



Rector's Report on the State of the Parish January 31, 2016

We have shared our stories this morning of our welcoming, feeding, nurturing and loving this year. And I cannot improve one bit on the state of the parish that all of us together have presented. But I can help us look to the future.

We are on a trajectory that is allowing us, more and more, to fulfill our mission in this place at this time. You have given your treasure so generously. And because of that, our budget is strong. We are in good financial shape. And our future is bright.

Others secured our present by their generous gift of this building to us. We are now securing the future for other generations by setting money aside to support ministry here years from now. For the first time in the history of this parish, we have an endowment fund in place.

And we are growing, aren't we! So many new faces, so many new friends!

So our present is secure, and our future is secure, thanks be to God!

Our challenge as a parish is funding for an intermediate period, three to ten years out. Our current operating budget does not cover four staff positions: Associate Rector, Priest Associate, Youth Director and Children's Ministry Director. The salaries for those positions are covered by specific gifts. Those gifts will be depleted in about two years.

So here is the challenge. Growing the giving to our operating funds by at least \$150k per year To sustain the growth of these ministries and the growth of others ministries of the parish.

Is this possible? Of course it is. God certainly showed up in the initial generosity that made the endowment and these four positions possible in the first place. And we have all confidence that God will continue to show up through those here now and those who will join us in bringing forth all the resources needed for our mission.

As Paul reminds us, we are many parts, but we are one body in Christ. Each of you is essential. But no one of us is enough. We need all of us, each and every one of us, together to fulfill our mission. Each one of you, with your unique gifts, passion and presence is an integral to the whole.

Without each part, we are incomplete. But together, we are the one body of Christ.

Let us do this thing together. Let us open our hearts in generosity. Let us continue follow Christ as we welcome, feed, and nurture and love all God's children.

Thanks be to God!