Η ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF BROCKTON

DIRECTORY 2010

Priest: Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

President: George Alexis
1st Vice President (Administration): Stephen Passias
2nd Vice President (Maintenance): John Papadopoulos
Treasurer: John Kolentsas
Asst. Treasurer: Tulla Giannaros
Secretary: Christine Karavites

Arthur Adamopoulos, William Alexopoulos, Nicholas Babanikas, Konstantina Boutas, Ted Ntakoulas
Nicholas Palantzas, George Panagoulopoulos, Ilias Potsis, William Theos

Chanter: George Stavropoulos
Choir Director: Heidi Mason
Organist: Ona Calogrias

PHILOPTOCHOS OFFICERS

President: Despina Papadopoulos
1st Vice President: Heido Barbas
2nd Vice President: Penny Kazis
Recording Secretary: Ethel Savas
Corresponding Secretary: Tina Boutas
Treasurer: Kathy Malone
Asst. Treasurer: Lori Stasiewski
Advisor: Tina Boutas

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Alexandra Alexopoulos, Tina Boutas, Dina Coon, Rhoda Economos

GREEK SCHOOL TEACHERS

Konstantina Boutas, Konstantinia (Dina) Gountana, Vicky Papaioannou

YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

AnnunciationYMT@yahoo.com

GOYA
Advisors: Jon Buterbaugh, Christos Kolentsas

JOY / HOPE
Advisors: Barbara Mantalos, Paula Tsitsopoulos

Adult Greek Classes: Arthur Krikis
Koliva for Memorial Services: Ladies Philoptochos
Coffee Hour: Bertha Weinberg
Office Administration: Venice Mazarakis
Custodian: Jim DiMarco

Church E-mail addresses:
Fr. Anthony ~ priest@annunciationbrockton.org
Church Office ~ office@annunciationbrockton.org

Church Web-site address: www.annunciationbrockton.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ</th>
<th>ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ</th>
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<th>ΠΕΜΠΤΗ</th>
<th>ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
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<td><strong>1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BEGINNING OF NEW ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR</td>
<td>(fast day)</td>
<td>(fast day)</td>
<td>GREAT VESPERS 6 PM</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**5**
15TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
ORTHROS 8:45 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

(WINTER HOURS BEGIN)

**6**
LABOR DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)

**7**
VESPER FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
7:00 PM

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 7PM

**8**
THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
ORTHROS 9:00 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

(fish, wine & olive oil permitted)

**9**

**10**

**11**

**12**
SUNDAY BEFORE THE HOLY CROSS
ORTHROS 8:45 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

1ST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL BLESSING OF SUNDAY & GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS & TEACHERS

**13**
VESPER FOR THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
7:00 PM

**14**
THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
ORTHROS 9:00 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

(fast day)

**15**

**16**

**17**
STS. SOPHIA, FAITH, HOPE & LOVE
ORTHROS 9:00 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

FOOD FESTIVAL

**18**
FOOD FESTIVAL

FOOD FESTIVAL

**19**
SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS
ORTHROS 8:45 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

FOOD FESTIVAL

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

**25**

**26**

**27**

**28**

**29**

**30**

**FALLING ASLEEP OF ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN**
ORTHROS 8:45 AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

(fast day)

GREAT VESPERS 6 PM
Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

As I write this message to you, we are less than eight weeks from the consecration of our beloved church, dedicated to the Holy Mother of God. Even though we have our annual festival coming up, which is our largest fundraiser, we must also give full attention to the preparations for the consecration. Obviously, this is an once-in-a-lifetime event which will bring us all together as one family – the local manifestation of the Body of Christ. Let us all find our own humble way to support and participate in this sacred ritual, which will impart the grace of the Holy Spirit upon our temple, and upon each one of us as stewards of our Church. Let us also pray that it may be a transformative event that will bring spiritual growth and unity to us all. If we take a focused look into the deeper meaning of the ritual of consecration, perhaps we will see the obvious benefits it could have on all levels.

When we translate the term consecration into Greek, the word is engainia, from the verb engainizo. The dictionary definition of this word is to inaugurate, to dedicate. Obviously, this brings to mind the idea of a new beginning – a sense of renewal. By understanding the meaning of the Greek equivalent of consecration, we can expand our view beyond that of a ritual with the purpose of making something sacred.

Upon consecrating an Orthodox parish church, the entire temple is set apart from the ordinary world as sacred space. The focus of the consecration ritual is the altar table, which becomes the holiest and most sacred part of the church. Because the Holy Table and the walls of the temple itself will be anointed with Holy Chrism, the grace of the Holy Spirit will be forever with us when we gather in worship. The Holy Table will be a consecrated throne of God and an extension of the Holy Sepulcher of Christ. The blessings and intercessions of the three martyred saints whose relics will be entombed in the Holy Table, will perpetuate for our benefit. (Let me note that the relics we will be receiving are those of St. Panteleimon, St. Kyrikos, and one of the Martyrs of Raitho in Sinai.)

Now that we’ve discussed the sanctification of the Holy Table and the transformation of the temple into sacred space, let us turn our attention toward our own transformation as a parish family. As I’ve stated above, a consecration is an inauguration – a new beginning. Therefore, as of 10/10/10, the parish of the Annunciation in Brockton enters a new chapter in its existence.

Over two decades ago, the decision was made to construct a larger house of worship for our parish. The vision became a reality through the combined efforts of many, and our existing temple was constructed to serve the needs of future generations of Orthodox Christians in our area. These types of major undertakings in the life of any parish can only come to fruition through unity of spirit, stemming from a true bond of Christian agape. To be able to work toward such lofty goals, the human ego must be suppressed, allowing God’s will to be done through the obedience of His humble servants.

In order for parishes to face the future as beacons of Orthodoxy, parishioners must maintain unity of spirit and the Christians virtues that allow God’s will to be done. When a parish is plagued with rampant egotism and with groups or individuals pushing their own agendas, then it will cease being a parish true to its calling. Instead, it will become a pantheon of self-worship – a spiritual desert incapable of spiritual growth and renewal.

What I have just described can be avoided if we open our heart, mind and soul to God’s grace. Each and every one of us can, and should, make a sacred pledge on the day of the consecration to seek spiritual renewal; to increase church participation if lacking; to increase participation in the holy sacraments, especially holy communion; to improve our personal prayer life, or begin one if non-existent; to be loving and forgiving toward one another; to look beyond our “inner circle” and open our arms and hearts to converts, visitors, and seekers. This list could go on and on, but instead, let each one of us add his/her own spiritual goals to those mentioned above.

Beloved in Christ, again I emphasize that we are one family in Christ, and as with all families, at times we will have our differences, our misunderstandings, our lack of patience. In the end, what keeps a family together is the mutual love and respect that each member has and nurtures. It is no different with our church family. The future of our parish is in the hands of each one of us. May we all use the milestone event of the consecration to seek spiritual renewal on both a personal and parish-wide level. With our Lord Jesus Christ at the helm of the ship, and with the guidance of the most Holy Theotokos and all the saints, we will never be shipwrecked or lost at sea, but continually headed toward eternal life and salvation!

In the love of Christ, +Fr. Anthony
CONSECRATION DONATIONS

As we prepare for the consecration of our beloved church, we need to purchase new items that are either needed for the event, or are replacing items that have deteriorated. As of now, here are the items still needed for which we seek donors:

- Katzion (hand-held censer used during Lent and Holy Week) – $230
- Censer stand with containers for charcoal and incense – $400
- new altar boy robes – $400 each

If you are interested in donating any of the above items, please contact Fr. Anthony directly. Perhaps each family of our altar servers would consider donating a robe. In all cases, your generous gift will be a great blessing for you! I thank all of our donors in advance for their anticipated generosity.

HOLY COMMUNION GUIDELINES

(The following was written by Fr. Anthony, and is taken from the November 2004 edition of The St. Spyridon Voice – the monthly bulletin of St. Spyridon Church, Newport, RI)

From September 2003 through July 2004, I had included an 11 part series in the bulletin on the subject of the frequency of, and preparation for receiving Holy Communion. This is an important topic for which the Church has very clear teachings and traditions. For the benefit of all, it would be a wise thing to review the main points covered in that series. As a reminder, the series was comprised of direct quotations from the book, When and How to Receive Communion, by Archimandrite Daniel G. Aerakis of the Church of Greece (St. Nikodemos Publication Society, 1997).

- Holy Communion is heavenly manna – our daily bread.
  - The Divine Liturgy invites us to partake of Holy Communion at each liturgy.
  - Why would we deprive ourselves of the true life in Christ found through Holy Communion?

- Many times we avoid receiving Holy Communion out of ignorance, according to what has been “handed down to us.”
  - We must have faith and belief in the mystery of Holy Communion, and understand its benefits.
  - We must realize that not everything we were taught in the past is correct; the accurate, canonical teachings of the Church go back to the very beginning of her life.

- We must avoid a sense of false humility.
  - No one is ever worthy to commune; why do we seem to feel worthy to receive on the major feast days?
  - Sparse receipt of Holy Communion does not make us more worthy.

- Why do we receive only after the major Lenten periods and on the Great Feasts?
  - Is there something magical about these days?
  - The same Eucharist is offered at every Divine Liturgy.
From Father Anthony

- We must be careful not to approach Holy Communion mechanically.
  - There is a danger of being mechanical whether we receive frequently or not.
- Appropriate preparation to receive Holy Communion is extremely important.
  - There must exist a longing for the Holy Eucharist.
  - Spiritual purity is a must.
- Fasting to commune should not be over-emphasized, especially in lieu of spiritual preparation.
  - Fasting is one thing, Holy Communion is another.
  - Fasting should be upheld on all appropriate days and seasons. The major fast periods are not meant for preparing to receive Holy Communion.
  - Fasting should never be limited to food, since it involves the total person.
- There is no such thing as a 3-day fast from oil prior to communing (or any other personal practice that we have deemed as “necessary” preparation).
  - The Church does not call for such fasting, especially on Saturdays (with the exception of Great Lent).
  - When we commune frequently, fasting on Wednesdays, Fridays, and other fast periods suffices.
  - Fasting for 3 or more days prior to communing is a fine, pious practice for those who commune infrequently. These people should never critique or judge those who are frequent and don’t follow such a fast.
- Self-examination is absolutely necessary prior to communing.
  - We should be reconciled with everyone prior to approaching the Chalice.
  - Periodic confession to a priest is mandatory in order to be properly prepared.
  - Fasting alone, is not proper preparation.
- Our prayer life is a major part of proper preparation.
  - Daily prayer is mandatory in the life of an Orthodox Christian.
  - Proper preparation for Holy Communion includes pre-communion prayers to be said the night before (they can be found in any personal Orthodox prayer book).
  - Orthodox prayer books also have prayers of thanksgiving to be prayed at home after communing.
- Our whole approach to Holy Communion should be filled with contrition, piety, and the fear of God.
  - We should not even consider approaching if we have serious sins and impediments, such as sins of a fleshly nature.
  - We should never approach Holy Communion “any old way,” such as those who come very late to church, without even hearing the Gospel lesson of the day.

Beloved in Christ, it is a good thing that many of us have learned to be more frequent with receiving Holy Communion, as the Church teaches us. However, we must be extremely careful not to make it a routine which has no prior preparation to speak of. **Please remember, receiving Holy Communion is not as simple as receiving antidoron!** Parents, it is very important that you teach your children some sense of preparation. **Do not simply send your children to Holy Communion each Sunday, just because you think that this is what all the other Church School children do.** Each family should develop an approach to preparing for the Lord’s supper. Seek out your spiritual father for guidance to help you regarding this most sacred of holy mysteries, whether you are single or married. Remember, your priest is here to guide you toward salvation. Take advantage of what your Church offers you freely!
FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

From “On the Incarnation,” by St. Athanasios

When God the Almighty was making mankind through His own Word, He perceived that they, owing to the limitation of their nature, could not of themselves have any knowledge of their Artificer, the Incorporeal and Uncreated. He took pity on them, therefore, and did not leave them destitute of the knowledge of Himself, lest their very existence should prove purposeless. For of what use is existence to the creature if it cannot know its Maker? How could men be reasonable beings if they had no knowledge of the Word and Reason of the Father, through Whom they had received their being? They would be no better than the beasts, had they no knowledge save of earthy things; and why should God have made them at all, if He had not intended them to know Him.

But, in fact, the good God has given them a share in His own Image, that is, in our Lord Jesus Christ, and has made even themselves after the same Image and Likeness. Why? Simply in order that through this gift of God-likeness in themselves they may be able to perceive the Image Absolute, that is the Word Himself, and through Him to apprehend the Father; which knowledge of their Maker is for men the only really happy and blessed life.

From the “Philokalia:” Evagrios the Solitary on Prayer

When Moses tried to draw near to the burning bush he was forbidden to approach until he had loosed his sandals from his feet. If, then, you wish to behold and commune with Him who is beyond sense-perception and beyond concept, you must free yourself from every impassioned thought.

Persevere with patience in your prayer, and repulse the cares and doubts that arise within you. They disturb and trouble you, and so slacken the intensity of your prayer.

Do not pray for the fulfillment of your wishes, for they may not accord with the will of God. But pray as you have been taught, saying: Thy will be done in me. Always entreat Him in this way – that His will be done. For He desires what is good and profitable for you, whereas you do not always ask for this.

Church News

ANNUNCIATION CHOIR

As part of the preparations for our church’s consecration in October, the choir has started rehearsals to learn an entirely new Liturgical setting. The music has been arranged by Dean Limberakis, professor of music at Hellenic College and Choir director at the Annunciation Cathedral in Boston, and is traditional and very beautiful.

Rehearsals will be held on most Sundays at the church from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. If you’ve ever thought about joining the choir, this is the perfect opportunity. We are learning the music slowly over the course of the summer, and you will be able to raise your voices and join in celebration during this once-in-a-lifetime event at our church. Everyone is invited to join, regardless of your musical background or ability. We hope to see you there!

If interested, please see Heidi Mason, Choir Director at church or call her at (781) 344-2590
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL</td>
<td>Thursday, September 16th through Sunday, September 19th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY</td>
<td>Sunday, November 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS</td>
<td>Sunday, December 5th</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARISH COUNCIL OATH OF OFFICE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS</td>
<td>Sunday, December 19th</td>
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**2010 PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 7, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 12, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 9, 2010</td>
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<td>December 14, 2010</td>
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</table>
**Church News**

**The Church Needs Your Support. Remember to Send in Your Pledge. Pledges Are the Greatest Source of Income for Our Church**

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
Applications for the Church Scholarships are now available in the church office. Deadline is September 15, 2010.

Please contact the church office for details.

**Church Services**

**Winter Hours**

**Saturdays**
- Great Vespers: 6:00 PM

**Sundays**
- Orthros: 8:45 AM
- Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM

**Weekdays**
- Orthros: 9:00 AM
- Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM

**Address Changes**
Please notify the church office if you are moving, so we may update our database in order to serve you better.

**Bulletin Deadline**
All Submissions for the Bulletin are due on 15th.

**Coffee Hour**
If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please call Bertha Weinberg at (508) 586-1030, or the Church Office at (508) 559-0910.

**Hall Rental**
Do not forget that our church gymnasium and/or lounge area are available for your special functions. Please call the church office for details.

**20% Off With This Coupon**
Expires 10/01/10
**SACRAMENTS AND HOLY SERVICES**

**BAPTISMS**

July 17 Maria  
Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Thlivitis  
Sponsor: Nicholetta Koupelis

July 24 Nicolas  
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Scott Ferguson  
Sponsor: Angela Davilas

**WEDDINGS**

June 27 Haralampos Kamenidis & Maria Vasilakos  
Sponsors: Stefanos Togrouzidis

August 21 Carl E. Muehlmann & Amalia S. Daskalakis  
Sponsor: Chris Ronson

**FUNERALS**

August 4 Mary Xixis  
May Her Memory be Eternal

**DONATIONS**

In Memory of Theofilos Vainas  
total donations to date - $385

In Memory of Mary Xixis  
total donations to date - $150

In Memory of Mary Xixis  
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Lucas - $100

In Memory of George Theofilou, Terry, Maria, Francesca & Sophia Theofilou - $100

In Memory of George Theofilou  
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Lucas - $100

In Memory of George Theofilou  
Mrs. & Mrs. Michael Fields - $200

In Memory of Mary Davilas  
Mr. Nicolas Davilas - $200

In Memory of Demetra Davos  
Michael Demos &  
The Anagnoston Family - $100

Ladies Philoptochos Society - $3000

Savas Family Trust yearly interest - $4,848.36

Golf Tournament - $500  
169 Hungry Friends - hors d’ouevres - $325  
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Mihos

Floral decoration for Iconostasis icon of Panayia  
Mr. & Mrs. Ilias Lainas - $70

Flowers for icon of the Transfiguration & floral arrangement for iconostasion - $100  
Mr. & Mrs. Paskalis Kalatzis IMO their daughter Ioanna
Dear Sisters,

A new season is approaching. We will start the season with a pot luck supper meeting, on Tuesday, September 28th at 6:30PM. Please bring an appetizer, entrée or dessert. Everyone is welcome and bring your friends. Old and new business will be discussed. Please come and give us your thoughts and ideas.

Sincerely,
Despina Papadopoulos

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIPS
Applications for the Philoptochos Scholarships are now available in the church Office. Deadline is September 15th. Two Philoptochos Scholarships will be available. Contact the church office for details.

ATTENTION TO ALL LEAF PICKERS
Thanks to all our leaf pickers for helping us again this year in collecting the leaves. We were successful in collecting 1,200 leaves.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND GIANT TOY RAFFLE
Our annual luncheon will be held in December 19th (keep us in mind) more information to follow

KOLIVA
For Koliva please call the church office @ (508)559~0910. We would appreciate one week’s notice in advance of the memorial service to prepare your koliva. The cost is $85 and checks should be made payable to the Philoptochos Society.

VISITATIONS
Anyone who would like a visit from the Ladies of Philoptochos, or knows of someone who would like some company please call the Church office.

Church News

ADULT GREEK CLASS
Adult Greek Class will be started September 21st, Tuesday night at 7 PM. Everyone is welcomed, if interested in learning Greek please call the Church office.
## Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Brockton
### Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
#### July 2010

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<th>July 10</th>
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<td>Monthly Bulletin</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>Stewardship Pledges</td>
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<td>Tray Collections</td>
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<td>Trust Dividends</td>
<td>4,848</td>
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<td>Youth Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>13,436</td>
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<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
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<td>18,358</td>
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<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
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<td>Archdiocese Commitment</td>
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<td>(208)</td>
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<td>Employee Taxes and Benefits</td>
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<td>Greek School Expenses</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Expenses</td>
<td>519</td>
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<td>Pastor Benefits</td>
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<td>Payroll Expenses</td>
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<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>167</td>
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<td>Supplies (D)</td>
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<td>Uncategorized Expenses</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>Utilities (E)</td>
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<td>2,833</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visiting Clergy / Cantor</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Activities Expense</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td>33,961</td>
<td>31,807</td>
<td>2,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Income</strong></td>
<td>(20,525)</td>
<td>(13,449)</td>
<td>(7,076)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>