

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, FORSYTH  
2016 ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 31, 2016

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Minutes from 2015 Annual Meeting
  - Read and accepted as amended
- III. Senior Warden's Report
  - Wanda Dowlin, Senior Warden presented report that is attached.
- IV. Junior Warden's Report
  - Dick Clark, Junior Warden talked about things accomplished during the year and what still needs to be done
- V. Treasurer's Report
  - Sue Adams, Treasurer presented financial report and 2016 Budget
  - Senior Warden raised issue about separating some income into Guild accounts and diocesan assessment, after discussion, vote was held to have all unrestricted income flow through vestry accounts and be subject to assessment
  - Revised budget approved
- VI. Lay Minister's Report
  - Report attached.
- VII. Elections
  - a. Vestry
  - b. Wardens (?)
  - c. Delegates to Diocesan Convention
- VIII. New Business
  - New sign discussed and approved
  - Stephen's likely ordination date of June 26 at cathedral announced
  - Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday plans discussed
- IX. Closing Prayer and Dismissal

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT FOR 2015

The Forsyth Ascension Episcopal Church is a strong Church because all the members have the same goal. I have noticed everyone works together; taking care of both interior and exterior of the church and helping with worship and fellowship. I want to thank everyone for the work that is done but not acknowledged. The Officers and Members of Guild and Vestry for all the work involved in keeping the Church open.

We now have a Pastor that has read the Canons and has some old ideas, just restored. The Vestry is supposed to meet eight times a year, I am going to suggest we label the Guild meetings, Vestry/Guild because that is what it is and every quarter during coffee give a short report of anything that is news worthy, social functions, finances, repairs. The idea of reinstating the Pledge Cards, that is what is used to establish a budget, since most of the members already pledge the same, this is not necessary at this time, there is cards available if anyone wants one for future use.

Finally, the job of the Senior Warden is to make sure we have church every Sunday, hire a minister and to work with the minister, oversee the welfare of the church. From my view, I see a Church that is a hundred percent because of the members inside, being generous, kind and loving

Thank-you Stephen for moving to Eastern Montana to help build up attendance and membership in two churches.

Your leadership, spiritual guidance, sermons, Bible study has strengthened our church. He has written and sent out two newsletters while he has been here, sent out post card informing members that aren't usually in attendance notifying them when the Christmas service was. He also designed a Web site for our churches if you haven't, discovered it yet it is very helpful in Christian formation and news of the Episcopal Church and what the Bishop is doing.

The Attendance of Sunday service has increased from nine to twelve.

THANK YOU

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wanda Dowlin

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
PARISH BUDGET 2016

**INCOME**

Pledges	\$10,100
Open Offerings	\$1,300
Transfer from savings	\$2,100
Total	\$13,500

**EXPENSES**

**Administrative**

Utilities	\$2,334
Insurance	\$1,100
Taxes	\$340
Corporation fee	\$20
Total	\$3,794

**Ministry**

Ministry Support	\$7,200
Convention	\$160
Total	\$7,360

**Outreach**

Bishop's Fund	\$130
Diocesan Assessment	\$2,166
Donations	\$50
Total	\$2,346

**Grand Total** \$13,500

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
PARISH EXPENSES ACTUAL 2015 VS BUDGET 2016

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2015 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2016 BUDGET</b>
Pledges	\$10,205	\$11,400
Open Offerings <sup>1</sup>	\$1,312	
Transfer from savings	\$300	\$2,100
Total	\$11,517	\$13,500
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Administrative</b>		
Utilities	\$2,235.30	\$2,334
Insurance	\$1,071	\$1,100
Taxes	\$333.54	\$340
Corporation fee	\$20	\$20
Total	\$3,659.84	\$3,794
<b>Ministry</b>		
Ministry Support	\$5,400	\$7,200
Convention	\$80	\$160
Total	\$5,480	\$7,360
<b>Outreach</b>		
Bishop's Fund	\$130	\$130
Diocesan Assessment	\$1,881	\$2,166
Donations	\$50	\$50
Total	\$2,061	\$2,346
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$11,200.84</b>	<b>\$13,500</b>

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<sup>1</sup> In 2016, per a vote at annual meeting, "Open Offerings" will be lumped in with pledges.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
PARISH SAVINGS AND ASSETS

Certificate of Deposit 7302	\$3,236.49
Certificate of Deposit 7303	\$3,347.18
Savings Account	\$5,031.24
Deferred Annuity (paid out 4.4% in 2015)	\$10,291.13
Scottrade investment account	\$8,502.23
Total	\$30,408.27

## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION LAY MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

2015 has been exciting year for both of the churches of the Lower Yellowstone Cluster of the Episcopal Diocese of Montana. It was my honor and privilege to join these congregations as your lay minister on Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015. Many thanks to Gloria Archdale at Emmanuel and Sue Adams at Ascension for their leadership and organization of worship since the departure of the Rev. Doug Lasiter in 2014.

Church of the Ascension's worship time moved up from noon to 11:00 AM to better serve the congregation. Starting on Easter Sunday, with the special permission of Bishop Brookhart, I have been able to distribute previously consecrated bread and wine so that we could participate in the Eucharistic feast weekly.

During 2015, Church of the Ascension shared Eucharist during thirty-nine Sunday services. Additionally, Eucharist was brought to parishioners by me three times during the year. Our average attendance on Sundays was twelve. On Easter Sunday we had twenty-six present and on Christmas Eve we had twenty-five. Over the year, I officiated at two funerals for long time parishioners.

During Advent, we had a successful Christian Education program that followed coffee hour. We spent time discussing the day's Gospel passage and looked at multiple translations and versions of the passage. I am eager to build on this with a new program soon. Many thanks to all who participated.

Special thanks to all those who allow our worship to go so well. First, as always, thanks must be given to the dedicated work of the Altar Guild who do so much. Also, thanks to our dedicated reader Gordon and those who have filled in at other times. Our worship wouldn't be complete without Sue Adam's great gifts as an organist. Finally, the capstone to our worship experience is certainly the lovely treats and hospitality provided by our coffee hour hosts.

2014 Membership	18
2015 Membership	17
Increases in Membership	1
Decreases in Membership	2
Communicants in Good Standing who received communion at least three times in 2015	
Adults (16 and older)	19
Youth (under 16)	1
Others active	0