



SAINT PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

ANNUAL REPORT
JANUARY 30, 2022

PRAYER FOR ANNUAL MEETING

*Almighty and everliving God,
source of all wisdom and understanding,
be present with those who take counsel in St. Paul's Cathedral,
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.*

DEAN'S REPORT

Beloveds,

In preparation for this Annual Report, I went back and re-read what I wrote last year. It is amazing how much has changed...and how much has stayed the same in the last year.

I wrote this in my report last year, "We have had a difficult 2020. And 2021, while bringing with it hope, will still have challenges. Connection is hard. Engagement is difficult. And we are all tired. But I urge you to stick with us; I urge us as a community to stay committed."

I take no credit, but goodness y'all, we have stayed committed. Thank you for saying yes to St. Paul's and the life we have together here.

2021 did in fact bring with it hope and challenges. We worshiped more fully; we sang, we learned, we prayed, we laughed, we cried. We experienced real heartache as a community and we experienced how healing a community we are in the midst of heartache.

To be completely honest, the year flew by and dragged on all at the same time. It was exhausting and exhilarating as we met each joy with gratitude and each challenge with determination.

It was my first full calendar year at St. Paul's, and I am deeply indebted to the congregation, vestry, staff, and clergy for all that they gave to 2021. Global pandemics are the worst, but you all are the best. I can easily make this Dean's report as long as the announcements on Sunday morning, but I will let the reports offered by individuals and guilds speak for themselves. I leave you with a few of my highlights from the past year, and look forward to another year, likely bringing hope and challenges, together.

- We returned to a full-worship schedule.
- We had 2 confirmation services with 33 youth and adults confirmed, received, or reaffirming their confirmation vows.
- We welcomed 27 new members to St. Pauls and have experienced the joy of their presence here.

- We marched in the Pride parade for the first time, being led by our Sr. Warden and fabulous youth leader Emily McDonald.

- We expanded our St. Oakerhater festivities to a whole weekend with arts, food, learning, and worship.

- Our ministries have thrived and continued to do God's work, even if in new ways.

- Ashley Ozan became a full-time employee and has blessed us as our Family, Children and Cathedral Life Minister.

- Joey Ripka joined the staff as our Canon Musician-Designate, and brought Erin and Clara into our community with him. They are all wonderful!

- The Cathedral Chorister program has grown more quickly than I anticipated and in less than 6 months, offered Choral Evensong.

- Caroline Dennis joined the staff part-time as our office coordinator and has been a much needed addition to the team.

And again, to keep it short, I have to add my thanks to the following people for being amazing in the ways in which they have impacted the life of the cathedral and my life personally:

Susan Urbach, Carl Stover, Dian Everett, Sarah Musler, Jack Wise, Scott Raab, Tim Sean Youmans+, Susan Colley Joplin+, Deacons Marilyn Robertson and Gerald Butcher, Paula Geisinger, David Bradley, Mike Murphy, John Turman, Mary Reynolds and Tim Fischer. I thank additionally the finance committee, building and grounds committee, stewardship committee, the pastoral care team, and the liturgical committee, the many and wonderful guilds and ministries, and each and every person who has impacted the life of the Cathedral.

I love being your dean, I love you.

Dean Churchwell+

CANON JOPLIN'S REPORT

A letter to the congregation on December 16, 2021:

Dear Friends,

It is with bittersweet emotion that I am writing to you to let you know of my decision to retire from St. Paul's Cathedral as of January 1, 2022.

The discernment of this change has been challenging. I love you more than words can say. And it is difficult to turn loose of a richness of life that I could never have anticipated nor imagined unfolding as beautifully as it has for me for the past 30 plus years.

It is time, in this approaching Season of Incarnation, for us to give ourselves over to the Spirit of Incarnation. Incarnation brings new life which brings about change. God calls each of us into an ever-evolving spirituality. This requires you and me to bring clarity of focus into our unique gifts in how God creates us. Being in wonderment and gratitude for those gifts helps us to respond to how God calls us to serve the Kingdom of Love.

The Spirit of Incarnation sometimes calls us to loosen the grip of what we hold dear and cherish greatly, in the knowledge that new life cannot emerge without letting go.

It is the Season for me to fix my gaze more securely on new life that will have room to grow with more time for family, friends and development of the Diocese of Oklahoma School of Spiritual Direction. It is time for me to expand my view of who God is and where God is calling me and to be ready to move outwardly into those beckoning and unknown territories.

As we go through our lives, if we are paying attention, we may, from time to time, get a glimpse of God's Kingdom of Love. And because of you, this place, and all the saints that have come before, I have had more than my fair share of glimpses of the Kingdom of God's love, for which I am eternally grateful.

Although the old ways of being with you are changing, there is a new way of being with you that I am anticipating with great joy. We never lose sight of those we carry in our hearts. Be assured that I love you always and pray for the new life that is already being born within the walls of St. Paul's Cathedral on 7th and Robinson, Oklahoma City.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Canon Susan Colley Joplin+

FR. TIM SEAN YOUMANS+ REPORT

Vicar, St. Edward the Confessor Chapel, Chair of the Religion Dept, Casady School; Instructor, Iona School of Ministry, Diocese of Oklahoma; Canon for Youth and Family, St. Paul's Cathedral

I am now in my fourth year serving as the Vicar and Head Chaplain at Casady School and have been serving at Casady for 10 years. I generally put in around 50 hours a week at Casady with an additional 4 to 8 hours at St. Paul's on Sundays. I am also away from St. Paul's one Sunday a month to teach at our Iona School of Ministry at St. Crispin's where I also serve as their go-to Eucharistic Minister.

My primary function at St. Paul's is primarily as part of the **liturgical and preaching** rotation. I am approaching my 9th year with SPC and my role here has been as a utility player, able to fill a variety of roles when needed. This past year it was primarily with pre-teens and teenagers, as well as some interaction with our college students. This work with youth has been done in partnership with Jordan and Laura Rousseau, Sherry Sullivan, John Koons, Carl Stover, Lea Eldridge, Julia Kirt, Bill Parker, and Ryan Dillard.

Lesser Feast is a musical folk group started by me and Nathan Guilford and has a rotating line-up of St. Paul's "stars" in the band, including Mary Reynolds, Kathryn Kirt, Leah and Kevin McDonald, and Karissa Parkhurst, and members of the Taize Band. We performed an East Garden concert in October and lead music for "Root(ed)," a once-a-month service that merges evolving liturgies in the Episcopal Church with Americana Roots music and sacred folk tunes.

Youth Summer

This past summer I served, along with my Casady colleague Mtr. Kirsten Baer, as the Summer Camp Deans for the second session (in July) for pre-teens. Camp dates for 2022 have recently been published and registration is open. This coming summer Ashley Ozan, Lauren Bass and I will be spiritual directors for the Youth Pilgrimage to Navajo land. This occurs June 19 - 27.

Some fundraising has already been done for this previously and a Chili Cookoff will occur on February 20th at 5pm as part of St. Paul's Crowded Table series.

My tenure as the Vicar and School Chaplain at Casady will end in June and I will start my work full-time at St. Paul's in July. I will continue to give supervision to Youth and College ministry but will expand to ministry across age groups. I'm looking forward to being a part of the next phase of our Cathedral Life together.

Faithfully,
Fr. Tim Sean+

DEACON/PARISH NURSE MARILYN ROBERTSON'S REPORT

There have been challenges this past year, but also opportunities for us grow. We have been able to attend church services in person and to start doing Outreach ministry in person. Our church family continues to share God's love and presence with others...in the parish and in the community around us.

The Health Team offered flu and Covid vaccines in September. Participants had an opportunity to schedule a time for their shot. This helped in providing Covid precautions. There were approximately 50 participants at this event. After the pediatric Covid vaccine was available, the Health Team provided another opportunity for the flu, Covid and pediatric Covid vaccines. There were approximately 20 participants for this event.

The CAT team—Cathedral Action Team—consists of nurses, doctors, the Altar Guild, the Usher Guild and members of St. Paul's. We are ready and prepared to help those on the St. Paul's campus that need medical help. If anyone witnesses a situation that requires immediate medical help, please find me, or any other member of the Health Team, Usher Guild or Altar Guild and we will activate the CAT team. We are here to help you!

I am so blessed to be your deacon. I have had to and continue to work through some physical challenges. I stand in awe as I witness the love of God living and working in this community. I appreciate the St. Paul's family and look forward to serving Christ with you for many more years.

Faithfully,
Marilyn Robertson, MR
Deacon/Parish Nurse

DEACON GERALD BUTCHER

Beloved family of St Paul's Cathedral,

Like 2020 this has been a strange year for everyone again with the COVID-19; however the virus has disguised itself in the form of a new variant called Omicron, which causes new issues. What normally goes in annual reports will be different this year and last because 2020 and 2021 has caused so much change. What I plan to discuss is what was intended in 2021 or planned in 2022.

Attending worship was 100% virtual for a while, which is still an option.

The prison ministry that I am involved with has taken a hit. Prison visitors like Jim Henry and I do not visit the prison (Joseph Harp Correctional Center) as we have done in the past because of shutdowns caused by COVID. There have been periods of time when visitors are not allowed in the prison.

In May of last year I was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Because of night driving that is required to visit the prison and with this diagnoses, I have stepped aside from prison ministry. If you are interested in being involved with these prison visits, please contact Nancy Brock at the diocesan office or Jim Henry at St. Paul's. These meetings have include evening prayer, communion and Lectio Divina.

The after-school program that we do for children of inmates at Mark Twain Elementary has stopped but will resume somewhere around spring break. New volunteers are welcome. There will be some training involved before volunteering. There are about ten volunteers from St Paul's that have participated. It will be exciting to start up again.

In 2021, I started a new adventure. I was asked to participate in the first Oklahoma School for Spiritual Direction in our diocese. Lay people and clergy will be students in this new program. It is a two-year program. We have finished the first year and have started the second year. Mother Susan Joplin is the dean of this new program so you know how good the program is I hope to put this training to good use at St Paul's.

In 2022, you will see more exciting things from the Outreach Committee which I am involved with. Dick Opalka is the chairman and is doing a great job! He and Dean Churchwell have some great ideas planned.

I have also been involved the Mindfulness group which I plan to continue.

Contact me if you have questions about any of these things at 405-249-5440 or deaconbutcher@stpaul-sokc.org or gbutcher99@gmail.com.

Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,
Deacon Gerald Butcher

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Dear People of St. Paul's Cathedral -

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Senior Warden for the last four years. This is my last term in the role, and I am very grateful for everyone here at the Cathedral.

The time in the role has been one of dealing with significant transitions, including events surrounding financial health, a plan to repay the emergency fund in full, assisting in the new Dean's search committee and assisting with the transition of a new Dean. This would have been more than enough! Throwing Covid in the mix has made it all the more challenging.

As this term concludes, I look back on several significant goals which have been achieved. First, the financial condition of the Cathedral is sound. We worked on a plan to repay our emergency fund, and I am pleased to say that as of the end of December it is paid in full. We called a new Dean, one who could move us forward, and who was willing to come in the midst of a pandemic. In addition, we knew that additional staffing changes might come about, and indeed those have and are occurring. I have enjoyed working with Dean Churchwell very much as she has stepped into her role and is moving actively to sustain the core values of this congregation and to lead us into the future. Indeed, the future of St. Paul's Cathedral is bright!

One does not work in a vacuum, and I am so grateful especially in those two interim years without a Dean to have been at Canon Susan Joplin's side when she was Priest-In-Charge. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve you and the Cathedral at large during this historic time.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Urbach

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Our beautiful Cathedral campus is continuously changing with the seasons and our many needs. In 2021, the East Garden was the backdrop for more events and activities than ever before. Much focus shifted from indoor spaces to outdoor spaces, ensuring a safe option for gathering as a community. In addition, furniture and accessories were "discovered" and given new purpose in the Reception Area to create conversation groups, allowing small groups to safely interact. Audio/Visual capabilities were further enhanced for worship and special events, like our annual meeting. The reinvigorated Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Committee identified and prioritized necessary repairs in and around every building.

I am especially grateful to our diligent B&G Committee members for their time and talents. Heather Sessing, Jeff Erwin, Roger Benham, Melissa Heuer, and Scott Woods will continue their work going forward with regular meetings and great ideas. A big shout-out to Mike Murphy for sharing his experience and guidance. He still answers my calls and my text messages with kindness, patience, and good humor. His knowledge and background are invaluable to me. Of course, none of it would happen without support from Dean Churchwell, our amazing staff, and the Vestry.

Many thanks to everyone who watches over our ever-evolving church home. Every call, note, and passing comment about running toilets, squeaky doors, and burned out light bulbs is helpful. St. Paul's is a very big place with many working parts; it takes us all to take care of this special place. We have so many wonderful volunteers staining benches, repairing pews, beautifying spaces, caring for the garden, hanging holiday lights, and so much more. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Musler, Junior Warden

TREASURER REPORT

In the 2020 Treasurer's report I indicated that the major challenge we faced in budgeting for CY2021 was how to anticipate and manage the uncertainties that might occur. The possibility of an uncertain 2021 was clearly an understatement. It would have been impossible for the Vestry to anticipate all the events and the issues that we had to deal with in 2021. However, the SPC family seems to thrive on challenges created by uncertainty. In 2021 you again stepped forward and we ended the year in a strong financial position. It seems that no matter the dragon at the door, the SPC family can deal with it. The following is a summary of what you were able to accomplish.

In the 2020 report I indicated that the Vestry would address the repayment obligation to the Emergency Fund. We use the Emergency Fund as a self-financed line of credit to provide resources during emergency situations. We had used that fund to deal with financial issues a few years ago. The Vestry is pleased to report that as of 12/31/2021 the Emergency Fund has been completely reimbursed. We now have in place resources to deal with future emergency events should they occur.

The CY2021 actual operating income was greater than budgeted. We finished the year with \$303,350 income. The primary driver was your generosity. In the past we would typically realize actual pledge revenue less than the initial pledge. This year our actual pledge revenue was 99% of the amount pledged. In addition, we had many families contribute amounts greater than their pledge and as a result given a pledge target of \$900,000, we had total contributions of \$928,000. Another driver of our income was a number of significant gifts during 2021. We had approximately \$220,000 in additional revenue not expected and not reflected in the budget.

Given the strong earnings, we ended the year in a very good cash position. Our 12/31/2021 cash position was \$1.127 million. Approximately \$500,000 of this amount is held in restricted fund accounts that are directed either by the donor or by the Vestry. The Vestry carefully monitors our cash position. To help put our cash position in perspective, the 12/31/2018 cash position was \$460,000. Over a three-year period, which

included two of the most difficult years possible, the cash position has improved substantially. We have no debt outstanding. This reflects your outstanding support of SPC.

Over the years we have been very fortunate in your funding of our endowments. The endowment funds now total approximately \$4.0 million. The monthly values fluctuate with the market. We currently draw 5% from the endowments to fund operating expenses. Clearly the endowment funds are very important to SPC and provide another example of how the SPC family provides support.

The 2022 pledge campaign provides yet another example of your amazing support for the church. The CY2022 pledges received are now \$1.0 million – truly amazing!!

We are going into 2022 with many exciting initiatives that the Dean has described. Because of the support that you have provided, we are able to implement the initiatives. 2022 will be an exciting year for us.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Table 1 is a comparison of actual 2020, 2021 budget and actual, and budget 2022.

The 2020 statement:

1. Revenue included approximately \$85,000 in COVID – PPP funds.

The 2021 statement:

1. Revenue included approximately \$222,000 of extraordinary revenue.

The 2022 Budget reflects

1. \$1.0 million pledge revenue with a pledge/realized ratio of 94%.
2. No extraordinary contributions.
3. Proposed staffing adjustments

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Stover

TREASURER REPORT TABLE 1

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget 2022 Vs.
		2020	2021	2021	2022	Actual 2021
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Revenue						
Total	\$	1,361,135	\$ 1,201,880	\$ 1,587,024	\$ 1,380,466	\$ (206,558)
Expenses						
Staff Compensation	\$	466,134	\$ 582,958	\$ 701,199	\$ 792,002	\$ 90,803
Ministry	\$	249,556	\$ 287,092	\$ 255,458	\$ 290,945	\$ 35,487
Administration	\$	140,594	\$ 121,420	\$ 126,549	\$ 94,229	\$ (32,320)
Property	\$	139,407	\$ 150,704	\$ 159,655	\$ 157,000	\$ (2,655)
Utilities	\$	38,399	\$ 50,360	\$ 40,812	\$ 46,000	\$ 5,188
Total	\$	1,034,091	\$ 1,192,534	\$ 1,283,674	\$ 1,380,177	\$ 96,503
Income	\$	327,044	\$ 9,346	\$ 303,350	\$ 289	\$ (303,061)

Table 1 Comparative Income Statement

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Dean Churchwell formed a stewardship committee and asked us to investigate a different way to go about it, looking at the New Consecration Sunday stewardship program. The idea of NCS is to ask parishioners to pray and seek God's guidance in giving, rather than a more secular approach to fundraising. Our stewardship committee, after reading and hearing more about it, enthusiastically adopted this program and work began.

Highlights included the stories shared by Jim McPhee, Rob Duran, and Dennis Byford on successive Sundays; Bishop Poulson preaching about Christian Giving; the Rev Canon Stephen Carlsen speaking in his role of Diocesan Canon for Congregational Vitality; the Churchwells opening their home (mostly backyard) for the church guilds and organizations for fellowship; and then Consecration Sunday itself with one service where people attending turned in their pledge cards, followed by a ThanksGiving Brunch where we broke bread together in person in the East Garden.

Each of these activities took place while using the Covid precautions recommended by our Diocese and Vestry. As of 21 January 2022, the Cathedral had received 213 pledges totaling \$1,001,200. Of these 30 pledges are from new members! The stewardship committee felt using the New Consecration Sunday program added to the act of participating in stewardship and recommends its further use. In subsequent years, there won't be so much explanation needed so it will be discussed less during the weeks leading up to it and more emphasis on gathering together to give as God intends for each of us.

As Chair, I am so grateful to my excellent committee – the ever amazing Robert Dennis, the new but unstoppable Carol Goodwin, the always inspiring Tim Fischer, the solidly encouraging MaryAnn Sonntag, and the fount of all knowledge Susan Urbach; to our starting to get seasoned but still energetic Dean Katie Churchwell; all the participants in the talks and calls and emails; to the incredible staff of St Paul's; and to each and every member of the St Paul's Community, whether they pledged or not because time, treasure, and talent are all important in doing what God calls us to do.

Always grateful –
Samonia Byford, 2021 Stewardship Chair

ALTAR GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

The Altar Guild at St. Paul's Cathedral is responsible for preparing the church for all services. The Guild is comprised of around 30 faithful members who are assigned to four teams. We show up every Saturday to whip everything in shape for Sunday and the following week.

The Altar Guild is also responsible for arranging flowers on the altar for Sunday services, weddings and funerals. We decorate for Christmas and Easter with joy. We also setup the noonday services which are so special to so many. The Altar Guild also makes certain that the Cathedral is in ship shape. We dust, polish and Swiffer the Nave and the Chancel with great care.

We had an ordination in December for five wonderful people. Four are perpetual Deacons and one will be ordained to the Priesthood in June 2022.

We dedicated an Altar Book (Missal) in Mary Lou Jarvis' name for her longtime dedication to St. Paul's and the Altar Guild. Much deserved. I also want to thank Robert Dennis and Dianne Dooley for being Vice-Directors.

We are full steam ahead!

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bonsteel, Altar Guild Director

ACOLYTE ANNUAL REPORT

The Acolyte program at St. Paul's Cathedral has for generations provided a path of spiritual growth and service for our youth. The program has nurtured and supported the Acolytes and affords leadership opportunities for older Acolytes.

In mid-March 2020, our program was interrupted when the COVID-19 pandemic forced an unprecedented cancellation of all worship services. Through September 2020, a Sunday morning service was video-taped or live-streamed generally with a single Acolyte. By year-end 2020, we had resumed limited, in-person worship with COVID protocols – masks and social distancing – and most services handled by a single Acolyte.

Vaccines became available in 2021 and we have gradually returned to something close to our pre-pandemic services, albeit still with masks. At the 5:00 p.m. Christmas service, we had ten Acolytes in procession! Through these trying and uncertain times, the Acolytes have been adaptable and resilient. Their “can-do, will-do” attitude has been an inspiration to us.

We currently have 40 Acolytes in our program, which is comparable to our pre-pandemic participation. As we return to normal, we invite all parents to consider whether their children would enjoy the Acolyte program. The Acolyte program is open to all youth eight years of age or older. We have broad participation and an enviable retention rate, with many of our Acolytes continuing their service through high school.

The Acolytes serve at the Sunday morning services and during special services, such as Christmas and Easter. The roles vary according to experience. Younger Acolytes typically start as torchbearers. As they gain experience, they perform more complex roles, including serving in the setting of the Eucharistic table. We provide periodic training for new Acolytes and new Acolyte Masters. To aid our training, we have an Acolyte Manual describing the various roles. The Acolyte Manual is available online.

If you have questions about the Acolyte program or have a child that may be interested, please contact any Acolyte Master including Fran Derrick (fran.derrick@me.com) or Gary Derrick (derrick@derrickandbriggs.com).

Yours in Christ,

Fran Derrick

Gary Derrick

ARCHIVES REPORT

Archives have two main functions: to preserve and to make available materials of historical value. This purpose was maintained in 2021; even though less time was spent in the Archives due to Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions and environmental conditions.

I. Records Management: continued to sort, to organize, and to process church records and donated materials.

II. Preservation and Protection: Temperature and humidity continue to be recorded upon entering and leaving the Archives.

A. Temperature ranged 60's to 80's degrees depending on season; consistent with other years.

B. Humidity fluctuated between 50's to high 80's %. Highest readings occurred when water was found on the Archives floor after rain storms. Flooding from a 1/3 to 1/2 of the floor occurred six times this past year. Unable to determine site of leaking. A thank you goes to the Church sexton David Bradley who has mopped up the floor and monitors the dehumidifier bucket weekly.

III. Acquisitions: included church bulletins and mixed paper materials.

IV. Deaccessions; duplicates of some records .

V. Archival Requests: information on congregational members; property in the church building; historical church events; legal records; and history of church.

VI. Goals: continue to process materials; be reference source; move current Archival collection to new location. Thank you to the Dean and to the Vestry to make this the last goal possible.

Please remember the value of records, archives, and history which provides us with insight into organization culture and connects the present with the past to help the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Meites

CHILDREN'S FORMATION

This year's theme is plan and pivot. I started the year doing virtual church school through April. We had several sessions with age appropriate games, songs, stories and videos. It worked pretty well, but with so many kids on virtual learning it was getting old for all. Easter came and we were blessed with good weather and had our Easter Egg Hunt. This year, instead of putting treats in each egg we had the children gather their eggs and then "donate" towards a different cause. We choose Palomar, Positive Tomorrows and the Humane Society. At the end we distributed the funds and made a donation to the organizations in the Cathedral Kids Honor. Each child did receive a treat bag at the end!

Thankfully the better weather came after Easter and we switched over to a joint outdoor church school. We enjoyed a time of singing and games and then the children had various stations set up to make crafts and other activities to drive home the weekly themes. They were fun but a lot of work! This summer we had monthly meet ups and play time in the Garden. We started the fall again in the Garden. We started out with our new set-up of having a "Gathering Time" where we all sang songs, played games and had our weekly birthday blessings. Then we split off into our different corners of the Garden to have our age specific church school. This went well until the cold hit. We are now back in the undercroft (since most are vaccinated) and we still have a gathering time followed up by church school. We have anywhere from 30-40 kids each week in church school with a wonderful group of volunteer teachers.

This year we were able to go to the pageant in person again. Along with Canon Musician Designate Ripka and Dean Churchwell we did a newer script and it went really well.

The nursery is open with our wonderful staff and occasional volunteers and we have a decent number each week of visitors and regulars.

In August, Dean Churchwell asked that I come on full time as the Children, Family and Cathedral Life minister. Along with the new role I have taken over with helping newcomers to find their spot at the Cathedral and making sure they feel welcomed. This is a role

that is ever developing and we are continually figuring out the best ways and practices.

The undercroft is in need of a lot of updating. Before Charles Ozan died he would often say the life of a church is found in the undercroft. He always had a desire to redo the area. Our family donated a sum to see his vision through. I am in the process of working with John Turman who has ordered new rugs and furnishing for the foyer, youth, middle school and high school classrooms. We also purchased a large smart tv for use during church school and youth group. We hope to have this project completed by this spring.

It has been a year of ups and downs. This community has been invaluable to me and my family. I thank you for trusting me to help guide the spiritual growth of your families and children.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Ozan
Children, Family and Cathedral Life Minister

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

St. Paul's ECW and St. Nicholas Guild activities were curtailed again by COVID 19 in 2021. However, we were able to hold a very successful St. Nicholas Guild reception on December 19th. The reception was very well attended and we received an abundance of delicious food items and offers of help organizing and cleaning up.

The gift shop continues to stock wonderful books, gift items, and cards and has managed to remain open on a limited schedule. Thanks to the gift shop's perseverance during the pandemic revenue continues coming in and ECW/St. Nicholas Guild can offer financial assistance to other groups and guilds for their projects.

We're looking forward to planning events that bring this wonderful community together once the virus numbers improve.

Sincerely,
Joann Speers

LAY LITURGICAL LEADERS REPORT

The Liturgical Ministry Team, at Saint Paul's Cathedral, consists of a team of 53 dedicated individuals. The Readers are tasked with reading the appointed lessons for the day, the Intercessors assist the clergy by reading the prayers of the people, and the Lay Eucharistic Ministers assist the clergy in the sharing of the sacraments of Holy Communion. One can find them serving at the 8am, 9am, 11:15am, and the 5pm Sunday services. A few of these individuals serve at multiple Sunday services. In addition to our normal Sunday services the Team serves at noon on Wednesdays, funerals, and special services throughout the year, particularly during the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Lent.

I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone on the Team. They are a wonderful group of people willing to serve Saint Paul's Cathedral and help each other in times of need.

If you have an interest in joining our Team or have questions, please contact me or the church office.

Sincerely,
Dick Opalka

MOBILE MEALS REPORT

Dear St. Paul's family.

Mobile Meals has been around St. Paul's kitchen since 1979! We now operate under the umbrella of Ending Hunger of Oklahoma City, Meals on Wheels located at St. Luke's Methodist of OKC.

Our mission is to serve meals to the elderly and shut ins in the OKC metro area located near our Cathedral campus.

This year 2021, despite COVID19 restrictions to full access to our kitchen for most of the year, our amazing team prepared 1,494 meals and sent out an additional 102 "Blizzard meals". A Blizzard meal is an extra meal we send out when bad weather is forecast that may prevent our clients from receiving their normal meals from us or other churches that participate and provide meals.

Our regular list includes an average of 28-32 meals per week. Our group also includes Tammy as a regular meal which we get to her as well.

Our team includes chefs for 2021 of Anne & Kim Kueteman, Barbara Newey, Carolyn Clifford, Karen Meites, Roy Smith, Elizabeth McGuinness, Julie Baker, Ginger Spears, Linda Massad, Sally Alworth, Judy Johns, Virginia Ludlow, Jim McPhee, and myself.

This amazing team of chefs volunteered their own kitchens to allow us, with masks on, to continue to prepare these meals!

Then, to the drive team, without whom our labors of love in those kitchens would be in vain. Gil Haas, Robert Dennis and family, Jim McPhee and Lupe, Keith Stelting, Rick Hill, Nancy Stalcup, Elizabeth Williams, David Ponstein, Steve and Suze (Nancy) Wallace, Kathy and Malcolm May, Ann Bonsteel, and Carolyn Gresham-Fiegal.

Patricia Lester is our star box preparer and continues to make sure each dinner tray has a beautiful photo and a prayer attached to the lid so our clients get more than a plain white styrofoam box with a meal in it! (all 1,494 of them!)

It has been an honor to serve with these amazing people who respond to my calls for help when groceries need to be purchased or help is needed to coordinate the dispensing of the meals. My thanks and appreciation for all they do to help those in need of a meal is beyond words.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with each of you! If I failed to mention anyone, please forgive me.

Yours in Hope,

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon H Ellington

Mobile Meals Coordinator

MUSIC DEPARTMENT REPORT

Canon Musician H. Scott Raab

“May you live in interesting times” is a two-edged comment, as we all know! The Year of Our Lord 2021 has indeed been interesting. Pre-taping services, live-streaming services with no congregation, and a return to in-person services all made for a busy time in the life of our staff. Services of Choral Evensong and Choral Compline continued with Choral Masses on the first Sunday of the month making a return. The arrival of Joseph Ripka as Canon Musician Designate presented an opportunity for re-alignment of responsibilities and development of the scope of our music program. In my final Annual Report to the parish, I can only try to express my appreciation for many years of working together. Thank you so very much!

Canon Musician Designate Joseph Ripka

Dear Friends at St. Paul’s,

To echo Scott, we certainly are in an interesting time! My family and I are thrilled to be a part of the St. Paul’s community and we greatly appreciate the warm welcome by so many. Working with Scott during this transition in the music department has been a joy. Together we have made some changes and introduced some new things, including the chorister program, but have also really enjoyed making music together! I am thankful for his guidance and support in many ways.

Our new Cathedral Chorister program is off to a great start and is currently at 20 choristers and growing. They have sung for a few morning services, but have also led some substantial services including Christmas Lessons & Carols, Christmas Eve, and Choral Evensong. I look forward to working with them and watching (and hearing) them grow each week.

I’m excited about the future here at St. Paul’s and I’m grateful for our fantastic staff and leadership!

NIRA SMITH BOOKSTORE CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS REPORT

2021 was challenging for us all. The bookstore board members have spent the year adjusting to this new normal. But we have seen growth over 2020. We added Tuesdays to our calendar, and sales exceeded those of 2020.

Outside of our regular hours, we were able to attend the Diocesan Convention in Broken Arrow and the fall ECW retreat at St. Crispin's. At St. Paul's, we were present for Clergy Vow Renewal in March and a fund raiser for Palomar in early June.

In order to be better stewards, we have discontinued our phone. We may still be contacted by calling St. Paul's at 405-235-3436 or by emailing us at cathedral-books@yahoo.com. We are looking for a new computer software system that will be less expensive and more user friendly. This will allow us to provide more money for ECW's use.

Two groups of people are vital to our ministry. Firstly, YOU our customers. Thank You! Secondly, our volunteers, without whom we couldn't operate: Cheryl Baker*, Fran Derrick, Jennifer England-Burnside, Janice Eberhard, Carolyn Fiegal, Susan Gabbard*, Mary Ann Johnson*, Elizabeth King*, Andrea Morgan, Carole Owen Stelting, Linda Reed*, Nancy Wallace and Scott Woods*. (*indicates a board member) In 2022, our goals will be to continue our efforts to follow our mission statement and increase awareness and interest in the bookstore. Please feel free to let us know if there is something we can order for you. We will also continue to seek new volunteers to share their talents with this ministry. WE NEED YOU!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Directors

Nira Smith Bookstore/Cathedral Books & Gifts

OBLATIONER REPORT

Webster's Dictionary defines an oblationer as "one who makes an offering as an act of worship or reverence". This is usually in the form of bread and wine, while some churches also include food or other offerings to charity. At St. Paul's, lay members bring offerings of bread and wine. After the collection plate has been passed, the verger will escort the oblationers to the front of the church. The oblationers will carry the wine carafe (cruet) and bread container (ciborium) to the acolyte(s), who will be standing at the steps in front of the altar. Oblationers may come to the altar with their entire family, another parishioner, or by themselves. Most choose to serve with one other person.

Those who fund the purchase of communion, may request to serve as oblationers on the Sunday they provide the bread and wine.

St. Paul's has a good, faithful group of oblationers, and we are always glad to have more people sign up. If you would like to serve, please email me: jana.plowman@cox.net

Respectfully,
Jana Plowman

OUTREACH REPORT

The outreach committee has been very busy during 2021, despite covid. The projects we participated in could only have been accomplished through the generosity and participation of the congregation of St Paul's. Thank you so very much from the members of the outreach committee. FYI the committee consists of the following individuals:

Jennifer Winton	Marilyn (M R) Robertson
Adam Parkhurst	Gerald Butcher
Jocelyn Labombarde	Rick Hill
Bruce Eberhard	Heather Sessing
Keely Dooley	Sharon Ellington
Carole Stelting-Owen	Howard Conyers
Keith Stelting	Susan Witt Conyers
Cheryl Baker	Janice Eberhard
Lucy Smith	Todd Olberding
Dick Opalka	

I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their support and dedication.

Below is an outline of the projects that St Paul's Cathedral participated in during 2021:

Outreach Summary 2021

Afghan Immigrants

20+ Welcome Bags and Stuffed animals (Dec)

Bishop's Appeal

cash contribution (Dec)

Blessing Bags

75 bags project with youth,
for parishioners to distribute (Jan)

City Care

Pet Food

Homeless Alliance

250 Bus tokens (no cost to us)
\$500 Check

Hope For The Future

Cleaning supplies &/or snacks (April, October)
50 Feel Good(ies) Bags (April)

Infant Crisis Center

Baby Shower delivered 130 lbs of baby items (June)
10 Boxes of Diapers donated plus Volunteer time
(Nov)

Mercy Hospital Covid Nurses

320 Appreciation Bags

Mobile Meals

Monthly Cash Contributions

New Hope

15 back packs of school supplies
Cash Support for after school program

Oakerhater/Whirlwind Mission

15 Bicycles

VBS

Christmas Toys for 22 children
Christmas Party

OU Hospital Covid Nurses

50 Appreciation Bags

Palomar

funds toward Easter Egg Hunt fundraiser
50 Feel Good(ies) Bags (April)
cleaning supplies (January, October)
personal hygiene items (March, December))
funds toward evening with St John's Bible (May)

Pitbull Ranch & Wags to Whiskers

Pet Supplies

Positive Tomorrows

60 back packs of school supplies
Monetary donation for Easter Egg Hunt fundraiser

Gay Pride

Cash Contribution (June)

Regional Food Bank

Volunteers worked @ RFB (August and October)
Funds toward Easter Egg Hunt fundraiser

Salvation Army

19 Box Fans (June)

YWCA/Our Sisters' Closet

Household Goods (August)
Christmas-Angel Tree for 14 children (November)
50 Feel Good(ies) Bags (April)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY REPORT

The Prayer Shawl Guild began at St. Paul's in 2011 with 6 members, men and women, who enjoyed crocheting and knitting. It is one of the thousands of chapters involved in this worldwide ministry. Some members have left, others have joined us. We welcome new members any time.

The purpose of the Guild is to provide prayer shawls to individuals who are ill, celebrating joy, or grieving a loss. These colorful shawls which have been lovingly and prayerfully constructed are presented by one or more of the guild members. Prior to the presentation the shawls have been blessed at the altar. Since the beginning, there have been 350 shawls given away. Recipients do not have to be members of St. Paul's to receive a prayer shawl. If you know of someone who would like a prayer shawl, please contact Sally at (405) 413-2582.

We appreciate all of the friends who have contributed gifts to our ministry such as yarn or cash, and we invite everyone to join us on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1:00PM in the Parlor at St. Paul's. If you cannot join us at this time, you are still encouraged to crochet or knit a prayer shawl at your leisure and give it to us to be blessed.

We started meeting after Covid again in October. We invite all persons who knit or crochet are welcome to join us as we enjoy sharing warmth and camaraderie with each other, and in the process produce a gift that is long lasting and brings much comfort. Thanks to Kathy May, Kathy Opalka, Nancy Wallace, Elizabeth King and occasionally others who contribute their time and talent.

Faithfully,
Sally Alworth
Chairperson and Founder

USHER GUILD

The Usher program at St. Paul's Cathedral provides an opportunity for our congregation to welcome everyone into the church. The ushers are the first point of contact someone might have with the church. In 2021 we welcomed 4 new ushers and we have at least 4 ushers at the 9am and 11:15am services.

The Ushers began the year serving at 8am, 9am & 11am Sunday services. As the services adjusted their times and needs, so did the Usher Guild. We were also called upon for funerals and special services such as Christmas and Easter. We were able to fill all the services that requested ushers. We are now serving at the 9am, 11:15 & 5pm services. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers.

The Ushers were wonderful with the ever changing guidelines for our various services due to Covid-19. The Ushers did everything they could to keep our congregations safe by communicating any Covid safety policies that St. Paul's had implemented. Thank you to the congregation for understanding the role of the Ushers and respecting them when having to enforce those policies.

I am stepping down from my duties as Usher Coordinator at the end of 2021. Please welcome Madeline Benham as St. Paul's new Usher Coordinator. I have enjoyed my time with the Usher guild, thank you very much.

Best,
Ashley Wells

VERGER GUILD REPORT

Vergers in the Church of England date back to the 16th Century. In the Middle Ages, the role of the Verger was to lead the procession, clearing the way of people or even animals that might interfere. They might have been in charge of many aspects of the parish from basic maintenance to bookkeeping to even grave digging. When leading a procession, Vergers carry a Virge which is derived from the Latin word for staff.

The role of the Verger at St. Paul's Cathedral is to assist the Clergy in providing an organized, respectful and welcoming service in keeping with our liturgical traditions. Our role varies from week to week from simply ordering and leading processions to assisting with visitors at a special event who may not be familiar with our service. We are asked to greet and assist with visiting Clergy helping them to prepare for and navigate through our service. We have served during regular services, weddings, funerals, ordinations and baptisms.

Given that the Verger Ministry has much to do with coordination of people involved in the service and welcome to those new to the tradition, 2021 was a most challenging year as we dealt with the changes necessary to safely maneuver the pandemic. We made every effort to adjust and adapt to our changing role and to serve as requested and as possible along with everyone at St. Paul's Cathedral.

We currently have seven Vergers actively serving, Vickie Norick, Susan Urbach, Sue Crumbo, Casey Richards, Rick Wise, Jim McPhee and Jeff Erwin. We also recognize Ian Bass and Madeline Benham for their service to the Vergers Guild. Four of our Vergers are all members of the National Vergers Guild and

having completed a nationally administered course and are recognized as Fellows of the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church. Our goal in 2022 is to continue training both locally and through the Vergers Guild to improve and refine our service to St. Paul's. The Verger program does not impact the budget of the Cathedral.

We expect that our role will continue to evolve and we look forward to being of service to our Clergy, Parishioners and Visitors at St. Paul's Cathedral. To learn more about Vergers and their role in the Episcopal Church, visit www.vergers.org

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Erwin, FVGEC

**ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
NECROLOGY 2021**

Cathy O'Connor

Diane Ellsworth

Susan Ponstein

Charles Ozan

Ted Colson

The Rev. Canon Margôt Nesbitt

Lana Paine

Stephen Tipton

Paul Baker

Miles Kolliopolis

Ethelyn Mills

Matthew Opalka

Trevelyn Riggle

Andrew John

Jimmy Lindsey

Linda Rosser

Sean Burnside