

January 2021

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# The Epistle to the Elizabethans

## News from the Senior Warden

### Happy New Year and Thank You

As we start a new year, let us hope for new beginnings and new hopes for the year ahead. We would

like to start off by thanking all our St. Elizabeth's family for 'sticking it out' during these last months. Coming to worship, Tithing, helping where needed and giving to our few projects during the holiday season.

We are in a great time of unknowns. COVID-19 cases are on the rise, the country is in a time of unrest and we are waiting for a new administration to begin and we here at St Elizabeth's are waiting for a new Rector. Wherever you are, please pray for our country, for healing and for all those affected by COVID and for a new Rector. This is a season of reflection and new hope.



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### From Fr. Norm



## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

The Advent season has come and gone. John's reminder to get our lives right with God helped to prepared us to meet Him in the Christmas season. What a wonderful celebration of joy and life we were able to experience at St Elizabeth's. Many members of our community brought their gifts and talents and laid them at the manger on Christmas Eve in the form of music, decorating the church and time and talent from all.

We begin the year 2021 with hope and expectation. The Gospel reminds us that the light has come into the world. We seek that light and hope that only God can bring.

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## Financial Summary

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Operating Income	161,250	150,351	165,575
Other Revenue	<u>43,072</u>	<u>17,703</u>	<u>10,290</u>
Total Rev	204,322	168,054	175,865
Operating Expense	202,536	137,174	184,062
Net Income <deficit>	1,786	30,880	<8,197>

## DISCUSSION OF FINANCIALS

Financially this past year was difficult, but thanks to our steady tithers, we ended the year in the black and we have over six months of expenses covered in our reserves. We lost income from our plate collections and from fund-raising activities. However, our expenses were also down as we were only paying for a part time priest. We also tried to cut some office expenses by reducing hours and some other costs.

The 2021 budget passed by your vestry projects a deficit as it reflects an increase in expenses post pandemic when more church activities resume. Hopefully, we will have a new full time pastor this year. It is worth noting that most expenses cannot be cut. For example, budgeted expense for utilities are \$6,325, insurance is \$17,652, music program \$11,605, flowers \$2,685 just to name a few.

The full budget is posted on the bulletin board at church and copies are available by request from the church office. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Bill Curtis or any vestry members.

## Bible Study

Eight week study of “Your Divine Design” by Chip Ingram. Every Friday night starting with January 22nd at 6:30. We will meet in the fellowship hall. Please wear masks. And feel free to bring your own drink or snacks. Only 8 seats available. **Please call Joanne Knott to reserve your spot 772-913-1010.**

*Do you know how God has uniquely wired you?*

Do you know that you, your friends, and the members of your church are God’s “masterpiece?” God has a dream for your life. He didn’t save you just so He could take you to heaven. He has an assignment for you here on earth.

He created you in His image, He filled you with His Spirit, and He blessed you with spiritual gifts so you could live a life of impact. But until you know how to recognize and use your gifts, you will never experience all that God wants you to experience. You were meant to discover how He has uniquely wired you, and the roles in the body of Christ that He created you to fulfill.

In this fascinating study, Chip Ingram explores passages from Romans, Ephesians, and 1 Corinthians to understand the role of spiritual gifts. In the process, you’ll be invited to pinpoint your own primary spiritual gift and then learn a Biblical process to develop, and deploy your gift for greater ministry and significant impact.





**January 2021**

**Birthdays**

Athena Adams	01/02
Christina Grimison	01/03
Kathleen Vavra	01/07
Judy Mastro	01/11
Doris Lavoie	01/12
Layla Fields	01/15
Mitch Kapp	01/15
Carol Pasquarosa	01/17
Tina Rose	01/18
Anna Denley	01/21
Sarah Stone	01/22
Amanda Watson	01/22
Mary Jane Ingui	01/23
Shelley Parkins	01/23
James Bonet	01/29
Bob Mastro	01/30
Lindsey Theissen	01/30

**Anniversaries**

Ken & Diana Iverson	01/16
Miguel & Daisy Williams	01/30

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**Soup Sunday:** Spruce Up St. Elizabeth’s Fundraiser by the Soup Ministry is Sunday Jan. 17th. Complete the order form located in the Narthex and turn in by Sunday, Jan. 10th. You will be able to pick up your frozen soup after services on Sunday Jan. 17th. Pay when you pick up. Soups available; Sausage Tortellini, New England Clam Chowder, Hamburger Vegetable, Chicken Noodle, Chicken Vegetable (tomato base). \$3.50 a pint.

**ECW Meeting:** Saturday, Jan. 16th. 10:00 AM

**The Source Sunday:** Jan. 31st. For the goodie bags we need; 16 oz. water bottles, peanut butter crackers, Vienna sausages, breakfast bars, raisins, applesauce and snack pack puddings. Please drop off by Jan. 24th.

**Attention:** If you think you have been exposed or tested positive for covid and have attended church in the last 14 days - please notify us.

**Friendly Reminder:** We all get a little fatigue when it comes to following the guidelines set forth by the Diocese concerning COVID-19. Everyone **MUST** wear a mask. This includes anyone singing, all attendees, any group or ministry meeting, including Sunday School. If you have a medical condition that you can not comply, you then must stay home.

**We need assistance in cleaning the Sanctuary after the 8am Service.** Please maintain social distancing at all services and meetings.

**Prayer Request:** You can now call (772-589-2770) or email the church office for prayer request. [stelizabethsepis@bellsouth.net](mailto:stelizabethsepis@bellsouth.net)

**Daughters of the King Prayer:** DOK will be available for prayers in the Library during Communion.  
8:00 AM will be the first Sunday of the Month  
10:00 AM will be every other Sunday

## Senior Warden continued



We understand that some parishioners would like the readings for the month mailed to them. If this is your request, please call the church office and we will be happy to oblige.

You will find elsewhere in the newsletter a poll concerning the Memorial Garden. Please give us your thoughts on this.

We will be having two (2) services on Ash Wednesday, 7am and 12 Noon.

Denise Roberts has graciously volunteered to work in the Library. If you are interested in helping Denise, please call the church and leave a message.

Anyone interested in being a greeter/usher and those currently serving, we will have a short meeting on January 24th between services.

We pray for all the members of the St Elizabeth's family for your health and happiness during the coming year.

Blessings,  
Laurel Matthews  
Sr Warden

## From Fr. Norm continued



Many have worked hard to get us where we are today as we continue to be optimistic for God's plan for this church for years to come. This year we look forward to welcoming a new rector to the church. I know it will come with some change but with the Holy Spirit in charge, it will be an exciting time. It is a time to let your voice be heard and share with others in the church regarding the ministry here.

Our Diocesan Convention will be virtual this year. I am not sure what we will hear but you can count on getting any important information that may be presented.

As we start this year, we need to renew our commitment to growing the church, enhancing existing programs and seeking God's will through prayer and study. God knows what is best for our church; we only need to seek His advice. A lot of decisions that will affect our future are coming our way. Each of you are important to the body of Christ. As a body of believers it is important that each member of the body come together. When the body is complete, health will always be present.

I look forward to serving with you in 2021. May God grant us an extra abundance of His knowledge and blessing as we begin this New Year together.

Fr. Norman