Celebrating 125 years of Bethesda...

In our first ten years, we grew from four communicants to a church where hundreds from all denominations gathered to worship, learn and serve.

- **January, 1889:** The first service of the new mission church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea was held in the local school house
- **January, 1889:** The Woman’s Guild was organized, showing outreach to the community as part of the new mission from its inception
- **April, 1889:** The first church building, which no longer stands, was completed
- **Spring, 1895:** The second church building, which is now a private residence, was completed
- **March, 1899:** The first officers were elected: Mr. Charles I. Cragin, Senior Warden; Mr. William Stone Smith, Junior Warden; Mr. William F. Armstrong, Jr., Secretary; Mr. Charles A. Lane, Treasurer

The Courage and Vision of our early leaders have been carried on with distinction by our Senior and Junior Wardens for more than a century. We honor their leadership and recognize their enormous contributions to both our church and the quality of life in our community on up to today.

Thank you to all who have served as Wardens in our 125 years

**Senior Wardens**
- Charles I. Cragin, 1899-1915
- William D. Freeman, 1916-1920
- Frederick Luther Gamage, 1920-1930
- Robert Dun Douglass, 1930-1932
- Stephen Fahn Smith, 1932
- Allan Price Kirby, 1933-1936
- Alexander M. Hadden, 1939-1940
- I. Sheldon Tilney, 1941-1958
- Harold W. Sweatt, 1958-1963
- Almadus D. Wilkinson, 1963-1965
- Carl F. Braun, 1971-1973
- Carl W. Moyer, 1975-1976
- Doyle Rogers, 1979-1982
- Frances Sewell, 1982-1985
- Constance Purcell, 1986-1987, 2001
- Gustave T. Broberg, 1987-1989
- Harold B. Scott, 1990-1991
- Beverly Wilbur, 1991-1992
- Tom O’Brien, 1992-1993
- John Wilbur, 1994
- Robert Gronlund, 1995
- Dick Berryman, 1996
- Joan Tucker, 1997-1998
- Bob Lee, 2008-2009
- Mark LaRoe, 2010
- John Pierce Archer, 2012-2013

**Junior Wardens**
- William Stone Smith, 1899
- George B. Cluett, 1899-1912
- Harold E. Spencer, 1913-1920, 1938-1939
- Clement Cleveland, 1920-1932
- Frederick Foster Carey, 1932-1933
- Leland Eggleston Cofer, 1934-1938
- Edmud LeRoy Dow, 1939-1943
- William Proctor, 1944-1951
- Frank N. Horton, 1953-1958
- A. Parker Bryant, 1971-1973
- Gustave T. Broberg, Jr., 1973-1974
- John R. Drexel, III, 1974-1976
- Doyle Rogers, 1977-1978
- Eva M. Moore, 1978-1979
- William L. Kemp, Jr., 1979-1980
- Peter K. Van Winkle, 1982-1983
- James S. Wilson, 1983-1984
- Edward W. Cook, 1984-1985
- Linton F. Murdock, 1985-1987
- Sally Gibson, 1987-1988
- Laszlo Wagner, 1993
- James Myers, 1997
- H. Wayne Biggs, 1998
- John Schuler, 2001
- James Bertles, 2002
- Jane Carlough-Meline, 2003-2004
- David Semendeni, 2008-2010
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Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

What a joyful and exciting year we have had at Bethesda-by-the-Sea in 2013. We began this year in the early stages of implementing our new strategic plan. This implementation began by realigning ministries to serve together under six ministry committees, along with two special working groups. In this process, we said farewell to a few programs and welcomed some exciting new initiatives. Most importantly, as we continue to grow into this new structure, we are opening many new avenues to ministry, we are making space for many members of our parish family to serve and to lead in ministry.

We will continue to order our lives around reverent, beautiful worship. Our worship life grounds and supports all that we do to serve God in this parish and in the world. In December, the Revs. Jeff and Susan Beebe joined our clergy team as non-stipendiary assisting priests. In addition to supporting our regular worship, their particular roles will develop as the next year unfolds and we continue to implement our plans.

We also brought on a new Associate to our leadership team. Mr. Fred Staley joined the staff in December as Associate for Administration. He will be the point person for coordinating all our programs and resources so that we can make the most efficient and effective use of our time, talents, and treasure to accomplish what we have set forth in our strategy.

The end of 2013 marks the end of vestry service for the remaining members who were on the vestry when I arrived. In particular, both our Senior Warden, John Archer, and our Junior Warden, Connie Purcell will end their service on the vestry at our Annual Meeting on January 26, 2014. Their tireless dedication, prayerful and joyful disposition, and wise leadership will have a lasting impact on Bethesda for years to come.

Of course, any parish is only as strong as its members’ commitment. We are so blessed with one another in this community. Members’ financial support continues to grow stronger. Members’ willingness to step into new roles, and to use their experience and intelligence to strengthen our programs has been a huge blessing—both in visible and less visible ways.

As we celebrate 125 as a parish, we will continue to give thanks to those faithful people whose courage and vision in leading this parish in previous generations have made us the thriving, joyful parish family we are today. I pray that each of us will discover that same courage and vision in our life and ministry at Bethesda in the coming years.

The. Rev. James R. Harlan
Rector
What an honor and privilege it has been to serve as Bethesda’s Senior Warden during this year of Success on so any fronts. The love and friendship we have enjoyed, given and witnessed has changed my life forever. The Parish’s determination to take the successes of 2012 and build on them to glorify the Lord while always being mindful of the traditions we all hold close to our Heart.

I would like to take this time to thank Father James for his unending determination to lead our Parish to reach its potential. He fully understands the gift we have all be given with 125 years of generous and dedicated Parishioners leaving us the magnificent Church home we enjoy every day of our lives. Father James’ charge to us all has been to join him first and foremost in deepening our life of faith together, second to bring our Church into a place of financial security, third to bring our Church and Campus into proper condition for now and the future as well, and fourth, to strengthen and expand our ministries that support the Bethesda Purpose. And it is with great pride that I say that the Parishioners, Clergy and Staff of 2013 have met or surpassed almost every goal set a year ago.

This year has been one of losing so many wonderful members of our Parish Family who have passed. It has also been a great year of new members joining our long time members at the “Bethesda Life” classes to learn about and join the rich life of faith we all share. My wife Debra and I are so grateful to Frank Young and all the Ambassadors who continue to be the face of Bethesda every Sunday. For those of us who were not born into Bethesda, we always remember that first Parishioner who extended the love of Christ to us and made us feel at home in an instant, which in our case we can thank Phyllis Goodner.

We have had several wonderful additions to our Clergy and Staff this year. In the office Fred Staley joined us as the Associate for Administration, Kim Hanson joined us as the Director of Stewardship Development, Greg Knight has joined us as the Director of Children and Youth Ministries, and Bob Mancuso joined us as a Sexton. I must also share that over the past year the Office Staff consisting of Fred, Regine, Amie, Renee, Marjo, Sharon, and Kim have handled a year of staff and organizational change with great professionalism which was no light task. Our Sextons consisting of Denny, Keith, JR, and Bob continue to raise the bar of maintaining our magnificent Bethesda.

On the Pastoral Care front Mother Kate has not only completely woven herself into the Heart of Bethesda but her leadership of the Shepherd program has enabled Bethesda Cares to operate in an entirely new way for the benefit of all. Thank you Mother Kate. As the year wrapped up we also hit the jackpot in having the Reverends’ Susan and Jeff Beebe come home to Bethesda. This year Deacon Clay Waddell continues with excellence the Port Ministry as well as leading the Eucharistic Visitors with their weekly ministry of celebrating Eucharist with our members who are unable to come to us for a Sunday Service. Thank you also to Deacon Cecie Titcomb and The Rev. Timothy Cogan for their continuing service and support.

This year we took the efforts of 200 volunteers in 2012 who worked on the Strategic Plan along with the leadership and expertise of Paul Coombs to start the process of making the strategy a reality by reorganizing and streamlining many areas of Bethesda. 2014 will see this process continue as we work towards achieving the Bethesda Purpose. The investment of time and effort by everyone to our future will be felt for generations to come. A special thank you to all who have, and will, in the future participate in this historic effort.
We also continue to benefit from the dedication and expertise of our Junior Warden, Connie Purcell. Connie has served Bethesda on about every possible level including being the first woman Senior Warden of Bethesda. Connie’s signature will be visible for generations to come.

Another great success story of Bethesda was the continuing achievements of our favorite thrift shop—the Church Mouse. Thank you to Pat Reichenbacher and the Staff of the Church Mouse for a valiant effort in raising over $350,000 this year to be distributed by Bethesda. A stellar accomplishment!

This year many of us had the pleasure of working side by side utilizing our time, talent, and gifts in the honor of the Lord. I think particularly of the members of the Vestry and the various Bethesda committees plus the large number of volunteers. I hope that you agree that 2013 has been a year of Success.

On behalf of myself and the future generations to come, thank you.

You’re Brother at Bethesda,

[Signature]

John Pierce Archer
Senior Warden
From the Junior Warden
Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee, chair

2013 has been my final year as your Junior Warden and the manager of numerous challenging and important preservation projects. As the scaffolding towers have progressed around Bethesda’s west façade, bell tower and entrance on to the north facing exterior walls, the restoration artisans have enhanced the beauty of the cast stones, color blending the new repairs into the original surfaces, copper cladding the bell tower louvers and integrating new grout into existing cement. The results are a brilliant testimony to our commitment to care for the gift given by our forefathers of this remarkable church building complex and to the generous support of those who have made this very important work possible today.

Interior walls have been re-plastered to address water damage and an AC roof unit replaced to improve temperature and humidity control. Our priceless stained glass windows have been cleaned and the exterior protection glass system replaced as needed.

Additional highlights include a handsome newly designed ADA compliant bathroom as well as two smaller bathroom locations which now grace our first floor as welcome improvements. The Rector’s office enjoys a handsome facelift. The front grounds and Via Bethesda received improved lighting and the Cluett Garden gazebos and fishpond have seen repairs.

As the year ends, the Tea House is being refreshed with pleasing paint, new lighting, ceiling fans, a leveled patio surface and up lighting for the surrounding trees. The small kitchen will now serve as a catering station with a new sink, counters, refrigerator, outlets, and fans all designed to provide an inviting and much needed venue for classes, meetings, and evening receptions.

Our landmark Rectory will enjoy enhanced lighting and AC improvements to the family room and adjoining office. The garage area will be upgraded and painted.

My deepest appreciation goes to our general contractor, Conkling and Lewis, and to our fabulous sextons, Denny Lanier, Bob Mancuso, Keith Risley and J.R. Thompson. Their cooperation, insights, and conscientious service have made this a year of remarkable progress and achievement. Caring for and about God’s House has been an honor and privilege for me and my committee. Our Bethesda provides challenges as well as constant inspiration and great beauty with so many blessings for all.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance N. Purcell
Junior Warden
Agenda

Call to Order ................................................................. The Rector

Opening Prayer ............................................................. The Rev. Kate Kelder

Necrology ................................................................. The Rev. Dr. Timothy B. Cogan

Acceptance of Minutes .................................................. The Rector

Election of New Vestry Members . The Rector and John Archer, Senior Warden

Finance and Stewardship Report .................................. Zach Shipley, Treasurer

Capital Projects Report ............................................... Connie Purcell, Junior Warden

Rector’s Address .......................................................... The Rev. James R. Harlan

Other Business ............................................................. The Rector

Closing Prayer and Blessing ........................................... The Rev. Susan Beebe

Tellers

Debra Archer  Becky Myers  Frank Young
2013 Necrology

Theofelos Anastastios Aliapoulios
William Bowen Astrop, Sr.
Elizabeth Redfield Atterbury
Bruce Duval Bent
Janice E. Berryman
Marvin Branscomb
Harriet d’A. Moeller Roland de Rosière
John J. Farrell, Jr.
Hebert Cummins Gibson
Stephen H. Gushee
Susan B. Heeke
Suzanne Howard
Jane Howland Janssen
Daisy Viola Lowes
Paula F. MacLean
Edward John Moyles
Adolphus Busch Orthwein
Richard S. L. Pearman
Dorothy Constance Pearsall
Malcolm S. Pray, Jr.
Robert Ward Raymond
Phyllis Ann Reed
Jane Akers Ridgway
Lillian Pulitzer Rousseau
James Edward Rumbaugh, Jr.
John Doyle Sullivan
William L. Sylvia
Janice Gibbs Thorstad
Louis Joseph Trunk
John Smith Wilbur, Jr.
Betty Stirling Woodcock

Services for 2013

Baptisms .................................................. 29
Confirmations, Receptions .......................... 12
Marriages ............................................... 15
Burials .................................................. 29
Holy Eucharists ....................................... 224
Holy Eucharists (Private) ......................... 318
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Evensong .............................................. 7

Transitions

Baptism .................................................. 29
Confirmation ......................................... 12
Transferred In ........................................ 28
Transferred Out ...................................... 20
Lost by Death ........................................ 22
Rector, Wardens, and Vestry

The Rev. James R. Harlan, Rector *

Wardens and Vestry

John Archer, Senior Warden * (2014)
Constance Purcell, Junior Warden * (2014)
Peter Broberg, Chancellor * (2014)
Zachary Shipley, Treasurer * (2014)
Becky Myers, Clerk * (2014)
Donald McKenna, Member-at-Large * (2016)

Frederick Broda (2016)
Mark Cook (2015)
Ervin Duggan (2015)
Rex Ford (2014)
William (Bill) Gee (2016)
Deborah Hale-Hagy (2015)
Pamela (Pam) Miller (2015)
Patricia (Pat) Reichenbacher (2016)
Gary Sullivan (2015)
Wendy Victor (2016)
Frank Young (2016)

* Member of the Executive Committee

Vestry term expires at the Annual Meeting of the year indicated.
Vestry Nominations

Nominating Task Force—Ervin Duggan, chair

Vestry Nominees

Serving the Vestry Term 2014—2017

The Vestry presents all six nominees for Parish consideration to fill the six expiring Vestry positions.

**Susan Keenan** is Vice President of Marketing and Membership for the Palm Beach Civic Association. With over 20 years of marketing and media experience, Susan also has had a career as a reporter, producer, and news anchorwoman for major-market television stations across the United States. A veteran volunteer of many community agencies and charities, Susan has received, among many honors, the Woman of Distinction Award from Palm Beach Atlantic University. A long-time member of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, Susan has served Bethesda-by-the-Sea as a Crucifer, a Eucharistic Minister, an Usher and has served previously on our church’s Vestry. She and Jim, her husband of 30 years, have six children and eight grandchildren.

**Gail Knisely** is a Florida native who majored in history at the University of Nebraska with minors in art, anthropology and geology. While rearing four children to adulthood, she also worked in station services for National Public Radio, was a museum specialist for the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of Natural History, and taught Lamaze childbirth education classes for eight years. An Episcopalian since 1988, she served on the Vestry and was Junior and Senior Warden of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Arlington, VA. As a member of Bethesda-by-the-Sea since 2011, she has been a Chalice Minister, a Verger, and a member of the Altar Guild. Gail enjoys music, hot yoga, travel, and an active life with her children and grandchildren.

**Barbara (Bobbie) Leek**, a graduate of George Washington University, has worked as a dance teacher, office administrator, and special event specialist. She is a “career volunteer” whose efforts on behalf of Bethesda have been wide-ranging: among other positions, she has served as a Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Flower Guild, and currently provides leadership on our Outreach Committee. She has also served previously as a Vestry member and as a member of the Vestry’s Executive Committee. Bobbie and her husband, Stephen, are parents of Evan and Amy. Her active leisure life includes sailing, yacht racing, reading and cooking.
Matthew (Matt) Lorentzen is President of Sea Venture Investments, LLC and of CAVU Management LLC, an aircraft leasing and investment company. His community involvements include service as a trustee of the Palm Beach Day Academy and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the South Florida Science Center. A graduate of Wesleyan University with an MBA from Harvard, Matt and his wife, Helene, have three children. Matt has been a member of the church’s Strategic Plan Task Force, an Usher, and a member of the church’s Investment Committee. A member of our parish since 2003, Matt was baptized, confirmed and married at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. He served previously on the Vestry (2009-2012).

Tanner Rose hails from Richmond, VA. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and received his law degree from UVA’s Law School in 1971. As an attorney in New York, he practiced with Simpson Thacher and Bartlett and specialized largely in commercial real estate. He and his wife, Ross, are the parents of two children and grandparents of four. He is chairman of Palm Beach’s Planning and Zoning Commission, a board member of the Palm Beach Civic Association, and has served as a guardian ad litem for sheltered children in Florida’s 15th Circuit. A member of our parish since 2005, Tanner has been a volunteer for Feeding God’s Children Everywhere, serves on the BBTS Leadership and Governance Committee, and spearheaded our church’s development of a new Hurricane Preparedness Plan.

Zachary (Zach) Shipley is a senior financial executive with the Oxbow Group in West Palm Beach, where he has held numerous executive, governance, and fiduciary positions for over 30 years. Before joining Oxbow in 1983, Zach was a consultant with Bain & Company. He is a current member of the Vestry eligible for reappointment and serves as Chair of the Vestry’s Finance Subcommittee, where he sees his key role as helping Vestry members to fully understand the Church’s financial results and also the Church’s governing documents: its corporate charter, its by-laws and its financial policies, which are the foundation on which its financial controls are built. He has served in the past as the Church’s Treasurer. Zach has also played a leadership role in Bethesda’s recent strategic planning efforts. Raised as an Episcopalian and confirmed in 1965, Zach graduated in 1970 from St. Albans School in Washington, D.C. He graduated in 1974 from Harvard College in Cambridge, MA. and from Harvard Business School in 1980.

* Vesture Nominees are selected by the Nominating Committee after an exhaustive review process that at times included the consideration of more than thirty-five church members. The slate of six is presented to the members at the Annual Meeting for consideration to fill the open positions. Vesture members are elected by members in good standing. Persons eligible to vote must be sixteen years of age or older, regular in attendance and contributors of record. One-third of the vesture is elected each year for a period of no more than three years. A person is eligible for re-election after one year has elapsed. A vesture member appointed to fill an unexpired term may be elected at the end of that term to serve a full term.
2014 is the 125th anniversary of the formation of the Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, a wonderful practical example of the courage and vision of all those who have gone before us at Bethesda. During this entire anniversary year, all our committees and working groups will be reflecting on the miracle of 125 years of courage and vision and incorporating recognition of the church’s anniversary milestone whenever appropriate and possible. There are six specific events already on the calendar for this year which will feature a clear anniversary focus:

**Sunday, January 26:** Annual Parish Picnic

**Friday, February 14:** Outreach working in conjunction with the Palm Beach County Food Bank Empty Bowls event

**Sunday, March 9:** Concert and reception featuring internationally-known Princeton University Organist Eric Plutz

**Sunday, May 18:** Bishop’s Visit at Bethesda, a service of thanks and praise, with The Right Rev. Leo Frade

**Saturday, November 1, and Sunday, November 2:** All Saint’s Day Commemorations
### BBTS STRATEGY 2014 PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

**PURPOSE**

| WORSHIP |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| To provide loving, supportive, and uplifting worship for members and visitors where all can understand and experience the word of God taught through liturgy, instruction, music, and prayer. |

| EDUCATION |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| To provide educational opportunities to every member of BBTS, to strengthen our relationship with God and our community. |

| BETHESDA CARES |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| To provide an umbrella of care for the BBTS members' diverse pastoral needs shared through ministry of clergy and laity who are empowered to exercise their God-given talents. |

| OUTREACH |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| To embrace, engage and transform individuals and communities through effective sharing and coordination of BBTS T3 - this is a caring initiative for physical needs and striving for justice for all. |

**COMMITTEE LEADERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Vice</th>
<th>Rector</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd Terry</td>
<td>Bill Gee (*)</td>
<td>Rector (*)</td>
<td>Bud Broda (*)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Min. Dev./Music &amp; Liturgy</td>
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<td>* = Vestry member</td>
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**SCOPE (Groups & roles)**

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<th>Groups &amp; roles</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regular &amp; special worship services</td>
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<td>Regular &amp; special collections</td>
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<td>Baptisms, Weddings &amp; Funerals</td>
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<td>Pre-Even-song &amp; other concerts</td>
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<td>Boar’s Head &amp; Yule Log</td>
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<td>Organist &amp; external musicians</td>
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<td>Adult &amp; Youth Choirs</td>
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<td>Acolytes &amp; Eucharistic Ministers</td>
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<td>Altar Guild &amp; Flower Guild</td>
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<td>Lay Readers &amp; Ushers</td>
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<td>Verger Guild</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Preachers &amp; Speakers</td>
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<td>Congregation (including visitors)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday Forums</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Bible study groups</td>
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<td>Adult book groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>EFM (Education for Ministry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smaltz (Education Endowment)</td>
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<td>Children’s worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation bible school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women at the Well</td>
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<td>Youth Group</td>
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<td>Stewardship Education</td>
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**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

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<th>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014 to provide an umbrella of care for the BBTS members’ diverse pastoral needs shared through ministry of clergy and laity who are empowered to exercise their God-given talents.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 to develop a more faithful community at BBTS.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016 to develop a BBTS membership that is faithful to Christ’s teachings in its life.</td>
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</table>

**GOALS**

- Lead High Priority Aim
  - Exemplary by start of Advent 2016
  - Strive to be exemplary 2016

**NOTES**

1. All Rector’s committees and special working groups will update the Vestry on a quarterly basis.
2. Policy statements and activity plans for each of the Rector’s committees and special working groups are defined in the BBTS 2014 Strategic 3 Year Rollout Plan.
3. 2014 is the 125th Anniversary of BBTS: BBTS I in 1889, BBTS II in 1895 and BBTS III in 1927.
### May 2014 Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rectors' Committees</th>
<th>Evangelism &amp; Communications</th>
<th>Stewardship</th>
<th>Retail (Church Mouse &amp; Bethesda Shoppe)</th>
<th>Personnel (Closed meetings)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FELLOWSHIP &amp; HOSPITALITY</td>
<td>To foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.</td>
<td>To express the BBTS Mission: “to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ’s teachings through collective worship, learning and service”.</td>
<td>To ensure that BBTS has the required financial, people and physical resources to meet its ministry and operational needs, consistent with the BBTS Purpose, Strategy and Budget.</td>
<td>To generate funds for BBTS Outreach, to provide a service (physical donations and retail facilities) for members and the local community, and to increase awareness of BBTS in Palm Beach (approved Vestry policy).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECTOR’S COMMITTEES</td>
<td>To foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.</td>
<td>To express the BBTS Mission: “to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ’s teachings through collective worship, learning and service”.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECTOR’S SPECIAL WORKING GROUPS</td>
<td>To foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.</td>
<td>To express the BBTS Mission: “to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ’s teachings through collective worship, learning and service”.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL</td>
<td>Carole Stewart</td>
<td>Patricia Bolanos (*)</td>
<td>Elena Ridenour (*)</td>
<td>Sherry Ridenour (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethesda Life</td>
<td>Sandra Stern</td>
<td>Edie Dixon/John Archer</td>
<td>Pat Reichenbacher (*)</td>
<td>Don McKenna (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethesda Anchors</td>
<td>Rector (*)</td>
<td>Rector (*)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Staff (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Christian Women (ECW)</td>
<td>Frank Young (*)</td>
<td>Rick Wandoff (Annual)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Doug Daft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cursillos in Christianity</td>
<td>John Archer</td>
<td>TBA (Special Gifts)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Rector (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughters of the King</td>
<td>Jethro Hurt</td>
<td>TBA (Planned Giving)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Conny Purcell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Guild</td>
<td>Susan Cumming</td>
<td>Mike Victor (Capital)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men of Bethesda (MOB)</td>
<td>Kate Wiseck</td>
<td>John Archer (Annual)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Ministry (start 2014)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular hospitality events</td>
<td>Membership coordinator</td>
<td>Director of Stewardship Development</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Retail General Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special hospitality events</td>
<td>Membership coordinator</td>
<td>Membership Coordinator</td>
<td>Retail Assistant Manager</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bethesda’s Strategy 2014 Highlights

1. All Rector’s committees and special working groups will update the Vestry on a quarterly basis to other locations.
2. To expand regular worship services.
3. To develop a more faithful community at BBTS.
4. To create and communicate a clear purpose.
5. To provide educational opportunities for all.
6. To ensure that BBTS has the required financial, people and physical resources to meet its ministry and operational needs, consistent with the BBTS Purpose, Strategy and Budget.
7. To foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.

### RECTOR’S COMMITTEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rector’s Committees</th>
<th>Evangelism &amp; Communications</th>
<th>Stewardship</th>
<th>Retail (Church Mouse &amp; Bethesda Shoppe)</th>
<th>Personnel (Closed meetings)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECTOR’S COMMITTEES</td>
<td>To foster Christian fellowship among all members, guests and visitors, to embrace individual differences, and provide opportunities to experience the strong presence of God.</td>
<td>To express the BBTS Mission: “to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ’s teachings through collective worship, learning and service”.</td>
<td>To ensure that BBTS has the required financial, people and physical resources to meet its ministry and operational needs, consistent with the BBTS Purpose, Strategy and Budget.</td>
<td>To generate funds for BBTS Outreach, to provide a service (physical donations and retail facilities) for members and the local community, and to increase awareness of BBTS in Palm Beach (approved Vestry policy).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECTOR’S SPECIAL WORKING GROUPS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL</td>
<td>Carole Stewart</td>
<td>Patricia Bolanos (*)</td>
<td>Elena Ridenour (*)</td>
<td>Sherry Ridenour (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethesda Life</td>
<td>Sandra Stern</td>
<td>Edie Dixon/John Archer</td>
<td>Pat Reichenbacher (*)</td>
<td>Don McKenna (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethesda Anchors</td>
<td>Rector (*)</td>
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Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting

Call to Order: The Rev. James R. Harlan, Rector of The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and ruled that there was a quorum present.

Opening Prayer and Necrology: The Rev. Dr. Timothy Cogan gave the opening prayer and recited the 2012 Necrology.

Motion: By a motion made by Greg Barnhart and seconded by Peg Ekberg, the attending congregation unanimously accepted the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting as written.

Vestry 2012 & 2013: Father Harlan thanked those who had served on the Vestry during 2012, making note of the various changes in Vestry membership:

1. Barbara Fiedor (2013) and Elizabeth Fifield (2014) resigned during the year, leaving unexpired terms to which Frederick (Bud) Broda (2013) and Zachary Shipley (2014) had been appointed.
2. Judith Kerry, Gloria McAllister, and Josephyne Payne were rotating off of the Vestry after having completed three years of service.
3. Frederick (Bud) Broda (2013), Donald McKenna (2013), and Wendy Victor (2013) completed the terms of service they had been filling for others who had previously resigned mid-term; it was noted, however, that these three Vestry members were now eligible to be nominated to serve full three year terms of their own.
4. Those continuing on the Vestry for one more year: John Archer, Peter Broberg, Rex Ford, Becky Myers, Connie Purcell, and Zach Shipley (who was recently appointed treasurer in place of Liz Fifield.)
5. Those continuing on the Vestry for two more years: Mark Cook, Ervin Duggan, Deborah Hale-Hagy, Pam Miller, Bob Moore, and Gary Sullivan.

It was announced that the Nominating Committee had nominated the following 6 people to serve three year terms on the Vestry: Frederick (Bud) Broda, William (Bill) Gee, Donald (Don) McKenna, Patricia (Pat) Reichenbacher, Wendy Victor, and Frank Young. No further nominations were made from the floor.

Motion: By a motion made by Peg Ekberg and seconded by Mike Victor, the slate of six Vestry nominees (listed above) was unanimously elected for three year terms.

It was announced that the Nominating Committee had nominated Shawn McAllister, Robert (Bob) Moore, and Thomas (Tom) O’Brien as delegates to the Diocesan Convention. Jan Shoobridge was nominated as alternate delegate. Those elected serve a two year term. No further nominations were made from the floor.

Motion: By a motion made by Peg Ekberg and seconded by Connie Purcell, the following were unanimously elected as delegates to the Diocesan Convention: Shawn McAllister, Robert (Bob) Moore, and Thomas (Tom) O’Brien.

Motion: By a motion duly made by Peg Ekberg and seconded by Tom O’Brien, Jan Shoobridge as unanimously elected as alternate delegate to the Diocesan Convention.

Stewardship Review: Richard Wandoff presented the results of the 2012 stewardship campaign, emphasizing the importance of pledging. The annual stewardship campaign raised a total of $1,719,000 in pledges and non-pledge giving. He noted that total pledge funds of $1,541,000 showed a 14% increase over the previous year; numbers of pledging households had increased 26% to 551 out of 942 units, and the pledge fulfillment rate was 103%. Congregation participation in pledging was 58% as opposed to 47% in 2011. He noted, however, that 71% of members give less than $1,000 annually. Stewardship goals for 2013 are to increase participation to 65% and to encourage proportional giving.

Treasurer’s Report: Zach Shipley gave the 2012 treasurer’s report which showed the year ending with a $46,000 surplus, whereas a deficit of $115,000 had been budgeted. He noted that Bethesda has successfully implemented its 2009 financial recovery plan to reach a balanced budget by 2013.
Introduction to Rector’s Address: Wendy Victor thanked Jim Bertles for leading Bethesda through a difficult transition prior to the arrival of Father James. She noted that our parish has moved towards its future in developing a strategic plan which reflects the input of more than 200 parishioners. It continues to be a work in progress and has been carefully vetted by many at every stage since its inception. Jim Bertles introduced Father James Harlan.

Rector’s Address: Father Harlan opened his address with a reading from Ephesians 4:7, 11-13. He expounded upon three important and interwoven themes:

1. We are honoring our past.
   He touched upon the more than $6-million that has been raised in endowment funds and the capital campaign that will be forthcoming in the near future, emphasizing that such generosity has enabled us to repair the outer façade of the church, enlarge the columbarium, and procure updated audio/visual equipment.

2. We have turned a corner.
   He noted that we ended the year with a surplus, rather than the projected deficit.

3. We are moving ahead.
   He presented the three part Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation as the basis for our spiritual formation.

Motion: By a motion duly made by Tom O’Brien and seconded by Wendy Victor, it was unanimously approved to commend the Episcopal Church’s Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation as the framework and guide for all formation activities of the parish and to ask the Vestry, the Christian Formation Committee, and other committees of the parish, as appropriate, to review the charter at least annually as a guide to planning formation activities to implement the charter. (The Charter for Christian Formation is attached as Exhibit A.)

Corporate Charter: Father Harlan introduced Zach Shipley who explained the proposed changes to Bethesda’s corporate charter.

Motion: By a motion duly made by Zach Shipley and seconded by Gloria McAllister, it was unanimously approved to amend and restate the Charter of the Corporation by deleting all of its text and replacing such text in its entirety with the text in Exhibit B attached.

Strategy: Father Harlan introduced John Archer, Matt Lorentzen, and Paul Coombs who presented the purpose of Bethesda-by-the-Sea and details of the strategic plan. In addition to the plan’s executive summary of seven pages, the longer version of sixty pages is available upon request. Matt Lorentzen acknowledged Paul Coombs’ tremendous efforts and dedication in spearheading the development of this strategic plan.

Youth & Children’s Ministries: Father Harlan announced that we will be conducting a nationwide search for a staff person to grow our youth and children’s ministries. For further conversation regarding youth ministries, there will be a meeting at 4:00 on Wednesday, January 30 for parents and any other interested parties.

Closing Remarks: Father Harlan reminded all present that “we are in this together.” He asked that we all commit to growing in faith with one another to “build up the body of Christ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” The Rector thanked both the outgoing and in-coming Vestries, the Strategic Planning Committee, Bethesda’s three Associates, the assisting clergy, and his family.

Closing Prayer: The Rev. Kate Kelderman closed the meeting with a prayer entitled, “Yes.”

Adjournment: There being no further business, the Rev. James Harlan adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Myers, Clerk
Income Statement

Year-end 2013 results reflect an operating surplus of $106,000 continuing the favorable trend experienced over the past 3 years.

**SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT**
Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea – Operating Fund
Period Ending December 31
($ thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Gifts</td>
<td>$1,511</td>
<td>$1,649</td>
<td>$1,815</td>
<td>$2,063</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Endowment Draw</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Endowment Draw</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>205</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>1,891</td>
<td>1,986</td>
<td>2,215</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>1,330</td>
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<td>Diocesan Assessment</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>779</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>2,097</td>
<td>2,017</td>
<td>2,169</td>
<td>2,393</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                |       |       |       |       |
| **NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)** | $ (206) | $ (31) | $ 46  | $ 106 |

Annual campaign contributions increased 14% for 2013 compared to 2012 contribution levels.

The General Endowment was established in 2009 and funded with $3.4 million in 2010. During 2013, $193,000 was drawn from the General Endowment to fund operations in accordance with the Endowment’s guidelines.

Expenses grew 10% in 2013 compared to 2012 primarily due to increases in ministry staff. Consistent with prior periods, staff costs represented 56% of overall expenses for 2013.

The Diocesan Assessment, determined based on prior years Operating Revenues, has steadily declined over the past 4 years. The Diocesan Assessment for 2014 will slightly increase to $288,000.

In addition to the Unrestricted Gifts to the Operating Fund, contributions designated to the Preservation & Restoration Endowment, Capital Repairs & Improvement Reserve, and additional unrestricted contributions, approximated $577,000 during 2013.

In addition to the operating revenues and expenses discussed above, income from designated sources (i.e., Outreach, Columbarium, Memorial Scholarships, etc.), net of operating expenses, approximated $675,000 during 2013. Expenditure of these designated funds approximated $544,000 during 2013.
Capital expenditures, which are also excluded from the Operating Fund, totaled $1,060,000 in 2013 and were primarily comprised of $931,000 paid to Conkling & Lewis for building restoration, repairs and maintenance; $36,000 for audio visual equipment; $24,000 for window shades; and $24,000 for furnishings. These projects were funded $550,000 from the Capital Reserve and Preservation Endowment, $24,000 from a donor gift specifically designated for furnishings and $486,000 from unrestricted funds.

Balance Sheet
Assets grew by $1.2 million during 2013 primarily due to unrealized gains on investments during the year. Interest, dividends and realized gains, net of investment management fees, approximated $384,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$208</td>
<td>$470</td>
<td>$253</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookshop Inventory</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Fund</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted/Consolidated Fund</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>1,181</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>1,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Endowment</td>
<td>4,060</td>
<td>3,982</td>
<td>5,837</td>
<td>6,705</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restoration and Preservation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,714</td>
<td>3,119</td>
<td>2,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Designated/Restricted Funds</td>
<td>2,129</td>
<td>2,315</td>
<td>2,396</td>
<td>2,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges Receivable - Restoration/Preservation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,325</td>
<td>1,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<td>3,747</td>
<td>4,075</td>
<td>4,108</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>12,435</td>
<td>15,069</td>
<td>19,310</td>
<td>20,569</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>LIABILITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Payables</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>290</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>164</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>290</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAPITAL</th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,271</td>
<td>14,842</td>
<td>18,944</td>
<td>20,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td>$12,435</td>
<td>$15,069</td>
<td>$19,310</td>
<td>$20,569</td>
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2013 was an exciting year for Bethesda and it was equally exciting for me and my family. Early in the year my wife accepted a faculty position and moved from our long time home in East Tennessee to sunny Florida. At the end of the summer my son moved away to start graduate school. Finally, to close out the year I joined my wife in Florida when I accepted the position here in beautiful Palm Beach at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. I am thankful and humbled to be afforded such a wonderful opportunity.

I was not the only addition to the staff in 2013. Greg Knight was hired in July as new Director of Children and Youth Ministries. In September, Kim Hanson was brought on to fill a newly created position of Director of Stewardship Development. As directors of ministries they are contributing their own pieces to this Annual Report and the great work they are doing will be apparent when you read those reports.

Bethesda also hired a new sexton this past year. Bob Mancuso is our sexton with the primary responsibilities for the weekend. Give a word of thanks to Bob next Sunday for making sure the campus is properly prepared for the multitude of activities each weekend. Each of the sextons has a primary responsibility that matches their skill set, but the strength of the group is their ability to work as a unit to accomplish all the varied tasks. Denny Lanier leads this group as head sexton. Denny has been on the staff for thirty one years. He sets an excellent example in leadership by doing whatever is necessary regardless of the time needed or the job required. Keith Risley is responsible for the grounds. The beautiful gardens and well kept lawns are a credit to his careful attention and knowledge. Keith has been here for twenty eight years. J. R. Thompson is responsible for building upkeep. It is a true gift for Bethesda to have someone who can maintain a facility built almost ninety years ago and also be so adept with the most modern media technology. J. R. has been with Bethesda for fourteen years.

Bethesda is blessed to have an excellent administrative staff. Regine Reimann is the Receptionist, the warm voice you hear when you call. Answering the phone just scratches the surface of what Regine does. Among other things, Regine handles the church calendar and compiles much of the materials needed by the participants in the services. Regine has been doing an excellent job in this role for seven years. The Stewardship and Membership Coordinator is Marjo Ylipelkonen. Marjo is in her second year in this role and is about to start her fifth year at Bethesda. Marjo does a wonderful job maintaining the information on the parishioners. Not only does she maintain membership and donation information, she keeps up with contact information and makes sure members get Bethesda information at the correct location depending on time of the year. She also assists Kim with stewardship planning and implementation. Amie Casamassina is the Assistant to the Rector and Senior Staff. She is the force behind much of what is accomplished by the senior staff. Although Amie is only in her third year of service at Bethesda she accomplishes her tasks with the skill and confidence of a long-term veteran. Our Communications Coordinator is Renee Boger-Cheifet. Renee has been making sure Bethesda produces quality printed and electronic communications for eight years. Bethesda is fortunate to have someone with the background and education in both graphic design and business, with the ability to make sure our communications are not only attractive but also on point from a marketing standpoint. This year, color Christmas covers brought joy to all. Our online community and existence in social media and our electronic communication continue to grow in numbers. We have 671 people viewing and interacting on our Facebook page and 1260 e-mail subscribers to our weekly E-mail
Newsletter. Sharon Lawrence-McGee is the Financial Coordinator. Sharon is four years on the job but has taken on much more responsibility in the last year. Much of what you see in this annual report about the finances was produced by Sharon. She has done an amazing job plowing through an overwhelming volume of work the last six months. She has done so with a quiet diligence that speaks well of her character and work ethic.

The retail operations of Bethesda had another successful year. The Church Mouse took over management of the onsite operation now called The Shoppe at Bethesda. Sales growth continues to outpace mainline stores with more than a twenty percent increase over the last two years. This is due in large part to the excellent team we have in place at The Church Mouse. Evaristo (Coy) Riestra has been the Manager of the Church Mouse for four years. The Assistant Manager, Daisy Alveraz, has been in her position for three years. Both exceedingly dedicated employees with years of retail sales experience. The Processing Clerks are Jonathan Goodine and Ricky Manuel who have been with the Church Mouse for six years and three years respectively. The staff, along with the customers, donors and volunteers, including the Executive Director and Board members, has made the Church Mouse a success for forty three years.

The root of the word administration is the Latin word administrare which means to serve or to minister. At the core of administration is making possible the ministry of the church. I have only noted a small piece of the administrative work necessary for a Parish of this size to be able to provide the ministry needed in this community. As you consider this hardworking, dedicated administrative staff, remember that the work they do is integral to every ministry at Bethesda-by-the-Sea.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred E. Staley
Associate for Administration
Fellowship & Hospitality Committee: In response to the Strategic Plan action items a Fellowship & Hospitality Committee was formed in 2013. The purpose of this committee is to foster Christian fellowship at Bethesda by providing a variety of opportunities for parishioners to experience the strong presence of God through fellowship and hospitality. In addition to generating fellowship specific events this committee also works with other groups to support other events that include a fellowship component.

In an effort to teach long time parishioners as well as newcomers, the “Newcomers Class” was repositioned as a learning opportunity for all parishioners, and to reflect this inclusivity, the name was changed to “Bethesda Life.” This class is offered four times a year on two successive Saturdays and includes an up to date window into all aspects of parish life. We also instituted a mentor program, partnering established members with newcomers to help integrate them more quickly into parish life.

A calendar of fellowship activities aligned with Bethesda’s purpose was developed to offer a variety of fellowship opportunities. One highlight was the International Potluck Dinner in the fall which brought parishioners together for a fun evening at minimal cost to Bethesda. An effort was begun to create a volunteer database in order to schedule established parishioners with newcomers as volunteers on events.

Bethesda Cares: In April we launched our new pastoral care program “Bethesda Cares,” a lay led, community-centered system of care. To facilitate our launch a pastoral care team from Christ Church in Ponte Vedra came to Bethesda and led a training session for our shepherds and ministry heads. We spent the summer educating the congregation about Bethesda Cares and in November we organized and ran our own training session. The center piece of this church-wide in-reach program is the shepherd, who serves as the point of contact for all pastoral care needs. We established twelve teams of shepherds, and gave each pair a portion of the congregation to serve. Shepherds are identified by the yellow ribbon they wear on Sunday mornings and are listed in the Bethesda Cares information booklet in the Narthex. In the late fall the shepherds began to be more proactive in reaching out to their “flock” and this effort will continue throughout the winter. We also expanded our pastoral care ministries to include: Meal Ministry, Good Samaritan Ministry, Cancer Companions, and Card Ministry.

Outreach Committee: The implementation of the Bethesda Strategic Plan in 2013 produced a wonderful transformation to the Parish Outreach Committee and has set the stage for our future endeavors. The new committee is a combination of various groups and draws its members from: Faith in Action, the Mission and Outreach Committee, Mission Trips, Port Ministry, and Scholarship. As part of the strategic Plan we will no longer focus on particular committees but on three specific areas of need: Education, Food, and Shelter. We are particularly excited about a pilot program to mentor and tutor homeless PBC high school students. Although this program was initiated late in 2013, it will grow more fully in 2014. Our specific accomplishments for 2013 include:

Feeding God’s Children – In February we partnered with Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBAU) and Feeding Children Everywhere to package meals for the hungry in Palm Beach County. Approximately 900 individuals participated including 200 volunteers from Bethesda and 250 from Palm Beach Atlantic
University. Other volunteers included students who were also meal recipients from Conniston Middle School and Belvedere Elementary. Through our combined efforts we packaged 150,000 healthy meals for the neediest local school children.

**Elders on The Edge** – In August just we worked with the Vickers House in West Palm Beach to create Hurricane Survival Kits. Parishioners generously donated vital hurricane survival items to low-income seniors, such as; food, flashlights, batteries, and bottled water.

Our yearly *Blessing of the Animals Service* was expanded to include an outreach component. Parishioners generously donated five pounds or more of pet food prior to the service. Afterwards, the children and youth ministry teamed up to repackage the food into gallon Ziploc bags which were collected by several area food pantries and distributed to needy elders or families pet owners. In addition, the committee invited Service Animals and their partners to attend the service to receive a special blessing by the clergy and recognition of their important work by the community.

**Save our Samples** – In November parishioners gathered in the Parish Hall to package bags containing soaps, deodorants, razors, and many more items for seamen coming into the Port of Palm Beach. The seamen are attended to by The Rev. Clay Waddell and his team of dedicated Port Ministry members.

**St. George’s Center Feeding and Sandwich Making** – Every other Wednesday afternoon members gather in the Parish Kitchen to cook hot meals for St. George’s. The hot meals are then served to the homeless and needy families at the St. George’s Center by another group of dedicated volunteers. Every Friday morning yet another team gather in the Parish Kitchen to prepare ham and cheese sandwiches to make sure those in need have something to eat when the center is closed.

In May, the Vestry voted to approve the recommendations of the grants committee which after careful research and analysis, recommended over $365,000.00 worth of grants to public charities doing wonderful work in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

The Rev. Kate E. Kelderman
Associate for Ministry Development
Our newly-formed Worship Committee—under the leadership of Lloyd Terry and Bill Gee—has had several productive meetings. The Altar Guild, under the new leadership of Holly Breeden and Gay Gregory, continues to do work that is vital to our worship life. The Flower Guild continues to provide beautiful and lovingly-executed arrangements for our services; their extraordinary work at Christmas and Easter was truly breathtaking.

We now have a fully-trained Vergers Guild. They assist in all areas of worship and have been a great help in making everything run more smoothly. They have been essential in providing leadership for the training sessions we’ve had during the year. As a result, we now have several new Acolytes, Eucharistic Minsters, and Lay Readers. We also have several new sound system operators and people who assist in making our live-streaming of services happen on a regular basis.

The Bethesda Choir and the Bethesda Youth Choir continue to provide music for our services from September through May. Our concerts and choral services during 2013 included our continuing series of First-Sunday Evensongs, each preceded by a half-hour recital. Other highlights included A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols, the annual Christmas Concert and Community Carol Sing, and A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. In May, Harold Pysher and Daniel Beckwith performed a duo-organ concert.

The ever-popular Boar’s Head Festival is our gift to the community, as well as a way for over 150 members of our parish family to work together on a large-scale project. The 2013 performances were well-received by large and appreciative audiences.

We announced on the First Sunday of Advent that The Rev. Jeffrey Beebe and The Rev. Susan Beebe would serve as Assisting Priests. They have made a much-appreciated contribution to our clergy staff.

While remembering and respecting the past 125 years, we look forward to improving all areas of worship in 2014!

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold E. Pysher
Associate for Music & Liturgy
It has been a pleasure getting to know this wonderful community at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. My family and I arrived in August just in time for me to hit the ground running as the new Director of Children and Youth Ministries with our Fall education programs. Having experience in working with all age levels, I knew that it would be important for us to present education opportunities for our children and youth that took advantage of the many gifts that our community has to offer.

**Children:** We began a new curriculum for our children in Sunday School that takes advantage of the creative skills of our volunteers and encourages a variety of educational experiences for our young people. We instituted a rotation-model Sunday School system that teaches one story for four weeks but through four different workshops that allow children to have different experiences each week. For example, one month during the Fall our children learned all about the parting of the Red Sea and the exodus of the Israelites from the land of Egypt. However, instead of doing the same activity each week, they learned through different workshops. They prepared Red Sea gelatin salad which they cut in half during our cooking workshop. They viewed different movie adaptations of the Red Sea and created their own movie poster depicting the event in our computer lab. They even created stick puppets of Moses, the Israelites, and the Egyptian army and reenacted the story in a creative drama workshop. This exciting, hands-on learning has been a great experience for our children and volunteers and we are excited to see this program grow over the coming years.

**Youth:** Our youth have been engaging questions of belief and understanding Church traditions in our Youth Sunday School class and Confirmation Class. We recognize that our youth have more sophisticated understandings and ways of engaging not only the biblical text, but life in a Christian community and our curricula take those questions seriously. Our Youth Sunday School has tackled subjects like “Can I Lose My Salvation?”, “Do I Have to Believe Jesus Performed Miracles?”, and “If There Is One God, Why Are There Different Religions?”. Likewise, our Confirmation Class continues to explore the very nature of what it means to be an Episcopalian as they learn where their beliefs fit into the scripture, tradition, and reason of our Christian faith. We continue to explore new ways of engaging our youth into the life of Bethesda through our youth group as well as they grow in community and faith.

**Adults:** Finally, our adult education has reinstated the speaker series with the Reverend Jane Sigloh and Diana Butler Bass presenting events at our parish over the last year. Also, the Sunday adult forum began a journey through Holy Scripture with “Bethesda Reads the Bible”, a course that allows participants to read the entire bible over a two year period.

This has been an exciting time to come on board with the people that worship, learn, and grow at Bethesda-by-the-Sea. I look forward to continuing our exciting education programs over the coming year and establish new avenues of learning as we walk our spiritual path together.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Knight
Director of Children and Youth Ministries
Thank. Serve. Give. That was the call for stewardship in 2013, and Bethesda members answered mightily. A record level of financial support was received, totaling $1,819,964, up a wonderfully generous 17% from 2012. The pledge fulfillment rate was 101%. The volunteer hours contributed by hundreds of parishioners are beyond measure. Thank. Serve. Give. You did, magnificently.

Voluntary contributions are the bedrock for the annual operations of every ministry of Bethesda-by-the-Sea. Gifts to the annual operating fund range from some of our children's dollars from allowances to leadership level contributions of $25,000 or more. The mean average pledge at the church in 2013 was $3,316, but there is a caveat here. Correcting for ten top leadership level gifts to the annual fund, our mean average gift falls to $2,328, just at the national average for all Episcopal churches of $2,300. Our median gift is $1,200, again comparable to the national median. Looking ahead, it is important for Bethesda’s members to be aware of these statistics so that we can push ourselves to exceed those averages, to reach toward becoming exemplary in our stewardship, thus enabling us to become exemplary in our ministries.

**Annual Stewardship Campaign**

<table>
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<th>2010</th>
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<th>2012</th>
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<td>Pledged Dollars</td>
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<td>47%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>55%</td>
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</table>

Our participation level remains just over 50%. Imagine the impact if everyone who currently is not pledging were to come forward with even a median gift! That would generate more than half a million dollars with which to reach for the goals developed during our strategic planning process these last two years.

Stewardship is a way of life rooted in abundant faith and an expression of generosity and thankfulness that puts God at the center. We create the life and the community of faith into which God is calling us through each of our offering as generous financial support as we can. This annual report details the impact our contributions have had in 2013 in moving our mission and ministries forward. Let’s celebrate together this collective momentum, and continue it on into 2014 as we thank, serve and give.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Hanson
*Director of Stewardship Development*
Clergy and Staff

Clergy and Associates
The Rev. James R. Harlan, Rector

The Rev. Kate E. Kelderman
Associate for Ministry Development

Harold E. Pysher
Associate for Music & Liturgy

Fred E. Staley
Associate for Administration

The Rev. Jeffrey S. Beebe
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Susan R. Beebe
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Dr. Timothy B. Cogan
Assisting Priest (Nov–May)

The Rev. Dr. Cecily J. Titcomb
Deacon for Spiritual Direction & Pastoral Care (Nov–May)

The Rev. Clayton B. Waddell
Deacon for Port Ministry

Staff

Program Directors
Kim Hanson, Director of Stewardship Development
Greg Knight, Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Jessica Reed, Youth Choir Director

Coordinators
Renée Boger-Cheifet, Communications Coordinator
Sharon Lawrence-McGee, Financial Coordinator
Marjo Ylipelkonen, Stewardship & Membership Coordinator

Administrative Staff
Amie Casamassina, Assistant to the Rector & Senior Staff
Regine Reimann, Receptionist

Sextons
Dennison Lanier, Head Sexton
Robert Mancuso, Sexton
Keith Risley, Grounds Supervisor
William Thompson III, Building Preservation

The Church Mouse and The Shoppe at Bethesda Staff
Evaristo Riestra, General Manager
Daisy Alvarez, Assistant Manager
Jonathan Goodine
Ricky Manuel