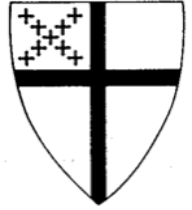




Give me my scallop-shell of quiet  
My staff of faith to walk upon,...  
and thus I'll take my pilgrimage.  
— Sir Walter Raleigh

# The Staff—Special Edition



August 2017

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

**Philippians 2:9-11 (New King James Version)**

**Traditional Anglican worship of Jesus Christ and Biblically orthodox preaching.**

**DIOCESE OF THE RIO GRANDE**

**Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church***

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Vono, *Bishop***

**The Rev. Dr. Nicholas J. Funk, *Rector***

**The Rev. Canon Brian C. Hobden, *Rector Emeritus***

**The Rev. Dr. Frank Williams, *Assisting Priest***



**“My  
Fair  
Lady”**



## ST JAMES PARISH HALL

*Special Edition*

<u>Introduction</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>The Exterior Wall</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>The West Windows</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>The Roof</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Interior—Gathering Funds</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Interior—Refurbishing</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>The Celebration!</u>	<u>15</u>

# St. James Episcopal Church Parish Hall Refurbishment

On September 27, 2013, St James Episcopal Church parishioners attended a discussion on the future of our Parish Hall. Discussed were the fact that the Parish Hall may be the oldest adobe structure in Mesilla. A number of parishioners had expressed dismay/embarrassment of the condition of the Parish Hall. Many ideas have been floated around over the years. A Parish Hall Project committee was first formed in June 2011. The views seemed to range from—it looks OK to me to looking for dynamite or a bulldozer.

The problems of the hall were sited to include the size, the crack in the church building that was growing, the heating and cooling, and it being the only bathrooms on the property. The solution to the Parish Hall problems was to either build a new parish hall, or refurbish the present parish hall. At first it seemed a new one was preferred, but in September of 2013 there was more talk of refurbishment. Therefore a new tally sheet was devised for parishioners to rank their preferred choice of action.

The vote was not unanimous, but the clear preferred action was to refurbish the current Parish Hall. Over the years parishioners contributed to the Building Fund for the Parish Hall. These funds were used for the first 2 phases on the Parish Hall Refurbishment Project.

The projects, cost, funds and vendors used are below:

Parish Hall Project	Cost	The Fund	The Vendors
Landscaping	\$ 4,975.13	Building Fund	Hedgehog Landscape Maintenance
Exterior West Wall	\$ 54,537.90	Building Fund	Pat Taylor, Inc Sonya Cooper, PH D Liberty General Construction
West Wall Windows*	\$ 7,895.05	Memorial Fund	Ron Garcia
Roof	\$ 44,779.00	Insurance	Rhino Roofing
Interior Refurbishment*	\$ 27,512.25	PHIR Funds	Custom Home Services JC Pro Coatings and Paint Lamps Plus Martin Ortiz Pete's Electric Stout Hardwood Floors
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$ 139,663.33</b>		

\* Project not completed at the time of printing. Remaining funds available.

This special edition of the St James Episcopal Church newsletter is to bring to life all of the hard work and efforts that have been extended towards this project by various individuals in the past few years. Please look and marvel at all that has been accomplished!

We look forward to a special celebration of the reopening of the Parish Hall on St. James Day, December 3, 2017 around noonish. Hope you are able to attend!

## The Parish Hall West Wall

In 2007 the Parish Hall West Wall was noted to have structural problems. A crack was developing in the lower wall. It was determined to seal the three windows and re-stucco.

August 23, 2007:



September 24, 2007:



By 2013 it became apparent that the stucco and adobe were deteriorating on the West Wall. The mind of the parish was clearly to repair the deteriorating stucco and adobe, re-roof the Parish hall with new metal roof and add a 3'-0" wide concrete sidewalk around the perimeter of the existing Parish Hall.



The Building and Grounds Committee consisting of Godfrey Crane (Chair), Carol Baker, Art Fountain, John Fountain, Laura Funk, Larry Pickett, Rick Marshall and Cheryl Wilson worked to secure a contractor for this special work. A vendor was selected — Pat Taylor, Inc. to stabilize and preserve certain walls of the Parish Hall. A contract was written on Dec. 22, 2015. The demolition portion of the work included removal of the concrete collar and foundation at the base of the wall. It also included the removal of stucco from the base of the wall to top of wall, extending from NE corner of the north entrance, along the west side of building, to the NW corner of the kitchen wing. At the completion of the stucco removal, they were to remove all wood framing at the window locations. Prior to beginning any new work, repairs to any of the existing adobe blocks damaged over time due to water infiltration was to be completed. A new adobe collar and stone/lime foundation under the collar were to be provided. Adobe block was to be placed in the old window opening that were currently covered in stucco.

The cost of this scope of work was to be based on a time and material (cost plus) basis. The current budgeted amount for this scope of work was \$29,640.

At the completion of this work, Liberty General Construction was hired to stucco the exterior walls.

Pictured here are committee members (from left to right) Rick Marshall, Carol Baker and Godfrey Crane as they prepare the building for the upcoming construction.



# The Parish Hall West Wall



## UPDATE:

1. The original estimate of about \$30,000 was developed from Pat Taylor's assessment, which consisted of exposing two sections of the foundation and lower wall. He found some erosion of adobe bricks, and needed to replace the masonry collar. Since bricks were to be temporarily removed from the lower wall, shoring with external braces was necessary. Also, the following added work was needed, increasing the original cost to \$44,363.71.
2. Added work: In the course of time, the upper wall was found to be cracked and poorly attached to the roof trusses and the north wall. With the assistance of an outside engineer, a reinforcement plan was devised, which the Vestry accepted. The second set of shoring timbers (vertical, inside, and supporting the roof) was a part of this phase increasing cost. It involved coring the wall, grouting in long rods, building of a bond beam to top the wall, bolting of this to the rods and trusses, stitching of adobes between the west and north walls, and building an elaborate dust-protection enclosure.
3. Added work: The old kitchen window was to be replaced by a new donated window.
4. Added work: Originally, the three (rectangular) windows were to be bricked up. After the sheathing of 15 years was removed, the outline of the three arches was visible. A Memorial Donation was received to keep the three Gothic windows which required adobe work--rebuilding of the arches and the edges and bases of the apertures.
5. Added work: Removal of the interior wainscoting and removal of cracked plaster on the upper interior of the west wall.





***A Special Thank You  
To GODFREY CRANE***



## **The Parish Hall Landscaping Project**

Included in the Parish Hall Project was the need to divert water from the adobe Parish Hall. The Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended, Hedgehog Landscape Maintenance to do this work. On April 24, 2015, an agreement was reached to do the work in two Phases, Phase 1A was to begin immediately on the east side of the Parish Hall. Phase 1B was to begin later upon completion of the wall repairs to the west side of the Parish Hall. Presently the west side is near completion.



## The Parish Hall West Windows



### The Parish Hall West Windows in Memory of Laura Haines

A stain glassed window will be  
installed in the near future.



**Laura Sue Haines joined the angels in her flight to Heaven on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, 2014. She was born in Las Cruces, NM on 13 September, 1962 and attended Las Cruces Public Schools and New Mexico State University. Her career in life was as diversified as were the people that she touched in her journey through this life.**

**Whether it be soaring through the skies flying left seat in a 747 jumbo jet or riding her spoiled barrel horse Twister, her life was filled with laughter and smiles.**



## The Parish Hall Roof

On October 3, 2015 a hail storm, with golf ball-sized hail, rained down large chunks of ice in various areas around the city between 1:30 and 2 p.m. St. James Episcopal Church roof was one of the casualties of the storm.



On January 13, 2016, a hail damage insurance check for \$46,870.86 was deposited into the St James Restricted account as decided by the Vestry. When the Parish Hall West Wall was ready for the roof to be installed, Jennifer Terrazas, Junior Warden checked the recommended roofing companies by the Better Business Bureau (A+ rating) and the CDI Division from the State of NM (30 companies). After cross referencing the list, she had 10 companies highly recommended by both agencies. Of those 10 companies, 6 of them dealt with metal roofs. Out of the 6, there were 4 bids received. The Building and Grounds Committee decided which companies they would meet to answer questions. The company recommended by the committee and hired by the Vestry was Rhino Roofing. Beginning June of 2017 the roofing work began. It was completed at the end of September 2017. Rhino Roofing charged \$44,779 leaving \$2,091.86 for the Vestry to allocate in the future.

**Before:**



*And...a Special Thank You  
To JENNIFER TERRAZAS!*

# The Parish Interior Refurbishment Fundraising Project 2016-2017—Gathering the Funds



## The Start of the Parish Hall Interior Project

Rose Laslow truly enjoyed the time she spent at St. James, especially visiting with friends in the Parish Hall after the early service each Sunday. However, she would sometimes comment that some changes would improve the interior of the Parish Hall. It was apparent as the restoration of the exterior west wall was being completed, the interior of the building needed attention. Before her memorial service and reception on February 23, 2016, it was decided that gifts made to St. James in Rose's memory would be designated for Parish Hall interior refurbishment.

Rose was born on November 21, 1919 in Cokeburg Junction, Pennsylvania, to Rosa and John Katko, immigrants from Hungary. She passed away on February 15, 2016, at Mesilla Valley Hospice. She is remembered for baking her delicious Hungarian pastry for which she would not share the recipe; always being dressed "to the nines" wearing gold earrings and high heels; taking long walks along the ditch in Mesilla Park or on the Good Samaritan campus; and enjoying life to the fullest.

### △ April 6, 2016: PHIR Proposal Submitted to St. James Vestry!

The St. James Vestry approved a proposal to fundraise \$30,000 to refurbish the Parish Hall interior. Johanna Binneweg, Betty Champion, Margo Lamb, Dianne Veitch and Cheryl Wilson were accepted as the committee for the project (Johanna resigned from the committee in August.) The PHIR Committee met weekly beginning April 7 to plan FUNdraising activities with the goal to raise money to refurbish (paint the interior walls, provide better lighting, and refinish the wood floor) the Parish Hall interior.

### △ May 19, 2016: PHIR Kick-Off Meeting!

Dr. Evan Davies gave an outstanding visual presentation on the history of the Parish Hall, showing many wonderful photographs and sharing many parishioner memories. George Majorana played a delightful assortment of American Songbook tunes on Preacher Lewis' piano. Very generous donors gave \$2,750.00 for the project.







### **June 25: *Our Fair Lady Summer Brunch!***

Thirty-five St. James ladies enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Carol Koenig's Celebrations wearing Betty Champion's beautiful hats. The brunch raised \$1330.00!



### △ **July: *Thirty-one Days of Giving!***

Parish members selected a day of the month, 1 through 31, and made donations equal to the day selected. The *Thirty-One Days of Giving* raised \$600.00!



### △ **August 26: *Dog Days of Summer!***

Parish members enjoyed an evening picnic with hot dogs and "golden oldies" music on the Parish Hall patio. A 50-50 Raffle raised \$301.00!

### △ **September 22: *Celebration of the 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. James Church in Mesilla Park!***

A public presentation by Dr. Evan Davies on the history of the church, now the Parish Hall, was well attended and featured on the front-page of the "Las Cruces Sun News." Donations given during the *115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration* totaled \$500.00!

△ **October:** No FUNdraising activities or events were held, however, the PHIR Committee spent many hours gathering and cleaning more than 300 handbags donated by Parish ladies and friends for the upcoming sale.

### △ **November 5: *"Our Fair Lady" Autumn Tea!***

Forty ladies enjoyed delicious tea treats, delightful conversation, and previewed many of the exquisite handbags available for purchase at the upcoming "gently used handbag" sale. Ticket and centerpiece sales totaled \$1,510.00!



# The Parish Hall Refurbishment Fundraising Project

## December 3: *Gently Used Handbag Sale!*

At least 125 ladies braved a cold damp day to purchase 165 handbags. The sale was a \$5001.00 success thanks to the many ladies who donated handbags, those who purchased handbags, and Johanna Binneweg, Margo Schultz, Phala White, Jennifer Terrazas and Judy Feil for assisting during the sale.



## △ January: *Thirty-one Days of Giving!*

Again Parish members selected a day of the month, 1 through 31, and made donations equal to the day selected. The *Thirty-One Days of Giving* raised \$249.00!



## △ February 11: *Gently Used Handbag Liquidation Sale!*

To reach the PHIR goal, the remaining handbags were offered for sale in the Parish Hall. Thanks to new and repeat shoppers sales totaled \$1672.00.

△ March 14: *FUNdraising Project Completed!* The PHIR reported to the Vestry the fundraising goal of \$30,000.00 was met. All costs were underwritten by the PHIR Committee. No monies raised were expended for fundraising activities or events. Thanks to St. James parishioners and friends \$31,171.75 was raised for the Parish Hall Interior Refurbishment Project!

△ April 7: With the completion of the FUNdraising, Betty Champion, Margo Lamb, Dianne Veitch and Cheryl Wilson resigned from the committee. The Vestry then appointed Johanna Binneweg the new PHIR committee chair for the next phase of the work!

## FUNdraising!



# Thank You!



Fundraising to refurbish the St. James Parish Hall interior was successful for several reasons: a specific goal was identified; information about the project was widely shared; PHIR committee members committed numerous hours to planning and expediting giving opportunities and events; and Parish members and friends gave generously for the project.

Those who worked to make the project a success include:

- George Marjorana- Music always makes an event a party. George provided American Songbook music for several PHIR “parties.”
- Johanna Binneweg, Judy Feil, Dolores Montes, Margo Schultz, Jennifer Terrazas and Phala White helped with handbag sales and other activities. Every project needs “angels” and these ladies were PHIR’s.
- Pat Lamb – All publicity, including press releases, advertisements, and posters, were prepared by Pat. He also moved furniture, carried boxes of handbags, and did many “heavy-duty” tasks! As Stewardship Committee chair, he reported the PHIR activities to the Vestry. Pat was the PHIR project cheerleader!
- Betty Champion, Margo Lamb, and Dianne Veitch said “yes” to becoming a committee to raise money to refurbish the Parish Hall interior. Their total commitment, unwavering enthusiasm, and fabulous ideas made the goal of raising \$30,000 attainable.
- Donors- Parish members and friends made the project a success. They gave weekly, monthly, anonymously and generously to meet the PHIR FUNdraising goal. More importantly they believed in the project and its importance to St. James.

Thank you!

Cheryl Wilson, PHIR FUNdraising Chair

*And...a Special Thank You  
To CHERYL WILSON!*

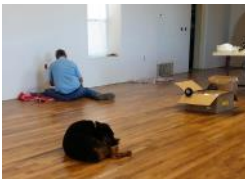
# The Parish Hall Interior Refurbishment

The committee tasked with the refurbishment of the interior of the Parish Hall began meeting in May of 2017. The members were: Johanna Binneweg, Vestry Chair, Derek Fisher, Laura Funk, and Edward Haines. Building & Grounds Committee members Jennifer Terrazas (Junior Warden), Godfrey Crane, and Charles Nike also met as needed. John Fountain acted as the “lumens” consultant and Ellen Kemp, who operates the “Jazzercise” classes in the Hall during the week, contributed ideas and positive support over the months. Laura Funk and Johanna Binneweg served as overseers for the entire project.

## INTERIOR REFURBISHMENT PLAN—JUNE 24, 2017

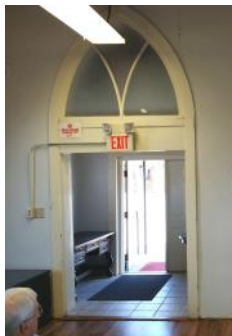
### 1. Replace lighting fixtures and upgrade electrical.

Laura Funk has worked diligently with the electrician on removing the 60-year-old lighting fixtures and configuring the placement of the new lighting fixtures. All the new fixtures are in the schoolhouse style favored as “the” lighting style for public spaces, especially schools, from the turn of the century until the 1950’s. The style is currently undergoing a revival, but, we feel the style will hold up indefinitely. Laura and Mr. Luddington also have worked with El Paso Electric on a rebate for using all LEDs, thus saving us money up front and through the years. Laura Funk deserves our deep gratitude for all her hard work over the past several months.

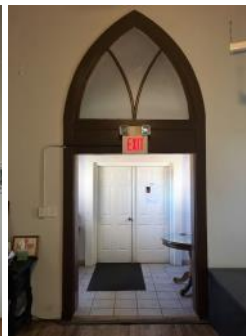


2. Plaster and paint the walls to include entryway, back hall and bathrooms. Together, Johanna and Laura painted the Gothic archway into the parish hall brown, to pick up the décor from the Church across the street. The archway is also accentuated to remind us that it is the original entry to what was—until 1912—the original St. James’ church building.

**BEFORE:**



**AFTER:**



### 3. Refinish the floor.





4. **Add baseboards in the main room**—there is to be installation of baseboards, designed to replicate those in the Church. Although there never has been baseboards before, the committee felt that baseboards, like the ones in the church, would finish off the room nicely, add to the antique feeling in the room and protect the walls from some of the wear and tear of cleaning and moving furniture around the room.

**The following projects were added to the original plan:**

5. Tear down the white “cellotex” from the 1950’s.

Derek Fisher led a team to tear down the white “cellotex” (from the 1950’s!) from the back part of the hall, revealing the same beautiful wooden ceiling as the rest of the hall (and in the church building as well), in good condition. This one change has made a big difference in the overall look of the hall; it seems more spacious. We also tore out a plywood covering over the wall at the rear, smoothing out a lumpy-looking surface, which became much more beautiful after the plastering.



6. **The Kitchen**—The kitchen also received attention with the removing of the cellotex ceiling, removal of the old grill and center table. A kitchen barn door is planned for the future.

**BEFORE:**



**AFTER:**

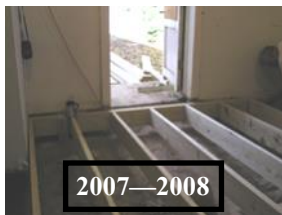


7. **Bathrooms**—The bathrooms were painted white, which makes them brighter, too. Small cupboards to hold supplies were placed under the sinks. A baby-changing table waits to be hung in the second bathroom.



# The Parish Hall Interior Refurbishment

8. **The Store Room**—In 2007-2008 the storage room received an overhaul with the floor being redone and an entry door being sealed. During the present 2017 refurbishment, the room was re-organized for easy access to materials for events.



9. **The Paintings**—Laura is also to be commended for re-hanging the George Gray mural (she worked on scaffolding), with Manny Terrazas, electrician Dale Luddington, and Johanna Binneweg assisting. We were willing to pay “professionals” to do this job, but they did not want to—too difficult and dangerous!

Laura also hung the portraits of the Apostles and Others (also painted by George Gray), gallery-style, so that they would be more accessible for people to “interact with.” It was decided from the very first that the back wall was to be the focal point of the room, and hanging those pictures sets the tone for the room, as a place where Christians gather for fellowship. The crosses above the paintings are the beginnings of a “curated” collection we hope parishioners will want to add to over the years.



*And...a Special Thank You  
To JOHANNA BINNEWEG  
DEREK FISHER  
And LAURA FUNK*

The final major project using special funds provided by the Vestry was twelve new round tables for the Hall. They are easier to move about (just roll ‘em!), and seat 4-6 people comfortably. New light-weight, stackable “bistro” chairs of woven material add a light, non-institutional look to the room. Johanna is sewing some linen tablecloths which will pick up the colors in the mural.

Over all, we hope the light, cheerful and contemporary design of the room will make parishioners want to linger a little longer after services. We also hope to hold many wonderful events in the new hall—not just for our congregation, but also for area residents. St. James’ Church has held special place in both the history of our town, and in the hearts of many Las Crucens, and we hope it will continue to do so.



## Presenting... the St James Parish Hall



### BEFORE:



### AFTER:



### Parish Hall Grand Reopening—

We will be celebrating the grand reopening of the Parish Hall at noonish on Sunday, December 3rd. We will eat BBQ and marvel at the changes. Then George Gray will give us a presentation about *The Life of Christ* mural that he and his art class made for St. James in 1956.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION!**

**St. James' Episcopal Church  
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**This special newsletter is presented with the generous information and assistance from Johanna Binneweg, Godfrey Crane, Nyeta Haines, Laura Funk, Father Nicholas Funk, Eric Lerdal, Jennifer Terrazas, and Cheryl Wilson. Many thanks for your assistance and help!**

**The newsletter has been printed in color by InstaCopy through a donation from an anonymous donor.**

**Hope to see you all at the celebration on December 3, 2017!**



**St. James' Holy Eucharist Service Schedule**

**Sundays at 8:00 am Rite I  
Adult Sunday School 9:30 am  
Children's Sunday School & Nursery 10:15 am  
Sundays at 10:30 am Rite II  
Wednesdays at 10:00 am Rite I**