

The Church of St. John on the Mountain

January 27, 2013



Annual Meeting and Report
for the Year Ending 2012

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

ANNUAL MEETING

January 27, 2013 11:15 am

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Opening Prayer
Rector's Report
Report from Senior Warden
Election of Vestry members, and Delegates to Convention
Recognition of Retiring Vestry members
Committee Reports
 Stewardship
 Budget and Finance
 Questions & Answers
Concluding Prayer
Adjourn

ANNUAL REPORT for the Year 2012

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RECTOR'S REPORT

Rector's Report

The Reverend Susan R. Ironside

"I believe I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." (Psalm 27:13) For a variety of reasons, I have been contemplating these words a great deal in recent weeks. I hold the words in my mind, and mull them over when I am in the middle of mundane chores, and sometimes ponder them as I fall asleep. The psalmist isn't interested in looking for God in some distant future life, but in these very days, in this very land, in the land of the living.

We have shared another year of a rich common life, beholding the goodness of the Lord in many and various ways. We celebrated the holy days of Lent and the Paschal Triduum in ways that revealed our growing trust in one another, and our deepened trust in the Lord Jesus. We weathered a terrible storm together, and were given the opportunity to receive hospitality from others, and to care for each other.

Our partnership with the Nursery School continues to thrive, and the leadership of Jeanne Williams and the skilled teachers who nurture the children in our care daily inspires me daily. The ministries of the parish have grown in strength this year, thanks to the faithfulness of so many. The Sunday School had a spectacular year, and an amazing Christmas Pageant. Lynn Mitchell is a creative and loving leader, and I am grateful for her partnership. Patti Lippman supports the ministry of this parish in countless ways, and is relentlessly cheerful. She is invaluable to me. Lisa Keenan is wizard with numbers, and it is a pleasure to work alongside of her. Rick Morgan enriches our worship, leads our choirs, and enriches us his remarkable talent. Edward Jené, our sexton, makes me laugh, and keeps us from living in our own filth. What a privilege to work with them all!

I am very grateful for the work of the Wardens and Vestry, who love this place deeply, and whose passion is infectious. Vestry meetings are actually fun! (Really!) Bob Courtemanche and Hilary Thomas -Dorer work tirelessly for this place, and are enthusiastic supporters of me and of our shared vision. I would be lost without them. Mostly, I am thankful for each of you; those who have worshipped here for so many decades that you have lost count, and those who just showed up this morning. In so many ways, all of you, the dear people of this place, reveal the goodness of the Lord to me all the time.

The pages of this report, written by your sisters and brothers, describe in fuller detail the strength of our community, and the abundant life that God has given to us. While we have challenges, we are secure in the knowledge that the God who has brought us together is faithful, and will use us, when we are willing, to become more fully who we were made in the waters of baptism: Christ's Body in the world.

As we begin a new year together, we do so with confidence and expectation that we will continue to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS

Candidates for the Vestry

Heather McBride Leef

Heather joined St. John on the Mountain in 2007, after moving to Basking Ridge from Rowayton, CT. She has taught Sunday School since 2009 and previously taught Sunday School at St. Luke's in Darien, CT and at St. Paul's in Westfield, NJ. In the summer, she attends St. Simon-by-the-Sea in Mantoloking, NJ, where she and Jon were married and their sons, Maxwell and Clyde were baptized.

Heather is a director in Deloitte's Office of the CEO Program. This national program supports services provided to the organization's largest and most prestigious clients. Before joining the national program, Heather was an auditor in Deloitte's New York office, serving diverse multinational and domestic clients in a variety of industries.

Heather volunteers her time to the Pingry School Parents Association and has served on the board of directors of Ada Budrick Child Care & Learning Center which offers subsidized daycare for low income families in Boonton, NJ.

Heather received a BSBA from Bucknell University. She is a member of the AICPA and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS CONTINUED

Jeff McKeon

Jeff and Robin Mckeon have been part of the St. John on the Mountain community since 1999. They joined the parish shortly after moving from Chatham to their home in Basking Ridge.

Jeff and Robin have been acolyte advisors for the past six years. Jeff has served both as Treasurer of the Nursery School and on the church Finance Committee.

He has Chemical Engineering and Business degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and the Wharton School of Business. After spending his time since college at a small chemical company, Jeff started his own specialty chemical manufacturing company three years ago.

Jeff and Robin have six children; Kelsey (18), Connor (16), Devon (14), Brynn (12), James (7), and Trevor (3).

Fenn Putman

Fenn and his late wife , Sis, joined St. John on the Mountain in 1966, where they took Confirmation classes and raised their three children. Their daughter Missy was married here in 1991. Fenn has been very active at SJOTM serving on EMC, Vestry, Mission Outreach, Pastoral Care, and Ushering, to name a few! Fenn, a retired municipal investment banker, stays busy as the Chairman of Frost Valley YMCA; a camp in the lower Catskills with 6,000 acres that served some 35,000 people in 2012. He also serves on the boards of Schiff Land Trust Board and The Plainfield Community Outreach Board, and was past President of the New Jersey Seniors Golf Association. Fenn has a degree from Northwestern University and a MBA from the University of Missouri.

Merritt Lewis

Merritt and his wife Margot joined St. John on the Mountain in 2011, and their children attended the nursery school from 2006-2012.

Merritt grew up attending both St. John on the Mountain and St. Bernard's Church in Bernardsville. He is excited to contribute to the leadership at our family-friendly church. He has assisted Margot with the Pageant, and has contributed to the maintenance of our church's buildings and grounds.

Merritt works at Mitsubishi U.F.J. Securities in Equities Sales in New York City. He is an avid sportsman and enjoys spending time in the outdoors.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Sue Catlett
Bob Courtemanche
Alessandro DeGregori

Alternate to Diocesan Convention

Alan Enos

STEWARDSHIP

2013 Stewardship Report

Chip Baird and Bob Courtemanche, 2013 EMC Co-Chairs

As of January 24th, the 2013 EMC had received \$332,557 in commitments from 109 families. This is a slight decrease from 2012 but there are still 9 families who have pledged in the past and we hope to receive a pledge from. Of the pledging families, 38 families were able to increase their pledge amounts this year and another 42 families maintained their 2012 levels. This represents 74% of the total pledging families and represents the "base" of our congregation. Most encouragingly, seven new families pledged this year and another two families returned to pledging after being absent for one or more years. This is the highest number of new pledging members we have had in many years and is a trend we hope to build upon in 2013 as the word continues to spread about the vitality and sense of community in our congregation.

If you have not yet had a chance to make a pledge, it is not too late! Please contact the Parish Office or see one of the EMC committee members. We would like to thank our committee members - Nina Dixon, Beirne Donaldson, Sandy Millsbaugh, Jim Porter, and Joe Ray for their guidance, counsel, and persistence in making this year's campaign a success. We also appreciate all the help we received from Lisa Keenan.

ART SHOW

Art Show Annual Report

The 32nd Mountain Art Show began on Friday, October 26th with a very successful Preview Party where over \$20,000 of the fabulous artwork was purchased by patrons who enjoyed a wonderful spread of food and wine created by Tressa Baird, Margot Lewis, and several parishioners who donated goodies to the cause.

We had two good days of viewing and shopping on Saturday and Sunday. And then...well, you all know what happened then! The impending arrival of Hurricane Sandy forced us to cancel the Artists Reception on Sunday evening, October 28th. With the arrival of the storm on Monday, the show was closed and unfortunately never opened again because the church building was without power and water for 2 more weeks.

Despite the challenges created by the storm, the show was a success. After all the bills were paid, St. John's made over \$20,000.

Goals for 2013:

- Continue to cut costs (which we were able to do this year) in printing, postage and the Preview Party
- Find another strong featured artist like Karin Lowney-Seed who sold five of her paintings over the two and a half days that we were open. She also brought in new patrons to the Preview Party
- Explore more on line publicity options - we spent \$35 to have our show listed on a website that brought in three new artists
- Review key Art Show components; i.e. publicity, database management, etc., to streamline the process and divide the jobs into manageable pieces in order to make it easier for more parishioners to be involved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

2012 Financial Report

Joe Ray, Treasurer

At the end of 2011 we were pleased to report net income of \$31,268 which was driven by an unusually high amount of prepaid 2012 pledges received in December 2011 which was \$38,000 larger than expected in the 2011 revenue budget. St. John on the Mountain reports financial results using cash-basis accounting, so while this additional cash was received in 2011 the expense budget was built on the premise that the additional cash was for 2012 pledge and it was to meant to fund 2012 expenses and that we should not allow the late-2011 timing of the prepaid boost drive our 2012 expenses and cause them to fluctuate significantly. Our normal budget plan is to stay close to break-even and while we report a 2012 net loss of (\$36,454), we have managed over the combined two-year period to stay within approximately \$5,000 of break-even even though we dealt with multiple hurricane and ice storm outages which impacted both the 2011 and the 2012 Art Show fundraisers. Among the financial highlights of 2012, this was the first year in recent memory in which we were not forced to dip into savings in order to fund operations during the typical Summer vacation-driven lull in monthly revenue.

We had a net decline of 1 pledging family in 2012 to end at 115. Programs were disciplined in what they spent, we held a very successful spring fundraiser which helped offset a second storm-shortened Art Show, and the Nursery School maintained its contributions to the Church budget.

Our staff costs were lower than 2011 as was planned with 2012 the first full year with a new Rector and a new Organist and Choir Director, though slightly higher than budget with the hiring of a new sexton in the latter half of the year. We benefitted from savings in Buildings and Grounds in part from reduced cleaning services and also from having little snow-removal expense during 2012.

We increased Mission Outreach and Diocesan contributions by approximately \$10,000 vs 2011 though both remain well below historic levels.

We set aside \$6,089 in a Replacement Reserve fund to start as the basis for helping fund future capital needs.

Our mortgage loan balance has been reduced through 2 years of monthly payments to \$480,410.

2013 Budget

The Vestry has prepared a balanced budget for 2013. As the parish has had to be vigilant in its spending in the last few years, the current budget requires us to control spending and utilize our resources wisely. Achieving the 2013 budget will require significant volunteer efforts in a number of church functions. Inputs to the budget are:

EMC

We are currently at \$332,557 in pledges from 109 families. Based on prior experience we have budgeted for 116 pledges totaling \$337,000. Since we did not experience the large prepaid pledges phenomenon at the end of 2012 for 2013 pledge year we have less risk of timing impacts on 2013 reporting. If you have not pledged, please help us by doing so!

Fundraisers

In addition to the Art Show in the Fall we are planning other fundraisers. The Celtic Fortnight is scheduled for February and we are looking for volunteers to help with that effort.

Staff

Staff appears steady as we head into 2013 with hiring of our new Sexton.

Operations

Buildings and Grounds has operating budget that is lower resulting from hiring of Sexton and eliminating Cleaning Service expenses. The 2013 budget anticipates normal snow removal expenses and repairs to our HVAC system which offsets some of the savings in B&G line from cleaning and from a virtually snow-free 2012.

External Expenses

We plan to boost Mission Outreach and Diocesan contributions by \$1,000 and \$2,000 respectively.

Debt Service

We had 12 payments of \$2,981 in 2012 and are planning to reduce the principal balance by \$100,000 from existing contributions received in 2011 and 2012 for that purpose plus additional cash from our savings and to then get the loan re-amortized allowing us to lower our monthly payments to approximately \$2,250 for the balance of 2013. We expect to launch a debt-retirement campaign some time in 2014 to eliminate Debt Service's impact on the Parish's finances.

Summary

The Budget remains fairly austere; we are optimistic that we are well-positioned for 2013 and beyond. Our families have become more involved in the parish through volunteering efforts and through the broadening of our base of contributors.

BUDGET & FINANCE CONTINUED

**St. John on the Mountain
2013 Budget**

	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Actual	2013 Budget
No. Pledges	116	116	115	116
Pledge Amount	\$343,900	\$343,900	\$355,622	\$337,000
Average Pledge	\$2,965	\$2,965	\$3,092	\$2,905
Income				
Pledge Income	371,725	343,900	297,999	337,000
Contributions	43,177	40,000	39,855	40,000
Altar Guild/Flowers/Music	12,740	12,500	9,405	12,000
Interest Income	110	100	134	100
Fundraisers	32,650	32,610	35,545	40,000
Nursery School	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Total Income	\$476,402	\$445,110	\$398,938	\$445,100
Expenses				
Programs				
Altar Guild	7,250	8,200	9,829	9,000
Music	2,250	5,000	5,315	4,000
Worship	123	500	1,564	500
Christian Ed	2,351	2,500	1,059	1,600
Youth Groups	136	0	0	0
Sunday Nursery	3,840	3,900	4,287	4,050
Adult Ed	500	3,000	1,513	3,000
Visiting Clergy	857	2,000	2,543	1,750
Fellowship	2,653	2,600	1,181	1,500
Total Programs	\$19,960	\$27,700	\$27,291	\$25,400
Personnel				
Total Personnel	\$220,317	\$211,682	\$214,460	\$218,619
Operations				
Buildings and Grounds	79,176	75,501	66,020	72,322
Office	22,270	20,720	19,043	19,115
Insurance	21,330	20,435	20,795	20,607
Auto Expense	2,139	4,000	4,000	4,000
Conference & Education	4,929	200	3,908	5,617
Total Operations	\$129,844	\$120,856	\$113,766	\$121,661
Total Internal Expense	\$370,121	\$360,238	\$355,517	\$365,680
Mission Outreach	11,571	16,000	16,098	17,000
Diocesan Pledge	22,500	28,000	28,000	30,000
Total External Expense	\$34,071	\$44,000	\$44,098	\$47,000
Bank Loan Debt Service	32,792	35,774	35,773	27,753
Rector Transition/Search	8,150	0	0	0
Total Expenses	\$445,134	\$440,012	\$435,388	\$440,433
Net Income	\$31,268	\$5,098	-\$36,450	\$4,667
Capital Expenditure	5,679	18,647	10,185	10,800
Capital Reserve			6,089	6,089

St. John on the Mountain

Cash, Savings and Loan Balances

	2011 Year-end	2012 Year-end
2011-2012 Checking	\$104,714	\$55,043
Debt Reduction Pledges	\$40,313	\$52,613
Capital Reserve	\$0	\$6,089
Total Checking Savings	\$145,027	\$107,656
Mortgage Loan	\$490,855	\$480,410

WORSHIP *e* MUSIC

Music

Richard Morgan, Director of Music *e* Organist

The Music Program at St. John on the Mountain continues to grow and evolve in wonderful ways. This past Christmas was especially gratifying with the addition of the Hand Bell Choir on Christmas Eve performing two pieces during the Prelude at the 11PM Eucharist. The Treble Choir, still settling into a weekly rehearsal schedule, also sang beautifully for both the Children's Pageant and the service at 5PM. The Trebles were complemented by 7 adult altos, tenors and basses, allowing them to sing full four part choral music at that service. The fall performance of The Festival Choir was sadly postponed due to the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. The Choir, however, is looking forward to performing the Dvorak Mass and Rutter Te Deum in concert in the fall of 2013. There was great enthusiasm generated by a wonderful concert in early January 2013 by soloists from MISH (Music in Somerset Hills, Stephen Sands, Director) which was held in our beautiful Parish Hall. Perhaps more to come!

As always, the Choirs are on the look out for enthusiastic new members – children and adults. The Hand Bell Choir is a wonderful way to become involved musically at St. Johns, if you prefer to play an instrument rather than sing. There are once a week rehearsals of 45 minutes and once a month performance (usually during the Prelude) if your time is limited. No prior experience playing is necessary, but the ability to read music is very helpful! Please check the SJOTM website or email Director Richard Morgan for more information.

Altar Guild

Jane Mercer

The Altar Guild, in weekly teams, prepared the Church for all services with the special effort and time commitment at the Triduum and for the Easter and Christmas season services and decorating. Twenty active members and 5 substitutes divide tasks that set up communion, change hangings according to the liturgical calendar and assure that the church and chapel and their altars are readied for worship and cleaned up afterwards. Membership has remained constant with one member returning to more active involvement. We are always interested in having new members.

St. John is fortunate to have lovely sacramental vessels, hangings, linens, and vestments - keeping them in good condition is an Altar Guild top priority. This year the Advent chasuble and stole were relined by J. Wippell & Co. Ltd. returning that set to fine condition. A chapel altar fair linen was given by the B. Murphy family.

A new church altar frontal and matching chasuble set was dedicated and blessed on September 16, 2012. It is for Ordinary time – green – and was designed and created by Father Vincent Crosby.

Jane Mercer finished her extended term as Director and Sue Kennedy and Kathy Christie took over as new Directors in November 2012.

The Pastoral Care Committee

Jody Flegal

The Pastoral Care Committee's primary function is to assist the Priest in her effort to meet some of the special needs and concerns of members of our Parish family. In times of illness, grief, loss, during times of transition, involvement on the part of the committee may include: offers of prayers, hospital and home visits, phone contact, written correspondence, delivery of Altar flowers, distribution and hand-knitted prayer shawls, and occasional preparation of meals when needed.

This past year a Healing Service, open to all, has been offered prior to our monthly scheduled meeting. Review, additions and or changes to the current Prayer list is discussed and follow-up contact is assigned.

All information is considered confidential and shared only among the Pastoral Care Committee members who are a caring, concerned, committed and very much needed group within our Parish.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION *e* EDUCATION

Lynn Mitchell, Director of Children's Ministries

Sunday School

This is the first year we began using the on-line curriculum Weaving God's Promises. The weekly lessons, for all ages, are Bible-story based, and approximately fifty-percent of the time, the Sunday School lessons match the weekly readings from the lectionary.

Sunday School classes meet in the chapel where Ian Feeley and Devon McKeon volunteer to play the guitar and keyboard while the Sunday School students sing a song. We then say a prayer before the children move on to their individual classrooms.

This year we have 91 youths (nursery through 12th grade) at St. John on the Mountain, with around 33 attending Sunday School through fifth grade.

Pre-K/Kindergarten, with 11 students, is led by: Rita Gudgion along with our high school and middle school volunteers: Emma Ewing, Holly Lippman, and Devon McKeon. First/Second/Third grade, with 11 students, is led by: Vicki Bosie, Sally Hespe, Heather and Max Leef, Kelsey McKeon, and Pamela Mayer. Fourth/Fifth grade, with 12 students, is led by: Louise Asper, Michelle Ray, Trish Sullivan, Patty Vollmar, and Valerie Zanardi.

Lent and Easter

At the annual pancake supper, children decorated an "Alleluia Banner" that was "buried" and reappeared on Easter morning followed by the annual Easter egg hunt.

Children collected coins in M&M tubes throughout Lent to raise money for the children at The Church of St. Sacrament and Transfiguration in Haiti. A total of \$610 was collected between this fundraiser and the pancake supper.

Children were invited to make Lenten arts and crafts during and after coffee hour each Sunday during Lent while their parents had the opportunity to attend Adult Education.

Advent and Christmas

On the first Sunday in Advent we had another successful Advent wreath making for both kids and adults.

For this year's Christmas pageant we again invited the children of St. John's Nursery School to join us. Our invitation yielded one extra participant, for a total of 49 children in the pageant.

In December we had two Sundays during Coffee Hour for children to work on Advent arts and crafts.

Sacred Stories – Middle School Christian Formation

Debbie Hennel and Constance Silverman with "featured guests"

After Confirmation in Spring 2012 the former Rite-13 leaders and Mother Susan evaluated the Middle School Christian formation program and Confirmation goals. It was decided that, while some elements of the Rite-13 program were valuable in terms of helping middle-schoolers become part of the larger church community and develop a better understanding of God's role in their life, their overall understanding of our Biblical ancestors was lacking. It is important that when someone is presented for Confirmation before the Bishop, that he/she is properly prepared to declare an educated commitment to their faith. For this reason it was decided that a "makeover" was in order. The group remains a two-year study and is a precursor to Confirmation lessons and it meets every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. except for the first Sunday of the month which is reserved for Youth Choir rehearsal. Discussions revolve around the stories of major Biblical characters and often the foibles and weaknesses of these people chosen by God. Comparisons are made between situations that our ancestors faced and what we face today. Youngsters are at times shocked by the reality of some stories or laugh at the soap opera quality of others. Each week our children are reminded that sometimes God calls the most unlikely people to be witnesses and that He calls us in ways also.

Field trips are also planned to help youngsters understand the breadth of the Christian family.

St. John's Nursery School

Jeanne Williams, Director of St. John's Nursery School

In January, 2012, the Nursery School Director was granted office space by Reverend Ironside. Assisting with the move and decorating was Beirne Donaldson.

A major improvement to the nursery school this past fall was the addition of a large wooden SJNS sign outside our classroom entrance. Constance Silverman, our current vestry representative, created our school logo in 2003. Constance worked closely with another artist, and provided a generous donation.

Two fundraisers were held in 2012. Our annual Spring fundraiser was successfully held at the Essex Hunt Club on April 20, 2012, and our annual Winter fundraiser, St. Nick's at St. John's, also profitable, was held on December 6 & 7.

Our nursery school teachers and director are pleased with the Rector's active interest in our children. The children have become familiar with Mother Susan, and enjoy her monthly story time with them at the parish house.

Nursery School enrollment is currently at 52 this school year, which means all classrooms are being used to capacity, considering the state required teacher: student ratio.

Registration for the 2013-2014 school year is taking place this month, January. All current and past nursery school families, and current parish members receive priority registration until January 31, 2013. Families new to St. John's Nursery School may contact the director for a school tour. New students will be accepted by lottery, if necessary, beginning in February, 2013.

OUTREACH

Outreach Commission

Fenn Putman, Chair; Sally Hespe, Co-Chair

The Mission Outreach Commission of SJOTM tries to help small organizations with grants that will have a relatively large impact on the charity. In 2012, grants totaling \$16,000 were disbursed, primarily in the Somerset Hills area. Details of gifts and organizations are as follows:

- Bernardsville Library ESL Program: \$1,000
- Church of St. Andrew the Apostle, Camden: \$1,000
- El Hogar Ministries: \$1,500
- Grace Church, Plainfield: \$2,610
- Grace's Soup Kitchen, Plainfield: \$500
- HomeSharing, Bridgewater: \$2,000
- Hurricane Sandy Relief in the Diocese: \$2,500
- Preschool Advantage, Morris Plains: \$1,000
- Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity: \$500
- Rector Discretionary Fund for local Hurricane Sandy Relief: \$2,740
- Somerset County Food Bank: \$2,000
- Water Pump Project, Diocese of NJ: \$150

While the amount of each gift is small, the impact on the organizations is large. The Bernardsville Library's ESL Program hired an educator on General Education Development (GED) Test preparation and plans to create a multi-language brochure to advertise the ESL program. HomeSharing helped link people in need of housing with those willing to rent rooms in their home – an increasing need in our current economic climate. Preschool Advantage was able to fund the preschool education of 63 children in need in the Morris County area.

Some organizations have been long-time recipients of funds from SJOTM Outreach Commission. We continued to assist Grace's Soup Kitchen, Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, and the Somerset County Food Bank. In addition to providing financial support to these organizations, SJOTM provided many hours of volunteer support. Members served food at Grace Soup Kitchen the last Friday of each month and staffed the Somerset County Food Pantry Saturdays in April and November. SJOTM families provided the fixings for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to over 30 families in need. Parishioners helped complete Habitat for Humanity's 45th house in the Somerset and Hunterdon County area and participated in the house dedication on December 8th.

In 2012, Mission Outreach sought to reach out to other NJ Episcopal parishes. Economic uncertainties have affected all communities, particularly parishes in urban areas. These churches struggle with decreasing funds and an increasing need for services. Mission Outreach donated \$1,000 to the Church of St. Andrew the Apostle in Camden to help build a food pantry on the church premises. Funds were also allocated to Grace Church, Plainfield, to offset the cost of hiring a part-time Spanish speaking priest.

Our efforts also extended overseas. Outreach hosted its popular "Equastore" several times in 2012. Crafts from artisans in our Companion Diocese of Ecuador were sold in the spring and again before the Christmas season, with over \$1,000 being raised. Funds were also given to the Diocese of NJ to purchase a much needed water pump for a community in Ecuador. Mission Outreach also contributed to El Hogar Ministries, an organization seeking to improve educational conditions in Honduras.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the Outreach Commission felt the need to help New Jersey parishes severely impacted by the storm. St. Mark's Keansburg sits near the Raritan Bay, and many in the community were displaced or suffered extensive damage to their residences. The Outreach Commission arranged to send monetary gift cards to St. Mark's, to be distributed to those in immediate need of assistance. SJOTM parishioners ended the year by cooking hams, meatloafs and casseroles which were delivered and served at the St. Mark's Kitchen on January 1st. It was a wonderful way to start the New Year.

All of these organizations undoubtedly benefit from our monetary gifts. Many of these organizations also benefit from the time and talent of members of our parish. The parishioners of SJOTM give countless hours volunteering at all of the above charities. They can be found painting houses, cooking and serving meals, "adopting" families in need. The MOC would like to thank all of its supporters and encourage others to help with their time, talent or treasure. Please contact us and get involved.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Committee

Mary Courtemanche

Fellowship started off the year with a Simple Supper Kick-Off Brunch in January. The Simple Supper groups all met at least two times throughout the winter months. Here's hoping everyone met someone new or became reacquainted with a fellow Parishioner.

New to Fellowship this year was the organization of the Champagne Reception after the Easter Vigil. The Parish Hall looked resplendent with shimmering candles all around the room, beautiful tablecloths and flowers and, of course, delicious food. We do know how to throw ourselves a reception!

In June we hosted "A *Magical Summer's Eve*" at the Chapin's barn which included a wine tasting and silent auction. Due to the gorgeous venue, beautiful weather, clever auction items and delicious wine, we were able to raise \$15,544 for SJOTM. Thank you again to the Chapins for the use of their barn and to the many Parishioners who helped to organize, set up, brought food and cleaned up. As always, many hands make light work!

We hosted two very successful Parish Picnics, one in June and one in September, which were well attended. The Ladies' and Men's luncheons continued on a monthly basis and were also popular.

A big thank you goes out to Sue Kennedy and Sue Catlett who organized the Coffee Hour Volunteer list and got Coffee Hour up and running last September. This is a wonderful time for all of us to be together and a big part of Fellowship.

Goals for 2013:

- Separate Fellowship and Fundraising. These should be two different committees.
- Increase the number of members of the Fellowship Committee
- We are looking for any new fun ideas for ways to come together as a Parish family. Some suggestions, so far, have been:
- A movie night in the Parish Hall complete with popcorn and drinks
- Another wine tasting, as we all seem to enjoy the grape
- A card party and lunch
- A tag/garage sale in the parking lot in late Spring where Parishioners can sell their "treasures" with a percentage of the sales going to SJOTM
- A trip to The Newark Museum or The Cloisters

Please send all suggestions to Mary Courtemanche either by phone: 973-267-0166 or email: June2180@aol.com. We look forward to hearing many of your new ideas!

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Building & Grounds

Beirne Donaldson

For the first time years, Buildings & Grounds ended the fiscal year under budget. Praise goes, not necessarily in equal measure, to the lack of snow (hooray) and to Graham Argent-Belcher's continuing supervision and constant tweaking of SJOTM's enormous monster of an HVAC system. Thank you, thank you Graham. Thanks also to Patti Lippman for taking on the task of being Graham's wing man in this heroic effort.

Despite the lack of snow, Mother Nature had us in her sights during Hurricane Sandy. The damage wreaked on SJOTM was minimal to the buildings - lack of light, heat, and communication systems notwithstanding.

The Memorial Garden took a big hit. One garden wall was crushed; the railing on the stairway obliterated; and the cistern's roof was cleaved in twain. A wind storm later the next week deposited with force, another tree into the cistern's roof.

An insurance claim in excess of \$34,000 has been filed. The agent in charge was very accommodating but we face the possibility of several thousand dollars expense to fully restore the Memorial Garden itself.

Keeping all of the above in mind, SJOTM faces an enormous clean-up job, both around our main property and in the woods across the road. Thanks go to Bill Catlett for making it possible to even get the to Memorial Garden. His deft use of a chainsaw is greatly appreciated.

Here's hoping for a year lacking in storm catastrophes. Two years in a row seems sufficient unto the day.



✠ **THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN** ✠

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Wardens

Bob Courtemanche &
Hilary Thomas

Vestry

Class of 2012

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Frank Pratt, Michelle Ray

Class of 2013

Kathy Christie, Nina Dixon,
Debbie Hennel, Constance Silverman

Class of 2014

Sue Catlett, Alessandro DeGregori,
Craig Johnston, Rich McGlynn

Treasurer

Joe Ray

QUALIFICATION OF VOTERS

CANON 49: Sections 2 and 4. (DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY) THE VOTERS SHALL BE BAPTIZED, AT LEAST SIXTEEN (16) YEARS OF AGE, DOMICILED IN THE PARISH, OR ADJACENT THERETO, OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER, ADHERING TO THIS CHURCH AND TO NO OTHER RELIGIOUS BODY, REGULAR ATTENDANTS AT THE SERVICES OF THE CHURCH IN SAID PARISH, MEANING THEREBY THOSE WHO ARE MORE FREQUENTLY PRESENT THAN ABSENT UNLESS FOR GOOD CAUSE PREVENTED AND REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE PARISH FOR SIX MONTHS NEXT BEFORE THE SAID ANNUAL MEETING IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE VESTRY OF SAID PARISH... (HAVING) RECEIVED HOLY COMMUNION AT LEAST THRICE IN THE PRECEDING YEAR.