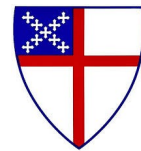


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
 518 N. Alameda Blvd.  
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A Voice in the Desert - Vol. 2021 Issue 2

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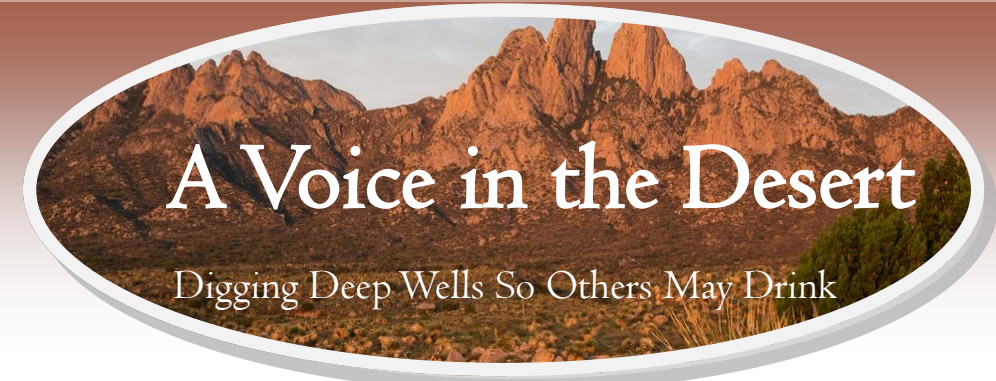
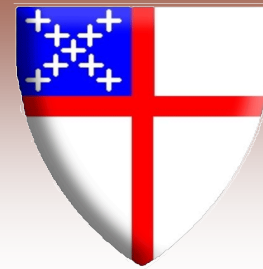
A Voice in the Desert is published monthly for the parishioners and friends of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

**In-Person Worship Resumes at St. Andrew's!**



St. Andrew's will resume holding in-person worship services in the main sanctuary (with limited capacity). The **Sunday Eucharist at 10:00am** (Rite II) and a **Thursday Eucharist at 12:00 noon** (Rite I) will now be held in the main sanctuary. Services will continue to be live-streamed through Facebook Live for those who wish to participate remotely.

The sanctuary has been marked to ensure social distancing and the ushers will help identify available seating. There will be hand sanitizer available; face masks are required. Please enter the building only through the door on the east side of the building (off the larger parking area), and exit only through the doors on Alameda Blvd.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Las Cruces, New Mexico

**ANNUAL MEETING ISSUE**

Volume 2021, Issue 2  
 February/March 2021

**Interim Rector's Report**

The Rev. Jan Hosea

It is hard to believe that I have been here almost a year; and what a year it has been! I began on March 1 and enjoyed two in-person Sundays with you before everything closed down. My how we have labored over these past few months to provide the best possible services to you: drive-through communion intermittently and live-streamed services posted on Facebook and our website. We consistently provided Compline at 7:00 every evening with help of Deacon Phil, Mo. Jeannie+, Sondra Jones, Christine Courtney, Pat Devarenes and others we will be adding soon. Weekly Sunday services were held at 10:00 utilizing as many people as possible to maintain social distancing and provide a variety of people to read and with the service. I appreciate the assistance of Padrecita Jeannie+ and Pastor John Himes who have shared their considerable preaching and liturgical skills with all of us and given me a break! Many thanks to Joan and Cory who faithfully and joyfully offered music and song! On Thursdays we offered Noonday service with the saints. Thanks to Mo. Jeannie who filled in for me from time to time.

**Pastoral Care** was a challenge. With Circles of Hope and Eucharistic Visitors we managed to keep in touch with those who were completely isolated. We experienced several deaths during this horrid time and by the Grace of God and support from our Deacons, Phil and Anne, plus Mo. Jeannie, we were able to provide the sacrament of Extreme Unction (Last Rites) as needed, even if by phone. Volunteers for Circles of Hope made myriad phone calls, sent cards and visited in-person (when possible) with our most fragile parishioners. I give many thanks to all of you.

**Building-** We experienced the failure of our HVAC systems that affected the sanctuary which caused us to move service to Kendrick Chapel for the summer. Actually, that was a blessing. Kendrick is, of course, smaller, easier to cool, and had better acoustics for live-streaming. And in the

Continued on p. 2

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We regret that because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have cancelled all church building activities until further notice.

*Continued from p. 1*

long run, we saved money on cooling! Our Jr Warden, Bruce Brown, was on top of things and facilitated the replacement of the systems. Bruce also worked with a group of people tending to the landscape and much was accomplished. You will note those efforts in his report. Thanks to the dedicated teams who continually care for our outside facility. Bruce also engaged a team to prepare our building for a return to service. We are ready for when we can return. Bruce established a group called "Our Church" to investigate and determine purpose for every space in the building. You will hear more about that.

**Outreach**—even though we had fewer people come to the church for food, we still maintained the food pantry and distributed food to all who asked. Through the discretionary fund we assisted people experiencing difficulties while traveling, hotels for people experiencing homelessness and need, and provided rent assistance to parishioners who were in a financial crisis. You will see in the multitude of reports that people served meals at El Caldito. As a parish we provided meals on the second Sunday of the Month for residents at the Community of Hope. Several ministries reached Native Americans, the Border Ministry, Navajoland, children in our own community, schools, and many more. The Shoebox ministry and Angel Tree extended the reach of your generosity. This parish is awesome and generous!

**Fellowship**—Although we could not meet at church regularly, groups formed to keep in contact with each other: The men's group, women's tea, book clubs, outreach groups, Altar Guild, Daughters of the King, fellowship, and many others. I sent monthly birthday and anniversary cards to parishioners.

**Vestry**—Your vestry wrestled with many issues, not the least of which was the task of forming a Search Committee. We are delighted that Nancy McMillan is leading this effort along with a diverse team of parishioners. You can read more about their efforts in this report. There were long meetings, special meetings, and lots of work in-between. I am grateful for the superb leadership of Sr. Warden David Lutz as we moved through this trying year. We say good bye to Doug Paczynski as he ends his term on the vestry and wish him happy trails.

**Christian Education**—I led a Bible study on the book of Acts which was followed by Deacon Anne leading a Bible study on the Gospel of John.

A new **Communications Committee** was established to deal with the many ways we communicate with each other. A Ministry Booklet was developed for distribution and presented on our website and Facebook page. The website was totally redesigned and updated. Thank you to Pat DeVarenes and Christine Courtney for their tireless efforts to help keep in touch with each other in modern and attractive ways.

**Stewardship**-- Norm Todd provided leadership for a wonderful stewardship team. The program developed included Ministry Minutes, presentations designed to link our ministry to our budget through the Five Pillars of Excellence: Worship, Pastoral Care, Christian Education, Parish Life, and Outreach. Please remember to go forth with an ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE.

As we look forward to the remainder of 2021, we anticipate two wonderful things: a return to our worship space, and a new rector. Please keep praying for both.

Mo. Jan+



## ***Junior Warden's Report***

Bruce Brown, Junior Warden

The Diocese set cleaning standards for our church campus in order to hold services again. In order to comply and prepare, we put in new systems.

This year thanks to a legacy donation, the 4 heating/air conditioning systems for the sanctuary, offices, gathering space and the music room/restrooms were replaced. With normal use, the systems could pay for themselves within 10 years. We took the opportunity to add an air purification system to cleanse all air while each system is on. We replaced the thermostats also. Each of the systems runs a minimum of 20 minutes of each hour to continue cleaning the inside air throughout the day. This is 1 of the items to satisfy the Diocese requirements.

Ed Morrow and Thomas Grimes secured an initial purchase of cleaning supplies to replace all the soap dispensers, paper towel dispensers and general cleaning needs. This also allows our church to be ready when we can start indoor services.

Ed and Bob Anderson took the time to measure and create seating zones within the Sanctuary to meet social distancing standards. Again, this meets the Diocese's standard so we can resume services as soon as possible.

We want to assure everyone we are doing everything possible to keep you safe when you come to St. Andrew's. We all want to come back to church ASAP. We will be ready to the best of our capability.

The Garden Guild, Ed Morrow, Doug Paczynski and Thomas Grimes, have been working hard to keep the grounds clean, shrubbery in line, sprinklers working and whatever else to keep our outside campus beautiful.

The well pump and back-flow valve located back by the shed for the sprinkler system was replaced this summer.

We have a new committee, "Our Church," to look at our church campus, inside and out. We hope to make our campus more beautiful, efficient and satisfy the growing needs to our church, big and small. We will be identifying those maintenance items our church needs. Once issues are identified, we will bring them to the Vestry for possible approval and funding.

I want to give a special shout out to Ed Morrow for always being available when I needed someone to meet a contractor. He has given up many an hour serving the church this year.

I also want to thank Thomas Grimes. He has been willing to help the Garden Guild although it is not in his job description.



## Deacon's Report

The Rev. Phil Runge

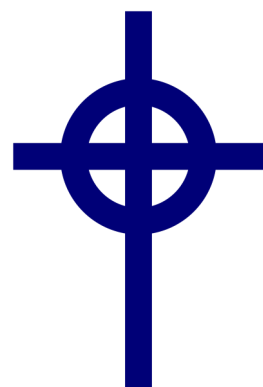
As I was reviewing the report I filed last year after my first 7 months, I was struck by the fact that I said I was really looking forward to becoming more integrated into the various programs and ministries of the Parish in 2020. Who knew? This last year has been extremely challenging for all of us. Our inability to gather and physically participate together in our various ministries has been both frustrating and painful. It is my fervent prayer that at some point in the near future we will be able to gather together.

One of the ministries most affected by our COVID restrictions has been our Eucharistic Visitors. The extension of our Altar into the homes/rooms of the sick and the shut-ins is central to our community worship. However, the contact with the people we serve has continued by phone and streaming services just as it has for the rest of the Parish. In addition to the continued contact, protocols have been developed for use when limited contact is restored. The Eucharistic Visitor manual as been updated and the Visitors were all trained. This training was also carried out to renew the Diocesan licensing for the Eucharistic Visitors. My sincere thanks to those of you who serve in this critical ministry.

We have also prepared for the time when we can begin to gather again in our church. New protocols have been developed for the Acolytes and Lectors reflecting our social distancing at the altar. The respective manuals have all been updated and training sessions have been planned for when the restrictions are lifted. We are ready for that day. My thanks to those of you who have continued to serve during the streaming services. It has required a lot of creativity! I would also like to invite anyone who is interested in serving to contact myself or the Sarah Brockmeier.

I'd also like to thank those members of the Parish who have facilitated the many giving ministries in our outreach effort. The Backpacks for Children, the Shoebox Ministry, Angel Tree and many other ways in which we share our resources with those need. The continuation of these ministries has been especially critical as so many in our communities face the economic challenges of the pandemic.

I would like to add a special word of thanks to Deacon Anne Turrie. She continues to give of herself in many ways in spite of retirement and has been instrumental in filling the gaps left by the family and personal surgeries that have interfered with my participation. St. Andrew's is truly blessed to have her among us.



## Getting to Know St. Andrew's Social Media and the New Website

In the late Fall of 2020, the new St. Andrew's website was launched. The website houses an ever growing compendium of information and activities of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. This is the first in a series of articles designed to help you to become acquainted with your website, and to learn to use it as a church resource.

The new website is updated 1-2 times a week with the latest news from St. Andrew's. Up to the minute information is usually found on our Facebook page.

### The Home Page

The Home Page is the first place you come to when you land on [St. Andrew's Episcopal Church \(saintandrewslc.org\)](http://saintandrewslc.org). It is the gateway to all the content on the St. Andrew's site.

### We Hear You

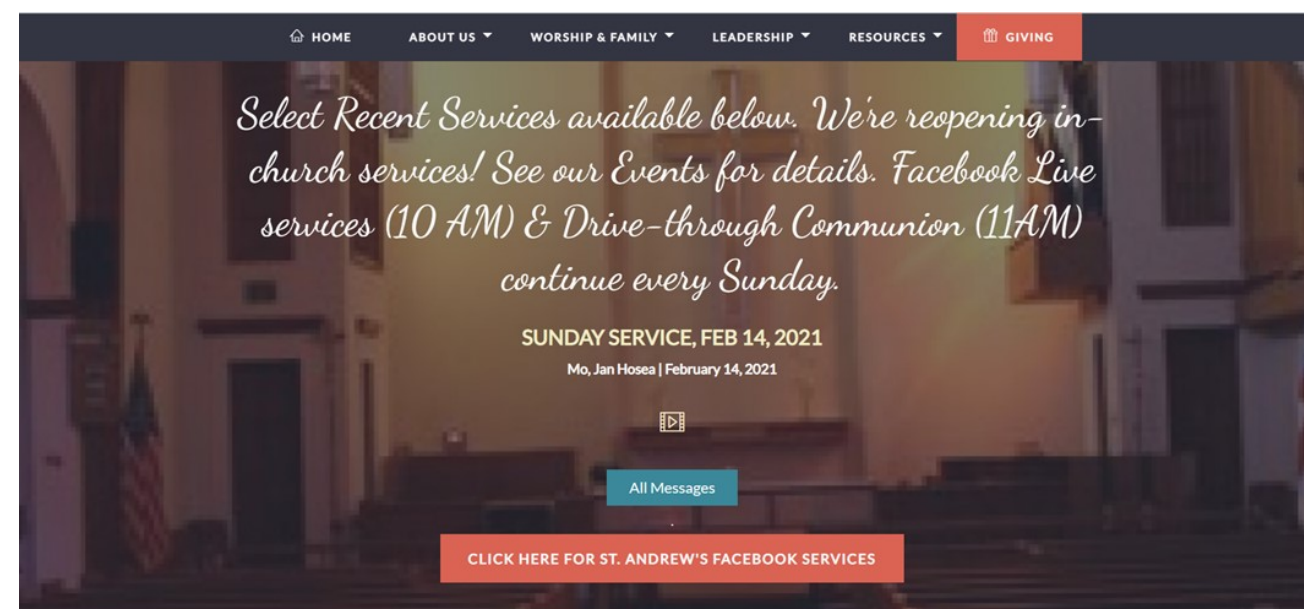
One of the things we hear is that people want to view or revisit the virtual Sunday Services. There are several ways to do it:

Currently, St. Andrew's is opening up for limited in-person services. Regardless of its open status, each Sunday, St. Andrew's has a Facebook Live service (you do not need a Facebook account to view it). Our Facebook page is located at: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewslascruces>. Daily Compline (7:00pm) as well as Thursday Noon Services are also held there.

Each week, the previous Sunday service is uploaded to the St. Andrew's YouTube site (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy9thSrREw7eLWlbuhcLEdA>) and is embedded on the church website.

### Services and Sermons

Scrolling down the Home Page, you'll see a section that looks like this:



(Continued on p. 5)



### February Birthdays

Marty Liefeld	2/2	Adam Cram	2/18
Elizabeth Blohm	2/3	Scott Russell	2/18
Kevin Fry	2/5	Martha Anderson	2/19
Jaxon Bryant	2/7	Elizabeth Crow	2/19
Colin Luschei	2/8	Robert Phillipson	2/20
Jay Hoehn	2/9	Carol Chiochio	2/24
Brianna Brown	2/10	George Evans	2/25
Daniel Gonzales	2/10	Cathie Lowe	2/26
Lann Hoehn	2/10	Veronica Palmisano	2/26
Bonnie Pratt	2/12	Adrienne Flores	2/28
Frank Parrish	2/16		

### February Anniversaries

Daniel and Amanda Fuller	2/1
Carl and Naomi Hursh	2/9
Marvin and Judy Mathis	2/12
Mike and Sylvia Izon	2/14

### March Birthdays

Madelynn Mackin	3/1	Mandy Taylor-Montoya	3/15
John Regalado	3/2	Jay Lawrence	3/16
Elsie Brown	3/3	Sarah Bensen	3/18
Fran Kemp	3/5	Kristin Haynie	3/18
Kamsi Osourji	3/5	Padrecita Lutz	3/18
Sharon Rysted	3/5	Nickolas Briones	3/20
Bob Anderson	3/6	Elizabeth Goehler	3/20
Neal McMillan	3/6	Wally LaLonde	3/22
Gail Libbin	3/7	Joan McClure-Post	3/22
Anne Paradise	3/7	Pam Hunt	3/24
Jan Cristofaro	3/9	Leam Schlie	3/24
Gilbert Krebs	3/10	John Himes	3/28
Trey Hunter	3/13	Bonnie Gonzales	3/29
Rebecca Cram	3/14	Sarah Brockmeier	3/31

### March Anniversary

Mark and Christine Courtney	3/25
-----------------------------	------

Continued from p. 8

### ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BUDGET 2021 (continued)

	2019 Audited Stmt	2020 Profit/ Loss	2021 Budget
Youth Ministry Supplies	0	0	0
		<b>Operations</b>	
Advertising	2,654	2,085	2,000
Website & comm		1,131	1,500
Alarm Monitoring	674	962	1,000
Bank Charges	119	100	100
Building Maintenance	3,171	4,934	6,000
Bulletins & printing	125	248	250
Copier Rental/	9,259	7,835	10,000
Electricity	16,721	12,769	16,000
Gas & Water	4,005	3,636	4,000
House Exp San Lorenzo	546	1,302	500
Insurance - property	18,585	23,491	24,000
Janitorial Exp	1,719	2,534	1,700
Misc/ Extra Exp	1,785	105	
Office Expense	5,367	2,202	2,000
Office Software/ equip	1,490	1,734	500
Outside Audit	1,800	1,800	1,800
Paychex fee	1,367	1,195	1,400
PayPal Charges	551	2,356	2,400
Postage/ shipping	1,328	1,350	1,500
Property taxes	3,842	1,364	4,200
SEARCH			25,000
Security Service	1,458	1,601	1,800
Soda supply	51	377	200
Staff Training / seminar	55	0	100
Telephone	5,597	6,125	6,000
		<b>Payroll</b>	
<b>TOTAL SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>	250,512	211,428	196,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>343,097</b>	<b>301,025</b>	<b>377,921</b>
	=		
Surplus/Deficit	55,592	63,976	-1,921

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**BUDGET 2021**

	2019 Audited Stmt	2020 Profit/ Loss	2021 Budget	
1	Plate income	10,594	2,865	5,000
2	Pledges	247,195	276,793	215,000
3	Non-Pledge Contributions	83,379	19,875	20,000
4	Holiday Offering	4,323	3,335	4,000
5	Last Year's Pledges	890	2,050	2,000
6	P/P Pledges	6,110	26,660	27,000
7	Legacies/ PPP	0	0	68,000
8	Facility Fees	6,650	4,695	4,500
9	San Lorenzo House	11,348	8,495	10,500
10	Soda Income	265	34	
11	Donations	150	200	
12	<b>RG DIOCESE POOL W/D</b>	20,000	20,000	20,000
13	Fellowship Income	450		
14	Other Income	7,335	0	0
15	<b>Total INCOME</b>	<b>398,689</b>	<b>365,002</b>	<b>376,000</b>
16		<b>Governance</b>		
17	<b>FAIR SHARE</b>	<b>31,097</b>	<b>56,068</b>	<b>57,000</b>
18	<b>Diocesan Convention</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
19		<b>Ministry Support</b>		
20	Altar	1,446	1,207	1,500
21	Books & Publications	1,282	759	600
22	Contract Musicians		100	500
23	Deacon Bus Exp		0	300
24	DOK Exp	40	0	200
25	Family Retreat	1,000	0	0
26	Fellowship committee	745	166	500
27	Misc Program Exp	883	225	500
28	Mission Resource	1,220	1,790	1,500
29	Mission Sams Support	0	0	100
30	<b>Music License</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>800</b>
31	Music Supplies	16	501	200
32	<b>Stewardship Committee</b>			<b>1,500</b>
33	Tuning Exp	515	477	750

Continued on p. 9

**News From the Search Committee**

Greetings from your Search Committee. At our last Zoom meeting on January 9, 2021, we put finishing touches on the answers to questions for the "Ministry Portfolio" which is used in the search for our new rector. The portfolio consists of 12 questions answered by both St Andrew's and prospective ministers interested in leading us. The committee is thankful for the input from everyone – it helped shape our responses to paint a great verbal picture of St Andrew's and the life of our congregation. The next step is for the Vestry to review our responses. Afterwards our Ministry Portfolio will be posted on the Episcopal News Service website where interested candidates can respond. The plan is to have the posting listed for all of March and April 2021, then review candidate applications. So far we are right on track with our target date of a new rector by this August or September.

Please continue pray for the committee and any potential candidates who might feel called to serve at St Andrew's. As always, feel free to ask questions of any of your Search Committee members.

From the Book of Common Prayer:

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(Continued from p. 3)

From here, you can access the most recent uploaded service, all of the recent services available on the website, and you can access the church Facebook page.

In addition to accessing the latest services from this page, you can also access them from a menu option on the Resources page. It looks like this:



We hope you will spend some time getting to know you new church website and Social media feeds.

## Senior Warden's Report

David Lutz, Senior Warden

It is difficult not to descend into cliché or be guilty of pointing out the painfully obvious when writing a report on the challenges that the year 2020 presented for all of us at St. Andrew's. The Vestry faced the challenge of St. Andrew's being closed for most of the calendar year during a time when we are in a transition to a new Rector. In the years that I have served on the Vestry, this year involved the greatest time commitment and the most challenging decisions. The composition of the Vestry and other Church officers is different now than when we started the year, but I appreciate the contributions of all of those who have assisted, past and present, to guide us through these difficult times.

With respect to Church reopening, we complied with the Diocesan requests to submit a Phase I and Phase II Plan for reopening the Church in a manner that would best ensure the safety of our parishioners. Under the guidance of Bruce Brown, our Junior Warden, we made important renovations to the air conditioning system in portions of the Church such as the sanctuary and offices. We executed a new supply contract for cleaning products to meet the current challenges. In October, we were poised and ready to re-open again only for COVID-19 case numbers to elevate to unseen levels. Those plans had to be put on hold. Currently, the Diocese of the Rio Grande follows the State of New Mexico model for re-opening. As a result, I cannot say on the date of writing when we will be able to re-open, other than that I hope in the coming months things will improve such that we can see each other again live soon.

With respect to the search for a new Rector, the Vestry has met with both Bishop Hunn and Canon Lee Curtis about the process at various times during the year. We appointed a Search Committee led by Nancy McMillan. The Search Committee is doing a fantastic job. We will be in position to seek qualified candidates during the traditional Episcopal hiring season from the late spring through the summer. The demands for clergy nationwide are challenging as, from what we have learned, a larger number of rectors have retired within the last year. Please keep the search process in your prayers as we move forward. I remain optimistic the process will result in candidate as to whom we will all be comfortable to issue a call to be our next Rector.

With respect to Church finances, over 1/3 of regular givers to St. Andrew's increased their pledges this year to help us address the challenges of this year. The financial support parishioners continue to provide is essential for the ministries of St. Andrew's, both internally and externally in the community. I can't thank you enough. Please be aware that overall, pledge income is projected to be down because a number of large pledge contributors have moved from the area. This circumstance is not because of dissatisfaction with St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's has sufficient assets in addition to income legacy gifts and possible forgivable loan assistance that will come in this year to meet its financial needs. With a new Rector in place and the Church being open again, I am confident we will return to the pledge income we have enjoyed in recent years soon.

I would like to thank Mother Jan for everything she has done as Interim Rector this year. However challenging this position appeared when she made the decision to assist us, it has been more challenging by a wide margin in any variety of ways. Through it all, she has kept a positive attitude and worked tirelessly to lead us through this transition. I don't know where we would be without her.

I would like to thank Debbie Frazier and Norman Todd for their work as Church Treasurer. Debbie Frazier has been of particular assistance in the last couple of months as we prepared the Budget and worked on the finances going into the new year. I would like to thank Margie Booth and Ryan Singh for their work as Church Clerk. I would like to thank Cory, Fran, Joan, Sarah, and Tommy for everything they

Continued on p. 7

Continued from p. 6

have done in such a challenging year as Church staff. I would like to thank Pat, Christine, Doug, and any other members of the Communications Committee who have done such great work on the website and preparing for our virtual Annual Meeting. I know I am leaving people out who assist with our virtual services and keeping the grounds in good condition, among other things. It is not by intent and everyone involved in our Church family deserves recognition for what they are doing. Finally, I would like to express thanks again to all the Members of the Vestry who assisted during this past calendar year. I look forward to "seeing" all of you at our virtual Annual Meeting on January 31 but more so to seeing all of you at Church again later in 2021.

7:02 PM 02/04/21 Accrual Basis		<b>St. Andrew's Episcopal Church</b> <b>Balance Sheet</b> As of December 31, 2020	
		Dec 31, 20	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
1 CB GENERAL OPERATING		12,193.43	
2 CB Designated		91,021.86	
3 CB Community Faith Night		5,499.30	
Edward Jones - 2 yr program		73,363.51	
RG Diocese Pool		439,112.63	
5 Pledge Fund(PAYPAL)		3,689.03	
Total Checking/Savings		624,879.76	
Total Current Assets		624,879.76	
Fixed Assets			
Property and Equipment			
Contents		2,653.38	
Accumulated Depreciation		-1,390,936.44	
Equipment		9,836.00	
Building and Improvements		1,789,041.63	
Land		318,500.00	
Total Property and Equipment		729,094.57	
Total Fixed Assets		729,094.57	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1,353,974.33</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		15,226.29	
Total Accounts Payable		15,226.29	
Other Current Liabilities			
20100 - Transaction Acct 012-02-01-00		201.03	
2100 - Payroll Liabilities			
020210 - Employee Pension 12-02-02-10		510.25	
Total 2100 - Payroll Liabilities		510.25	
Total Other Current Liabilities		711.28	
Total Current Liabilities		15,937.57	
Total Liabilities		15,937.57	
Equity			
3000 - Opening Bal Equity		803,700.80	
3500 - Retained Earnings		524,008.38	
Net Income		10,327.58	
Total Equity		1,338,036.76	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>1,353,974.33</b>	