



Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

Annual Meeting

May 1, 2016

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Call Meeting to Order - Rev. Joy Segal

Election Announcements - Judges of Election

Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes - Rev. Joy Segal

Annual Meeting Minutes- May 3rd, 2015 - Leigh Jenkins

Call to order - Rev. Joy Segal

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 AM

Election Announcements - Judges of Election

The Judges of Election (Richard Woehr & Bob Jenkins) instructed the congregation on voting procedures. The instructions were to vote for no more than four candidates from the list below:

Mike Phillips
Mark Roberts
Nils van Ammers
Rita West
Jeanette Woehr

The polls were closed during the meeting and were to be reopened for a half hour immediately following adjournment of the meeting.

Approval of 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes - Rev. Joy Segal

A motion to accept the 2014 minutes as submitted by Barbara Potts and seconded by Megan Bartlett. Motion was carried unanimously.

Rector's Report - Rev. Joy Segal

Joy reviewed her report with the congregation. She addressed that we are in a challenging season regarding attendance and pledges as many other churches are. As she has said many times to the vestry, we should be focusing on our relationship with the community. Gloria Dei's main income is from fundraising events like Sexton Sideshows and Colonial Day. Through these events we are having more people on the church grounds than before. She reminded the congregation not to be discouraged that this is positive change and Gloria Dei is keeping up with the 21st century. She mentioned the changes for Riverside Hall the vestry has been thinking of and our healthy relationships with National Park Service and QVNA. Her message for this year is "change for the future". She asked the congregation to think in faith their thoughts on changes and invited everyone to be vocal with their opinion, attend some of the meetings and express their thoughts to the vestry. She thanked the current vestry, those running for vestry this year and the Rector's Warden.

A suggestion was made that the vestry minutes be made available to the congregation. Going forward, after approval minutes will be hung on bulletin board.

Rector's Warden Report - Carol Jenkins

Carol reminded the congregation that this building isn't our church, the people are. Our actions and words are the representation of Gloria Dei. She thanked everyone for all they do.

Financial Report - Jill Duink

Jill shared this year's budget and encouraged the congregation to think about Gloria Dei in their living wills. Fundraising is up by 21%, she shared that this number is not only money, it is from our own participation and bringing the community to us and us to them.

Vestry Report - Jim Parsons

No discussion

Sunday School Report - Jill Duink

There have been as many as ten children attending. Joy explained how each class is taught and shared this past year's activities.

Carol asked if children could be brought into church sometime so Godly play can be shared with the adult congregation.

Property Committee Report - Rev. Joy Segal

Joy mentioned major events that took place on Gloria Dei's property. She made everyone aware of the sinking of the sanctuary floor, the loose tiles and the repairs made. She explained that the sinking isn't severe and every year it will be measured to see how bad it is and if further action would be needed. Joy went over the possible redesign on Riverside Hall and the report the architects gave when they walked the entire grounds. The report will show which areas need to be addressed and be listed from most to least important. When that is received it will be shared with the congregation. Gloria Dei has the driveway repaired even though it is NPS property, doing this strengthens our relationship with them.

History Committee - Jeanette Woehr

Jeanette invited congregation to join the meetings which are held on Wednesday evenings. They have been working on genealogy inquiries and creating an easier map of the graveyard.

Hospitality Committee - Peggy Buescher

Peggy made the congregation aware that Sunday fellowship usually comes out of Jerry's pocket. She is asking for suggestions and some more support. There is a budget for it but that is usually used for bigger events. Different donation suggestions were made. Pam Walker reminded everyone that we can take it for granted and that is becomes expected rather than hospitality.

Sexton's Report - Paula & Jim Minacci

Jim and Paula spoke about how much this church is part of the community. There are people who don't want to come to services but want to help church through events. People come here for dog walking, music events, yoga etc. Community, fundraising and fellowship are the keywords that drive them.

Outreach Ministry Report - Kim Goodwin and Re Henning

Joy explained that the vestry decided to bring our outreach more locally where more of the congregation can join in helping. All of this is part of changes and seasons. Re and Kim thanked everyone for their help.

Music - Paul Fejko

Paul welcomed new bell ringers and reminded everyone of the envelopes.

Stewardship Report - Candace Roberts

No discussion. Candace invited inspiration.

Inreach Ministry - Rev. Joy Segal

They would like to remain anonymous but Joy thanked them and reminded it's important ministry and invited people to help.

Prayer Chain Ministry - Megan Bartlett

Megan encouraged people to join the chain and reminded everyone of the comfort people receive from knowing that people are praying for them.

Altar Guild - Candace Roberts

Candy invited people to help iron and help with the altar. They schedule it to make sure it's always done and thanked everyone for their help. Special thanks to Peggy and Rita for baking the bread.

HGDPC - Candace Roberts

Candy extended a special thanks to everyone for all their contributions at Colonial Day. She highlighted what people really enjoyed. The event showcased the church and church grounds. Next project HGDPC will work on is planned giving and a committee to fill out grants.

Thank You to Staff - Rev. Joy Segal

Joy encouraged a round of applause to the staff, the voice and face of Gloria Dei.

Questions - All

The congregation thanked Joy. There were no questions.

Election Announcement - Judges of Election

Polls will be open for 30 minutes following adjournment.

Adjournment - Rev. Joy Segal

There was a motion to adjourn by Bob Jenkins and seconded by Barbara Chilcott. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 12:13 PM.

Rector's Report - Rev. Joy Segal

Parochial Report Comparison	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Average Sunday Attendance	81	80	71	76	60	52
Baptism	8	13	9	6	9	13
Weddings	4	4	6	4	5	6
Funerals	8	6	5	6	5	8
Pledged	45,000	41,762	37,016	35,978	34,978	33,321
Plate and Pledged Rec'd	67,210	58,949	56,288	54,190	49,994	47,087
Money from investments*	89,940	112,300	98,364	113,804	107,118	117,556
Other operating income**	86,311	97,051	108,895	92,598	126,675	128,765

* Money from investments used for operations

** Other operating income, including unrestricted gifts & restricted gifts used for operations – includes rental income and fund-raising income.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (NRSV)
If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. (The Message)
(1 Corinthians 13:1)

I am reminded this year, as I begin my report with numbers (some may say “facts”) that if I speak, as St. Paul reminds us, without love, I will sound like a noisy gong...or a clanging cymbal...or the creaking of a rusty gate. None of those are sounds we seek. They are sounds we avoid. They are unpleasant sounds.

I hope you all know I do not speak without love as I think about the year just past and what I might say about our time at Gloria Dei in 2015. When I look back on the last year I am reminded of the thirteen baptisms and rejoice that those were brought to our altar and into our fellowship. I remember the six weddings and those joyous days of celebration right here, in this place. And as I remember the eight funeral services I am thankful that we are here to comfort and console those who mourn, and to assure the community gathered in remembrance that there is hope in the gospel message of resurrection and new life.

And yet, with a heart full of love for this place, this time, this community, I cannot help but be concerned at the slowly dwindling numbers that have to do with regular attendance and support. And as I recognize the joys of ministry and opportunity here at Old Swedes, so also do I recognize the challenges that we face for the future.

What I said in last year's report I can repeat accurately again this year: “Gloria Dei continues to be challenged by a lack of growth and a slow decrease in income. Not the kind of changes we welcome or wish for. As we work to make

ourselves relevant in our community we find it challenging to change as the needs of the community change. This past year we have begun to recognize that the way in which we are surviving, financially, is through making our facilities available for events and by participating in and supporting our own increasing fund raising events with our time and talent.”

And so we have continued this past year to look for new fundraising opportunities, new opportunities for fellowship, and new ways in which to serve the community within and without our walls. Some ideas have drawn in folks previously not regular participants. Others have remained stable. And new as well as ongoing ways to insure the survival of this worship community are being supported by friends and neighbors of Gloria Dei.

In all we do, though, it is important to focus on the great gifts we have been given. Gifts of land and facilities. Gifts of folks with imagination and creativity and willingness to give of time and talent. Gifts of ongoing regular corporate worship that is open to everyone. While it is our responsibility to face hard facts about hard times, it is also our responsibility to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a world becoming more and more cynical by the day.

We are not the only church that is struggling. Churches throughout the United States, indeed in many parts of the Western world, are facing a great sea change, and discovering that the answer to these fearful times is not wishing for the good old days when the pews and the offering plates were filled. Attempts to go back never work. We must go forward, one step at a time, looking for new ways in which the Gospel message of hope, of faith, of love, of new life may be not only heard but believed and acted upon.

We have continued this year to value and treasure our relationships. Relationships with partners in our community and within our walls. We spend time understanding our need for affiliates and reaching out to them to insure their needs are met as well. So, the National Park Service continues to be an important partner with us in maintaining this gift of historic land and buildings. Our Historic Preservation Board (HGDPC) affords us the opportunity to involve specialists and professionals who are dedicated to the preservation of this historic site. The Queen Village Neighbors' Association, and the Pennsport Civic Association are community organizations of which we are proud to be members. And of course, the long term relationship with Young Children's Creative Arts (YCCA) gives us not only a needed income stream but a way in which the community is made aware of this amazing space for many outdoor activities. I am happy to tell you that though YCCA has opened another site on 2nd Street they still wish to remain here as well, and we are in the midst of renewing their lease with us.

As I said last year, so again I wish to point out that the only place where we have been able to affect positive financial change has been in the use of our facilities, either for our own fundraising events or through rentals. Thanks to the investment of HGDPC we have given Riverside Hall a fresh coat of paint, some repairs, and new closet doors. This week the floors will be refinished as well. These things we see as investments in the future. They were affordable to us this year as well. Looking to the future we hope to be able to do more extensive work on Riverside Hall so that it can produce for us even more income. Last year we had talked about a major expansion project but that, at this time, has been shelved for a more conservative approach that we believe will still encourage financial growth.

This year I announced my plans for my retirement. My plans to retire towards the end of 2017 allowed the Vestry to consider going through the discernment and search process for a new rector while I am still here, rather than to go through an interim period after I retire in which to do that work. The vestry decided to go ahead with the process while I am here. This means that in the next year the congregation will be challenged to think not only about the past and the present but the future of Gloria Dei. As Gloria Dei looks to the future, to a new time, a new rector, it is my prayer that this beloved Old Swedes will continue to be a beacon of light in the community, a place of safety for those who suffer injustice of any kind, and a destination for those who seek a deeper relationship with God and neighbor. May we always be able to say with honesty and pride – All are welcome, all the time.

Blessings to all who love this place, who give of time and talent and treasure to its works and witness, and who live in the hope and faith that is our resurrection Gospel.

Peace,

Joy+

Rector's Warden Report - Carol Jenkins

Gloria Dei is gearing up for some big changes. As you know our Rector Joy, is retiring at the end of 2017. That means we have a lot of work to do in order to find a new Rector for Gloria Dei. This will entail the forming of two (2) committees: the Parish Profile Committee and the Rector Search Committee.

The Parish Profile Committee

This committee will be a group of 16 (members of the vestry and parishioners). That group of 16 will come together and choose their chairperson. The Parish Profile committee will be broken into 4 teams, A, B, C, & D - each team will have at least 1 vestry member on it.

Team A - Will gather demographic information of our community (research is done on the computer)

Team B - Will be examining our finances (Expenses and Income)

Team C - Will examine our Worship/Spiritual (Internal) Ministries

Team D - Will examine our Community (External) Ministries

We are currently seeking parishioners and members of the vestry, willing to do the work of this important committee. To be considered you must be an active participating member of the congregation, and have a willingness to work alongside other parishioners and vestry members. It is important to remember that this is a discernment process, and members need to support each other and hold them up in prayer. Each team should expect to meet once or twice a week from June - October 2016. The findings of all 4 teams will constitute a draft to be submitted to the vestry for approval. A Parish Profile will then be created by November 2016.

Interested members should fill out the form for the Parish Profile Committee. These can be found at the back of the church, and place it in the collection basket or by email, to Carol Jenkins at Ivoryhawk4@gmail.com, by Sunday June 12, 2016.

The committee members will be announced on Sunday June 19, 2016

The Rector Search Committee

This committee will be a group of 7 (2 vestry members and 5 members of the congregation)

Members of this committee will be responsible for gathering information and questioning of applicants for the position of Rector at Gloria Dei. A member of this committee should have strong communication and interview skills.

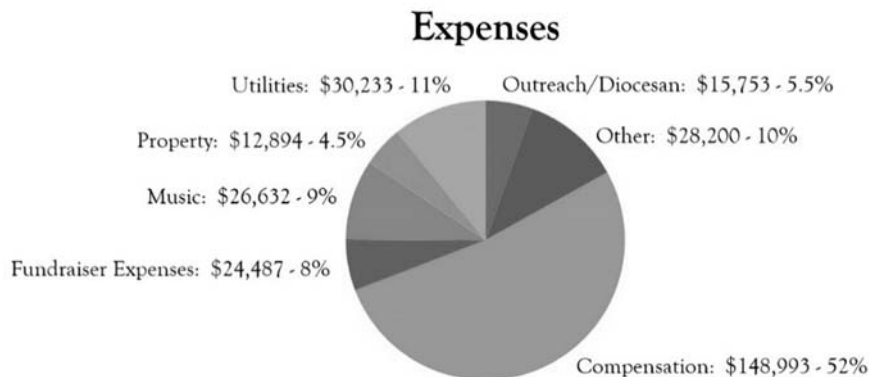
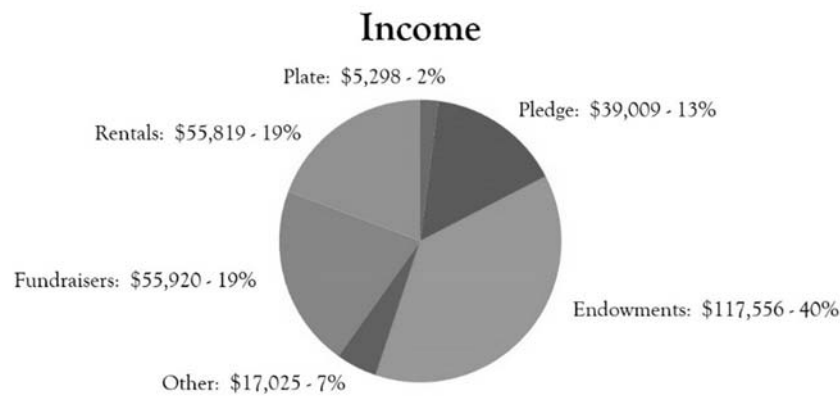
This committee will be formed after the Parish Profile is created and will begin in January 2017. Look for further announcements about this committee in the fall.



Financial Report - Jill Duink

The charts below illustrate our 2015 income and expense ratios.

- Endowment income was our largest income source at \$117,556 (40%).
- Fundraising income, after expenses, totaled \$31,433 (11%).
- Pledge, plate and flower giving totaled \$47,087 (16%).
- Our largest expense was compensation and related benefits (52%).
- Our outreach spending and diocesan contribution totaled \$15,752 (5.5%).



The vestry approved a distribution of the principal of one endowment fund in for capital expenditures, growth, and to balance the budget if needed. This year \$12,549 of these funds were spent on capital expenditures and \$5,937 was spent on growth.

Gloria Dei finished 2015 in a weaker situation due to a decline in the stock market and its effect on our endowments. Our endowment began 2015 at \$2,800,585 and ended at \$2,621,008, a loss of \$179,577. Because our income from the endowment is based on five-year averaging, the loss should not greatly affect our anticipated 2016 endowment income, but Gloria Dei is vulnerable to stock prices and may face a significant reduction in income if the market continues to decline.

The following pages contain the 2016 Budget

INCOME

03 - Regular Support	
Plate	6,000.00
Pledge	45,000.00
TOTAL 03 - Regular Support	51,000.00
04 - Endowments	
Assorted Investment Income	1,050.00
Church F 064786	1,470.00
Church F 064791	4,330.00
Church F 064934	42,518.00
Church F 065033	13,420.00
Church F 065117	4,438.00
From Endowment Principal	6,986.00
PNC 16-35-035-0464262	0.00
PNC 16-35-035-0617188	9,055.00
Wachovia 1513091190	4,938.00
Wachovia 1519175748	13,178.00
Wachovia 1519178585	15,308.00
TOTAL 04 - Endowments	116,691.00
05 - Other Income	
Burial Site	0.00
Donations	
Baptism	0.00
Funeral Services	1,000.00
May I. Young FD	3,050.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Societies - Organizations	1,500.00
Wedding Services	3,000.00
TOTAL Donations	8,550.00

Fund Raiser	
Colonial Fair	6,000.00
Flea Market	9,000.00
Jazz n Joe	1,000.00
Lucia	23,500.00
Misc	0.00
Other Book Sales	0.00
The Sexton SideShow	13,500.00
TOTAL Fund Raiser	47,000.00
Memorials	
Mass Cards	200.00
TOTAL Memorials	200.00
Rentals	
Riverside Hall	8,000.00
Roak House	400.00
YCCA - Kreative Kids	47,603.00
TOTAL Rentals	57,203.00
TOTAL 05 - Other Income	112,953.00
TOTAL INCOME	280,644.00

EXPENSES

05 - Fund Raising	
Flea Market	300.00
Lucia	6,000.00
Miscellaneous	300.00
Other Book Sales	0.00
The Sexton SideShow	7,500.00
TOTAL 05 - Fund Raising	13,800.00
12 - Diocesan	
Assessments	12,115.00
Fair Share	1,000.00
TOTAL 12 - Diocesan	13,115.00
13 - Outreach from Operating Budget	
Christmas Charities	1,000.00
ECS Outreach	1,000.00
TOTAL 13 - Outreach from Op Budget	2,000.00

14 - Operating Expenses	
Clergy Expenses	
D. Joy Segal	1,200.00
Continuing Education	500.00
Telephone	1,250.00
TOTAL Clergy Expenses	2,950.00
Compensation	
Benefits	
Segal Health	15,828.00
Segal Life & Disability	400.00
Sexton Life & Disability	575.00
Sexton Medical/Dental Rider	3,000.00
TOTAL Benefits	19,804.00
Pension	
D. Joy Segal	15,634.00
TOTAL Pension	15,634.00

Salary		Property Expenses	
D. Joy Segal	58,740.00	Alarm	2,200.00
J Minacci	17,177.00	Lawn/Landscape Service	2,750.00
P Minacci	19,327.00	Terminix	744.00
Supply Clergy	1,000.00	Undesignated	5,000.00
Vicki Cusack	12,100.00	TOTAL Property Expenses	10,694.00
TOTAL Salary	108,644.00	Sundries	
Salary-Tax		Food/Paper Products/Misc.	2,500.00
Medicare	750.00	TOTAL Sundries	2,500.00
Soc Sec	3,000.00	Utilities	
TOTAL Salary-Tax	3,750.00	U-Gas	
TOTAL Compensation	147,832.00	1114501039 Rectory	3,500.00
General		2114501047 Church	4,750.00
Adult Education	700.00	3114501055 Riverside Hall	2,700.00
Advertising	1,000.00	4114501063 Sexton House	1,300.00
Association Memberships	700.00	5114501071 Roak House	3,800.00
Baby Sitting	100.00	TOTAL U-Gas	16,050.00
Bibles - Prayer Books	200.00	U-PECO Energy	
Church - Liturgical	3,600.00	34262-00609 Rectory	3,600.00
Deanery/Diocese	750.00	37355-01208 Church	1,150.00
Flowers	950.00	40448-01504 Riverside Hall	2,150.00
Forward Movement Publications	212.00	43451-01700 Sexton House	1,950.00
Hospitality	750.00	49850-01702 Roak House	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	600.00	TOTAL U-PECO Energy	11,850.00
Pledge Envelopes	200.00	U-Water 012-75780-00904-xxx	
Sunday School	400.00	-003 Rectory	0.00
TOTAL General	10,162.00	-005 Church	400.00
Insurance		-Rk-S-Rside	2,600.00
Comprehensive - Umbrella	8,200.00	TOTAL U-Water 012-75780-	3,000.00
Work Comp	675.00	TOTAL Utilities	30,900.00
TOTAL Insurance	8,875.00	TOTAL 14 - Operating Expenses	251,729.00
Music Budget			
Music/Organ Maintenance	2,200.00		
Tsunami Productions	24,471.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	280,644.00
TOTAL Music Budget	26,671.00		
Office		OVERALL TOTAL	0.00
Bank Charge	250.00		
Computer supply	1,900.00		
Copier-Printing	600.00		
Envelopes	225.00		
Internet/Phone/WiFi	5,370.00	GROWTH and DEVELOPMENT BUDGET	
Miscellaneous	250.00	and	
Paper	650.00	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES combined	
Payroll Service	400.00		
Postage	1,500.00	From Church Foundation #...5033	13,996.03
TOTAL Office	11,145.00		

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES

Account	Balance as of 12/31/2015	Liability Accounts	Balance as of 12/31/2015
CHECKING TD Bank	56,035.90	Archaeological Study	100.00
Discretionary Fund Checking	974.19	Book 300th	11,588.84
PNC - 16-35-035-0464262*	1,698,606.12	Century Walk	1,180.50
PNC - 16-35-035-0617188	213,939.71	Churchyard Renewal Project	5,591.81
The Church Foundation - 064786	35,455.21	Green Fund	6,102.00
The Church Foundation - 064791	104,407.72	Historical Committee	2,035.58
The Church Foundation - 064934	1,025,080.53	HGDPC	1,066.08
The Church Foundation - 065033	274,228.86	Memorial Fund	219.44
The Church Foundation - 065177	110,349.59	Music Fund	710.00
Vanguard Money Market	4,454.80	Outreach Fund	1,152.00
Vanguard Money Market Joint Acct	18,698.42	Sunday School Fund	147.20
Wachovia - 1513091190	111,739.78	Sunshine Fund	426.76
Wachovia - 1519175748	330,342.80	Youth Group Fund	493.24
Wachovia - 1519178585	343,704.62	TOTAL Liability Accounts	26,989.93
TOTAL Funds	2,621,008.16		

Sunday School Report - Jill Duink

Gloria Dei's children and teachers continue to learn, work, wonder and grow together. The youngest children meet from 9:45 to 10:30 and then join their families for communion in church. Older children come to Sunday School after communion.

This year, the children are learning about how we worship together. The children are creating a project that illustrates the Holy Eucharist in drawings and photographs.

Our time together begins with greeting and singing. The children gather in a circle for a story, told and illustrated through Godly Play materials. After wondering about God's lesson, the children interact with the story materials or create their own work. Finally, prayer and the feast bring us together.

In the coming year, we look forward to deeper friendships, deeper wondering, and to deeper, growing relationships with God.

Property Committee Report - Rev. Joy Segal

Completed in 2015

- Chairs in Riverside Hall - received 44 chairs (free) from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
- Beam repair in Riverside Hall
- Floors refinished in the Sexton's House
- New hedgerow planted on the west side of the Sexton's yard.
- Safety cameras installed in three places on the property
- Exit signs installed in the Church
- Churchyard and Church exterior lighting installed
- New computer purchased for the rector's desk
- Liberty Tree - three days of tree trimming/shaping/removal of dead wood
- Graveyard restoration - \$8040.00

- Existing Conditions Report completed by Daley & Jalboot – extensive analysis of interior and exterior work needed in all buildings
- \$7427.00 spent on miscellaneous property expense for: Church, Grounds, Riverside Hall, Roak House, Rectory, and Sexton's House.

To be done this year:

- Riverside Hall – painting, cleanup. (also under “HGDPC Projects: Current”)
- Floors to be refinished in Riverside Hall
- New Screen/Storm door for rectory kitchen entrance
- Liberty Tree& Landscape Proposal - \$3150.00

To be considered this year:

- Steeple issue – molding loose
- Bump(s) in driveway
- Recommendations from Existing Conditions report
- Recommendations from Sanctuary Floor Report received December 2014
- Replace Church's bulkhead door (quote received and copied to vestry December 2014 - \$6450.00)

To be considered next year:

- New hedgerow on southwest corner of churchyard (where old hedges are now)
- Install light given to us by NPS - \$1900.00
- Stain Sexton House fence (?)
- Pew/floor change – church
- AC in Riverside Hall – on hold. Riverside Hall expansion/improvements – on hold
- Rebuild brick piers adjacent to amphitheater - \$2300.00 – possible recovery of church wall (additional exp.)
- Pointing – Sexton's House
- Painting, Pointing – rectory

HGDPC Projects : Current

- Riverside Hall – painting, cleanup. (also under “To be done this year”)

Possible HGDPC Projects: Future

- Pointing – Sexton's House
- Painting, Pointing – Rectory
- Rebuild brick piers adjacent to amphitheater - \$2300.00 – possible recovery of church wall (additional exp.)
- Addition and/or expansion of Riverside Hall (including AC Riverside Hall)
- Leveling brick pathways – incl. drainage system work as needed – quote from MCC; offer from NPS.
- Upgrade electrical and rewiring in church
- Painting, Pointing Church
- Church Steeple – Painting, interior repair work
- Roof – Church
- Sexton House – patio leveling

Additional:

- May need to replace copier and printer in office in 2016.
- Insurance received (2016) for damage to screen in Riverside Hall – \$569.96

History Committee Report - Jeanette Woehr

The History Committee continues to work with the documents in our archives. Many requests for family genealogy research have been completed this year. Some of these requests require many hours of work.

We continue to research people buried in our graveyard, especially those whose tombstones are being restored.

Are you interested in Gloria Dei's history? Are you interested in preserving the many artifacts entrusted to us from previous generations? If the answer is yes to these questions, please contact me at 856-261-3551 for meeting times to join us in preserving Gloria Dei's history

Hospitality and the Gift of Fellowship - Peggy Buescher, Re Henning, Barb Chilcott and Rita West

"Give and it will be given to you – a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap."
Luke 6:38

The Hospitality Committee thanks all the parishioners for their continued support in making Gloria Dei a "place of welcome" for one another and for all our visitors on Sunday mornings.

Hospitality at Gloria Dei! It is more than just providing service to others. The satisfaction of being there for others and witnessing the fabulous exchange in relationship has been key! There are many opportunities at Gloria Dei to give, share, and take part in life's flow of giving and receiving. This ministry is special for me. Jesus tells us the most important thing for us to do is to love one another – all those random acts of kindness and service display this love, our reaching out to visitors in our midst has, of course, not only been a benefit to them. It has brought a blessing to us as well. We've become closer and more aware of our care for each other. The smiles of appreciation for that hot cup of coffee on a cold winter day or the smile behind the open door for the newcomer cannot be duplicated.

Special thanks to Jerry Buescher, for without his continued generosity the treats for hospitality would not have been forthcoming. The Hospitality Committee is truly asking for your support so that you, as parishioners, can enjoy the fellowship we're used to. There will be sign-up sheets for donation. Please find it in your hearts to help our ministry.

We welcome Rita West to the Hospitality Committee. She has become an integral part of our ministry.

I have always believed that it is in giving that we receive. Our ministry is always open for new ideas and volunteers. Anyone and everyone are welcome at any time.

Thank you once again from all of our visitors you made feel welcome!

Sextons' Report - Jim and Paula Minacci

Sixteen Years as Sextons. Twenty one years as Parishioners.

The daily duties of the Sextons for 2015 include daily cleaning, re-arranging and prepping for the many weekday events here on the grounds and in our buildings. Events include: Yoga Tuesday Evenings, Evensong Tuesday evenings, Yoga and Qigong Wednesday mornings, Book Club once a month, Swedish Colonial Society once a month, Jazz & Joe once a month, and we meet with all people renting the buildings. We greet visitors to the grounds, stamp the National Park Service booklets, and meet with National Park Rangers and maintenance personnel who show up on the property, receive and distribute the mail, Fed Ex and UPS deliveries. We re-organize and clean the cabinets, bathrooms, refrigerator and freezer and feed the occasional homeless person who shows up at our gate. We also enjoy celebrating all the holidays with our parishioners, the Easter Morning brunch for example, and Swedish congregations.

In addition to the building maintenance portion of this life, is the outside grounds work which includes planting and mulching in and around the memorial garden and front parking lot. We blow leaves in front of the Roak building and walkways, and plant grass seed where needed throughout the graveyard and we also help with the snow removal.

We are present at all weddings to assist in setting up and cleaning up. When there is a burial in the Memorial Garden we are there to dig up the ground and assist in getting the names on the plaque in church.

Sexton Sideshow is the other part of what we do here at Gloria Dei. 2015 netted \$10,041.00, a 20% increase over 2014.

In 2015 we started a semi-monthly brunch series which was quite successful. February was our Valentine Brunch and March was St. Patty's Day. All the brunches have live local music. These brunches will continue when calendar permits throughout the year.

In 2015 we had our first Jesus Christ Superstar Show: One Man - Twelve Guitars., which was a success. Friday was show only and Saturday was last supper and show. Last supper was prepared by *Sidekicks* and it was delicious.

May 2015 the Sexton Sideshow had their annual Memorial Dei Family Picnic. Eighteen different artists from all over came to entertain outside, inside the hall and in the church. Local vendors and Food Trucks provided some awesome treats. Philadelphia Brewing and Commonwealth Cider sponsored this event.

June was Make Music Philly once again at Old Swedes. Sexton Sideshow provided two stages and Food Trucks for a wonderful event. We were proud to be involved with a global event.

The 2015 Fall Flea Market was a huge success. We do have two flea markets planned for 2016, May 21st and Oct 22nd.

One of Sexton Sideshow's fun events is always the Graveyard Boogaloo. In 2015 during the day we had jugglers, pumpkin painting, entertaining musicians, and trick or treating through the paths of the graveyards for the families of the neighborhood. In the evening there was three ghoulish bands and lots of people in fun costumes!

The annual Lucia Fest will find the Sextons in the Hospitality Tent. We raised \$1,300.00 in 2015 with good food, and warm glogg.

December was a busy but fun time for Sexton Sideshow. After the Lucia Hospitality Tent we had our 2nd annual Hootenanny & Honky Tonk. The Riverside Hall was turned into a good 'ole southern shindig. Friday night Hootenanny featured 7 local bands and Saturday's Honky Tonk included 8 Americana bands. There was a lot of dancing, singing, eatin', and homemade Elfreh's Alley sweets!

All Sexton Sideshow events raise money for the church fund. Join us and our Sexton Sidekicks who are friends, local neighbors, and church folk that help with these events faithfully. We look forward to continuing Sexton work and Sideshow work into the future at Gloria Dei...keeping buildings and grounds clean and presentable, raising money, building community right here on these beautiful, historic grounds.

Peace and love

Outreach Ministry Report - Rev. Joy Segal

Outreach Ministry at Gloria Dei has been a challenge this year. After deciding we could no longer fulfill our responsibilities to our Guatemala sister congregations due to expenses and the inability of so many to be able to travel to Guatemala we decided last year to move our energies to Episcopal Community Services and the St. Barnabas Mission. We had plans to visit St. Barnabas two or three times during the year but unfortunately that didn't happen. We were able to have upwards of forty children and six mothers from St. Barnabas Mission come to the Colonial Day Fair in May to enjoy an afternoon filled with rides and games and goodies, and that was a joyous occasion for everyone. And again at our Halloween Boo-ga-loo we had a few of the children and mothers from St. Barnabas come and enjoy the festivities. But we never got back ourselves to the St. Barnabas Mission after our Christmas party of 2014. We have quite a lot of folks that join us two or three times a year as Guest Chefs at Ronald McDonald House to make dinner for the residents there. Early this year we began to collect items for the newly opened Women's Homeless Shelter at 8th and Bainbridge, and recently a few parishioners have made meals and joined the women for an evening of table fellowship. Hopefully this much needed shelter will be able to remain open and we will be moved to continue to reach out and respond to the great needs of the homeless women there. But our roles at St. Barnabas Mission, and at St. James School need to be revisited this year to discern if we are called as a congregation to reach out to those places. We are in need of an Outreach Coordinator in order that this ministry might become more pro-active and organized. Please consider whether this might be a ministry you are called to this year. You may contact the rector if you'd like to know more about this.

Music - Paul Fejko

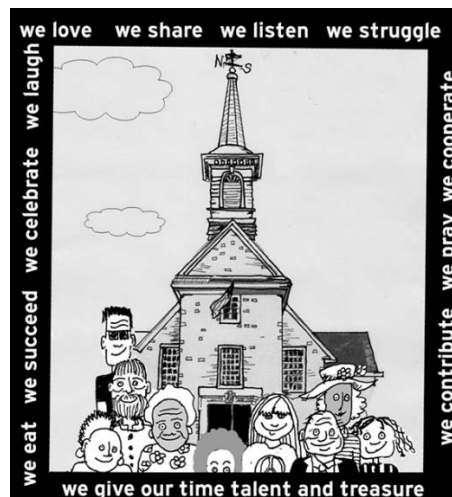
From Your Friendly Parish Musician....

Sexton SideShow events, **Jazz & Joe**, the **Finest Small Organ** in this fair city, singers and instrumentalists engaged for Christmas, Easter (Imagine, actually being able to sing at 6am!) and other special moments, from time to time the **Bell Ensemble** offering music after communion.

There have been some very welcome donations to music from the congregation which helped to make much of this possible. You may have noticed envelopes designated specifically for **Music Program** contributions distributed around the church. I hope these will make it easy for anyone at any time to add to our resources. These can be simply placed in the offering baskets, or given to me, Mark, Joy, or any vestry member. Imagine, 30 people giving just \$1 per week for the year would cover the cost of the beloved Christmas chorus! More people giving just a little bit more would allow special music for many additional occasions – perhaps even weekly!

Stewardship Report - Rev. Joy Segal

This is a challenging subject for Gloria Dei. It is a struggle every year to get someone to volunteer to take the lead in the October Stewardship Campaign. This past year we had no one. So the rector, requesting ideas from the vestry, scheduled the Sunday School teachers for one Sunday to show us about Godly Play and how our children are taught about faith and Scripture. That was fascinating and very helpful as we think about our investment in time, talent, and treasure at Gloria Dei for those little ones. Then our new non-stipendiary clergy associate, The Rev. Paul Harris, preached a Stewardship Sermon on the following Sunday. And on the third Sunday our Treasurer and Vestry Member, Mark Roberts, addressed us on the facts of the financial situation both in our own parish and across the diocese. We capped the Stewardship Campaign off with Commitment Sunday on the second Sunday in November. These were all informative and moving presentations and I know we all appreciate the time and thought put into them. But still, we are a struggling parish and the financial needs are far from upheld by parishioner giving. As you have read in the Rector's Report, more and more of our income comes now from events as slowly the plate and pledge numbers decline. We are a small parish and most of us participate in some way, whether it is in time, talent, or treasure, to help maintain our mission and ministries. As the 21st century church throughout the United States struggles to find a new way to be church so too do we. We will need to be open to new ways to insure our doors remain open as we continue to proclaim the gospel in this place where all are welcome all the time.



Inreach Ministry - Rev. Joy Segal

Once again I would like to hold up those mostly “invisible” saints at Gloria Dei who stay in touch with those in our parish family, and their family and friends, who are sick, elderly, challenged in some way, or homebound. These folks do this work with little or no fanfare, and they prefer it that way. But it’s important that the congregation knows that this work goes on quietly, day in and day out, season upon season. We are so grateful for those who write cards, make phone calls, visit, and keep in touch with those in our parish family who cannot be with us but are always a part of who we are. Blessings to all of you – you know who you are – for this important ministry of pastoral care.

Prayer Chain Ministry - Megan Bartlett

The Prayer Chain Ministry is a group of about a dozen church members who spend time on their own each day praying for the needs and concerns of parishioners, community members, friends, and loved ones. Although we are a relatively unseen ministry, the results of prayer are visible to us whether through the health and healing of those for whom we pray or through our own peace of mind knowing that we share the burdens of others.

I am blessed to be the coordinator of the Prayer Chain Ministry and am grateful for all those who have committed themselves to prayer. Since my report last May, we have prayed for over sixty individuals. This year we lost one of our faithful sisters in prayer, Pam Walker. She had a big impact on the lives of those she prayed for and in our lives, as well. Pam’s death was a reminder that although our prayers are not always answered the way we desire, our connections to each other and to God are strengthened through prayer.

If you feel a calling to serve in some way at Gloria Dei, praying for others is an easy and fruitful way to start. Feel free to email me (megan77777@yahoo.com) or speak to me after church. If you’d like us to pray for someone, share your prayer concerns with me, Rev. Joy Segal, or write them on a prayer concern form in the back of the church.

Peace and blessings,

Liturgy Committee - Rev. Joy Segal

The work of the Liturgy Committee is no secret. It’s out there for everyone to see, every Sunday. A wonderful group of parishioners who love this work gather seasonally to design our worship services. It is an amazing gift to any clergy person to have folks participating in our worship in this way. And it is a great gift to the worshipping community to know that the worship service comes from within its own body. It is fun, delightful, moving, meaningful work. Thank you to all who participate in this ministry. There is always an opening for one more, and one more, and one more to join in this work, even if just for a season. It is a joyful experience and all are encouraged to consider joining.

Altar Guild - Candace Roberts

I would like to thank the members of the Altar Guild for their service to the Gloria Dei congregation this year and for many years past: Peggy Buescher, Dolores Collins, Marge Lord, Barbara Potts, Rita West, and Jeanette Woehr

Many thanks to Rita West and Peggy Buescher for baking the communion bread! Please thank both of these marvelous bakers for saving us from flat, dry wafers every week!

We welcome anyone who wishes to serve in this ministry.

HGDPC - Candace Roberts

Board of Directors: Candace Roberts, Board Chair; Jeanette Woehr, Vice Chair; Treasurer-open; Secretary-open; Rev. D. Joy Segal, ex officio; Peggy Buescher, Trustee; Joshua Thomas Castaño, Trustee; Dennis Colgan, Jr., Trustee; Anthony Croasdale, Trustee; Thomas Daley AIA, Trustee; Marco Federico, Trustee; Amy Grant, Trustee; Mark Roberts, Trustee; Alan Segal, Trustee; Robert A. Stewart, Esquire, Trustee; Rev. Dr. Kim||Eric Williams, Trustee.

As the Foundation is now over two years old, some Board members are rotating off and we are recruiting new trustees to maintain the vitality of the organization and carry on with the important work of preserving Old Swedes.

This year, we have paid for the painting of Riverside Hall. The goal for a fundraising event, Spirits & History, on May 13th, is to restore those funds to the treasury. The next event will be in October. This event is in the planning stages but will be a bicycle rally to historic locations within a 2-ish mile radius.

We do hope the Gloria Dei congregation will support these events by attending and recommending the program to their social networks, friends and family.



Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes')
Preservation Corporation

Thank You to the Staff - Joy Segal

As always, it is hard to say enough about our incredible, amazing, hard-working, dedicated staff. We do need to remember to say THANK YOU loudly and often to Jim and Paula Minacci, Vicki Cusack, and Paul Fejko for the wonderful way in which they help us, guide us, protect us, and serve us throughout the year. Without them we would be so much less. They are the face and voice and very often the first impression of Gloria Dei to visitors, strangers, seekers, and those in need. They are priceless and precious to us, and we thank them and love them and give thanks for their presence with us. Blessings to all of you.

Questions - All

Election Announcement - Judges of Election

Adjournment - Joy Segal

Spirits and History!

JOIN US

When:

May 13, 2016
(Friday the 13th!)
7-10pm

Where:

Gloria Dei
(Old Swedes')
Church
916 Swanson St.
Philadelphia
PA 19147

Tickets available at www.preserveoldswedes.org
\$50 per person

Featuring:

- Spirited tastings to match the times of eight of our illustrious permanent residents!
- Jazz Trio courtesy of The Jazz Sanctuary
- Cocktail Party Hors d'Oeuvres
- Fun in the Graveyard!

Gustavus Hesselius, 1600's - Vodka
John Douglas, 1700's - Gin
George Ord, 1700's - Rum
John Stille, 1700's - Whiskey

Peter Cruise, 1800's - Craft Beer
Amandeus Johnson, 1800's - Aquavit
The Peales, 1800's - Wine
Alexander Wilson, 1800's - Scotch

HELP US PAINT RIVERSIDE HALL!

Proceeds benefit Historic Preservation at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church. Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation is a 501c3 charity. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please thank and support our sponsors!

q u a n t u m
t h i n k



To support the historic preservation of the properties and grounds for Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church so that future generations may share in this historic and architectural treasure.

100 HGDPC Founding Lifetime Member

This opportunity is for those who wish to support The Historic Gloria Dei Preservation Corporation and for those who wish to honor an important person in their life by making a gift in a loved one's name. The **HGDPC 100 Founding Lifetime Member** program will be offered to the first 100 individuals who pay \$1,000 or pledge \$1,000, to be paid quarterly or monthly over 12 consecutive months by check or credit card.

There are many benefits to becoming a HGDPC 100 Founding Lifetime Member

Benefits to enrich our society:

- You will be contributing to the long-term preservation of this historic property
- Your gift will inspire others to join in this mission to preserve Old Swedes
- You will have the satisfaction of knowing that your gift will be safely invested to provide support for decades to come

Benefits to share our story:

HGDPC 100 Founding Lifetime Members will be acknowledged for their contributions in the following manner:

- Names will be permanently displayed and honored on the website, in Annual Reports, and in selected HGDPC publications
- Receive a beautiful lapel pin to wear and identify yourself as a supporter of Old Swedes
- Receive a certificate of appreciation, suitable for framing
- Free attendance to one HGDPC event each year and offered discounted tickets to other events as may be appropriate
- Will be able to build marketing exposure by offering door prizes at events



Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation
Columbus Blvd. & Christian St., Philadelphia, PA 19147
Please join us Today by check or online at www.preserveoldswedes.org



The Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation (HGDPC) was established to fund, support, and supervise the restoration, renovation, and ongoing maintenance of the Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church buildings, grounds, and graveyard so that future generations may share in this historic and architectural treasure.



Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the individuals below who are leading the way for the preservation of Old Swedes'

*Ann Blackstone
Margaret Sooy Bridwell
Jerome Buescher
Margaret Buescher
Barbara Chilcott
Jill M. D'Andrea
J&M Preservation Studio
Sandra Pfaff
Quantum-Think*

*Reeves McEwing, LLP
Candace Roberts
Eric Michael Sanchez
Rev. Joy Segal
The Swedish Colonial Society
Margaretha Talerman
Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams
Jeanette Woehr*

*Historic Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Preservation Corporation
Columbus Blvd. & Christian St., Philadelphia, PA 19147*

*Please join us Today by check or online at www.preserveoldswedes.org
The Corporation is 501 c(3) charitable organization. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*