

*St. John's Church
Boonton*

168th Annual Parish Meeting

March 10, 2024



Agenda

- Call to Order
- Opening Prayer – *All*
 - *Almighty and ever living God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us as we take counsel 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.*
- Determination of a Quorum
- Elections
- Reports
 - Finance
 - Communications
 - Buildings & Grounds
 - Where have we been in the community
 - A message from Reverend Sharon
 - A look ahead for 2024
- Closing Prayer
- Adjournment

Elections:

- Warden – 2-Year Term
 - Name offered in Nomination:
 - Deborah Henschel
- Vestry – 2 Positions of 3-year term
 - Names offered in Nomination:
 - Sandra Lee Schubert
 - Michele Riegel
- Vestry – 1 Position of 1-year term
 - Names Offered in Nomination
 - Janice Schouten
- Delegate to the Diocesan Convention – 1 Position of 3-year term
- Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention – 2 Positions of 1-year term

NOTE: If elections are uncontested, the Chair will entertain a motion to request the Clerk of the Meeting to cast one ballot for the election of the nominees rendering balloting by the membership scheduled below as unnecessary and thereby closing the polls.

Reports - Finance

St. John's Church			
How your money was spent in 2023			
	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	Vaiance to Budget
Payroll Expenses (Including Music Program, Supply Clergy, Workers			
Compansation and Payroll Taxes)	\$ 47,442.00	\$ 55,329.00	\$ 7,887.00
Clergy Expenses	\$ 3,365.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,635.00
The Diocesan Pledge	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 5,287.00	\$ (13.00)
Electricity	\$ 2,097.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 703.00
Natural Gas	\$ 7,628.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 872.00
Water	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ (450.00)
Property Insurance	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 500.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 9,605.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$(5,105.00)
Property Maintenance	\$ 5,843.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$(3,343.00)
Activity/Fundraising	\$ 1,793.00	\$ -	\$(1,793.00)
Office Expense	\$ 5,678.00	\$ 4,995.00	\$ (683.00)
Other Misc. expense	\$ 1,829.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ (479.00)
Total	\$ 103,130.00	\$ 102,861.00	\$ (269.00)
Unrealized Gain-Invenstment Accounts	\$ 13,820.00		

St. John's Church			
Income 2023			
	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	Vaiance to Budget
Pledge	\$ 45,252.00	\$ 42,102.00	\$ (3,150.00)
Plate	\$ 4,897.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 103.00
Hall Rental	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,220.00
Fundraising	\$ 11,497.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (8,497.00)
Grants and Donations	\$ 6,080.00	\$ -	\$ (6,080.00)
Special Offerings and Memorials	\$ 9,033.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (8,033.00)
Total	\$ 76,789.00	\$ 52,352.00	\$ (24,437.00)

Thank you for your financial support!

Kevin Bidwell, Ellen Bomser, Carolyn & Joseph Borlo, Kathy J. Cascone, Jennifer Coultas, Sarah DaCosta, Donnis DeMouthe, Amanda DeMouthe, Allyson Doberhty, The Reverend Sharon Hausman, Jackie & Mary Hecht, Debbie Henschel, Joann Henschel, Sharon Liparini, Fran Maenza, Joan Magrane, Ronald & Michele Riegel, Janice Schouten, Sandra Schubert, Carl Sparano, Robert Tullock & Jack Warmingham,, The Rev. Deacon John VanDine

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH		
Balance Sheet		
As of December 31, 2023		
		Total
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
ConnectOne Bank	21,890.89	
Lakeland Bank - Discretionary Account	1,141.16	
Lakeland Bank 0385	19,327.90	
Lakeland Bank-Buildings & Grounds	2,927.91	
Lakeland Bank-Refugee Housing	4,309.82	
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 49,597.68	
Other Current Assets		
AXA Advisors Portfolio	108,508.91	
Donations	-320.00	
Prepaid Expenses	165.55	
Vanguard Endowment	25,025.19	
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 133,379.65	
Total Current Assets	\$ 182,977.33	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 182,977.33	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00	
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00	
Long-Term Liabilities		
Diocesan Loan	6,418.63	
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 6,418.63	
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,418.63	
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	10,190.22	
Prior Period Adjustment	26,454.21	
Retained Earnings	131,658.79	
Net Income	8,255.48	
Total Equity	\$ 176,558.70	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 182,977.33	

The Treasurer
Ellen Bomser

The Vestry of St. John's
Kathy Cascone – 2026
Joan Magrane – 2025
Michele Riegel – 2024
Fran Maenza – 2025
Janice Schouten – 2024
Sandra Lee Schubert – 2024
Carl Sparano – 2026

The Wardens of St. John's
Deborah Henschel – 2024
Sharon Liparini – 2025

The Rev. Sharon Hausman
The Rev. Deacon John Van Dine

INCOME:	2014 ACT	2015 ACT	2016 ACT	2017 ACT	2018 ACT	2019 ACT	2020 ACT	2021 ACT	2022 ACT	2023 ACT	2024 BUD
Stewardship Pledge	57,023	53,541	62,200	64,430	72,146	82,834	49,961	52,327	51,275	45,252	47,000
Plate	21,000	22,088	13,700	16,990	22,460	11,513	15,663	3,408	3,995	4,897	5,000
Easter Letter	1,600	800	400		565	1,690					
Christmas Letter	500	800	400	100	20						
Special Offerings	6,000	8,800	2,455	8,234	1,665	65,564	5,262	8,780	417	8,913	3,000
Memorials	500	1,100	1,367	4,074	275	1,238		625	287	6,080	
Use of Space offerings	9,000	13,642	11,602	13,855	3,228	2,419	151	1,250	565	30	14,000
Grants	12,400	4,925		2,121	13,900			12,761	3,050		
Flowers	1,000	664	970	849	2,504		150				
Sanctuary Lamp	300	170	220	205	235	350				120	520
Fund Raising	5,000	8,700	5,969	19,897	16,659	13,574				11,497	3000
Jingle/Children Programs	300	325	331	276	70						
Transfer from the Endowment	8,088			5,000							
TOTAL INCOME	122,711	115,555	99,614	136,031	133,727	179,182	71,187	79,151	59,589	76,789	72,520
EXPENSES:											
Personnel											
Clergy Salary/Pension/Health	52,062	45,000	39,678	38,283	48,930	18,592			20,874	39,618	19,643
Music Directory & Music Program	18,872	13,000	10,834	15,031	16,636	19,513	6,126	1,491	14,670	7,824	6,000
Supply Clergy	1,250	500				9,678	5,808	10,664	5,860	-	4,000
Total Personnel	72,184	58,500	50,512	53,314	65,566	47,783	11,934	12,155	41,404	47,442	29,643
Utilities											
Electricity	5,000	3,922	3,265	6,248	4,397	2,816	1,707	1,179	2,364	2,097	2,800
Natural Gas	10,000	7,992	6,310	7,621	8,459	8,632	6,100	4,963	8,013	7,628	8,500
Water	1,700	1,996	1,153	1,687	1,630	1,668	1,681	1,814	1,936	2,050	1,600
Telephone & Internet	1,200	1,010	675	1,786	1,469	1,517	1,674	1,490	1,842	2,365	1,900
Total Utilities	17,900	14,920	11,403	17,342	15,955	14,633	11,162	9,446	14,155	14,140	14,800
Operations											
Diocean Pledge	14,400	9,681	9,000	9,000	8,400	10,572	8,567	1,700	6,385	5,300	470
Office	4,000	2,980	2,612	4,571	6,270	1,404			205	2,181	2,530
Altar Supplies	1,500	12,150	805	725	3,145	1,361	100		233	529	350
Choir	150	1,000	1,134	1,000	140				344	-	
Building Maintenance	5,600	4,492	450	20,924	11,655	4,071	575	15,932	4,560	9,605	2,500
Property Maintenance	1,200	290	986	5,215	800	1,188	2,138	2,996	5,826	5,843	10,800
Property Insurance	6,500	4,500	4,800	9,172	7,843	9,549	8,718	9,260	9,722	10,500	12,100
Diocean Convention	570	380	590	600	590	200	1,200		375	1,300	500
Other Expenses	600	600	404	500	1,202	3,364	1,759	43	2,347	3,700	7,350
Stewardship	100	100			634	500	911	630	351	297	
Clergy Discretionary Fund		150		1,000	100	850				500	250
Activities/Fund Raising	500	945	1,073		3,769	2,382	225	270	431	1,793	
Furnance Loan Repayment	720	720	1,736	1,543	1,350	1,158	1,061				
Children Programs	300	300	279	300							
Total Operations	36,140	38,288	23,869	54,550	45,898	36,599	25,254	30,831	30,779	41,548	36,850
TOTAL EXPENSES	126,224	111,708	85,784	125,206	127,419	99,015	48,350	52,432	86,338	103,130	81,293
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(3,513)	3,847	13,830	10,825	6,308	80,167	22,837	26,719	(26,749)	(26,341)	(8,773)

COMMUNICATIONS – ST. JOHN’S, BOONTON

- We continue to reach out through the website and social media accounts.
- Our social media accounts, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube are a vital part of our outreach efforts reaching the local and wider community.
- We use Canva, an online design and publishing tool, to create videos, social posts, and flyers.
- We utilize local publications to spread the word about our events to the community.

We ask for your participation. Like our social media accounts, like the posts, share them. Comment on posts. Click on the links. Each interaction makes us more visible to the community we serve.

Follow us at our website www.stjohnsboonton.org and social media sites.

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsBoonton>



<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsboonton/>



<https://tinyurl.com/STJsYouTube>



stjohnsboontonnj@gmail.com



JOIN THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM!!

Do you like social media? Or do you like to take photos, write, create videos? Our communications needs are growing, and we need your help. You could assist in some or all the following categories:

- Post to social media; Facebook, Instagram, YouTube.
- Take photos
- Create videos
- Newsletter-create a format, write, compile articles, edit, format
- Help create our new website

Please email us at stjohnsboontonnj@gmail.com



The Ministries of St. John's

The Altar Servers at St. John's

St. John's is blessed to have dedicated acolytes to serve at our altar. We appreciate the service that they provide and pray for God's Grace and blessing on them always.
Kevin Bidwell, & Harley Kerian

The Administrative Angels at St. John's

Here at St. John's our budget is not able to provide funds for administrative support. These wonderful people offer their time to assist in the responsibilities of running our parish offices.

Ellen Bomser, Kathy J. Cascone, Allyson Doherty, Joan Magrane, Janice Schouten, Sylvent Edwinah & Sandra Schubert

The Altar Guild at St. John's

The Altar Guild is a longstanding group charged with the respectful care of all items for and preparation for weekly and special services here at St. John's. The tasks performed by the Altar Guild include the cleaning and maintenance of linens, vestments and the altar area; the purchasing of supplies used; and the set up and clean up of all items and liturgical areas.

Carolyn Borlo, Ellen Bomser, Kathy J. Cascone, Joan Magrane, Michele Riegel & Janice Schouten

The Building and Grounds "Heroes"

Ron Riegel, Carl Sparano, Carolyn Borlo, Joe Henschel, Fran Maenza & Ellen Bomser

Pastoral Care

Kathy Cascone

The Fundraising Ministers at St. John's

Carolyn K. Borlo, Kathy J. Cascone, Ellen Bomser, Debbie Henschel, Fran Maenza, Joan Magrane, Michele Riegel & Carl Sparano

The Music at St. John's

The program consists of the St. John's Choir, and, in addition, we are blessed with parishioners' instrumental talents.

Kevin Bidwell, Ellen Bomser, Kathy J. Cascone, Robert Gangewere, Carl Hausman, Jackie Hecht, Michele Riegel, Sandra Schubert, Christian Carozza & Wyatt Sikora.

The Welcome Ministry at St. John's

Here at St. John's we LIVE "Welcome"! Each Sunday, the first St. John's faces you see are the people that we trust to treat each visitor as though they were Jesus Christ!

Carolyn Borlo, Fran Maenza, Joan Magrane, Janice Schouten, Ron Riegel, Cathy Riccobono & Jack Warmingham

The Communications Ministry at St. John's

Sandra Lee Schubert, Ellen Bomser, Sharon Liparini

The Saturday Luncheon Social at St. John's

With the support of surrounding parishes, each week St. John's hosts a meal for those in need of food, fellowship and warmth.

Ellen Bomser, Carolyn Borlo, Kathy Cascone, Jennifer Coultas, Allyson Doherty, Jackie Hecht, Debbie Henschel, Sharon Liparini, Fran Maenza, Joan Magrane, Michele Riegel, Cathy Riccobono, Janice Schouten & Sandra Schubert

Buildings and Grounds

• ***2023 Expenditures***

- Rectory outside stairs
- Tree Removal
- Fire Alarm System
- Dehumidifier
- Ceiling Repair
- Plumbing-Hall Toilet, Shut-off Valve, Kitchen Sink
- Boiler Repair & Maintenance
- Gutters

• ***2024 and Beyond!***

- Hall Ramp (work completed)
- Plaster work in Hall
- Uneven Flagstones in courtyard
- Stained Glass Windows
- Retaining Wall
- Steeple

Where we are in our community

- Boonton Memorial Day Wreath Laying
- Boonton Day
- Boonton Food Pantry
- Boonton Pride Day
- Boonton's Santa Parade
- Blessing of the Animals
- Family Craft Day
- Winter Coat Drive
- Iftar Feast
- Saturday Luncheon Social
- Afghan Refugee Resettlement
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Angel Giving Tree
- Black Poster Project
- Morris County Overdose Awareness Day
- Blue Christmas Service
- Stations of the Cross
- Perennial Garden

A message from Reverend Sharon

The past year was a busy one for St. John's. We worshiped together every Sunday, undeterred by the occasional balky boiler, fallen plaster or winter storm. We buried beloved parishioners and baptized babies into our membership. We introduced a Longest Night service and revived the tradition of celebrating Palm Sunday with the First Presbyterian Church by eating breakfast together and processing with blessed palms between our churches.

Among our many other activities:

- In cooperation with other churches and organizations, we continued to provide food and companionship very week at the Saturday Luncheon Socials.
- We packed the parish hall with guests for the Peace Islands Institute's iftar feast and Ramadan presentation.
- We planted a new perennial garden symbolizing our pledge commitments.
- We welcomed the community to view the Black Poster Project memorial to those lost to addiction, receive Narcan training and walk unique Stations of the Cross created by local artists. These efforts garnered both diocesan and national publicity.
- We participated in Boonton Pride Day.
- In conjunction with NorthStar animal rescue, we held a popular and successful tricky tray.
- We launched family craft days that have drawn participants from in and outside Boonton.
- We continued to support the Ibrahimis and Mohabats families in their transition to life in America. The Mohabats have now taken the next step and moved to Ohio. The Ibrahimis will be moving onward this summer.

- As the "mother church," we joined with St. Peter's, Mountain Lakes, in celebrating their 100th anniversary.
- We welcomed everyone, including animals who came for blessings on St. Francis Sunday.

The year also brought challenges. Like many churches, St. John's emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic with fewer members and fewer financial resources. We raised nearly \$10,000 in our tricky tray, and stewardship pledges for 2024 held steady from 2023. But this was not enough to overcome our ongoing deficit.

Because of these ongoing financial pressures, I will conclude my time as priest-in-residence at St. John's at the end of my two-year letter of agreement in June. During my remaining time here, I am working with the vestry to arrange training for those interested in assisting with worship. This includes members to lead Morning Prayer and to serve as readers of sermons as well as lessons. Periodic supply clergy will provide Communion each month. I also will be preparing bulletin templates to assist with future worship planning.


On the financial side, the vestry is working hard to cut expenses and prioritize needed capital improvements. Among other things, it is exploring options for renting or eventually selling the rectory after the Ibrahimis move and looking for new fundraisers.

I am sad to leave this church community I have come to love. Members may be feeling anxious about entering a time of clergy transition and about making decisions about St. John's future. Change and transition can be hard for all of us.

But the COVID shutdown reminded us that, at its heart, the church is its people. St. John's members are a faithful, loving church family. And we have Jesus' promise that he will always be with us. So let us move forward in prayer with confidence as we prepare for and discern the future together. For, as one of my favorite hymns proclaims: God has work for us to do.

A look ahead for 2024

- Transition
- Engagement and Lay Leadership Training
- Craft Days at St. John's
- Boonton Green Team
- Joint-Venture Fundraising
- The Rectory
 - Conversations will take place in April to discuss the pros/cons of:
 - Do we need two houses?
 - Should we sell the Rectory and, if so, what are the limitations on use of proceeds?
 - Should we rent the Rectory and if so, who will manage the property; what are the risks and related expenses?



***Remembering those who have passed before us.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory***

Patricia "Patty Ann" Clark
Jackie Denton
Josephine Dianculli
John Doherty
Charles Flatt
William Graff
Virginia Sheridan
Elizabeth VanDine

Closing Prayer

Thank You!

