classes on spirituality.

The journey continues, as we discussed with Father Mark during his ministry review in 2004. As we move forward under his leadership, our energies will focus on how best to incorporate into our faith community those seeking a new church home. How can we together explore our spiritual gifts and best use them to grow spiritually and to strengthen the community we share? How can we also best care for the buildings and grounds for which we are stewards? In the past year, the Vestry developed a Plan for Growth, and the Stewardship Committee has worked for months in the feasibility phase of a capital drive. In the past six months, the Executive Committee noted that we lacked a group that can examine our architecture, history, style, and design as changes are considered. In response to an offer from a foundation to help redesign the front entry, the Vestry created an ad hoc Design Committee. Its first task is to use part of the foundation’s preliminary grant of \$5,000 to commission professional designs for review by the Vestry and parish.

However, no matter how much we plan for the future by implementing growth plans, there will be surprises. We can be certain that unexpected events or opportunities will spiritually challenge us. Old ministries will die and new ministries will blossom. It is our job (the entire congregation’s job) to seize these spiritual happenings and opportunities—maybe in a completely new way. In the meantime, your wardens are open for any ideas you have for parish ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne Del Giorno and Steve Johnson.

Liturgy and Music Committee

The Liturgy and Music Committee, consisting of June Bennett, Cathryn Bashore, Nancy Jagusch, Jim Allen–Davis, Colleen Johnson, Barb Anderson, David Gehrenbeck, Vladimir Panov, Maureen Vruno, and Chris Hawley, is charged with the responsibility of assisting the Rector, members of the congregation, other committees and groups in planning and education in all aspects of worship. The committee works with representatives from Music, Choir, Altar Guild, Lay Readers, Acolytes and Parishioners.

Our committee’s goal in 2004 has been to maintain the strategies and focus of each service:

- 7:30 am communion service with little or no music
- 9:00 am family oriented service with Wonder Love and Praise and 1982 Hymnal music
- 10:30 am traditional Eucharist service with 1982 Hymnal music

Membership at St. John in the Wilderness increased. We hope you continue to enjoy!

We have worked throughout the year with just about every committee and group with in the church, and look forward to doing so in 2005.

Usher, Lector, and Lay Reader recruitment and training has been, and will remain, a key focus of the committee.

With Father Mark's leadership, we expected to see growth and development in our liturgy in 2004. A new music group has been created from within the congregation. Reverend Joanie Delamater and Deacon Rick Todd are new to the staff. New banners finally made it to the processions and hang from the rafters. The Verger's position has been created to work with the Crucifers and Acolytes in fostering an atmosphere of responsibility, order and pageantry.

I expect a lot more transformation is on the way in 2005. Hold on!

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hawley, Chair

Organist/Choirmaster's Report

The "afterglow" of Lessons and Carols lessens a bit when it comes the time to capsulize the year for the Annual Report of the Parish. Yet by playing the DVD or the CD (take your pick) of the vesper service of Advent III, one is reminded anew of what the Church, and St. John in the Wilderness in particular, are all about.

This was the year that the Chancel Choir finally burst its space, and what with the need to add a row of chairs in front of the choir pews – if only for Lessons and Carols. Some Sundays there are still more empty spaces than singers, yet the dedicated core continues to respond, week by week, to lead the 10:30 Choral Eucharist, Among the regulars, from September through Pentecost, are Jim and Stephanie Allen-Davis, Helen Gehrenbeck, Lynda Halbert, Nancy Jagusch, Lura Jensen, Chris Johnson, Jan MacNally, Josie Power, Greg Schmit, and Don and Stephanie Sulentic. For Lessons and Carols they were joined by Ashley and the Rev. Joanie Delamater, Bill Dessert, Erienne Fullerton, Michael Harnois, Lou and Carol Harris, Erwin Kinsey, Don Koetz, Sharon Lund, Linda Monyak, Vladimir Panov, Katheryn Schneider, Mark and Meg Thorson, and John Warchol. The totality of Lessons and Carols was recorded again this year by David Monyak, and produced in time for Christmas gifts both as DVDs and CDs.

Many other people, of course, also enrich this church's musical life, but are beyond the organist/choirmaster's purview. But it would be

remiss not to mention the Frets, organized by Cathryn Bashore, who are becoming an increasingly active presence at the 9:00 Sunday service. And the Children's Choir, directed by Vladimir Panov, continues to sing at 9:00 on a bi-weekly basis, frequently in three-part harmony.

Up in the choir room, new cabinets for the Children's Choir and acolyte vestments have been completed, provided by funds given in memory of Roger Smith. With all vestments under cover and new cubicles for the Chancel Choir's music, the rehearsal room is beginning to show its potential as a neatly-organized space, although more could be done (new whiteboards in particular) to make it attractive.

Our Casavant pipe organ, now 4-1/2 years old, continues to lead the hymns and musical parts of the liturgy, and is being properly maintained, thus assuring a long and active life.

Occasionally choirs and organ – and congregational singing-are enhanced by trumpeters and other instrumentalists, mainly from the Minnesota Youth Orchestra. It is good to be in the midst of this milieu as we continue to, as the Psalmist says, "sing to the Lord with gladness."

Respectfully submitted,
David Gehrenbeck, Organist/Choirmaster

Altar Guild

Members of the Altar Guild prepare the Sanctuary for all worship services. In addition to the Sunday worship services, members also prepare the church for special services, which include Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week services. They also are responsible for preparing for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Altar Guild members care for the linens, the communion vessels and the vestments.

Members of the Altar Guild are Sherri Afryl, Barbara Anderson, Nancy Brown, Pris Campbell, Cyndi Domin, Lynn Gadbois, Pat Gagin, June Hochbrunn, Anne Johnson, Gayle Kasmani, Judy Kroesch, Jane Kyle, Gere Letourneau, Barbara Merrill, Pat Pickering, Bette Smeed, Joann Smith, Elizabeth Uppgren, Deb Schmit, Barb Van Steen, Janet Waller and Mary Whitney.

In 2005, four new members will join the Altar Guild. We welcome Keiko Farrar, Jeanne LeFevre, Alice McClaren and Barbara Youngblood.

Altar Guild Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand January 1, 2004	\$2,740.08	
Receipts:		
Flowers	\$2,445.00	
Dues	\$100.00	
Memorial Money	\$1,076.96	
Weddings	<u>\$90.00</u>	<u>\$3,711.96</u>
		\$6,452.04
Disbursements:		
White Bear Floral	\$2,364.00	
Temptation Floral	\$53.97	
Candles	\$171.31	
Misc.	\$17.50	
Memorial (Cope)	<u>\$1,076.96</u>	<u>\$3,683.74</u>
Balance on Hand January 1, 2005		<u>\$2,768.30</u>

Treasurer: Mary Whitney

Episcopal Church Women

The year began with the church Annual Meeting in January when the Cornelia Award was presented to Nancy Brown.

In February the ECW hosted two Bible Studies conducted by the Rev. Lydia Brown. Attendance averaged 20 people for each session.

For May Fellowship Day the ECW contributed \$400 in new baby clothes to a program that helps needy mothers with new babies. The St. Paul Council of Churches coordinates the program. Bonnie and Bob Peck, along with Jasmine Cox, purchased the clothes for the ECW.

Both the spring and fall rummage sales were very successful. The Co-Chairs were Lynn Gadbois and Pat Pickering. In addition to the money raised by the sales, this event provides outstanding fellowship for all who participate in the rummage sales activities such as set-up, rummage sorting, and clean up.

Arlene Glander continues to represent the ECW by sending cards to parishioners for various occasions during the year. Bari Chilton serves as ECW

secretary and is also in charge of funeral and memorial service receptions. During the course of a year many ECW members donate a substantial amount of their time to this very worthwhile service for the parish.

Each June a group of ECW members thoroughly clean the church kitchen and take an inventory of the kitchen utensils. Any utensils or supplies that are needed are purchased at that time.

Cyndi Domin and Susie Mahoney chaired the fall luncheon, which was held at the North Oaks Country Club. The St. John's line dancers provided the entertainment. Nearly 100 parishioners and their guests were in attendance at this event.

The Fabric and Fellowship Group assemble quilts from kits of donated fabric. The completed quilts are then distributed to various organizations in need of quilts, such as the local police and fire departments, the Women's Advocate, the Harriet Tubman Alliance (which is an umbrella organization for the Stan Hill House and the Ann Pierce Rogers Home).

Amy Hawley and Lynn Gadbois chaired the 52nd Annual Holiday Bazaar. All proceeds from the Rummage Sales and the Christmas Bazaar are used to fund the ECW Grant Program. Please refer to our financial report for the list of grants made in 2004. Krista Sullivan served as ECW treasurer until April, at which time Joanna Torgerson assumed this position.

The ECW committee members are Pat Pickering, Bari Chilton, Joanna Torgerson, Beverly Boyle, Arlene Glander, Christine Karp, Judy Kroesch, Nancy Jagusch, and Lynn Gadbois.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Pickering, Chair



ECW Holiday Bazaar

Donations	\$ 330.00
Quilt Sales	745.00
Gifts	3,679.80
Luncheon & Recipe sale	931.50
Treasure Trove	1,461.46
Jewelry	<u>810.55</u>
Total Receipts	\$7,958.31

Publicity	\$ 33.00
Food	278.18
Rada Cutlery	176.10
Pecans	299.72
Sitter	<u>202.50</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 989.50

2004 Profit \$6,968.81

Hospitality

Committee Members: Mary Bartley, Alice Cox, Amy Hawley, Kate & Chris Johnson, Janet Kelber, Jeanie Long, Joann Smith, Sandra Stevenson, and Joanna Torgerson

Dishwashers: Chris Johnson, Gene McAlister and Holly Young

Our Hospitality Group serves coffee and goodies at the 9:00 am services each Sunday. The group also provides food and hours of support to many events when called upon throughout the church year.

In 2004 we hosted receptions for the Rite of Affirmation and Confirmation, Out to Lunch in March, a light supper after the Easter Vigil, a reception in honor of Tom Eklo's ordination, a light meal during Via Media, pancake breakfasts after Commitment Sunday services, and receptions for the Celebration of New Ministry and Lessons & Carols.

We have a Continental Breakfast for the Annual Meeting and the New Year 2005 begins.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Kelber, Hospitality Chair



Caring Meals

This new ministry at St. John's has provided over 50 meals for families at different places in their journeys – welcoming a new baby, hospital visits, or during other times of need.

I want to thank each volunteer for her willingness to prepare a meal whenever I call. Also, I would like to thank the people who have volunteered for a meal at a special time.

The members of Caring Meals are Molly Anthony, June Bennett, Gretchen Brunner, Pris Campbell, Bari and Ed Chilton, Dianne Del Giorno and Stan Kegler, Lynn Gadbois, Amy Hawley, June Hochbrunn, Kathy Jeddloh, Anne Johnson, Janet Kelber, Jenny Kobinski, Jeanie Long, Becky Matson, Kim Severson, Joann Smith, Joanna Torgerson, and Barbara Van Steen.

With your continued help and any others who would like to join the Caring Meals volunteers, we are fulfilling a need at St. John's.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Kyle

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee promotes the Christian ministry of our parish by coordinating its various resources to address needs within the community, either locally or globally. The committee evaluates requests for financial assistance to worthwhile charitable organizations, and manages programs that provide parishioners an opportunity to offer their services, as volunteers, or such gifts as may be appropriate to particular community needs. The committee's primary focus is on parish projects that are of value to our immediate community and those that support Episcopal initiatives. During the past year, our parish undertook the following projects:

A Family Alliance Hope Chest collection of soft goods for the Hill Home

A Care Pack for Kids ingathering of goods for the Children's Home Society

The United Thank Offering ingathering of mite box donations

An ingathering of school supplies for needy students

A yearlong ingathering of groceries for the White Bear Food Shelf

A special Thanksgiving ingathering for the White Bear Food Shelf

An Adopt-a-Family showering of Christmas gifts for three needy families
 Two American Red Cross blood drives
 A monthly community lunch program (Out-to-Lunch)
 Letters to Iraq: letters & supplies for American troops in Iraq

The response of our parish for these opportunities to serve our community and share our gifts has been a wonderful demonstration of the love and caring that our Christianity engenders. Grants were made to the following agencies:

East Metro Women's Council	\$ 200
Episcopal Church Home Foundation	\$ 250
Episcopal Community Services	\$ 500
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$ 250
MICAH	\$ 200
Rebuild Resources	\$ 200
St. Paul Area Council of Churches	\$ 250
Union Gospel Mission	\$ 750
African Friends in Need	\$ 300
TOTAL	\$2150

The year 2004 marked another remarkable year for our parish Outreach Program. The yearlong focus on gathering in groceries for the White Bear Food Shelf & Letters to Iraq were new parish initiatives. Out-to-Lunch featured voluntary efforts by many new faces.

Outreach is considering some new initiatives for 2005 which would include more active hands-on participation by parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,
 Peggy Holper and Dave Seitz, Co-Chairs

Families Inc.

Families Inc. was created in the spring of 2004 to meet the needs of families with children birth-fifth grade. We seek to:

Build a sense of community through fun activities for those walking through the wilderness of parenting young children;

Foster Christian values in our children and families; and

Reach Out together to those in the world who are in need.

Since our start, we have had several potluck dinners (one including pony rides and a petting zoo!). We served root beer floats to residents at the White Bear Care Center. We had a "Parents Night Out", where the children were fed and cared for by a group of volunteers at church while the parents went out for dinner together. We had a birthday party for Jesus in December, and partnered with Children's Ministry to collect shoes for a local charity and used toys for an orphanage in China. Each activity has been well attended, and new families continue to join us. All are welcome to come and join the fun!

The group currently functions under the leadership of Beth Hyduke-Kelm, but individual families are also asked to take responsibility for scheduling and planning events.



Children's Ministry Committee

Members: Lisa Brock, Gretchen Brunner, Kelly DeSmet, Jody Eick, Christine Karp, Libby Mahoney, Kate Prochnow, Krista Sullivan, Jeanne Thoemke, and Barb VanSteen

Children's Ministry strives to build a strong faith foundation and provide opportunities to grow relationships for children pre-school through the 5th grade. Our curriculum, Living the Good News, is lectionary based, allowing us to apply Sunday's readings to our lessons. We currently have 28 children registered in our program.

During 2004 we hosted many events. In January we held a scavenger hunt in conjunction with the Junior/Senior High Treasure Hunt. Our spring bake sale brought in over \$500, which funded the purchase of a cow to benefit a family in Uganda. Other activities include pretzel making during Lent, Father's Day crafts in June, a Kids Carnival in July, hosting Out-to-Lunch in September, a St. Crispin shoe collection (62 pairs were collected) in October, an Advent log and tree ornament day, and a recycled toy drive for Christmas.

In 2005 we look forward to establishing a pen pal relationship with students in Uganda, strengthening our focus on prayer, and continuing our events within the parish.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Karp



Youth Ministry Committee

Members: Barb Anderson, Molly Anthony, Cathryn Bashore, Dianne Del Giorno, Jeanie Long, Larry Mahoney, Bonnie Peck, Katherine Prochnow, Katheryn Schneider, Deb Schmit, Janet Waller

The Youth Ministry Committee works with the youth minister, Alison Feigh, to identify and meet the spiritual, social, and educational needs of the youth of the parish and their families. The youth minister and the committee also work to provide service opportunities, and to encourage participation in Episcopal activities outside our church. We continue to sponsor a strong relational ministry program. We are committed to encouraging our youth to grow in community with God, and with each other.

Our regular programs include Sunday School, youth group, and social events for junior high; and youth group and social events for senior high. The two-year confirmation program, which begins in 9th grade, includes class work, service, and meetings with an adult mentor from the parish.

Youth participate in worship activities, both in our parish, and in the Diocese. Some special activities in 2004 included participation in Teens Encounter Christ weekends, hosting an Episcopal Youth Event, a youth-lead Maundy Thursday service, and the Rite of Affirmation for 8th graders. The Frets, a guitar group, was formed this year and has participated in worship services, and at the Christmas pageant.

Service to others is an important aspect of our youth program. A highlight of our senior high service program this year was a mission trip to the San Diego, California. We also had a group work at Camp Heartland in Minnesota. Other special projects throughout the year included helping with Out to Lunch, baking, serving at the Marketfest booth, providing child care for some parish events, and sharing talents in the pageant.

Our program encourages growth in community with each other. Youth participate in activities such as music camp, go on ski trips, do mission work together, and hold social gatherings such as Lake Day and the Super Bowl party. Discussions on topics of interest to teens are also important. One junior high evening discussion group centered on the topic of friendship.

In order to address the needs of families of youth, a group of mothers of young adults meets monthly for fellowship, and outreach to the young adults. A parent book group started this year, with parents reading a book about raising teens, and gathering to discuss the topic.

As we begin 2005, it is important to maintain our strong commitment to relational ministry, and to continue to provide opportunities for youth and their families to grow in community with each other, and with God.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Schmit

Adult Education and Formation

Membership: David and Linda Monyak, Nat and Avis Watkins, Rev. Andy Jensen, Bob Jagusch, David Seitz

Mission Statement: to provide and promote programs for adult education and formation

2004 Goals:

To do in-depth studies of topics basic to the faith during the Sunday Learning Hour and on Wednesday evenings during Lent
Enhance presentations by using PowerPoint slides when appropriate, and providing resources for further study

Make schedules, references for further reading, and PowerPoint presentations readily available through the Internet

Foster Cursillo at St. Johns

2004 Activities: we completed the following studies:
2 part series on The Birth of the Messiah
7 part series on The Book of Revelation
5 part series on the Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home
4 part series on The Death of the Messiah
11 part series on The Book of Exodus
4 part series Tackling the Da Vinci Code
7 part series on The Problem of Evil and Pain
3 part series Man is Not Alone (An Introduction to the writings of Abraham Heschel)
A presentation on The Dead Sea Scrolls

Adult Education also worked with other committees to offer the 8 part Via Media series (an introduction to the Episcopal Church), and provided support for the June 2004 Cursillo. The Adult Education web site (www.StJohnAdultEd.Org) is listed as a General Education Resource on Anglicans On-Line. In 2004, www.StJohnAdultEd.Org had 260,540 visitors and 2,677,606 hits.

Respectfully submitted, David Monyak, Chair

House Groups

House groups are a means of engaging in Bible study, prayer, and Christian fellowship in small groups. This facilitates deeper Christian spiritual reflection and community building within the church. Although we began 2004 with 3 house groups, we ended the year with 2 groups primarily due to deaths in the families of 1 group.

The Wilderness Women House Group facilitated by Barb Anderson and Pris Campbell is composed of single women. This group has studied the letter of James, and the Gospel of Mark. Future study in the spring of 2005 will focus on the Good News of the Holy Spirit as revealed in Acts.

The second house group led by David Seitz and Joann Smith studied selected scripture passages on prayer. During a year of sorrow, this group became most practiced in Christian love, concern, and support for one another. In fall, 2004, this group merged with the third house group.

Therese Branby and Linda Monyak facilitate the third house group. This group began 2004 by completing their study of Genesis. They began fall with the use of African Bible Study around the theme of healing with an experimental session of guided meditation. Study in 2005 will continue the African Bible Study format on the topic of blessing.

All house groups are open to visitors and new members. We look forward to expanding this enriching experience in our St. John's community.

Welcoming & Evangelism Committee

Membership: Tim Hammond, Beverly Boyle, Sharon Lund, Jody Eick, Krista Sullivan, Kelly DeSmet, Kate Johnson, Molly Anthony, James Anthony and Therese Branby. Special Projects: Lara Senjem, Barbara Anderson, Terry Rooney, Tom Long and Jim Johnson

The Committee solidified work to put basic welcoming strategies in place, participated in several special projects in conjunction with other committees and organized and executed one major marketing campaign. Basic strategies involve creating a welcoming environment at Sunday services so guests can experience the hospitality of our membership. To achieve this goal the following methods were employed:

Distribute welcoming bags that contain information about our Church and Community along with a mug to remember us by and cocoa or tea to warm their hearts. In 2004 over 100 welcoming bags were distributed to guests.

A bulletin board was hung in the foyer area between the Parish Hall and Church to display pictures of our new and existing members and their families and information to help us get to know them better.

Two Newcomer's Events were held at the Parish Hall. Participants are taken on a tour of the Church, have lunch with committee members and have an opportunity to hear about St. John's from our Rector who also fields questions from our guests.

In an effort to invite the outside world in we have continued to design and display large banners on the parking lot side of the Church. This year Easter, Lessons and Carols and Christmas banners have been created.

Collaboration with other committees such as Liturgy and Music, Adult Education, Fellowship, Hospitality and Communications is an essential part of improving Welcoming & Evangelism efforts. Projects we assisted with include:

MarketFest offers the Church a unique opportunity to participate as part of the larger community and spread the word that there is an Episcopal presence on First and Clark. Also, the kids like the bubble soap.

Guests get their first impression of our Church when greeted by our ushers. These individuals play a key role welcoming visitors to our church community. We are pleased to assist Liturgy and Music in the recruitment of ushers and encourage all members to consider joining our great team of ushers.

Via Media a joint endeavor with Adult Education, Liturgy and Music, Hospitality and many others was a successful multi-media program that brought both new and current members of the Church together for stimulating discussions about the Episcopal faith.

This year we also conducted a membership survey and then purchased name badges for all members with the financial support from the ECW. It's good to get to know our neighbors in the pews!

A second project of significance was a marketing effort to raise awareness of our presence in local communities. Over 35,000 flyers were tucked into local papers the week prior to Rally Day to encourage folks to visit us when seeking a Church community.

Respectfully Submitted by Tim Hammond and Therese Branby

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee at St. John in the Wilderness is responsible for the following:

Fostering activities and events designed to enhance fellowship among the members of our congregation

Encouraging the congregation to be active and involved

Developing, hosting, and assisting other committees within all areas of parish activity

Offering opportunities to meet, share experiences, and grow in the context of the church community
Representing the different constituencies of the church body including single and married parishioners of all ages

Building of lasting relationships within the church
Promoting the spirit of goodwill, friendship and community

Here are the major activities that the Fellowship Committee participated in for the year 2004:

- 1) Mardi Gras Party – This event in February attracted 75 partygoers. The exceptional conversation, live Jazz Band, and wonderful food and beverages created quite the atmosphere!
- 2) Dinner and a Movie - March provided another opportunity to get together... a group of 21 parishioners attended the movie "The Passion of the Christ" as well as dinner afterward.
- 3) All Parish Maundy Thursday Potluck Dinner – April brought us another successful Maundy Thursday dinner.
- 4) Feast of St. John Picnic – the threat of rain showers couldn't put a damper on a great picnic.
- 5) MarketFest - Our first Fellowship event without food, MarketFest allowed our congregation to get out into the community and spread the word about St. John's during White Bear Lake's local summer festival. We had our own booth, provided informative materials, offered decorative bags, and even had a special gift for young people. This year we were on hand for EVERY night of MarketFest!
- 6) Rally Day - Rally Day provided the opportunity for everyone to have fun on the church grounds... enjoying booya and beverages while celebrating a new Church year!



Adventurers

Again we had some very interesting adventures:

February: Bookie Bash in the Parlor, with lunch catered by Kowalski's, and a book talk by Alta and Faith Johnson from the Lake Country Booksellers

August: Mississippi Showboat melodrama

December: "Christmas of Swing" at the Great American History Theater.

Our events are open to everyone.

Respectfully submitted by the committee: Nancy Brown, Arlene Glander, Dorothy Dokmo, Ruth Mattlin, Elizabeth Uppgren, and Josie Power

Property Committee

Members: Beverly Boyle, John Brunner, Edward Chilton, Chris Karp, Jason Knauss, John Kobinski, Thomas Long, Bonnie Peck, Terry Rooney, Dennis Thoemke, Brent Torgerson, Kenneth Whitney
Chair: John Vruno

The committee is responsible for overseeing the care and upkeep of all church property. This involves coordination and/or participation in various facility and property cleaning, maintenance, and improvement projects by volunteers and outside contractors. We work with other committees and church organizations in enhancing the appearance of the church and property.

Major projects completed in 2004:

- Parish hall deteriorated exterior wood replacement
- exterior wood and trim painting
- Flat roof and nave sloped roof replacement
- Seal and stripe parking lot
- 1st St entrance cracked & settled walk replacement
- Waiting room remodel to match rector and administrator offices

Respectfully submitted, John Vruno



Cemetery

As in the past, the Boy Scouts started our spring season raking and hauling leaves and dead branches. The balance of our stewardship project of pruning, chipping and lifting sunken markers was handled by a great group of volunteers.

The cemetery statistics have changed very little the past year. However, we have had more winter burials this year than in past winters.

The committee welcomes new member Chris Hawley. Chris has helped out many times, making life easier for Miles Whitney and Gene Napiwoski. If you wish to be part of the Cemetery Committee, please leave your name and phone number in the Cemetery Committee mail slot. Everyone is welcome and your effort would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Whitney, Chair

Landscape Design Committee

The members of the Landscape Design Committee are Sherri Afryl, Beverly Boyle, Dianne Del Giorno, Lynda Halbert, Fr. Mark Kelm, John Kobinski, John LeFevre, and Bonnie Peck, Chair. The committee was formed to address issues raised by the Osilas Foundation, which was interested in helping the parish re-landscape the front of the church. After talks and submission of a preliminary sketch, the Osilas Foundation sent \$5,000 to enable the committee to hire a professional landscape architect. The committee is currently exploring various architects and will continue to report to the vestry. Any proposals or changes will first be approved by the Vestry. Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Peck.

Gift & Memorial Committee

The Gift and Memorial committee members are Fr. Mark Kelm, Beverly Boyle, June Hochbrunn, John Johnson, Barbara Merrill, Jack Reed, Loretta Seitz, Mary Whitney, and Judy Kroesch, Chair.

The Gifts and Memorials Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Vestry for the use of Gifts and Memorial money, and keeping an accurate and updated record of all gifts and memorials.

Gifts given, Memorial money donated, and purchases made this past year were as follows:

A plaque for the burning bush in memory of Mary Pope

Two flag poles and flags for our cemetery, and new choir robe cabinets in memory of Roger Smith
Adult Education funds given in memory of Jaya Kasmani

A rolling memorial service table is ordered in memory of LeVere Shisler

An oil stock ring for healing services was purchased, and funds were provided to make a baptismal banner. Funds were given to the Music and Liturgy Committee to purchase hymnals. Other purchases are being planned.

Other gifts were given in memory of Marion Nelson, Gilbert Gehrenbeck, Betty Shepherd, Robert Marquardt, Donald Smeed, Joanne Murnane, and Vinella Barrett. A stained glass window hanging was donated in memory of Paul Yard, and a prayer desk was given in memory of Fr. Joe Campbell. A woven pall for cremated remains and memorial services was made and given by Marge Polanek.

Dana Boyle has updated the Gift and Memorial Register in the church regularly. Mary Whitney and June Hochbrunn have updated our picture album. A list of gifts and memorials given since 1980 has been published in our monthly Voice.

The Gifts and Memorial Committee and Vestry must approve all gifts and memorials before they are purchased or donated. Any committee or person may make suggestions of memorials or gifts for consideration.

The following is a list of approved gifts and/or memorials:

- Sacristy remodeling
- Church baseboard restoration
- New pew-back tract racks
- Changeable entryway directory sign
- Parish Hall round tables
- Fireproof office depository safe
- DVD, VCR & CD players on rolling table
- St. John's Processional Banner
- Dalmatic (Deacon's chasuble)
- Gospel Book ceremonial cover
- Unity Candle stand
- Book of Occasional Readings
- Ceramic Communion Set with 2 chalices and patens

Funds are always needed for prayer books, hymnals, library books, Vestments, choir and acolyte robes, and altar linens.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Kroesch



Stewardship Committee

Chair: Anne Hovland

Members: Foss Boyle, Therese Branby, Jean Tews
Volunteers: Joe Afryl, Sherri Afryl, Tim Hammond, Alma Limbach, Stephanie Allen-Davis, Alison Feigh

Stewardship is an element of our Christian faith drawn from Biblical teachings about giving ourselves over to God's call to us. The principles of stewardship are twofold: to care faithfully and responsibly for all that has been entrusted to us, and to express our appreciation for all God has given us by giving back a portion in joy and willing sacrifice. The role of the Stewardship Committee is to educate, motivate and engage parishioners in giving back time, talent and treasure to keep St. John's vital and growing. The Committee's emphasis is on treasure, or financial support, to meet the Church's needs.

The Stewardship Committee's work for 2004 consisted of three principal activities: facilitating the Vestry's strategic planning retreat in March, initiating formative steps for a major fundraising campaign for St. John's and conducting the annual appeal.

The strategic planning retreat resulted in a decision by the Vestry to undertake a campaign feasibility study, which was then designed and conducted by the Stewardship Committee. The Stewardship Committee, with the help of the Rector, Wardens, Property and Finance Chairs, created a case statement narrative supported by a 5 year financial projection describing the Parish's needs beyond our current budget, and proposing a plan to meet them. More than 25 households participated in interviews to assess the soundness of the case plan and the readiness of the Parish to respond to the call for major support beyond annual giving.

Following the interview process, the Stewardship Committee recommended to the Vestry that a \$750,000 campaign be undertaken to meet the facilities, program and endowment needs identified and for which sufficient support is believed to be achievable. Bev and Foss Boyle have agreed to lead the campaign, with the Stewardship Committee providing ongoing guidance (two members of the Stewardship Committee are fund raising professionals). The quiet phase of the campaign, during which time leadership commitments are being sought and made, has been underway since September. We can gratefully report that more than \$400,000 has

already been pledged, and we anticipate announcing the general phase of the campaign and seeking the support of the entire parish in the spring. It's important to note that the campaign planning has consistently emphasized inclusiveness, assuring that the conduct and expectations for the campaign, as well as the results to be realized from it, will consider, seek out, and benefit every household, all age groups, and all the activities and assets of St. John in the Wilderness that represent our full ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Hovland, Chair



Report on 2005 Stewardship Drive

The 2005 stewardship drive hoped to raise \$350,000 to support the many programs and activities within the Church and the increased staff required to implement them. A speaker's series during Sunday services highlighted what St. John in the Wilderness meant to these speakers and how important this faith community was in their lives. A total of six parishioners spoke on six different Sundays. Each person spoke at all three services on their respective day. Speakers were from both the congregation and the staff. They were Sherri Afryl, Tim Hammond, Alma Limbach, Stephanie Allen-Davis, Alison Feigh, and Joe Afryl. In addition, a letter was sent at the beginning of the campaign that discussed the need to prayerfully consider increasing the previous year's pledge, thereby allowing us to continue to grow the Church programs and minister to all within our parish. Included with this letter were the pledge cards for 2005.

Commitment Sunday was held on November 14th. Following this date, the Wardens sent a letter in early December to those persons who had pledged in 2004, but had yet to make a pledge for 2005. As of last week the amount pledged totals \$318,479.

This is an increase of over \$43,000 from 2004 pledges. If you have not yet pledged, you can make a commitment anytime. Please contact Maureen Vruno, Parish Administrator, wilderness2@stjohnwilderness.org or 651/429-5351.

Respectfully submitted, Joe Afryl

Finance Committee

Joe Afryl, Barb Anderson, Amy Hawley, Bob Jagusch, Mary Whitney, and Larry Mahoney, Chair

As I start my fourth and final year as treasurer I am pleased to report that the outlook for 2005 is very good. We closed out 2004 pretty close to the original budget and our total budget for 2005 is about \$430,000. This represents an increase of 20% from 2004. It also puts us in the range I said we would have to reach in my report two years ago. This increase has allowed for increased staffing to support the needs of our parish. The position of Associate Priest was originally funded for 12 months only before having to come out of the operating budget. The 2005 budget includes seven months, as the original funding will be fully utilized in May 2005. The increase has also allowed an increase from a part time (28 hours per week) to a full time parish administrator.

For the second year our committee members saved the parish nearly \$2,000 by performing the audit by committee. It is a difficult task to accomplish with volunteers that have no audit experience, so we have decided to return to hiring an outside auditor to perform the 2004 audit.

Speaking of finance volunteers, we need some new ones. Our committee roster has dwindled to three, including me, from the nice size we began with. In addition, this will be my final year as treasurer. I cannot serve longer due to a change in canon law made at the diocesan convention last fall.

Last year I began including only summary financial information in the annual report. This seemed to work well for most of you. I will have a few copies of the 2004 statements at the annual meeting available for those with an interest in them. If you prefer, send me an e-mail, Lmahoney@mucr.com, and I will be happy to send you a copy.

2005 Operating Budget
As approved by vestry
December 14,2004

	Actual		Actual		Actual		Estimate d		Budget	
	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Total income	324,092		322,520		307,230		357,800		430,424	
Expenses										
Total building related	40,648	12.1%	35,212	11.2%	42,342	12.7%	44,000	12.1%	52,300	12.2%
Total payroll related	188,493	56.2%	177,376	56.4%	186,198	55.8%	217,378	59.6%	264,399	61.4%
Total office	20,950	6.2%	20,377	6.5%	19,690	5.9%	15,850	4.3%	23,200	5.4%
Total faith formation	5,155	1.5%	3,142	1.0%	3,621	1.1%	2,700	0.7%	5,500	1.3%
Total growth	7,645	2.3%	7,006	2.2%	15,992	4.8%	15,800	4.3%	14,250	3.3%
Total liturgy & music	4,817	1.4%	1,035	0.3%	2,735	0.8%	3,470	1.0%	4,000	0.9%
Total outreach	67,887	20.2%	70,192	22.3%	63,289	19.0%	65,533	18.0%	66,741	15.5%
Total expense	335,595	100.0%	314,340	100.0%	333,868	100.0%	364,731	100.0%	430,389	100.0%
Income less expense	(11,503)		8,180		(26,638)		(6,931)		35	
Beginning net assets			24,013		32,193		5,554		(1,377)	
Ending net assets			32,193		5,554		(1,377)		(1,342)	

**CHURCHWOMEN OF
ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS
2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

BALANCE ON HAND - 12/31/2003

ECW Checking	\$5,138.57
ECW Savings	\$4,540.05
	<hr/>
	\$9,678.62

INCOME

Dues	\$181.00	
Interest	\$28.26	
Rummage Sale	\$3,098.01	
Funeral Receptions	\$1,425.00	
Donations	\$1,500.00	
Miscellaneous	\$354.44	
Holiday Bazaar	\$7,158.98	
Luncheon Receipts	\$1,092.50	\$14,838.19

TOTAL

\$24,516.81

DISBURSEMENTS

Speakers/Programs	\$310.00	
Luncheons	\$1,597.61	
Memorial Reimbursements	\$489.83	
Postage/Cards/Diocese of MN Cookbooks	\$324.01	
Cass Lake Scholarships	\$1,000.00	
Grants	\$7,671.13	
Parish Contributions		
Rummage Sale Costs	\$204.00	
Child Care	\$598.50	
B-day Lunch Airfare ('03/'04); donated	\$1,737.20	
Parish Staff Gifts	\$525.00	
Carpet Cleaning	\$207.68	
Kitchen Supplies	\$365.40	
Misc.	\$123.05	\$15,153.41

BALANCE ON HAND - 1/1/2004

\$9,363.40

GRANTS

Tree for entry	63.48	St. Paul Area Council of Churches	250.00
Sunday School Bibles	218.30	Seabury-Western Theological Seminary	300.00
Cassocks/Cottas	740.00	SJITW TEC	236.13
SJITW Children's Ministries	700.00	J.C. Ministries	100.00
ECW of Minn. 2004 Christmas Project	300.00	Salvation Army	400.00
Epilepsy Foundation	200.00	Youth Mission Trip (car rental)	500.00
May Fellowship Day (Baby clothes)	413.22	SJITW Welcoming & Evan. (name tags)	1750.00
Home of the Good Shepherd	100.00		
Marie Sandvik	100.00		
University Episcopal Center	800.00		
Episcopal Homes Foundation	500.00		

7671.13
