

# Church of the Epiphany

St. Michael & Grace  
2006 Annual Reports  
presented at the

First Annual Parish Meeting  
of the  
Church of the Epiphany  
February 11, 2007

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### **Working Mission:**

We welcome all people into the body of Christ, made visible when we gather at the Holy Table in worship, and we seek to strengthen all people for their lifelong spiritual journey as ministers of God's love.

### **Working Mission Principles:**

- **We offer unconditional and gracious hospitality to all people.** Everyone, regardless of age, sex, race, class, mental or physical ability, family configuration, or sexual orientation, is welcome in God's house. We invite people at any place on their spiritual journey to join us: doubters, believers, those who have lived their whole lives in church, and those who have never entered a church.

- **We live out our baptismal promises.** All members of the body of Christ are called to serve Christ. We strive to live out the promises that we make in the Baptismal Covenant.
- **We gather for worship.** Believing that the eucharistic feast is an enactment of God's gracious invitation to nourish humanity, we gather to worship together often. We manifest God's abundant feast by joining in the finest worship we can offer.
- **We support lifelong growth and learning.** Our spiritual journeys and faith development begin at the moment of birth and continue until death. We offer Christian formation programs, classes, service opportunities, and community fellowship for all ages and stages in growth.
- **We give thanks to God by offering our time and money.** All that we have comes from God, and we believe that it is important to give thanks for all our gifts. Part of our thanksgiving is the offering of our time and money. We encourage proportional giving for all members of our community, with the Biblical tithe as our standard.
- **We affirm our Anglican heritage.** As part of the Anglican branch of the Christian faith, we believe authority comes from Holy Scripture, church tradition, and human reason guided by the Holy Spirit. We believe our faith is articulated in the historic creeds, especially the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed.
- **We welcome children with special intention.** Children are always welcome in our worship services, because we believe that families should be able to worship together. Our Christian formation programs encourage children to experience a God-filled life and to connect with the great stories and traditions of our faith.
- **We manifest Christ's love in the world.** The life of a Christian must include caring for others, since we are called to respect the dignity of every person. We believe that in our encounters with young and old, strong and weak, female and male, prisoner and free, rich and poor, friend and stranger, we are encountering Jesus Christ.
- **We share our faith.** In response to our experiences of God's abundant love, we share our stories with those around us. We hope that everyone will know God's love, and we invite others to join us in our faith journey—growing with us as individuals and as a part of our community.
- **We are all ministers.** All Christians are members of a royal priesthood, God's own people. It is our joy and privilege to serve as ministers by caring for others, by doing the work of the church, and by reaching out to those who do not know God's love.

Revised September 9, 2005



**Agenda for the First Annual Meeting of Church of the Epiphany  
February 11, 2007**

- 1.** Call to order – The Rev'd Jennifer Pedrick, Rector
- 2.** Opening prayer – The Rev'd Scott Gunn, Assistant to the Rector
- 3.** Determination of a quorum, Jennifer Pedrick
- 4.** Acceptance of minutes of last (17<sup>th</sup>) annual meeting (St. Michael & Grace)
- 5.** Acceptance of Annual Reports by title as published
- 6.** Witnesses to Mission – Members of the community
- 7.** Acknowledgement of ministry of retiring vestry members and other ministry leaders  
–Jennifer Pedrick
- 8.** Nominating Committee Report and Elections –Virginia Rocha, Chair of the  
Nominating Committee
- 9.** Resolution on amendment to By-laws
- 10.** Financial Report for 2006 –Bill Dench, Treasurer
- 11.** Endowment Report – Bob Bergstrand, Chair of Endowment Committee
- 12.** Stewardship of Grace Church Mortgage Income – Bill Dench
- 13.** Budget for 2007 – Bill Dench
- 14.** New Business
- 15.** Closing Prayer – The Rev'd Richard Shippee, Assistant for Pastoral Care



## **SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING REPORT** **JANUARY 29, 2006**

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of St. Michael and Grace Church was called to order at 12:02 P.M. by the Rector, the Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick. The Rector opened the meeting with a prayer.

The declaration of a quorum of 20 parish members present was made by the Rector.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST (16<sup>TH</sup>) ANNUAL MEETING**

Mike Seger made a motion to approve the minutes from the Sixteenth Annual Meeting, January 16, 2005, and be placed on file. The motion was seconded by John LeBreux.

The Rector asked if there were any questions or corrections about these minutes. Cliff Moore asked how we are doing with the bankruptcy situation of Carpet Giant. Bill Dench responded that Carpet Giant returned the entire amount of \$4500 in the first quarter of 2005.

There were no further questions or corrections. The motion passed. The minutes will be placed on file.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS BY TITLE AS PUBLISHED**

Mike Seger made a motion to accept the annual reports by title as published with the exception of the Nominating Committee Report and the budget. Larry Chiappetta seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

### **WITNESSES TO GROWTH**

Since the theme for 2005 has been about growth, The Rector invited several people to give a witness of why they have come to St. Michael and Grace or for long-time members what the growth has meant to them or how they have grown spiritually.

#### Sally Erskine

Sally spoke about her need to do something for her own spirituality. She joined the Wednesday night book group in anticipation of reading something new and sharing new ideas. In addition, the book group makes her think about church in the middle of the week as well.

#### Susan Murphy

Susan has found tremendous pleasure from the commitment by the leaders at St. Michael and Grace. She cannot do her own spirituality growth by herself.

#### Vickie Chiappetta

Vickie talked about the early service and the fact that over the past year she has observed new people and more children attending this service. Vickie also enjoys the new offerings of Christian Education programs.

#### Ruth Porter

As church historian, Ruth said she does not like to hear other long-time parishioners make statements like "I've done it before." Ruth advocates taking a new interest in doing things and being active with church activities.

#### George Kolb

George felt God was changing his personal direction in terms of church. George knew when he attended St. Michael and Grace that this is where he wanted to be. He feels the caring and visionary leadership of Jennifer and Scott has been instrumental in his decision to join Saint Michael and Grace.

#### Maurice Holmes

Maurice said St. Michael and Grace is a most welcoming community, and that he has felt incredibly welcome by everyone.

### Phyllis Leber

Phyllis wanted to point out that her oldest son, Danny, has been away from the church for 5 years. When he attended St. Michael and Grace a few weeks ago, Danny was impressed with the warm welcome he received.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MINISTRY OF RETIRING VESTRY MEMBERS AND OTHER MINISTRY LEADERS**

The Rector acknowledged the following vestry members and ministry leaders by thanking them for their dedication and commitment to St. Michael and Grace Church. The Rector also presented gifts to each person.

- Jack Waggoner – Vestry Member (not present; gift sent to his home)
- Helen Desnoyers – Vestry Member and Chair of the 2006 Nominating Committee
- Danielle Horton – Buildings & Grounds Coordinator
- Larry Fogarty – Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers Coordinator

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECTIONS**

The members of the Nominating Committee for the year 2006 elections are Larry Chiappetta, Janice Fagan, Phil Campbell, Bonnie Wright, and Helen Desnoyers, Chair.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Helen Desnoyers presented the following candidates to fill the open positions of leadership at St. Michael and Grace for 2006:

- Senior Warden: Linda LeBreux
- Junior Warden: Carolyn McDonough
- Treasurer: Bill Dench
- Clerk: Marilyn Fuller
- 3-year Vestry: Bob Bergstrand  
Susan Hawryluk  
Vacant
- 2-year Vestry: Larry Chiappetta  
Mike Seger  
Bonnie Wright
- 1-year Vestry: Janice Fagan  
Phyllis Leber  
Vacant
- Delegates to the Diocesan Convention (and Deanery Meetings):  
Shirley Friend  
Bob Bergstrand
- Alternates to the Diocesan Convention (and Deanery Meetings):  
Joan Moore  
Sandra Dzikiewicz
- Auditors:  
1 year: Bob Bergstrand  
2 years: Bill Chase  
3 years: Jean LeBreux

The Rector thanked the members of the Nominating Committee. There were no nominations from the floor. Mike Seger made a motion to close the voting and accept the entire slate as put forth by the Nominating Committee. Cliff Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**OUTREACH, VISIONING FOR THE FUTURE**

The Assistant to the Rector, the Reverend Scott Gunn spoke about St. Michael and Grace’s vision for the future.

Scott used a metaphor and stated we need to turn our church inside out. Scott indicated that St. Michael and Grace Church have so much to celebrate and be thankful for. Now that a foundation has been laid, we need to look outside our walls.

Scott recognized Charlene Underhill for her tireless Outreach work over the last several years. Charlene received an award from the Episcopal Charities organization in recognition of her efforts.

Scott’s goal for 2006 is to have every single person at St. Michael and Grace involved with outreach efforts. He will be leading a visioning task force comprised of Charlene and others interested in expanding the way we do outreach – by being more involved in many different ways.

Scott stated that there are all sorts of ways to do this starting with the Vestry. The plan is to take a look at the community and see what the needs are in East Providence, the greater Providence area, surrounding communities, and the world. Perhaps we will volunteer to do some work in soup kitchens, homeless shelters, Habitat for Humanity and other ways.

Scott reminded us of our baptismal promise that we seek Christ in every person we meet, friend and stranger alike. Everyone has a gift from God that can be used for Outreach.

Scott closed with the fact that Outreach also includes Evangelism and that this will also be a focus for 2006.

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2005**

Bill Dench, Treasurer presented the 2005 financial report for St. Michael and Grace Church. Bill explained the 2005 Profit and Loss Statement.

First, Bill spoke about the work done by the counters who make sure that the weekly offering is counted and handled appropriately in a timely manner. Bill thanked Helen Desnoyers, Phyllis Leber, Janice Fagan, Marion McCabe, Topy Carlson, Kristin Chase and Gladys Marino for their dedication to this task.

Bill also mentioned that there is a need for more people to volunteer for this ministry.

2005 Operating Profit (Loss) Comparison – 12/31/05 Actual to 2005 Budget

Explanation of Variances

2005 Budgeted Operating Loss - \$39,158.01

More pledges received than budgeted	
Current Year	\$3,284.35
Open Plate	\$1,712.06
Prior Year	\$1,130.00
Next Year	\$2,300.00
	-----

\$8,426.41

Spring Fling – fundraiser, income not budgeted	\$2,131.55
More endowment interest than budgeted	2,301.66
Rector’s medical insurance lower than budgeted	1,277.52
Music Program completely funded by gift	5,000.00
No operating funds used	
Increased Building operating costs	- 4,575.49
Tree removal, electricity, repairs, snow removal	
Increased Administrative Costs	- 2,439.89

Church Windows, printing costs		
Outreach higher than budgeted due to tithing of gifts	- 2,730.00	
All other		1,420.59
		<hr/>
2005 Actual Operating Loss	-\$26,963.06	

Bill indicated there was more money than expected from prior year pledges; 2006 pledges were paid in 2005; and an increase in open plate giving.

Discussion followed with the following questions raised. Cliff Moore asked how does the tithing of gifts to Outreach work? Bill replied that, by recent tradition, the gifts are tithed 10% of the total gift to Outreach. The decision is made by the Vestry when the gift is accepted.

Eunice Tuckerman asked where does the other 90% go? Bill replied that the Vestry makes this decision, but that the amount is typically split between the Endowment Fund and the General Fund.

Cliff Moore asked why is the apportionment fee listed under Programs?

Linda LeBreux, Senior Warden stated there is a lot of Outreach done and a variety of ministries are funded in part by our apportionment payment to the diocese. Technically it is considered outreach spending.

Bill indicated the amount is included in the operating cost of the budget.

#### Operating Profit (Loss) Comparison – 2006 Budget and 2005 Actual

<u>2005 Actual Deficit =</u>	-\$26,963.06
Increased Current Year Pledges	\$18,368.65
Wage Increases	-2,253.44
Tree Removal	1,700.00
Secretary's Medical	1,125.00
Electricity	-635.00
Insurance	-385.00
Repairs/Maintenance	-504.52
Outreach	3,400.00
Apportionment	-1,893.00
Christian Formation	-1,432.68
Other	-2,693.21
	<hr/>
2006 Budget Projected Deficit =	-\$12,166.36

#### **BUDGET FOR 2006**

Bill Dench, Treasurer, presented the budget for 2006.

2006 Budget:

Total Operating Income =	\$246,512.68
Total Operating Expenses =	\$257,679.04
Operating Profit or (Loss) =	-\$12,166.36

Bill explained the details of the 2006 budget. He stated that we have a better income base this year than last year. Pledges are 20% greater than last year's pledges. We are predicting another \$3,000 from new people. The Rector added that this is a conservative estimate. New people will be invited to cottage meetings throughout the year, as necessary. There is a cottage meeting scheduled in February, 2006, for newcomers.

Bill stated that the Rector received a 4% salary increase and the sexton received a 4% increase in salary, approved by the Vestry. The Assistant to the Rector's salary is covered by a gift.

The music gift includes continued growth of programs proposed by Laura Brion, Music Director. We are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of an 8-year gift.

The rectory roof will be repaired in the January-February, 2006, timeframe at a cost of \$12,900. The question was asked by Cliff Moore as to who will be doing the contract work. Marilyn Fuller replied with Marshall Building Products.

Bill talked about investing in programs that are working toward fulfilling our mission. He mentioned that gifts to the Altar Guild are down and that we need to do more in this area.

Again, Bill highlighted the need for more counters, and that everyone should consider joining the ranks of the counters.

Cliff Moore asked about the retained earnings number of \$125,000. Bill responded that this number is an accumulation of prior years' earnings.

Cliff Moore asked about the internal audit and where the report is located. Bill replied the internal audit report is located on the bulletin board in the hallway.

### **STEWARDSHIP OF GRACE CHURCH MORTGAGE INCOME**

Bill Dench, Treasurer, talked about the Grace Church mortgage payments and that the interest portion of each monthly payment from Grace Church goes into our operating fund.

A motion was made by Bill Dench that in the year 2006 to allocate the principal portion of the Grace Church mortgage payment to the Reserve Endowment Fund. Mike Seger seconded the motion. There were two opposed. The motion passed. Cliff and Joan Moore asked that their opposition to the motion be noted.

### **ENDOWMENT REPORT**

Endowment Committee Chair Bob Bergstrand reported that last year's ending numbers were actually November-end and not December-end due to the earlier date of the annual meeting in 2005. Bob indicated that by amending the by-laws and moving the date of the annual meeting to later in January the financial reports reflect year-end numbers. Bob reported that even though money was transferred to cover the deficit in 2005, the endowment fund grew by \$18,000.

Cliff Moore said we should be very careful about how we handle the permanent reserve fund.

The Rector said we need to vote on the budget for 2006. Mike Seger made the motion to accept the budget for 2006. Cliff Moore seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. There was one opposed and one abstention. The motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Rector spoke about the parish staffing position and the fact that parish secretary, Bea Lima, accepted another position. Bea has continued to work part-time, on Fridays, until someone else is hired. In the meantime, Beth Dench has been working on a part-time basis to help out. The Rector announced that Beth Dench has been hired to replace Bea Lima. Beth's hours are currently 10 AM to 3 PM, Tuesday through Friday.

Linda LeBreux, Senior Warden, asked for a round of applause for the leadership and vision that The Rev'd Jennifer L. Pedrick and The Rev'd Scott Gunn have given to the community of St. Michael and Grace.

The Rev'd Scott Gunn offered a closing prayer.

Cliff Moore made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Fuller, Clerk

MOTION FOR CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, EAST PROVIDENCE  
ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 11, 2007:  
[2/3 Vote Required]

Be it:

RESOLVED: That the Revised and Reinstated Rules and Regulations – Endowment Funds of the Church (the “Rules and Regulations”) be amended, effective as of the date of adoption of this resolution, as follows:

1. The first sentence of Section 1 of the Rules and Regulations is hereby amended by substituting for the word “appointed” the word “elected”.
2. Section 1 of the Rules and Regulations is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following as a new third paragraph:

Commencing with the Annual meeting of the Parish in February, 2007, and continuing until the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) anniversary of the date on which the its proportionate share of the net assets of St. Martin’s Church of Pawtucket (“St. Martin’s Church”) are received by the Church, to the extent that there are former members of St. Martin’s Church who are Parish members and who are willing and able to serve on the Endowment Committee, positions on the Endowment Committee shall be filled first from among former members of St. Martin’s Church until at least two (2) members of the Endowment Committee (whether serving by virtue of their position as Senior Warden or Treasurer or elected by the Vestry) are former members of St. Martin’s Church. Any vacancy arising in the two (2) Endowment Committee positions allocated to former members of St. Martin’s Church shall be filled by the Vestry from among former members of St. Martin’s Church who are Parish members and who are willing and able to serve.

3. Section 8 of the Rules and Regulations is hereby amended by redesignating it “Section 9”, and the Rules and Regulations are hereby further amended by adding thereto a new Section 8 to read as follows:

**SECTION 8: ST. MARTIN’S ENDOWMENT FUND.** Upon receipt by the Church of its proportionate share of the assets of St. Martin’s Church, 25% of the net assets so received shall be set aside and held by the Endowment Committee in a fund known as the St. Martin’s Endowment Fund. Such fund shall be managed and disposed of by the Endowment Committee and the income and principal thereof shall be available for the general uses and purposes of the Church; *provided, however,* that, in the absence of a bona fide Parish emergency, as determined by the Endowment Committee and approved by 2/3 of the members of the Vestry present at a meeting held for such purpose at which a quorum is present, the principal of such fund shall not be disbursed, and the income of such fund shall be used only for charitable and/or scholarship purposes. As used herein, the term “net assets” means the assets received by the Church after payment from such assets or reimbursement to the Church of all costs incurred by the Church or St. Martin’s Church in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization between the Church and St. Martin’s Church, dated as of December 31, 2006, including those itemized in Section 5 of such Agreement.

## **2006 Profit and loss analysis**

## **2006 P&L Year end financials**



**Church of the Epiphany  
Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2006**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Pawtucket Credit Union - #0735	\$2,430.04
Altar Guild Flower Fund	906.00
Petty Cash	50.00

Pawtucket Credit Union-4916

Capital Improvements

Donations	50.00
Office Renovation	1,945.29

Total Capital Improvements 1,995.29

Grant for Assistant Rector	0.00
Grant for Sacristy Repairs	700.00
Godly Play Accreditations	0.00
New Orleans Mission Trip	0.00
General Fund	-5,157.90*
Music Gift	42,095.32
Utilities	<u>2,400.00</u>

Total Pawtucket Credit Union-4916 42,032.71

Pawt CU - Cap Impr Cking 4925 104.82

Total Checking/Savings 45,523.57

Other Current Assets

Pawtucket CU - MM/CD # 5003 12,875.07

Collins Estate - Perm End. Fund

Met Life Annuity 38,654.58

Total Collins Estate - Per End. Fund

Endowment Fund - General

Diocesan Invest. Trust - #1071 250,952.95

Webster Bank - CD 20,189.09

Total Endowment Fund - Unrestricted 309,796.62

Reserve Endowment Funds

D.T.T. #2618 96,603.41

Total Reserve Endowment Funds 96,603.41

Total Other Current Assets 419,275.10

Total Current Assets 464,798.67

**TOTAL ASSETS \$464,798.67**

## LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>0.00</u>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	484,861.57
Net Income	<u>-20,062.90</u>
Total Equity	<u>464,798.67</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>\$464,798.67</u></b>

\* As budgeted, there was an operating loss in 2006 which resulted in a reduction in cash in the general fund; the Vestry is empowered to borrow funds from the reserve endowment to offset operating cash shortfalls in the general fund; the Vestry has borrowed \$6,000 in 2007 to supplement the general operating account deficit of \$5,157.90 at 12/31/06.

NOTE: The checking account balance is not negative. The checking account balance at 12/31/06 is \$45,523.57, primarily comprised of the music gift



## **Budget 2007**



## ST. MICHAEL & GRACE CHURCH 2006 PLEDGE REPORT

Compiled as of January 31, 2007

Number of Pledges for 2007	111
Total Pledged	\$ 122,241.00
Average Pledge	\$ 1,101.27
Diocese of Rhode Island Average Pledge	\$ 1,156.34
National Average Pledge	\$ 1,974.00

### Pledge History

	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average Pledge</u>
2006	103	\$110,032.00	\$1,068.27
2005		\$ 92,907.00	\$ 957.80
2004		\$ 91,364.00	\$ 932.29
2003		\$ 86,297.00	\$ 871.68
2002		\$ 84,026.00	\$ 893.89
2001		\$ 82,388.00	\$ 849.36
2000		\$ 88,331.00	\$ 817.86
1999		\$ 84,588.00	\$ 755.25
1998		\$ 72,711.00	\$ 655.05
1997		\$ 92,005.00	\$ 681.51

### Pledge Analysis

There were 31 new pledges totaling \$ 22514. The average new pledge is \$726.26.  
 25 Pledges were not renewed, totaling \$ 17,657. The average non-renewed pledge is \$ 706.28.  
 Renewed pledges increased an average of 2.83%.  
 The average pledge has increased by \$ 211 in the last three years of our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Gousie  
 Pledge Clerk

## **Sacramental /Vital Records for 2006**

### **Baptism**

Sydney Margaret Trudeau  
Adam Joseph Gaucher  
Travis Joseph Chartier  
Sahara Abizaid  
Megan Mistretta

### **Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows**

Lynn Marie Conrad

### **Confirmation**

Benjamin David Carter  
Sarah Catherine Dench  
Morgan Ashley Johnson  
Lindsey Lynn Jones  
Kristyn Marie Turner  
Gary Andrew Conrad  
Michael Phillip Leber  
George Robert Kolb

### **Reception**

Maurice Vincent Holmes, Jr.  
Valerie Bosticco Kolb

### **Holy Matrimony**

John D'Alessandro and Jessica Dellefemine  
James Andrew Loven and Patricia Mercure

### **Burial of the Dead**

Howard B. Inman  
Marguerite C. Costa  
Tamara Rosemary Bowman  
Charles H. Scott  
Ronald R. Shepard  
Norma B. LaFreniere  
Philip Edward Kelley  
Hope E. Colorusso

## **Rector's address**







## **Assistant to the Rector 2006 Annual Report**

Who could have predicted all the growth and positive change that would take place in 2006? From the formation of a 20s/30s group to the selling of pumpkins, from incorporating 21 new members to merging with St. Martin's, it was a year full of growth.

### *Adult Education*

Our Sunday morning custom of offering two programs for adults continued through most of the year. Jean LeBreux and Maurice Holmes led our Bible study, and we are all grateful to them for their work and leadership. In addition to that, we offered several topical programs for adults on Sunday mornings. The most successful program was an outreach series in Lent. We invited various guest speakers who came and talked about their service organizations and their work. We learned both about organizations and very real human needs. Thanks also to Susan Murphy who co-taught (with me) a program on aging near the end of the year.

### *Greeters*

This is an area of ministry where we have shown some good momentum, and where further work is needed. These smiling faces are present on Sunday mornings to greet everyone as they enter our church building, offering hospitality and welcome, especially to first-time guests. Phyllis Leber served as the coordinator for much of the year. I am grateful to Phyllis to all she did, and I thank her for her service. She has now resigned from her leadership position as a greeter.

Thanks also to all our greeters: Helen Desnoyers, The Hawryluk Family, Sally Erskine, The Amaral Family, Bonnie Wright, The Dzikiewicz Family, The Lockard Family, Topy Carlson, Gerry McAvoy, The Johnson Family, Susan Bergstrand, Shirley Friend, Betsy Friend, Charlie & Isabel Killam, The Benker Family, The Chase Family, The DeAngelo Family, The Dench Family, The Menard Family, Geri Cunha, and Shirley Baker.

In 2007, I hope we can expand the number of greeters and ensure that we are offering the very best welcome we can offer on Sundays.

### *Growth*

This year we welcomed 21 new members. We began what we hope will be a regular pattern of enjoying "Welcome Sundays" through the year, when we formally welcome those who have joined our church during our Sunday liturgies. Beyond numerical growth, I have seen a good deal of non-quantifiable spiritual growth among our members.

### *Pumpkin sale & Pumpkin Fair*

This year saw a new event at our church. In October, we sold pumpkins on our front lawn. One Sunday afternoon, a truck pulled up and delivered nearly 2000 pumpkins of various sizes, and we then sold them for the remainder of the month. Over two dozen people helped us by volunteering their time to staff our pumpkin booth, sometimes in cold and rainy weather. We had a great time doing this work, and we were able to make connections with many of our neighbors. The company we dealt with, Pumpkins USA, had inventory problems, so we were unable to get a second delivery. Had we been able to get a second delivery, we certainly could have doubled our sales.

In conjunction with the pumpkin sale, we held our first ever Pumpkin Fair on October 21. Earlier in the fall, the holiday bazaar crew said they were not able to host the holiday bazaar, but some of the bazaar team suggested they would be willing to work on a partial replacement. We went with the pumpkin/harvest/autumn theme and held a successful event, with book sales, a craft table, face painting, baked goods, and much more.

In sales, our net income was \$2775.58. This was less than previous years with the holiday bazaar, but we consider this to have been a great success. Our church made good friendships with new faces, all who helped had a good time, and we made some money. Special thanks go to Susan Bergstrand, Janice

Johnson, and Dot Campbell. Those three women were the point people on both the pumpkin sales and fair. It was a challenging job, creating an unprecedented event. They produced outstanding results with cheerful spirits. Thanks, Sue, Janice, and Dot!

Our hope is to repeat both our pumpkin sales and the pumpkin fair in 2007.

#### *Other parish work*

For those who might wonder, I also share in the administrative work of the parish, attending meetings, helping on sundry projects, and collaboratively working with the staff on all areas of ministry. I visit shut-ins and those who are hospitalized, and sometimes bring Holy Communion to those who cannot come to church due to illness or injury.

#### *Non-parochial work*

My commitment as diocesan Communications Officer ended on December 31, 2006, and I began to work here full time effective in 2007.

My agreement at SMG also makes it clear that I am to participate in the life of the diocese and wider church. In our diocese, I have been teaching in the Deacons' Formation Program, offering courses on the Book of Common Prayer, Social Issues, and Anglicanism for those seeking ordination as permanent deacons. As a new priest, I am required to participate in a monthly program called "Fresh Start." In October, I was elected to Diocesan Council. In the wider church, I was appointed as a board member of *Episcopal Life*, the newspaper of the Episcopal Church. I also serve as one of eight people in the Episcopal Church on a committee charged with coordinating ministry with young adults.

2006 was a terrific year for me personally, and for our community. I anticipate an even better year in 2007.

### **Senior Warden Annual Report**

In reviewing Vestry notes in preparation for this annual report, the word GROWTH came to mind as a summary for the year. There has been so much growth in so many ways.

As a community, we have grown in numbers. Forty-two new members had registered their baptisms by October. The weekly attendance at both services has increased. People have commented that the 8:00 o'clock service attendance seems to have doubled. One Sunday in Advent, as I sat at the altar and looked out at the congregation, there seemed to be more people I didn't know than people I knew. It has been exciting to see all the children preparing to go to Godly Play. And we are now joined by the folks from St. Martin's. There is an energy in our worship that is surely the Holy Spirit growing among us.

We have grown in mission. As we began 2006, we had a new mission statement and principles and had just begun to explore how to turn those principles into action. The scope and depth of this program is awesome. Opportunities to share in this ministry were made available to all ages and truly encompassed our whole parish. The Outreach Committee should be proud of its accomplishments. As we have reached out to serve those outside our walls, God has brought more ministers to join us within our walls.

Our evangelism has grown. We have a web site with an e-newsletter. We have a brochure to tell others about our community. People have brought friends to church. We are advertising our happenings in the newspapers of our surrounding communities so that more people will be invited to share in God's work with us. Our pumpkin patch, art shows, and chowder house have invited people to begin to know us. As people get to know us through those venues, some will stay for worship.

The Vestry has grown. Under the direction of the rector and assistant rector, the format of our Vestry meetings has changed to include an educational piece at the beginning of each meeting. The topics and leaders of the discussions varied each month. We learned about evangelism and leadership qualities especially related to church leadership. Lessons learned at the "Reinventing Church" Conference were

shared by the rector, assistant rector and me. Sally Erskine shared her experiences at the Province I Stewardship, Congregational Development and Evangelism Conference. Skits and role plays allowed us to practice some of the skills we learned.

These opportunities for growth as leaders helped us to deal with some very difficult issues in our community that included the handling of pledge information and a name change for our community. We learned the importance of being united even when we disagreed and to care for each other. We learned that we needed to be models of stewardship and demonstrated that in our pledges for 2007. We learned to listen - to each other, to our community, and most importantly to God's call to our community.

As an individual, I have grown as a leader. One of the best things, as my time in leadership on the Vestry has waned, has been to observe the growth in leadership in other members of the Vestry. I know that our community will benefit from the new leadership who will continue to provide vision and guide us through even more changes. It is through changing that this community will continue to grow and prosper.

I could not help but reflect on my 7 years on the Vestry and be amazed at how different our community is now. Four months into my first year on the Vestry, The Rev'd Peter Michaelson resigned and the next 2 ½ years were spent holding our community together and preparing for calling The Rev'd Jennifer Pedrick. God's call to us then seemed to be to remain an independent community. We were blessed with the financial support from Grace Church to be able to make that choice. We continued to be blessed with the generosity of large donations that have allowed us to have the extra staffing of a music director and an assistant rector. The growth that we have seen would not have been possible without that generosity. Those blessings and the choices made at that time have now led us to welcome the community of St. Martin's Church, bringing more growth, more financial security, more blessings. We are growing in extravagant generosity as shown in our decision to change the name of our parish to Church of the Epiphany.

It has been such a privilege to serve God in this place, to be part of this growth, to share in God's love with all of you. Thank you for your support and encouragement. Thank you for your trust. A special thanks to my husband for putting up with all the meetings and duties. I will have to use all my leadership skills now to get him to give up all those sports he's gotten use to watching while I have been at meetings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda LeBreux

## Senior Warden, St. Martin's Annual Report

Dear Parishioners,

Just a year ago at the Annual Meeting on February 5, 2006, I became Sr. Warden of St. Martin's Church Pawtucket. Looking back over the various reports from that annual report, I am struck by the last sentences in both Fr. Richard's letter to the congregation and the outgoing Sr. Warden's report. Fr. Richard wrote "The time ahead will be difficult and my prayer for you is that you might open yourselves to the presence of God, listen to the Spirit, and discover God's will for you." The Sr. Warden's report states "We need to plan for the future, to prepare for the possibilities both good and bad, but we have to continue to be God's people in the here and now, to be open to what it is that God has planned for us."

In retrospect, those statements proved to be a prophetic clarion call to prayer and submission to the Spirit as the Vestry struggled with a vision of the future. That submission began as Fr. Richard agreed to hold an instructed prayer service and communion on Wednesday evenings during Lent and we began to actively listen to the Spirit.

As a result of that listening, on June 26<sup>th</sup> a special congregational meeting was held and we voted to end the Yoking Agreement with St. John's Ashton and to investigate the possibility of a merger with another Episcopal church within a reasonable radius of St. Martin's. The rest is now history, as it is said, and we, St. Martin's and St. Michael and Grace, have now become a new community in Christ, that of the Church of the Epiphany.

It has been an incredible year. God has moved us out of our comfort zone, stretched us and caused us to grow in ways that we could never have imagined a year ago. Now we find ourselves perhaps a little stunned, tired and in need of a break, looking forward to a much needed rest. But I would caution us not to rest too long, for we are not at the end of something, but at the beginning. We are at the beginning of the life of a new community, a new ministry and mission, the beginning of a new opportunity for service to our Lord Jesus Christ, and a new time of prayer and submission to the Spirit of God.

1 John 3:2 "Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is..."

Yours in Christ,  
Carol Marsland  
Former Sr. Warden, St. Martin's

## **Junior Warden/Stewardship Annual Report 2006**

The Vestry charges the Committee to develop a year round Stewardship program to educate the members of St. Michael and Grace about the abundance of God's love and provide opportunities for conversion which will support the mission of the church.

This year the Stewardship committee held three major events. In the spring we reinvented the Grateful & Generous Heart program. This time we incorporated the story telling style that is used in Godly Play. Each Sunday we were reminded of some major themes in our relationship with God. God loves us without limits! Everything we have is a gift from God! Our greatest joy is to give back to God and others! God's love and generosity may mean that we live differently than others!

In May we held another ministry fair. This year the theme was "JOIN THE JOURNEY" as ministers of God's love. We discovered we have over 27 ministries and with many volunteers giving hundreds of hours demonstrating God's action in the world!

Then the Stewardship committee received a gift! An anonymous donor offered to give our parish the opportunity to experience the parable of the Talents! What a great idea and I think everyone who participated was touched by the experience.

We completed the year with a re working of the pledge drive. First we mailed out some informational material entitled: "What is Pledging?" and "What is Proportional Giving?" Instead of home based cottage meetings, we held a series of larger meetings that incorporated the Parable of the Talents and the witness of different member's growth in proportional giving.

Overall this has been a great year for Stewardship!

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn McDonough  
Junior Warden/Stewardship Co-chairperson

## 2007 Endowment Report

*The mission of the endowment committee is to provide the vestry with current income, while growing the endowments in order to support future ministries.*

The Endowment Committee's investment philosophy continues to be seeking long term growth while providing predictable income and assuming minimal risk. To those ends, the parish's endowments grew by 8.95% during 2006 while, at the same time, transferring \$11,280.64 to the general fund. Thus, the total growth was 11.9%.

The budget for 2007 includes an estimated \$11,282.00 in endowment income that will be transferred to the general fund.

The following chart compares endowment status at the end of 2005 to that at the end of 2006.

### ENDOWMENT FUND COMPARISON 12/31/05 to 12/31/06

	12/31/05	12/31/06
<b>Unrestricted funds</b> (Permanent Endowments)		
Met Life 550067448	\$ 37,509.33	\$ 38,654.58
Webster Bank CD 009-7048755	19,424.61	20,189.09
DIT 1071	238,216.75	250,952.95
Total Unrestricted Funds	\$295,150.69	\$309,796.62
<b>Vestry Restricted Funds</b> (Reserve Endowment)	\$ 8,469.07	\$ 12,875.07
Total Vestry Restricted	\$ 8,469.07	\$ 12,875.07
<b>Donor Restricted Funds</b> (Restricted Endowments)		
DIT 2618		
Henderson Fund	\$ 6,128.08	\$ 6,738.90
Lancaster Fund	17,969.42	19,760.55
Grace Mortgage Fund	40,104.02	44,101.44
Music Fund	17,003.09	26,002.52
Total Donor Restricted	\$ 81,204.61	\$ 96,603.41
<b>Total Endowment Funds</b>	<b>\$384,814.37</b>	<b>\$419,275.10</b>

During 2006, \$6642.52 of unspent music gift money was added to the Music Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Bergstrand

## 2006 Altar Guild Annual Report

*The Mission of the altar guild is to create a beautiful welcoming setting for people to worship God, by preparing the altar, sanctuary and church for services.*

The members of our church's altar guild work quietly and unseen throughout the year preparing the church for worship. We care for the linens and vestments used in services, according to special directions for sacred items. Through altar guild ministry, members experience a time of personal reflection and devotion, as well as fulfilling their baptismal ministry. It is also a way to learn, and show appreciation for, the rituals and rich Anglican traditions of the Church.

This past year two of our members, Jan Hutchinson after 44 years, and Isabel Killam after 42 years, retired from the altar guild. Their time of dedicated service has been an inspiration to us all. We are thankful for all that they have given to us and to the parish these many years. We thankfully welcomed a new member, Danielle Horton.

We continue to meet periodically with the Rev'd Jennifer Pedrick to plan for any changes or additions to our preparations. These meetings offer education and review for our newer, as well as our more experienced, members.

Our sacristy renovation is still on going, but the end is in sight. We now have proper and ample storage for our beautiful new altar hangings and vestments and for the linens and sacred items.

In November, our members and the members of St. Martin's altar guild met for tea. It was a delightful afternoon to get to know each other and to swap "altar guild stories". We hope that many will want to continue their ministry in our new united church.

Unfortunately, as the price of flowers increases, the number of donations to cover the cost of weekly altar flowers continues to decrease. We ask that you consider donating the cost of flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special event, so that we can continue to add to the beauty of our worship. A flower chart and donation forms are in the hall by the office for your convenience.

In the coming year we hope that more people will join our ministry to help us grow in creative ways and to experience the joys that altar guild work can bring. Anyone wishing to join the altar guild can contact one of our members or join us at one of our meetings which are listed in the bulletin or Herald.

I'm very thankful for our devoted members who share in our work and spread their joy, for our associate members, especially Larry Fogarty who is always willing to help out, and for our rector the Rev'd Jennifer Pedrick, for sharing her knowledge of church tradition and for her appreciation of the work of the altar guild.

Members: Sandy Dzikiewicz, Caroline Fogarty, Danielle Horton, Betsy Kelley, Barbara Kent, Cal Loven, Betty Patterson, Karen Turner, Charlene Underhill, and Susan Bergstrand.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Almond Bergstrand  
Church of the Epiphany Altar Guild Coordinator

## 2006 Altar Guild Treasurer's Annual Report

Memorial Gifts Accounts Balance (as of 12/31/2005)		Checking: \$2,508.28	
		Savings: \$ 7.82	
		<b>\$2,516.10</b>	<b>\$ 2,516.10</b>
Receipts:	Deposits	<b>\$3,138.00</b>	<u>\$ 3,138.00</u>
			<b>\$ 5,654.10</b>
Expenditures: Flowers		\$3,191.46	
	Misc.	<u>\$ 24.78</u>	
		<b>\$3,216.24</b>	<u>\$(3,216.24)</u>
Memorial Gifts Account	Balance (as of 12/31/2006)		<b>\$ 2,437.86</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Dzikiewicz  
Altar Guild Treasurer

## ACOLYTE MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT

As a new ministry leader I am learning as we go, but would like to report that the acolyte ministry is growing and doing very well. It was a rough start when I took over the scheduling from Sue Hawryluk in August, since a few of the crucifers we had serving would be off to college in the fall and a few torch bearers would no longer be interested in serving.

I would like to thank the 2 crucifers, Matthew Hawryluk and Lindsey Jones who stepped in and served every other week in the months of October and November. Matthew Hawryluk is also now serving as our only thurifer.

I have had a lot of new people that have joined the acolyte ministry which I am very grateful for. We now have 7 crucifers and 10 torch bearers, which makes scheduling much easier. We recently had a very successful training and have had a few more people interested, which is great news. We are also in the process of ordering some much needed new robes.

I am looking forward to growing within the ministry with Jennifer's help and would like to say thank you to all that are currently participating.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Lockard  
Acolyte Ministry Leader

## BIBLE STUDY

A fairly consistent group of 10 to 12 persons continue to come together on Sunday mornings for Bible discussion. Different books of the Bible have been selected by the group. The Book selected is divided into manageable sections and the assigned reading for each week is then discussed. Often the discussion includes how the readings relate to history or current events.

We studied Exodus and Leviticus during the winter and spring. We did not meet during the summer. This fall we tackled Isaiah.

Anyone is welcome to drop in or join us anytime.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean LeBreux

## **2006 Buildings Committee Annual Report**

*The mission of the Buildings Committee is to maintain and improve the parish facilities, providing an attractive and welcoming place for those gathering in the presence of God.*

At the November 2005 Vestry meeting the Buildings and Grounds Committee was divided into two parts. This is the report of the Buildings Committee.

Any report by this committee must include special thanks to Larry Fogarty and Joe Marot. Larry and Joe give their time and effort generously to our parish. They can be found almost daily fixing, beautifying, replacing, or maintaining something in order to provide us with a place of worship that remains beautiful to the eye.

This past year, under the leadership of Marilyn Fuller, The Rectory roof, garage door, Sacristy roof and ceiling, and hallway roof and ceiling repairs were all accomplished. The flat roof repairs to the sacristy and hallway were especially trying. Two members donated a repair to the roof of the parish hall.

2007 goals will include:

- Finishing the Sacristy

- Repair of concrete slab at the entrance to the church

- Elevator updating to meet the newest codes

- Upgrading of buildings to the new fire codes brought about because of the Station Nightclub fire in West Warwick.

As of this date, the new fire codes for churches have not been promulgated. My latest phone conversation with the diocese indicated the new codes will probably not be available until approximately June. We are now in receipt of a letter from the State of Rhode Island telling us that we must upgrade our elevator to meet new codes. To that end, we have received a bid of \$4960.00 and are in the process of identifying funding.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Bergstrand

## **Counters 2006 Annual Report**

The primary goal of the counters is to process the weekly pledge envelopes and any other income coming into the church on a weekly basis and have it ready to be deposited into the bank.

Counters are asked to be available at least one Sunday a month. The counting usually takes 1-1 ½ hours of time. Counters are expected to handle the weekly pledge envelopes with confidentiality.

I would like to thank all of the counters for their continued help and support to this ministry: Janice Fagan, Gladys Murino, Topy Carlson, Marion McCabe, Maurice Holmes, Vivian Johnson, and Phyllis Leber. We also had some extra help this year from Carolyn McDonough, Marilyn Fuller and Mike Seger. We invite anyone who would like to become a counter to join in this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Chase  
Head Counter

## **2006 Annual Report: Godly Play Children's Ministries**

The Godly Play program has ministered to children ages 3 up to sixth grade in the parish. The story – based program offers children a way to develop spiritually as Christians while discovering the mystery of God's presence in their lives.

January through December of 2006 was a year of growth for the Godly Play program. We set our goals for 2006 to spread the word of Godly Play and encourage growth in our own parish. We have seen our registration increase to 31 from 57. We have added several new lesson/stories to our classrooms and they have been well received by the children and teachers.

During the summer our parish hosted a 3-day accreditation seminar for Godly Play teachers. The program was led by Linda Clapp an Accredited Godly Play Teacher Trainer. Our classrooms and parish hall provided the training space. Much credit and thanks goes to Beth Dench, Godly Play materials coordinator for putting in many months of preparation to coordinate this successful program. She definitely helped spread the news of Godly Play. Virginia Rocha provided unforgettable hospitality for the guests in the form of meals and refreshment. This successful experience has led to a request for us to host future regional trainings.

Two of our teachers, Ruth Porter, and Jennifer Pedrick attended this intensive accreditation training and are now Accredited Godly Play Teachers.

Our teachers and coordinators have been very enthusiastic about helping share the news of Godly Play. The teacher/storytellers are Erick Bergstrand, Ruth Porter, Jennifer Pedrick, Sandy Dzikiewicz and Diane Menard. Our teacher/ greeters are Flo Tierney, Jill Lifrak, Briana Johnson and Lindsey Jones. The teachers have eagerly learned new stories to share with our children and have shared the experience of Godly Play with visitors and newcomers. The teachers have participated in the extra programs we have established for our children outside of the classroom. Sandy Dzikiewicz and Lindsey Jones will be moving on to other ministries in 2007. We are grateful for the time they have spent with Godly Play.

We have met our goals for 2006 and would like to continue to see the growth of the program into 2007. With this growth we would like to see a growth in teachers particularly those who would like to share the stories and wonder of the mystery of God in our lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Menard  
Godly Play Coordinator

## **2006 Grounds Annual Report**

During 2006, the Buildings and Grounds Ministry was split into two separate entities with Bob Bergstrand taking over as Buildings Coordinator.

The mission of the Grounds Ministry is maintain the parish grounds in a safe, attractive and welcoming manner to all who come to visit or worship.

In addition to our sexton, the team of Larry Fogarty and Joe Marot continue to keep the property looking beautiful with their weekly maintenance schedule. The beauty of the grounds is exceptional no matter what season we are in. Larry and Joe do everything from mowing the grass, weeding, taking care of the flowers and shrubs, installing the handicap parking signs, to moving logs and, this year, moving pumpkins.

A Spring Flower Planting was held this spring. A variety of flowers (designed by Val Till) were planted beneath the Narthex windows. Many volunteers helped with this project. The flowers bloomed throughout the spring and summer. Thank you to all who helped with this project.

The teens of our parish participated in a clean-up of the grounds. They got rid of dead branches; raked leaves, and generally spruced up the property. Thank you to all the young people who worked so hard.

Priorities for 2007 is to continue to maintain the property in such a way that it is inviting, safe and welcoming to all who come to worship or attend one of our many events.

The position of Grounds Coordinator is open for 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Fuller  
2006 Grounds Coordinator

### **Hospitality Annual Report**

Greetings to all! I bring you "tidings of great joy"! The merger celebration is complete and I am overjoyed! I am also joyous with the new parish members that have joined us. I am grateful to parishioners who graciously voted to change our name from St. Michael & Grace to Church of the Epiphany, East Providence, to make others feel welcome. We have seen significant growth in the year 2006 and I predict more growth in 2007. A great "thank you" to everyone who made coffee hours such a success over the past year; Betsy Kelley, Susan Bergstrand, Geri Cunha, Meg Gousie, Joan Moore, the Dench family, Bonnie Wright, Shirley Baker, Danielle Horton, Judy Lockard, the DeAngelo family, Diane & David Madsen, Mrilyn Fuller, Carolyn McDonough, MaryBeth McGrath, Lynn Conrad, Sherilyn Pearce, Liz Brierly, and Kristin Chase. I could not have done it without all of you! We are always looking for more volunteers to host the coffee hours and our many special events.

The Hospitality expenses for 2006 were \$1,000.29.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Rocha  
Hospitality Coordinator

## **2006 Report from the Lectors**

Following the meticulously excellent Larry Fogarty in this ministry has not been easy! Without his help and good advice, as well as encouragement once I was in the role, I could not have done it, and I am enormously grateful to him.

We have 20 members of our community who are Lectors, including 2 youths, and have happily added recently 2 new “mergees” who are experienced St. Martin’s lectors. Those who read at the 8 AM service do yeoman work, reading both scripture passages and rotating every 4 weeks. I thank them: Danielle Horton, Sally Erskine, Carl Mayse and the newest member of this quartet, Geri Cunha.

The schedule is usually made out for four month periods. I contact the group in advance to determine “nonavailability” for any services during this period. Once the schedule is promulgated, an assigned reader finds a replacement for themselves when it is impossible for them to fulfill the obligation. All are very responsible on this score. And sometimes services, or celebrations are added or changed after the schedule appears. The lectors are generous in offering to take part when this occurs.

In fact, it is not a burden, either heavy or light, to be the Lector in Chief. I love to read the Scriptures aloud myself and so am interested in their being well read by all.

It would be great to spend more time learning more about our readings and during this next year, I will see if this already busy group would be interested in a short course, or several meetings to explore the Scriptures. I am always interested in feedback from the community, and we welcome new readers.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Murphy  
Lector Coordinator

## **2006 Music Ministry Annual Report**

Our Music Ministry is amazingly fortunate. In 2006, our budget was provided by an anonymous gift of \$35,000 -- the third of eight annual donations. This remarkable generosity allows and inspires us to continue working toward the long-term goal of developing a thriving music program that will become a signature ministry of our church. We believe that music serves an important role in our community’s growth into a vibrant expression of our mission principles. By singing hymns that proclaim God’s loving, inclusive invitation, we seek to welcome all into our community. By carefully preparing the music for services, we strive to create the best worship we can. By offering our choir, handbell, and instrumentalist programs, we affirm our belief in the importance of ongoing growth and education for all ages. By hosting hymn sings in the community, we participate in the important activity of outreach. And by drawing on many musical styles and cultures, we create our own tradition that links us to Christians throughout the world and the ages.

Many areas of the music ministry experienced growth in 2006. We held more special events, created a new music outreach program, and increased the diversity and quality of our offerings through the choir, handbell, and instrumentalist programs. In this report, I will highlight the growth in these areas and outline goals, hopes, and considerations for the future.

Some of our special events were a continuation of traditions begun in 2005. For the second year in a row, we offered a concert by Christian folk singer Fran McKendree in October, and a Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols in December. Fran McKendree also joined us for a special Sunday morning, providing the music for our celebration of the Feast of St. Francis. We held our first Evensong service in March, and offered three more in May, September, and November, as well as an “emerging liturgy” combining ancient and modern liturgical traditions for the Feast of All Saints.

And we finished the year with our third annual neighborhood caroling party, visiting houses near St. Michael and Grace during Christmastide.

The variety and richness of our music on Sundays also increased. Following the positive feedback about our first offering of a seasonal handbell ensemble in Advent 2005, we offered the same program during Eastertide and Advent. Emmanuel Newport generously loaned us their three-octave set of handbells both times. Four instrumentalists in our congregation also shared their talents by playing the trumpet, flute, trombone, and violin on Sundays and holidays throughout 2006, including Epiphany, Easter, All Saints', Advent Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve.

In the summer, we began a new series of hymn sings at local nursing and retirement homes. These were planned by the music ministry and outreach committee in response to the congregation's interest both in outreach in general and service to the elderly in particular. These events were a particularly exciting area of musical growth in 2006, including both choristers and other members of the congregation in three fun, informal evenings of singing.

In the fall, both the senior and junior choirs began using Voice for Life, an excellent chorister training curriculum produced by the Royal School of Church Music. Although the total number of members decreased, regular participation by members increased, the choirs grew in musical ability, and we welcomed one new member to the senior choir in November. This was also the choirs' second year participating in several extra events with other choirs, including: Eucharist to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Bishop Wolf's Ordination Eucharist for the Feast of the Ascension at the Cathedral of St. John Youth Choir Evensong at St. Luke's, East Providence Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Newman Congregational Church. In 2006, we covered all of the Music Ministry's expenses with the anonymous gift, instead of dividing the costs between the gift and the general fund. This was intended as a temporary measure while St. Michael and Grace has made enormous progress towards balancing our budget. Hopefully, we will soon be able to return to the original plan of gradually increasing the portion of the music budget supplied by the general fund, and investing more of the music grant. As we approach the halfway point of our eight-year grant, it is particularly important to take steps towards eliminating our dependence on it.

Our goals for 2007 should reflect three major considerations: the recent unification of St. Martin's and St. Michael and Grace; the expansion of our musical events and programs over the past two years; and our long-term goals for the Music Ministry here. This year, it will be important to: Establish the musical tradition of the Church of the Epiphany by combining the sounds and voices of St. Martin's and St. Michael and Grace. Evaluate our programs. What can we do better? Who can we serve better? Recruit more choir members, particularly for the youth choir. Continue to bring more music into the church. This could include concerts, choral workshops, etc.

Lastly, many thanks to all who participated in the Music Ministry during 2006:

**Senior Choir:** Shirley Baker, Phil Campbell, Carolyn McDonough, Bill Patterson, Nat Taylor, Linda Vaughan

**Junior Choir:** Lydia DeAngelo, Emily Dench, Abbey McGrath

**Choir Guests:** Kim Campbell, Kelly Chartier

**Handbell Ringers:** Shirley Baker, Geri Cunha, Matt Dzikiewicz, Sandy Dzikiewicz, Lindsey Jones, Betsy Kelley, Carolyn McDonough, Tammi Miller, Sherilyn Pearce

**Instrumentalists:** Kelly Chartier, Michael DeAngelo, Matthew Hawryluk, Morgan Johnson, Michael Leber, Shawn Magowan, Sherilyn Pearce

**Outreach hymn sing coordination:** Susan Hawryluk, the Outreach Committee

The very supportive staff of St. Michael and Grace: Jennifer Pedrick, Scott Gunn, Beth Dench, and Jim Hibbert.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura A. Brion-Music Director

## **Nominating Committee Report**

Members of the Nominating Committee for 2007 are Janice Fagan, Carolyn McDonough, Linda LeBreux, and Virginia Rocha, Chairperson. Virginia Rocha proposed the following slate:

**Senior Warden:** Marilyn Fuller  
**Jr. Warden:** Carolyn McDonough  
**Treasurer:** Bill Dench  
**Clerk:** Tammi Miller

### **Vestry 1 year – term ends 2/08**

Steve McGrath  
Mike Seger  
Bonnie Wright

### **Vestry 2 years – term ends 2/09**

Bob Bergstrand  
Susan Hawryluk  
Richard Messier

### **Vestry 3 years – term ends 2/10**

Shirley Baker  
Michelle Callahan  
George Kolb

**Auditor 1 year** – Mary Beth McGrath

**Auditor 2 years** – Don Leggat

**Auditor 3 years** – Sandy Dzikiewiez

### **Delegates to Diocesan Convention/East Bay Deanery:**

Bob Bergstrand  
Shirley Friend  
Virginia Rocha

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Rocha  
Hospitality Coordinator

## **2006 OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT**

There were many accomplishments in the area of outreach at St. Michael & Grace in 2006. An Outreach Visioning Committee was established and started meeting regularly last February to help determine how parishioners could serve the community. We needed to decide how to move forward in terms of our interests and then organize service projects based on those areas of interest. The Committee was comprised of Sally Erskine, Scott Gunn, Sue & Matt Hawryluk, Janet Heberlein, Maurice Holmes, Valerie Kolb, Phyllis Leber, Gerald McAvoy, Joan Moore, Judy Phillips, Charlene Underhill, and Bonnie Wright. A survey was created and distributed to the people of our parish to determine interest levels in outreach initiatives. Survey results indicated that the three areas with the

most interest are the elderly, hunger, & homelessness. We then worked on contacting several local organizations for possible opportunities to serve.

The Outreach Visioning Committee then set up subcommittees to start on service projects. 2006 events that took place in these areas:

- **Elderly**
  - Three hymn sings were set up at local retirement and nursing homes in East Providence. Thank you to Laura Brion and Sue Hawryluk for organizing these events. Those who attended had fun singing, and the folks living at these centers experienced great joy as well. It was extremely rewarding to help put smiles on so many faces. Hymn sings were conducted on June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Winslow Gardens, November 18<sup>th</sup> at Hattie Ide Chaffee Home and December 12<sup>th</sup> at Winslow Gardens. All were great successes.
  
- **Hunger**
  - East Providence Community Center – We have been having a monthly food collection the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month since July. Many parishioners very generously donate items. Food baskets are then delivered to the EPCC. This is such a wonderful way to help those in our own backyard as the EPCC services over 300 families a month in East Providence. This food pantry is so appreciative that we are a steady, year round donor. Maurice Holmes and Valerie Kolb have been overseeing this ongoing collection.
  - RI Community Food Bank - Charlene Underhill has continued to coordinate many nights for members to volunteer at the RI Community Food Bank again this year. This project took place on September 28<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup> of 2006. Thank you Charlene for continuing the success of this ministry.
  
- **Homelessness**
  - We have attempted to organize projects with Amos House and Crossroads and at this point have been unable to finalize plans. One goal for 2007 will be to coordinate plans with either of these organizations, or to find another organization to help. Thank you to Janet Heberlein and Bonnie Wright for all their efforts.

**Please note that all of these projects will continue in 2007.**

On one of our future projects, we hope to achieve 100% participation from the congregation. This will include active help, financial support for projects, as well as prayers for events. We are very pleased to note that in the last quarter of 2006, many, many people currently not on our committee came forward and initiated and/or participated in service projects.

One such project was the **“Cookie Swap”** on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Diane Madsen for all of her hard work and creativity used in organizing this fun event. Members of our parish brought in home baked cookies and filled and decorated over 50 Christmas cookie tins. These were delivered to the East Providence Community Center and distributed to those families in need. Hungry families were getting physically fed with these home baked goods, as well as spiritually fed through the scripture gift tags that adorned each tin offering God’s peace and hope.

Susan Bergstrand also coordinated the **“Read-to-Fed”** program at St. Michael & Grace Church. This read-a-thon helped to raise over \$308 for the Heifer Project. Thank you Susan!

During the holiday season, a few other projects took place as well. The E.P. Food Pantry was in desperate need of canned goods during the month of November, so we took up a special **“Thanksgiving fixins”** collection on November 19<sup>th</sup>. This was one of the most amazing gestures of generosity we have witnessed in terms of quantity of food items!!! It was by far the most amount of food donated at any one time by our parishioners. Thanks to all who participated!

Numerous people in our congregation inquired about buying presents for those less fortunate for Christmas, so an **“Adopt-A-Family”** project was organized fairly quickly in December. In just ten days, our parish generously donated over 100 presents totaling an estimate of over \$2,000 in value. It was such an incredible experience to be a part of this wonderful service to others. Over 12 people in East Providence benefited from these gifts. Valerie Kolb organized this initiative.

Thank you to Charlene Underhill for once again coordinating the **“Hats, Mittens, and Underwear Tree”** collection. These winter items were delivered to the E.P. Community Center Closet after Epiphany on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Another important decision made by the Outreach Visioning Committee as well as the original Outreach Committee was to blend into just one Outreach Committee in the future. This now established Outreach Committee will do everything from the community events to financial outreach distributions. Regarding the money disbursements, we will in the future decide upon the distribution of funds after the budget is given. (We will wait until the Annual Report specifies how much we have to allocate). Please refer to Attachment # 1 for a list of the Outreach Distributions for 2006. These figures were decided upon by consensus from the Outreach Committee. One of our future endeavors in 2007 will be to decide how money disbursements are decided upon, in other words, why we give to whom. We will put a strategic plan in place in 2007 outlining which organizations we want to align ourselves with.

The Church did well this year in its response to the Episcopal Charities appeal. We exceeded our goal bringing in \$9525 in pledges. Donations sent in so far total \$8713. Thank you to Charlene Underhill and Robin Tremblay for all their hard work.

Our first Outreach meeting for 2007 is scheduled for Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. We are looking forward to new parishioners from St. Martins Church joining our new Church of the Epiphany Outreach Committee. Together, we can have even more of an impact on so many different levels. As we combine our energies, one major goal will be to sort out how to expand our hunger projects as there is great interest in this area from both former parishes.

The tremendous growth in our Outreach ministry this year is a testament to God’s love working through His people. It is amazing to watch God at work in the hearts and lives of our church body. There is a great deal of joy and excitement in bringing our gifts to so many in need. We are extremely proud and honored to faithfully serve as co-chairs of this rewarding ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Kolb, Co-Chair  
Maurice Holmes, Co-Chair

## OUTREACH DISBURSEMENTS 2006

1.	RI Good Neighbor Energy Fund	\$ 400
2.	Easy Bay Coalition for the Homeless	\$ 200
3.	RI Community Food Bank	\$ 600
4.	George Hunt HELP Center	\$ 300
5.	East Providence Community Center	\$ 200
6.	Episcopal Relief and Development	\$ 200
7.	Blackstone Shelter	\$ 100
8.	Chamber Education Foundation	\$ 100
9.	St. Mary's Home	\$ 100
10.	Habitat for Humanity	\$ 200
11.	Hospice Care of RI	\$ 100
12.	Doorways	\$ 200
13.	Family Treatment Fund	\$ 300
14.	Heifer Project International	\$ 100
15.	Adopt-A-Family	\$ 316.87
16.	"Read to Feed" for Heifer International	\$ 83.13
		<hr/>

Total Budget: \$3,500

Total Allocated:

\$3,500

## Parish Life

Parish Life is a group of men and women, who coordinate and volunteer at the social fellowship and fundraising events of our parish. Our events are attended not only by parish members, but also family, friends and those in our local community. This is an opportunity for us to welcome new people into our church community.

No special talents are needed. Just a willingness to help in either a large capacity by being a Chairperson for a particular event, or by simply helping out by making posters, selling tickets at coffee hour, shopping for supplies, setting up, serving and clean up.

The events which Parish Life supports are: Chowder House which is held on the last Friday of the month in January, February, March, April, September and October, the Harvest Turkey Dinner in the Fall, our Ham & Bean Dinner to get us all out and together in the cold month of February and our traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

This year, we have had new members join us in our efforts to continue to provide good food, good company and good fellowship for everyone which includes those individuals volunteering, and those attending.

The gift we receive back from this rewarding ministry is the gift of new friendships and it is a wonderful way to meet all of the different members of our parish family and an opportunity to welcome people into our community. We would love to have you join us so that you may experience the fellowship and friendships which we enjoy.

The following is a list of our funds which were raised in the year 2006:

CHOWDER HOUSE	\$ 2,427.00
HAM & BEAN DINNER	\$ 461.00
ST. PATRICK'S DINNER	\$ 360.00
HARVEST DINNER	<u>\$ 390.00</u>
	\$ 3,638.28

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Miranda  
Parish Life Volunteer

## Rite-13 Annual Report

The second year of the first segment of Church of the Epiphany's Journey to Adulthood program is well underway and we look forward to celebrating each participant's transition from childhood to adolescence in a special service in May. Our goals at the outset were to establish and strengthen cross-gender friendships; create safe space in which participants could explore and deepen their understanding of spirituality, self, society, and sexuality; and nurture the formation of a group which would share experiences and memories. Guiding themes in the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) curriculum are expressed by the psalmist:

Lord, you have searched me out and you know me;  
Your hand will lead me and your right hand will hold me fast.  
You have created my inmost parts; you knit me together;  
I will praise you because I am marvelously made.  
All your works are wonderful.  
Search me out, O God, and know my heart;  
Lead me in the way that is everlasting.  
Psalm 139.1-2, 9-10, 13-16, 23-24

### *Specifics:*

Description: Journey to Adulthood began at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Durham, NC. It is a six-year Christian formation program, divided into three two-year segments. The first segment, Rite-13, celebrates "the gift of womanhood and manhood and the gift of creative energy, and provides a foundation for the remainder of the program." The second segment, J2A, builds on the Rite-13 years by "training young people in six necessary skills of adulthood: listening, assertion, negotiation, research and information management, partnership, and leadership." The third segment, YAC, "builds on the previous four years by enabling the young people to practice their newly-acquired skills in the context of a supportive congregation community."

Curriculum: Journey to Adulthood created at St. Philip's Durham, NC

Number of potential participants (determined by birth date and academic grade): 6

Average Sunday attendance: 4

Average number of visitors per month: 1

Demographics of visitors: school friends of participants

Number of facilitators: 2

Class format: opening ritual—candle lit, bell rung, a prayer is said; weekly group check-in about week past and upcoming; reading—scripture or other; discussion/ activity; closing ritual—extinguish candle, ring bell, prayer.

Extracurricular activities: bowling and pizza; church visit to hear Christian band; Thanksgiving canned food drive; hosting Fran McKendree receptions and Cinco de Mayo event; lock-in/ overnight at church combined with Good Friday vigil; swim party; Pumpkin Patch support; Christmas cards for food pantry clients

Prayer created by group:

God, who is great and good, we pray for those who are homeless, hungry, poor, frightened; for the living and the dead. We pray for our families and friends and the gifts we have been given.  
Thank you for the time we share together. Amen.

Participants' feedback:

[Class] is going well. I like it. It would be better with more kids. My belief in God has been strengthened like never before. One thing I really like is talking about my week—I tell my parents, but they already know. I like the interactive things we do in class and I like doing things like going bowling.

Facilitators' observations:

The group has come together nicely. There is mutual respect, support, and care shown within the group, and visitors have been welcomed appropriately. We have been humbled by the breadth of questions posed by the class and by each participant's awareness of and concern for the unmet needs of the community and the world. Group discussions have deepened as participants have begun to trust the group and each has grown into her/his own voice. As facilitators, it has been a privilege to journey, to be challenged, and to mature alongside the participants.

Facilitators' recommendations:

One key element lacking since J2A began in this parish is a coordinator. The coordinator is integral to the team approach and to program's success, and we feel strongly that in order for J2A to flourish, an active, invested coordinator is essential.

Additionally, we are reaching a critical juncture—this is the second year of the first segment of the J2A program. This fall, there will be a new group of Rite-13 participants (those entering 6th grade) and the current Rite-13 class will move into the J2A segment. The program requires one male and one female facilitator for each group, for a total of four facilitators and one coordinator. This is the minimum number.

Lastly, with parish growth, new families have joined with children who are, by academic grade and age, a year ahead of the current Rite-13 class. While we have and will continue to include these children, it would prudent to assess the best pedagogic placement for these children based on developmental stages.

Going forward, we recommend the following:

- Selection of coordinator who will assist facilitators for the remainder of program year and who will commit to serving in role for the next two programmatic years
- Selection of four new teachers for upcoming year
- Training of new coordinator and teachers (next Diocesan J2A training is scheduled for April 27th, 6-9pm and April 28th, 9 am – 3pm at St. Paul's Pawtucket)
- Quarterly planning meetings—curriculum, extracurricular activities, social justice projects, long-range planning, programmatic support
- Quarterly parent-facilitator meetings—check-in and update, feedback, long-range planning

In closing, we wish to thank the class participants for their presence on a weekly basis, for their humor, insight, and honesty, and for flexibility as we took on a new program. We wish to thank the parents for trusting us with their children as we took on a new program and for their commitment to each child's participation. And we wish to thank Rector Jennifer Pedrick for entrusting us with this awesome opportunity, and for her ongoing support and encouragement.

Submitted by,

Sherilyn Pearce  
Rite 13 leader

## **Thrift Shop Annual Report**

I am happy to report that 2006 was the most successful year for the Thrift Shop. Last year we made over \$4000 for our church. We don't have much storage so when we have excess of anything we donate some things to St. Mary's Home for Women and Children, the George Hunt Center, and other charities so that nothing goes to waste. And most of all we have the nicest volunteers anyone could ask for...Cal, Audrey, Hope, Marcy, and Isabel. Thanks for all the donations and please keep them coming.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Fogarty

## **Annual Usher's Report 2006**

The primary goal of the Ushers is to welcome all people who enter the church. Ushers have the ability to offer hospitality to strangers and friends alike. The ushers hand out bulletins and help when assistance is needed during the service. The ushers assist the Rector by counting the worship participants for the register and bringing the offering to the altar. Ushers rearrange the church after each service, to make sure all bulletins are removed and prayer books along with the hymnals are in their proper location.

At a minimum ushers are asked to serve a one year term and to serve at one Holy Eucharist per month. Each service requires one to one and a half hours of time. Additional time may be required during Holy Week or for special services.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the ushers for their continual help and cooperation to this ministry to St. Michael & Grace Church. Faithful members of this ministry include Edna Anness, Fred Burgess, William Chase, Geri Cunha, Sandy Dzikiewicz, Matthew Hawryluk, Christopher Johnson, Charles Killam, Joan Moore, Betty Patterson, Harriet Ramsay, William & Flora Tierney and John Turner, Jr.

This year we welcomed Matthew Chase & Gerry McAvoy to our usher family. For those who might be interest in ushering, we invite you to share in the fulfillment, gratitude and support of ushering at Church of the Epiphany.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a word of thanks Anthony Dzikiewicz and Harriet Ramsay for their years of service to our community here at St. Michael & Grace Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Seger  
Head Usher

## Wednesday Evening Group 2006 Annual Report

Adult education opportunities were held on Wednesday at 5:30 lasting until 6:45. During the Lenten Season we learned different ways to pray using Icons, whole body meditation and chanting. A tenebrae service held to enlighten our knowledge of passing from the light of Christ to his death and the need for silence and meditation. "Faithful readers" continued their journey by studying and sharing points of view on writings by the authors of *The Da Vinci Code*, *Prodigal Son* and *Kite Runner*. A light meal before each session was enjoyed with a sung compline ending the evening on a peaceful note. Wednesdays in Advent were set aside to share the experience of contemplative prayer with one another. The number of people able to attend Wednesday's studies has at times been few. Perhaps the busy schedules of so many during the merger were in the air...Now with some if not most of that behind us perhaps a celebration of new ideas from new members and old will be shared.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Baker