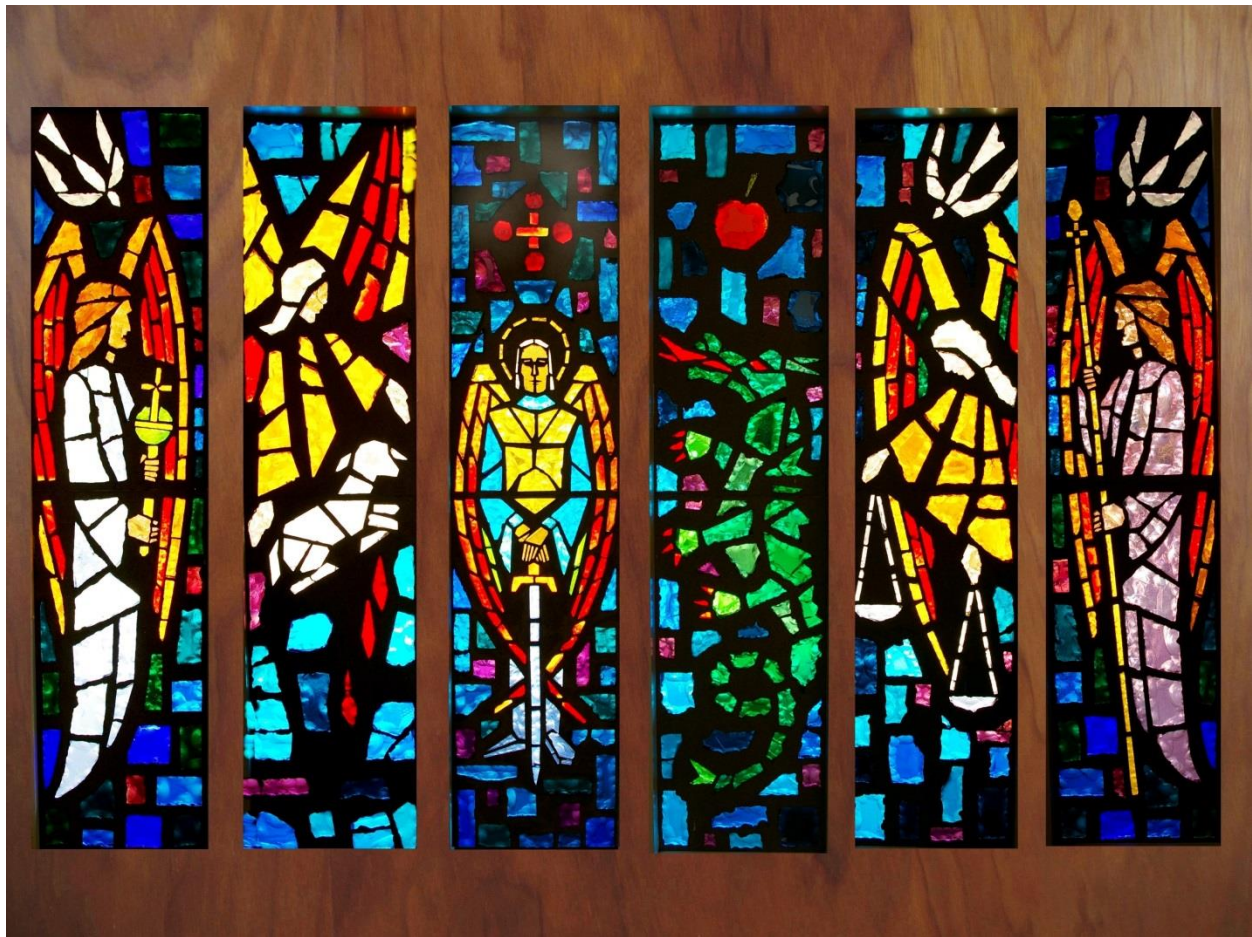


**St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
2019 Annual Report  
January 26, 2020**



**OUR MISSION**

*St. Michael's Episcopal Church, centered in Jesus Christ,  
welcomes all who desire to grow in their relationship with God.*

There are many who lead and many who follow in this parish. Often it is the same person who does both in different capacities. Yet it is the One true Shepherd, Jesus who we all strive to follow without fail. We give thanks every Sunday for the blessings and gifts we receive during the week and we come to the rail in humility, courage, and strength from one another to offer our lives and ourselves to Christ. This report is a means to take stock in what our offerings have been for the past year. Consistently we have been extravagant in our giving of time, treasure, and talent. But there are places we may have fallen short. Let us look to God to help us see the ways in which we may follow Jesus more faithfully and be a good and loving neighbor to those around us.

We pray to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, may the offerings we give always be acceptable in your sight. **Amen.**

**The Rt. Rev. Barry L. Beisner (retired in June) The Rt. Rev. Megan M. Traquair**

The Bishop of the diocese of Northern California

**The Very Rev. Mary L. Claugus, Rector**

**The Rev. Rodney Davis, Associate**

**The Rev. Dr. Roy Whitten, Associate**

**The Rev. Cindy Long, Deacon for Pastoral Care and Outreach**

**John Cozza, Music Director**

**Constance Weichert, Music Director Emerita**

**Rhonda Grey, Parish Administrator**

**Glenn Croy (retired May, 2019) Andy Chamness, Sexton**

**Robert McMichael, Treasurer**

**Kate Muris, Book Keeper**

**Jim Sargent, IT**

**Mary Groesbeck, Diane Rehrer-Salisbury, Diane Gilmore, Tina Ferriott Office Volunteers**

*Vestry*

**Suzanne Phinney, Senior Warden**

**Reneé Pierce, Junior Warden**

**Emily Brown, Clerk**

**Harriette Carr, Chris Chamness, Dave Decker, Marquita Fabre, Kate Muris,**

**Duane Paul, John Quené, Lisa Sargent, Esta Wiederanders**

**St. Michael's Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes for Annual Parish Meeting**  
**January 27, 2019**

Rev. Mary made a motion to call the meeting to order at 11:18 am, opening the floor for nominations. Numerous people seconded, specifically Julie Linderman and Cynthia Metcalf.

Recessed to Parish Hall for lunch, resuming meeting at 11:48 am.

Meeting resumed at 11:48 am. Bill Dodds moved to close nominations. Numerous people seconded.

1. Susan Johnson moved to elect the following Vestry Members by acclamation. Tom Pinto seconded.
  - Harriette Carr
  - Chris Chamness
  - Kate Muris
  - John Quené completed a one-year term in 2018; he will assume a full 3-year term in 2019
  - Dave Decker agreed to stay on to wrap-up one year remaining on a 3-year term that was vacated in 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. We had nine candidates for delegates to Diocesan Convention 2019: Janice Bowdler, Mary Davy, Tina Ferriot, Mary Grosbeck, Kate Muris, Tammy Murray, Mary Mussell, Mary Ellen Williams, and Suzanne Phinney. Mary Ellen Williams and Suzanne Phinney would like to be the two alternates.
3. Jackie Linn moved for the aforementioned as our 7 delegates and 2 alternates for Diocesan Convention; Gail McMichael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Presentation of “Why I Choose St. Michael’s” videos.
5. Financial Report:

Bob McMichael, the treasurer, opened his report describing our excellent year in 2018. He then thanked Kate Muris, Brenda Parades, Mary Grosbeck, Sue Abbott (Day School), and the Finance Committee for their excellence and dedicated service to St. Michael’s.

**Rebuild Program**

- Kudos to Doug Davy and Rev. Mary for all their efforts. It was a financially successful effort. We borrowed some money from ourselves to pay the final bill, but the outstanding pledges will cover/repay that amount. \$25,000 of parishioner pledges are outstanding; the rest is a 3-5-year repayment from the Day School.

**Financial Report for 2018**

- We ended up in the black. Revenue \$602,303; expenses \$515, 565. This is due to: unplanned gifts, reduced payroll expenses, reduced mission apportionment expenses, better pledge payment than budgeted, school reimbursement was greater than anticipated. Total \$86,000 in the black; Bob has shifted \$60,000 to our unrestricted reserve account.

### Proposed Budget for 2019

- Revenue for 2019 is budgeted at \$602,000 and expenses are budgeted at \$644,000, so a net income of -\$42,000. Mission apportionment will be higher this year, labor/wage expense will be greater. School reimbursement will be slightly higher than last year.
- Proposed program to assist other Episcopal churches in our area/Diocese.
- Bottom line will be \$9,000 in the black.

Bob thanked everyone for their participation and looks forward to this year. (Jim Dodds noted that Bob volunteered around 600 hours as Treasurer in 2018.) Rev. Mary thanked Reneé Pierce for our successful stewardship drive in fall 2018 for our 2019 numbers.

6. Motion to pass made by Kate Muris, seconded by Reneé Pierce. Last year's meeting minutes passed unanimously.
7. Senior Warden's Report was provided electronically, as Suzanne Phinney was unable to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. Suzanne will continue as our Senior Warden in 2019.
8. Rector's Report:
  - Thank you to outgoing Vestry members. Thank you to the staff and office volunteers: Rev. Cindy Long, Rhonda Grey, Rev. Rod Davis, Glenn Croy, John Cozza, Jim Sargent, Brenda Parades, Mary Ellen Ferguson, and Rev. Roy Whitten.
  - Grateful for all our ministry leaders.
  - Thank you to Doug for all he did on the campus space project.
  - Normally Mary+ does awards, but this year there were too many to mention and so she wants to award "us" – every one of us and how we've worked together to make everything happen. There are amazing people working in all areas, and it's not just any one person who has brought us to where we are today.
  - Mary+ shared her vision on the outreach program for 2019. This year at Convention, we were challenged to help each other. We are going to sponsor Camp Living Waters to send 2 children from a partner parish in Honduras to the camp. It will be an opportunity to involve the Day School. As St. Matthew's has transitioned from having a food program to being an outreach center of the Diocese that hosts a food closet, we are shifting our "Soup Pot Sunday" funds to River City Food bank and Loaves & Fishes so we can continue to support the work at St. Matthew's (which has a new, amazing Executive Director). Mary+ wants to encourage us to be leaders in the Diocese to support congregations that do outreach, so we can support them in our work.
  - Mary's+ second vision is to tell our story so we can build our membership, providing a place where people can be loved and to love others.

Bob McMichael motioned to adjourn meeting at 12:47 pm. Kate Muris and Tina Ferriot seconded. Rev. Cindy dismissed us.

Respectfully,  
Emily Brown, Clerk

## **The Rector's Report**

### **The Very Reverend Mary Claugus**

2019 was another fantastic year at St. Michael's. I want to thank my staff: Deacon Cindy Long, The Rev. Rod Davis, and The Rev. Dr. Roy Whitten. It is such a pleasure to work with such an amazing group of clergy. I am also grateful to have Marcia Hansen with us as a Deacon Postulant. Thank you for your ministry work here at St. Michael's. I want to thank Rhonda Grey for all her hard work and diligence this past year. The learning curve to her job is not only steep, it is also very wide. Her dedication to learning and getting it right has been inspirational to me. I want to thank Andy Chamness also for stepping into such big shoes. I am sure he was not aware of how large they were, yet he has done a great job getting it all done! I particularly appreciate Andy's flexibility. He is at St. Michael's at all hours of the day and evening – and sometimes night. Thank you for your commitment to our shared work.

I am also extremely grateful for Bob McMichael and Kate Muris. They are an amazing finance team, working to keep St. Michael's financial solid and secure. It takes hours of concentrated work and I appreciate all they do. Thank you Kate, for your dedication to making each visitor feel welcomed and for acting as our pledge secretary. Thank you Bob, for also overseeing all the capital purchases and upgrades around campus. I want to thank Jim Sargent for his continued support of all our IT. We made some upgrades that were suggested by Jim this year and they are fantastic. Thank you! We also have a wonderful group of office volunteers that make it all work! Thank you Mary Groesbeck, Tina Ferriot, Mary Ellen Ferguson, Diane Gilmore, Diane Rehrer-Salisbury, and René Pierce.

I also want to thank the vestry and diocesan delegates. Thank you so very much, Suzanne Phinney, for your leadership, passion, and dedication to St. Michael's, especially these past two years. Your efforts have been an inspiration and greatly appreciated. Thank you so very much to Emily Brown for your dedication and great work as our clerk and secretary. You have been so valuable to this church and I will miss you on Vestry! Thank you Dave Decker, you shared your time and talent for extra time to complete our vestry and your wisdom has been greatly appreciated. Thank you Duane Paul, for all your support, especially for your personal support to me. Thank you Esta Wiederanders for your perspective. Your sharing has helped the vestry become stronger and your voice in meetings has been clear and motivating in loving God, each other, and ourselves better. Thank you also to our continuing vestry members: René Pierce, Marquita Fabre, Lisa Sargent, Harriette Carr, Chris Chamness, John Quené, and Kate Muris. The participation and work of the vestry has been outstanding this year and very much appreciated!

Thank you to our diocesan delegates. Together, with the entire diocese, we elected The Rt. Rev. Megan M. Traquair as the Bishop of Northern California. Thank you Janice Bowdler, Mary Davy, Tina Ferriot, Mary Groesbeck, Kate Muris, Tammy Murray, Mary Mussell, Mary Ellen Ferguson and Suzanne Phinney. At convention, we learned about INVITE\*WELCOME\*CONNECT, a way of being church. I am so grateful to our greeters and ushers for much of what they suggest, we are already doing. Having said that, I look forward to working with INVITE\*WELCOME\*CONNECT this next year. We have been fortunate to have Bishop Megan on campus for many occasions already. Bishop Megan was here for a day to visit the Day School and blessed their Christmas Program. Bishop Megan officiated Diocesan Ordinations at St. Michael's in December. We were honored to offer our Sanctuary for the

service and the Parish Hall and Johnstone Hall for the reception. Bishop Megan was here in June preaching at our 8am and Baccalaureate Services. She was also here for Dave and my Celebration of Marriage. Having her bless our marriage was a highlight for both of us. Father Rod's officiating and preaching was key in grounding our marriage in the Holy Spirit. Thank you Father Rod. Also, the reception celebrating our marriage that the church sponsored was absolutely awesome. Thank you all for such a gift.

We gathered three times every Sunday and most Thursdays and Fridays to love, worship, and adore God, our creator, sustainer and sanctifier. We had many join the already impressive faithful worship leaders who create the environment for all to gather in God's name in beauty and holiness. Our Altar Guild is steadfast and faithful in fulfilling their duties to keep our sanctuary and all things needed in worship in excellent condition and add what will enhance worship. Our music has been like magic this year. So many anthems ended with misty eyes out in the congregation. I myself have felt transported during these anthems. I was also acutely aware of John's talent (and Connie before him) with the choir's talent the Sunday we were without any liturgical musical leadership (the week they were all on retreat together). It was indeed a sad non-musical day at St. Michael's – but a good reminder of the blessing we have in the dedication and skill of our choir.

This past year, the Ushers, under the leadership of Jay Bowdler, have been very impressive. We now have very efficient first aid packs throughout our campus in case of emergencies. Folks are trained to use the AED, active shooter training has been attended, and the sanctuary is much more secure. We also finished our Disaster Preparedness manual. Thank you to all who participated in this project, especially Janice Bowdler who herded all the cats in the process.

To raise funds to support agencies who help those in need, we held a crab feed (thank you René Pierce for chairing this event) and had multiple gatherings which were hosted by members and the ticket prices went directly to grants to such agencies. With deep gratitude I mention the following hosts: Rectory Dinner (Dave and Mary Claugus), House Concert (John Cozza and the Dining Divas), Appetizers in the Garden (Bill and Catherine Fobes), May Day Party (Betsy Stone), Progressive Dinner (Davy's, Davis', Wiederanders, Phinney's), Party on the Porch (Eileen and John Thomas), Harvest Lunch (Paul and Suzanne Phinney), Christmas Tea (Deacon Cindy, Rhonda Grey, Connie Weichert, Mary Claugus), Brasserie Capitale Dining experience (René Pierce). Please see Deacon Cindy's Mercy and Social Justice Report for a naming of the agencies we supported through our efforts).

There were many highlights that we continued from past years, such as:

- Indoor Yard Sale
- Trunk or Treat
- Kirkin' o' the Tartan
- Gifts from the Heart and Stockings
- Lessons and Carols
- Winter Shelter
- MAP Plays
- Rise against Hunger

And there were new highlights we started this year:

- Documentary, Dinner and Discussion Series
- Hosting Honduras youth and chaperones
- River Cats Game

I am thankful for the sabbatical I am on January, February, and March 2020. I look forward to coming back energized and with more focus and clarity. At the World Café we hosted in the fall, I heard three opportunities stand out that need some exploration in 2020. The first is energy around environmental issues. One possibility is a comprehensive recycling program for the church and the school together. That is just one possibility. I look forward to exploring the intersection of the environment and living the gospel more faithfully. A second area of interest is music and youth. Where this could lead is so very exciting and worth exploring. The third is immigration. What is God calling us to do next? What is God calling us to continue? What is God calling us to let go of?

I know that when St. Michael's puts our mind to something, we can accomplish a lot! I cannot wait for the Easter season to see how we will resurrect as a newly blessed people of God this year! Blessings to you all while I am away.

Faithfully submitted,  
The Very Rev. Mary C. Claugus

### **The Senior Warden's Report Suzanne Phinney**

At Rev. Mary's five-year celebration in October 2018, numerous parishioners generously offered up their homes for a wide array of Fellowship parties. These events were held throughout 2019 and were a huge success. We also had members attend the Faith and Family night at the River Cat's game and in November, we held a potluck dinner with good attendance and wonderful food.

2019 was the year our Diocese elected The Rev. Megan M. Traquair as the eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California at the diocese's Special Electing Convention on Feb. 9 at Faith Episcopal Church, Cameron Park. Bishop Megan was ordained and consecrated on June 29 at the Mondavi Center in Davis. Major thanks to so many of our church members who actively participated in this process, especially Mary Davy who chaired the Search Committee.

In the first half of 2019, the Vestry met a half-hour early at our monthly meetings to conduct a mini-version of the Living Compass handbook. We shared thoughtful, and sometimes difficult reflections that brought us all closer together.

In April, we launched a 10 am coffee hour roster. I am so grateful for all the church groups who have given of their time and baking skills to make this membership service a success.

In May, we celebrated Glenn Croy's retirement after 30 years with St. Michaels. It was a very well attended event with many speakers and lots of helping hands. His replacement, Andy Chamness, has been on board for quite some time.

In August, we held a semi-annual meeting/World Café to discuss our financials and determine new directions based on input from attendees.

September marked our Rector's marriage to Dave Claugus with wonderful celebrations held for the joyous event.

In October, the Vestry conferred the title of Music Director Emerita to Connie Weichert.

After countless meetings, St. Michaels completed a Disaster Preparedness Program, taking inventory of church items, safeguarding important files, engaging with Community Response groups, and updating our membership contacts and special needs.

Over the last few months, the Vestry has been preparing for Rev. Mary's sabbatical, and we commit our full support to Deacon Cindy as she takes the helm for three months.

As I retire as Senior Warden, I would like to sincerely thank the 2019 Vestry members, who filled in for me while I recovered from surgery, who graciously hosted multiple coffee hours, who faithfully attended our meetings and our retreat, and who themselves were involved in numerous ministries and outreach efforts. What a team!

And a big thank-you to Rev. Mary for her confidence, wisdom and friendship that made my two years as Senior Warden race by!

### **The Junior Warden's Report** **Reneé Pierce**

First I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope it is a joyful and prosperous year for you all. I especially want to thank the Vestry for their support during this last year. I am blessed to have had the chance to work with Suzanne Phinney as Senior Warden. I learned a lot from her leadership. I must also express my sincere thanks to Reverend Mary for her leadership of the Vestry, her faith in me and her vision for this church.

2019 was a year of growth for the church, with new members who have joined us and growth for our ministries such as our Circle of Care. We had a successful Crab Feed in March and a stewardship campaign which provides support for our outreach including the Center at St. Matthews and River City Food Bank.

One of the highlights for me this year was our participation in electing a new Bishop. Our parish was very involved in the process from the selection committee, to the election and eventual seating of the Bishop. I'm blessed that I was able to participate in the Transition Committee representing St. Michael's.

Lastly, service to this church is a path of spiritual growth for me so I must express my gratitude for God's Grace and presence in my life.

Faithfully,  
Reneé Pierce



## **The Head of School's Report: Mary Heise St. Michael's Episcopal Day School**

**It is the MISSION of St. Michael's Episcopal Day School to provide a learning environment where students are encouraged to seek scholastic, artistic and physical achievement through a curriculum that is both traditional and integrated.**

**In its programs, St. Michael's seeks to discover and nurture the gifts that each student possesses; to deepen each student's understanding of the complexities of the world; and to inspire each student to realize his or her full potential. Towards this end, the school is committed to helping students develop --**

**Self-worth  
Passion for Learning  
Formation of Character  
Individual and Social Responsibility  
Ethical Responsibility  
Respect for Diversity  
Spiritual growth**

**The school's ultimate aim is to create a learning environment where students, faculty, and parents work together in forming a caring community in which all support and share in each other's growth. The end result is the development of the total child--spiritually, physically, socially, and academically-- and a lifelong enjoyment of learning.**

**The school began its fifty-seventh year on September 4, 2019 with 244 students enrolled in early childhood (3-day preschool and 5-day pre-kindergarten) through grade 8, and 50 experienced and dedicated teachers and staff who share an enthusiastic commitment to challenging young minds.**

**Showing care and concern for others is something that is stressed at all age levels and in many different ways at St. Michael's School. Our Service Learning program continues to thrive with the help and support of parents who serve as drivers for off-campus projects and assist with supervision. In addition to individual class service projects that support the overall educational process, all the children participate in the collection of food to support River City Community Services and the Center at St. Matthew's and in the collection of toys, school supplies and clothing items to assist families in need at Christmas.**

**As always, one of my primary goals as Head of School is to help foster the best possible working relationship between St. Michael's Church and St. Michael's School. The support for the school by the Rector, Wardens, Vestry and Parishioners is an example of the mutual care and concern we share for one another, as we carry out our common mission.**

**Mrs. Mary Heise,  
Head of School**



### **Core Values**

**Compassion  
Diligence  
Integrity  
Respect  
Responsibility**

## **Altar Guild**

### **Jan Bowdler and Sally Jervis**

St. Michael's Altar Guild prepares the sanctuary for the following regular services: Sundays, baptisms, weddings and memorials, as well as special services at Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter. Members of the Altar Guild are divided into four weekly crews. Each crew member is asked to do set up from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. on the Saturday of her/his week and to serve at one of the services that Sunday.

Members of the Altar Guild are: **Dancy Dobrenick**, Jackie Linn, Patty Green, and Laura Quené'. **Sally Jervis**, Lynn White, Sue Corbin and Karine Lyon. **Tammy Murray**, Finette Carpenter, Jackie Croy, Jane Samuelson, and Marlo Tinney. **Janice Bowdler**, Mary Ellen Ferguson, Ann Hall, Barney McCauley and Terry Treadwell. Those in bold are the crew leaders.

Special thanks go to Tammy Murray who orders and maintains our supplies, Sue Corbin who devotes many extra hours to memorial services, to Helena Bennett who kindly irons our small linens every week, to Marlo Tinney for wedding coordination and to Jackie Linn, and Dancy Dobrenick for their floral inspirations at Easter and Christmas. And to Sally Jervis and Dancy Dobrenick for procuring flowers for our weekly services. Jan Bowdler attends staff meetings, facilitates communications, coordinates major events, and makes major liturgical purchases.

We continue to replace and replenish vestments, vessels and other equipment necessary for our services and are grateful for contributions that make this possible.

### **Daughters of the King (D.O.K.)**

#### **E. Sue Corbin**

The Daughters of the King is a lay Order of women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church or Churches, churches in communion with it and churches in the Historic Episcopate but not in communion with it.

We have chosen to deepen our Baptismal vows by taking on a Rule of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. Our chapter is continuing the theme of "The Power of Prayer." We pray daily for our clergy, church members and those on the prayer chain. Our faithful members are: Rev. Cindy Long, Deacon Postulant Marcia Hansen, Kathy Lunger, Margaret Kendall, Kitty Williamse, Mary Hutchinson, Dorothy Eddings, Laura Quené, Mary Mussell and Sue Corbin.

At the beginning of the school year, we contributed backpacks, nose tissues, baby wipes and hand sanitizers to Starr King k-8. We donated our Christmas cards to PRIDE Inds. Workshop and dropped off diapers for the outreach program.

We sent out Thinking of You cards at the end of November to those who were newly added to our prayer list and we continue to reach out to those who are unable to attend Church through our weekly bulletins.

In September, Laura Quené and Sue Corbin attended the Province VIII Assembly Retreat. We had the pleasure of listening to our newly elected Bishop Megan Traquair via video on Saturday. On Sunday, our Past Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori was available in person to speak to us. We were truly blessed to hear their dynamic and powerful speeches.

At our 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November, we dedicated our DOK chapter banner that was graciously given to us from St. Francis when the Church had to close. Our creative Daughter Laura Quené made some adjustments to suit our St. Michael's chapter. We celebrated our anniversary and dedication by hosting coffee hour.

**Disaster Preparedness Committee**  
**The Very Rev. Mary Claugus**

We are putting the finishing touches on the plan. Thank you all for working so diligently on it: Rev. Cindy Long, Jim Cole, Glenn Croy, Jim Sargent, Doug Davy, Kate Muris, Christina Manning, Suzanne Phinney and Jan Bowdler.

**Education for Ministry (EfM)**  
**Sue Gaston and Janice Bowdler, co-mentors**

Education for Ministry is a four year study and group reflection process for the formation of Christian ministry. The seminar group meets weekly on Tuesday evenings during the academic year. The materials are developed by the School of Theology of The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee and are comprised primarily of texts and essays in the study of the Christian tradition. Year 1 students study the Old Testament, Year 2- the New Testament, Year 3- Church history and Year 4- Theology. Students commit to one year at a time. (There are no tests!) The St. Michael's group is enthusiastic, spiritual, and inspiring. Each week we discuss our assigned readings, engage in theological reflection, pray together and share our life and spiritual experiences. Current students include, Allison Flower, Reneé Pierce, Marquita Fabre, Joanie Cahill, Doug Davy, Pat Kuethe, and Rhonda Grey. For more information contact Sue Gaston or Janice Bowdler.

**Learning Ministries**  
**The Very Rev. Mary Claugus**

For the children at St. Michael's, we have a dedicated team of Godly Play teachers who prepare a lesson and present it to the children during the 10am Sunday Services. It is always a delight to spend time with the children wondering about the mysteries of Christ. I want to thank Mary Groesbeck for her continued shepherding of this program.

For adults, we have several different opportunities to learn more about Jesus and the Good News of the Gospels; many have different levels of commitment on the part of the participant. We have weekly Bible Study. This past year we studied the prophet Isaiah and the Psalms. We spent Advent using the Living Compass Advent Reflection booklet. This coming year, we will begin by studying the readings appointed for the coming Sundays. I want to thank Chris Chamness and Laura Quené for keeping us all organized; David Davidson for taking over the class when I am not able to be here; and Kate Muris for leading Noon Day Prayer immediately following the class when I am gone. We have a strong Education for Ministry (EfM) and Community of Hope Programs who are reported on independently and within the Pastoral Care report, respectively.

We began a new ministry here this year called Documentary, Dinner & Discussion. On Sundays once a month we gather to watch a socially important documentary and then have an opportunity to discuss it. A big thank you to Marilyn McEntyre for leading these important nights. This began as our Lenten offering in 2019.

### **Member Ministry & Hospitality** **Kate Muris**

We continue to contact our new visitors and members in a variety of ways: email, phone, personal contacts and gatherings. Our Sunday visitors receive a St. Michael's coffee mug and the parish hall offers Coffee Hour treats. There are plenty of tables and chairs for visiting with longtime and new members.

Our 2019 New Member/Visitor Welcome event was Sunday, October 20th after the 10:00 am service and coffee hour. 25 of us met in the Luna Lounge at Bella Bru and had a wonderful time getting to know each other. It is wonderful to hear from our new members how welcoming we all are!

2019 included: A pot luck evening, Music in the Courtyard featuring John Cozza's talented son Sterling at the piano, Documentary series facilitated by Marilyn McEntyre, Trunk or Treat Halloween night organized by Paula Frink, and the Sacramento Rivercats vs. Tacoma Rainiers (Dave Claugus' team!).

### **Music Ministry** **John Cozza**

2019 was another good year for St. Michael's Chancel Choir. Several new members were added (including Choral Director Emerita Connie Weichert—we are all thrilled to have her back!), with the total number of active members now at 28. We have also added several new anthems in varying musical styles to our large pre-existing repertoire. The choir's enthusiasm and efforts have created a wonderful cohesion, warmth and depth of sound. I look forward to continuing that development of the choral sound to provide every more profound, moving musical experiences for the congregation.

The purpose of the music ministry is to provide beautiful music, which will enhance the worship experience and glorify God by uplifting the hearts and minds of both the listeners and the participants, and to offer participants an opportunity to share their musical talents in a meaningful and fulfilling way.

Musical/service highlights of 2019 include the following for which the choir sang:

- The second annual Courtyard Concert June 9
- Consecration Service of Bishop Megan Traquair June 29
- Independence Day Sunday/Sundae
- The annual choir retreat November 9/10
- Lessons and Carols December 15<sup>th</sup>

Many thanks to *all* the members of the St. Michael's Chancel Choir who give so generously of their time, talent, energy, and resources. Special thanks to our music librarians – Kay and Hugh

Griffin, Susan Johnson, and Paula Frink - who do a heroic job of keeping our music library organized and accessible. Special thanks also goes to Virginia Henry who handles our petty cash fund.

In addition to the Chancel Choir, St. Michael's has a bell choir. They rehearse every other Wednesday at 7PM and performed for various 10' o'clock services and in the Lessons and Carols. Their lovely music adds a special quality to the service and they are always looking for new members.

I also want to thank the St. Michael's clergy, all of whom are so supportive and encouraging of our music program.

If you are interested in joining St. Michael's Chancel Choir, feel free to contact John Cozza or any of our choir members, and they would be happy to talk with you. You do not have to be able to read music. The only requirement is that you are able to match pitches and that you bring a willing heart, an open mind, a desire to work hard, and a commitment to give of your best. All sections are open for new members. Please join us in glorifying God through music and being part of the "family", which *is* the St. Michael's Chancel Choir.

### **Lay Ministry** **The Rev. Mary Claugus**

Lay ministry is made up of many individuals who live out their call to serve God through leadership and participation in the Worship service. We have **Greeters** who welcome worshippers and answer any questions visitors might have. The **Healing Prayer Ministers** pray privately with members when there is need. The **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** assist with the chalice, and many bring the celebration of Sunday worship to others in our parish who cannot come to the church building. The **Lay Readers** bring Scripture to life by reading and leading the Psalms. The **Ushers** provide programs, bring the elements to the altar, direct communion, traffic and tidy and close the church. These ministries do the important work of making an appropriate space for all to come to worship and adore God. Lay Eucharistic Ministers have been through a discernment and training period and are licensed by the Bishop. St. Michael's has over 90 people involved in Sunday Morning Lay Worship ministries. That is over 37% of our active members engaged as worship leaders in our church.

### **Mercy & Social Justice** **Deacon Cindy Long** **Mercy & Social Justice Annual Report 2019- Deacon Cindy Long**

The Mercy and Social Justice Ministry continues "to represent God's love and compassion through acts of mercy and justice." In 2019 the people of St. Michael's supported a large variety of activities which let us share God's love with our neighbors, far and near. Many people and groups participate in this work and deserve thanks.

St. Michael's continues to support the work of St. Matthew's as a community resource center and ministry of the Diocese of Northern California. Opportunities and needs at River City Food Bank (RCFB) at the Center are abundant. Teams of St. Michael's volunteers are there every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month sorting and packing food and diapers and helping guests to choose

items. In the midst of all the work there are relationships being formed among all involved- both guests and volunteers. This is very important for true community building. Clare Payne and Christina Manning led us in our second annual Diaper Drive which gathered 20,000 diapers which were distributed to RCFB families. Our food barrel donations continue to be delivered to the St. Matthew's Center site (thanks to the Dobrenicks and Brian Davis). We continue with monthly financial support of The Center at St. Matthew's, St. Matthew's Mission congregation, and River City Food Bank.

St. Michael's partnered with St. Matthew's to host Carmichael HART Winter Shelter at St. Matthew's for a week. Volunteers prepared and served meals, hosted tables and served as evening and night hosts. It was a huge undertaking but well worth the effort as we got to know our guests, developed more understanding of all the issues that contribute to homelessness and helped to provide a sanctuary for the people out of the winter weather.

John Jervis continues to coordinate our food programs including the monthly lunch cooking at Loaves & Fishes and the Thanksgiving and Easter cards. Sue Davis worked with Starr King School once again and coordinated the collection and delivering of 152 back packs along with lots of hand sanitizer, wipes, Kleenex and school supplies which we are told by the school staff are very needed by the children, many of whose families struggle financially.

Mary Groesbeck coordinated the Angel Bags which are given to people who are homeless through River City Food Bank, Winter Shelter and other agencies and individuals. A huge thank you to Carol Maxwell who continued sewing the bags and children's pajamas through most of the year. Mary G. continues to oversee "God's Helping Hands" monthly Laundromat ministry which serves people in need of laundry facility access in our area.

Our Rise Against Hunger event involved parishioners and friends of all ages in a fun and meaningful activity. This year St Michael's Episcopal Day School joined us. We had 72 adults and 29 children who packed 15,768 meals for international distribution. This event will return on May 3, 2020. Socks from the Cub Scout Pack 802 and many other donations also supported our outreach ministries. Over \$24,000 in grants, which went to support 12 causes nominated by involved parishioners, were made possible with proceeds from our annual Crab Feed (Thanks to Renee Pierce and many volunteers) and Indoor Yard Sale, (thanks to Marcie Larkey, Gail McMichael and volunteers) . We ended the year with Gifts From the Heart. We gave gifts to 110 children, dependent adults, and seniors.

In 2020, we will continue to support Winter Shelter by hosting Carmichael Hart at Gethsemane Lutheran. A Crab Feed fundraiser and the Yard Sale will fund our 2020 grants. Work with refugees and people who are homeless continue to be areas of active involvement for many congregation members. Finding opportunities to actively engage in advocacy continues to be a goal. You are invited to join The Mercy and Social Justice Committee. We meet the first Monday of the month at 7pm. There are many opportunities to join with others from St. Michael's as we go forth in the name of Christ. Many thanks to all the MSJ Committee members and especially to John Jervis, Chair and Harriette Carr, Clerk. Your faithful dedication and enthusiasm is very appreciated.

## **Pastoral Care** **Deacon Cindy Long**

In 2019 Pastoral Care continued building upon existing ministries and evolving to help meet the pastoral needs of our congregation. In all these programs lay pastoral ministers and clergy work in conjunction with one another to help to meet the pastoral needs of this congregation on many levels.

Ministries currently include:

**Pastoral Partners-** This is a ministry of sending cards and making calls to help people stay connected with St. Michael's. (Sue Corbin, facilitator)

**Caring Hearts-** Volunteers provide meals to people whose life circumstances cause them to need some assistance for a time. This year with the help of David Daigh, we have begun using the online tool called Meal Train which helps streamline signups. Many thanks to our retiring Caring Hearts Facilitator, Tina Ferriot, for her dedicated work in coordinating volunteers to bring meals.

**Community of Hope Pastoral Ministers-** Trained pastoral ministers offer a caring presence for people who are going through difficult or lonely times. These ministers go through a 14 session Community of Hope training and also meet monthly as a group for support and learning. (Tina Ferriot and Deacon Cindy, facilitators)

**Licensed Eucharistic Visitors** carry Holy Communion, along with the prayers of our congregation, to people who are unable to come to church. Watch for our Eucharistic Visitors being sent out at the end of our Sunday worship services. In 2019 85 home communion visits were made to 23 people.

**GriefShare** is our twice monthly grief support group which meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month and is open to St. Michael's congregation as well as people who are referred or find us on the website. Each of the 13 sessions stands alone so people can begin attending at any time. Participants often remark that meeting with people who are also going through grief can be a great comfort and support in a very challenging time. (Selma Fields, back up leader, Tina Ferriot and Deacon Cindy, facilitators)

**2019 Highlights-** In September we hosted a thank you retreat for our pastoral caregivers and friends at the rectory. This thoughtful retreat was led by Carolyn Konrad with The Rev. Grant Bakewell and enjoyed by all who attended. Our 10 St. Michael's Community of Hope Pastoral Ministers continued providing ongoing spiritual companionship and support for congregation members as well as other people in the community who are experiencing serious illness, grief and other stressful life situations. Two ministers who trained with us from St. Matthew's have moved on and are now based in their home congregation. Our Community of Hope group meets monthly for education and support. Caring Hearts continued providing meals for parishioners in need, although need for this service was lower than in past years. Our GriefShare support group has now been meeting for 4 years and has had over 50 participants, both parishioners and people from the community.

Many thanks to the members of the Pastoral Care Planning Committee who work together to plan and oversee Pastoral Ministries at St Michael's: Sue Corbin, Tina Ferriot, Kate Muris and Esta Wiederanders. Very special appreciation goes to Selma Fields, who lends her expertise and serves as our great backup leader for GriefShare during leader time off.

**Our plans for 2020 include:** Regular gatherings for all Pastoral Caregivers will be held for training and support. The annual Pastoral Caregivers and Friends thank you retreat will be planned – watch for the date. Ongoing reviews of effectiveness and feasibility of our Pastoral Care ministries are an integral part of taking care of the pastoral care needs of the congregation. Volunteers who feel called to help fellow parishioners in times of need are always welcome. Please speak to one of our Pastoral Care Committee members or Deacon Cindy about how to request Pastoral Care or how to get involved in serving in these ministries.

## **Prayer Teams The Rev. Rod Davis**

**The Men's Prayer Team Offering Confidential Prayers:** For more than a decade men in the Parish, as well as a few who have relocated but retain a strong connection to us, have been praying confidentially for those needing prayer support. They serve on a team in doing so and currently 31 men serve in this ministry. Through email, Fr. Rod+ forwards to team members requests that he receives from members themselves as well as requests made directly or forwarded to him. Two lists are periodically updated. One list consists of people whose request will be honored for two weeks. A second list consists of people needing long term support, such as someone deployed to Afghanistan, an expectant mother and her child, or someone suffering from a chronic illness. Team members hold names up to God in prayer. Most of the men say the names at convenient times during the day, e.g., during morning coffee, while stopped at a traffic light, during a walk or other daily exercise. This is a confidential ministry in that the names do not go onto the public parish prayer list unless they have requested it. The following men are currently serving in this ministry: Dave Abbott, Cary Adams, Frank Brown, Jim Cole, David Davidson, Doug Davy, Bill Fobes, Fr. George Foxworth, Jay Glad, Hugh Griffin, Don Hall, James Hamill, Paul Hauck, John Jervis, Peter Luchini, Skip Metcalf, Todd Murray, Hunter O'Hair, Paul Phinney, Tom Pinto, Dick Pryor, Herb Rodebaugh, David Saracino, Jim Sargent, Chuck Schaller, Warner Seargeant, Jack Sellman, Toby Tremaine, Mark Van Brussell, Jim Weichert, and Mark Wiederanders. In conjunction with this ministry, Fr. Rod+ forwards the names and photos of expectant mothers to the sisters and brothers of the Order of Julian of Norwich. This semi-enclosed monastic order of our Church prays for expectant moms and their babies each and every day during their noon chapel session. If you are a man and would like to participate in this ministry, please let Fr. Rod+ know.

**The Parish Prayer Chain:** There are currently 20 members offering this ministry. Any member of the Parish may add someone to the Prayer Chain, including family members and friends, by contacting Deacon Cindy or the Parish Office. Deacon Cindy also prepares a "Member" Prayer List that is published each week in the Sunday Bulletin and prayed for during the Prayers of the People. This list is limited to members of our parish. This allows our congregation to pray for each other in a time of need.

Thank you to all who participate in this important ministry. Many members and those for whom we pray have expressed their gratitude and have reported back the wonderful effects our prayers. Prayer is a powerful thing!



## **Scholarship Fund**

### **E. Sue Corbin**

The Scholarship Fund is designed to open the doorway to a college education by offering partial financial assistance to eligible candidates from either St. Michael's Episcopal Church or St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

Each year, at the beginning of February, the Sundays' bulletins will remind seniors to pick up their Scholarship applications. Last year, our Scholarship recipients were Taylor Donoghue and Michael Donoghue.

Presently, Taylor is attending Oregon State University. She transferred from American River College to get her BS and MS in marine biology. She hopes to study and learn how to analyse climate change and to find new ways to help the environment.

Michael is attending American River College and hopes to transfer after 2 years to UC Davis pursuing a degree in medicine.

Both recipients have sent cards of gratitude and appreciation for their gifts.

Members of the Scholarship committee are Warner Seargeant, Sue Corbin, Dorothy Eddings, Mary Hutchinson, Margaret Kendall, Kathy Lunger and Kitty Williamse.

## **Buildings & Grounds**

### **Dick Pryor**

The Buildings & Grounds Committee has the goal of helping with the maintenance of the Church campus to keep our facilities safe, functional and attractive. We have an occasional work party to help maintain the landscaping by removing tree and shrub seedlings, trimming plants and applying mulch. Putting up the Christmas wreaths and lights on the exterior of the Church and trees is also one of the work party projects.

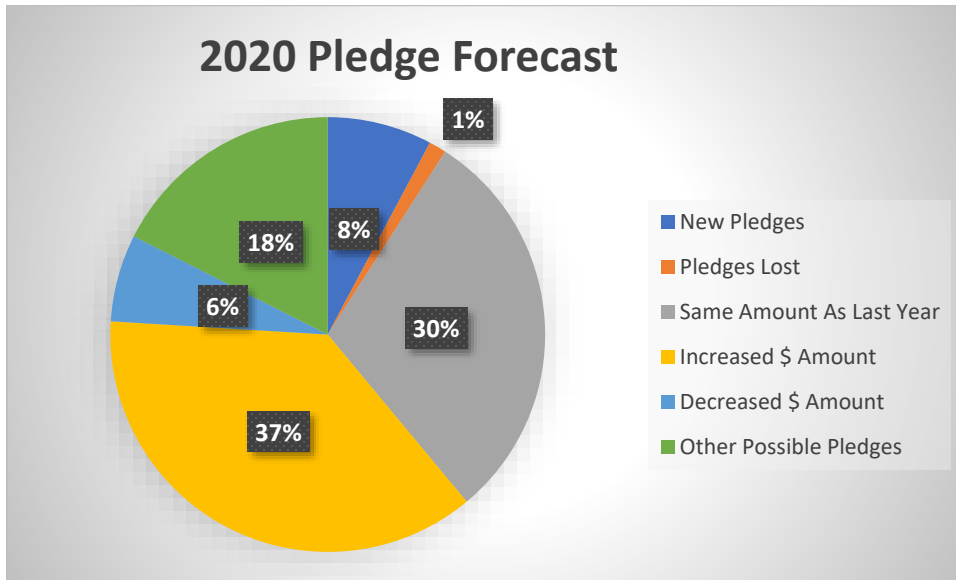
## **The Men's Breakfast Group**

### **Dick Pryor**

The Men's Breakfast group is a small group of men that meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month. The group is not restricted to members of St. Michael's and has no agenda or program. For more information about the location of the breakfast, contact Jay Glad at 916-489-8967. The men's group also helps organize, prepare and serve the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper.

## Stewardship Reneé Pierce

The Stewardship committee has always prayerfully committed to highlighting the blessings that our members share with us. Gratitude for God's Grace is our motto which our members continue to embrace. The spirit of Giving shone through our speakers, the sermons and writings provided during the drive. In response, our members have once again shared their gratitude by offering their pledges for the coming year. These are preliminary figures through January 9<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to update the numbers as they grow.



### **ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out)**

This is a lunch group, the name of which is self-explanatory. We meet monthly on the third Thursday at noon. We usually have about 12 old men there and we have a grand time eating lunch and talking about the good old days.

### **St. Margaret's Guild**

St. Margaret's Guild is an informal group of St. Michael's women who gather for lunch on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday. The hostess of the month chooses the restaurant and makes the arrangements. She notifies the office for publication in the bulletin and the "Messenger". Guests are cordially invited also. We each contribute \$1.00 for outreach programs. We hope you will join us.

## **Mission Avenue Players (MAP)**

### **Kate Muris**

On January 6, 1978, MAP (known as St. Michael's Actors Guild SMAG) presented its first production, Christmas Spirits – A Masque, a Chancel Drama. Every year since with one exception (i.e. church renovation) we have brought St. Michael's and the community comedy and drama. This past year we brought our own Paul Hauck back to reprise his one man show, The Trials of Clarence Darrow. What an amazing night that was. Paul wrote this piece and performed it in true Academy Award winning style! Our total proceeds went to the legal arm of the local Opening Doors Inc. who helps our local refugees in a myriad of ways.

MAP has also been the second longest donor (26 years) to the Sacramento County Gifts from the Heart program. Two of the MAP Board members attended the program's 30<sup>th</sup> year celebration and learned of all the ways they impact the lives of children through seniors who would otherwise not receive any gifts at Christmas. As usual, our wonderful parish outdid themselves giving to 110 children and adults. This year was truly special, as a Day School teacher, her daughters and many friends handmade and filled 110 Christmas Stockings.

Our plans for the coming year are ambitious: a spring play "Moonlight and Magnolias", the hilarious story of the making of the movie Gone with the Wind, and a courtroom drama, Shadow Hour, with the audience deciding who the guilty one is. There are roles for lots of St. Michael's participants in the second show; the first one is cast and will be in rehearsal soon. We have an active group and welcome any who would like to participate on stage or behind the scenes.

## FINANCIALS – 2019 and 2020 BUDGET

*Note that the year end financial statements are preliminary and are open to adjustments before our accountant performs a final closing.*

# 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

**Treasurer's Report  
Bob McMichael**

### **The Financial Report**

Four items to discuss:

1. Some specific activities in 2019
2. The current status of the Rebuild Program financials
3. The Financial Operating Report for 2019
4. The 2020 Proposed Budget

### **Finance-Related Activity in 2019**

1. We had a successful Diocesan Financial Audit this summer. No problems, and a great audit. We discussed some potential Mission Apportionment reduction ideas. At the completion of this audit there is a good feeling that all of our income (including your donations) and expenses are being recorded correctly.
2. We completed the changeover of the church security system to the new FOB operated system installed and monitored by the Crime Alert company.
3. We had an unplanned water main problem when the major back flow valve to both the church and the school had to be replaced. It was over 20 years old. It was completed very successfully.
4. We had maintenance & capital expenditures in the kitchen including:
  - a. New vertical freezer (paid for by the school)

- b. New convection oven
- c. Cleaning of stove
- d. Rebuild of warming oven

## **Church Rebuilding Project.**

As reported at our mid year report to the parish, the church rebuild financials are good. The total cost of the project was \$1,270,000 and we have paid all of the costs. In 2018 the vestry approved the withdrawal of \$140,000 from our investments to make the final payment to the contractor. This was necessary because of the mismatch of the timing between income from the pledges and the last contractor payments. The pledges are coming in and the total needed to replace the \$140,000 is down to \$60,000. Outstanding pledges are \$75,000 from the school over the next three years and about \$25,000 from parishioners. Also, there is currently \$8,850 in the rebuilding bank account, When all is said and done we should have about \$49,000 available that will be considered “restricted capital” for expenses such as the cost of a new roof on the church. We excepted to transfer \$30,000 back to our investments after the next month receipt of the School’s \$25,000 payment. However, in 2020 it looks like we may have an expense for construction to correct a fire code inspection finding that may be associated with the rebuild.

## **Church Financials for the 2019 Year**

There is a report that is available in hard copy or on line that includes the end-of-year financial reports. In summary financially it has been a good year since we did end up in the black!

Our Revenue for the year was	\$652,592
Our Expense after school reimbursement was	\$649,211
Our Income was	\$ 3,381

Many things contributed to this and here are a few things that stand out:

1. Unplanned extraordinary gifts of \$25,850
2. Unspecified loose offerings \$36,127.
3. Fundraising was great at \$29,852.
4. Reduced Payroll of -\$14,320 because of Sexton Retiring.
5. Program and Outreach expenditures were \$68,247.
6. Mission Apportionment payments reduced the income by -\$85,949. This was larger because we had no rebuild this year and total income was better than expected by 9%.

Other income & expense items that are accountable but not included above include:

1. Rebuilding Pledge payments of \$36,396.
2. Investment gain for the year \$38,403
3. Discretionary expenditures of -\$3,320.

After including these, for accounting purposes, the Net Income is \$74,960.

## BUDGET FOR 2020

Our budget for 2020 is shown on a summary page in the report.

Revenue	\$605,892
Expense	\$676,260
Net Income before School Reimbursement	\$-70,368
School Reimbursement	\$ 71,600
Income after School Reimbursement	\$ 1,232

- ❖ Pledge payments are budgeted at same as last year, \$496,000. Some pledge cards are still out.
- ❖ There is no extraordinary income of \$25,850 as there was last year.
- ❖ Payroll expenses are \$23,454 more than last year. This is due mostly to a 1.6% cost of living adjustment from 2019, an increase in pay for the Associate for Pastoral Care, extra coverage for three months of Cleric Sabbatical, and a 5 month half-time addition of a Promotions person starting in August. As the year progresses we will decide if this person can be hired.
- ❖ Mission Apportionment payments are -\$4,550 less than last year because income is less than last year.
- ❖ There is a planned extra \$1,646 more in outreach payments because expected donations and income from the Fundraising Events in 2020.
- ❖ We will spend \$5,000 for refurbishing the Bells used by the Bell Choir.
- ❖ School Reimbursement budget is slightly lower than last year.
- ❖ Income after School Reimbursement is planned at \$1,232, almost the same as last year.
- ❖ Other Income/Expense is included for accounting purposes and includes Rebuilding Income, Investment Income, and Discretionary Expenses.

Rebuilding Income of \$25,400 will mostly be from the school's outstanding pledge. It is expected in February. We have always intended to transfer these funds back to our investment account. This year we may use them to pay any new building expense related to meeting a recently received Fire Inspection change notice. This relates to fire egress from the back of the stage that has always passed inspection before, but this year did not. This is ongoing. Investment income is budgeted at \$15,000 and is about half of what happened this year. It is only an estimate and is not a cash item. Discretionary expense is a fluctuating item and is expected to be similar to last year.



**Life is short  
And we do not have too much time  
To gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.  
So be swift to love and make haste to be kind.  
And may the Divine Mystery,  
Who is beyond our ability to know, but Who made us, and Who  
loves us, and Who travels the way with us,  
Bless you and Keep you in Peace. Amen**

**Adapted from Henri-Frederic Amiel (1821-1881)**