

Otey Memorial Parish  
Sewanee, Tennessee  
Vestry Agenda for March 22, 2018  
5:30 pm

- I. Opening Devotions
- II. Election of Clerk 5:50
- III. Minutes from the February meeting
- V. Reports 6:00  
Treasurer  
Rector  
Committees, as necessary  
Parish Life--Coffee Hour & Kitchen Pass-through
- [VI. Old Business]
- [VII. New Business]
- VIII. Closing Prayers 6:45

*The Vestry meets at 5:30pm normally on the third Thursday of each month: April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, August 13, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20 (or 13). According to diocesan canons, we must meet at least quarterly.*

**Otey Parish**  
**Vestry Meeting: February 15, 2018**

Present: The Rev. Rob Lamborn, The Rev. Betty Carpenter, David Burnett, Lisa Howick, Claudia Porter, Barbara Prunty, Lee Stapleton, Rachel Suarez, Kathy Solomon, Treasurer

Absent: Shelley Cammack, Tim Graham and Gary Sturgis

Meeting began with Evening Prayer in St. Mark's Chapel.

Clerk of the Vestry is still undecided; someone is considering the position.

A motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting as amended was made by Lee Stapleton and seconded by Rachel Suarez -- motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Kathy Solomon gave an in depth report for the benefit of the new vestry members – and very helpful for all of us. Income for 2017 was above that budgeted and expenses were also below budget making for a very hopeful financial picture. Copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

CAC reported a banner year. Donations increased and expenses were reasonable. In 2018 a report will be made quarterly to the vestry and monthly the CAC Board.

Rob reported that a donation of \$100,000 had recently been made to the Building Fund. Kathy also reported that funds had accumulated to approximately \$43,000 toward a principal payment on the building loan. A motion was made by Rachel, seconded by Claudia to take \$7,000 from reserve funds to make an additional \$50,000 payment on the building loan. Therefore, \$150,000 will be paid toward the principal owed within the next few days. This will result in a large savings of interest on the loan for 2018.

Kathy also reported on difficulties with Regions Bank in taking care of financial situations. She has contacted the regional officer who reported no knowledge of the situation and would like time to research what had occurred. Kathy also has contacted First Tennessee Bank about the possibility of moving our account to them. More about this will be reported at the next vestry meeting.

**Rector's Report:**

Rob highlighted his meetings with parents about children participating in worship.

He also reported his father will move to Sewanee on February 28.

A confirmation/review class will be held on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. until the Bishop's annual visit to Otey.

Diocesan Convention: The resolution sponsored by Otey (copy attached) was changed considerably from the original. The substitute resolution passed.

Diocesan Convention lowered the minimum age for a vestry member from 18 to 16. Vestry members under the age of 18 may vote on any matter except those concerning legal matters.

Frieda Hawkins-Gipson will be using only her maiden name Hawkins from this time forward.

The Vestry Retreat date will be moved from February 24 as originally scheduled. An e-mail will go to Vestry members to poll for a new date.

The March vestry meeting has been changed to Thursday, March 22. An e-mail will also be sent to confirm how many vestry members can attend on that date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Porter, Substitute Clerk

OTEY MEMORIAL PARISH  
Community Action Committee

2018

	ACS	Actual	Actual	Budget
SOURCES OF FUNDS:	2016	2017	YTD Feb 18	2018
Individuals*	42,461	20,185	2,753	15,000
Organizations	36,653	27,170		30,000
Donations via SUD Pro Help	2,361			
Episcopal Endowment Fund	2,078	10,032	13,000	13,000
Total CAC Income	83,553	57,387	15,753	58,000
<b>Administrative-CAC</b>				
Director	18,000	18,000	3,000	18,000
Financial Administrator	1,641	1,530	266	274
Administrative-CAC	9,419	4,124	60	4,000
Telephone-CAC	643	550	50	500
Program Supplies/ Expenses	1,596	1,278		1,000
CAC Volunteer Recognition			17	500
Total Administrative Expenses	31,300	25,482	3,393	24,274
<b>GRANTS:</b>				
Project Noel				1,000
Housing	1,034	8,460	166	3,000
Education		2,239		3,000
Food	10,053	7,471	284	10,000
Gas/Propane (Heating)	828	241	175	500
Electricity	9,786	9,002	2,450	10,000
Medical	3,574	6,104	100	1,500
Water	2,593	2,136		2,800
Transportation/Gas	25	484		500
After School Program @ Midway			8	600
Grants for Other Purposes	1,300	1,964		2,000
Total Grants	29,193	38,101	3,183	34,900
Total Cash Out	60,492	63,583	6,576	59,174
Net in/out	23,061	(6,196)	9,177	(1,174)

**CAC Restricted Fund**

Ending Balance at Period End	43,947	37,751	46,928
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# Otey Memorial Parish

## Summary of Cash Position

Accounts	12/31/2017	2/28/2018	Target Balance
<b><u>Cash</u></b>			
Rector's Discretionary Fund	3,624	4,022	4,000
Parish Checking	46,189	22,144	40,000
CAC Checking	27,379	24,475	10,000
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>77,192</b>	<b>50,641</b>	<b>54,000</b>
<b><u>Other Current Assets</u></b>			
Security Deposit-Duck River Electric	3,000	3,000	
Debt Reduction Pledges Receivable	6,660	9,520	
Allowance for Uncollected Pledges	(1,027)	(1,027)	
<b>Net other Current Assets</b>	<b>8,634</b>	<b>11,494</b>	-
Episcopal Endowment-Wolfe	113,691	113,691	100,000
<b><u>Vanguard:</u></b>			
Wellesley Income Fund Admiral	111,504	99,390	
Wellington Fund Admiral	102,668	130,949	
Money Market/Unsold Gifts	34,514	14,719	10,000
<b>Total Vanguard</b>	<b>248,686</b>	<b>245,058</b>	<b>230,000</b>
<b>Total Liquid Assets</b>	<b>448,202</b>	<b>420,884</b>	<b>384,000</b>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>			
Accounts Payable	144	(302)	
Credit Card Debt	3,415	2,973	
Prepaid Pledges	10,995	27,529	
1st Tennessee Loan (due 1 yr)	40,870	39,736	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>55,280</b>	<b>70,238</b>	
<b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>			
Altar Guild Flower Fund	1,300	900	
CAC Fund Balance	37,751	46,928	
Christian Formation		882	
Continuing Education-Clergy	200	200	
Debt Reduction	31,955	65	
Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)*	5,083	5,083	
Landscaping	240	240	
Memorials	6,334	9,789	
Parish Life*	1,202	1,345	
Rector's Discretionary Fund	11,379	11,703	
Rector's Sabbatical		1,500	
Repairs & Maintenance	1,238	1,238	
Sears Bequest/Misc allocated to Housing Sewanee	4,890	4,890	
Stewardship Support	1,548	1,548	
<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>	<b>103,120</b>	<b>86,311</b>	
Endowment Fund-Permanently Restricted	100,000	100,000	
<b>Total Asset Restrictions</b>	<b>258,400</b>	<b>256,549</b>	<b>Range</b>
<b>Net Unrestricted Liquid Assets*</b>	<b>189,802</b>	<b>164,335</b>	\$ 151,738
			\$ 228,357

**Otey Memorial Parish**  
**First Tennessee Loan Summary**

3.5% p.a.

Total Cost Claiborne Hall Construction	\$ 2,189,300	
Maximum loan balance 2014	\$ 682,088	(of approved \$725,000)
Principal Balance as of 12/31/16	\$ 403,464	
Expected Balloon Payment Due 6/1/2019	\$ 121,544	

YEAR	Scheduled Payments			Additional Principal Payments	Remaining Balance
	Principal	Interest	Total		
2014	14,060	16,110	30,169		668,028
2015	33,682	21,680	55,362	100,007	534,339
2016	33,682	15,467	49,149	97,193	403,464
2017	33,682	12,658	46,340	50,875	318,907
<b>2018:</b>					
Jan	2,807	961	3,768		316,100
Feb	2,807	953	313,293		313,293
Mar	2,807	853	310,487	150,000	160,487
Apr	2,807	468	157,680		157,680
May	2,807	460	154,873		154,873
June	2,807	452	152,066		152,066
July	2,807	444	149,259		149,259
Aug	2,807	435	3,745		146,452
Sep	2,807	427	143,646		143,646
Oct	2,807	419	140,839		140,839
Nov	2,807	411	138,032		138,032
Dec	2,807	403	135,225		135,225
Total 2018	33,682	6,685	1,802,912	150,000	
<b>2019:</b>					
Jan	2,807	394	132,418		132,418
Feb	2,807	386	129,611		129,611
Mar	2,807	378	126,805		126,805
Apr	2,807	370	123,998		123,998
May	2,807	362	121,191		121,191
June	121,191	353	-		-
Total 2019	135,225	2,244	634,023	-	

Pledges Receivable	as of	
Beginning Balance	1/1/18	\$ 22,720
2018 Pledge Receipts	2/28/18	(13,200)
Ending Balance	12/31/17	<b>\$ 9,520</b>

Collected Funds Available for Debt Reduction	as of date	
Beginning Balance	12/31/17	\$ 31,955
Pledge Receipts YTD		10,710
Non-Pledge Gifts YTD		400
Hethcock Bequest		100,000
Operating Funds allocated		7,000
Principal Payments		(150,000)
Ending Balance	2/28/18	<b>\$ 65</b>

**Otey Memorial Parish**  
**Operating Statement of Financial Activities**  
**Fund: Otey Church General Fund**  
**January to February 2018**

Accounts	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
<b>Revenues</b>				
<b>Support From Outside Sources</b>				
4111 - Plate Offerings	\$493	\$1,014	\$1,367	\$8,200
4115 - 1/4th Plate to Rector's Discr Fd	\$0	\$0	\$342	\$2,050
4131 - Pledge Payments	\$18,726	\$39,942	\$63,476	\$380,858
4141 - Non-Pledge Gifts	\$1,938	\$15,688	\$4,167	\$25,000
4191 - Other Outside Support Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$3,333	\$20,000
<b>Total Support From Outside Sources</b>	<u>\$21,158</u>	<u>\$56,644</u>	<u>\$72,685</u>	<u>\$436,108</u>
<b>Support From Internal Sources</b>				
4512 - Investment Income	\$0	\$0	\$2,812	\$16,875
4551 - Property Rental Income	\$1,058	\$1,515	\$1,667	\$10,000
<b>Total Support From Internal Sources</b>	<u>\$1,058</u>	<u>\$1,515</u>	<u>\$4,479</u>	<u>\$26,875</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u><u>\$22,215</u></u>	<u><u>\$58,159</u></u>	<u><u>\$77,164</u></u>	<u><u>\$462,983</u></u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Work Outside Congregation</b>				
5111 - Diocesan Assessment	\$0	\$3,002	\$6,004	\$36,026
5121 - Seminary Gift	\$500	\$500	\$83	\$500
5171 - Stephen Ministry Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$167	\$1,000
<b>Total Work Outside Congregation</b>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$3,502</u>	<u>\$6,254</u>	<u>\$37,526</u>
<b>Work Within Congregation</b>				
<b>Programs</b>				
<b>Christian Education</b>				
5311 - Christian Education	\$200	\$200	\$500	\$3,000
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$3,000</u>
<b>Parish Life</b>				
5331 - Parish Life	\$910	\$910	\$383	\$2,300
<b>Total Parish Life</b>	<u>\$910</u>	<u>\$910</u>	<u>\$383</u>	<u>\$2,300</u>
<b>Worship</b>				
5351 - Altar Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$217	\$1,300
5353 - Communion Prep. & Confirmation	\$0	\$0	\$33	\$200
5355 - Music	\$0	\$0	\$125	\$750
5357 - Prayer Books and Materials	\$0	\$0	\$33	\$200
5359 - Organ and Piano Maintenance	\$0	\$511	\$383	\$2,300
5398 - Pastoral Care	\$0	\$0	\$25	\$150
<b>Total Worship</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$511</u>	<u>\$817</u>	<u>\$4,900</u>
<b>Youth</b>				
5371 - Youth Ministry	\$560	\$560	\$500	\$3,000
<b>Total Youth</b>	<u>\$560</u>	<u>\$560</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$3,000</u>
<b>Total Programs</b>	<u>\$1,670</u>	<u>\$2,181</u>	<u>\$2,200</u>	<u>\$13,200</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
<b>Salaries &amp; Wages</b>				

**Otey Memorial Parish**  
**Operating Statement of Financial Activities**  
**Fund: Otey Church General Fund**  
**January to February 2018**

Accounts	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
5411 - Clergy	\$3,343	\$6,687	\$6,557	\$39,344
5415 - Supply Clergy	\$0	\$0	\$217	\$1,300
5421 - Youth Minister	\$434	\$867	\$867	\$5,202
5431 - Organ & Choir	\$837	\$1,674	\$1,674	\$10,047
5432 - Supply Organ	\$0	\$275	\$100	\$600
5443 - Housekeeper	\$609	\$1,326	\$1,856	\$11,138
5451 - Child Care	\$446	\$832	\$873	\$5,240
5461 - Dir. Christian Formation	\$1,690	\$3,380	\$3,380	\$20,280
5471 - CAC Director (Otey)	\$2,008	\$4,017	\$4,017	\$24,102
5481 - Office Staff	\$3,217	\$6,434	\$6,434	\$38,604
5486 - Financial Staff	\$1,068	\$1,761	\$1,926	\$11,557
5487 - Financial Staff Coverage	\$0	\$375	\$125	\$750
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	<b>\$13,653</b>	<b>\$27,629</b>	<b>\$28,027</b>	<b>\$168,164</b>
<b>Employee Benefits</b>				
5511 - Clergy Pension	\$2,405	\$2,317	\$2,716	\$16,298
5521 - Clergy Insurance	\$0	\$2,468	\$4,620	\$27,720
5526 - Clergy Housing & Utility Allow.	\$3,200	\$6,400	\$6,400	\$38,400
5531 - Clergy - SECA Payments	\$509	\$1,017	\$991	\$5,947
5551 - Staff Payroll Taxes	\$808	\$1,600	\$1,629	\$9,773
5561 - Staff Pension	\$941	\$941	\$941	\$5,644
5571 - Staff Insurance	(\$38)	\$883	\$1,650	\$9,900
5631 - Workers Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$7
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>\$7,824</b>	<b>\$15,626</b>	<b>\$18,948</b>	<b>\$113,689</b>
<b>Facilities Expenses</b>				
5611 - Property & Liability Insurance	\$2,281	\$2,281	\$1,533	\$9,200
5711 - Repairs & Maintenance	\$0	\$873	\$1,667	\$10,000
5721 - Elevator Maintenance	\$304	\$548	\$500	\$3,000
5731 - Equipment Purchases	\$0	\$0	\$83	\$500
5751 - Contracted Services	\$0	\$973	\$292	\$1,750
5761 - Furnishings	\$0	\$0	\$42	\$250
5771 - Supplies	\$328	\$328	\$150	\$900
5781 - Electricity	\$2,023	\$2,416	\$2,250	\$13,500
5783 - Gas	\$1,510	\$1,510	\$417	\$2,500
5785 - Water & Sewer	\$210	\$438	\$417	\$2,500
5790 - Grounds Maintenance	\$950	\$950	\$750	\$4,500
<b>Total Facilities Expenses</b>	<b>\$7,606</b>	<b>\$10,316</b>	<b>\$8,100</b>	<b>\$48,600</b>
<b>Office Services</b>				
5811 - Audit	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$6,000
5821 - Computer Expenses	\$209	\$600	\$467	\$2,800
5831 - Copying	\$600	\$600	\$550	\$3,300
5841 - Office Supplies	\$262	\$262	\$333	\$2,000
5851 - Office Equipment Purchases	\$0	\$0	\$125	\$750



**Otey Memorial Parish**  
**Operating Statement of Financial Activities**  
**Fund: Otey Church General Fund**  
**January to February 2018**

Accounts	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
5861 - Postage	\$152	\$152	\$125	\$750
5871 - Telephone	\$460	\$920	\$982	\$5,890
5891 - Miscellaneous Expense	\$75	\$114	\$83	\$500
<b>Total Office Services</b>	<u>\$1,757</u>	<u>\$2,648</u>	<u>\$3,665</u>	<u>\$21,990</u>
<b>Organizational Expenses</b>				
5911 - Clergy Car Expense	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$1,500
5912 - Clergy Expense Allowance	\$23	\$23	\$83	\$500
5913 - Continuing Education- Clergy	\$177	\$177	\$333	\$2,000
5914 - Continuing Education - Staff	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$1,500
5915 - Convention & Travel	\$225	\$338	\$167	\$1,000
5916 - Ministering to New Members	\$0	\$0	\$83	\$500
5918 - Publications	\$0	\$0	\$233	\$1,400
5919 - Communications	\$0	\$0	\$42	\$250
5920 - Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$3,000
5922 - Vestry	\$0	\$0	\$67	\$400
<b>Total Organizational Expenses</b>	<u>\$425</u>	<u>\$538</u>	<u>\$2,008</u>	<u>\$12,050</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>\$31,266</u>	<u>\$56,757</u>	<u>\$60,749</u>	<u>\$364,493</u>
<b>Total Work Within Congregation</b>	<u>\$32,936</u>	<u>\$58,938</u>	<u>\$62,949</u>	<u>\$377,693</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$33,436</u>	<u>\$62,440</u>	<u>\$69,203</u>	<u>\$415,219</u>
<b>Net Total</b>	(\$11,221)	(\$4,281)	\$7,961	\$47,764
<b>Other Expenses</b>				
7111 - Interest Expense	\$953	\$1,914	\$0	\$0
7311 - Sabbatical Reserve Provision	\$0	\$1,500	\$250	\$1,500
7711 - Debt Service Provision	\$0	\$0	\$6,666	\$39,994
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<u>\$953</u>	<u>\$3,414</u>	<u>\$6,916</u>	<u>\$41,494</u>
<b>Net Operating Total</b>	(\$12,173)	(\$7,694)	\$1,045	\$6,270

Otey Memorial Parish Church  
Treasurer's Report 3/20/18

YTD February 2018 Financial Highlights

The usual budget report has been replaced by a report straight from the church's accounting system, ACS. Since I won't be at the meeting on Thursday, please email or call me with any questions either before or after the meeting. (email, [solomonnew2015@gmail.com](mailto:solomonnew2015@gmail.com) cell phone, [931-636-6811](tel:931-636-6811)).

Operating Statement of Financial Activities (New):

- The budget for ¼ plate to Rector's Discretionary Fund (4115) should be a negative number, making the budget for total revenues for the year \$458,883. (This will be corrected next month, as will the adjustment for ¼ plate.)
- Pledge receipts (4131) show what has been year-to-date for pledges, not necessarily 2018 pledges. For example, \$37,070.50 in 2018 pledges was paid in 2017. As a result, pledge collections are quite good, even though YTD actual pledge receipts are less than budgeted.
- Two Diocesan Assessments (5111) have been paid through February, but I need to check with Diane to find out why that is not reflected in this statement.
- Salaries and Wages are in line with the budget as are benefits. Clergy Insurance (5521) payments need to be reviewed.
- Total Facilities Expenses are over budget YTD, due largely to the timing of Property & Liability Insurance (5611) payments and to seasonal Gas (5783) expenses.
- Debt Service (7711) of \$2,807/month is the principal portion of the monthly scheduled payments, so it reduces the loan balance by \$5,714 through February, but is not reflected on the Operating Statement of Activities.
- The Net Operating Total of (\$7,694) is due largely to timing and a few corrections that need to be made in March.

Community Action Committee (CAC):

- CAC received an annual distribution of \$13,000 from the Episcopal Endowment Fund, and \$2,753 in individual donations YTD.
- Administrative expenses have been minimal thus far.
- Electricity grants YTD have been high due to weather, but that was anticipated in the budget.
- Restricted funds available for CAC operations were \$46,928 as of 2/28/2018.

### Summary of Cash Position:

- Cash balances were slightly under target balances at year because of a \$150,000 principal payment made at the end of February. Since the end of February, funds have been reallocated to better match the targets.
- The Vanguard accounts been rebalanced since 2/28 to reflect approved investment policy.
- Total unrestricted funds of \$178,864 is well within the target range of 4-6 months of budgeted expenses.

### First Tennessee Loan Summary:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee loan balance as of 2/28/18 was \$313,293. However, a \$150,000 principal payment was made using \$100,000 from a bequest from Bill Hethcock, \$47,000 in accumulated debt reduction contributions, and \$7,000 in net receipts from 2017. This \$150,000 payment was received by First Tennessee in March and will be reflected in their March statement.
- As a result of this principal payment, interest expenses for 2018 will be less than budgeted by about \$4,850.
- The loan balance on 6/1/19 when the note matures is now expected to be \$121,544.

In summary, there has been some great news so far this year: pledge receipts have been strong, a \$100,000 bequest from Bill Hethcock combined with accumulated debt reduction contributions will save over \$4,500 in interest for the year, and the budget for 2018 which includes increases in staff and program expenses appears quite doable.

### Follow up to 2017:

- 2017 Salary and benefits were less than budget, for the most part, due to errors in budgeting or timing.
- I've not made any progress in getting bids on elevator service or reviewed the Charter contract to see if we still need all the phone lines we have and if there are better alternatives for the lines we do need. It would be very helpful to have someone on the building and grounds committee that could take this over.
- We are continuing to review better ways to handle daily operations, policies and procedures.
- The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for 4/5, and Tim should have a report for you in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy

## Rector's Report: 15 February 2018

*Some of my activities in addition to Sunday services between Wed, February 14, and Tues, March 20, 2018:*

Evening Prayer (as available, Mon-Thurs)

20 pastoral meetings or visits

Meetings:

Vestry	Director of Christian Formation (most weeks)
Deacon Betty Carpenter	University Chaplain (twice)
Parish Administrator Frieda Gipson (often)	University Chaplain & Assoc. Chaplain
Parish Staff	SoT Organist/Choirmaster
Parish Treasurer & Finance Comm. Chair	A SoT student
Financial Administrative Asst.	New Folks at Home Director
Wardens	SAS Chaplain-elect
Buildings and Grounds Committee	1 other meeting

Ash Wednesday services

Adult Forum

Episcopal 101, Sunday afternoons 2:00-3:30

Lent Series: Civil Discourse Curriculum from the Episcopal Church Ofc. of Gov't Relations

Tuesday morning Scripture reflection group for clergy sermon preparation.

Eucharist and lunch at the School of Theology (Wednesdays when available)

Premarital preparation session

Sewanee Symphony Orchestra (weekly when school is in session)

Funerals of Trink Beasley and Ed Camp

Baptismal Preparation session

Led session in children's worship area with kids and parents

Time away: sick Feb 21 & 22; moved my father to Sewanee Feb 28

**Inclement weather policy:** Otey Parish and CAC follow Franklin County schools for when to close in the event of inclement weather.

*e-mail: [oteyparishrector@gmail.com](mailto:oteyparishrector@gmail.com); Cell: 931-636-8739; Home: 598-9604; Day off: Fri.*

### **Pledge update as of 3/21/18**

124 regular pledges \$383,568

6 new, 4 returning, 63 increases, 14 decreases and 36 the same as last year

Same households in 2017 \$333,974

2017: 129 regular pledges for \$351,834

13 households haven't renewed, representing \$11,560

Same households in 2017 \$22,605

**Memorializing the 79th General Convention to Make Liturgies for same sex marriage and blessing of same sex unions available to all clergy who freely and in good conscience choose to use them.**

Proposed by St. Augustine's Chapel, Nashville  
Endorsed by Otey Vestry, 11/16/17

*Whereas*, The Episcopal Church Task Force on the Study of Marriage is drafting resolutions for consideration by the 79th General Convention;\* and

*Whereas*, we desire that all people in the Diocese of Tennessee be able to find a parish home in which their Clergy can offer them the sacramental rites approved by the Episcopal Church;

*Resolved*, that the 186<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee send this Memorial to the 79th General Convention: A memorial to make Liturgies for same sex Marriage and Blessing of same sex unions available to all clergy who freely and in good conscience choose to use them.

To the Deputies and Bishops of the Episcopal Church assembled at the 79th General Convention:

Recognizing the continuing theological diversity of this Church in regard to same sex marriage and the blessing of same sex unions, and out of respect for the deeply held beliefs across the range of opinion, we uphold the provision of Canon I.18.7, namely, “It shall be within the discretion of any Member of the Clergy of this Church to decline to” preside at any rite, and we further ask that the 79<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal church make Liturgies for same sex Marriage and Blessing of same sex unions available to all Clergy of this Church who freely and in good conscience choose to use them, so that all may—but none must— celebrate the Liturgies for same sex Marriage and Blessing of same sex unions as approved by the Episcopal Church.

\* “Task Force on the Study of Marriage Reports Progress.” *The Episcopal Church*, The Episcopal Church, 14 Sept. 2017