

The Cathedral Church
of St. Luke & St. Paul

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Annual Meeting Agenda

February 4th, 2018 | The Cathedral Church of St. Luke & St. Paul

- Acceptance of the Previous Year's Minutes
- Junior Warden Election
- Vestry Election
- Convention Delegates Election
- Celebrating 2017 and Presentation of the 2018 Budget

The thank you's for the outgoing Vestry members will occur at the end of the service before the benediction, processional hymn, and dismissal.



Letter from the Dean

The Very Reverend R. Peet Dickinson, IV

“For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship.”

1 Corinthians 9:16-17

Beloved Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I look back on the year just passed, I have been reminded of these words of Saint Paul to the church in Corinth. The Apostle was ever mindful of the enormous privilege it was to be a minister of the Gospel. He was a recipient of grace, and as such, was not a proprietor, but a steward of the Gospel. He was so grateful for his salvation that he could not entertain the slightest notion of boasting. He knew that Jesus saves, and not we ourselves. He declares to not preach the Gospel is therefore woe to him, but to preach it is a delightful necessity.

2017 was a year where the joy and conviction of Gospel stewardship of the kind that Paul is describing here has been wonderfully on display in our congregation, and for that I give wholehearted thanks to the Lord and to you. This reality was most vividly seen in those months of my Sabbatical last summer. To be apart from the parish for that extended time and to see that the Gospel ministry continued with vigor and flourishing showed that the power for salvation and growth in our church is the Lord's, and he will manifest it through the many members of the body, and magnificently did he manifest it in and through you all!

Here are just a few of the new ministries that were accomplished or initiated while I was away:

Cathedral Forums

Neighborhood Gatherings

Cathedral Spruce Up

Compline and Public Theology

Partnerships with Gospel partners – Young Life, Reformed University Fellowship, and InterVarsity

Our values of worship, discipleship, and mission all moved from strength to strength and I returned to find the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul more fully embodying our identity of being a diverse, urban, Anglican church that, being formed in the beauty of the Gospel, exists to worship God and love our city. The whole body of the Cathedral seems to be growing in the conviction that it is a necessity to preach the Gospel in word and deed always with the humility of stewards rather than proprietors, always mindful that the same Gospel of grace is our means of salvation and therefore our message of salvation.

And it is due to this conviction to be good stewards of the Gospel that we have faced the decision handed down by the South Carolina Supreme Court last August with a peaceful resolve. We seem to know that our vocation, first and foremost, is as stewards of the Gospel, and under that is our sub-vocation as stewards of the physical plant our congregation has occupied for these last 200 years. In that knowledge, we have freedom to face the potential of losing this real property with grace and courage. We preach the Gospel, so as long as we are in these facilities, they serve as a Gospel ministry center. We long to preserve them as such, but if we must leave, the Gospel preaching goes with us and whatever place we occupy will likewise be a Gospel ministry center. Our vocation as stewards of the Gospel goes on regardless of how our sub-vocations may change.

As a preacher of the Gospel, I have no grounds for boasting. I can and will, however, boast in the Lord who has given me a Gospel to preach, and who has granted me the immense privilege of serving as your Dean and Rector. Jenny, Mae, Ellen, Bo, and I look forward with joy to another year serving along side you as fellow stewards of the Gospel.

Peace in Christ Jesus,

Peet+



2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

February 5th, 2017 | Quentin Jackson

I. Call to order and Opening Prayer: offered by The Very Rev R. Peet Dickinson IV, Dean of The Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul, who presided over the meeting.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting: On a motion made by Stafford Stinson and seconded by Courtney Thompson, the minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were approved unanimously and filed by title.

III. Proposed By-law changes: Andrew Alwine presented the report of the task force he had led to review the Cathedral's By-laws and to recommend appropriate changes. He noted that other task force members included, The Dean, Henry Golabek, and Seth Whitaker.

In addition to tidying up some of the wording to recognize the changing environment in which we were now operating, Andrew noted that the most significant change related to the terms of the Senior and Junior Wardens. It was proposed that both Wardens would be elected to a two-year term with the possibility of one extension for a similar period. It was also suggested that the Junior Warden no longer be charged with overseeing the Buildings and Grounds as this was now being handled by the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Copies of the changes had previously been circulated to the parishioners. After responding to some questions for clarification, and on a motion proposed by Daniel Vice and seconded by Alonzo Galvan, the new By-laws were unanimously approved.

IV. Junior Warden Election: The Dean introduced Quentin Jackson as the nominee for a one-year term as Junior Warden. He explained that it was a one-year term to align the expiration of terms of the Senior and Junior Wardens as incorporated in the new By-laws. There being no other nominations, Quentin Jackson was elected to the position of Junior Warden by acclamation.

V. Vestry Election: The Dean presented the nominees for election to the Vestry. Bob Cantey was proposed to serve the remaining two years of Nancy Tinker Pace's term, and Bobby Cale, Beth Webb Hart, and Matthew Lambert were proposed for full three year terms to replace those whose terms had expired. There being no other nominations, the nominees for the Vestry were elected by acclamation for the terms proposed.

VI. Senior Warden's Report: The Senior Warden, Todd Lant, presented his report for the year. He noted that much of his time had been spent helping to organize the work of the Cathedral and that there was a lot to celebrate in many areas. The details were contained in his written report which had been given to all the attendees and he asked that his written report be filed by title.

VII. Junior Warden's Report: In his written report the Junior Warden, Wood Struthers, noted that funds had been made available for several large and on-going projects. These included preliminary work on repairs to the Portico, replacement of the air conditioner and handler on the northwest corner of the Cathedral, upgrading of the sound system, installation of the recently donated Steinway Grand Piano, and significant work on new plumbing to alleviate a critical issue with sewage flow. Wood Struthers was not able to be present but his contribution as Junior Warden was noted. His written report was filed by title.

VIII. Re-Election of Diocesan Convention Delegates: The Dean noted that The Cathedral was entitled to send four lay delegates to the Diocesan Convention on March 10-11 at St. Paul's church, Summerville. Because of the significant work that occurred at the 2016 Convention and in the 12 months since on the matter of affiliation with the Anglican Church in North America, the Diocese had requested that the 2016 delegates be re-elected to also serve in 2017. Thus, the proposed slate would be Todd Lant, Senior Warden, Wood Struthers, retired Junior Warden, Shannon Galvan and Daniel Vice. Tom Hample, Lisa Barker, Seth Whitaker, and Paulette Cantey would continue to serve as alternate delegates should the need arise. The nominees were re-elected by acclamation.

The Dean thanked all those whose names had been considered for Vestry or Convention Delegates for their willingness to serve.

IX. Celebrating 2016 and presentation of the 2017 Budget: The Treasurer, Ned Simmons, presented the summary financial statement for 2016 and the budget for 2017. He reported that at the end of the year the Cathedral's finances were sound with over \$108,000 cash on hand and no debt. Although the Cathedral was still in a sound financial condition, there were some challenges ahead as we seek to grow the church and deal with significant expenses relating to deferred maintenance items. The Vestry had approved a budget for 2017 resulting in a deficit of \$90,000 and anticipated cash on hand at the end of the year of \$18,000.

The Treasurer encouraged the congregation to follow the advice he gives the Vestry at every meeting when considering the Cathedral finances, "Rejoice always, Pray without ceasing, Give thanks in all circumstances" 1 Thess 5:16&17.

Ned Simmons was thanked for all his hard work during his 3+ years as treasurer and a recognition that during this time his diligence had allowed a tremendous strengthening of the Cathedral's finances. The complete financial report was contained in the printed materials and was filed by title.

X. The Year Ahead: A Vision of Being Salt & Light:

a. The Dean, The Very Reverend R. Peet Dickinson IV, presented his continuing vision for the Cathedral church of St. Luke & St. Paul. He noted that the cathedral is a Diverse, Urban, Anglican church that, being formed in the beauty of the Gospel exists to worship God and love our city. This vision will continue to grow within our three values of Worship, Discipleship, and Mission, along with the supporting value of operations.

b. After much prayer and discernment, and to continue to strengthen the unique nature of the Cathedral and its place in the City of Charleston, it had been decided to make a change to the service schedule beginning on February 12. The 7:45AM service will be unchanged, the Choral Eucharist will be moved to 9:15AM, and the Contemporary Eucharist will be moved to 11:00AM. A time of refreshments and socializing will continue to be held at 10:30AM.

c. Peet noted that he and his family will be taking an overdue Sabbatical from June 19 to September 19, 2017. He asked for continuing prayers for the Dickinsons and for the Cathedral family as plans for this period develop.

d. His full report was contained in the meeting materials and was filed by title.

XI. Paul Thomas, Organist & Director of Choral Ministries, noted that this is an exciting time to be living into the vision of the Cathedral Church. The choir and the junior Choristers continued to perform very well and the recent visit of the Choristers from St Thomas Church NYC was inspirational for all who attended. With the change of service times there will be many opportunities for people to join the choir, to help with hospitality and to serve on the Altar Guild. The Dean noted that Paul will become a full-time member of the Cathedral staff in September. Paul's written report was filed by title.

XII. Ryan Thompson, Pastoral Associate for Worship and Discipleship, presented his report to the congregation. As we continue to attract families to the Cathedral, he noted that it was important that opportunities for Christian growth be available for all ages. To this end, he was delighted that Lisa Barker will be heading up a new children's ministry to be offered during the sermon time at the 09:15 and the 11:00 services. It is also planned to offer two or three teaching series for adults on a Sunday morning. The Community Groups continue to be a vital part of life at the Cathedral and he encouraged those who were not already members of a group to sign up. Following the success of the first Listen & Speak conference in the fall, a second one is planned for October when another outstanding speaker will challenge us to become more involved in our church and the surrounding neighborhood. Ryan's written report was filed by title.

XIII. Patrick Schlabs, Pastoral Associate for Mission, presented his report. He encouraged people to recognize that we are all engaged in mission and that this engagement is more likely to happen in your neighborhood than in some

foreign land. The Cathedral has recently had the opportunity to begin working with Young Life who use part of the Parish house for their staff offices. Other events are being planned to provide missional opportunities both near and far, and he thanked those who had been involved in international missions in the past year and encouraged them to continue to take the Gospel into the farthest corners of the world. Patrick’s written report was filed by title.

XIV. Recognition of retiring Vestry members, Junior Warden, and Treasurer: The Dean took the opportunity to recognize retiring Vestry Members, Nancy Tinker Pace, Andrew Alwine, Stafford Stinson, and Courtney Thompson who were now retiring from the Vestry. Each one was presented with a framed print as they were warmly thanked for their contribution to the wellbeing of the Cathedral. Wood Struthers was also thanked, in absentia, and was to be given a framed print on his return.

The retiring treasurer, Ned Simmons, had brought a level of commitment and focus to the position which was an outstanding example of Christian service. The Dean had composed a special Doxology in Ned’s honor and proceeded to demonstrate that, although not often on public display, his guitar skills and melodious singing continued to impress. The Doxology was Titled “So We Can” and had the theme of one of Ned’s favorite sayings: “Rejoice, Pray and Give Thanks in All Things”

XV. Other Business: The Dean noted that the 2016 Annual Report contained written reports from other Cathedral ministries. He encouraged the congregation to read the reports and not to hesitate to contact the appropriate member of staff if they had any questions, or if they felt called to help in any way.

XVI. The meeting concluded at 12:45PM with a Blessing.

February 5, 2017

Quentin Jackson, Recording Secretary

Candidate for Junior Warden

Matthew Lambert

Matthew Lambert and his wife, Amy, began attending The Cathedral in 2013. They have one daughter, Merrilee (3). Matthew spent his formative years in the Midwest but has lived in Charleston since 2002 (Amy since 2004). He teaches Christian Philosophy & Religion at First Baptist School and occasionally gives history tours downtown, when he is not at the park with Merrilee.

At the Cathedral he has served as a Lay Reader, member of the Vestry, teacher of Cathedral Forums, and has preached on occasion. He is honored to have the opportunity to serve in the capacity of Junior Warden.



Candidates for Vestry



Sean Coughlin

Sean and his wife, Rachel, have lived here in midtown Charleston for almost 2 years. They are expecting their first child, a son, due in April.

Sean is an entrepreneur and attorney. He earned an undergraduate degree at Harvard College and J.D. at the University of Virginia School of Law. He's practiced at law firms in Atlanta and Manhattan. In 2013, he founded FaithStreet, a generosity management platform for faith communities and serves as FaithStreet CEO today.

Sean and Rachel have been attending the Cathedral since Easter 2016 and were confirmed by the Bishop in November 2016. At the Cathedral, he's been involved in Men's Ministry planning, Radical Mentoring (under Peet's and Jay Crouse's leadership), serving at the contemporary service as a Greeter and facilitating and hosting a men's book study in his home. He is thankful and honored to be called to serve on the Vestry.

Karen Fine

Karen Fine and her husband David have served in Anglican churches in Texas and South Carolina, joining the Cathedral Church in 2014. In her forty-year walk with Christ, Karen has shared her gifts as prayer minister, wedding guild member, missionary, mission study group host, church greeter, church administrator, and small group leader.

David and Karen have an eight-year-old grandson, Preston, who resides in Boca Raton, Florida and is a three-year attendee of Grand Camp at Camp St. Christopher. Karen is self-employed as a Certified Public Accountant.

Before joining the Anglican Church, Karen was nurtured by spirit-filled and Bible-centered churches. Karen appreciates the variety of education, worship, and music that glorifies God and meets the needs of the congregation. She is honored to offer herself in service to the Cathedral Church.



Sally Young

Sally grew up in Charleston and came to the Cathedral in middle school as a part of the youth group. She graduated from Wofford College and the University of South Carolina, working during her college summers on staff at Camp Saint Christopher. After college, she attended Holy Trinity Church for several years and volunteered with the youth group there. She is the children's librarian at the John L. Dart Library on Upper King Street and lives in Wagener Terrace. Sally has been a member of the Cathedral since fall of 2016 and currently serves on altar guild and with youth ministry. She is looking forward to the opportunity to serve as a part of Vestry.



Phil Waggoner

Phil and wife Beverly moved to Charleston in 2004. The following year, Phil, son Brady, daughter-in-law Jennifer, and Tom Jeffrey founded a new advertising agency in Charleston called Hook (on King Street). This past November Hook celebrated its 12th year in business.

Their son Brand and wife Jennifer live in the Wagner Terrace neighborhood in Charleston and have two children, Sousa, 11 and Juddy, 8.

Phil and Bev have been worshipping at the Cathedral for about five years. They live on Smith St - just a short walk from the church. If you asked Phil what his hopes might be for the church as it moves through the upcoming months, he'll likely say that it's his hope and belief that the Cathedral family will flourish no matter what hand it's dealt regarding the buildings.

Senior Warden Report

Todd Lant | Senior Warden

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

As I reflect on the past year and pray for our future, there is one word that repeatedly comes to mind – Resilience. Resilience is defined as “the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape”. As I prepared my report to discuss the overall health of our Cathedral, from my perspective, this is quite fitting descriptor for us. Throughout many changes this year, we continued to grow and progress in Being the heart of God for the heart of Charleston. This year we faced many pressures applied to our church body, yet we constantly returned to our identity in Christ.

Two significant challenges stand out most significantly to me – our Dean’s sabbatical and the ongoing legal activities that can easily distract us from our work of the great commission. Within our body we faced many other pressures – the joy of new life, the grief of loss, changes in families, new and lost jobs, retirements, graduations, marriages, financial challenges, new friends, loneliness, relief, sorrow, joy, and immense support from those around us.

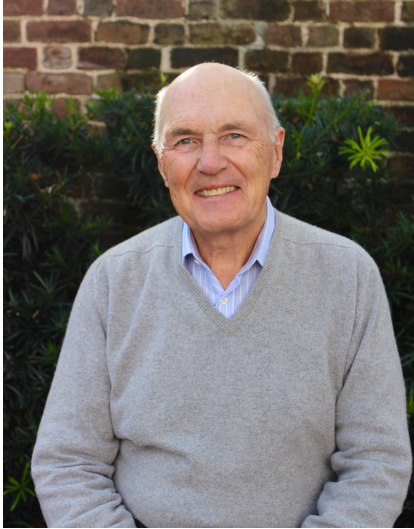
Our focus on Christ and the work he has given us to do as a Church has enabled us to grow and return to our original shape – much like a resilient spring does when pressure is released from it. I have watched our staff develop new skills and take on new responsibilities. Our programs have flourished, our Bible studies have grown, we have launched new programs, we have worshiped in new ways, welcomed new members and shared in fellowship and community differently. Because of our resilience as a body, we are a flourishing congregation.

I am pleased to report to you that my assessment of the state of our church this year is one of good health. The fruit is evident even amid challenges. We have grown in our capabilities, are financially viable, have matured in our ability to care for each other, have welcomed new members to our ranks, and worship in new ways daily. I am truly blessed to serve alongside a dedicated, remarkable, and Godly Vestry. I am honored to work with our staff. I am deeply privileged to worship and serve side by side with each of you in God’s kingdom. Lastly, I am thankful for a caring family that supports me daily. I am certain that the coming year will hold many new pressures for us and am equally confident that God’s providence will provide the resilience needed to carry on his work.

Blessings,

Todd





Junior Warden Report

Quentin Jackson | Junior Warden

It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as your Junior Warden over the last year. I could not have done it without the support of many members of the congregation, particularly during the Sabbatical Spruce Up sessions we had during the months of June, July, and August.

During these three sessions we were able to:

- Paint the public areas and rest rooms on the first floor of the parish house.
- Make repairs to the shutters in the church.
- Carry out significant weed removal and tidying up in the graveyard.
- Paint the metal gates on the south side of the courtyard.
- Replace the broken fence round the playground.
- Myriad small repairs on the property.

Although this seems to be a short list, it represents about 125 man/hours of volunteer labor provided by the parishioners. Thanks to all who contributed in any way.

We were also blessed this year by the generous offer by my son-in-law, Reinhard Grab, who brought in a team every three months to clean the floor in the parish hall and the first-floor corridors. What a difference this made, and at no charge to the church!!

I cannot let this opportunity pass without acknowledging the fantastic work done by our buildings and grounds manager, Anthony Royal. Anthony is hard working, loyal, and willing to undertake the vast array of tasks associated with providing the best possible environment for the Cathedral congregation. Thank you, Anthony.

Although we have done a lot this year, including replacing an HVAC unit, and rescuing another from life support, there is much to be done. You don't have to look far to see many areas needing attention and opportunities to spend money we don't have. I know this will get done, but it all takes time.

It seems that the Junior Warden's role is solely concerned with buildings and grounds. This is not the case. It has been a blessing to have served with the Cathedral Leadership Team and the Vestry in many different areas this year. Much has been achieved and The Lord has blessed us in so many ways.

2017 Financial Report

Seth Whitaker | Treasurer



On behalf of the Cathedral's Finance Committee and myself as Treasurer, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the Cathedral in 2017. Trusting in the Lord's abundant provision, your Vestry decided to invest in the future of our Body by establishing a deficit budget for 2017; investing first and foremost in the people who serve our parish; and placing a great deal of trust in those people to find creative ways to provide the programs that enhance the life of our church. All those involved exceeded the Vestry's and the Finance Committee's expectations during the year. As God's faithful people, you gave of your financial resources, as well as time and talent, at a level beyond expectations, particularly in the last quarter of the year. Our Cathedral staff did a wonderful job of stewarding the Cathedral's funds to save on administrative costs while continuing to provide the platform from which we, "formed in the beauty of the Gospel, exist to worship God and love our city." Thanks to all of these efforts, we ended the year with approximately \$66,000 less of an income deficit than expected.

For 2018, our Cathedral church faces a great deal of uncertainty. Fortunately, thanks to your continued support, we are in a financial position to face that uncertainty with the humility and confidence that come from faith rooted in Christ. Your Vestry has approved a balanced budget for 2018 which will continue to support the worship, discipleship, and mission of our parish. The Finance Committee and I will continue to oversee the Cathedral's finances, trusting that our Father who is in heaven will give good things to those who ask Him (Matt. 7:11).

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul 2017 - 2018 Comparison Budget

	2017 BUDGET	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET
Total Income	\$810,089	\$844,899	\$753,004
Program Expenses	\$64,700	\$79,751	\$61,800
Administrative Expenses	\$153,653	\$182,992	\$147,468
Building & Grounds Expenses	\$220,278	\$157,641	\$127,350
Personnel	\$459,408	\$446,220	\$415,877
Total Expenses	\$898,039	\$866,604	\$752,495
Net Income	-\$87,950	-\$21,705	\$510
Unrestricted Cash in Bank as of 01/01/2018		\$93,791	



Operations Report

Ryan Thompson | Executive Pastor

Constancy and Change. These two words can be used as defining themes of the past year of ministry at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul; and in fact, will likely describe us for the foreseeable future.

Ministry

The constancy is most notable in our core ministries. We continue to worship the Triune God as the people of God through our Anglican roots. 2017 saw a notable increase in the number of people gathering for corporate worship in our Sunday services. From that increase, 37 people participated in 3 Intro to the Cathedral classes, our pathway towards deeper engagement in the church Body. In a year when our Dean and Rector was able to take a much needed Sabbatical, God caused the Cathedral not to stagnate, but flourish and grow.

Staff

Some of the change in the year was evident among our staff. We said goodbye to Kelli Hample after her faithful service among us for 8 years as her family relocated for her husband Tom to begin seminary training. By God's grace, though, four of our other staff members, Patrick, Paul, Jacob and Heather, saw an increase in their time and capacity and we have been well served by their efforts.

Systems

The Cathedral became more deeply integrated with Planning Center Online, a software tool that has enabled us to more comprehensively manage our ministries. Through PCO in 2017, 210 people were signed up to serve in ministries across our church, more than \$300,000 were digitally donated, and 520 participants registered for 10 events throughout the year. In the coming years, we'll continue to grow in our use of technology to more effectively steward the mission God has given the Cathedral.

Budget

For 2017, the Finance Committee submitted a budget that, in faith, projected modest growth, planned for needed attention to our facilities, and resourced our primary ministries sparingly but sufficiently. As we drew near the end of the year, we anticipated financial challenges. But, by God's grace, expenses were kept down, major building needs were not incurred and the people of God gave generously, enabling us to end the year much better than expected. Our 2017 budget planned for a deficit of almost \$88,000 and depended on using up cash reserves; our actuals saw a deficit of only \$22,000, putting us in a much stronger position to continue our growth in 2018!

Personal

I assumed the position of Executive Pastor in early 2017, helping Peet shoulder some of the operational responsibilities of the church. For some time, though, I've considered a call to move to a career outside of professional ministry as a means of sowing the Gospel in a new capacity, one that relieves financial burden on the church while enabling me to support my family. In 2017, I became a small business owner and reduced my working time at the Cathedral, hoping to effectively steward God's mission bi-vocationally. I am thankful for this new endeavor and pray God will use it and my engagement with His church to bring much glory to Himself.

Forward

Change will continue as we move forward in the coming years of ministry. But our God and His love for his people is unchanging and we will continue to worship Him and love our city. I praise God for His work among the Cathedral!

Worship & Mission Report

The Rev. Patrick Schlabs | Associate Rector

“The Cathedral is a diverse, urban Anglican Church who, being formed in the beauty of the gospel, exists to worship God and love our city.”

The Cathedral's vision statement is about both identity and purpose. At first glance, the first part is about our identity (diverse, urban, Anglican) and the second is about our purpose (to worship and love). The middle part (being formed) is the key connection between identity and purpose. The more our identity is firmly rooted in the gospel, the more we are able to faithfully fulfill our primary call as Christians to love God and love others. Our gospel-transformed identity is a means of worshipping God and loving our city.



One significant change in worship was by swapping our service times to better connect with our changing neighborhood. This has led to consistent growth from those who live around us, including many students. These new members have infused our worship with life and have begun to serve in many capacities around our church, including in the worship band. In 2018, I plan to invest significant resources into expanding volunteer leadership in our 11 am service through recruiting, training, and releasing new leaders.

While I am grateful for all the Lord is doing in our contemporary service, I have also sensed a powerful unity in our combined services this past year. There is something so profound about seeing a group of people from various backgrounds and worship preferences gather to pray, sing, listen, and commune together. In preparation for our unknown future, I pray that the Lord uses our joint services in 2018 to transform our diverse church into a more unified church.

Our identity at the Cathedral is rooted in our worship. And while this is right and good, I believe 2017 saw our worship inspire our mission in new ways. Bridge Church, Listen & Speak, college partnerships, and Public Theology all contributed to our call to love and serve our city. In 2018, my hope is that we will continue to see the Cathedral become a center for Christian thought and culture in Charleston. This year, we also continue to pray and plan for adult conversions and baptisms, expanded connection between Bridge Church and the Cathedral, and an emerging partner in international mission. It is my prayer that these things will help our identity to be firmly rooted in Christ as we seek to worship God and love our city.



Youth Ministry Report

Jacob Graudin | Ministry Assistant

Youth ministry is a difficult thing to define. At the Cathedral, we have had to carve out our own path over the years. As the latest in a long line of youth ministers, I have had the challenge and the blessing of discipling young people in conjunction with their parents and godparents. I have come to admire the tenacity and fidelity of families all across the Cathedral body who have committed themselves to raising their children in the midst of a community, regardless of geographic barriers and time-strapped schedules. It is immensely encouraging to see the youth of the Cathedral brought up to follow Jesus in the midst of a world that pushes them to chase everything else.

Here are some highlights from this past year:

- Our youth ministry has coalesced around a group of adolescents and volunteer leaders, numbering around ten, who meet every Sunday afternoon from 4:00-5:45pm in Wellbrock Hall.
- Every month of the 2017-2018 school year, we have had student outings to different places and activities, including The Alley bowling, Sky Zone, and Escape in 60. These outings have given our students much-needed time together to grow in relationship.
- During the summer, we teamed up with the Church of the Holy Cross's youth ministry and put on Camp Next Gen, a week-long summer camp experience outside of Columbia. We spent the week playing in the midlands heat, swimming in the pool, enjoying the pond, and, most importantly, growing as disciples of Jesus through worship and teaching. We had nine middle school campers and one high school leader attend.
- We enacted a standardized youth confirmation process, at the end of which seven middle and high school students were confirmed.
- We have a team of dedicated volunteer leaders and parents who serve our youth and model Christ for them.

As we look towards 2018, we have many opportunities to grow our ministry to youth, both in size and in depth. The following are some directions in which we are currently moving:

- We will continue our tradition of partnering with Holy Cross for our summer retreat to Camp Next Gen, this year taking place from June 10th-15th. It's open to all middle school students, from rising 6th-graders to rising 9th-graders. If your student will be entering middle school this fall, Camp Next Gen is a great way to help them grow as disciples of Jesus in a community of faith.
- We are continuing to optimize the continued ministry of our youth community groups, focusing especially on equipping leaders and broadcasting continual invitation to be a part of what we do.

If you have any questions about our Youth Ministry, please contact Jacob Graudin at jacob@your-cathedral.org.

Choral Ministry Report

Paul Thomas | Organist & Choral Ministry Director

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)

In the midst of litigation and uncertainty about our future, the Lord has been gracious to the Cathedral’s Choral Ministry. Even after losing choir members following a change in service times last spring, we have since welcomed seventeen new children and adults as committed members of the Cathedral Choirs. For seven of these, the choirs were an entry point into the Cathedral community. As the Psalmist writes, “this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.” Beyond simply acclimating to the choir, these new singers beautifully and fearlessly led on Christmas Eve when four of our most experienced singers were out due to illness. In addition to their faithful leadership on Sunday mornings, the choirs sang services of Evensong, Lessons and Carols, Compline at the Listen & Speak conference, and a festival Eucharist for Ascension Day. Thanks are due to Gail Macomson for hosting lovely receptions after some of these special services.



We welcomed choral associate Emmalee Hinson, who holds music degrees from Cambridge University as well as the College of Charleston, and we bade farewell to Justin Watkins as he moved to Brooklyn, NY to pursue further education and teaching opportunities. Justin and now Emmalee have both provided secure vocal leadership as well as leadership from the conducting podium. They have contributed to our fellowship, and been welcomed as family.

Two members of the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Girls participated in the Royal School of Church Music’s summer training course at Duke University Chapel. This opportunity is available to all of our choristers, and the Cathedral’s RSCM membership helps make it more accessible financially. In the week between singing the gorgeous choral liturgies of Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve, the choristers shared Christmas carols with some of our neighbors on Coming and Warren Streets, as well as the fire station. They consumed impressive amounts of cookies and hot chocolate immediately following. They plan to tour for the first time this spring, traveling to Trinity Church, Myrtle Beach to sing Evensong.

In collaboration with Associate Rector Patrick Schlabs, Compline at the Cathedral has enjoyed a new partnership with (Pub)lic Theology, a lecture and discussion event on the intersection of culture, knowledge, and faith in a comfortable public environment. This partnership, along with a move from a weekly to a monthly schedule, has brought increased attendance and greater engagement with our midtown neighbors.

Visit www.yourcathedral.org/choir and “like” us on Facebook at “St Luke & St Paul Cathedral Choirs” for details about coming concerts and services, recordings of the choirs, and ways to get involved. Please consider joining the Choral Ministry in seeking the heart of God and reflecting the beauty of his holiness for all of the heart of Charleston to see and hear.

Faithfully submitted,

Paul Thomas

Organist & Choral Ministry Director



**CATHEDRAL
CHURCH OF
SILUKE & SIPAUL**

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