

ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



2025 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT:

St. Patrick's joyfully welcomes and includes you on a journey of Christian faith through the grace of the Holy Spirit.

VISION STATEMENT:

St. Patrick's continues to grow as a joyful community of faith. Through worship, friendship, education, and outreach, we live a Christ-centered life, caring for each other and our neighbors as ourselves.

In 2019, St. Patrick's moved to a new kind of church record keeping solution called Realm®. It primarily serves the administrative needs of our staff, but it also offers some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in our church. Not only will this improve work life for our ministry leaders, but it will also make it easier for our church family to connect with each other, keep up with what's going on, and grow as a connected church community. This serves as our online membership directory and will be a primary communication tool for our church. Please keep your information updated.

Access to this secure database is by invitation only and personal password protected. All families with at least one email have been invited. If you have not yet set up your account, you will need to contact the church office to be invited again because reminders have been discontinued.

Questions about access and usage should be directed to the church office.

I. Holy Spirit

We invite and welcome the gifts of the Holy Spirit to guide our worship and actions that flow through music, prayer, and outreach.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

II. Outreach

St. Patrick's engages in meaningful ministry that empowers people by walking and working side by side with them.

Scripture: Mark 16:15

And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.'

III. Welcoming

St. Patrick's is a welcoming and loving family.

Scripture: Leviticus 19:34

The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

IV. Supporting and Caring Engagement

In, at and through St. Patrick's, we fearlessly support each other and the broader community.

Scripture: John 13:35

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

V. Joy and Creativity in Faith Formation

We are a joyful, inquisitive community of faith in Christ.

Scripture: Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

This Annual Report contains pictures and reports from Ministry Leaders, staff, and volunteers, and is organized under headings of the Core Values of St. Patrick's. If you are interested in further information about the ministries, please contact the ministry leader or call the church office.

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2023 STAFF & VESTRY MEMBERS

Back Cover

Rector's Report - Jason Emerson (He/Him)

Let me begin with a brief story.

On one of the Sundays just before Christmas, Christa and Jennifer Carney—who experience significant deafness—attended the 8:00 a.m. service. They have been worshiping with us for about a year, and Jane Switzer signs for them during the liturgy. Mother Catherine and I also print copies of our sermons so they can follow along.

When Christa and Jennifer first visited, Jane immediately recognized one of them as a former student from decades ago. Neither of them realized Jane worshiped here. On this Sunday in December, Jim Ziolkowski—who regularly attends the 8:00 a.m. service with his wife, Susan—spoke with me after worship. Jim shared that his sister, who also experiences deafness, would be visiting for Christmas, and he asked whether any of our Christmas Eve services would include sign language interpretation.

I was delighted to tell him yes. Christa and Jennifer were planning to sign *Silent Night* during the candlelit singing at the 5:00 p.m. service, and Jane would again be present to support them throughout the liturgy. As a result, Jim and Susan, their children, and Jim's sister all attended Christmas Eve together, sitting with Jane, Christa, and Jennifer.

You have often heard me say that “the Holy Spirit is up to something.” This is exactly what I mean. Our intentional and unintentional efforts to welcome Christa and Jennifer created space to welcome Jim's sister as well. An old mentor of mine used to say, “*People belong before they believe.*” This moment was one of many powerful ways we welcome and include people on the journey of Christian faith through the power of the Holy Spirit.

As I reflected on 2025 as a whole, I realized that we gave the Holy Spirit a great deal to work with this past year. In 2025, we baptized five people into the household of God, welcomed more than twenty newcomers into the congregation, studied the parables of Jesus, hosted a spectacular Vacation Bible School, saw Children's Chapel grow, confirmed or received 16 youth and adults, sent nine young people to camp or retreats at the Procter Center, trained a horde of new acolytes, established a new Stream Team, and increased our average Sunday attendance by nearly 30%.

Beyond our life together in worship and formation, we also donated more than four tons of food and essential items to the Dublin Food Pantry, returned to quarterly service with the Street Church at St. John's Franklinton, served thousands of meals with Friends of the Homeless, celebrated and supported survivors of sex trafficking at Catch Court, made our pledge to Habitat for Humanity, ministered to those in prison through Kairos, and distributed thousands of dollars to those in need through the Rector's Discretionary Fund. And truly—the list goes on.

I am deeply excited about the year of ministry ahead alongside you, and profoundly grateful for all that we have accomplished together in the past year.

In closing, I would like to take a moment to thank our retiring vestry members—Vicky Bratton, Lief Carlson, and Ben Trotter—for their persistent prayer, leadership, counsel, and faith. I am also grateful to Mo. Catherine, for her years of service, as she concludes her curacy in June. I pray the Holy Spirit continues to bless her wherever the road takes her next. Our search for the next Associate Rector is underway, and we look forward to making a call by Pentecost and the priest starting July 1st. Please pray for the Spirit to guide our next Associate to us.

Senior Warden's Report – Alex Carter (She/Her)

As we close out another year of Christian life together, I'm happy to report that 2025 was a year marked by growth—in incorporating new members into the body of Christ, in the spiritual life of our community, and in our parish's financial stability. This report contains what I view as highlights from the year but cannot come close to capturing all the ways I have seen the Holy Spirit at work at St. Patrick's this year.

Parish Financials - As of mid-January 2026, we have received 144 pledges totaling \$560,000. Though this is short of our pledge campaign goal, it is an increase from January 2025, when we had received 144 pledges totaling \$504,000. This continues the trend from the previous year of an increase in the average pledge amount. However, the amounts pledged don't fully capture this body's generosity, because in 2025, giving actually exceeded the amount pledged by nearly \$40,000. We still have ground to cover to ensure that our revenue keeps pace with rising costs due to inflation, but our financial position is solid and we are moving in the right direction.

Sanctuary 25th Anniversary - The Stewardship Team answered their call in a very special way this year, truly demonstrating that stewardship is so much broader than an annual pledge campaign. Through the generosity of our members, our current sanctuary was built, and was dedicated in 2000, and through the generosity and care of our members, it remains a wonderful worship space to this day. The stewardship team lived out the theme "We Are One Body" through multiple activities honoring the sanctuary anniversary, including the personal item drive for the Dublin Food Pantry, the fall organ concert, the timeline and photo collage outside the parish hall, the anniversary dinner, and our All-Saints Day ingathering celebration.

Joint Evangelism Project with St. Mark's - In 2024, the Vestry approved drawing on our Endowment Fund, which is designated for Education and Outreach, for a joint project with St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Upper Arlington. We sent postcards to new residents in the West and Northwest parts of Franklin County, which are growing rapidly. This project had a positive impact here at St. Patrick's, which we know from talking to visitors and newcomer session participants that they learned about St. Patrick's from this project. Because of this success, the project was renewed for another year, and we hope to welcome more new residents to our parishes.

College of Congregational Development - Our four-person congregational team of Father Jason, Mike Kennedy, Kelsey Sicker, and myself attended the first College of Congregational Development (CCD) for the Diocese of Southern Ohio. We spent a week at the Procter Center along with congregational teams from around the diocese and Bishop White and her staff. The college is a two-year development program for both clergy and lay leaders. I found it to be a transformative experience and came away equipped both with new resources and new connections within our diocese. Our team completed a project in the fall in which we surveyed attendees at our Sunday 4 pm worship service and examined the responses using the "Gather, Transform, Send" model from CCD. Our team will attend the second session in August 2026 and will continue to share learnings with the congregation.

We were blessed throughout the year by excellent preaching and teaching from Father Jason Emerson and Mother Catherine Duffy, both of whose enthusiasm for sharing God's word continues to enrich this community. Our ministry leaders have contributed in countless ways to bringing the Gospel mission to life, and our Vestry has led with thoughtfulness and care. Thank you to our outgoing Vestry members, Vicky Bratton, Leif Carlson, and Ben Trotter for all you have contributed to this body. It has been an honor to serve beside them.

Junior Warden's Report (Building Care) – Blair McGinnis (He/Him)

First, I would like to thank everyone who has assisted me with the transition into this new role for me. I wish to convey thanks to all the ministries and people that have helped with the projects both large and small that keep our physical plant in good repair.

This last year has been a busy year as many of you know. In February we kicked off the Sanctuary refreshing project. We started with the painting of the worship space on February 17th. The painting was completed by the company on the 21st. The carpet at the Altar, center isle and narthex was installed on May 10th and after a week I determined that the installation had problems and the company was notified. After two months of meetings and attempts to repair the company agreed to complete replacement of the carpet in the Altar area. On September 10th, the new carpet was replaced and the sound panels on the rear wall were installed.

During the quarterly maintenance of our HVAC systems in April two items were identified as urgently needing repairs. Most important item was that the main fire panel would no longer send notification to the monitoring service. It was determined that there were no longer parts available to correct this and a new complete panel would be needed. The new panel was installed mid-May.

The second item was a leak in the AC condenser portion of the heat pump that cools the sacristy and a portion of the worship space. This unit was twenty-five years old, and a condenser was no longer available, so a completely new heat pump assembly needed to be installed. This was completed in early June. Another item that was found during this inspection was that the heat exchangers for the parish hall had failed. These items were covered by the warranty on the units and were installed in June.

In mid-September there were multiple leaks in the automatic sprinkler system. With the way the leaks were progressing across the lawn it was decided that the system be abandoned in a way that if we wanted to start it back up it could be possible.

Vestry approved a Boy Scout Eagle projector for the benches at the Labyrinth in June and the project was completed in mid- September.

Again, I want to thank everyone who has helped with the upkeep of the building along with the decisions that needed to be made.

Financial Report – Mark Hanes

First, a high-level summary:

- Our 2025 pledge results exceeded our expectations.
- We budgeted a large deficit for 2025, yet we almost broke even. I'll explain more below as to why this is the case.
- Our pledge campaign for 2026 was a great success.

The year 2025 was a year of big changes for the financial team. This Fall we began the process of changing our bank to Huntington. This change provided us:

1. Better fraud protection: We can now approve automatic debits to our accounts prior to the debit occurring. We can also now approve withdrawals from written checks prior to withdrawal to make sure the amounts match the original amounts.
2. ACH Payment capabilities: We can now pay vendors and parishioners directly to their bank accounts. This decreases the number of checks we write (and mail). It also allows vendors and parishioners to receive payments directly and more quickly. Lastly, it decreases the risk of fraud due to checks being in the mail.
3. Consolidated Credit Cards: This change simplifies the process of reconciling and paying the three church credit cards each month.

4. New Processes: We changed and split the roles of approvers and signers to better match the national Episcopal church guidelines.

As a means of discussing our fifth and final change, let's discuss our 2025 Pledge Campaign results. Our final tally shows a total of \$545,845 paid toward 2025 pledge commitments. This is well beyond the original pledge commitments of ~\$515,000. Of this \$545,845, ~\$70,000 were "pre-paid" pledges; that is, pledges paid in 2024 for 2025's campaign. The remainder was paid in 2025 or early 2026. While these numbers are great, and help us to continue God's work, the larger-than-normal pre-paid pledge amount of \$70,000 brought to light a timing issue that the Vestry has decided to resolve in 2025.

In reality, the \$70,000 of pre-paid pledges paid in 2024 were meant to cover 2025 expenses. In a sense, these pre-paid pledges are meant to be restricted in 2024 and then used (made unrestricted) in 2025. After discussions with other churches, and the Diocese, the Vestry voted to treat and hold any pre-paid pledges as "restricted" until the start of the year they were meant for. This change was implemented during 2025, with 2025 being a transition or "change over" year.

Thus, even though we have already received \$38,600 in pre-paid pledges in 2025 for 2026's campaign, this amount is in a restricted account on the financials, and it was moved to Revenue on 1/1/2026. Please keep this change in mind as you review the church financials.

The internal audit of 2024's financials was successfully completed thanks to the Audit Committee work of Chris Nelson, Rick Sicker and Jim Brown. The audit committee recommended two small changes, both of which were implemented this Fall.

Financially, 2025 was a good year for St Patrick's. Total revenue per the books for the year was \$529,026, and total expenses were \$603,769. This resulted in a net loss per the books of \$74,743. However, note that since this is a transition year for the handling of pre-paid pledges, neither the \$70,000 in pre-paid pledges meant for 2025, nor the 2026 pre-paid pledges of \$38,600, are included in the Net Income. If we had included the ~\$70,000 in pre-pays for 2025 from 2024 (as will be done in future years), our Net Income would have been a loss of less than \$5000. In other words, we nearly "broke even" for 2025 (vs our original budget expectations of a loss of \$61,117).

For our 2026 Pledge Campaign, we have received a total of 144 pledges totaling \$560,000. As mentioned previously, \$38,600 of this amount was received in 2025 (i.e., was "pre-paid") and became unrestricted on 1/1/26. The \$560,000 is an ~\$45,000 increase in committed dollars from 2025, and is, I believe, the largest amount of pledge dollars ever committed in a yearly pledge campaign at St Patrick's. Thanks to the stewardship committee, and everyone who pledged to give in 2026!

For 2026, the Vestry has passed a budget which includes a full-time Associate Rector for the entire year. Note that the Diocese funds the position for the first six months of 2026 through their Curacy program. St Patrick's will be responsible for 100% of expenses for an Associate Rector starting July 1, 2026. The passed budget does show a deficit again this year, so we need to all do our part to fulfill our pledges and contribute more, when possible.

Finally, briefly looking forward to 2027, we will need to continue to grow in faith, members, and revenue to maintain having a full-time Associate Rector. I have faith we can make this happen.

As I finish the second year of a three-year commitment as your Treasurer, I want to especially thank Stacy Craig, Charlie Horton, Amy O'Neill, Lucas Weiss, Father Jason, and the Vestry, who continue to provide excellent guidance and support. And a special "Thank You" for our audit team for all their support and effort, as well.

Holy Spirit

- Men's Groups
- Music
- Spiritual Direction
- Stewardship Team
- Women's Groups
- Worship Volunteers



Men's Retreat



Revs. Dave Kendall-Sperry, Jason Emerson, Cameron O'Riley, and Stephen Smith at the 25th Anniversary Dinner



Senior Madison Pittsenbarger on Youth Sunday



Kelsey Sicker Lay Preacher



Confirmation Retreat

Men's Ministries - Joe Ross, Blair McGinnis

Leaders:

Ed Yuhas (Tuesday AM Men's Group)

Blair McGinnis (Wednesday AM Men's Group)

Joe Ross (Thursday AM Men's Group)

The Tuesday AM Men's Group continues to meet at the church from 7 am to 8 am, with the exception of the first Tuesday of the month where we gather for breakfast at First Watch on Perimeter/Avery Roads. This breakfast is open to **all** men in the congregation and is a great entry point into one of the three groups St. Patrick's offers.

The Tuesday group has grown in numbers this past year with over 20 on the roster with an average of 12-15 attending regularly each Tuesday. This group will spend the first half hour on sharing things that are important in our lives, as we spend the remaining thirty minutes discussing a scripture lesson, an interesting article that has spiritual undertones, etc. These sessions are led by volunteers who share this from week to week. We also serve a light breakfast beginning at 7 am.

A highlight from the Men's Ministry from 2025 was our Fall Retreat, held on November 1st at Spring Hollow Lodge at Sharon Woods Metro Park. We had approximately 25 men in the congregation attend, ranging from newcomers of one month to long term members. Father Jason led us in Morning Prayer before we discussed Christian friendship, accountability, and legacies.

The Wednesday morning men's group meets at the Starbucks in the Giant Eagle on perimeter drive at 10 am. These meetings are an open topic style. The range of discussions could be from movies, food, and sports as well as current events. Currently the group consists of six regular participants and four others that attend as they can. There is an open invitation to this meeting for all the men of the parish.

Music – Jennifer Bell

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is fortunate to support and enjoy two volunteer musical ensembles which meet regularly to prepare music to share with the congregation during worship. In 2025 the choir was blessed with several new members, who have greatly enlivened our choral sound, and our enthusiasm. The handbell ensemble unfortunately is going through a "rebuilding" year after the departure of several experienced ringers, due to schedule conflicts or health issues. Fortunately, we do have some new ringers, so the tintinnabulation which enhances Sunday worship, as well as seasonal services, continues.

A highlight this year was a September Sunday afternoon organ recital presented as celebration of the 25th anniversary of the dedication of our sanctuary. Music Director Jennifer Bell was joined by guest artist Jefferson McConnaughey, who succeeded in demonstrating almost every stop on our pipe organ, in music ranging from the 17th to the 21st centuries.

Our U2Charist at the Dublin Irish Festival this summer was once again a success, led by members Robert, Sarah and Rowan, and Kellan Behrens, as well as guest percussionist Mike Yonchak. In November Stephen's Episcopal Church on OSU's campus was forced to cancel its All-Saints Day Service in 2025, but we trust it will be revived in 2026, and we can celebrate with them again. Meanwhile, the greatest highlight of the year remains Christmas Eve services - the children's Christmas pageant, and the two adult services, which involved carols and special music from choir, handbells, brass ensemble, vocal soloists, baritone ukelele, cello, flute, and harps.

St. Patrick's has gained young members with children in the last few years, and I am hopeful we can begin leading a children's choir soon. Meanwhile I am thankful for all the dedicated and talented musicians who served God at St. Patrick's this year. These persons gave of their time, their love, and their intellect to enrich our worship experience. All were blessed by sharing their gifts with us, and we were blessed as well by the gifts they shared. I look forward to cherishing even more blessings in the coming year.

Spiritual Direction – Tawnya Lewis

This small group meets Wednesdays 10:15 - 11:45ish am via zoom. A chosen book or reading starts our discussions after the opening reflection. In 2025 we finished *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari then we read *liturgy of the ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren, and *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by Mariann Edgar Budde. In January 2026 we started *Original Blessing: Putting Sin in its Rightful Place* by Danielle Shroyer. Spiritual Direction is a great way to deepen your walk with God and enjoy a fun and caring fellowship.

Stewardship Team – Jason Emerson

"Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's Name; bring offerings and come into God's courts."
Psalm 96:8

The Stewardship Team chose the theme **"We Are One Body"** this year in honor and recognition of the completion of our sanctuary in 2000. For twenty-five years, we have worshiped God, grown in faith, and made our offerings in that glorious space. This year's theme was intended to acknowledge our connection to the generosity of the generation that built the sanctuary, as well as the generosity of our current members, whose faithfulness enables us to minister in the present and grow toward the future. We are one Body, connected through time and space as the Body of Christ.

We kicked off the celebration by honoring our more than twenty-year partnership with the Dublin Food Pantry—and our longstanding culture of service and generosity—through a parish-wide collection of essential items. Thanks to Rick Sicker, along with Fran and John Montgomery, we gathered more than 500 pounds of toothbrushes, diapers, soup, and other necessities. In August, Kim Machesky created two beautiful displays in the hallway leading to Smith Hall, highlighting key moments in our parish's story. In September, Jennifer Bell offered a glorious organ concert, joined by special guest Jeff McConnaughey. Then, at the beginning of October, we shared a joyful anniversary dinner organized by Caroline Wagner and Dennis McIntosh. Passionate speakers from the congregation testified to their faith during worship in October, inspiring folks to commit to God's mission of ministry for 2026.

We also began collecting pledge commitments for 2026 in September. While the majority were received on *Commitment Sunday* on All Saints' Day—when we also gave thanks for our anniversary and for all the saints who have gone before us—pledges continue to arrive. As of this writing, we have received 144 pledges totaling \$560,000. To our knowledge, this is the largest amount ever committed to God through St. Patrick's. Our sincere thanks go to the entire pledge team and to everyone who has responded so generously to God's mission of love through St. Patrick's.

Women's Ministries Annual Report - Deby McGinnis & Sacred Circle Leaders-

This year's woman's retreat was a wonderful success. Our presenters did a lovely job of educating and engaging the 19 participants that came for our day together. Lunch was again supplied by Freedom a la Cart and was, as always, excellent.

Worship Volunteers – Matt Lewis

Worship volunteers serve as ushers, lectors/lay readers, and acolytes and assist the clergy at the 8am and 9.30am Sunday services, as well as any special services, to ensure they run smoothly. St. Patrick's is blessed with an abundance of volunteers for this ministry. We have 16 youth and 1 adult who serve as acolytes (open to anyone 10 years or older), 31 adult lay readers and lectors, and 15 adult ushers. We are always on the lookout for more acolytes and ushers. Please consider joining us in this ministry in 2026!



Serving Lunch at C.A.T.C.H. Court

Outreach

- Arts & Crafts Market
- C.A.T.C.H./Freedom Ministry
- Dublin Food Pantry
- Franklin County Children Services Holiday Wish Program
- Friends of the Homeless
- Kairos



Franklin County Children Services Holiday Wish Program Donation with organizer Jo Yuhas



Harvest of Hope Food Drive for Dublin Food Pantry

Arts and Crafts Fair - John Mascazine

The third annual Arts and Crafts Sale was held on the 7th and 8th of November 2025. Under the leadership of Julie Myers, John Mascazine, Lissa Barker, Mariann Price, Becky Stains, Vicky Bratton, Tasia Sicker and Molly Carty. Our committee was expanded and proved to be very helpful in planning and dividing up various tasks.

We continued with a preview evening event on Friday, November 7, the night before the general sale, which was very well received. We had at least 34 admitted to this evening, meeting the artists, and donating \$10 per person toward our charitable causes.

We had 24 tables of vendors and donors. However, what was the real value of this ministry was the involvement and enjoyment people experienced from a community of sharing artistic talent for two very good and worthwhile causes. It was a genuine celebration of talent and community. And those were, and continue to be, two of our primary goals.

We exceeded the amount raised in the previous year. We raised of \$ 2650, which was evenly divided between our two selected causes: Nursing Scholarships for Choluteca (in Honduras) and Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. We increased participation from vendors and donors, even beyond our parish community. We invited many friends and extended family to become involved. And, we had several new vendors and donors participate this year.

We look forward to hosting another Arts and Crafts Sale in 2026. Our hope is to continue to have even greater participation from our neighborhood community and parish, as well as raise even more funds for worthy causes.

CATCH-Freedom Ministry - Fran Montgomery

As a Beloved Community, we care about women caught in the web of sexual trafficking and our goal is to show love and support to these women in CATCH Court, Freedom a la Cart, and the Butterfly programs.

Our CATCH-Freedom Ministry provides lunch the second Thursday of each month to women at CATCH Court. CATCH (Creating Autonomy Through Collaborative Healing) is a special weekly, 2-year supportive, caring alternative to incarceration court docket where women transform from victim to survivor. We received an Episcopal Community Ministries (ECM) Grant for \$3,500. \$1000 of the Grant made it possible to donate 40 \$25 Kroger gift cards to the CATCH and Butterfly (graduates of CATCH) women. \$2,500 of our ECM Grant went to Freedom a la Cart for utilities and apartment deposits. It is also heartwarming to provide CATCH and Butterfly women household items, clothing and winter coats from our St. Pat's presale spring and fall garage sales. We thank the congregation who supported this ministry by donating 89 \$25 Kroger gift cards for Holiday gift bags. The Knitting Nexus group made and donated 35 hats, scarves, mittens, and baby hats for the women. Members of this ministry donate food for the monthly CATCH lunches and serve the women at CATCH Court.

The opportunity to serve women who have been traumatized by abuse, broken relationships, drug and alcohol addiction, and the lack of hope reminds us of the healing power of God's Grace. The gift of this service deepens our faith and changes our hearts.

Dublin Food Pantry – John Montgomery

2025 was a year when once again the congregation of St. Patrick's proved that great goals can be achieved by taking small but steady steps. Little by little, one week at a time, food donations averaging over 77 pounds each week and placed in the red wagon by the church entrance totaled 4,419 pounds (2.2 tons) of nourishment for our Dublin neighbors in need. Soup, oil, pancake mix and syrup, ramen, peanut butter, Jiffy cornbread mix, cranberry sauce – all of this and more lend support to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. That is an increase of 6.5% over 2024.

The Dublin Food Pantry serves clients who reside within the boundaries of the Dublin City School District. St. Patrick's again supplied several volunteers on Thursdays in October. You can volunteer at other times by accessing the pantry website to learn about opportunities.

Thanks are extended to all members of our parish for their generous donations of food and time as we work to sustain the direction of Jesus to feed the hungry. Thank you for your continuing support of the Dublin Food Pantry.

Franklin County Children's Services Holiday Wish Program - Jo Yuhas

Franklin County Children Services provides Christmas gifts for several thousand children under their care each holiday season. St. Patrick's has generously supported this program for over 30 years. In 2025, we sponsored a toy drive collecting two large rolling bins of unwrapped toys, books, and puzzles, as well as \$700 in cash - a 40% increase from 2024! These generous donations allow families to shop for their children, assists families who miss a deadline to request toys and aids children who come into the system unexpectedly during the holiday season. In 2026, we would like to continue this worthwhile program for so many deserving children and their families. The Holiday Wish Program gives all of us an opportunity to share our many blessings with those less fortunate during the Christmas season.

Friends of the Homeless – Susan Jones & Rick Sicker- No report submitted for 2025.

Kairos –Dick Gehman & Bill Fairweather

Through your support of this outreach mission, we were once again able this year to impact the lives of many who feel abandoned by God. They know they have made many poor choices and have hurt others because of those choices—strangers, family members, and even themselves.

Kairos helps bridge the gap between the impossible and the possible by allowing them to see that they can be forgiven and that they do have value in God's eyes. From the Christmas card outreach to the many dozens of cookies, to the prayers—without God's presence we would be nothing more than a group of men simply showing up—and to the financial support, without which this mission could not happen, we say thank you.

Newcomer Session



Welcome

- Altar Guild
- Bread Ministry
- Coffee Hour
- Creation Care
- Garage Sale
- Landscape & Grounds
- Newcomers Team
- St. Arbucks
- Stream Team
- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Wedding Coordinator



Garage Sale Shopping



Diocesan Convention



Youth Sunday

Altar Guild – Mary Horton

The Altar Guild Ministry helps to create a sacred space for worship. Our 13 members work together to help make our worship space welcoming. We set-up & clean-up three Sunday services, the Wednesday Noon service, and additional services for Easter & Christmas. We also prepare the LEV communion kits. This ministry also helps with Memorial services, Baptisms, and our annual worship service at the Irish Festival.

Our members: Suzanne Holliday, Mary Kennedy, Shannon McCarthy, Val Pittsenbarger, Sandra Wilson, Pat Mann, Becky Stains, Lynne Colcombe, Julie Myers, Lynette Palmer and Mary Horton.

And a big Thank You to “honorary altar guild members” Tim Carty- for repairing a couple of worship items and Charlie Horton - for always hanging the window wreaths.

Bread Ministry – Rosemarie Deschler

What a wonderful year 2025 was for the Bread Ministry Team! There was an abundance of visitors to Saint Patrick's Church. Whether visitors were at church for a wedding, a baptism, looking for a church home, or just curious to see what we were all about; they were welcomed with a visitation and a Bread Ministry Package. The Bread Ministry Package serves as a thank you and a token of our hospitality. If our visitors are looking for a church home, we answer any questions they may have. Our gift bag includes yummy baked bread, a St. Patrick's Breastplate for the current month, a greeting note of the significance of the bread, and a welcome shepherd connect information note. We have teamed up with the Welcoming Committee to further enhance and reach out to the many visitors we welcomed; in hopes that the visitors will return to see what a loving, giving, diverse community St. Patrick's is.

Members of our team are rewarded almost weekly by the thankful and smiling faces of our visitors. To quote from a note written to our team by a visitor; "I have never had in my life such an opportunity to be so touched by the kindness of strangers. I am inspired to find ways to replicate this experience for and with others."

I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to our loyal team members who have been dedicated to this wonderful ministry. They are Roy Barker, Cindy Doan, Teri Leitwein, Nancy McDowell, Julie Myers, Michele Pearson, and Caroline Wagner. Without their continuing commitment to this ministry, our mission would not experience the success it has.

In closing, the Bread Ministry is a very rewarding ministry. It offers flexibility, independence, and little time commitment. We put smiles on people's faces, we warm their hearts, and we endear them to our church community.

We welcome anyone interested in being part of our lovely team. Please consider joining us and making a difference!

Coffee Hour – Jan & Tim Redman

The Coffee Hour Ministry continues to be a “behind the scenes” ministry, but one that is a favorite for many of us at St. Patrick's.

This year we added 8 new members, but we lost 10 faithful servants. Our total is currently 27 devoted team members who lovingly prepare coffee, tea, and delicious appetizers and snacks so that those who can stay after the 9:30 service can enjoy fellowship, food and fun in a relaxed environment. Many new friends have been

made during this hour, and many problems have been shared and sometimes solved. Our faithful 8:00 churchgoers also host a monthly coffee hour to help strengthen the bonds with our early birds.

We all know that without this Sunday ministry, we would have a lot of unhappy parishioners - just ask the kids! Our team is growing, but we always look forward to adding some new members. We promise training, partners to work with on Sunday, and lots of laughs. We also promise positive feedback and probably an occasional recipe request. Whether you join the team, would just like to be a sub, or just want to contribute food, we can always use help. We have a great time feeding the masses.

Contact Jan or Tim Redman, or any of the team you see on Sunday morning, if you would like to become a member of this ministry. Remember as Father Jason has said many times, “coffee is one way God shows He loves you!”

Creation Care – Randy Edwards- No report submitted for 2025.

Garage Sale – Rick Sicker

In 2025 we held two successful Garage Sales for the church. These sales enable us to support a variety of charitable organizations through direct donations of items prior to and after the sale. These sales also help many families who might be struggling by allowing them to purchase nice items at low cost. Additionally, we raised more than \$30,000 in total for the 2025 calendar year. 10% will be donated to the endowment fund with the remainder being used for St. Patrick’s infrastructure projects.

We have a team leader approach that spreads the responsibilities around. Areas like clean-up/scheduling VOA truck, pick-ups, cashiers, and kitchen crew made for a less stressful operation. In addition to offering early-bird shopping for a fee and individual shopping maps, we extended our hours on Friday and eliminated the bag sale on Saturday. It was great to have so many members of the church working together on the sale this past year.

Our next Garage Sale will be this Spring. The tentative dates for the Spring sale are May 1st and 2nd. The work and preparation will take place the week before these dates. So please mark your calendar to volunteer between April 25th and May 2nd and start saving up those treasures for the sale!

Landscape & Grounds – Cindy Doan – No report submitted for 2025.

Newcomers Team – Thomas Jones - No report submitted for 2025.

St. Arbuck’s – Ginger Coco - No report submitted for 2025.

Stream Team (Broadcasting Worship Services) – Peter O’Neill

We strive to ensure a solid, high quality, reverent venue for all that seek worship through streaming services.

The Streaming (or Stream Team) ministry is an evolving ministry that is “learn as we proceed” through each event we broadcast.

Events

- Every Sunday 9:30 am service.
- All services throughout Holy Week.
- Most services through Christmas. (Three this year)

- Special events that need broadcasts (Weddings, Funerals, etc.).

Our first official broadcast was on September 6th, 2020, and since then we have had thousands of views. Each year, our views have increased incrementally. This number does not include streaming for funerals, or the multiple streams for Christmas/Easter and the sermons posted from both preachers. It is safe to say that the message about our church is getting out there.

2025 didn't see any increase in costs for the streaming service equipment. Each time we Sunday broadcast, viewership averages about 15. By the end of the week, it's usually over 75 total views.

Streaming is a way in which people can worship that are not able to come to church or are curious about St. Patrick's. The numbers are consistent week after week. Many agree if this broadcast reaches only one person, then it's worth it. We often get comments online from people all over the USA. Especially from vacationing parishioners watching the service!

The major change in 2025 was moving Streaming from primarily one individual to a rotating group of eight church members. We feel this will be a better way of always having someone available to stream and keeping the interest high in volunteering to be on the Stream Team.

Streaming functions well today and there are not many requests for changes. As the budget allows, we would welcome additional cameras and microphones and the possibility of having a 'booth' in the rear corner of the Sanctuary to better participate in the service and understand sound levels.

St. Patrick's Day Parade – Did not participate in 2025

Wedding Coordinator – Julie Righter

A wedding is a glorious event for a couple, their family and friends. Weddings at St. Patrick's are especially beautiful because of our lovely, bright sanctuary. The wedding coordinator welcomes and assists the couple and their guests to create a meaningful, Spirit filled service. We had one wedding in 2025 and look forward to more in 2026.



Purls of Wisdom



Fish Fry Fun



Shrove Tuesday

Support & Caring Engagement

- Foyer
- Grief Support
- Knitting Nexus
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors
- Medical Missions
- Partners in Prayer
- Purls of Wisdom
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Stephen Ministry
- UTO
- Wellness Council



**Way of Love
Dinner**

Foyer – Mary & Randy Edwards - No report submitted for 2025.

Grief Support Group – Becky Stains & Angel Cinco

The Grief Support Ministry met monthly in 2025 on the third Monday at 6:30 pm in the church library. This year we had 10 people join us, including 1 person by Zoom and 2 new people. We offer a Zoom link using the OWL. We have a shelf in the library for books for anyone's perusal and would welcome any book donations. Anyone who has lost their spouse or another significant member of their family is welcome to join us for one or more gatherings, whether a member of St. Patrick's or not. We welcome everyone. We do not provide counseling; rather we gather to offer support, love and understanding to anyone traveling this road called grief. We share prayer, simple meditations and our stories. We have lively discussions often with much laughter and sometimes tears. We sincerely thank those parishioners who have shared resources with us – they are greatly appreciated and useful. We are here for those who seek this support.

Knitting Nexus - Deanna Douglass

The Knitting Nexus ministry is a "loosely" organized ministry of volunteer knitters who make winter hats and mittens for the ladies of CATCH court and for the children of Daniel Wright School (DWS). There are no "meetings" ...completed hats and mittens are simply dropped off in the large basket in the parish hall and delivered each November to CATCH/Freedom and Daniel Wright. CATCH/Freedom report their need annually is 20 to 25 hats. We have consistently been able to meet that goal. This past year, we provided 25 adult hats plus a few baby hats (always a hit!). Forty (40) colorful hats and 27 pairs of mittens were delivered to the welcoming hands of the office staff of DWS. Although this is a welcome increase in mittens over previous years, 40 is a significant decrease in the number of children's hats. The need for winter outerwear at the school is great and likely to grow. Therefore, our ministry will use the New Year to identify ways we can increase our gifts to the children of DWS in the years to come. Handmade hats and mittens are special because of the love that is in each stitch. But, perhaps adding gifts of commercially-made hats and gloves is an option that needs some thought as we move forward.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors – Kimberly Nelson

Our ministry brings the presence of Christ in the sacraments to parishioners who are not able to attend services. In 2025, we were able to go out on visits on every week except for major holidays that fell on a weekend. We are very grateful to all who serve as visitors, and to those who welcome our visits. We pray that we are bringing the loving, caring spirit of St. Patrick's church on all our visits, too. Denise Birkhoff has kindly offered to lead this ministry in 2026.

Medical Missions – Lissa Barker - No report submitted for 2025.

Partners in Prayer – Tawnya Lewis, Mary Kay Arbogast & Jan Foley-Orosz

In 2025, we continued to send our electronic Weekly and Monthly Long Term Prayer Lists, as well as connect monthly Prayer Partners together. Prayer Partners are pairs of parishioners who pray for each other's more specific concerns and thanksgivings. Call throughs are sent for immediate needs. With the assistance of the Parish Administrator, we accept paper requests at the church in the Prayer Box which is located on the northside table in the Narthex. We also accept requests at pip@pats-dublin.org. Requests are kept confidential and are prayed for by the Partners in Prayer ministry. We appreciate Thanksgiving celebrations as well. Please remember

to send updates on submitted requests so that we can keep the lists current and accurate. By joining as a prayer partner, you lift those in need and change lives. Your prayers join all of ours and magnify their impact.

Purls of Wisdom - Phyllis Beuter - No report submitted for 2025.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (March 4th 2025) – Peter O’Neill

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper continues to generate large attendance and significant volunteer participation. In 2025 the event was able to generate \$684.45 after expenses. For the first time we chose to donate 10% or \$68.00 to the St Patrick's Endowment Fund. We expect to do that every year. The event then donated \$616.45 to the Catch Court (Catch Freedom) ministry.

Shrove Tuesday continues to receive strong support from the Tuesday morning Men's Group. The group uses their regular Tuesday morning meeting on the day of the event to set up the Parish Hall and kitchen and then reconvenes as they are able around 4:00 that afternoon to support the event.

Stephen Ministry – Amy O'Neill

Stephen Ministry is a group of lay Christians selected and trained by Stephen Leaders to provide effective, one-to-one Christian care to people in need in our congregation or the community. In 2025, we met monthly to discuss our caring relationships confidentially. In addition, we cared for several people within our parish and in the greater community who requested someone to speak with while navigating life during a difficult time. We also kept track of parishioners who may have become homebound recently and kept the clergy aware of anyone needing additional support or care. With the addition of Becky Stains and Angel Cinco, we have also been keeping track of those who may be struggling with grief and need extra support.

The heart of Stephen Ministry is rooted in showing Christ’s love by offering an open mind and open heart to listen to the concerns of others. We are always willing to offer support and care for anyone in need of it. If you or someone you know needs someone to talk to or would be interested in becoming a Stephen Minister yourself, please reach out. Our caring relationships are often just as impactful to our caregivers as our care receivers and the friendships developed from our caring relationships can last a lifetime.

UTO – Molly Carty & Bonnie LaFleur - No report submitted for 2025.

Wellness Council – Lissa Barker & Rose Walker

Use *soap and water* to wash your hands thoroughly

Say the Lord’s Prayer every time you wash your hands

**Get Your Vaccinations
Pray A Lot**

Accomplishments

- Published its column “Wellness Words” in the Breastplate each month
- Reviewed reliable professional sources on which to base the information presented.
- Topics include depression identification and help, cardiac health, harm reduction, well-being holidays, identifying reliable websites for health information, etc.
- Published the URLs for reliable health websites

- Nutrition Wellness Words Bulletin Boards
- Distribution of the Living Compass Living Well in Advent (via pdf) and Lenten study guides
- Responding to individual questions about health matters.

Hopes for 2026

- Sponsoring a program for CPR and use of an AED (Yes, there is one in the back hall monitored every month to ensure it works)

Sponsoring an Advent Quiet Day with an emphasis on wellness behaviors in stressful times

Sponsoring a program dealing with the stress of advancing age



Vacation Bible School



Christmas Eve Pageant



Youth Group



Troop 299

Joy & Creativity in Faith Formation

- Adult Formation
- Children's Chapel
- Education for Ministry (EfM)
- EfM Extension
- EfM "Survivors"
- Library
- Nursery
- Troop 299
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Ministries

Adult Formation – Ben Trotter, Alex Carter, and Mother Catherine - No report submitted for 2025.

Children's Chapel – Jessica Randolph

Children's Chapel had a great year, growing God's love in our littlest believers! We continued in our new format- meeting during the first half of the service and returning for the Eucharist and closing with family. We are incredibly grateful to have Father Jason and Mother Catherine lead us most weeks, and we could not do it without the help of our parent volunteers! We saw many new faces in 2025, and it is wonderful to see the number of kids grow! Creating a community for our kids to know and love Jesus is so important, and we have seen lifelong friendships start to bloom in the walls of the Children's Chapel.

This fall we kicked off Children's Chapel with the Kona Ice Truck and outside games. We also hosted a St Nicholas Day Movie Event which kicked off the Christmas Eve Pageant. We had a record number of kids who chose to participate in the Christmas Pageant this year, and Terri Glisson helped us put on a wonderful service that brought together the Nativity story with the importance of Angels as messengers of God. Seeing the kids excited to come to church, and sharing what they hear and see and interpret gives us all a renewed sense of faith. We are thankful for the support of the church and our volunteers to keep the kids excited about worship!

Education for Ministry (EfM) – Susan Jones-No report submitted for 2025.

EfM Extension – Mary Kennedy and Val Pitsenbarger - No report submitted for 2025.

EfM "Survivors" – Lissa Barker - No report submitted for 2025.

Library – Alex Carter

The Library Ministry maintains a collection of over 800 books and other materials to promote the spiritual and intellectual growth of our parishioners, and the physical Library space also provides a comfortable meeting spot for several ministry groups. In 2025, an additional 130 books were added to the library online catalog, including newly donated books. Access the library catalog here: <https://www.librarything.com/catalog/StPatsDublinOH>

The library received several memorial gifts in 2025-large book donations from the collections of Deacon Rob Rideout and former parishioner Spencer Pugh. Friends and family of former parish librarian Lynn Whitman donated over \$900 in her memory. The donated books will be processed and cataloged in the upcoming year, and the donated funds will be used for new book purchases to enhance the collection.

If you are interested in borrowing a book, volunteering to help in the library, or donating to the library, please contact Alex Carter.

Nursery

The Nursery usually has 1-5 children participating each Sunday. It is currently staffed by 2 paid teachers, Sara Bentz and Christy Reece, who care for the children ages 0-3 years during the 9:30am service and on other special services during the year as needed. If you would like to help out or become a sub for the nursery when the regular teachers are out sick or on vacation, please contact the church office. Thank you to Tasia Sicker and Amy O'Neill for volunteering when staff members were unavailable in 2025!

Troop 299 – Jim Bratton

2025 was a great year for Troop 299. We kicked off the year with our Winter Sports outing and a Klondike Weekend. Taking advantage of the winter weather, the scouts went skiing and snowboarding in Western Pennsylvania in January and then horseback riding in Ohio in February. Both trips were great opportunities for the boys to enjoy winter activities. Later, in the Spring, the Troop welcomed several Webelo Scouts as they "crossed-over" from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and joined our troop. We currently have 52 youth registered with the Troop and all of the adult leaders are Youth Protection trained, which is a Scouts BSA requirement.

Troop 299 continues to be an active and outdoor-oriented troop: in preparation for its high adventure trek at Philmont, the troop completed a 10-mile backpacking shakedown hike in Tar Hollow State Park through the rugged terrain of the Appalachian Plateau; in addition, the troop conducted a "Back-to-Basics" camp out at Falling Rock Scout Camp just north of Newark for younger scouts where the boys worked on basic camping skills such as fire-building, cooking, knot-tying, and basic first aid; and they travelled to Kelley's Island by ferry for a weekend of bike camping. In addition, the Troop took 30 boys to Summer Camp for a week of camping and merit badge classes in Western Pennsylvania and in the Fall, held our annual Shoot-O-Ree weekend during which the boys are taught proper firearm safety and practice target shooting with shotguns, small caliber rifles, and archery.

The Troop also provided several service opportunities for the boys to contribute to the community through service projects including the Scouting for Food program which collected non-perishable goods for the Dublin Food Pantry.

Six boys earned their Eagle Scout rank and one boy completed an Eagle Scout project at the church installing benches and a sign for the Labyrinth that was previously installed by another scout from the troop.

In 2026, we are planning many more trips and experiences for the scouts to develop leadership and life skills. If you know of a boy between the ages of 11 and 18 who is interested in joining the troop, please contact Jim Bratton.

Vacation Bible School – Eryn Kindelin

VBS 2025 was another great success! This year, our theme was "Road Trip: On the Go with God!" based around Joshua 1:9, "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Each day at VBS, our children learned how God is with us ... with us on the journey, when we go off course, when we're joyful, when we're lonely, and wherever we are (both near and far)! Road Trip VBS was made possible by the entire St. Patrick's community who prayed for us, donated items and money to make each day possible, and volunteered time and efforts to make the entire week possible.

A huge thank you goes out to the entire VBS Crew: Barbara Altenburg, Reese Armstrong, Lissa Barker, Graham Bethune, Amelia Coontz, Audrey Coontz, Lexi Craven, Mother Catherine Duffy, Father Jason Emerson, Paisley Essex, Quinn Essex, Dick Gehman, Terri Glisson, Liz Gunthorp, Charlotte Jones, Joan Jones, Susan Jones, Amanda Kennedy, Bonnie LaFleur, Annie LaMonica, Emily LaMonica, Beth Landers, Matt Lewis, Tawnya Lewis, Joe Machesky, Kim Machesky, Karen Mason, Liz Mason, Claire McCarthy, Blair McGinnis, Deby McGinnis, Dan O'Neill, Evelina O'Neill, Lindsey Peterson, Maddi Pittsenbarger, Jessica Randolph, Jan Redman, Jaxon Reissig, Lauren Richard, Lisa Schmidt, Tasia Sicker, Becci Shields, Becky Stains, and Jo Yuhas.

Each day of Road Trip VBS, our children learned a Bible Story with the Traveler and Scout, our dog mascot. After Opening Worship, children rotated through Crafts, Bible Storytelling & Music, Games & Refreshments,

Science, and Mission & Community. All of our activities were designed and wonderfully executed by our crew to demonstrate that God is with us - wherever we are!

Youth Ministries – Alex Carter, Angel Cinco, Rev. Jason Emerson, Lisa Emory, and Tawnya Lewis

In 2025, we continued to welcome new members to our youth community with Sunday evening meetings for youth in grades 6-12. We meet weekly 5:00 - 7:00pm starting with dinner. For the first half of the year, 5th graders were included in our meetings. We incorporate different service, adventure, and formation lessons each month. We end each week with circle sharing (usually highs and lows) worship, and music. We build God's community through meaningful community-building experiences, engaging study, and relevant learning activities.

On May 4th, 7 youths were confirmed by Bishop White. Youth Recognition Sunday was celebrated the following week on Sunday, May 11th. Senior Madison Pittsenbarger offered the sermon. Members of our youth group assisted in many aspects of the service, including altar guild, greeters, ushers, acolytes, readers and musicians. The prayers of the people were written by the youth group.

We completed a number of service activities both inside and outside of the church including assisting with both garage sales, preparing birthday bags for the Dublin Food Pantry, making bird feeders, assisting with the advent trees, painting the pageant backdrops, stuffing Easter eggs, and sparkle day at the church. We also held a service with the residents at Dublin Retirement Village.

Our adventure outings included ice skating, roller skating, Ninja City, Creation Care Hike and The Maize.

Acolytes (crucifer and 2 torch bearers) participate in the 9:30 service. Training is held in the spring and fall of each year for youth and adults. Matt Lewis serves as trainer and scheduler for the acolyte program.

Ask any of the leaders for more information or if you have an idea or suggestion. The Holy Spirit is always present when we gather!

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

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The Rt. Rev. Kristen Uffleman White, Bishop in Southern Ohio

The Rev. Jason Emerson, Rector

The Rev. Catherine Duffy, Associate Rector

Dn. Vahagn Azizyan, Deacon

Mrs. Jennifer Bell, Music Director

Ms. Kati Glover, Minister of Communications

Mr. Lucas Weiss, Parish Administrator

Ms. Stacy Craig, Bookkeeper

2025 Vestry

Alex Carter (She/Her), Senior Warden

Blair McGinnis (He/Him), Junior Warden

Vicky Bratton

Leif Carlson

Angel Cinco

Randy Edwards

Nick Machesky

Kim Nelson

Jan Redman

Kelsey Sicker

Ben Trotter

A Joyful Community of Faith