

Saint John's Episcopal Church Huntingdon, Pennsylvania



Parish Profile

2009

We thank you for the faithful work of Fr. E lder, Fr. Lynch, and Fr. Aldrich, our wardens, vestry and discernment committee during this time of transition. We thank you for your guidance as we discern your will for St. John's. We especially thank you for the person you call to be our next rector and for the opportunities to work together for Christ in this community and world. In thanksgiving we pray, Amen

Mission

Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:20

We are sojourners in this land, followers of the light of Jesus Christ, seeking to share His light and love in all that we do and say.



Goals

All things are possible to him who believes.

Mark 4:20

To constantly strive to serve Christ.

To promote spiritual growth and development among our members, and in our community.

To continue our numerous outreach programs to our extended family.

To support and develop opportunities for lay ministry.

To be fiscally responsible stewards of our resources.

To have enriching liturgy.

To improve our music ministry.

To continue and expand opportunities for adult Christian education.

To grow our current ministry with Juniata College students.

To explore the possibility of a prison ministry.



St. John's has been a place of worship for over 164 years from its location across from the Court House in the community of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. We are a place of worship for everyone and take pride in welcoming people of all backgrounds. We are truly a family in every sense of the word.

Our ministries, particularly our outreach, reflect our commitment as Christians. We offer opportunities for parishioners of all ages to live out Jesus' command to serve others. The story of these ministries, our family, our community, and our history is told on the following pages.

We began our work searching for a new rector in the spring of 2008. All parishioners, including children, were asked to fill out a questionnaire. Our dedicated discernment committee consists of nine people representing various interests and phases of life. Individuals from this committee wrote sections of this profile. The different styles are a true reflection of who we are. Our commonality is our love of Christ and our commitment to continuing his work at St. John's.

St. John's Episcopal Church is located in the Borough of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. We are the only Episcopal parish in the county, and presently serve 120 baptized members. In addition to the rector, we have a part-time sexton, and part-time organist. Parish volunteers assist the rector with the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter. Our vestry consists of nine members elected to staggered three year terms.



Our Search

Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually!

1 Chronicles 16:11

Parish Description

Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?'

2 Samuel 7:5

Liturgy & Worship

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

St. John's is a Eucharist-centered church with two services on Sunday morning. A small group of faithful parishioners attend the 8:00 a.m. "said" service using Rite I. The family centered 10:00 a.m. service primarily uses Rite II, and is a musical service with hymns. Presently we do not have an organized choir that sings regularly, although groups will present special music on occasion. During the summer months there is one service at 9:00 a.m. with music. All baptized persons are welcomed to the Eucharist. A children's communion class has been offered as needed. The congregation participates as ushers, lay readers, presenters of the elements for the Eucharist and acolytes. The altar guild takes great pride in serving the priest and preparing the church for worship services. The last Sunday of the month is Children and Youth Sunday when the children participate in the service with the celebrant or a parish member presenting a sermon for the youth.

On Wednesdays, at noon, we celebrate a brief service of healing and the laying on of hands with the Holy Eucharist. Five to twelve individuals attend this service.

Additional services are held at Easter, Christmas, Lent and Holy Week. The Huntingdon Area Forum of Churches coordinates a progressive service on Good Friday following the Stations of the Cross. St. John's is always a part of this, traditionally hosting the final stage of the service.

Average attendance at Sunday services is 81: 11 at the 8:00 a.m. service and 70 at the 10:00 a.m. service. Traditional Christian holidays drew higher attendance: 95 at First Sunday in Lent, 110 at Easter, 90 at 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve and 100 at 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services. We also celebrated three marriages and seven baptisms this past year.

Services tend to be traditional church services with a sung liturgy. Hymns are selected primarily from the 1984 hymnal and occasionally from a packet of "favorite hymns." On special days incense is used. The congregation has been receptive to contemporary services in the evening, preceded by a potluck supper.

A favorite service is the Blessing of the Animals held on Rogation Sunday in the fall. The congregation gathers in the church yard as our priest blesses dogs, cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, and beloved stuffed animals.



St. John's church occupies two adjacent properties in the heart of the historic district in downtown Huntingdon. These two properties include the church itself, a separate building called the Episcopal House, a parking lot, and a yard that our children enjoy.

The church is a stucco-covered brick structure in an early Gothic style. It has a seating capacity for 100 in the nave and another 20 in the balcony. The altar is freestanding and a baptismal font is located in the front of the church. The main church building also contains a kitchen, restrooms, and nursery in the undercroft. This area is used for meetings, church suppers and coffee hours. The entrances to the front of the church and the undercroft were made handicapped accessible in 2002. A fire alarm system and air conditioning were also installed at this time.



The Episcopal House contains the rector's study, three church schoolrooms, a bathroom and a sitting room upstairs. Huntingdon's United Way occupies the lower floor of the Episcopal House and pays a nominal rent.

The people of St. John's are unique! We are doctors, teachers, counselors, judge, accountants, police, nurses, retired priests and stay-at-home moms. Some of us fix phone lines, work at the library or attend college. We compost, weave, paint, cheer for Penn State and the Steelers, play soccer and love our pets. Some enjoy the peace of retirement and some find themselves busier than ever with their volunteer work. This is a talented and well educated congregation, with a balanced mix of youth, young families, single parents, older couples with grown children, and widowed persons. Most members of the parish live within a 13-mile radius of Huntingdon.



We have approximately 100 adult members and 20 children. On an average Sunday we have two infants or toddlers in the nursery, and five children in each of the three Church School classes (pre-school to eighth grade).

Bricks and Mortar

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Psalm 127:1

People

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Lay Ministry

As for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

2 Timothy 4:5

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

In May, five members of the parish participated in training at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Altoona.

Applications for license have been submitted to the Diocese. Our lay Eucharistic ministry team takes communion to members who are ill or not able to attend church.



St. Luke's Healing Ministry

A group meets to study the healing ministry of Jesus using the curriculum and books from the national Order of St. Luke organization. This group offers individual prayers for anyone who would like to come forward following the service.

Parish Nurse/Health Ministry

Two individuals participated in the Parish Nurse/Health Ministry course at Hershey Medical Center. Current medical and preventative health issues are included in the parish's monthly newsletter. A blood pressure check is offered once a month during coffee hour, and yoga programs have been presented.

Women's Prayer Chain

Individuals pray for the concerns of members of the parish and the larger community.



During the 10:00 a.m. worship service, St. John's offers Sunday school classes for children from preschool through grade eight. Teachers have been trained in "Safeguarding God's Children" as required by our diocese. We have two high school age children who regularly participate in diocesan youth events throughout the year. We have used curriculum from the on-line site "Kids' Sunday School" as well as an Episcopal curriculum by Morehouse Publishing.

The "Angels" class includes children from preschool through first grade. This Sunday school class explores Bible stories and religion using high impact and dynamic lesson plans. The class includes crafts, games, and a snack. The average attendance is six children.



The "Shepherds" class provides religious education for children from the second through fourth grades. Teachers guide students in exploring religious themes through the use of interactive discussions, stories, skits, and crafts. Attendance varies from three to six children per Sunday.

The "Saints" class is comprised of fifth through eighth graders and also acts as a youth group. This class focuses on a variety of topics including traditional Bible study, contemporary youth issues, and seasonal liturgy. The class recently explored Do Hard Things: A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations by Alex and Brett Harris. Attendance varies from two to six students. The class has undertaken outreach projects at the Humane Society, Angel Food Ministries, and the Huntingdon Food Pantry. They also serve at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper as well as their spaghetti dinners.



Christian Education

Let the little children come to me.

Mark 10:14

All children are reunited with their families prior to the Eucharist. During Children and Youth Sunday (the last Sunday of the month) the children remain in church and are encouraged to participate as acolytes, ushers, lectors, or altar guild helpers.

Other anticipated events for the children include the annual Halloween party and Christmas pageant. The youth do most of the planning for both activities.



Adult Education

So that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

1 Kings 4:30

Adult education classes are traditionally held at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays. These are led by parishioners or the priest and generally focus on a specific topic of interest. In addition, St. John's offers an annual adult Lenten Series of classes/workshops. In the recent past, St. John's members have hosted Alpha workshops and Renovare groups. Adult confirmation classes are held annually. Many adult members are interested in increasing the number and diversity of educational courses that are offered.

Outreach

For I was hungry and you gave me food...

Matthew 25: 35

The people of St. John's are passionate about their outreach programs! We work together to help our extended family members of Christ. We are involved in many different forms of outreach and, being a "hands-on" parish, find ourselves getting involved in many different ways. The following is a sampling of the projects we are involved in:

Huntingdon Area Food Pantry- Our church family supports the food bank through donations of food, money and volunteer hours.

Presbyterian Food Kitchen- This is a ministry of food and fellowship. Every Thursday evening a hot home cooked meal is provided to anyone in the community. Our church members volunteer once a month to be cooks and servers and to provide dessert.



Angel Food Ministries- Boxes of food filled with a well-balanced menu, and tailored to the needs of families and elderly are sold at a reduced cost to anyone in the community. Our church members volunteer to help distribute the boxes and many donate funds to purchase boxes for those who are in need.



Adopt a Family at Thanksgiving and Christmas- Every year the congregation selects families in need, purchases food and other needed items, and delivers a basket full of everything needed for a bounteous holiday dinner for each family.

Millennium Goals, “ONE” Project- St. John's is committed not only to our community but also to our brothers and sisters around the world who are in need. Our vestry and parishioners have made a financial commitment to the “One” Project and collect a special offering for this cause the first Sunday of every month.

Donation of Animals to Families through Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)- “Did we collect enough to buy an animal?” This is a question often heard during coffee hour on the last Sunday of the month during coffee hour. Our members give money to purchase an animal to be donated to a family through ERD. We pass a small replica of a grain bucket during collection. The parish is very excited when we announce we have purchased a goat or a pig for a family.

Seamen's Church Institute- Women in our church and in the community knit scarves, hats, and vests that are donated to the Institute to be given to sailors as gifts at Christmas time. Our knitters are busy, shipping four to five large boxes each year.

I was naked and you clothed me...

Matthew 25:36



Fuel Assistance- With fuel costs rising, our church is committed to helping provide the needed funds to keep our elderly and families warm this winter. Members donate funds to provide the fuel necessary to heat the homes of those who otherwise would not be able to afford fuel.

I was a stranger
and you welcomed
me...

Matthew 25:35

Traditional High Tea- An old tradition was resurrected in 2006 to raise funds to help with the Diocese's Episcopal Churchwomen (ECW) project to build a birthing center in Uganda. It has become an annual event at St. John's and this year's proceeds were used to help provide food and fuel assistance to our local community. The event includes a silent auction of items donated by the local businesses and church members.



Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child"- Our children and parishioners help collect, wrap and pack items in shoe boxes to be sent abroad to children in need at Christmas time.



Episcopal Home in Shippensburg- Members at St. John's give generously during the annual campaign in November. Small gifts for bingo are also collected.

Habitat for Humanity- Many of our parishioners are volunteers for this program. We have many skilled carpenters, electricians and painters who donate their time to bring the dream of a home to our local families. Our church provides lunches and snacks for work crews.

Donation of Meeting Space- Our undercroft is the meeting location for Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, United Way, Summer Community Recreation Program, The Huntingdon Art League and PRIDE Meetings.

Highway Clean Up- Our church takes responsibility for keeping a stretch of Route 26 South free of litter. A group of members and youth collect trash once or twice a year as needed.



Parish Bike Rides/Walks-The last Sunday afternoon of the summer months, a group gathers on the local Rails-to-Trails trail to walk or bike.



Parish Life Activities

Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:20

Romeo's/Juliet's- Real Outstanding Men Eating Out and Joyous, Unique, Ladies, Into Eating-out Too are men's and women's groups respectively that dine out once a month. The goal is purely fun and fellowship!

Parish Summer Picnic/Christmas Dinner- The parish gathers on the second Sunday of August for Eucharist followed by a picnic at a local state park. In December the congregation gathers for a potluck Christmas celebration and holiday fellowship.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper- As we prepare for Lent, we have a pancake supper including pancakes, sausage, and scrapple. The youth are our efficient servers!

Weekly Coffee Hour- In case you haven't already noticed, we at St. John's like to eat! Following the 10:00 a.m. service, church members take turns hosting and providing refreshments. This is our great opportunity to catch up with each other and to greet newcomers.

Caring for Parish- Members of the church care for their fellow parishioners in time of need and joy. We take turns providing meals for individuals or families during an illness, other hardship, or the birth of a baby. Celebrations are also offered at coffee hour for Baptisms, Confirmations, and baby showers.



Always something new...we have recently tried new events such as Game Night and Caroling. We enjoy each other and being together! One of the best qualities of being a small parish is the flexibility and speed in which we can throw things together.

Where We Live

For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 11:10

Huntingdon is the county seat of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania and is located in rural south central Pennsylvania in the Allegheny Mountains. Huntingdon County is geographically large (888 square miles) in comparison to its neighbors but seventy-one (71%) percent of the county remains forested.

The population of Huntingdon County is 45,586. Huntingdon Borough boasts 6,918 residents while the township contiguous to the Borough has 4,466 residents. The median household income (2000) is \$34,180.00.

Housing costs in Huntingdon County have traditionally been lower than the state average and are well below the average for all northeastern states. Buyers can find existing homes, year-round and seasonal, in all price ranges. There are several large and small-scale housing developments for new homes, both in high and low population areas of the county.

Huntingdon is home to **Juniata College**, an independent, private, four-year, co-educational liberal arts college that has a strong, national reputation for academic excellence. With over 1500 students and 133 faculty members, the college actively engages in the life of the community and is an important resource for all residents of Huntingdon County.



Also, Huntingdon is 26 miles south of State College, Pennsylvania, where the main campus of The Pennsylvania State University is located. Penn State's influence in Huntingdon County is pervasive, and, like Juniata College, the university is a positive, multifaceted resource for the citizenry of Huntingdon County.



Raystown Lake is located five miles south of Huntingdon. The lake is a 29,000 acre project with 12 public access areas, an 8,000 acre lake, picnic areas, beaches, boat launches, campgrounds, trails, hunting, fishing, marina concession stands and is operated by the Army Corps of Engineers. Over one million visitors a year take advantage of the many opportunities for relaxation provided by Lake Raystown.

Lake Raystown is not the only recreational facility in Huntingdon County. Approximately 120,000 additional acres are available to the public for outdoor activities including camping, picnicking, hiking, hunting, fishing, boating, canoeing, tubing, kayaking, cross-country skiing and mountain biking. Hunting opportunities have received national acclaim, as have the trout streams in the northern part of the county. For over three decades former President Jimmy Carter has annually fished these streams.



Huntingdon County's largest health care facility is **J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital** located in Huntingdon Borough. The 100 bed, nonprofit community hospital has an active medical staff of nearly 50 physicians, over 400 employees and more than 40 active volunteers. Its key services include 24-hour emergency care, intensive care, medical/surgical care, pediatrics, behavioral health services, maternity and gynecological care, as well as a full service medical laboratory, cardiopulmonary and radiology departments and a wound healing center. The hospital directs

the ongoing recruitment of top physicians to Huntingdon County. Eighty-five (85%) percent of the hospital's medical staff are board certified in their respective specialties.

The largest employers in Huntingdon County are the State Correctional Institutions at Huntingdon and Smithfield. Other major employers include MeadWestvaco, AGY, Mutual Benefit Insurance Co., Bonney Forge Corp., and Wal-Mart, as well as the hospital and Juniata College.

Huntingdon County is fortunate to have a first rate public library system that services all residents. The Huntingdon County Library has its headquarters and main library in Huntingdon with branch libraries located throughout the county. Its collection caters to leisure and academic interests and contains books, magazines, audio books, videotapes, and DVD's. The library has a "friends" organization that sponsors fund-raising, book reviews and guest speakers. Juniata College's Beeghly Library is also available to the public.

There are four public school districts in Huntingdon County. The Huntingdon Area School District (HASD) serves Huntingdon Borough and the area surrounding the borough. There are four elementary schools, a middle school and a high school in the HASD. Although not an adjunct to HASD, a very active, community center provides athletic and recreation programs for county youth.

Numerous groups actively promote the arts in Huntingdon County by sponsoring cultural activities and providing residents the opportunity to showcase their artistic talents. Organizations include the Huntingdon County Arts Council, the Standing Stone Art League, Redbud Quilting Guild and GoWest Productions. Cultural opportunities are complemented by the proximity to Altoona and State College since both communities support a symphony orchestra and live theater. Juniata College and Penn State also provide performance venues for concerts, lectures and theater. In this regard, the Eisenhower Auditorium and Bryce Jordan Center at Penn State attract world-class entertainment, hosting performers of national and international renown.

Finally, nearly 250 churches, and a synagogue are located in the county. Many churches within Huntingdon, including St. John's, are members of the Huntingdon Forum of Churches and work together on community projects and seasonal church events.



Huntingdon County Courthouse as viewed from the cupola of the Episcopal House

History

This is the history of the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created...

Genesis 2:4

When it comes to securing a place in history, few churches can claim as many distinctions in their heritage as St. John's Episcopal in downtown Huntingdon.

Records indicate that in 1774, during one of his visits to the town he founded, the Rev. William Smith, a priest in the Church of England, and the first provost of the College of Philadelphia (now the University of Pennsylvania) "...preached on the Lord's Day at Standing Stone [Huntingdon] and gave notice that he would baptize the children sent to him." It is said he baptized 80 people.



Growth was slow for the Church of England in America during the years of struggle for independence because of its linkage to the national Church of England, and because many of its members were Loyalists. It was this same Rev. Smith who changed the denominational name to the Protestant Episcopal Church of America. This made it an independent sister church, rather than daughter church of the Church of England.

Although the Protestant Episcopal Church was one of the six "religious denominations in the place [Huntingdon]" that the Rev. Smith donated land in the 1770's, no church was erected on it. In Huntingdon, as in many communities, the faithful met in individual homes. Sometime around 1843 the congregation purchased a 30' x 100' plot of land across from the Courthouse and made plans to erect a church building. In order to do so the congregation needed to be incorporated. When this was accomplished, the building was completed and consecrated on Oct. 23, 1845. The building has survived intact for 163 years with few changes. The last refurbishing occurred in 2002.

Recent history for St. John's in calling priests is interesting. It is said the first full time priest for the congregation occurred for an approximate 15 year stint from 1963 to 1978. From 1978 until 1997 St. Johns had part-time, supply, or interim priests. We did call one of the first ordained women to be a part-time priest in 1980, and she was with us for five years. In 1997 we made the decision to have a full-time priest, at the time, a newly graduated seminarian. He and his family were with us for ten years until he was called to a parish in the Pacific Northwest. We are looking for a new leader to lead us forward in this 21st century.

Once a year in November, each of our members is given a pledge card to complete and return. They are distributed at our annual meeting, and mailed to families not able to attend. As of 2007, we had 44 pledging units with an annual pledge of \$102,810.00. St. John's has one of the highest per unit pledge in our Diocese. We continue to work toward incorporating teaching and practicing stewardship into our congregational life. We have been more purposeful in the last five years during the pledge process to identify hallmarks of stewardship. We believe as a community of faith that all we have and all we are is a gift from God. We hope to explore and nurture each other to become joyful and grateful stewards.

Stewardship

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'

Matthew 25:23

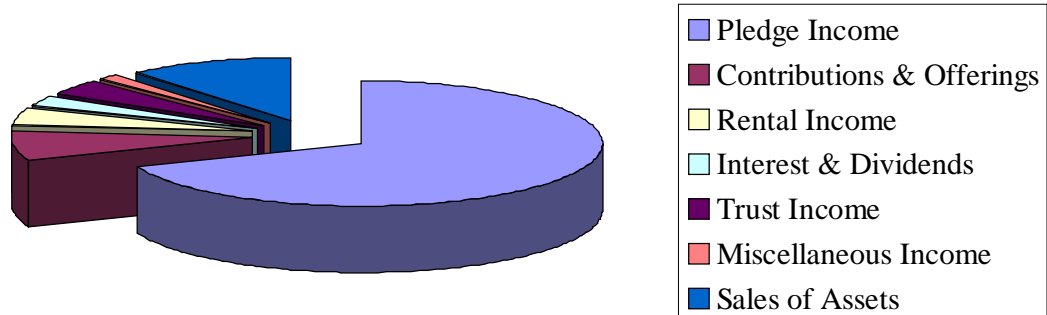


Finances

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that contributions need not be made when I come.

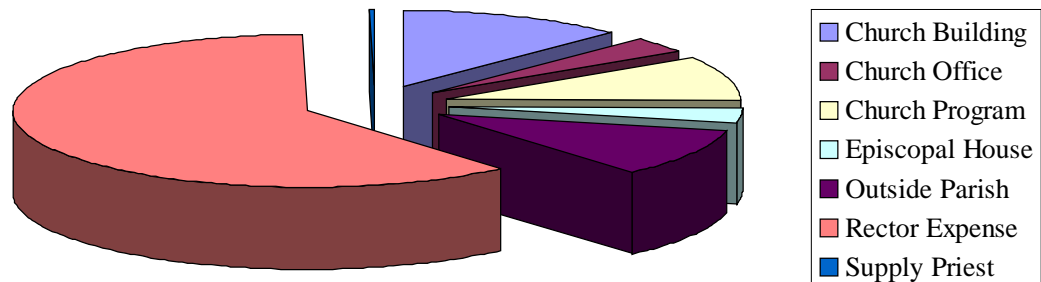
1 Corinthians 16:2

2000-2008 Average Income By Major Source



Year Ended December 31,	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Average	Percentage
Pledge Income	73,603	79,638	91,392	91,300	86,227	85,876	100,277	98,890	98,714	89,546	68.92%
Contributions & Offerings	13,622	12,182	7,889	8,493	9,982	9,873	9,360	7,942	7,344	9,632	7.41%
Rental Income	11,190	11,490	6,815	0	1,800	5,850	4,950	5,850	4,500	5,827	4.49%
Interest & Dividends	6,051	4,239	4,339	2,515	3,066	2,666	3,298	3,407	4,034	3,735	2.87%
Trust Income	7,575	5,667	3,979	5,761	3,099	3,803	4,972	5,711	5,350	5,102	3.93%
Miscellaneous Income	745	950	1,888	450	714	1,529	3,774	3,424	1,249	1,636	1.26%
Sales of Assets	0	0	19,000	29,000	21,000	30,992	10,000	10,000	10,000	14,444	11.12%
Totals	112,786	114,166	135,302	137,519	125,888	140,589	136,631	135,224	131,191	129,922	100.00%

2000-2008 Average Expenses by Major Category



Year Ended December 31,	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Average	Percentage
Church Building	12,519	13,493	14,015	13,047	17,629	15,269	17,678	18,117	20,498	15,807	12.63%
Church Office	5,071	4,075	4,318	3,927	3,689	4,100	3,429	4,613	3,052	4,030	3.22%
Church Program	12,215	13,866	12,911	12,554	11,040	9,997	11,550	11,827	9,808	11,752	9.39%
Episcopal House	3,935	4,237	3,700	3,445	3,444	3,470	4,742	4,153	5,159	4,032	3.22%
Outside Parish	13,185	13,258	19,310	17,060	12,565	12,665	9,153	9,075	9,600	12,875	10.28%
Rector Expense	59,666	65,347	90,705	80,618	84,157	90,870	93,471	90,827	30,324	76,221	60.88%
Supply Priest	228	0	301	153	151	0	0	0	3,463	477	0.38%
TOTAL EXPENSES	106,819	114,276	145,260	130,804	132,675	136,371	140,023	138,612	81,904	125,194	100.00%



The strong points most frequently cited in our parish questionnaire were: a strong sense of church family, a friendly atmosphere welcoming anyone, our outreach programs, our liturgy and the feeling that St. John's is a "spiritual home." Our congregation is full of thoughtful, pro-active parishioners who demonstrate their commitment to our parish, community and worldwide families. Our parish practices acceptance and tolerance of all God's people. This allows us to be active in our community, rich in tradition, and dedicated to the responsibility of advocating social justice.

Strengths

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

John 15:12

As a small parish, we have limited financial resources. The congregation of St. John's remains committed to having a full-time priest, yet the cost of supporting this ministry uses a huge portion of our budget. However, God makes all things possible and we have supported a full-time priest for over a decade.

A desire for growth was identified in our parish questionnaire. Questionnaire responses indicate that increasing church membership could enhance fellowship and diversity while providing a larger economic base to support our mission in Christ. Growth and good church programs are interrelated. Creative and enriching programming could be an incentive for new membership. Along with new parishioners come fresh ideas.

A component of our economic issue is the question of what to do with the Episcopal House (adjacent to the church). Over a hundred years old, it is in need of many repairs. We have had discussions regarding the future of this property and whether its sale would allow us to pursue building a new parish hall, providing additional space.



Challenges

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Job 23:10

What do We Seek?

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1

In Ourselves...

To open ourselves to the Holy Spirit. To model Christ-centered lives amidst our congregation and the community of Huntingdon.

In Our New Priest...

According to our children's survey:

Someone who is kind, thankful, prays to God, makes us laugh, makes kids happy, doesn't talk too long when we're ready for Coffee Hour, and knows how to love.

According to adults...

We seek someone who will truly be "one of us." We can't wait to welcome this new member into our family... to laugh, learn, cry, work and get dirty with us!

We would like someone interested in pastoral care; visiting in homes and giving attention to the sick, dying, bereaved and others in need of counseling. Support of lay leadership, youth and community involvement is also important. We greatly value an open attitude and someone who is accepting of all God's children and who maintains a discipline of prayer and personal devotion. We seek someone with creative, new ideas who also has respect and admiration for our liturgy and traditions. Are you a humble servant with a passion for Jesus? Come and join our family....



Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church. Hear our prayer for readers of this profile, that their path will become clear. Furthermore, we pray for the one who is called to join us. Be with this person during his/her time of decision and transition; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This profile was prepared by the members of the Discernment Committee:

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