



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

— our doors are open for everyone —



The Episcopal Church of The Annunciation
Marietta, Georgia

2017 Annual Parish Report

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

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

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Stewardship at ECA in 2017 **Chris Crookless**



In 2017 we continued our year-round focus on Stewardship. Our Talent campaign held in May was a great success as it added many volunteers to various ministries. It also was a great chance to highlight smaller ministries often discussed, but add a great deal to the culture of ECA.

We began a venture in the Stewardship committee by beginning the Financial campaign, a \$20,000 matching fund to cover the budget shortfall. **SURE WHAT TO SAY ABOUT THE RESULTS.**

We began our 2017 Stewardship campaign "Journey to Generosity" 1st. Newly designed letters and pledge cards were mailed to each parishioner October 30th. We are currently at 89 pledges for the year with a total of \$1! commitments. We have had 8 new pledges this year, 6 members who moved to the parish and are no longer pledging, and we currently have 8 people who have not committed yet. There are 23 families/Individuals/units that pledge but attend ECA on a pretty regular basis. **IS ALL THAT UP TO DATE?**

Thanks to everyone who put time and effort into making our Church a Better Place to come together for Worship, including our wonderful Stewardship Committee.

Episcopal Church of the Annunciation
2018 Budget - Vestry Approved

Episcopal Church of the Annunciation
2017 Budget - Vestry approved

Episcopal Church of the Annunciation 2018 Budget - Vestry Approved				Episcopal Church of the Annunciation 2017 Budget - Vestry approved		
Accounts	Annual Budget 2017	Total Actual 2017 YTD	Annual Budget 2018	Accounts	Annual Budget 2017	Total Actual 2017 YTD *
REVENUES						
Contribution Income				Altar Guild		
400100 - Plate Offering	\$5,000.00	\$4,766.50	\$5,000.00	530700 - Altar Expense	\$750.00	\$1,073.14
400200 - Pledge Payments	\$221,915.00	\$210,997.87	\$220,577.00	530800 - Flowers	\$1,500.00	\$1,276.52
400300 - Non Pledge Payments	\$20,000.00	\$20,176.92	\$20,000.00	530801 - Flower Income	(\$2,500.00)	(\$2,490.00)
Total Contribution Income	\$246,915.00	\$235,941.29 *	\$245,577.00	530900 - Altar Guild Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Income				Total Altar Guild	(\$250.00)	(\$140.34) *
410650 - Music Income	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	Evangelism		
410800 - Interest Income	\$0.00	\$46.01	\$0.00	540400 - Web Page Expenses	\$250.00	\$168.00
Total Other Income	\$0.00	\$171.01	\$0.00	Total Evangelism	\$250.00	\$168.00 *
Total Revenue	\$246,915.00	\$236,121.57 *	\$245,577.00	Office & Admin Expenses		
EXPENSES				550100 - Checking Account Service Charge	\$0.00	\$39.00
Mortgage Expense				550200 - Parish Administrator Expense	\$11,500.00	\$7,584.00
500100 - Loan #700028 Principle	\$11,223.36	\$11,223.46	\$11,564.83	550300 - Telephone & Internet Exp.	\$1,200.00	\$1,041.46
500200 - Loan #700028 Interest	\$3,429.62	\$3,429.62	\$3,088.65	550400 - Office Expenses - Copier lease	\$3,640.00	\$3,200.44
Total Mortgage Expense	\$14,652.98	\$14,653.08 *	\$14,653.48	550500 - Postage	\$200.00	\$170.03
Diocese				550700 - General Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00
500500 - Diocesan Pledge	\$19,625.00	\$19,625.00	\$20,010.00	550800 - Equipment Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00
590500 - Diocesan Functions	\$625.00	\$764.03	\$525.00	Total Office & Adm. Expenses	\$16,540.00	\$12,034.93 *
Total Diocese	\$20,250.00	\$20,389.03 *	\$20,535.00	Parish Life		
"Reach"				560300 - Coffee Hour	\$200.00	\$134.89
510200 - Yard Sale Income	(\$3,500.00)	(\$3,500.00)	(\$3,500.00)	560400 - Parish Life Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,003.82
510300 - Outreach Expenses	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	560500 - Membership Directory Exp.	\$100.00	(\$180.00)
510400 - Inreach	\$1,000.00	\$247.58	\$1,000.00	560600 - Stewardship and CDC	\$500.00	\$771.98
590100 - Scrip Program Income	(\$500.00)	\$0.00	(\$500.00)	560700 - Vestry Activities	\$500.00	\$324.64
Total "Reach"	\$9,000.00	\$8,747.58	\$9,000.00	Total Parish Life	\$2,300.00	\$2,055.33 *
Clergy Compensation				Building and Grounds		
520100 - Clergy Salaries	\$35,100.00	\$35,100.00	\$35,100.00	570100 - Fire & Liability Insurance	\$4,350.00	\$6,001.25
520150 - Rector Housing	\$24,900.00	\$24,900.00	\$24,900.00	570200 - Propane Gas	\$1,300.00	\$591.43
520200 - SECA Rector	\$4,590.00	\$4,590.00	\$4,590.00	570201 - Garbage & Recycle Exp.	\$370.80	\$407.88
520250 - Assistant Priest Salary	\$30,379.00	\$30,378.48	\$15,189.50	570202 - Power	\$7,500.00	\$6,008.82
520300 - Assistant Priest SECA	\$3,788.00	\$3,788.16	\$1,894.00	570203 - Water	\$500.00	\$968.00
520400 - Mileage & Cell Phone	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	570300 - Maintenance Exp. Equipment	\$500.00	\$301.28
520500 - Rector Medical Insurance	\$19,846.20	\$19,683.24	\$20,112.00	570400 - Maintenance Exp. Buildings	\$500.00	\$340.85
520600 - Rector Pension	\$11,626.20	\$12,595.05	\$12,595.05	570500 - Custodian	\$4,140.00	\$4,140.00
520601 - Assistant Priest Pension	\$8,913.40	\$10,394.93	\$4,797.36	570501 - Cleaning Supplies	\$500.00	\$503.64
520602 - Assistant Priest Health Ins.	\$8,520.00	\$8,821.00	\$4,410.50	570600 - Grounds & Landscape Exp.	\$5,000.00	\$4,851.21
520603 - Assistant Priest Life Insurance	\$100.00	\$1,046.50	\$509.50	570700 - Pest Control	\$2,000.00	\$2,227.00
520650 - Rector Term Life Insurance	\$238.50	\$321.00	\$321.00	570900 - Room to Grow	\$0.00	(\$41,000.00)
520801 - Assistant Priest Housing	\$19,140.00	\$19,140.48	\$9,570.00	Total Building and Grounds	\$26,660.80	(\$14,658.64) *
Total Clergy Compensation	\$169,541.30	\$173,158.84 *	\$136,388.91	Christian Education		
Clergy Expense				580200 - Adult Education Exp.	\$250.00	\$83.95
520775 - Clergy Cont. Education	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	580300 - Youth Christian Ed. Exp.	\$750.00	\$260.78
520800 - Supply Clergy Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	580400 - Nursery Supplies	\$100.00	\$65.05
520900 - Rector Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	580500 - Nursery Worker Exp.	\$4,680.00	\$4,455.00
Total Clergy Expense	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	580600 - Youth Coordinator Compensation	\$4,500.00	\$4,300.00
Worship				580601 - Youth Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
530100 - Music Director	\$15,600.00	\$14,800.00	\$15,600.00	Total Christian Education	\$11,280.00	\$10,164.78 *
530150 - Outside Musicians	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	Total Expenses	\$289,295.08	\$244,873.60 *
530200 - Music Choir Supplies	\$0.00	\$123.38	\$0.00	Net Total	(\$42,380.08)	(\$8,752.03) *
530300 - Piano/Organ Maintenance	\$220.00	\$260.00	\$260.00			
530400 - Bulletins and Printing	\$250.00	\$155.12	\$200.00			
530500 - Spiritual Life & Acolyte	\$500.00	\$462.51	\$500.00			
Total Worship	\$18,070.00	\$17,801.01 *	\$18,060.00			

Buildings and Grounds

Horace Higgins

Date : 01/11/2018
Time : 4:41:43 PM

Church of the Abundant Life
Summary of Restricted Accounts
December 2017

Page : 1

Your Buildings and Grounds committee has been busy in 2017! The goals of this ministry is to maintain our beautiful property, inside and out, and to improve it. We started out the year by inviting everyone on a “walk around” with special attention to the property and decide what projects were going to be done in the upcoming year.

Throughout the year, water leaks, bathroom repairs, fallen trees, etc. were taken care of both by volunteers and the Buildings and Grounds budget. New signs were installed in the Swift Building. New signs were purchased to increase driveway repairs were needed and completed, along with many other projects.

We also welcomed seven goats to ECA to help clean up the overgrown areas! They did such an excellent job, that they were moved to the ditch under the bridge to help control the ivy. We hope to have them back next year to help up other overgrown areas.

Finally, we continue the process of establishing an electric sign in front of the County paperwork was filed and signatures from those living around ECA were in order to move on the next step. It is a lengthy process, but we’ve made some progress and will continue to do so in 2018.



Note: The Report Option to include Open Transactions is selected.

Accounts	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenue	Restricted Expenses	Credit Adjustments	Debit Adjustments	Ending Balance
Temporary Restricted						
General Designated						
800100 - Youth Designated	\$8,285.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$1,828.43	\$4,887.48
800101 - Youth Mission Trips	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
800125 - Young Adult	\$957.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$957.80
800150 - Prayer/Hymnal book fund	\$118.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$118.00
800151 - Room To Grow	\$36,398.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,803.50	\$41,000.00	\$0.00
800200 - Music Designated	\$587.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$587.55
800300 - Discretionary Designated	\$5,091.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$5,891.02	\$0.00
800350 - Sabbatical Fund	\$415.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$415.83
800400 - Reach	\$7,523.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,014.22	\$599.03	\$20,938.05
800401 - Adult Mission Trips	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
800500 - Episcopal Church Women	\$3,498.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$731.40	\$3,017.12
800510 - Tea Time Designated	\$2,333.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$290.00	\$2,000.00	\$823.91
800525 - St. Martha's Guild	\$3,042.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$158.71)	\$3,198.42
800550 - ECA Men's group	\$203.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$203.37
800800 - Memorial Fund	\$9,121.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$163.00	\$9,283.45
800700 - Parish Events	\$1,791.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$1,811.88
800800 - Scrap	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
800800 - Building and Grounds	\$9,738.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$175.00	\$10,663.63
800850 - Prepaid Pledge	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Total General Designated	\$87,094.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,452.72	\$52,031.17	\$60,508.29
Total Temporary Restricted	\$87,094.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,452.72	\$52,031.17	\$60,508.29

Faith and Spirituality

Katie Dunlap

The Faith and Spirituality ministry had a great year with many new endeavors! Christian education for our youth was revamped with a new program that is more interactive and fun for the children. Our youth made communion bread, sang in front of the congregation, had a satyr, and made crafts. They enjoyed breakfast and fellowship while engaging in conversation related to their theme each week. The basement of the Swift Building experienced a transformation from regular classrooms to a Café, Music Room, Storytelling Room and Craft Room to reflect the new program. The Children's Chapel is being led by Candace Bell on the 2nd Sundays, Jennifer Wilson on the 4th Sundays and Jane Whisler and Elizabeth Jacobsen filling in when they aren't available.

Other new programs include ECA's first EFM class, Education for Ministry, with 7 attendees, 1 via phone. EFM even took a road trip in November to the cathedral for The Gospel of Mark presentation. Two Women's Quiet days occurred, the first, Sacred Space in the Chaos, was in May and Sacred Space in Transition was in November. The next one will be May 2018. The Go Guide was presented for the Lenten Series and was well attended. Our Christmas pageant was again a success with help from Tom Jacobsen.

Parish Life

Rick Horner

Our Parish Life ministry strives to find new ways to bring our parish fun ways outside of our Sunday services. This year was no different, we had wonderful events that allowed for fellowship.

St. Martha's Guild organized many baptismal and memorial reception success, including a reception for Bishop Wright and those confirmed during ECA. The Tea Time Ladies put on their ever-popular Afternoon Tea in early and plans are well underway to continue that tradition in 2018. The ECW had a retreat in November. We had another great Parish Picnic in August at Lake We look forward to all the new programs and activities we have planned for

Reach

Bliss Peterson

During 2017, the Reach Committee has undergone some changes and accomplished quite a bit! Lainey Gaines and Chris Renaud were introduced as new Reach Co-chairs. The following individuals were appointed as heads of Reach sub-ministries:

- Men’s Extension: Chris Renaud
- Women’s Extension: Desi Doucet
- Church of Common Ground – Worship: Lorraine Mills
- Church of Common Ground – Lunch: Chris Renaud/Linda Harris/Lorraine Mills
- Emmaus House: Horace Higgins
- Fall and Spring Yard Sales: Sandi Harden, Katie Dunlap, Bliss Peterson
- Senior Game Day: Ron Allen
- Mission Trip: Pete Hogan
- Papa’s Pantry: Doug Sweet
- MUST: Carolyn Higgins
- Sewing Camp: Desi Doucet
- Open Hearts: Lainey Gaines
- Southern Comforters: Carol Scheidler
- Family Promise: Katie Dunlap
- Hunger Walk/ATL Food Bank: Doug Sweet
- Scrip: Gerry Slapkus
- Never Alone: Carolyn Higgins

Reach meetings were changed to the 3rd Monday of each month, so that we would be able to have current financial information and be able to send recommendations to the vestry without a month’s lag time.

Reach recommended the following itemization of its \$12,000 budget which was approved by the Vestry. Reach also recommended the following expenditures from its Designated Funds in 2017:

\$150 for Hunger Walk, \$100 for neon pink feather flags for yard sale, \$400 for seed money for yard sale cash boxes, \$125 for coffee dispenser for Church of the Common Ground, \$100

to sponsor a hole at the Family Promise Golf Tournament, \$700 to purchase banners for yard sale, \$350 to purchase new yard sale signs, \$360 for Thanksgiving for at-risk families (this was later reallocated to Never Alone due to lack of funds by school counselors)

Ministry or Charity	Budgeted Amount
Emmaus House	
<i>Walk the Road</i>	750.00
<i>Christmas Gifts</i>	1,000.00
Southern Comforters	400.00
Must	1,000.00
Mens Extension	1,000.00
Womens Extension	500.00
Papas	1,000.00
Church of Common Ground	
<i>Lunches</i>	400.00
<i>Worship</i>	300.00
Camp Mikell	500.00
University of the South	500.00
Sewing Camp	200.00
USO	500.00
ERD	500.00
ECFoundation	500.00
Family Promise	500.00
VIP (Veterans Immersion Program)	500.00
Open Hearts	1,000.00
Mission trip	475.00
Youth Mission	475.00
TOTAL	\$12,000.00

- During 2017, Reach also:
 - Created a new mailing list with a Reach gmail address
 - Supported Trinity Atkinson’s back pack service project
 - Planned and conducted bi-monthly trips to Church of the Common Ground with bag lunches
 - Conducted multiple Senior Game Days
 - Represented ECA at the Family Promise Golf Tournament
 - Executed monthly dinners at either Men’s or Women’s Extension; purchased a grill for the Men’s Extension
 - Provided lunches at a sewing camp for girls in a group home
 - Supported trips/supplies to Louisiana to help flood victims

Servant Ministries & Worship

Ron Sedgley

- Conducted two yard sales raising approximately \$10,000 and scheduled the Spring 2018 Yard Sale tentatively for 4/21/2018
- Planned and ran Open Hearts, a two-week day camp for under privileged children
- Investigated on establishing a local project with the Woodstock PD
- Provided and served food about 200 people for the Emmaus House Walk the Road event
- Supported CDC Community Bridging Event with baked goods
- Connected with and provided funds for a new ministry – Never Alone, a food and clothing pantry in Cherokee County
- Began work on a glossy monthly newsletter, called Good News, to report to the parish the activities of the Reach Committee.
- Provided coffee hour on Christmas Eve morning, and will plan another in the spring with a ministry presentation
- Reach continues to work on:
 - Revamping the Scrip program and finding new leadership
 - Better communicating to the parish the activities and needs of the Reach ministry through a better web presence/newsletter/announcements
 - Evaluating and trying new ways to increase volunteer participation

ECA's Servant Ministry is a strong one. Meals are constantly made in the kitchen when needed for support. Jan Thurmond is in charge of Cards from the Heart and 40 cards a month are sent out to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or to express appreciation. Journeys continued to meet once a month and are a great resource for those experiencing life's challenges. Memorials were held throughout the year for loved ones. Finally, our volunteer Eucharistic Ministers diligently shared communion with those unable to attend.

Fr. Paul, Mtr. Gretchen, and ECA's Worship Committee has been working hard in 2017! Weekly services included two Sunday services, Wednesday Noon Eucharist, Saturday Evening Eucharist. Our Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Services were among our most popular and well attended services. Our services were altered this year, due to Christmas Eve occurring on a Sunday. Easter services were a great success, and we thank all of our volunteers who made it so special. Children's Pageant at the 5:00pm Christmas Service is always a highlight of the year.

Our lectors, ushers, and many other lay volunteers are so important to our community and we are so grateful for them. Service trainings were held throughout the year, and more in 2018 for anyone interested in serving. We will continue to improve coordination and scheduling in the upcoming year to make volunteering as straightforward and fun as we can.

Youth in 2017

Jan Samuels

2017 has been a year of many changes for ECA's youth. A Youth Committee was established for the first time at ECA with the purpose of helping with ideas and planning activities for the youth and families keeping them involved with fellowship. A new Youth Coordinator, Jan Guardado, was hired and immediately engaged with the committee making plans through the end of the year for activities. I requested that \$1500 from the discretionary budget be used to help accomplish the revitalization of the youth and family group. This was accepted.

This summer the youth have had several events from making Father's Day gifts, the wild safari to helping get the group off to the mission trip, and a slip and slide adult/youth kickball game. In the fall, our youth had a Papa's Pantry shopping trip which led to a donation of over 500 items. Trips to SkyZone, a haunted house, and the annual cheesecake fundraiser were highlights among many adventures for the ECA youth.

At this time there is more participation as well as more talk about what the youth will be doing. The Youth Committee meets quarterly and is thrilled about the upcoming year.

Church Development in 2017

Doug Sweet

ECA's Church Development Committee, or CDC, has been hard at work. One of the CDC's goals is to increase membership and promote integration into ECA. The CDC's mission is to better spread Episcopal Church of the Annunciation's name and mission in the communities, and to encourage active involvement inside the church and our ministries. The CDC hosted a Pancake Breakfast for the Parish every 5th Sunday. These breakfasts were an opportunity for fellowship and to reach out to visiting members and established members. They were also an opportunity for community reach out to potential volunteers.

The CDC also continued to move forward with creating a planned giving program in the form of an endowment fund. The endowments subcommittee's goal is to inform the parish about planned giving, including information about wills and estate plans, and ultimately establish and manage an endowment fund.

Assistant Priest Report **Mother Gretchen Ratterree**

Rector Report **Father Paul McCabe**

Dear ECA Family,

What a joy it has been to serve with you this past year. The support and love you bring as we work together continues to encourage my own transformation in my priestly journey. Together we have been able to expand some programs and add others to our spiritual formation at ECA. Some of these include:

- Education for Ministry - new bible study and spirituality/ministry exploration group
- Women's "Quiet" Days – renamed to Sacred Space – these are now occurring every 3 months
- Sunday School – trying a new interactive program which uses different workshops to explore biblical stories and themes – brought in Elizabeth Jacobsen as our volunteer Sunday School Director – rooms were transformed into Martha's Café (kitchen workshop), The Good Shepherd Park (storytelling/drama workshop, Jeremiah's Potters (art workshop), David's Lyre (music workshop)
- Lenten Study – we explored innovative ways to spiritually engage with the world using the Bishop's "Go Guide."
- Episcopal Church Women – reorganizing with new co-chairs so stay tuned for exciting new activities.
- Daughters of the King – we have added a study component and are looking for new members
- Confirmation Classes for Adults
- Children's Chapel has a worship curriculum being implemented by two volunteers, Candace Bell and Jennifer Wilson

Many thanks to each of you for continuing to walk on this wonderfully transformative faith journey with each other and me. As I pondered over the past year (and look toward the future), my internal "jukebox" is playing "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God," and most particularly the third verse of this wonderful hymn as it truly sums up my experience with brothers and sisters in Christ at ECA.

They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like and I mean to be one too.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

With Christ's love, Mtr. Gretchen

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! Grace taken lightly and is something I am extremely grateful for this past year at Annunciation. 2017 has been challenging and yet rewarding at ECA all wrapped up in one. It is months ago, listening to scripture at a Sunday service I heard these words "As we have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal life by Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you." (1 Peter 5:10) that beyond a shadow of a doubt this parish continues to humble me and inspire me as the people here have served me at Annunciation. I have gone through one of the most difficult personal challenges I have ever faced and there were good days and bad days. The love and support I received from everyone was deeply appreciated and I am thankful for all that was done. I am on a new journey with my life now, but I am as committed as ever to the ministry and mission we have here together at ECA. There is much work to be done and I am looking forward to leading the charge during this new year of life together.

Just as I have had in my own personal life, ECA has had its good days and bad days in the past year. It is yet to be determined what impact my personal life had on the parish, but in the past year our average Sunday attendance visibly decreased. I can't explain because we gained nine new pledges while only losing six and we had more members who were not able to pledge due to illness, but remain faithful members of the parish. We maintained worship on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but our attendance at both services is minimal. We continue to transform the lives of many people in our communities, but parish participation has also diminished this past year. While I leave me scratching my head, I am also encouraged by our determination to do what we continually set out to do by living out our mission statement "bearing witness to God's love." Last year we took the faith challenge of taking on just over a \$42,000 budget and yet we were able to come in within \$3,000 of balancing our budget. Incredible news and while we accomplished this great task, we continue to pay a debt to enable us to look toward the future. We were also able to start our work on a hand endowment for our "saints fund" which will enable parishioners to plan for the future at ECA through estate planning matters.

Rector Report

Father Paul McCabe

2018 will also have its challenges as we are still faced with a deficit budget and this comes with the realization that we will only be able to keep a full time assistant priest through June of 2018. While this is discouraging, where we can rejoice is that together we were able to train another priest to go out into the ministry of the wider church. Fr. Bruce Laird recently shared with me that he and Sherrie will be returning to ECA and this news helps reduce the anxiety of an overworked rector if we no longer have a full time assistant priest. This New Year will be a time of reflection and renewal as we focus on new ways to enhance our ministry and mission with one another and out in our communities. We will focus more on people led initiatives instead of priestly led initiatives. Continued focus on our REACH program and ways to reach out and serve our parish and our communities beyond.

I want to personally thank the parish, but especially the vestry for the incredible work that has taken place this past year. I also want to thank our outgoing Vestry members, Sr. Warden, Bliss Peterson, Junior Warden, Chris Crookless, Parish life, Rick Horner and Communications, Pam Bell for the dedication and work to ECA. We are incredibly blessed beyond measure with their servant hearts and we will miss them on Vestry but look forward to their new endeavors as they seek other areas to participate in in the life of the parish. Thank you to all for continuing to trust me and our work together as Rector of Annunciation, I am deeply Thankful.

To God be the Glory! Fr. Paul+