



St. Thomas
Episcopal Church

Seekers, searchers,
and doubters welcome

St. Thomas

in the time of COVID-19

Vestry Update
September 27, 2020

Vestry Update for the STC Community

Update on what has been happening this year.

- Finance
- Worship
- Outreach
- Christian Formation
- Buildings and Grounds
- Looking ahead...

Finance

Looking back at the STC Annual Budget for Fiscal 2020
- *a.k.a. "the best laid plans..."*

Revenues **\$681,180.00**

*Pledges, Loose Plate, Thrift Shop Income, Rental Income, DIT
Investment Income*

Expenditures **\$790,094.26**

*Personnel costs, maintenance/utilities, Diocesan Assessment and
Outreach, worship/christian education expenses, administrative
expenses.*

Projected Deficit **\$108,914.26**

Drawdown from church-managed endowment

Finance

Three takeaways from 2020 so far:

- Our Clergy and our Finance Director Michele Richardson, have done a great job, guiding STC through this tumultuous year.
- The New York Diocese has been doing everything it could to help us and other parishes.
- **And most of all, we acknowledge the generosity and commitment of the STC community members who have continued to pledge.**

Worship

The old things have gone away,
and look, new things have arrived!

2 Corinthians 5:17



Worship

- Remote church has been a lifeline - keeping us connected, holding a space for worship and prayer during a time when we have needed it more than ever.
- Above-average Sunday attendance throughout the summer, and beyond.
- Online compline and morning prayer - creating comfort during difficult times.
- Project to add video equipment to the church
 - Opening our services to the wider community especially at Easter, Christmas, etc.
 - Funds available from the Edifice Fund

Worship

We have seen:

- Our congregation - showing resilience and a willingness to adapt. *It's amazing what we can adjust to!*
- Our clergy - embracing technology and *making it work.*
- Our music program - showing endless creativity.
- Our friends at All Saints – an opportunity to welcome and build community with our fellow Episcopalians.

Outreach

Adjustments to outreach programming:

- The need to balance safety of volunteers and community members.
- A time of new and unprecedented community needs.

Outreach remains central to our mission.

Christian Formation

- Sunday School - Godly Play, Storymakers, and JYG, all continuing online.
- Anti Racism - the Sacred Ground program is underway and will have its first meeting in October.
- Bible Study on zoom.

Buildings and Grounds

- The HVAC project and improvements have been completed.
 - The projected budget for the project was \$625,000 in endowment funds.
 - The final cost of the project came in at \$535,000. **\$90,000 under budget - 14% less than projected**
 - Those funds go back into our investments.
- The work has vastly increased the efficiency of our systems – lowering utility costs.
- Our buildings look better and are at less risk of mold/moisture.
- Going forward, we will be able to make more use of our buildings to advance our mission *12 months of the year.*
- Diocesan Support through reduction in STC's 2020 and 2021 Assessments

Thank you to Dave Bilotti

for overseeing this project with professionalism and diligence.

Looking Ahead...

- COVID-19 remains a constantly evolving situation
 - STC's COVID Task Force monitoring safety and weighing in on decision-making
- Stewardship
- Budget

The St. Thomas Vestry thanks you for your continued prayers and support!

St. Thomas Vestry

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