

*Building Up the Body of Christ*  
2016 ANNUAL REPORT



He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8) • But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8) • And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24–25) • As each had received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. (1 Peter 4:10) • I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music. (Psalm 101:1) • Joy and gladness will be found, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. (Isaiah 51:3) • Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! (Psalm 103:1) • In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5) • Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. (Colossians 3:23-24) • Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord. (Psalm 117) • I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13) • Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6) • Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:19) • I pray that God, the

## WHO WE ARE

### SJD MISSION

We are faithful followers of Jesus Christ, dedicated to  
Changing Lives for God in Christ

### SJD VALUES

We will be a community of faith focused on:

- + Having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- + Loving God, others and self in a community of fellowship
- + Living life guided by Biblical truth, teaching, study, and prayer
- + Worshiping within traditional and contemporary Anglican/Episcopal services
- + Being generous and cheerful givers of our time, talent and treasure
- + Utilizing gifts in service to others for local and world-wide mission
- + Pursuing excellence in everything

## WHERE WE'RE HEADED

### SJD GUIDING PURPOSES



Transform  
Lives



Equip  
People



Mobilize  
Everyone

source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. (Romans 15:13) • Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16) I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:1) • Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7) • We know that all things

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**Bless we pray thee, O Father this united endeavor of our parish. Teach us to build to Thy glory and in Thy honor. The sacrifice is ever before us. Let us not fail to do our very best for Thee. — The Rev. Tom Summers, blessing of the Church building campaign, 1951**

God's desire is that all people would know the saving grace of Jesus Christ and be empowered to live lives of great faithfulness. He wants that for us and then he wants to share that with others through us.

St. John the Divine has been making that happen for over 77 years. God used the faithfulness of our founders to share his grace with tens of thousands of people. Those who have come before us sacrificed to grow his kingdom. That is the legacy we've been given.

Now, it's our turn. Today, in 2017, we have our chance to build on that legacy. There is still more God is calling us to do. In 2015 we began to Imagine what that future might look like. What emerged was a sense that God is calling us to focus on three purposes – transforming lives, equipping people and mobilizing everyone. These aren't new. We've been doing that, but there are new ways for us to grow our impact and ensure that St. John the Divine continues to be a strong, vibrant parish for the next generation.

These purposes give us a sort of high level snapshot of what the future looks like. If it was a building project we'd have before us an architect's rendering – beautifully drawn, but with very few details. It's a glimpse of what could be if we were to take the next step.

That next step is to translate those purposes into specific plans, structures, systems, and budgets. For this to be more than a dream we need to define concrete actions and timelines to guide our effort. We need "construction drawings" if we are ever going to build.

Over these next three months we will be translating God's call into specific plans. We've brought on expertise to help us generate the "construction drawings" that will allow us to build stronger ministries. This approach will allow the staff to stay focused on ministry to the people God has given us today while our consultants help us clarify how to move forward into tomorrow.

Please do join us as we lift this parish in prayer and as we seek to pursue God's "best" for this amazing church.

Blessings,

The Rev. Dr. Clay A. Lein, Rector

we are called to

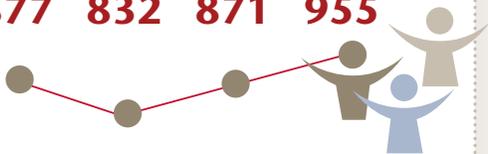


*Transform lives*  
by connecting them  
more deeply to Jesus

### Growth in Our Attendance

#### ASA (Sunday Attendance)

2013	2014	2015	2016
877	832	871	955



 **74**  
Baptisms

**102**   
Confirmations

**60 new members**

attended Discovery Class



**8,322 People**  
attended  
Holy Week and  
Christmas Services

### Transformed by the Arts

**400 People**  
attended  
Messiah Parts 2 & 3  
the Saturday before  
Holy Week

**1000 People**  
attended  
SJD's first Christmas  
on the Boulevard



**Average Sunday school  
attendance**  
(Adult, Children & Youth)

**352**

The Mom to Mom ministry continues to **transform lives** by connecting people through weekly gatherings of moms of young children with Jesus as our foundation. This year we have had visiting moms find our ministry and seek out other avenues, such as Hope of Glory and Women's Retreat, to deepen their relationship with our Lord and Savior. We have also had some join St. John the Divine after attending our Mom to Mom meetings.  
—Lyndsay Burgoyne, Mom to Mom Coordinator

In 2016, 60 new members attended Discovery Classes and participated in our two confirmation/reception service, transforming lives and **connecting people more deeply to Jesus**.  
—Kim Jameson, Director of Membership

In 2016, Children's Ministry worked to transform lives by offering more **opportunities for kids to connect more deeply with Jesus** and in the life of the church. We offered our first Maundy Thursday foot washing service and teaching on the Last Supper (communion) and Family Stations of the Cross on Good Friday so that children were able to participate in Holy Week in ways that were meaningful to them. We have incorporated pieces of our liturgy into our Sunday school curriculums to provide kids opportunities to pray and worship in our Anglican tradition.  
—Deanna Lawson, Director of Children's Ministries

Music and Worship expanded its ministry and outreach with the launch of Entersect, a branded series of events providing **opportunities for all to encounter the Divine through the transformative power of the arts**. Programming included a presentation of Messiah Parts 2 & 3 at the beginning of Holy Week, attended by 400 people from both the church and the community. Christmas on the Boulevard in December attracted nearly 1,000 people to our campus for a live nativity and concert with River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, the SJD Chorale, and the Houston Boychoir. Contemplative offerings of sung prayer in the form of Taize and Evensong deepened our worship of God in Christ.  
—Steven Newberry, Director of Music and Worship

At first glance, there seemed to be challenges with having Sunday school and a regular service schedule on Rally Day this year; however, those challenges created more opportunities for members to **connect with one another**. Those Rally Day connections are still happening in 2017 through socials and parties held last August.  
—Jenny Childers, Parish Records and Rally Day Coordinator

In my short time here, I have seen the impact of our music ministry on the congregation. In particular, the response to Christmas on the Boulevard was overwhelmingly positive and gave people another means for **connecting with their faith** in a powerful way.  
—Jessica Blau, Administrative Assistant

Therefore welcome one another as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. —Romans 15:7  
This verse serves as a reminder about Jesus' welcoming nature just as we welcomed over 150 families to experience the Stations of the Cross on our campus on Good Friday. We have received such an outpouring of gratitude for **the impact this journey has made** on the youngest as well as the eldest of families.  
—Rebecca Dominguez, Children's Ministry Associate

Well-chosen texts paired with beautiful music provided a **lifelong gift** to choristers and both become imprinted in the brain and remain in long-term memory.  
—Lois Trego, Director of Music for Children and Youth

Since the fall our student ministry numbers have increased for both Sunday school and Midweek programs and we are looking to maintain that growth. We have also seen students **dive deeper** into their faith commitments as well as mature as young men and women of faith. We have had two successful retreats this school year: the fall retreat in October, and a great Confirmation retreat the first weekend in January.  
—Dan Gannon, Director of Student Ministries

I help people connect more deeply to Jesus by being more open to others about where they are and where I am and through sharing personal stories and **connecting them to books where Jesus would speak to them** in their present circumstance.  
—Tisha Browning, Bookstore Assistant

we are called to



## *Equip People*

in practical, holistic ways to live their faith in the world

**100** parents equipped in Sticky Faith Classes

An illustration of five stylized human figures in various colors (brown, blue, grey) with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or joy.

A blue square icon featuring a white dove in flight, symbolizing peace and leadership.

The Kings Study Livestream received **450 views**

An icon of a computer monitor with a stylized person figure on the screen, representing a digital livestream.

**350** people were equipped by **Dr. Kara Powell** at the Parish Thanksgiving Dinner

A grid of 350 small, light blue human figure icons, arranged in 7 rows and 50 columns, representing the total number of people.

**Family Ministry equipped over 100 parents** through the Sticky Faith class on Wednesdays, Sundays, and at the Family Retreat during 2016. Family Ministry also brought in three speakers during November, including Dr. Kara Powell who spoke to over 350 people at the SJD Family Thanksgiving Dinner.

—The Rev. Reagan Cocke, Associate Rector

With the addition of the new Teaching Center, we are now able to make studies and presentations available over the internet by live streaming and by video capture for viewing on demand. **This new technology enables us to equip a new group of people who cannot be here in person.** We launched this technology by live streaming Clay Lein’s study on 1 & 2 Kings, which received 450 views.

—Marilyn Gore, Director of Information Services

One of the ways I have seen the Youth Ministry grow and change is the addition of Dan to the team. He and Kimberly have done wonders welcoming kids into their home, and **equipping the ministry** as a whole.

—Deborah Parrack, Youth Staff

Sometimes I find it hard to think of accounting as a “ministry”. **But when I experience things that happen at SJD, I am reminded that they would not be possible without the “behind the scenes” departments.** It is exciting to see St. John the Divine Changing Lives for God in Christ!

—Marilyn Patterson, Director of Accounting

2016 was a year of growth and of great reward from God in our nursery. Our loving and trained staff met, cared for, and loved over 150 different babies during the year. We implemented our new First Look curriculum that uses music, lessons, and activities to **teach our youngest members** that God made them, loves them, and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever.

—Luci Aguilar, Nursery Coordinator

In late 2015 Young Professionals launched a Tuesday night Bible study and a program to **train mentors to be significant influences** in the lives and careers of Young Professionals that are out of college, but not yet “home building”. Both are growing, and 80% of the mentees report being “highly satisfied” with their mentor.

—The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector

**Confirmation has evolved** from a 5-week class to a weekly gathering that stretches from September to mid-May. We have 38 people in the class and 15 adults that serve as small group leaders.

—Dan Gannon, Director of Student Ministries

Members of our parish have continued to grace our 5 pm chapel worship through musical offerings. Through songs and instruments such as flute, saxophone, guitar, cello, and oboe, **members of all ages and backgrounds have donated their musical gifts** to the transformative power of worship.

—John Meier, Associate Director of Music and Worship

2016 was a great year in the life of the Middle School ministry at SJD. Not only did we have amazing adventures like our Mission Trip to L.A., 30 Hour Famine, and Servant Saturdays, but we **grew together as a close-knit family.** The ties created by shared experiences in ministry help form the closeness of what scripture calls the “Body of Christ”.

—Zach Meeks, Director of Middle School Ministry

Parlor Programs in 2016 **taught us** more about long term care insurance, safe driving, Africa mission work for widows and orphans, and social security as a retirement strategy. Practical health issues were addressed with Lifeline Screening, flu shots, and CPR training. We also welcomed 14 couples to a new class for beginner ballroom dancing which will be available on a regular basis.

—Susan Davis, Director of Seniors Ministry

In addition to increasing our teaching offerings for parents, **we have begun socially connecting those with children in the home through quarterly “home builders” events.** The first two had more than 80 people present.

—The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector

Our Sunday adult education continues to grow with the introduction of the HIS Story walk through the Bible this past fall. With the help of our dedicated small group leaders and teachers **we are committed to bringing the Word to everyone.**

—Jackie Collins, Executive Assistant

we are called to



*Mobilize everyone*

to serve others and  
change the world

**\$'s grants awarded  
& agencies helped**

**\$815,925** **74** outreach/  
mission agencies  
to serve Houston  
and the world



**2000+** meals served to  
the homeless at The Beacon.



**60** Christmas poinsettias  
delivered to older parishioners

**10**

young professionals  
walked

**1500**

miles on pilgrimage



SJD Parishioners traveled on  
mission to Mexico, Belize, Nepal,  
Guatemala, and Los Angeles

Mission Partners from Bolivia,  
Pakistan, and Nepal visited SJD



In 2016 various **leadership development initiatives were begun** including hosting our first Global Leadership Summit (GLS), monthly GLS Leadership Breakfasts (averaging around 40 attendees), and leadership training for our Mentor Network and Associate Vestry.  
—The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector

We in the office of music and worship are blessed to be working so closely with the various worship ministries at SJD. In 2016, we implemented new scheduling software to ease the burden on our lay leadership, and we greatly appreciate how readily the volunteers adapted to the new system. We are humbled by the commitment all the volunteers show in being **mobilized to serve God in his Church**.  
—Patrick Schneider, Administrative Assistant

St. John the Divine's first Global Leadership Summit, and the first Christmas on the Boulevard, live nativity and choral concert, attracted over 1500 visitors and members alike! We opened our doors to the community, and **the spirit of "hospitality and welcome" created by our volunteers provided opportunities to mobilize members** to serve others and to change the world.  
—Kim Jameson, Director of Membership

Thanks to our SJD youth group and volunteers, **Seniors Ministry delivered 60 Christmas poinsettias** to our older parishioners at Christmas.  
—Susan Davis, Director of Seniors Ministry

In 2016, ten SJD Young Professionals went on pilgrimage, walking the last 150 miles of the El Camino de Santiago in Spain. We also began an annual fall retreat that had fifteen young adults and a Fellows 2.0 program that has a cohort of six young adults meeting to grow their faith and ability to **impact the world for Christ**.  
—The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector

**Fifty-four young choristers serve their church** through their singing in services. Additionally, the greater community is becoming more aware of what we do and how it directly supports children, parents, and families.  
—Lois Trego, Director of Music for Children and Youth

This past summer we had mission/service trips that **impacted the lives of every one** of the 24 people that went to Los Angeles, CA and all of the 28 people that went to Belize.  
—Dan Gannon, Director of Student Ministries

By focusing on five areas of concern through the Halo Project, we are **helping our customers give the gift of hope**.  
—Susan Treat, Bookstore Manager

The attitude behind giving really matters. There is a huge difference between buying stuff that you feel (or are) obligated to, and intentionally (and cheerfully) giving something to another person. **Your generosity makes it possible to mobilize everyone to serve others and change the world**.  
—Jackie Skeffington, Director of Stewardship

I have seen St. John the Divine's outreach goals grow through our local and world mission committees and have seen the commitment to wholeheartedly and **prayerfully make decisions that protect, encourage, and love the human dignity of all God's children**.  
—Robyn LaRocca, Director of Outreach and Safe Church

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve as the receptionist here at SJD for the last five years. It is encouraging and inspiring to me to see people come in our church and want to get involved in any way they can. They are eager to worship, pray, volunteer, attend Bible study, and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. You can feel the energy and see the excitement that people have when they are here. **SJD has mobilized many new volunteers who are willing to participate in our ministries and share their gifts, talents, and time for the Lord**. I am fortunate and grateful that I have several new volunteers who will step in at any time to sit at the front desk, greet, and welcome visitors while answering phones when I am out of the office. My volunteers are awesome!  
—Beverly Herbert, Receptionist.

# YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION: HOUSTON & THE WORLD

## Outreach Committee (Local Mission)

Clay Lein, rector	Chuck Carlberg	David Martin	Kathy O'Neil
Matt Marino, clergy liason	Whitney Elder	Tres Cochran	Jim Shepherd
Jennifer Weston, chair	Cheri Fossler	Jim Greenwood	Carol Stryker
Pat Berry	Craig Perkins	George McDaniel	

## The following local organizations received grants in 2016:

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT		
A.D. Players	15,000	LIFE Houston	15,000
Agape Development Ministries	30,000	LifeHouse	15,000
Alpha Houston	10,000	LOTS	7,500
Amazing Place	25,000	Mission of Yahweh	10,000
Archway Academy	5,000	Nehemiah Neighborhood Center	10,000
Arrow Child (Freedom Place)	10,000	New Hope Housing	5,000
Bo's Place	5,000	No More Victims	5,000
Boys & Girls Harbor	7,500	Open Door Mission	10,000
Boys and Girls Country	5,000	Pacific Divinity School	1,000
Bridges to Life	10,000	Palmer Drug Abuse Program	5,000
Brookwood Community	15,000	Prison Entrepreneurial Program	5,000
Camp Allen	11,000	Rector's Outreach Fund	30,000
Camp for All	5,000	Restoration Community Church	10,000
Casa de Esperanza	5,000	SEARCH	15,000
Christian Community Service Center (CCSC)	30,025	Seminary of the Southwest	20,000
COMPASS	5,000	Serenity Retreat	7,500
Covenant House	10,000	Small Steps Nurturing Center	7,500
CRU	2,500	Source for Women	5,000
Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance	5,000	Spaulding for Children	5,000
ECHOS (Epiphany Community Health)	5,000	St. James House	5,000
Epsicopal Seafarers	5,000	Stoney Creek	5,000
Generation One	15,000	The Beacon	25,000
Good Neighbor Health Clinic	15,000	The Council on Recovery	10,000
His Father's Heart Ministries	10,000	The Forge	10,000
Holly Hall Retirement Community	5,000	Trinity School for Seminary	20,000
Hospitality Apartments HRDF	5,000	Virginia Theological Seminary	1,000
Houston Pregnancy Help Center	10,000	Vita-Living	10,000
Iglesia Episcopal San Mateo	15,000	WorkFaith Connection	12,500
Interfaith Care Partners	10,000	Wycliffe Hall	5,000
Interfaith Ministries (Meals on Wheels)	10,000	Yellowstone Academy	20,000
Intervarsity (U of H)	2,500	Young Life Greater Houston	10,000
Kids' Meals	25,000	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$665,525</b>

**World Missions Committee**

Matt Marino, clergy liason	Barbara Foxhall	Jenny Childers	Rick Watkins
Brian Black	August Al-Uqdah II	David Lasater	Sheryl Johnson-Todd
Kathy Van Wie	Scott Schwind	Christi Megow	
Barbara Strobel	Tim Crockett	Julie Francis	

**St. John the Divine partnered with 12 ministries in 2016:**

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>		
Abba House	6,200	Higher Ground	10,000
Amistad	50,000	Moja Mission	10,200
Bridges to Pakistan	10,000	Mustard Seed	22,500
Crossway	11,500	New Life School	14,000
Faith in Practice	1,000	Staff of Hope	6,000
Haiti Educational Foundation	9,000	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$150,400</b>

**Christmas Giving Market 2016 TOTAL \$15,117**

<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>WORLD</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Agape	2,255	Abba House	745
CCSC	726	Amistad	1,056
Freedom Place	3,401	Bridges to Pakistan	700
Life Houston	1,100	Jewelry & Craft Sales	1,502
Gospel Boxes	1,302	Mexico Medical Mission	2,330
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$8,784</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$6,333</b>

# SJD LEADERSHIP

## Clergy

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The Rev. Dr. Clay A. Lein, Rector  
The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow, Senior Associate Rector  
The Rev. Reagan W. Cocke, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Gregory J. Buffone

## Vestry

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### 2016

Lori Gobillot, Sr. Warden  
Anne Harrington  
Gentry Lee  
Sarah McParland  
David Modesett  
Jim Shepherd

### 2017

Tracy Walne, Jr. Warden  
Shirley Burgher  
John Cain  
Craig Perkins  
Louise Symmes  
Eric Wade

### 2018

Devera Allday  
August Al-Uqdah II  
Paul Douglass  
Laura Goehrs  
Chaille Hutcheson, Clerk  
Charles Ofner

### Officers

Michael Young, Treasurer  
John Wombwell  
Chair of Endowment Fund

## Associate Vestry

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### 2015 – 2017

Ross Adams, Sr. Warden  
Christi Bowden, Jr. Warden  
Walter Bering  
Karen Bowden

Will Bos  
Virginia Evans  
Raven Green  
Sarah Hastings  
Laura Jones

Leslie Loftis  
Andrew McConomy  
Sarah McMurrey  
William O'Neal  
Barrett Schick

John Steen  
Jim Temple  
Philip Wright

### 2016 – 2018

Mike Barone  
Cynthia Birdwell  
Danya Bogart  
Kent Chenevert

Jenny Childers  
Lloyd Conaway  
Edward Crain  
Judd Harrison  
Jeremiah Hartley

Richard Howell  
Chap Hutcheson  
Susan Jones  
Susan Lucchesi  
Joanna Marks

Charlie Ofner  
Kelly Perdue  
John Wilson

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(Acts 1:8) • And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24–25) • As each had received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. (1 Peter 4:10) • I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music. (Psalm 101:1) • Joy and gladness will be found, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. (Isaiah 51:3) • Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! (Psalm 103:1) • In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5) • Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. 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