St Richard's Episcopal Church

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The Rev. Alison P. Harrity

## Worship

**Epiphany:** St. Richard's invited the wider Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida to Celebrate Epiphany and have an open discussion about the pending election of the next bishop. Dan Smith was our preacher who is now the Canon to the Ordinary.

**Training:** We held a training for Readers and Chalice Bearers and Acolytes and Ushers "Sunday Morning on a Friday Night" in March to prepare for Easter.

**Acolytes:** Art Pini has recruited new acolytes this year and we will have seven trained crucifers for 2024

**Lady Chapel Icon:** Scott Wilson commissioned the NEW! Icon that is installed in the Lady Chapel area of the Worship Space. The Icon was installed in July and dedicated in November on All Saints Day. Jesus is flanked by the Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalen and the archangels Gabriel and Michael are on each end.

## Fellowship

**Movie Nights and Craft Days:** Ruth Canham organized monthly Movie Nights and Craft Days for the congregation. Crafts included Ukrainian Easter Eggs, Celtic Designs

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**Brunch:** Heather Kirby continued to organize Parish Wide Brunches.

**Family Pot Luck Dinners** were organized and hosted by Kat and Andrew Lisa throughout the year.

**Divine Diners:** Charlie Wilson is committed to choosing accessible and local restaurants for our monthly night out for fellowship.

## Property

Hurricane Ian repairs continued. Major Items included replacing the roof on the Church and Parish Hall. Repairing and resealing the high window in the church. Repairing and refinishing the terrazzo in the Parish Hall building. Flood mitigation work to minimize the possibility of future flooding on the property.

**FEMA:** We continue to meet regularly with David Wall our FEMA liaison and received $100,000 from FEMA in 2023.

**Member Ministries:** For Seasons Ministries moved into what was the choir room in January. Pet Academy moved into two of our classroom spaces in the Office Wing and a private Dog Club was created by fencing off a large area of our property. Play Ball Dog Club opened in December. Towns Garden Center rented the nursery space for an office and is parking trucks and storing equipment on the property. Towns became a member ministry in November as did the Orlando Bridge Club that began meeting 6 days a week in the Parish Hall. These new Member Ministries join Needlework's and put us at almost full capacity of our spaces available to rent. We also continue to rent to BNK Dojo four days a week, Andrea Williams Violin lessons and Willie Rast Music Lessons.

**Event Space:** We continue to make our Parish Hall available to rent for one-time events.

**Native Plant Garden:** With a grant from the Audubon Society, St. Richard's installed a native plant garden in the front "lawn" of the property. Scout Troop 62 assisted with the installation.

## Education

**Lenten Program:** "High on the Hog," a Netflix series documenting the history of African American food was the Lenten Program with Dale Truscott organizing food and cooks to prepare a meal each week to correspond with the episodes of the series.

**Sunday Morning Adult Education:** Amanda March facilitated Adult Education on Sunday Mornings in Lent and Advent. Godly Conversations about Prayer and a book study using "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr about the second half of life. Deb Boshell continued to gather our children for Kid's Club each Sunday morning.

## Outreach

**Family Promise:** We continued to be a Family Promise host church for homeless families at the Family Promise Center on Clay Street in Winter Park as Hurricane Ian and new Member Ministries with dedicated space moved to our property. Volunteers stay dedicated to this ministry.

**Coalition for the Homeless Feeding Ministry** continued once a month on Fridays until September when Joey Elliot took on the ministry with the support of One School where he is a teacher.

**Come out with Pride:** Again, this year we marched in the Come Out with Pride Parade in downtown Orlando. Thanks to our deacon Joe Obrochta for organizing in 2023.

## Spiritual Expansion

**Gentle Yoga:** We were lucky enough to have Christopher Roberts offer Gentle Yoga for several months before his job made him unavailable during the day.

**Sacred Time** our contemplative prayer group meets weekly with Tiffany Lane who also offers Energy Healing sessions by appointment.

**Tai Chi:** Continues to move weekly with Carol Alves organizing that group.

**Quiet Days:** As part of the Clergy Renewal Grant, the Rev. Dr. Dale Truscott and Senior Warder Tiffany Lane, planned two Quiet Days for the Congregation, one in September and one in October. Various meditative activities were made available including a labyrinth loaned to us by Joe Obrochta's former church, Trinity Church in Kentucky.

**Pastoral Care:** Widow Widower Conversation Group continues to meet every other month and the Pastoral Care Commission continues to stay in touch with those in our congregation who cannot get to us.

**Rector's Sabbatical:** Thanks to a Clergy Renewal Grant from the Lily Foundation, The Rev. Alison P. Harrity, rector of St. Richard's, took a three-month sabbatical. Details about that sabbatical can be found on our website www.strichards.org. The Rev. Dr. Dale Truscott, assisting clergy, served as Priest-in-

charge in her absence June, July and August. St. Richard's hosted a welcome back celebration for Alison in September and raised

## Diocesan Activities

**Bishop's Election and Consecration:** The Delegation from St. Richard's voted in the Election for the Bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida and the February Diocesan Convention. We continue to pay our full 11% assessment to the Diocese of Central Florida. Our delegation has voice and vote at Diocesan Convention.

**Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight:** Bishop White of Kentucky and Bishop Holcomb of Central Florida have a verbal agreement to maintain the DEPO relationship with Bishop White overseeing St. Richard's through June 2024. This continues the relationship established by Bishop Greg Brewer and Bishop Terry White in 2018. DEPO gives St. Richard's access to the ordination process in the Diocese of Kentucky as the Diocese of Central Florida still does not ordain people who are other than heterosexual. DEPO also allows St. Richard's facilities to be used for marriages for non-heterosexual people and our clergy are authorized to officiate at weddings for non-heterosexual couples. In addition, DEPO allows St. Richard's to have a search process for a new rector to be overseen by the Diocese of Kentucky.

**Jim Christoph's Ordination to the Transitional Deaconate:** In June 2023 Jim Christoph was ordained at St. Richard's by Bishop Terry White of the Diocese of Kentucky to the Transitional Deaconate. Jim has spent three years in the discernment process through the Diocese of Kentucky and successfully has completed all requirements for ordination. His ordination to the priesthood will take place in 2024.

### Baptisms

**January 8**
Max David McNamara
Molly Claire McNamara

**January 28**
Rose Frances DeSalvo

**September 3**
Sajan Xavier Griffith

**November 5**
Jessiah Joshua Wassink

### Confirmations with Bishop Terry White of Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky (Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight Bishop) June 11

Diana Lynn Oxford
Moses Jordan Boshell
Jayden Christopher Woodward
Edric John Coppolella
Reese Mary Coppolella
Receptions
Brian Guero
Christopher Roberts
Reaffirmations
Gail Hencken
Alison Harrity
Marriages April 15
Christopher Graham Carlson and Jonathan Payne Buse

### Burials

Stanley Davis Berry
June Rout Perkins
Virgina "Ginny" May Edwards
Edward Charles Levine
Lydia Davie
Richard "Dick" David Stipe
Valencia Knox Richmond Buchanan
Thomas Henry Jackson
Jaqueline "Jackie" Ann Jackson
Richard Dale Herndon
Ann Elphreth Pine
Christopher Robert Walsh






# NOMINEES

### DEBBIE SPONSLER



I am a Maryland native and have been a resident of Florida since 1988. After my wandering Catholic years, I was fortunate to find and join St. Richard's in August 2019. I was instantly welcomed and touched by the warmth and friendship offered by the clergy and members. I knew early on this was the right spiritual and personal fit for me for many reasons.

A big draw for me was St. Richard's commitment to change our lives and the world. There are so many opportunities to help locally and globally! Here I have been able to fulfill my desire to leave the world a better place where possible through my volunteer roles as the Vestry Secretary and with the Family Promise, Coalition for the Homeless, and Fellowship ministries.

As the mother of two transgender young adults, it was also extremely important to me and my family to have a faith community that is truly accepting and affirming. For the last several years I have also supported and advocated for the LGBTQ+ community in my role on the PFLAG Greater Orlando Board of Directors.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve St. Richard's and the community as a vestry member.

### CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS



Christopher grew up between his mother in Florida and his father in Ohio. While in Ohio he was part of the Catholic Church where he was baptized, confirmed and had communion, as well as being a member of the church's youth group. In middle school he attended a Catholic school.

Christopher is multi passionate having previously worked as a hairstylist, makeup artist, event planner, and in marketing. He has worked in the health and wellness industry since 2011 mostly as a yoga and Pilates teacher. Currently teaching Pilates at Winter Park Pilates.

Christopher came to St Richards in 2020 right after services resumed after Covid. He was brought to St Richards by his partner, Brian and immediately felt at home and that he belonged.

He currently serves as LEM at the 8am service, schedules the LEMs and readers, and just started his first year in Education for Ministry in hopes of one day serving the church community as a Deacon.

In his free time he likes kayaking, beach days, weightlifting, yoga, pilates, reading books on religion and nutrition, Disney trips, and serving the community.

### DEB BOSHELL-IDOWU




I have been a member of St. Richards for about 5 years.

I am a transplant to Florida from New Jersey. I am a widow and mother of 5 adult children as well as Grandma to 6 grandchildren. Also 7 Grand cats and 2 grand dogs.

I am currently retired. .I have worked for Cross Road Mission. Bates Greenery. Florida Hospital. Target and Sears since moving to Florida.

I am currently teaching Sunday School to the 4 to 10 yr old.
I usually attend the 10: 30 a.m. service.

## DIANA L. OXFORD

Diana is a North Carolina native who has made her home in the Orlando area for the past 35 years. She came to know Jesus as a 15-year old and has been a passionate follower of Christ ever since. Diana holds a BS in Cross-Cultural Studies from Toccoa Falls College in GA, and an MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Grace College & Theological Seminary in Winona Lakes, IN. She has a varied professional background including 10+ years in the Insurance/Risk Management field, over 15 years in professional ministry including 7 years of Missions ministry where she was engaged in discipleship work and trauma therapy in Bosnia and throughout the Balkans. She has extensive previous experience as an Adult Education teacher at Northland Church, and was the Founder/Owner of a non-profit Counseling Center in Sanford for 5 years. She currently works as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor at a private clinic in Winter Park.

Diana enjoys volunteering with various Homeless ministries and Sex-trafficking organization in the area, and with Breast Cancer advocacy and support programs. In her leisure time, she enjoys riding her Harley, running and pickleball, travel and reading.



## STEVE MCCONNELL



I'm Steve McConnell. My family and I have been attending St. Richards for over 30 years. When I met my wife Susan in 1991 I was confirmed at St. Richards by then Rector Grayson Garvin. Married in 1997 at this church and baptized two children, Aidan and Emma as well. Needless to say as a longtime parishioner at this church we have seen rectors and people come an go. This church surely continues to thrive with God's love in every face we see attending. You see me every Sunday as your head usher and I'm so happy to greet and see you. I work at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office now for over twenty years serving the citizens of Seminole County. This little place in Florida is a wonderful place to raise a family be part of a thriving community. I am very pleased and honored to run for the Vestry today to help do my part guiding this wonderful church along our journey with God's help.

## JUSTIN GRAHAM

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ!!!!

My name is Carmen Graham's husband....also known as Justin Graham. I was born in the Bronx, but moved to Orlando in 2000 to be closer to family. While still in high school, I knew I had a passion for helping people in need. I subsequently went to nursing school in 2004 and graduated with my associates degree in 2006. While in college, I met the love of my life Carmen with the assistance of a close friend. We have been together for 17 years and married for the past 11 years. I became a neurology nurse practitioner in 2015, providing inpatient patient care at Advent Health Orlando. Soon after graduating, Carmen and myself were blessed with our daughter Evaly, on Christmas Day 2015 and with son Paxon mother's day 2018. Although Carmen and I were raised in the Catholic, as we grew older, we found that the faith was not congruent to who we were, what we believed, and how we wanted to raise our children. 8 years ago we decided to take a chance on a little church we would pass by on the way to my parents house...St. Richard's Episcopalian Church. What we found, however, was much more than a place of worship, but a spiritual home where we felt renewed with each service, shared meal, and kind word. I look forward to offering my own personal set of skills on the Vestry.



# Treasurer's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2023

The year 2023 presented challenges for Parish staff and Vestry. We had over a million dollars in damage to our campus in 2022 because of hurricane Ian. But despite the chaos of renovation, government and private company bureaucracy, we ended 2023 with an almost completed renovation and a solid financial record.

We ended the year with a surplus of $27,634.82

**Budget for 2024**
Revenues $548,934
Expenses $539,529

We are projecting a surplus of $27,635. Good management of expenses created a surplus that will be used as revenues for 2024.

The pledge drive saw fewer people pledging but giving more than the previous year. The average pledge is $3,447, up $1,054 from the previous year.

**Budget Highlights**
Managing the flow of money this past year was challenging. One challenge was paying for construction costs before receiving income from the two funding streams: our church insurance and FEMA. There were times during the first part of the year when we were cash short, yet bills must be paid, and they were. FEMA covered most of the expenses not covered by our insurance carrier. Around ten percent of the Diocese of Central Florida grant money had to be used and funds not immediately needed were put into a short-term high yield CD. Alison was able to renegotiate a lower interest rate from 3% to 1.5% from the Diocese.

In the 2024 Budget, the Vestry recommends increases in staff salaries. Our Rector has not had a salary increase in over ten years and our administrator has been given new responsibilities. We have needed to add hours for the sextant due to the increase in activity on campus since we are now renting close to 100 percent of our space to member organizations. The rental money will be used to support outreach and our church community. We are asking for more from staff, and it is right to acknowledge that work through salary increases. Together they form the hub that support us in doing God's work.

**Revenue & Expenditure Highlights**
With the additional money from pledges and the revenue from member ministry rentals, the budget is almost balanced. As with any budget, revisions will be needed as we go through the year. We anticipate increases in utilities and technology expenses. Property insurance premium was increased by $10,000.

We are a church on a mission, and we give thanks to God for his grace and blessings.



## St. Richard's Episcopal Church - 2024 Budget

| | 2023 Budget | 2023 Actuals | 2024 Budget |
|---|---|---|---|
| **REVENUE** | | | |
| **Plate and Pledge Offerings** | | | |
| 1-400100 - Pledges | $376,325.00 | $304,309.00 | $352,283.51 |
| 1-400130 - Loose Plate Offerings | $5,474.00 | $8,073.00 | $7,800.00 |
| **Special Offerings** | | | |
| 1-401100 - Building & Grounds | $8,000.00 | $13,314.00 | $13,000.00 |
| 1-401103 - Music Offering | $3,000.00 | $1,786.00 | $1,800.00 |
| 1-401105 - Worship Offering | $1,000.00 | $580.00 | $550.00 |
| 1-401110 - Christmas Offering | $4,500.00 | $11,798.00 | $4,400.00 |
| 1-401120 - Easter Offering | $2,960.00 | $3,390.00 | $3,400.00 |
| 1-401160 - Flowers Offering | $5,875.00 | $4,040.00 | $4,500.00 |
| 1-401164 - Fellowship Offering | $2,395.00 | $8,270.00 | $2,500.00 |
| 1-401168 - Weddings/Funerals Offering | $4,000.00 | $2,900.00 | $3,000.00 |
| 1-401170 - Special Gifts | $43,620.00 | $72,551.00 | $55,000.00 |
| 1-401174 - Memorial Brick Sales | $200.00 | $300.00 | $100.00 |
| 1-401176 - Pet Memorial Garden | $200.00 | $100.00 | $0.00 |
| **Other Income** | | | |
| 1-400200 - Facilities Donations | $27,000.00 | $48,608.00 | $94,800.00 |
| 1-400250 - Bank Credit Card Rewards | $331.00 | $653.00 | $800.00 |
| 1-900506 - Endowment Fund Interest | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| 1-100500 - Bank CD Interest | $0.00 | $0.00 | $5,000.00 |
| **Total Revenues** | **$484,880.00** | **$480,672.00** | **$548,933.51** |

## St. Richard's Episcopal Church - 2024 Budget

| Accounts | 2023 Budget | 2023 Actuals | 2024 Budget |
|---|---|---|---|
| **EXPENSE** | | | |
| **Clergy Compensation** | | | |
| 1-500100 - Rector - Salary | $30,604.08 | $30,604.08 | $45,000.00 |
| 1-500110 - Rector - Housing | $47,999.90 | $47,999.90 | $48,000.00 |
| 1-500140 - Rector - SS Allowance | $12,026.30 | $12,026.30 | $14,230.00 |
| **Staff Compensation** | | | |
| 1-500413 - Parish Admininistrator | $32,949.66 | $32,910.40 | $49,920.00 |
| 1-500415 - Sexton | $28,252.90 | $30,476.94 | $45,760.00 |
| 1-500416 - Parish Admin. Asst. | $14,899.54 | $14,994.94 | $15,346.52 |
| 1-500425 - Choir Director/Organist | $35,970.74 | $35,970.74 | $37,050.00 |
| 1-500435 - Professional Singer | $2,947.56 | $4,050.00 | $3,500.00 |
| 1-500450 - Nursery Workers | $3,000.00 | $3,186.00 | $3,000.00 |
| 1-500417 - Live Stream Minister | $3,500.00 | $3,126.57 | $3,500.00 |
| **Accounts** | **2023 Budget** | **2023 Actuals** | **2024 Budget** |
| **Contract Personnel** | | | |
| 1-500430 - Supply Organist | $2,400.00 | $1,400.00 | $1,400.00 |
| 1-500445 - Supply Singers | $700.00 | $675.00 | $700.00 |
| 1-510210 - Instrumentalists | $1,000.00 | $600.00 | $1,000.00 |
| **Benefits** | | | |
| 1-500130 - Med., HSA, Dent. & Life | $31,574.00 | $30,385.04 | $31,574.00 |
| 1-500150 - Pension - Rector | $16,313.52 | $16,313.52 | $19,301.00 |
| 1-500155 - Pension - Employees | $8,651.30 | $6,999.15 | $12,108.00 |
| 1-500165 - AAM Conference Travel | $2,000.00 | $1,714.92 | $0.00 |
| 1-500710 - Worker's Comp | $1,800.00 | $886.25 | $1,800.00 |
| **Payroll Taxes** | | | |
| 1-500650 - FICA Expense | $8,213.30 | $7,732.62 | $10,060.00 |
| 1-500655 - Medicare Expense | $1,920.85 | $1,808.32 | $2,352.82 |
| **Christian Education** | | | |
| 1-510110 - Adult Ed. Resources | $200.00 | $459.05 | $282.00 |
| 1-510105 - Children's Curriculum | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| 1-510600 - Youth Ministry | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| **Accounts** | **2023 Budget** | **2023 Actuals** | **2024 Budget** |
| **Office Expenses** | | | |
| 1-520100 - Office Supplies & Paper | $2,500.00 | $2,083.24 | $2,500.00 |
| 1-520105 - Office EquipmentMa | $6,800.00 | $4,791.98 | $5,000.00 |
| 1-520120 - Postage | $1,000.00 | $693.00 | $750.00 |
| **Insurance** | | | |
| 1-520300 - Property & Liability Insuran | $42,453.00 | $39,481.70 | $52,131.00 |
| **Administrative** | | | |
| 1-520115 - Technology Expenses | $10,200.00 | $11,197.18 | $17,260.00 |
| 1-520116 - Live Stream/Tech Support | $0.00 | $13.58 | $100.00 |
| 1-520140 - Business Expense | $1,000.00 | $707.47 | $700.00 |
| 1-520160 - Permits & Fees | $100.00 | $171.79 | $76.00 |
| 1-520170 - Bank/Credit Card Fees & S | $3,492.00 | $4,146.08 | $3,810.00 |
| 1-520180 - Payroll Processing | $600.00 | $650.97 | $645.00 |
| **Accounts** | **2023 Budget** | **2023 Actuals** | **2024 Budget** |
| **Repair & Maintenance** | | | |
| 1-530150 - Lawn/Garden Maintenance | $9,500.00 | $6,347.94 | $0.00 |
| 1-530300 - Building Maintenance | $13,000.00 | $7,568.37 | $3,000.00 |
| 1-530320 - Fire & Safety Inspections | $1,000.00 | $1,123.00 | $1,100.00 |
| 1-530330 - HVAC Repair and Maintena | $4,000.00 | $4,350.00 | $5,000.00 |
| 1-530399 - Expendables | $1,376.80 | $3,186.57 | $2,300.00 |
| 1-530615 - Pest/ Termite Control | $2,300.00 | $2,334.00 | $2,330.00 |
| **Utilities** | | | |
| 1-520200 - Telephone & Comunications | $4,000.00 | $2,433.18 | $1,440.00 |
| 1-520205 - Electricity | $21,686.30 | $23,188.36 | $25,000.00 |
| 1-520210 - Water & Sewer | $1,300.00 | $1,677.21 | $2,000.00 |
| 1-520220 - Trash & Disposal | $3,273.60 | $3,873.00 | $4,089.00 |
| **Diocesan Support** | | | |
| 1-550100 - Diocesan Assessment | $36,331.17 | $29,256.60 | $39,634.00 |
| 1-520191 - Loan Interest | | $1,513.13 | $15,000.00 |
| **Social Ministries** | | | |
| 1-560105 - Fellowship (Parish Events) | $2,000.00 | $6,741.05 | $0.00 |
| 1-560162 - Volunteer Appreciation Exp | $500.00 | $272.14 | $500.00 |
| **Music** | | | |
| 1-510220 - Instrument Maintenance | $900.00 | $1,355.00 | $1,575.00 |
| 1-510230 - Music Fees/Licenses | $1,955.00 | $1,914.61 | $2,340.00 |
| **General Ministries** | | | |
| 1-540500 - Stewardship Expenses | $200.00 | $0.00 | $200.00 |
| 1-560210 - Worship Supplies (Liturgica | $3,800.00 | $874.33 | $1,200.00 |
| 1-560220 - Flowers Expense | $2,604.00 | $3,341.15 | $3,665.00 |
| 1-560230 - Memorial Brick Expense | $60.00 | $0.00 | $100.00 |
| 1-560240 - Pet Memorial Garden Expe | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| 1-560250 - Newcomer Welcome Exper | $200.00 | $0.00 | $200.00 |
| | | | |
| **Total Expenses** | **$467,055.52** | **$460,803.55** | **$539,529.34** |


St Richard's Episcopal Church

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