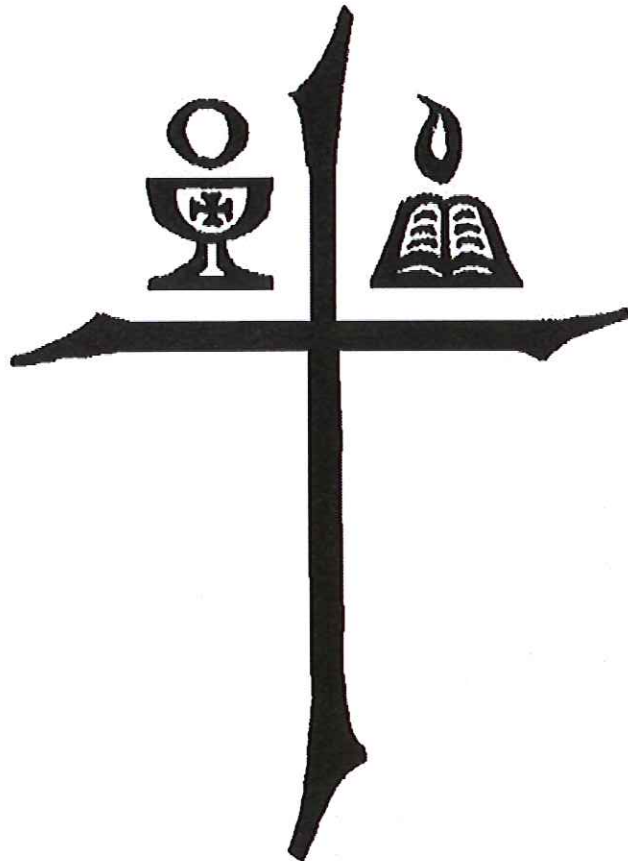


# St. Paul's Annual Meeting Report

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*January 26, 2014*



# MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH † MCHENRY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING NOTES

January 27, 2013

The annual parish meeting was called to order at 11:34 a.m. Invocation was done by the Rev. Lowe.

Nomination of Election of Clerk – Marilyn Bell was nominated via a motion by Larry Eils. A second was provided by Jill Harrison. Motion was approved.

The minutes from the 2012 annual meeting were not provided.

### **Treasurer's Report for 2012 / Budget for 2013 / Endowment Fund Report:**

Dan Jannotta provided treasurer's report and budget for 2013. Rick Carlstedt gave an overview of our income and expenses. He suggested using building facilities (rental income) more to help with revenue. Fundraiser funds listed were discussed as to what that reflected meaning community involvement other than contributions from our parish family (auction). It is time to turn the auction over to the Diaper Bank as their fundraiser and look to other resources to increase our income.

Larry Eils provided report on Endowment Fund and how that is being managed. A formal written report was provided.

### **Ministry Reports:** Written reports were provided for the following:

- Diaper Bank – the Rev. Phyllis Mueller
- Little Cherubs Preschool – Barbara Bridgeman
- Bett's Place – Jim Lukas

### **Election of Vestry and Officers:**

- Vestry – Bev Jannotta and Kathy Biggerstaff. Jill Harrison nominated & moved to have Bev Jannotta & Kathy Biggerstaff fill vestry positions. Al Robel provided a second. Motion was approved.
- Senior Warden – confirmation of Mike Bell. Motion was made by Dean Marcott with a second provided by Ann Byers. Motion was approved.
- Junior Warden – Nomination was provided by Rick Carlstedt to name Deb Lang as Junior Warden. Motion was made by Rick Carlstedt with a second provided by Ann Byers. Motion was approved.

## **Election of Delegates to Diocesan Convention & Waukegan Deanery:**

Will postpone this election with the Vestry to appoint (2) people.

### **Warden's Report:**

- Jim Lukas & Mike Bell provided their report. Appreciation was expressed by Deb Lang for all of Jim's efforts. Mike expressed his "thanks" to the vestry for all of their help this past year.

### **Expressions of Thanks:**

- Jim Lukas – Senior Warden
- Jill Harrison, Bobbi Fiali, Beth Lukas – vestry members rolling off
- Dan Jannotta, Treasurer
- Larry Eils, Chair of Endowment Committee
- Staff:
  - Melinda Aivaliotis – Parish Secretary
  - Barbara Bridgeman, Little Cherubs Director
  - Judy Sundin, Organist/Choirmaster
  - Phyllis Mueller, Diaper Bank Director
  - Charlie Boak, Volunteer Sexton

### **Report of Priest-In-Charge:**

The Rev. Lori provided her report that will be available on-line or in hard copy to parish family.

### **Other Business / Questions / Comments:**

A question was asked about Bett's place regarding standing with the Conservation District and when that will be finalized. Jim Lukas stated that it should be resolved within the next few weeks.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Marilyn Bell  
Clerk



# MINISTRIES

Prepared by Pam Dietmeyer and Alan Robel

During 2013, the Vestry has worked to create a mission statement for St. Paul's that will serve as a "plumb line" to guide us all as we work to meet the needs of our parish, our ministries, and our community. The statement is as follows: SEEKING God in Christ. SERVING others for the sake of Christ. GROWING in God's image along the way.

## OUTREACH

- Bett's Place – Alan Belcher, executive director of Transitional Living Services, is moving forward with plans at Bett's place for construction of new residences for needy, homeless veterans. These plans include a chapel where St. Paul's will continue to carry out our ministry and support for the veterans and a garden dedicated to Bett and her generous gift.
- Diaper Bank – The 2013 auction was a huge success with contributions of \$12,715 net donations. Next year's auction will be on Oct. 25, 2014 with a "Halloween" theme. Reverend Phyllis Mueller has moved the program forward with their website at <http://www.firstgiving.com/DiaperBank>, as well as keeping updates on Facebook and twitter. The website facilitates online donations. Through Facebook and twitter we are reaching people across the country. Very 21<sup>st</sup> century! In addition the Diaper Bank has been featured in a number of articles in print and online including the Chicago Tribune, The Northwest Herald, the McHenry County Blog, and the Diocesan News. In the meantime the need for this ministry grows every day as the Diaper Bank receives requests from all over Northern Illinois.
- Little Cherubs – After four years of operation, it became necessary to close our preschool program known as Little Cherubs. The enrollment had fallen below the level that would support the program, and in fact the church had to underwrite it for part of the year. Many factors contributed to its decline, particularly the slow economic recovery. Nevertheless, we celebrated the education it provided during its span of ministry.



## **ST. PAUL DIAPER BANK PARTNERSHIP**

Prepared by Rev. Phyllis Mueller

The St. Paul Diaper Bank stayed on task in 2013, collecting and distributing diapers weekly. Although we did not surpass the total number of diapers that we distributed in 2012 (250,000) we FAR surpassed the total number of diapers we collected through Diaper Drives, Grants, Donations and Fundraising Campaigns. Allow me to explain. We received no diapers this year from the National Diaper Bank Network. We collected diapers. We raised money for the purchase of diapers. We bartered for diapers. However, we did NOT receive diapers from the National Diaper Bank Network! It would have cost us \$5,000 or \$20,000 in order to receive diapers from the NDBN. We chose to spend our money locally and aim toward complete independence. We are very proud to say we accomplished that goal! We were able to collect, purchase, and distribute more than 240,000 diapers this year!

I would like to first thank Terry Jaworski, Don Jaworski, Bev Jannotta, and Al and Judy Robel for their dedication and energy. Terry, Don, Bev and Al work week after week in a warehouse with no heat and no bathroom, and they work HARD! They never complain, but give thanks for the opportunity to help those in need. Judy continues to monitor our income and expenses daily, and I am thankful for her energy as well. It has my greatest pleasure to plan, create and reach out into our county, with these dedicated colleagues as my guides.

I would also like to thank the people of St. Paul's. You are amazing in your support of us! We are grateful to Lori and her initiation of a productive Church Diaper Drive and for getting the McHenry Rotarians on board with us. We are grateful to all of YOU who made that Church Diaper Drive a wonderful success! We are grateful for a wonderful Benefit Auction Committee, and we are grateful that you ALL helped to make our first county-wide Benefit Auction a wonderful success! And we are so grateful for Melinda, who helped us whenever she was able.

I consider it an honor to work on behalf of the St. Paul Diaper Bank, and look forward to another productive year!



## **PARISH LIFE**

Prepared by Bev Jannotta and Deb Lang

Our life as a parish is made possible by each and every one of you. We are a parish family not only because we worship together but because we share our lives with each other. Below is just a sampling of what we do together - acknowledging some who help make it so. But it is just a sampling. There is so much more done by so many more. Thank you, we couldn't do this thing called Parish Life without you.

## **WORSHIP**

The enduring loveliness of worship at St. Paul's church is made possible by the week after week attentions of some very faithful and faith-filled persons.

Let's begin by thanking those persons who quietly and faithfully attend to our altar; Nancy Backer, Natalie Boak, George Boehlke, Diana Brown, Heather Dodge, and Bev Jannotta. Our Altar Guild is always there to do whatever is needed to assure our worship is in proper order and beautiful. We are especially grateful to Diana Brown who is our laundress, carefully washing and pressing our linens. It is a labor of love to be sure.

Our Lectors and those who read lessons and the Prayers of the People wonderfully enrich our worship. It is right that the readings and prayers come from the laity – the people of the church. We are blessed by many voices; Judy Robel, Terry Jaworski, Linda Curran, Rick Carlestedt, Bobbi Fiali, Ann Byers and Pam Dietmeyer. We welcome all who feel called to join their voices in prayer.

Thank you to Deb Lang, Charlie Boak and Alan Robel for their service as Eucharistic Ministers. We look forward to 2014 when new Eucharistic Ministers, Pam Dietmeyer, Jill Harrison, and Mike Bell will join us in this ministry of the altar. It is deeply satisfying to participate in worship at this level and we encourage all who feel drawn to the altar – there is room for all!

Worship ministries include our greeters, ushers and oblation bearers. Thank you to George Boehlke at 8:00 and Don Mergler at 10:00 who greet all who come through our doors. Thank you to our oblation bearers George Boehlke, Don Jaworski and Alan Robel who serve at our 8:00 service. At 10:00 several persons gladly and joyfully take up this duty. Thank you to Bill Lang, Rick Carlstadt and Bobbi Fiali who are our regulars. And to Bob Backer, Mike Bell, Jim Lucas, and Bev Jannotta who are always ready to help out as needed.



Last, but by no means least, is our Music and Choir. Oh! how our worship is enriched by the talent and liturgical skill of our organist Julie Sudin. Our choir includes the wonderful voices of Dan Jannotta, Jill Harrison, Marilyn Bell, Jan Carlstadt, Kristen Carlstadt and Diana Brown.

Please accept our sincere apology if anyone has not been mentioned. Our deepest gratitude to all, our celebration of Holy Eucharist glorifies God through your devotion and willingness to serve. Thank you.

## **SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

Our intentional Spiritual Life program has developed in a quite unintentional way. Coffee hour is an honored tradition in nearly all churches throughout Christendom. In keeping, St Paul's has fastidiously adhered to the tradition. On the other hand, spiritual life programs have been difficult to start and sustain for a variety of reasons. This year we began the experiment of combining our coffee hour with spiritual conversations – now known as Coffee and Conversation - every Sunday after the 10 o'clock service. Our topics have varied with liturgical seasons, current events and the essential burning questions. The constant has been a very faithful following and a quite enjoyable time of it along the way.

For a spiritual life outreach exercise, we held a Living Compass retreat led by its creator and co-director The Rev. Dr. Scott Stoner and his wife Holly. The Living Compass Faith and Wellness Ministry provides resources, coaching, education and support to individuals, families and congregations as they seek the wholeness that God intends for us all. It is a journey toward wholeness and wellness with all our hearts, souls, strength and mind. We opened the invitation to neighboring churches and members from St Ann's Woodstock and St Mary's Crystal Lake were in attendance. It is our intent to utilize this excellent offering from our Diocese in 2014 and a full Living Compass program is in the planning stages.

This year we began two very new ministries for St. Paul's – Woman's Wednesday and Men's Breakfast. The women meet on the first Wednesday of each month. Discussions alternate each month between a book and a relevant topic. It has been well attended from the start. Each month we look forward to gathering and have found it to be just as intended – a community building experience. We love it. The men meet for breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. They have alternated between breakfast out and breakfast they prepare at the church. They seem to like it. This is written by women, so heaven only knows what the men do.

We cannot forget our furry little friends who are with us today or who have passed on. In October we had the Blessing of Animals following the feast day of St. Francis of



Assisi who is the Patron Saint of Animals and Environment. Everyone gave thanks for their pets and lives we share with them.

## **HOSPITALITY / INREACH**

Along with Coffee and Conversation, Second Sunday breakfast is a favorite among our Rite II and Rite I parishioners. Second Sunday Breakfast has been generously hosted by Bobbi Fiali and her family. Mike and Marilyn Bell have done more than their share of frying bacon at all hours. The Carlstedt family has also been very ready to take their turn at the griddle. Thank you to you all for your hard work and giving spirits. And thank you Bill+ for the grits.

Other hospitality events include our Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras celebration; a very festive evening indeed. On Easter Sunday we held a champagne reception after both services. We were very blessed by a parish visit from Bishop Jeffery Lee. In addition to presiding over our worship, Bishop Lee charmed and delighted all with his humility and good humor during a luncheon held in his honor. Our parish picnic was very well attended and the food was delicious. Thank you to Dan and Bill for their service at the grill. Besides our annual meeting in January, we also held an informal meeting in September to bring the congregation up to date on events and happenings at St. Paul's. A wonderful tradition has been birthed in the champagne reception after our Christmas Eve service. Very well attended and greatly enjoyed by all – we gathered around our Christmas tree with plenty of festive food and drink in hand. All round a full year of blessings.

# **OPERATIONS**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Prepared by Rick Carlstedt

The Financial Committee met several times over the past year to monitor our spending, review our income, and make recommendations to the Vestry.

In general, our income did not keep up with our expenditures; as predicted in our 2013 Budget. To compensate, the Committee recommended funding quarterly from our Endowment Fund to meet our expenses. In past years we have received funding in what amounted to the interest earned on the Endowment Fund to pay our Mortgage payments. We continued this practice this year as well as seeking funding from the Endowment Fund's principle to pay the quarterly payments to the General Fund. The Income side of our finances benefited from an increase in Pledges this year. Other than that, our income was about what was projected in our 2013 Budget. However, it did not include any income from an Annual Auction. The auction this year was taken over by the Diaper Bank. We have been working with TLS on our Bett's Place Maintenance Agreement, and we hope to completely eliminate our expenses and possibly increase our income in the coming year in this area.

The Expenditure side of our finances also saw some changes from our projected budget. Our Payroll Expenses were decreased during the last half of the year with the recommended closing of the Little Cherubs Pre-School Program. We also saw some increase in expenses, as we took on special projects like a new phone system, service program copying, and website updating. We also requested special funding from the Endowment Fund for our initial Marketing Program. In general, our expenses; outside of the aforementioned; were in line with our projected budget.

The Committee's final task was to develop the Proposed Budget for 2014. It has done so and it will be presented for approval at our Annual Parish Meeting at the end of January.

## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT**

Prepared by Bill Lang

During 2013 we at St Paul continued to prioritize our projects needed to be done on the grounds. Some of our accomplishments included the following:



1. The year began with our annual spring cleaning. With a big turnout we were able to weed and clean-up both the front and back of the church. The mulch was donated by Acorn Landscaping which was enough to cover the front sign area, back wall, and around the columbarium.
2. We again cut the grass at St Paul's ourselves as well as the trimming. We did need work on the tractor this year putting new spindles and blades onto the mower deck.
3. Thank you Rick Carlstadt for getting the new mailbox installed. Thank you Alan Robel for getting us the new mailbox. This was sorely needed and greatly appreciated.
4. Our new Episcopal sign was installed at the corner of Green and Bull Valley roads. As with most projects this was a larger task than originally anticipated. Thank you Rick Carlstadt for getting this done.
5. We began remodeling the downstairs room (was the nursery). Dean Marcott donated most of the pine paneling that started the project. Thank you to Rick Carlstadt for the help and your time in this project that needed to be done. The second room downstairs will begin as soon as the first room is complete. We are expecting the second room to become a Chapel again as it was a few years ago. The hall between the rooms will also get a fresh coat of paint.
6. The heater for the downstairs of the original church needed to be replaced. We were no longer able to get parts and this full replacement had to be done.
7. Thank you to Mike & Marilyn Bell for donating the stove and microwave that are now installed in the kitchen. These have come in very handy during our Second Sunday breakfasts.

We are in need of getting some projects looked at and accomplished on 2014. Some of these include:

1. At some point we will need to make some repairs to the driveway. We need to do some spot patching or re-surfacing and then paint the parking lines either way we go.
2. Our shed is beginning to fall into disrepair. We will need to either build a new shed, or put in a new floor and doors to the existing shed.
3. Put in gutter guards at least in the old church if not all around. Currently I have been blowing out the leaves and washing out the downspouts. My hope is with guards in place no one would have to go on the roof.
4. We need to either replace the dirt outside in the landscape area on the south side of the fellowship hall and then plant something low maintenance, or remove the stones completely. If we remove the stones, I would then level out the dirt and have grass grow up to the foundation of the church.
5. If not in 2014, soon we will be in need of someone that can do some repairs to the Columbarium. We at St Paul have an obligation to make sure that the entire Columbarium is in good repair.
6. The carpet in the parish hall will most likely have to be cleaned again in 2014. I would also suggest doing the entire church carpet at that time.
7. The tract lighting in the church should be replaced with new lower energy lighting.
8. There was water damage from some time ago to the beams in the church near the top. These need to be scraped and re-stained
9. The stain-glass in the roof above the Altar needs to be cleaned, the frame painted, and look to see if there is any sealing that needs to be done. We also have a leak in the ceiling in the fellowship hall that occurs sometimes during winter months. I suggest someone coming in to open the wall and look at the drain as well as the water flow to outside.



## COMMUNICATIONS

- Website: The new website <http://www.stpaulmchenry.com> is up and running. The site carries information on our ministries (the Diaper Bank and Bett's Place), upcoming events and calendar, parish news including announcements, sermons and The ePistle. We continue to send out our electronic newsletter, The ePistle, weekly, and we mail it to those who do not use email. For the first time in several years, we successfully created a pictorial directory.

## EVANGELISM

- St. Paul's Church could be seen on the electronic billboard at Rte. 31 and Bull Valley Rd. from December 15 through the New Year. The message was designed to connect with those in the area who are "unchurched" and may be seeking a place to call their own. Information on our services was listed and directions our website. In addition, the same message ran in the Northwest Herald the last 2 weeks of 2013. The goal is that we were able to reach out to members of our community who are looking to be welcomed into a church like ours.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

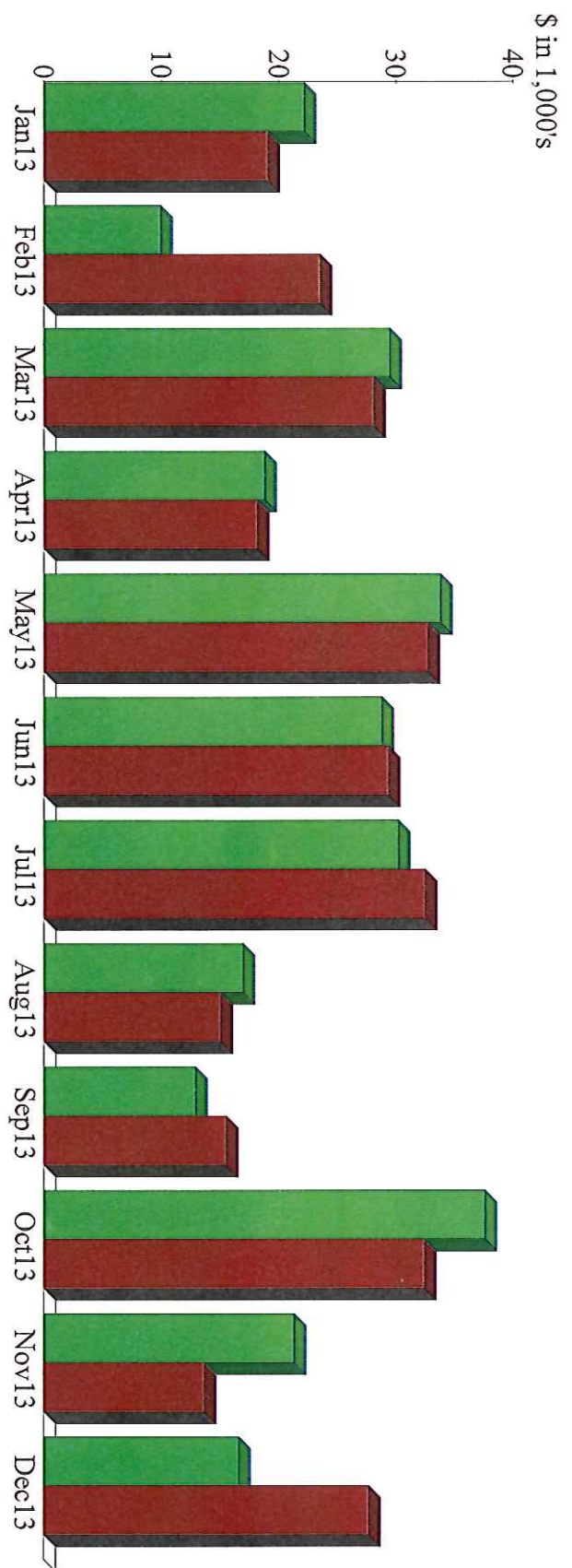
Prepared by Dan Jannotta

Please refer to the document titled "BUDGET 2014" and the two graphs. The budget was prepared using real expenses and incomes adjusted to reflect expected figures. That is, last year, we had \$12,800 in legal fees to wrest Bett's Place from the unreasonable and onerous claim the Conservation District tried to impose. We also paid \$9,000 for the Diaper Bank Director stipend for 9 months. Bett's Place is now free from encumbrance from the Conservation District, and the Diaper Bank is well on its way toward financial sovereignty. There were also some expenses not covered by Little Cherub tuitions that we won't have going forward. The graphs are a quick way to see what income and expense groups were in 2013. One word about the graph totals. Both the income and expense figures are artificially inflated by \$70,000 because of how funds are deposited into the General Fund, then transferred to the Line of Credit to reduce interest obligations, then brought back into the General Fund as bills become due. Further, reducing the expenses by \$22,000 for the aforementioned costs we have eliminated, the number more closely match the budget numbers.

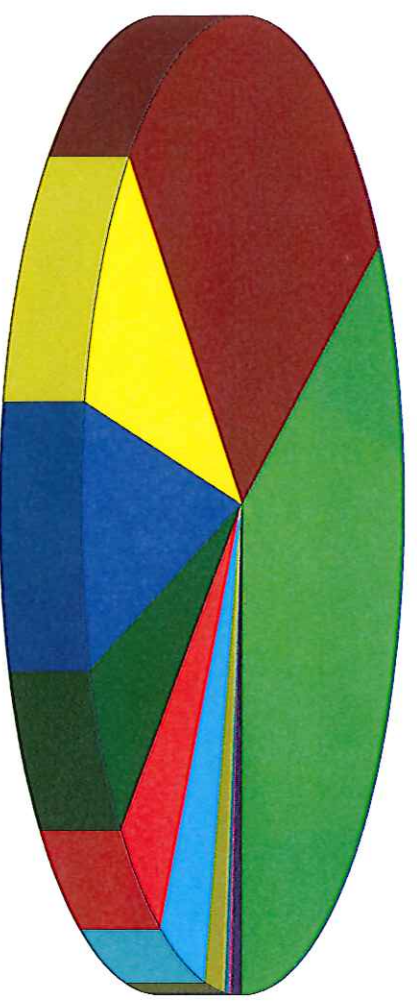
Actual contributions are nearly 100% of the pledged amounts, and you have graciously increased your pledges 5% over last year.

Currently, the Endowment Fund balance stands at about \$462,000.

Income and Expense by Month  
January through December 2013



Expense Summary  
January through December 2013

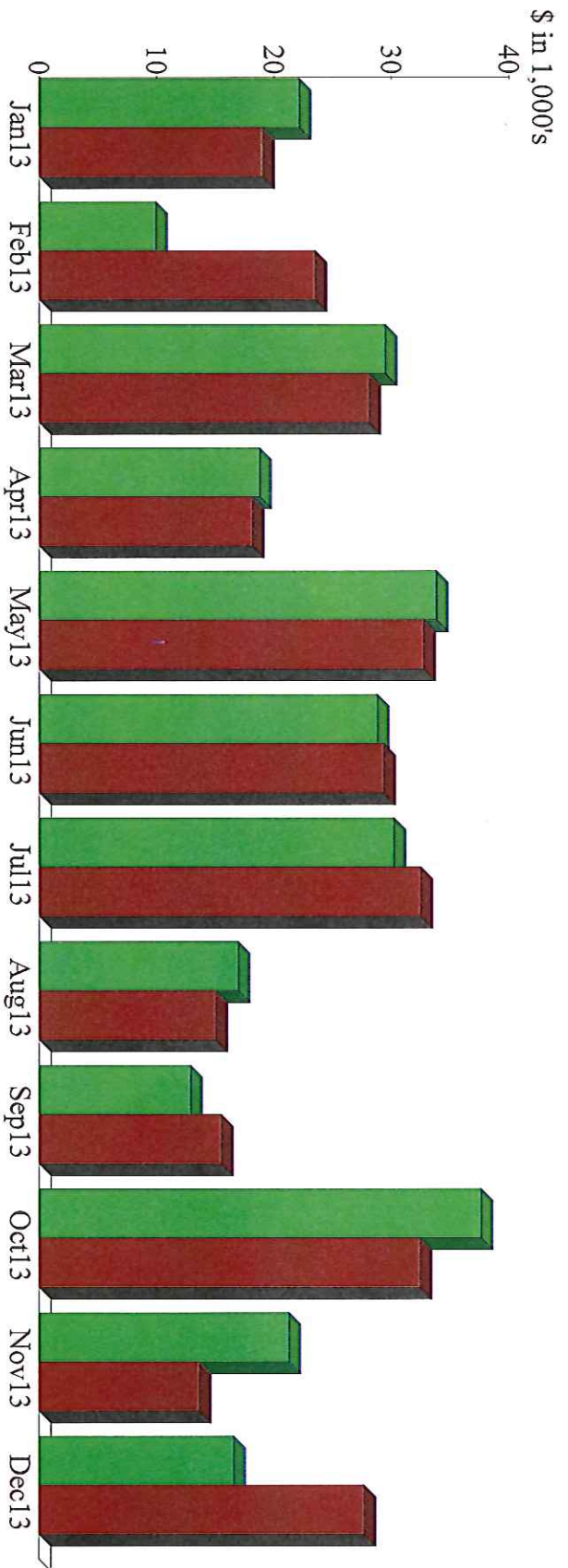


60300 · Rector Expenses	%33.97
60500 · Mortgages & Interest	28.51
60400 · Staff Expenses	9.25
62800 · Facilities and Equipment	8.98
60900 · Business Expenses	6.13
65000 · Operations	5.19
62100 · Contract Services	4.88
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	1.94
67000 · St. Paul Diaper Bank	0.53
69000 · Little Cherubs Reimbursements	0.30
Other	0.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$287,450.78</b>

By Account

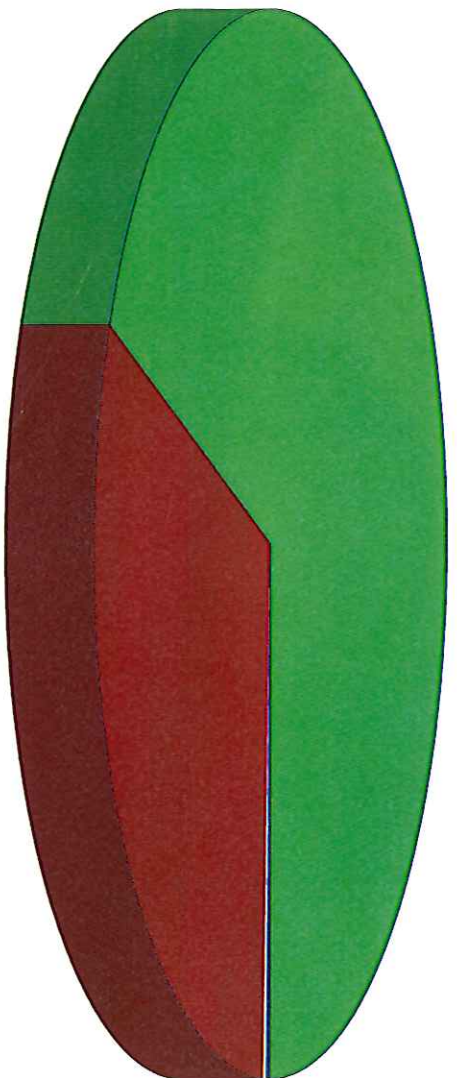


Income and Expense by Month  
January through December 2013



Income Summary  
January through December 2013

46400 · Other Types of Income	%68.38
47200 · Program Income	31.30
4200 · Gift Received	0.22
49000 · Special Events Income	0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$278,161.92</b>



By Account

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Prepared by Jim Lukas

I want to thank the members of the Endowment Committee for their time and effort in 2013. Special thanks go to Chairperson Larry Eils for his many years of dedicated service as Chair of this Committee. Committee Members were Bill Lang, Jim Lukas, Larry Eils, Mike Bell and the Rev. Lori Lowe.

The Corpus of the Endowment Fund stands at \$ 461,981.80 as of December 31, 2013.

During 2013, the Fund made the following investments to St. Paul's Church:

- Mortgage Payments – 12 @ \$1,644/month totaling \$19,728
- Quarterly Payments – 4 payments were made totaling \$60,000. This amount is now at \$17,500 per quarter.
- An additional \$11,700 was made to the Church at year-end to fund general operating expenses, marketing and replacing the furnace in the "old" church (\$3,000).
- \$9,000 seed money for DB director's stipend.
- Legal fees related to Bett's Place - \$12,761.42

We met with our Investment Advisor Eric Thornburg of Edward Jones in November.

The Fund also paid bills relating to Bett's Place of \$3013.18 for maintenance items.

The Fund also funded a marketing request from the Vestry of \$700 to fund a digital billboard and other items to help promote St. Paul's in the McHenry community.

The Committee discussed paying off the church mortgage. It was determined that it was in the best interest of the Church to not pay of the Church mortgage loan.



## **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

**St. Paul's is moving forward and not looking back.....**

**A little over a year ago we were blessed to have Lori and Bill become part of our Parish Family. There was an air of uncertainty and we moved forward with our eyes "wide open".**

**Uncertainty is no longer part of the "Psyche" of St. Paul's. For the first time in many years we have a mission. With God's guidance, and blessings; we have come together as one Parish that knows who we are and what we are about.**

**Today we can look back upon 2013 as a year of change. We have become much closer and involved with the Chicago Diocese. We have a team from our Parish that has committed to "Thrive" for the next two years. This program will help bring even more energy and vitality to our Parish. We can be very thankful for the support and help that we have received from the Diocese.**

**As you can read in the reports; there have been very positive changes and many accomplishments that say.... St. Paul's is very much alive and well.**

**Lori has been "installed" and is now our Rector. Her guidance, energy, prayers, and that special way she has in getting the help that is needed is very refreshing and welcomed. We can also be thankful for having Bill. He has brought much joy to our Parish.**

**I want to thank everyone in the Parish, Especially the vestry; for their hard work and dedication. We truly are a family.**

**My prayers are with Lori, Bill, the new Wardens and Vestry. There will be many challenges ahead of us; however I continue to have faith that with God's help they will lead this parish to even higher levels.**

**Remember that God is everywhere and in all of us.**

**In Christ**

**Michael L. Bell, Senior Warden**

## JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Sometimes it is helpful to look at where you have been to fully appreciate where you are. At least this is how I feel when I looked back on the 2012 Annual Report. Reading through that report, I was reminded of the change, transition and uncertainty that were the norm of our parish life. Together we weathered through it all and came to the other side intact and healthy. When I reflect on our past year together, 2013, I find that we are intact and healthier still. We have seen change, of course, but it has been with purpose, intent and with an eye for our future together. We have "gelled" into a community that works, plays, plans, formulates and executes as one. I find that refreshing and energizing. I am very eager to share another year of parish life with all of you. We have formidable challenges, there is no doubt. But we also have each other and our life in Christ; a full tool box by anyone's standard. We are ready.

In Hope and Joy  
Deborah Lang, Jr. Warden