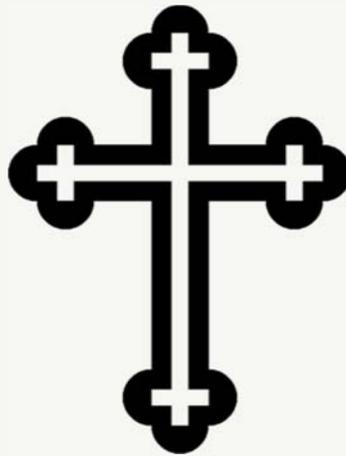


**2017**  
**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017**



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX  
CHURCH

64 Hershey Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603

Fr. Hector Firoglanis, Pastor

Fr. Alexander Veronis, Pastor Emeritus

## 2017 Congregational Meeting

Philoptochos Hall  
December 3, 2017  
Noon

### Agenda

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| I. Opening Prayer  | Father Hector Firoglanis        |
| II. 2016 Congregational Meeting Minutes                              | Kim Keares, Secretary           |
| III. Parish Report   | Maria Querry, President         |
| IV. Pastoral Report  | Father Hector Firoglanis        |
| V. Proposed 2018 Parish Budget                                       | George Soukas, Treasurer        |
| VI. Discussion, Questions, Other Business                            |                                 |
| VII. Parish Council Election Results &<br>Board of Elder Nominations | Dr. Olga Pratt, Board of Elders |
| VIII. Closing Prayer and Adjournment                                 | Father Hector Firoglanis        |

## **Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Lancaster, PA**

### **Vision, Mission and Goals**

#### **Vision Statement:**

*Receive and share the Light of Christ!*

#### **Mission Statement:**

The Annunciation parish, under the jurisdiction of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, is a body of believers who, having been empowered by the Holy Spirit, accept our sacred responsibility to follow and promulgate the Gospel of Jesus Christ as set forth in the Holy Scriptures and Sacred Tradition of the Orthodox Church. We believe this mission can be realized and implemented through Leitourgia (Liturgy), Koinonia (Fellowship), Diakonia (Service) and Martyria (Witness).

#### **Leitourgia (Liturgy)**

Regular worship at the Divine Liturgy and in the entire life of liturgical services which sanctify our Orthodox Christian Lives.

#### **Koinonia (Fellowship)**

Encouraging Christian fellowship among our parishioners as often as possible

#### **Diakonia (Service)**

Reaching out in love to others in order to imitate the example of Christ who said, "The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve..." and "He who is greatest among you shall be your servant..."

#### **Martyria (Witness)**

Proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ world-wide.

### **Parish Goals:**

#### **Financial**

Ensure a sustainable parish budget that supports our sacred mission and accomplishes our vision.

#### **Parish Membership and Community**

Increase the number of members who are active in the spiritual life of the parish, in social outreach and in witness programs.

#### **Property and Facilities**

Support the current and future needs of the parish by providing a physical environment for spiritual growth and witness.

#### **Stewardship**

Educate and encourage parishioners to share their blessings through time, talent and treasure that best support the mission and goals of our church.

#### **Witness**

Serve others and reach out to the community and world at large by knowing, living and sharing the Orthodox Faith.

## Pastoral Report 2017

Fr. Hector Firoglanis

*“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed” (Deuteronomy 31:8).*

2017 has been a year of change and transition in the life of our parish! In the midst of transition, however, we are comforted by the fact the Lord goes before us in everything we do. We put our trust in the Lord to guides through the changes and transitions that have taken place in our parish in 2017:

- The parish welcomed Theodosios Palis, along with his wife Elizabeth, over the summer to serve as the pastoral assistant and youth director of the parish. God willing, when Theodosi is ordained to the priesthood, he will serve as the parish’s second full time priest.
- In September our Church Office Administrator, Sherry Anderson, transitioned from full-time to part-time status, as Eleni Mamas began her training and service as part-time Assistant Office Administrator. Mary Keares and volunteer Demetra Baker work with Sherry and Eleni to cover the administrative duties of our busy church office.
- In October of 2017 Maria Koursaris accepted a position as Director of a local preschool and daycare center, concluding 17 years of service to our parish as Music Director and Lay Assistant. We thank Maria for her many years of faithful service and are happy to have her close by as a member of our Annunciation Church.
- Gabriel and Theophania Cremeens will be moving to Albuquerque, NM, at the end of December, where Gabriel has accepted a full-time position to serve as the Byzantine Music Director and Lay Assistant at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. Their talents as chanters and teachers of Byzantine music will be missed.
- John Scanlon has assumed the role of lead choir director.

In the meantime, the life of the parish proceeds at its usual pace in 2017, and we trust that God will provide for the various needs of our church as we move forward with a sense of purpose and conviction in carrying out the Church’s universal mission: to be sanctified and to sanctify others in the life of Christ.

**2017 Vital Parish Statistics** included 14 baptisms, 8 Chrismations, 6 weddings, and 11 funerals.

### Liturgical/Worship Services

- In addition to over 100 Divine Liturgies, our parish worship also included many Vespers (every Saturday evening), Paraklesis (most Wednesday evenings), Akathist, Lenten and Holy Week services.
- House blessings to over 250 homes following Epiphany, and were made available to all parishioners as a means of a pastoral visit.

- Memorial Day services were offered in several Lancaster, Millersville, and Coatesville cemeteries.
- Special visit of the Iveron Myrrh-Streaming Icon from Hawaii on Saturday, November 25 was a huge blessing to our church.
- We are thankful for the service of our dedicated chanters: Gabriel Cremeens, Nicholas Billis, Jonathan Troop, Nicholas Belessis, Theophania Cremeens, and Daniel Blain.
- We are thankful for our choir directors Maria Koursaris and John Scanlon, organists Lula Yelagotes and Katherine Granbois, and all our dedicated choir members.
- We are also thankful for our dedicated ecclesiarchs: Aaron Blain and John Scanlon.

### **Religious and Spiritual Education**

The following weekly, monthly, and periodic Bible Study/Discussion Groups continued to nurture our community:

- The Evening Orthodox Study Group and Orthodoxy 101 – Wednesday evenings
- Family Night and Family Brunch Study Groups  
Following a Sunday brunch or dinner, a program is offered for Hope and Joy children while Bible Studies and Discussions are offered for Goyans and Parents.
- The Agape Bible Study in Greek – Once a month on Tuesday morning.
- The Women’s Bible Study – Tuesday mornings
- The Women’s Orthodox Fellowship Study Group – Thursday mornings.
- The OCF Study/Dialogue Group – Wednesday evenings.
- Plugged-In Study Group – Sundays after Liturgy
- The Schrott Spot Study Group – Thursday evenings.
- Advent Study Group – Thursday evenings during Advent fast.

**Our Sunday School program** enjoys an enrollment of 190 students taught by 35 teachers, under the supervision of three superintendents: Sally Stratigos, Dan Soukas, and Jonathan Troop.

**Our parish preschool**, with two educated and faith-centered teachers, continues to educate and spiritually nurture our children, both parishioners and non-parishioners. Thanks to Tena Blain and Kathy Morris, and to the Advisory Board of the preschool and all those who contribute to the functioning of the school.

**Individual instruction and catechism** was offered for those interested in learning about the Orthodox faith. Many of these dialogues lead to Adult Baptisms and Chrismations.

**Holy Friday Retreat** with over 100 Hope and Joy children, Goyans, and volunteers.

**Vacation Church School** met from August 7-11 during the morning hours with over 50 children and volunteers participating.

**The Sacrament of Confession, Pastoral Counseling, and Pre-Marital Sessions** are offered by the clergy by appointment.

**The Sacrament of Confession, Pastoral Counseling, and Pre-Marital Sessions** are offered by the clergy by appointment.

**The Book Mobile** continues to offer a vital ministry to our community under the direction of Paul and Kay Benos.

**New Iconography** was added to the church this past spring. Icons of saints were added to the back wall below the choir loft and angels were added around the Pantocrator Icon on the ceiling. Additionally, the Pentecost icon above the altar and the Pantocrator Icon were restored. The icons were written by the hand of Konstantinos Theodorou of Larissa, Greece. The icons were donated by 30 parish family donors and complement the icons that were added to the church in the Fall of 2016 by an additional 12 family donors.

#### **Spiritual Pilgrimages:**

- Bus trip to Taylor, PA, to visit the Kardiotissa Myrrh-Streaming Icon on June 28.
- Hope and Joy Visit to Holy Protection Monastery on August 11.
- Bus trip and parish pilgrimage to St. Nektarios Monastery on August 17-18.
- Trip to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church to visit Kardiotissa Myrrh-Streaming Icon on November 10.
- GOYA trip to Holy Protection Monastery on December 2.

**Advent Retreat** with guest speaker Elissa Bjeletech on December 9.

**Camp Nazareth Summer Camp Program** – Each summer we raise over \$2000 in scholarship aid to help send as many Goyans as possible to Camp Nazareth each summer. This past year we sent 38 GOYA campers and 12 Joy Campers from Lancaster.

**Camp Nazareth Fall and Spring Retreats** – In addition to summer camp, we take one or two 15-passenger vans filled with Goyans and OCF student counselors to the Camp Nazareth weekend retreats each Fall and Spring.

**Oratorical Festival** participants this year were Maria Karamanos, Elias Fox, Rhea Fox, and Michael Agadis.

**Other Activities by our GOYA group** include basketball tournaments, a dodgeball tournament, hosting a soccer tournament, movie nights, fire pit discussions, Crispus Atticks, and singing the Kalanda at the nursing homes.

**The Greek Dance Groups** involved many of our young people. The Goya Dance Group led by Despina Proithis, Alexandra Schramm, and Angie Efstration. They practice regularly and perform at the Greek Bazaar, the March 25<sup>th</sup> Program, and other venues including a half-time show for the Philadelphia 76ers. The Joy Dance Group led by Tina Georges and Angie Hessen and the Hope Dance Group led by Jenna Ioannidis practice regularly and perform at the Bazaar and March 25<sup>th</sup> program.

**Our Greek School** enrollment includes 20 children taught by four teachers: Maria Kousaris, Chrissy Cordischi, Theodosi Palis, and Elizabeth Palis, with Marissa Karomfily as a helper.

**Short Term Missions.** 15 parishioners traveled to Project Mexico from Annunciation and Transfiguration Mission parishes to build a home for a homeless family.

**Seminary.** Our parish continues to support parishioner Christian Lampart as he continues his seminary studies at St. Tikhon's Seminary.

**The Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** and meal on March 4, hosted by Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Reading, PA.

**Annual Bazaar and Gyrofest.** Our 59<sup>th</sup> Bazaar on Nov. 4-5 was a resounding success. Chairpersons **Kosta Kontanis** and **Alexandra Schramm** and their many co-workers have the Bazaar running like a well-oiled machine! The 4<sup>th</sup> Gyrofest has grown to be a huge success in just a few years. Chairpersons **George Soukas** and **Emmanuel Firoglanis** work out the kinks each year to help the Gyrofest become more efficient and successful each successive year. Both events are truly a labor of love and stewardship by our parishioners!

**Agourides Endowment for Youth and Hellenic Studies.** Nicolas and Koula Agourides have made a \$50,000 gift to the church to establish an endowment fund to provide each year: \$2,000 for summer camp scholarships; \$1,000 scholarship for seminarian; and \$1,000 for the Hellenic Cultural Committee to assist in Greek and cultural educational programming. We thank Nick and Koula for remembering the Church in their estate planning.

**Dynamic Parish Committees.** We are grateful to the many committee chairs and members whose efforts contribute greatly to the ministries and life of our church: Parish Council, Philoptochos, Stewardship Committee, Finance Committee, Bazaar Committee, Gyrofest Committee, Sunday School, Greek School PTO, Technology Committee, Personnel Committee, Preschool Advisory Board, Service & Outreach, and the newly established Education Committee.

The **Parish Council**, under the dedicated and visionary leadership of **Maria Querry, President**, worked in harmony with the clergy to guide the parish in all our endeavors for the glory of God.

I'd like to offer a personal expression of gratitude to **David Gammache, Alex Mountis, Jonathan Troop, Aaron Blain, and Helen Hazatones** for helping to fill the large void left by our beloved and dearly missed **Pat Hazatones** – may his memory be eternal!

**Presvytera Katerina and I thank you for your prayers and love which strengthen us as we all work together in our Lord's vineyard.** My prayer is that each year, we will continue to grow in the likeness of our Lord Jesus Christ as we strive to live the Gospel and share the Light of Christ with all people.

With love and gratitude in Christ,



Fr. Hector Firoglanis

## **Theodosios Palis – Pastoral Assistant and Youth Director 2017 Congregational Youth Report**

Beginning from when I started to work at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in June, 2017, under Fr. Hector's guidance and direction I have helped with:

### **Youth and Young Adult Ministries**

#### **GOYA (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

- **Family Night/Luncheon** – Every month we have a family meal at the church on Sundays that bring together the entire family.  
Maria Koursari along with some volunteers led the HOPE & JOY Children in activities and a short spiritual message.  
Theodosios Palis led the GOYA Meetings and Bible Study with the Goyans  
Fr. Hector led the Bible study for the parents.
- **Camp Nazareth Summer Program** – This summer our Youth attended all 4 weeks of Camp and seemed to have a good time with the new divisions by age group.
- **Camp Nazareth Fall and Spring Retreats** – We also sent 5 Goyans to the Fall Retreat where we assembled IOCC Relief kit packages for the people affected in Puerto Rico and around the world.
- **Holy Protection Monastery Pilgrimage** – We will be going to Holy Protection Monastery this Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Regional GOYA Monastery Pilgrimage.
- **Saint Nektarios Monastery Pilgrimage** – On August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 46 parishioners and Goyans attended the overnight pilgrimage to this monastery. Everyone came back refreshed and spiritually charged.
- **GOYA Social Outreach Programs** – Crispus Attucks Soup Kitchen, the Crop Walk, Raising money and building relief kits for IOCC, Raising Money for the Orphans at Saint Innocents Orphanage in Mexico, Upcoming Christmas Carols to Nursing Homes and Shut ins.
- **GOYA Dance Group** – The Goya Dance Group is led by Despina Proithis and Alexandra Schramm. They practice regularly and perform at the Greek Bazaar, the March 25th Program, and other venues in and around Lancaster County.
- **GOYA Basketball** – Our GOYA will have participated in 3 Metropolis Tournaments this year and some scrimmages between neighboring parishes. Practices are held on Thursdays and may also get started on Tuesdays. Our Boys Coach is Chris Daly with his two Assistant Coaches Nick Goussetis and Manny Marinos. Our Girls Coach is Nikoli Kambouroglos with two assistant Coaches Stephen Gerovasilis and Mad-dy Garret.
- **GOYA Soccer** – We will participate in the upcoming May, GOYFA Soccer Tournament. Right now the Trophy from last year is sitting in my office.
- **GOYA Social Events** – Kick-off Pool Party, Super Bowl Party, Fire Pit Discussions, Ice Skating etc. are organized throughout the year to foster long lasting friendships.

- **GOYA Youth Paraklesis** – Since August we’ve been doing a Youth Paraklesis every month, where the Youth of all ages are encouraged to come and chant the Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos together.

### **OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship – College Students)**

- **Weekly Meetings** – These Wednesday night meetings are open to all college students and we regularly have students from Millersville, F&M, and HACC (Lancaster Campus) in attendance. Theodosios Palis and Nitsa Kambouroglou lead these Spiritual Studies.
- **Monthly Meals** - In the past few months we have been taking the OCF Students out to eat. Now that the Nativity Fast has started we will be planning something a little different.
- **Social Events** – We are planning pilgrimage trips and hikes in the upcoming months.

### **Young Adults**

- **Schrott Spot Book Study** – We have been having the Schrott Spot Book every Thursday night, studying the book *Simply Faithful*. We are planning to have more activities for the Young Adult Group, including and Young Adult Basketball Team.
- **Young Adult Camp Nazareth Retreat** - We had a few Young Adults attend the Metropolis Young Adult Retreat at Camp Nazareth on 10/27-29 and they all had great things to say about it.

# ***The Preschool at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church***

*2016-2017 School Year Annual Report Submitted to Parish*

*Council on September 19, 2017*

## **Mission**

Our Mission is to nurture and teach our precious ones in a spirit of holiness according to the precepts of our Orthodox Christian faith and to prepare them for Kindergarten in keeping with the appropriate guidelines and expectations of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

## **Curriculum and Program Evaluation**

The Curriculum is theme-based, guided by the Pennsylvania Core Standards for Early Childhood Education in English Language Arts and Mathematics. We continue to review, evaluate and improve our curriculum on an ongoing basis for promoting best practices for cognitive, social, emotional, and academic development.

The Religious Focus continues to infuse orthodoxy by incorporating morning prayers, lives of Saints, church hymnology and monthly participation in Divine Liturgies.

## **Professional Development Opportunities:**

Tena Blain & Maria Koursaris attended a three- day National Conference on Orthodox Christian Schools *First Things First: The Priority of Orthodox Christian Education*, hosted by St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Des Plaines, Illinois (August 11-13, 2017).

The event highlighted numerous workshops for teachers and administrators. Teacher workshops focused on classroom/behavior management, curriculum resources, pedagogical/practical instructional approaches to enhance the spiritual formation in early childhood settings, impact of arts in education, and overall fundamental tasks of Orthodox teachers. Administrator workshops included discussions on growth challenges for orthodox schools, marketing population, cost effective marketing strategies, fundraising and maximizing the gifts/donors, grant-seeking for Orthodox Schools, board by-laws and member involvement, clarifications of school policies and legal implications.

## **Promotional Efforts**

Efforts to promote our program to the greater community continue through open house events, advertisements, radio announcements, Gyrofest & Bazaar ad books, and Facebook page.

Parishioner and Sunday School teacher Andrea Phillips shared with all parishioners on Godparents Sunday the impact of the preschool program on her Sunday School Kindergarten students and class.

Parishioner Gina Donnelly will be invited to the next Advisory Board meeting to help with making school marketing recommendations and marketing budget suggestions.

## **Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board continues to meet regularly to discuss program enhancement opportunities, fundraising ideas, and defining future goals and vision for the school. Next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 8.

## **Preschool Parents**

Parents supported our program by providing snacks, chaperoning field trips, and volunteering for fundraising events. The support and feedback of all parents continues to be an integral part of our preschool program.

### **Preschool Enrollment 2011-2017**

School Year	Number of Students T-TH	Number of Students MWF	Total
2011-2012	<i>N/A</i>	12	12
2012-2013	4	7	11
2013-2014	5	9	14
2014-2015	4	8	12
2015-2016	4	5	9
2016-2017	5	6	11
2017-2018	5	7	10

## Preschool Summer Program

Summer Camp Enrollment 2014-2017

**Year      Number of Students**

Year	Number of Students	
2014	13	The Preschool hosted successfully its 4th year of a Summer Camp program on June 26-30 under the leadership of Lynn Diamantoni. Kathy Morris, Rachel Veronis, Annie & Daniel Morris assisted with the daily activities. The overall theme was "Exploring Nature."
2015	14	
2016	13	
2017	14	

## Budget

Attachments:

- 2016-2017 Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual
- 2017-2018 School year Budget

**Scholarships:** A scholarship fund has been established to support families with financial difficulties. A generous donation of \$500 from Barbara Valavanes was partially distributed to one student. Gyro Fest allocated \$2000 towards scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic year scholarships. Three families will benefit from the scholarship assistance this year.

## Fundraising

**School Rewards:** Our school is currently registered with Giant A+ and Stauffers of Kissel Hill School Rewards. We received a total donation of \$600.02. For this school year we have doubled the number of reward cards registered for each store.

**2016 Barnes & Noble Book Fair** helped with donations of several new books for our preschool library along with an additional donation of \$100.73. The 2017 Book fair is scheduled for Saturday, November 18 from 1-3 pm.

**Souvlaki Boys Benefit:** The preschool hosted a fundraising event at Souvlaki Boys on April 25. 20% of receipt totals was donated to our preschool program, a total of \$200. (a separate donation of \$25 from a parishioner was added to the donation)

## 2017-2018 Preschool Budget

	Jul '17 - Jun 18
<b>Income</b>	
15-0500 · Tuition	11,000.00
15-1500 · Summer Preschool	1,000.00
15-2000 · Reg/Activity Fees	1,000.00
15-4000 · Donations Unrestricted	1,000.00
15-6000 · Scholarship Fund	4,000.00
15-7000 · Fundraisers	
15-7002 · Giant/Stauffer Cards	600.00
15-7003 · Other Fundraising	2,000.00
<b>Total 15-7000 · Fundraisers</b>	<b>2,600.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>20,600.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>20,600.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
17-0100 · Salaries	
17-0110 · Teacher Salary	10,086.00
17-0120 · Teacher's Aid Salary	4,320.00
17-0130 · Taxes	1,100.00
<b>Total 17-0100 · Salaries</b>	<b>15,506.00</b>
17-0500 · Administrative Expenses	400.00
17-0700 · Classroom Expenses	1,200.00
17-0900 · Renovations	500.00
17-1000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	500.00
17-1500 · Summer Preschool Expense	600.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>18,706.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,894.00</b>

## Preschool Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2016 through June 2017

Income	July 16-June 17	Budget	\$Over Budget
15-0500 · Tuition	10,362.50	11,000.00	-637.50
15-1500 · Summer Preschool	1,800.00	1,000.00	800.00
15-2000 · Reg/Activity Fees	1,250.00	1,000.00	250.00
15-4000 · Donations Unrestricted	575.00	1,000.00	-425.00
15-5000 · Miscellaneous Income	17.96		
15-6000 · Scholarship Fund			
15-6001 · Scholarships Distributed	-295.00		
15-6000 · Scholarship Fund - Other	500.00		
Total 15-6000 · Scholarship Fund	<u>205.00</u>		
15-7002 · Giant Cards	600.02	600.00	0.02
15-7003 · Gyro/other	3,774.73	3,000.00	774.73
15-7006 · All Fundraising Expenses	-524.19		
Total 15-7000 · Fundraisers	<u>3,850.56</u>	<u>3,600.00</u>	<u>250.56</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,061.02</b>	<b>17,600.00</b>	<b>461.02</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
17-0110 · Teacher Salary	9,325.50	9,786.00	-460.50
17-0120 · Teacher's Aid Salary	4,133.36	3,313.00	820.36
17-0130 · Taxes	1,008.80	901.00	107.80
Total 17-0100 · Salaries	<u>14,467.66</u>	<u>14,000.00</u>	<u>467.66</u>
17-0500 · Administrative Expenses	402.00	400.00	2.00
17-0700 · Classroom Expenses	995.21	1,000.00	-4.79
17-0900 · Renovations	80.89	500.00	-419.11
17-1000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	467.34	600.00	-132.66
17-1500 · Summer Preschool Expense	1,081.71	600.00	481.71
Total Expense	<u>17,494.81</u>	<u>17,100.00</u>	<u>394.81</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>566.21</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>66.21</b>

## 2017 Stewardship Report

Our stewardship again fulfilled its budgeted goal of \$560,000 in 2016. In 2017 stewardship has remained steady and as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, the church has received \$490,083 in pledges and contributions. Please fulfill your stewardship pledge or give by December 31<sup>st</sup> so we can meet our budget once again. Our budgeted stewardship for 2018 is \$580,000.

Our stewardship committee met regularly this year under the leadership of Chairman Nicholas Veronis. Strategies to increase stewardship were discussed. Following sermons on Stewardship by Father Hector and Nicholas Veronis in October, the committee hosted a coffee fellowship in gratitude for all the stewards of our church. Tena Blaine and Andrea Phillips revived stewardship teachings and programs to teach and encourage giving among our youth. The Committee sent out questions asking for feedback on our stewardship program and will be evaluating the responses in the coming year.

The 16 members of the 2017 parish council of our church set the example by giving an average of \$5442 per year, the highest average in the history of our parish.

The goal of stewardship remains to fund our entire church budget with stewardship giving. Approximately, 70% of our church's budget of \$800,000 is covered by stewardship. It costs \$2,192 a day to operate our church.

In 2018, become a better steward and give in proportion to how God has blessed you. In 2017, 350 families made pledges to our church. 7 gave at the Archangel category (\$7800 to \$25,000), 13 at the Torchbearer category (\$5200 to \$7799), 18 at the Good Shepherd category (\$3,000 to \$5199) and 48 at the Pacesetter category (\$1800 to \$2999).

"If you hoard your wealth, it will not be yours. But if you begin to distribute it, you will never lose it." St. Basil the Great

Respectfully submitted,  
Niko Veronis

## **2017 PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Property Committee works closely with the Building Supervisor to oversee the maintenance and repair of all Parish property in a timely fashion.

We were once again blessed with the support of parishioners during 2017 that enabled us to complete the following projects:

- New church van was purchased and graphics were added
- Old church van was donated to Finefrock & Stumpf Golden Glove Center
- New air conditioning units for Narthex and offices were installed by Cocalico Plumbing & Heating
- Theodosios' office was renovated, which was donated by Jim & Marth Diamontoni and desk, chair and bookcases were purchased and installed
- A 27'x35' section of flat roof above breezeway was replaced by RL Sensenig Company, Ephrata
- New icon stand was purchased for sanctuary
- New Pitco Fryer was purchased for GyroFest
- Social Hall heating system was replaced by EH Gochnauer
- Digital mixer for sound was installed and jack relocation on altar by B&B Communications
- Cracked/broken windows were repaired or replaced by Howell's Glass
- All gates and railings were painted by Ville Painting
- New 6 month natural gas contract was signed with Rhodes Energy
- All kitchen equipment was serviced, repaired and/or calibrated
- Basement grease trap was serviced and emptied by Kline's
- Sewer pipes were jetted by Kline's to clear blockages
- Tile floors in 4 restrooms and carpets in breezeway and carport were professionally cleaned by Pavlick's Carpet Cleaning
- Kitchen was professional cleaned after GyroFest and bazaar by Kelly Hood & Vent cleaning
- Duct work and vents in narthex were cleaned and sanitized by Eastern Air
- Maintenance was performed on elevator along with 1 year inspection by Affordable Elevator Inspections
- All 6 air conditioning units were serviced by Groff's
- Preventive maintenance was performed on steam boiler
- All fire extinguishers along with fire suppression units in both kitchens were serviced and inspected
- Fire alarms were serviced and inspected by Yarnell Security. Inspection by Lancaster City Fire Marshal was completed
- Fire drills were conducted for preschool
- B&B Communications performed various repairs/upgrades during the year
- RE Walton's Plumbing performed various repairs/upgrades during the year
- Wizard Lock performed various repairs/upgrades during the year
- D&H Electrical performed various repairs/upgrades during the year

- Quarterly pest control was performed by Tomlinson Bomberger
- Security was hired for Good Friday Service, Holy Saturday service, GyroFest and Bazaar

Church property & facilities was transformed for Bazaar along with tear down, clean up and restoring classrooms and facilities back to their original state

Social Hall was set up and torn down for the following events during the year:

Vasilopita, Godparent's/Godchildren's Sunday, Apokriatiko Dance, HOPE/JOY Gathering (spring), JOY Eastern Regional event, March 25 program, AHEPA Pancake breakfast, Philoptochos bread making, GyroFest, Greek School graduation, Vacation church school, AHEPA Taverna Night, Bazaar, HOPE/JOY Festival, Advent Retreat, HOPE/JOY Gathering (fall), GOYA Soccer practice Tuesday nights (fall-winter), Greek School Wednesday night (Sept - May), Basketball practice Thursday night (fall-winter), 9 paid hall rentals, and set up for Coffee Fellowships each Sunday

The committee expresses their thanks and gratitude to Alex Mountis, LEMONIA Mountis and Brano Boskovic for their continued service to the church.

We are very happy and proud of the improvements made to the church this year. We will be working on additional projects for 2018 to continue the updating and beautification of our church.

Respectfully submitted,

*David Gammache*

Chairman, Property Committee

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

David Gammache, Chairperson  
 Joanne Martin  
 Nicholas Veronis  
 Spencer Phillips

Helen Hazatonos  
 Keith Martin  
 Keith Bartlett

## **Sunday School Report**

### **2017 – 2018**

The Sunday School Department is composed of 13 classes with 28 teachers. We also have 4 substitute teachers. We have an average attendance of 90 students.

All the classes attend the Divine Liturgy at 09:30 AM. They go to their classrooms after Communion. They are in their classrooms until 11:20 AM. The music program is held at least once a month. The music program includes the younger classes; up to Fourth grade. The students involved in the music program meet in the hall after Communion for about 20 – 25 minutes. They go to their classroom after the music program.

The Sunday School children brought in groceries that were distributed to needy families for Thanksgiving. Each class was responsible to provide a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. The food was distributed through the Lancaster County Council of Churches.

For the month of December: The Sunday School will present a Christmas program on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The Sunday School will also have the annual "Giving Tree" for children. They will bring new socks, underwear, scarves, gloves and mittens on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>h</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The donated items will be distributed to needy children through the Lancaster County Council of Churches.

Mission Sunday is on Palm Sunday and we have a special program for the children. The Mission boxes are collected on Palm Sunday. All the money that is collected goes to mission programs.

The Superintendents thank all the teachers for their interest and devotion to teaching the word of Jesus Christ to our children.

Respectfully submitted for the Annual Congregational Meeting by:

Sally Stratigos, Dan Soukas and Jonathan Troop  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
December 3, 2017

## SERVICE & OUTREACH REPORT 2017

Mission Statement: To serve the parishioners of Annunciation Church and the community of Lancaster County who are in need of food, clothing and other basic necessities. Outreach will include, but not limited to, meal preparation and delivery, visitation, transportation, food/clothing drives and volunteer support at Lancaster County Council of Churches (LCCC).

We are very grateful to our Service and Outreach Committee members and all our parishioners who continue their support to help our community with great care, love and enthusiasm throughout the year.

**January** - Sweaters, hats, gloves & blankets delivered to the First Reform UCC East Orange St, Items distributed to the homeless during their Free community breakfast

**March 11 & October 21** - Free Community breakfast prepared & served at the Lititz Mennonite Church. And on September 9 assistance offered to hand out fresh food & produce @ LMC.

**April 8** - Sweet Bread delivered with visitation to our Faithful Seniors and to our parishioners who are restricted .

**May through the Fall** - Transportation for our fellow parishioner during their time of recuperation.

**June through August** - Non-perishable food Drive to support the food hub at Lancaster Council of Churches.

**July** - Nursing home visits at the request of our Faithful Senior family. We thank all who continue nursing homes visitation throughout the year offering their time, special little treats & lap blankets.

**November 3 & 6** - Meals delivered to Arch Street Center & Water Street Mission. Meals provided from surplus bazaar food.

**November 26** -Free community meal assistance provided and \$200 "donation of love" to help support the Spanish American Civic Association free Saturday evening meal program.

**December** - Currently accepting winter clothing, coats & blankets which will be given to the homeless & for those struggling to meet their basic needs. All items will be delivered to the Salvation Army & LCCC for appropriate distribution.

Christmas stockings filled with toiletries & goodies as a special holiday treat to someone who is homeless and residing at WSM, YWCA, Salvation Army and those on the LCCC list.

Meals provided for parishioner during their recuperation.

Once again, a big thank you to all our parishioners who have assisted throughout the 2017 year. Your generous time and donations made it possible to make a difference in the lives of those in our community struggling to meet their basic needs of transportation, clothing, food and visitation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanne Martin

# 2017 Building Committee Report

The building committee continues to work towards developing a set of plans to present to the parish for approval. This past year, an initial set of proposed plans were presented to various church groups and committees. Based on the feedback received from these presentations, the building committee decided that there was a need for a plan "B" which would be less ambitious and less costly.

We have been working on Plan B for the past several months, including a detailed layout of the expanded kitchen. These plans should be finalized in the next couple of months. At that point, the committee will prepare a program to present the plans to the entire parish.

Respectfully submitted,

Kosta Kontanis

Building Committee Chairman

# 2017 BAZAAR COMMITTEE REPORT

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Another JOB WELL DONE to the bazaar committee and the parish at large for the tremendous job that was accomplished this year. Again the bazaar was executed this year with the highest level of teamwork, cooperation and efficiency. The entire operation, including preparation and setup, ran extremely well.

Preliminary reports indicate that this year might be a record year, once again. We collected approximately \$6,000 more this year than last year. More exact results will be known once all the money from the presold tickets is collected. Please return your ticket money to Steve Marinos or the church office as soon as possible.

As with every year, Alex Schramm and I work hard to make sure that the planning and execution of this immensely complex event is performed as efficiently and flawlessly as possible. Of course none of this is possible without the scores of parishioners who spent countless hours helping with the preparations and with the weekend of the bazaar itself.

Next year we look forward to celebrating our **60<sup>th</sup>** annual bazaar.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kosta Kontanis & Alexandra Schramm  
Bazaar Co-Chairs

**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Strategic Goals  
2017 Annual Goals and Priorities**

***“Receive and Share the Light of Christ”***

Guided by five parish goals, Parish Council establishes actionable items each January to support the Church mission and direct the work of council and parish committees. Through generous sharing of parishioner time and talents, alongside dedicated priests and parish staff again made significant goal, achievements in 2017. Highlights of accomplishments include:

**1. Parish Resources (Financial, Personnel & Technology)**

- 1.1. Support clergy and staff during parish transition and appointment of second priest. **(Completed, hired Pastoral Assistant as interim solution until ordination. Secured liturgy assistance with Father Veronis and Father Ugolnik.)**
- 1.2. Implement internal control audit recommendations. **(Completed, restructured FT Office Administrator position to improve segregation of duties, office coverage and flexibility. Delegated Pat Hazatonos volunteer responsibilities to parish staff and other volunteers.)**
- 1.3. Explore recommendation to implement streaming video of church services for hospitalized, shut-ins, etc. **(On hold, need dedicated volunteers to shepherd this project.)**
- 1.4. Review UPR and develop local guidelines to clarify the parish council nomination and election process. **(Completed, revised PC Nomination form to include expected responsibilities and published guidelines for parishioner voting eligibility.)**
- 1.5. Identify criteria to distribute funds from the Pat Petrakes Fund. **(Completed, each year \$1000 will be distributed to the Preschool for scholarships and Camp Nazareth.)**

**2. Witness**

- 2.1. Continue to nurture and support the Transfiguration Orthodox Church (mission parish). **(Ongoing, mission parish continues to grow and thrive. Currently outgrowing its current location.)**
- 2.2. Establish Education and Evangelism Committee **(Completed, spearheaded by Dr. Tom Miller, the committee established purpose goals and membership. The committee is currently, developing programming to host speakers on special topics for the parish community.)**

**3. Parish Membership and Community**

- 3.1. Establish Centennial Committee to develop activities and events in honor and celebration of the 100th anniversary of Annunciation in 2021. **(On going, Tina Georges spearheading committee. \$5,000 in seed money established for 2018 budget).**
- 3.2. Expand preschool hours and offer enrichment programs. **(Ongoing, enrichment programs offered, but no interest. Exploring demand for all day program, increased marketing)**
- 3.3. Update training on defibrillators, first aid, CPR and other health related issues. **(Completed, training held on Tuesday November 28)**

#### 4. Stewardship

- 4.1. Strengthen stewardship program to promote recognition of time, talent, and treasure. (**Ongoing**, *Stewardship exceeds monthly budget, on target to meet FY goal of \$560,000. Increased Stewardship budget for 2018*)
- 4.2. Conduct Parish survey to update parishioner database, identify, and improve ministries. (**Ongoing**, *added brief survey to Stewardship form. Need to update parishioner census data to inform ministries and parish needs.*)

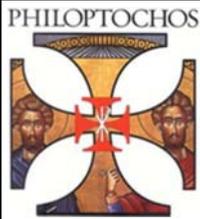
#### 5. Property & Facilities

- 5.1. Review architectural plans with parishioner groups, solicit feedback, devise plan and next steps. (**In progress**, *developing alternative expansions and renovation plan. exploring additional parking. Parish wide presentation in 2018*)
- 5.2. Pursue donations to support iconography in the sanctuary. (**Completed**, *\$50,000 iconography project. Exploring other projects*)
- 5.3. Complete capital projects slated for 2017
  - 5.3.1. Paint Social Hall - **On hold**
  - 5.3.2. Purchase new van - **Completed**
  - 5.3.3. Install AC in Narthex and Priest office - **Completed**
  - 5.3.4. Other: Sitting Benches by side door, power wash façade - **On Hold**
  - 5.3.5. Other: *(Replaced flat roof in lieu of painting social hall)* - **Completed**

Respectfully submitted,

*Maria Querry*

Maria Querry,  
Parish Council President



## Annunciation Philoptochos Society 2017 Annual Report

As established by the National Philoptochos Board, the mission of the Philoptochos Society is to “promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach to preserve the sanctity of life and family and to perpetuate and promoted our Orthodox faith traditions.” By God’s grace and through the efforts of our members and supporters, we have once again successfully met the challenge put forth in the mission statement of Philoptochos.

We are blessed with three generations of active members who were busy throughout the year with many events focused on the mission of Philoptochos including:

- . Annual Vasilopita to raise money for St. Basil’s Academy
- . Easter sweet bread sale
- . Annual Godparent – Godchild charity luncheon
- . Preparing and hosting Makarias (funeral luncheons)
- . Hospital and nursing home visitations; sending get-well cards
- . Knitting or crocheting and delivering lap blankets and shawls to home-bound and our faithful seniors
- . Helping to prepare for and host our Church’s Annual Bazaar
- . Creating hand-crafted items for “Crafts and Stitches Made with Love” bazaar room
- . Donation of funds to multiple national and local charities
- . Prepare and serve Community Outreach Meal
- . Support local Power Packs Project
- . Fasoulada Sale
- . Mother’s Day Booklet

We are truly grateful for the faithful and loving assistance of Fr Hector Firoglanis and Fr. Alexander Veronis, we are thankful for the tireless help of our fellow officers, board members, chapter members, and supporters of our Chapter’s efforts throughout the year.

We wish you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Martin and Effie Hogan, Co-Presidents  
Philoptochos Chapter #6030

## **Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Mission**

**Lititz, PA**

*2017 Congregational Report for Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church – 12/3/17*

Submitted by Fr Alexander Goussetis, Pastor

The mission is an outreach ministry of the Annunciation Church, and remains under the administrative direction of the Annunciation Parish Council. This report is divided into three categories: liturgical, religious/spiritual education, and outreach/service:

### **Liturgical**

- The Divine Liturgy was offered every Sunday throughout the year, with congregational singing led by a rotation of four chantors. An average of 40-50 people attend each Sunday.
- Vespers were offered for the major feasts of the church and various saints on weeknights. Water Blessings, Paraklesis, Small Compline, Trisaghion/Memorial and other liturgical services also made available to the parish, as needed.
- All Lenten and Holy Week services were offered as prescribed by the church calendar (except for the days when I substituted for Fr Andrew Tsikitas in York during his illness on Holy Thursday to Pascha).
- House blessings following Epiphany were made available to all parishioners as a means of a pastoral visit.

### **Religious/Spiritual Education**

- Weekly study groups throughout the year were offered as a means of “forming” and “informing” parishioners, catechumens, and inquirers. These classes included Bible Studies, Book Studies, Video/Digital Presentations, guest speakers, and retreats.
- Pilgrimages were made to various settings including: Myrrh-streaming icon in Taylor, PA, Transfiguration Monastery in Ellwood City, PA, and the St Andrew Orthodox Church in Lewes, DE (home of Fr Boniface Black, a mentor who offered guidance to the mission parish).

### **Outreach/Service**

- Our parish partnered with Lititz Mennonite Church one Saturday per month in hosting breakfast for those in need (titled *Peter's Porch*). This day also included the distribution of canned food, toiletries, clothing and other necessities. A box located in the rear of our sanctuary collects donations from parishioners.
- On the second Friday of each month the town of Lititz hosted “Second Friday”, an evening wherein stores remain open late, artists sell their wares on the street, and street musicians play outdoors. Our parish hosted a table with brochures and books on our faith, with church music playing – all as a means for exposure to our faith and parish.
- Four members of our parish participated on a Project Mexico team in August 2017.

## Miscellaneous

- The parish holds a planning/administrative meeting each month, open to anyone, to organize our progress and encourage full participation. Developed the following ministry teams with appointed leader: Fellowship Meal, Greeter, Finance, Choir, Lititz Second Friday. Peter's Porch (outreach).
- Our parish sends representatives to Annunciation Church parish council meetings quarterly, to report on our progress. October is the month designated for approving our following year budget.
- Our parish wishes to express thanks to Sherry Anderson, Office Administrator at Annunciation Church, for serving as a key contact for our financial and administrative needs and reporting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev Alexander Goussetis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rev. Alexander Goussetis, Pastor

## 100th Anniversary Committee

Preparations have begun for the 100th Anniversary of our Parish! We will celebrate with special activities in 2021. Father Hector has initiated the request to the Archdiocese for the Archbishop to visit our parish for a banquet and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. This visit must be coordinated with the Metropolitan. No date has been set.

In addition to the Celebration weekend, some ideas for the year include: Spiritwear, a Nameday Luncheon, a musical event in October (Music Sunday), a directory and a video. Letters have been sent to Parish leaders to compile historical information and pictures. Several interviews have also been conducted with some of our Senior parishioners.

We also hope to have a Greek Event and to display memorabilia in the Lancaster Area.

Steering committee members are James Diamantoni, Andrea Phillips and John Vafeas. Any parishioner who would like to volunteer their talent and time should contact any of us.

We are looking forward to a memorable year!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tina Karpouzis Georges



# ORDER OF AHEPA RED ROSE CHAPTER NO. 71 LANCASTER PENNSYLVANIA



*Chartered June 2, 1925*

## REPORT TO ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 2017

The Red Rose Chapter No. 71 of the AHEPA and counts 62 members enjoyed another successful year of philanthropic, educational and cultural programs.

Activities held or supported by the chapter include:

- The 20th year of the Annual Pancake Breakfast – this activity supports our scholarship program and has joined the annual scholarship luncheon as a legacy program of the Red Rose Chapter.
- The **20th** Annual Community Scholarship Awards Dinner.
- Delegations to the District and National Conventions of the AHEPA.
- Chapter award of four scholarships to college students in our community.
- District scholarship awards to 2 students from our chapter.
- Monthly speaker program with prominent members of the business and academic community.
- Support for AHEPA's national efforts:
  - to reopen the Theological School at Halki and for greater freedom and protection of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,
  - to support Thalassemia Major (Cooley's Anemia) research.
  - to support the rebuilding of St. Nicholas Shrine (\$2,000)
- The **22nd** Annual Greek Taverna Night.
- Monetary support to our parish youth dance groups
- CROP Walk donation (\$200)

The AHEPA continues to be a leader in housing projects for senior citizens (second only to the federal HUD program). AHEPA Housing Corporation has 80 projects in 20 states totaling 4,300 apartment units and offers affordable housing facilities for senior citizens.

Own chapter's members are active in the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community as members of the Parish Council and its committees, Greek School and Sunday School teachers, Choir members, and Bazaar volunteers.

The Lancaster AHEPA Family continues its tradition of participation and support of our Church and our organization. With the hard work and support of the community, the Lancaster AHEPA Chapter will continue to lead with its philanthropic programs, support of Hellenism and contributions to the Annunciation Parish and the greater Lancaster Community.

Respectfully Submitted,



## Daughters of Penelope

Lancaster Ionian Chapter #196 District #4

Annual Congregational Meeting Report 2017

*The objectives of the **Daughters of Penelope** are to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family & Individual Excellence.*

We are **88** members strong and our sisterhood is very active in the life of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community. We awarded four scholarships to students from our church community.

Our focus is helping others locally, nationally, and throughout the world.

With the love and support of our Lancaster community, we have had opportunities to help the following causes:

- Hershey Medical Center
- Domestic Violence Centers
- Eritrean community of Lancaster
- Families in need within our Church community
- Milagro House
- Homeless Students of the School District of Lancaster
- Limbitless Solutions (prosthetics)
- Penelopean Foundation Day Care Center
- Papanicholaou Cancer Research Center
- Saint Basil Academy for Children
- Penelope House for Abused Women
- Cooley's Anemia
- Aegean Island Refugee Relief
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- St. Nicholas Memorial Shrine in New York
- Ronald McDonald House
- Syrian Refugee Relief through the IOCC
- Melissa's Orphanage, Thessaloniki, Greece

*We are proud to be part of this compassionate and generous Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Community, and we thank you for helping us to raise over*

**\$17,500 !**

Sincerely,  
Lynn Diamantoni, President 2017---18

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARISH (2017)**

*HELLENIC CULTURE COMMITTEE  
OF THE ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
LANCASTER PA*

The Hellenic Culture Committee was again blessed to enjoy another year of fellowship and activity in our Community.

In 2017, the Committee once again hosted the annual **Apokriatiko Dance** on **Saturday, February 18, 2017**, at the Philopthochos Hall with many parishioners and guests that enjoyed an evening of fellowship and dance.

The Committee continued the support of the **Greek School's 25<sup>th</sup> Μαρτίου Program**. The committee members once again prepared the meal as the students of our Greek School program and the youth Dance Groups commemorated the 25<sup>th</sup> of March celebration of Greek Independence Day and the Name Day of our Church.

Again, this year, the Committee provided financial support to our youth Hellenic dance groups to continue their instruction and performances.

The Committee will be working to continue the legacy programs in 2018 and to provide more opportunities for the Parish to participate in new activities to promote our community's ethnic experiences and Greek Orthodox faith.

We thank the committee members and many volunteers for their tireless work and we are grateful to the parishioners and Parish Council for the support of the Committee's activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. John G. Vafeas  
George W. Ioannidis



# Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

## Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

### December 4, 2016

**Council Members in Attendance:** Maria Querry, John Stauffer, George Soukas, Kim Keares, Keith Bartlett, Manny Firoglanis, David Gammache, Helen Hazatonos, Kaliopi Karomfily, Dr. Tom Miller, Mary Sakellaris, Artemis Tsoflias, Nicholas Veronis, Donna Vitko, James Voulopos, Christopher Xakellis, Dr. Spencer Phillips, Dr. Olga Pratt, Fr. Hector Firoglanis

Fr. Hector Firoglanis brought the meeting to order at 11:55 AM and began with an opening prayer. President Maria Querry welcomed everyone and thanked all that work hard to further God's work in our church, including the priests and presbyters, church staff, Sunday School, Preschool, and Greek School teachers, parish committees and organizations, Bazaar and Gyrofest leadership and volunteers, Parish Council members, officers, and the Board of Elders. The minutes of the 2015 Congregational Meeting were summarized. ***A motion was made to approve the 2015 Congregational Meeting minutes by Peter Billis and seconded by Keith Cordischi.***

**President's Report:** Maria Querry highlighted several items from her report.

#### 2016 Significant Accomplishments

- Hired a part-time Cantor to support the liturgical needs of our church.
- Expanded the stewardship gratitude campaign by hosting of a coffee fellowship to honor parish volunteers.
- Met the stewardship goal of \$560,000.
- Completed a successful internal control evaluation of stewardship, Bazaar and other cash receipt functions with Trout, Ebersole and Groff.
- Completed initial, long-term, master facilities drawings with Wyant Architects to renovate, upgrade, and/or expand the church property.
- With the blessing of Bishop Savas, Transfiguration Orthodox Church secured rental space in Northern Litzitz and offers weekly liturgy to regular attendees and guests.
- Replaced the gold leaf in the apse.
- Installed new commercial grade kitchen doors.
- Secured nearly \$10,000 in donations for new iconography in the sanctuary.

#### 2017 Goals and Initiatives

- Support clergy and staff during parish transition and appointment of a second priest.
- Implement internal control audit recommendations.
- Continue to nurture and support the Transfiguration Orthodox Church (mission parish).
- Continue expansion of the stewardship program to promote recognition of time, talent, and treasure.
- Expand preschool hours and offer enrichment programs.
- Conduct parish survey to update parishioner database and to identify, improve, or expand ministries.
- Review architectural plans with parishioner groups, solicit feedback, and establish a Building Committee to devise plans and next steps.
- Establish a Centennial Committee to develop activities and events in honor and celebration of the 100th anniversary of Annunciation in 2021.

**Committee and Parish Organization Reports:** Maria Query encouraged attendees to read the complete congregational meeting packet for full reports presented by the various Parish Council committees, clergy, and other organizations.

**Financial Report:** George Soukas recognized all members of the finance committee for their work.

**2016 Actual Budget Status**

- Sources of funds collected through October of \$660,339 (82% of annual budget).
- Uses of funds through October total \$586,869 (74% of annual budget).
- Uses of funds include roughly \$20,000 in capital additions paid from the operating account.
- Current increase in fund balance of \$73,469 through October is well ahead of budget.
- Projected to exceed our original annual budgeted net increase in fund balance of \$14,075.

<b>2016 Cash Positions</b>	<b>2016-Oct</b>	<b>2015-Oct</b>
Operating Accounts	252,365	180,607
Restricted Accounts	77,822	84,669
Special Purpose Accounts	61,284	25,741
Investment Funds	29,185	28,860
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$ 420,656</b>	<b>\$ 319,877</b>

<b>Proposed 2017 United Church Budget</b>	<b>2016 YTD Jan-Oct</b>	<b>Proposed 2016</b>	<b>Proposed 2017</b>
Source of Funds	660,339	800,100	811,000
Use of Funds	586,869	786,025	762,370
Change in Fund Balance	\$ 73,469	\$ 14,075	\$ 48,630
Capital Improvements *			47,000
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 73,469</b>	<b>\$ 14,075</b>	<b>\$ 1,630</b>

**Completed 2016 Capital Improvements**

- Gold Leafing on Apse & Icons, \$15,000 funded completely through donations.
- Kitchen Doors, \$6,000.
- Social Hall Heating, \$9,500.
- New Freezer, \$4,500.
- Priest Office, funded completely through donation.

**Planned 2017 Capital Improvements**

- New Van, \$27,000.
- Narthex Air Conditioning, Paint Philoptochos Hall, New Down Stairs Doors, \$20,000.

Source of Funds	81,500
Giving of Funds	<u>74,000</u>
<b>Discretionary Surplus</b>	<b>7,500</b>

**(to be used if budget is fully obtained)**

***A motion was made to approve the 2017 annual budget by Paul Benos and seconded by George Katsaros.***

**Comments & Questions:**

- Helen Hazatonos reported on the upcoming Senior Citizens Gathering, asking for volunteers.
- Connie Hajioannou announced that the Pan-Coan Society is not hosting a 2016 New Year’s dance, but tickets for the Harrisburg event will be available.
- Nikitas Zervanos, on behalf of AHEPA, thanked all those who attended the Taverna Nights.
- Paul Benos asked about long-term planning and the strategic plan. Discussion ensued with Maria Query referring to 2016 meeting packet for details on completed and in-progress strategic plan fulfillment.
- Martha Ioannidis announced that the Daughters of Penelope are hosing the 2017 Pascha meal, with proceeds going to charity.
- Peter Billis asked for updates on iconography. Discussion ensued with Fr. Hector Firoglanis expanding on his report about the completed and anticipated icon projects.
- Several parishioners expressed a desire to receive the budget prior to the Congregational Meeting through direct mail and online delivery. Maria Query said that steps would be taken to deliver the budget early for the 2017 Congregational Meeting.
- A request was made for Parish Council meetings to be moved to an earlier day each month so that meeting minutes may be included in the Annunciator quicker. Follow up by officers concluded that due to monthly budget preparations, the meetings are held in or near the third week of the month, when financial reports are available. The summer lapse in minutes will occur in the earliest fall Annunciator as is feasible.
- Nitsa Kambouroglos inquired about the Pat Petrakes Youth Endowment Fund, how it is currently being used, and the need to market the availability of the funds for youth scholarships. Discussion ensued with George Soukas recommending that the original terms of the fund be studied prior to determining usage. The Finance Committee will follow up.

**Elections**

**Parish Council:** Dr. Olga Pratt reported on the 2017 elections. Elected for the 2017-19 term:

Keith Bartlett	Spencer Phillips
Jim Diamantoni	Maria Query
Manny Firoglanis	George Soukas
David Gammache Miller	John Stauffer Tom

**Board of Elders:** Nominated for the 2017 year: Peter

Billis, accepted  
George Katsaros, accepted  
Olga Pratt, accepted

***A motion was made to approve the Board of Elders Nominations by Peter Billis and seconded by Paul Benos.***

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM with a closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kim Keares, Parish Council Secretary

