



## **ST. MARY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE PAST 15 YEARS...**

### **Worship**

St. Mary's had one Sunday service in 2003, and then we went to two in 2004. For about 18 months, we had three weekend masses – one on Saturday and two on Sunday morning. For two summers, we went from two to one service on Sunday morning.

We have celebrated 70 baptisms together and 80 funerals for both members of the parish and for those whose families came to us asking for assistance in laying their loved one to rest. Also, St. Mary's has celebrated 41 weddings, and by September that number will be 45.

### **Staff Development**

We've been blessed by the ministry of two Deacons, Chuck Zellermyer (since December of 2007) and Esther Kramer (since Fall of 2016, formally).

We have been served by three Administrative Assistants: Ginny Lyons, Annette Godwin and Lynn Kallas. Lynn has been serving in this role since October of 2014. Under Lynn, we've seen growth and expansion of the Administrative Assistant's job from 18 hours per week to up to 24 or more per week.

We have provided Field Education opportunities to one Deacon Candidate, 13 Seminarians, and one priest who was transitioning from the Roman Catholic Church to the Episcopal Church.

We have created a Music Director position. In 2003, Vicki Swanson played for a weekly stipend. When we created the new position the first to serve was Matt Lawrenz. We've been served in this role by Carrie Arndorfer since September of 2008.

We have a Pastoral Associate who has been with us just over one year. Tammy Prather works with Formation Ministries, raising up lay leaders, and helps with a variety of areas of parish life. This is a ten hour per week position for ten months of the year.

We have had a paid Nursery Supervisor for the past ten years.

**Membership/Stewardship** has gone from around 45 (there weren't exact records) to 292 individuals (137 households) today. Over 50% of our members are involved in a parish ministry, meaning one of the ministry teams in the parish

and/or a Sunday morning ministry. Annual financial pledges have gone from \$63,000.00 per year to \$243,800.00 per year.

## **Creation of Ministries**

The following ministries began during the last 14 ½ years:

- Children's Liturgy of the Word and Family Sunday School
- Youth Group (re-invigorated after being dormant)
- Parish Ministry Discernment Committee (worked with six candidates)
- Used Book Sale and a handful of silent auctions
- Fall Fest and connection with Dousman Fire Department
- Connection with Lad Lake
- Stewardship (thanks to this ministry, I saw the light!)
- Staffed Nursery and focused outreach to young families
- All ministries/committees/groups related to the Building Project and Capital Campaign
- Buildings and Grounds Committee
- Community Life Team
- Newsletter (re-invigorated), website and public Face Book page
- Prayer Shawl ministry
- Care of the River and Prairie areas
- Youth Mission trips (5) and a Boundary Waters trip
- Men's Ministry (on and off again)
- Centering/Contemplative Prayer
- Women's Mornings of Reflection
- *Breaking Open the Word, Table Talk, Episcopal 101*
- Living Compass Groups
- Wednesday morning book discussion during Advent & Lent
- Six parishioners have completed diocesan CDI (Congregational Development Institute) training and two have completed facilitator training for Living Compass

## **Ministry connected to care of our physical plant and parish grounds**

- Removal of chimney on chapel
- Addition of large sign on the corner of 18 & 67
- Bell Tower/Chapel tuck-pointing (twice)
- Building of a new church!
- Parish hall: new appliances, toilets, water heater
- Construction of shed

- Creation of outdoor worship area
- Restoration of river/prairies
- Interior painting in hall, chapel
- Renovation of chapel for Scripture study, meetings and education
- Coating and striping of parking lot

Yes, there is a great deal to celebrate and for which to give thanks. At the root of it all, however, is what is most real and important, our faith in Christ and the ways we have grown together as His body here on this corner and from here out to wherever our lives may take us. Those many ministries, projects, programs and all the ways we have accommodated growth point to the grace and love of God in our midst.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church