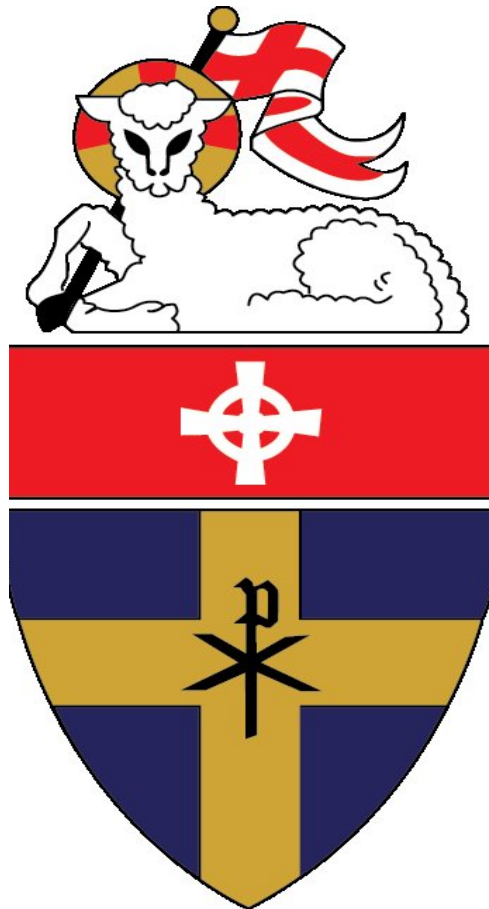


Annual Report for 2023



Christ Church, Georgetown
207th Annual Parish Meeting
February 4, 2024

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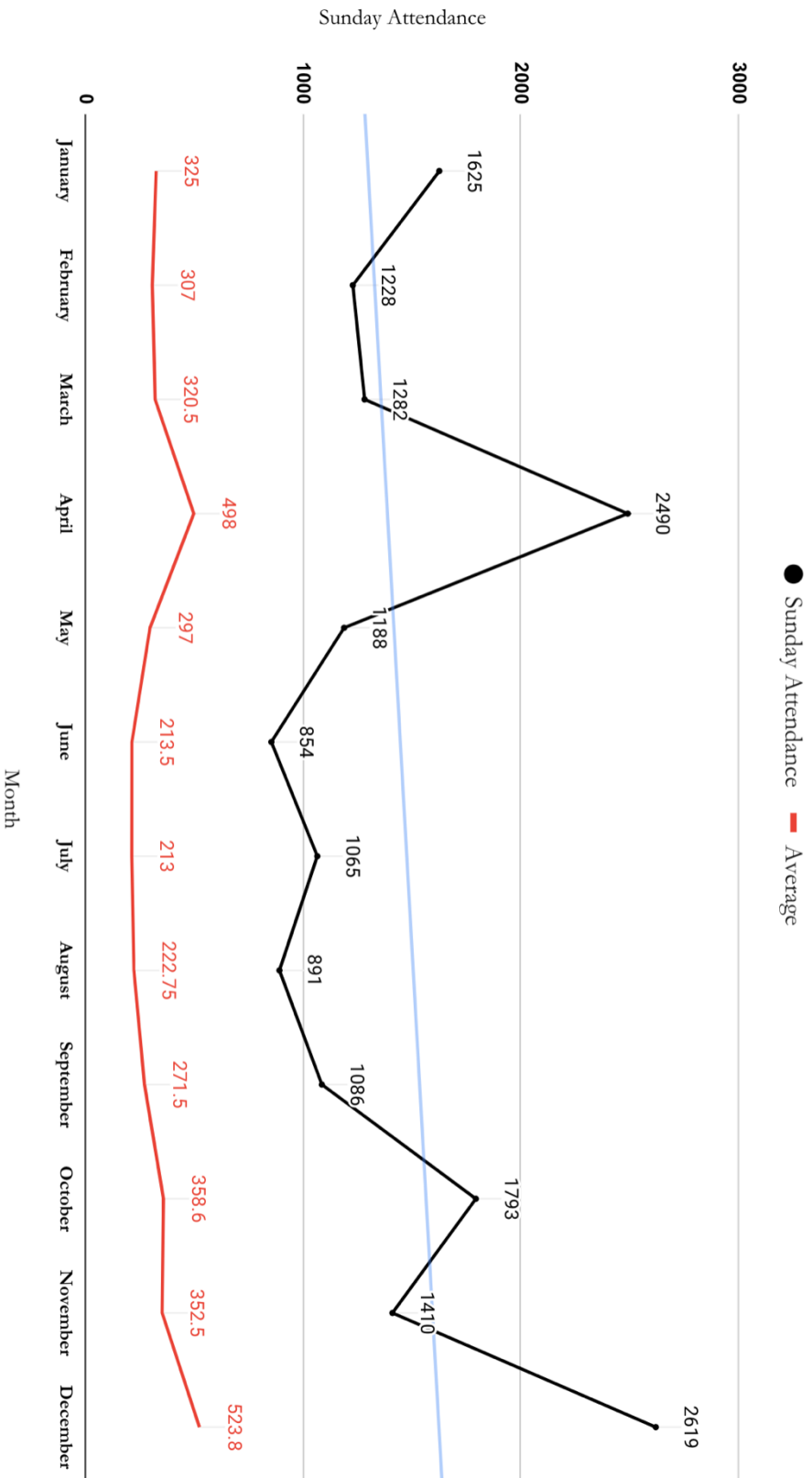
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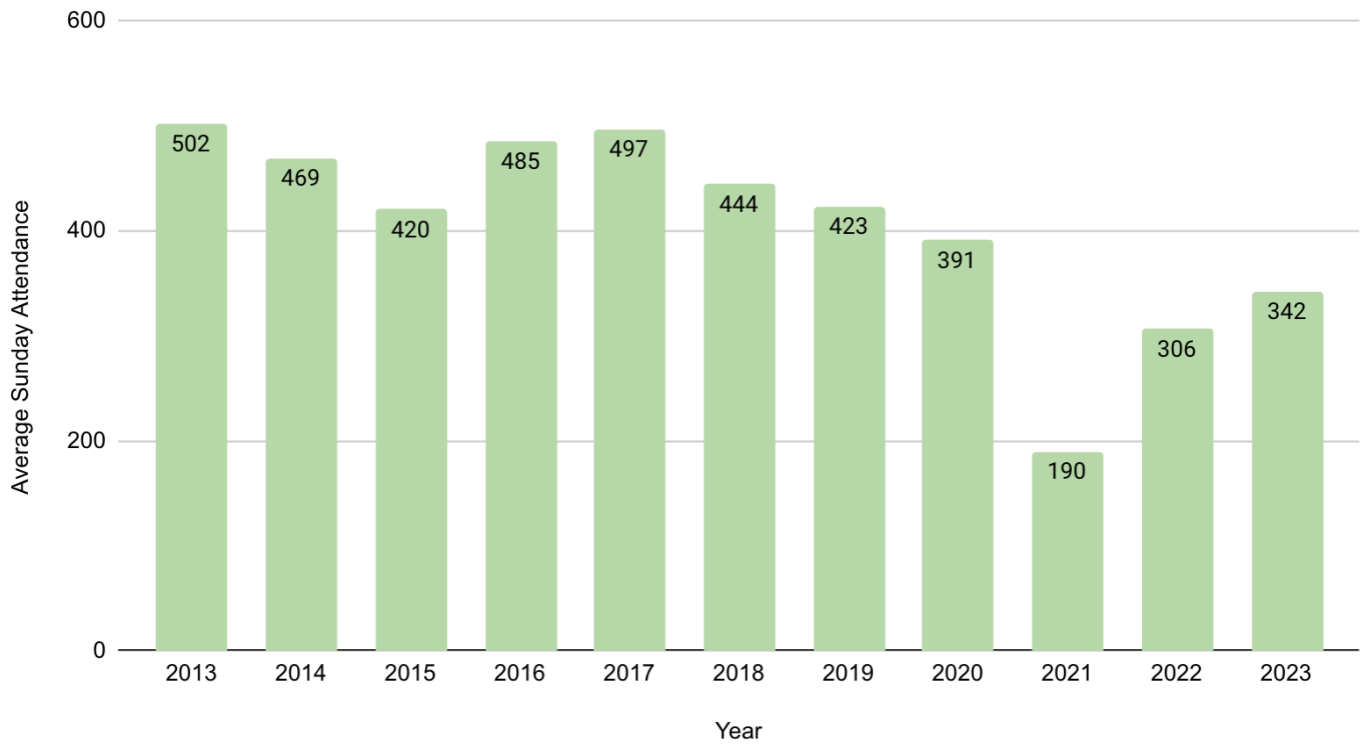
Statistics from Parish Register

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Holy Communion											
Sunday	205	218	203	194	201	186	192	76	144	209	187
Weekday	131	203	115	116	114	114	137	31	42	79	84
All Other Sacraments and Services											
Marriages	16	11	7	7	12	9	15	3	3	4	8
Burials	14	20	11	13	13	22	15	4	23	9	11
All Other Services											
Total Number of Services	1351	1377	1244	1249	1287	1404	1496	444	507	335	432
Total Attendance	36,932	35,864	30,131	31,295	35,646	32,875	29,804	4,432	13,950	22,429	20,790
Average Sunday Attendance	502	469	420	485	497	444	423	391	190	306	342
Total Communion	22,529	21,877	18,380	19,090	20,081	19,744	22,167	2,761	7,608	13,099	15,389
Confirmed Communicants											
Total at Beginning of Year	853	892	904	870	817	863	884	914	899	891	890
Added By Confirmation											
16 years and older	7	17	4	3	10	2	32	0	10	6	11
Under 16 years	6	3	0	8	1	8	7	7	16	3	2
Reaffirmation	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reception	1	3	1	8	3	1	12	3	4	1	0
Reinstated From Inactive	0	0	2	4	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Received by Transfer	58	18	5	15	43	22	4	2	3	7	94
Lost by Death	6	6	7	13	14	18	11	9	12	13	11
Became Inactive or left without transfer	17	18	22	66	2	0	11	14	23	37	63
Total at End of Year	880	895	857	808	851	817	884	863	776	890	923

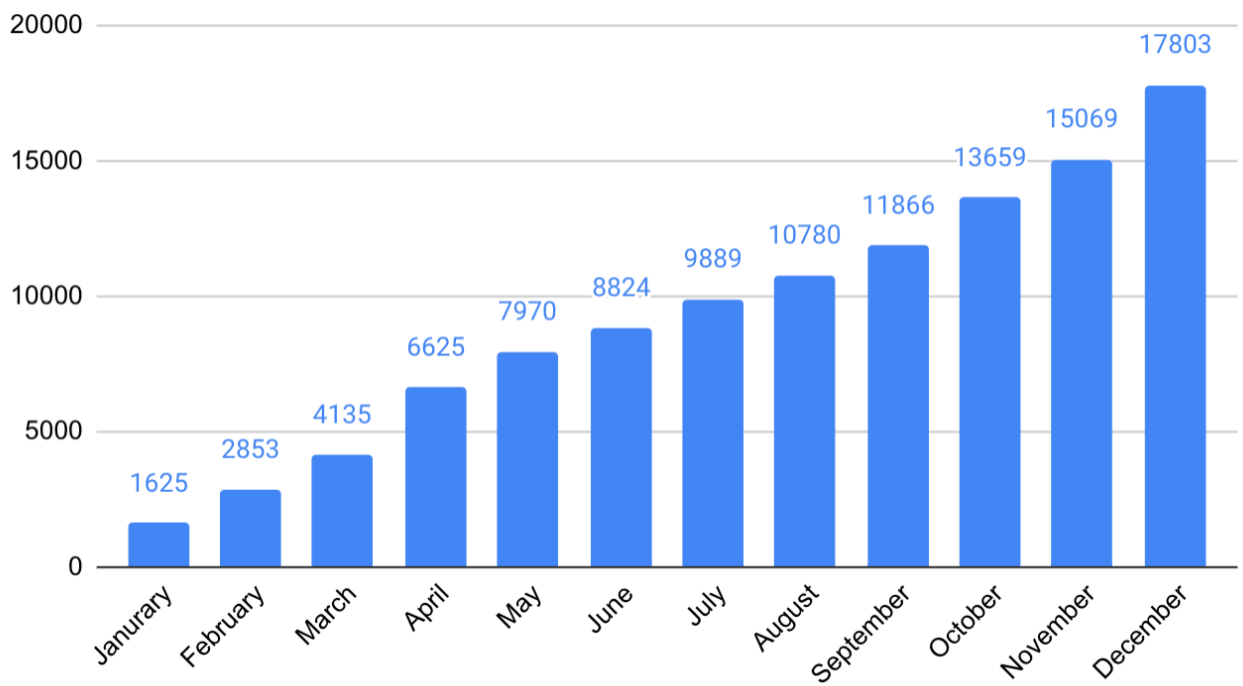
Sunday Attendance vs. Month



Average Sunday Attendance vs. Year



Aggregate Sunday Attendance



Agenda

I. Opening Prayer

II. Appointments

III. Approval of Minutes from the 206th Annual Meeting, February 6, 2023

IV. Report of the Nominating Committee

- Vestry Members

V. Financial Reports

- Treasurer's Report
- Stewardship Co-Chair's Report

VI. Senior Warden's Report

VII. Rector's Report

VIII. Proposed Changes to the Bylaws

IX. Other Business

X. Installation of Newly Elected Vestry Members

XI. Adjournment

CHRIST CHURCH, GEORGETOWN

206th Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2023

The 206th Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, February 5th, 2023, with parishioners having assembled in the church, the Rector, Timothy A.R. Cole, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and commenced with prayers, including prayers for the faithful departed of the parish, who had died since the 205th Annual Meeting.

Appointments

The Rector appointed Frances Symes to serve as Secretary and Allen Foster to serve as Parliamentarian. Brent T. Minor and Allen Foster were appointed as Tellers.

Presence of a Quorum

The Rector asked for a motion to approve a quorum. It was moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote.

Minutes

The Rector asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 205th Annual Meeting and approved them as distributed, which was moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote.

Retiring Vestry Members

The Rector thanked the retiring members of the Vestry, namely, Julia Ainsley, Thomas (Tom) Crocker, Page Smith, and Taylor Cortright, for their faithful and dedicated service.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Isabel Kunsman, Chair of the Nominating Committee, delivered her report on behalf of the Committee during which she first announced the nominations of Scott Campbell as Senior Warden as well as William H. Courtney, Sheila R. Ward, Cybil Roehrenbeck, and Alexander G. Troup as Vestry Members. After asking the nominees to stand, the Rector opened the floor for additional nominations. There being none, the Rector called for a motion to close the nominations, which was moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote. The Rector then called for a motion to

instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees to serve a three-year term as Vestry members, which was moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote.

Reports on Finance, Budget, and Stewardship

The Rector introduced Allen Foster, the outgoing Treasurer, to address a few financial topics, including the budget, stewardship, and investments for 2022. Mr. Foster drew the congregation's attention to the Treasurer's Report and hit some highlights. The church has paid off all indebtedness over the last three years, in excess of \$400,000. We have cleaned up virtually the entirety of the deferred maintenance on the church, the rectory, and to the extent possible (accounting for the upcoming renovation), the parish hall. We have assured we have \$250,000 each year for facilities maintenance. We are in the process of doing the renovation of the HVAC system without asking for extra donations or making that part of the capital campaign. All of that will be funded from the operating budget rather than trying to do it outside the budget. In the meantime, we have planned for and are on track for a capital campaign. In short, we have a firm foundation.

The church has also obtained funding for a new organ – and obtained seed funding. We have brought the clergy up to two-thirds of strength – and we need to fill in there. And during all of this time we have maintained the parish tithe for mission. Also, with help from Tom Crocker, we have put the parish's legal and tax affairs in order. A lot of progress towards a firm foundation, indeed.

Mr. Foster also pointed out that in the 2023 budget we are projected to have a small surplus. Many charitable organizations budget on a break-even basis but Mr. Foster does not think that is prudent financial management. We need to budget so that when things come up we are not scrambling. This is a sound and well-planned financial program for the church going forward.

Mr. Foster closed by saying that we are blessed with extraordinary leadership. Tim, Chad, Molly, and Rusty Lindner have been among the leaders. We are one of the only churches to have prospered during COVID. He said that to him, it has been a great blessing to work with this team. But he is now retiring.

In lieu of a special report on stewardship Mr. Foster pointed the congregation to page 31 of their Annual Report for the Stewardship Report. It has been a highly successful campaign. There are more people giving and more pledges than in the past – and we are very blessed to have Tom (Casey) and Shelley (Rodgers) to lead this campaign. They are here to answer any questions.

The Rector added that it has been the most successful campaign in the church's history and the co-chairs have been informative and elegant in their description of the church's need. He also pointed out that Terry Collins was present and could answer any questions on the investment committee report. Likewise, Marshall Ginn could answer any questions about the capital campaign.

The Rector closed by saying it is remarkable that the church has come through the last year so well. Money is simply an expression of the substance of our lives – without it we can't do many of the things we wish to do as a parish. He expressed his gratitude to those who seek the substance and all those who have provided it and thanked Tom, Shelley, Allen, Terry, and Marshall in particular.

Report of the Senior Warden

The Senior Warden, Chad Thorley, greeted the congregation and thanked the Rector and the congregation for again giving him the opportunity to give some brief remarks and to reflect on the past year and what opportunities the next year will bring.

He started with a sobering statistic which he hoped would serve to illustrate how very lucky we are to have Christ Church and our strong community of faith. A recently released report by the Episcopal Church showed that church membership is down by 400,000 since 2012 and by 60,000 since 2020 alone – striking numbers for sure. But if you look at what's happening at Christ Church, we are going in the opposite direction. Since this past Thanksgiving, we have had over 30 people express interest in joining the parish and this is on top of a steady stream since we reopened after the worst of the COVID pandemic.

Why is this? During his time as Senior Warden, Mr. Thorley said he has been asked this question by both prospective employees and by many who have visited while seeking a church home. His answer is that Christ Church is a unicorn – simply a rarity, albeit real example and beacon, not only in Washington, but in the Episcopal Church at large. We are a welcoming, traditional, reverent, and distinctly Anglican parish where the political causes of the day are left beyond those doors. This is Christ Church, part of a wider church where much of that has all but faded away. He dared say this is a recipe for success. Of course, none of this could be possible without our outstanding clergy, staff, and the countless volunteers who make this place tick, week after week. He thanked everyone for their faithfulness and dedication to all that goes on here.

Mr. Thorley said we are lucky to have a superior staff who are committed to ensuring that everything that's done at Christ Church is executed with excellence – not only on Sundays but throughout the week. He said the church would be welcoming a new parish administrator, Duane Roth, later in February. He comes to us with a wealth of experience in this area already, particularly in Episcopal churches, and so he will no doubt hit the ground running. That will once again, based on our current budget, bring our staff up to full strength. As you know, this is a key position in the life of our church and both our business and financial operations will be in good shape with Duane.

Mr. Thorley said that the congregants who have heard him speak from this lectern before will know how important he thinks it is to update them on the numerous repairs and projects we have completed around the church campus. And he continues to do so to highlight two very distinct reasons. First, your generosity makes all this possible. When we are asked to contribute what we

can to the life of the church, a stewardship process that has and will continue to run from October to January each year, needed repairs and maintenance can be undertaken.

Second, as the congregation knows, we are in the midst of a capital campaign focused, of course, on the renovation of the parish hall. As you will hear in the Treasurer's report, the parish continues to be on very firm financial footing. This has allowed the Vestry to be very intentional in its focus on making sure that several years of deferred maintenance on both the church building and the Rectory has been completed before we begin the parish hall renovation project. Over this past year we have made further improvements to the church garden and the other landscaped areas around the church. We have completed additional painting and brick repointing on both the inside and outside of our building. Further repairs to the church roof have been completed and others are scheduled for completion this spring. We have made improvements to the church basement and will soon commence a project to refurbish the flower room. The exterior stonework, both fixed and in some cases replaced, is probably in the best shape it's been in since this building was built. A particular joy to many of you has been the return of both hot and cold running water in the restrooms. Hallelujah!

Finally, Mr. Thorley's personal favorite was a project which has begun and will be completed later this spring. The Rector and Mr. Thorley climbed the tower last fall after discovering that the bell's rope had slipped from its pulley. In short of the three floors in the tower, one was badly rotted and termite damaged. This has now been replaced and further interior brick repointing will be done this spring. The bell itself is in great shape but the apparatus that supports the bell isn't. Here's the best news – the company that manufactured the bell around 1880 is still in business. They have already visited and will begin replacing the bell frame and cabling next month. When they were here, they noted that they have no record of the installation of our bell, which is unusual for them, and usually only the case when a bell was not specifically commissioned for a project. As Mr. Thorley told the Vestry earlier this month, he thinks we have a floor model, but it has served the church well and will continue to do so for years to come. The repairs will be completed before Easter which was our goal.

Mr. Thorley closed his remarks by offering his thanks to all the members of Vestry he had the privilege of working with over the past three years. All of you should know and appreciate the hard work and dedication that each one of these parishioners has dedicated to the job and the broad depth and strength of talents that we are fortunate to be able to draw upon in this place. And a special thanks to the Junior Warden, Molly Peacock, who works tirelessly on behalf of this parish and will thankfully continue to do so for the next year. Molly is incredibly dedicated to this place and although there is always a desire to bring new people, new ideas, and new energy to any organization, when Molly's time as warden is over, we will all feel the void.

Once again, Mr. Thorley thanked the congregation for the trust and confidence placed in him for the past three years. It has been both a challenge and joy to serve in this way and he very

much looked forward to continuing to be an active member of this community of faith in the years to come. He again thanked the congregation.

Report of the Rector

The Rector began his report by expressing that it is difficult to imagine that this was his seventh annual report – and harder still to reflect on all that we have faced together as a congregation over these last challenging years. Yet for all the polarization, civil unrest and pandemics, the Rector continues to be deeply impressed by the vitality, faith, and commitment of our congregation. The Parish has already heard some of the highlights in the financial reports. To be where we are financially in terms of Stewardship, (thanks to Tom Casey, Shelley Rodgers and the team, it is the most successful Campaign in our history) to be where we are with the Capital Campaign, and even in terms of where we are with our investments which, thanks to Terry Collins and the Investment Committee has weathered the storms of the market substantially better than the majority of investment funds around, to be where we are after the last few years is remarkable. The Rector thanked Allen Foster, our retiring Treasurer, for this energy and caution in that role and for his passion in his role as Chair, with Isabel Kunsman, of the Capital Campaign Committee. Most of all he expressed his thanks to those who have given substantially and sacrificially of their substance to support the Church.

The Rector shared a special word about the Capital Campaign. It is the largest in our parish's history and is going very well. We are close to the \$9 million mark with nearly 100 families already participating. We let the Campaign rest while the Stewardship Campaign went ahead, but now, Marshall Ginn, our Campaign Coordinator, and his team will engage the support of the rest of the congregation. It is a tremendous undertaking, and we hope that everyone will take part according to their ability and be part of lifting our beloved Church out of COVID and launching it into its Third Century of life work and witness. We do still have a way to go if we are to make our goal of \$13.5 million.

The Rector said we want to give everyone an opportunity to support the Campaign, and to do this, we need volunteers who are willing to talk to parishioners, share the story of the campaign, and invite them to participate – this is important. The programs and work supported by the campaign are going to have a profound impact on the parish.

A renovated Parish Hall will be ready to serve the parish today and into the future, as well as ready to serve the community: We saw on Friday at the Ceilidh what a facility the Auditorium could be. It is potentially one of the finest spaces in Georgetown and could support many different ministries in the Church and in the community.

The new organ will support the music portion of our liturgies, which are perhaps one of Christ Church's most distinguishing features. Finally, the creation of the two new sections of the Endowment will set us up for future financial stability by setting aside capital maintenance dollars

and money for increased service to those in need, by doubling the amount we donate to the poor, needy and underserved in our community every year.

The Rector gave his sincere thanks to the Capital Campaign Committee and to Marshall Ginn for leading this great project and to all who have given so generously so far. While Financial health is a significant indication of spiritual health it is in the other areas of ministry that it makes possible that we really see the inward spiritual growth that leads to outward growth.

We now have four outstanding members of staff engaged in ministry, three of them new. Tom Smith has been here longer than any of us and he continues to lead a music ministry that is as good as any, and better than almost all in DC. He has built an outstanding choir and music program that makes our worship one of the reasons people are drawn into the life of our Church from all around.

Chrissy Casey has moved from part-time to full-time as our Youth and Families Minister and, under her excellent leadership and care, we are seeing the birth of a new bubble in our nursery and Sunday School. COVID hit our families badly, but now, our youngest classes are full to overflowing and we seem set to see that real growth spread upwards through the age groups in the next few years. Chrissy has started a summer Bible Camp, led the Youth Mission Trip, is leading the Youth Pilgrimage to Scotland next year and has helped produce a wonderfully positive an ethos among our excellent Sunday School teachers and our parents. Chrissy has also led the establishment of our weekly Homework club for highschoolers and, probably most challenging of all, she has also taken on the Rector's schedule and has helped him with a plethora of administration around Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms and much else.

Tiffany Clark, our Assistant Lay Minister, came to us last year with vast experience of ministry and teaching in the world of mission where she and her husband Ernest and their family served many tough years at the frontiers of the faith in India and then in the even more challenging frontier of the faith in Scotland! As well as arranging an excellent Sunday Forum, Tiffany has supported and led into being a number of our new parish Groups where real formation and fellowship have been made available to almost every age and condition of life. We now have 10 parish Groups, from young adults to new families, 2 women's groups, the Mixed and Mature group and the new Spiritual Life Group that Kelly Storrs has graciously agreed to lead. In these Tiffany has helped this new and profoundly important element of Church life to be established far more deeply than it was before. The Rector expressed his hope that everyone who wants to be, will become part of one of these groups in time, because, in them, we find a much deeper connection with each other, the Church and with God than we can ever find through Sunday Worship alone. Christ Church is much stronger for this ministry and my huge thanks to all those who have stepped up to host or lead these groups. Not least to Brent Minor and Doris Dixon who have supported so much of what we have done through the hospitality ministry. The evensong receptions and so many groups that gather throughout the year are blessed by their work.

Finally, the Rector spoke about Associate Rector, Nathan Huddleston, the newest addition to the ministry team, who has done tremendous work rejuvenating the Men's Group, reaching out to our teenagers (an area in which he has many years of Youth Ministry experience), organizing the best Ceilidh ever (inside Scotland and outside it), and generally bringing a new type of energy and enthusiasm to the life of our parish. Nate is also supporting our Mission, New Members, and Feeding Ministry and has facilitated a new parish partnership with The Church of the Atonement, an African American Episcopal Parish in SE Washington. We look forward to having their rector, Riccardo Shepherd, come and preach here on the 26th of this month.

This is a truly excellent team and together with Tonika, our Parish Administrator, and our Sextons I believe that we are as well served as we have ever been. We said farewell to Paul Barkett, at the end of the year as our Director of Administration. Paul has moved on to do consultancy work. Paul did a great work in updating the Parish Financial systems and setting us fair for a series of clean audits. We are looking forward to welcoming Duane Roth as our new Director of Administration later this month. Duane brings with him sound experience and, I think, a wonderful team player attitude that will support this excellent team well. We will also be saying farewell to our head Sexton, Tyrone Moore, later this spring in May. Tyrone has been such a fixture of this parish for so many years and I know he will be sorely missed. We will arrange a proper farewell for him near the time of his departure.

Worship remains the heart of what we do and the single most important aspect of the life of our Church. As well as the music mentioned, our Worship Guilds are the bedrock on which our worship rests and one of the main ways that people can serve in the life of the Church. New leaders have taken post in the Altar, Flower, Acolyte, and Lector Guilds this year and my thanks go to those who stepped down at the end of last year. James Rojek for the Lectors, Vicki Campbell for the Flower Guild, Sally Wilhelm for the Acolyte Guild. The Rector offered his thanks for their precious service and a special thanks to Susan Foster for her long – four year – leadership of the Altar Guild through the whole pandemic. She, and a small team of helpers, helped us keep worship going through the toughest of times. The Rector also expressed his gratitude to Brent Minor and Alan Coker for their continued faithful leadership of the Ushers, to Paul Gambal for the Chalice Bearers and to Jon Alexander for the Gethsemane Guild who livestream our services. An extension of the worship into pastoral care is seen in the Flower Ministry, led by Anna Brooke, also continued its truly wonderful and much appreciated ministry of delivering the altar flowers to the sick and the homebound and to those who we just felt needed a boost.

In all, the Rector said he believes we have almost 200 people who support worship at different times including those who lead the Daily Offices and support Weddings and Funerals. That's a real sign of service and faith in any parish where so many are so engaged in the worship of the Church.

Mission and Outreach are also key to what we are as a parish and my thanks to Rick Shewell who leads the Feeding Ministry and is our representative on the GMC Board, to Frances Symes and

Jon Alexander who led the Mission Committee last year and to Millie Coleman who led the Thrift Shop. Millie is standing down this summer and my sincere thanks to her for these years of faithful service in that ministry. It has all got a bit more demanding recently with the Tik Tok video that seems to have brought crowds of young students to the thrift shop in the last few weeks! My thanks also to Stephanie Green who has led the Creation Care group and to Sheila Ward whose passion for the godly care of animals and her leadership of the St Francis Guild has been wonderful indeed. I know Sheila intends to step down from this role, but it is not yet clear that the St Francis Guild will let her!

These efforts, together with the tithe of our income we give away each year to support our mission partners places mission at the heart of what we do. As I mentioned earlier, if we can establish that new section of the endowment through the capital campaign, that will double what we can do each year.

The Rector finally thanked the Vestry, those whose terms are up as well as those who are continuing for their great support, cooperation, wisdom, and leadership in the last year. Most of all he reiterated his sincere thanks to Molly Peacock our Junior Warden and Chad Thorley our Senior Warden. They have both been truly outstanding. He expressed his gratitude that Molly has another year to serve, and that Chad will be continuing to serve the parish in the role of Treasure in succession to Allen Foster.

Finally, the Rector gave thanks for each one of you and for all who share in our common life here. This is a very special Church, and it serves a bigger purpose in the Diocese and the City, but he could hardly dare to hope that we would be where we are now after the turbulent times we have been through. That is down, in the end, to the people who come and worship here faithfully week by week and who love the Church because, here they find fellowship, kindness, commitment, service and above all, because they encounter Christ in the worship and the people they worship with.

Other Business

The Rector asked whether there was any further business to be brought forward, and there was no other business brought forward.

Installation

A service of installation was held for the newly elected Senior Warden and Vestry members, who were presented by the outgoing Senior Warden, Mr. Thorley.

There being no further business, the 206th Annual Parish Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. with prayers.

Frances H. Symes, Secretary

Senior Warden Annual Parish Address

February 5, 2023

Charles A. Thorley

Thank you, Tim, and my thanks to all of you for again giving me the opportunity to give some brief remarks and to reflect on this past year and what opportunities this next year will bring.

I want to start with a sobering statistic which I hope will serve to illustrate how very lucky we are to have Christ Church and our strong community of faith. A recent report released by the Episcopal Church showed that church membership is down by 400,000 since 2012 and by 60,000 since 2020 alone – striking numbers for sure. But if you look at what’s happening at Christ Church, we are going in the opposite direction. Since this past Thanksgiving, we have had over 30 people express interest in joining the parish and this is on top of a steady stream since we reopened after the worst of the COVID pandemic. Why is this? During my time as Senior Warden, I’ve been asked this question by both prospective employees and by many who have visited while seeking a church home. My answer, Christ Church is a unicorn – simply a rarity, albeit real example and beacon, not only in Washington, but in the Episcopal Church writ large. We are a welcoming, traditional, reverent, and distinctly Anglican parish where the political causes of the day are left beyond those doors. This is Christ Church, part of a wider church where much of that has all but faded away. I dare say, this is a recipe for success. Of course, none of this could be possible without our outstanding clergy, staff, and the countless volunteers who make this place tick, week after week. My thanks to all of you – for your faithfulness and dedication to all that goes on here.

As I just mentioned, we are lucky to have a superior staff here who are committed to ensuring that everything that’s done here is executed with excellence – not only on Sundays but throughout the week. As you may have heard already, we are very pleased to be welcoming a new parish administrator, Duane Roth, later this month. He comes to us with a wealth of experience in this area already, particularly in Episcopal churches, and so he will no doubt hit the ground running. That will once again, based on our current budget, bring our staff up to full strength. As you know, this is a key position in the life of church and both our business and financial operations will be in good shape with Duane.

Those of you who have heard me speak from this lectern before will know how important I think it is to update you on the numerous repairs and projects we have completed around the

church campus. And I continue to do so to highlight two very distinct reasons. First, your generosity makes all of this possible. When we are asked to contribute what we can to the life of the church, a stewardship process I might add that has and will continue to run from October to January each year, needed repairs and maintenance can be undertaken. Second, as you know, we are in the midst of a capital campaign focused, of course, on the renovation of the parish hall. As you will hear in the Treasurer's report, the parish continues to be on very firm financial footing. This has allowed the Vestry to be very intentional in its focus on making sure that several years of deferred maintenance on both the church building and the Rectory has been completed before we begin the parish hall renovation project. Over this past year we have made further improvements to the church garden and the other landscaped areas around the church. We have completed additional painting and brick repointing on both the inside and outside of our building. Further repairs to the church roof have been completed and others are scheduled for completion this spring. We have made improvements to the church basement and will soon commence a project to refurbish the flower room. The exterior stonework, both fixed and in some cases replaced, is probably in the best shape it's been in since this building was built. A particular joy to many of you has been the return of both hot and cold running water in the restrooms. Hallelujah! Finally, my personal favorite is a project which has begun and will be completed later this spring. Tim will undoubtedly again enjoy pointing out my slight obsession with the church bell. The Rector and I climbed the tower last fall after discovering that the bell's rope had slipped from its pulley. Bad idea but one that made me appreciate what I pay for life insurance each month. In short, of the three floors in the tower, one was badly rotten and termite damaged. This has now been replaced and further interior brick repointing will be done this spring. The bell itself is in great shape but the apparatus that supports the bell isn't. Here's the best news – the company that manufactured the bell around 1880 is still in business. They have already visited and will begin replacing the bell frame and cabling next month. When they were here, they noted that they have no record of the installation of our bell, which is unusual for them, and usually only the case when a bell was not specifically commissioned for a project. As I told the Vestry earlier this month, I think we have a floor model, but it has served the church well and will continue to do so for years to come. The repairs will be completed before Easter which was our goal. Great news. My social experiment for today will be to see how many people now use the other door on the way out of church. Tim will still be standing outside over there and rest assured, the bell is not in danger of coming down!

I'd like to close by offering my thanks to all of the members of Vestry I've had the privilege of working with over these past three years. All of you should know and appreciate the hard work and dedication that each and every one of these parishioners has dedicated to the job and the broad depth and strength of talents that we are fortunate to be able to draw upon in this place. And a special thanks to the Junior Warden, Molly Peacock, who works tirelessly on behalf of this parish and will thankfully continue to do so for the next year. Molly is incredibly dedicated to this

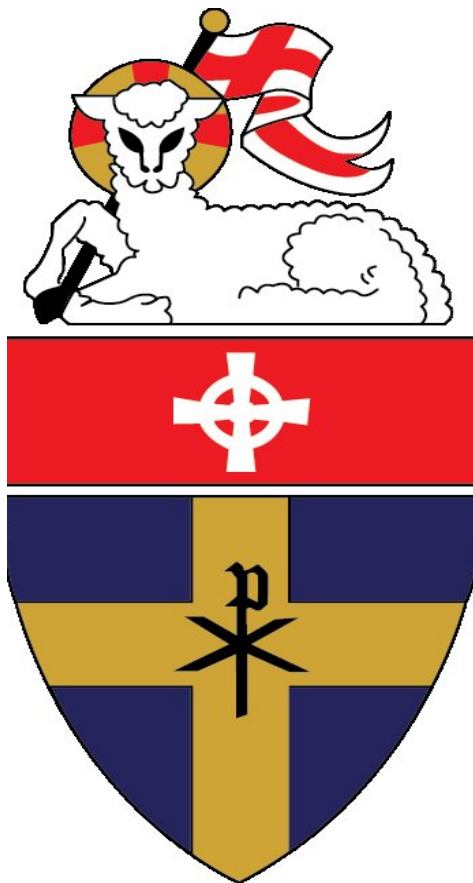
place and although there is always a desire to bring new people, new ideas, and new energy to any organization, when Molly's time as warden is over, we will all feel the void.

Once again, I want to thank you for the trust and confidence you placed in me for the past three years. It has been both a challenge and joy to serve in this way and I very much look forward to continuing to be an active member of this community of faith in the years to come.

Thank you.



Ministry Updates



Worship at Christ Church

Acolyte Guild – *Marshall H. Ginn*

As part of the lay ministry of the Church, Acolytes offer their time and talent to God by assisting the Clergy during worship services and contribute to the spiritual life of the congregation. They work alongside the many dedicated parishioners who support our liturgies including the Altar Guild, Ushers, Lectors, Flower Committee, and Chalice Bearers. Together, they facilitate an experience for worshipers that lifts their spirits and connects them to God in a very meaningful way. Our Parish is blessed to have, and I am honored to work with, a great team of adult acolytes who appreciate their role as worship leaders and the responsibility that comes with that. I am equally honored and happy to work with a great group of young people who help to support the 9:00 a.m. service each week. As someone who served in a similar capacity when I was young, it is wonderful to see so many of our young people getting involved in this way.

Looking to the future, we will continue to work closely with other worship support groups to share information and ideas so that all of us who are involved in the worship services can help



each other effectively. Serving as an Acolyte is an extraordinary way of giving back to the Church, and we want to make it easy and meaningful for parishioners to serve. We offer ongoing training and coaching opportunities to current acolytes as well as for those wishing to join the Acolyte Guild.

In 2023 it was wonderful to have youth acolytes serve in some of our principal services. This has been a wonderful addition to our worship, and the young people have been fantastic to help in this special way. We

will be working to find more ways to include our youth acolytes in future services. This past fall, Christ Church was able to send a contingent of adult and youth acolytes to the National Acolyte

Festival at Washington National Cathedral. There we joined with hundreds of acolytes from parishes across the country to celebrate the role we play in the Church's worship services. We are looking forward to sending an even larger group to the Festival this coming fall.

As always, I want to thank Anne Grambsch and Max Wang, who continue to serve as incredible deputies, Ana Clark for her willingness to help in many ways, and Chrissy Casey for her fantastic support in helping the youth acolyte program to be a great success.



Altar Guild –

*Sally Squires Wilhelm and
Natasha C. McCarthy*

In 2023, it was the Altar Guild's honor and privilege to set the Lord's table for 224 Sunday services as well as 8 weddings, 11 funerals, 24 baptisms, and 1 renewal of wedding vows. Altar Guild members polish silver that has been used at Christ Church, Georgetown for more than 200 years. They also care for historic altar linens used in the church and chapel and of course, prepare the Altar in the church and the chapel for services whether a Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer.

On the advice of an expert in the care of historic linens in Williamsburg, Va., the Altar Guild set up a new schedule of

laundering the altar linens to help preserve them. Another change that was made in 2023 was to bring in-house the care of altar linens for the church and chapel, thereby saving the church nearly \$700 a month in laundering fees. The Altar Guild also ended a paid calendar subscription, saving the church more money by switching to a free online service in January 2023. The Altar Guild was the first Christ Church, Georgetown group to switch to the new online platform Realm when it was implemented. Huge thanks to Church Administrator Duane Roth for helping us become more proficient users of Realm.

There are 29 Altar Guild members, including 11 new members who joined in 2023. To help train and equip them, the 2017 Altar Guild customary was updated to reflect post-pandemic changes in services and to expand the 2017 customary, with things such as photos of linen patterns. This well-used document is now available digitally, which makes it easy to update as needed. A print copy is also housed in the Sacristy.

If you are interested in learning more about joining the Altar Guild, please contact Shelley Rodgers (shelleyrodgers8@gmail.com) or Alice Parrish (alicecparrish@gmail.com), who became the co-leads of the guild on January 1, 2024. The time commitment is about three hours per month, although more participation is always welcomed. Altar Guild meetings are held two to three times per year and frequently coincide with silver polishings which occur a few weeks before Easter and Christmas. All who serve on the Altar Guild must be members in good standing of Christ Church, Georgetown. The official invitation to join the group comes from the Rector.

Flower Guild – *Doris L. Dixon and Christina T. Thorley*

The Flower Guild has had a wonderful year as our church embraced a full and busy schedule. We have the privilege of preparing the altar flowers for all services during the Liturgical year. We are fortunate to have a committed group who generously give of their time and talent. Our Guild is comprised of 20 dedicated “active” members and 9 “sustaining” members who assist as available when needed. We are delighted to announce that we welcomed 3 new active Flower Guild members this year as 3 long-time members transitioned to sustaining status. Each week during the year, teams of two arranged flowers for the altar (except during Advent and Lent). In addition, we worked with 9 families to honor their loved ones with beautiful altar flowers during their funeral services. Also, our members worked in teams to realize the vision of engaged couples to create memorable wedding flower decorations for 7 special weddings. Floral arrangements were made for 18 baptisms to welcome the newly baptized, and these arrangements were given to the families following the service. Our Flower Guild team’s work for Easter and Christmas glorified these most important celebrations of our Christian faith and we hope imparted seasonal joy. On May 4, the Altar and Flower Guilds enjoyed a festive cocktail reception in Keith Hall. The Flower Guild plans social gatherings in the year to come and anticipates adding several new members.

Flower Ministry – *Christina T. Thorley and Anna M. Brooke*

After the last service each Sunday, the altar flowers are disassembled into small arrangements and given to parishioners for various reasons. Three or four Flower Ministry volunteers rearrange and deliver them in the greater DC-Maryland-Virginia area. The Clergy take the time each week to personalize each delivery with a handwritten note of well wishes to accompany the 4-7 flower vases we deliver. The church flowers bring part of the beauty of our worship services into people’s homes as a tangible blessing during struggles as well as triumphs.

During the 10 weeks of Lent and Advent we take a break as there are no altar flowers. In addition to our regular Sunday work, we worked with flowers from 9 funerals and 7 weddings, giving us more offerings to share with those among our parish family. We are grateful to all of our volunteers, without whom we would not be as successful, particularly, our avid lead delivery assistant, Barbara Chang. Without the work of the clergy to identify recipients and send messages, our work would have less impact. Our success is also due in part from the wonderful donations of vases we regularly receive and depend on from the Christ Church community.

In 2023, we gifted a total of 290 flower vases~averaging 24 per month. Volunteers are always welcome.

Lector's Guild – *Paige A. Sass*

The Lector's Guild is a fellowship of readers that seek to grace our worship with the clear and thoughtful reading of the scriptures that play such a central role in all our services. We have over 30 Lectors at the moment but would always welcome more. Each new lector completes a short training session to get the feel of the PA system and the space. As a Guild, we hope to gather in the Spring for fellowship and training.

Live Streaming Guild – *D. Andrew Sigler*

The Livestreaming Guild facilitates the streaming of principal liturgies and other offerings to the church's website and its YouTube channel. On a weekly basis, this allows those who cannot attend church in person to participate live in the 11:15 services of Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer, certain Sunday Forum presentations, other lectures, and services of Choral Evensong from October to May. With some advance coordination, wedding and funeral services can also be recorded for family members to keep.

Weekly services are viewed live by a small but dedicated number, with dozens more typically following up later on YouTube. Special services, such as the Solemn Requiem Mass for All Souls' Day and the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas, are viewed hundreds of times. Thus, in a real sense, the Livestream Ministry is Christ Church, Georgetown's portal to the wider world.

The Guild currently consists of just three volunteers, who operate two cameras above the nave via the livestream desk located in the rear of the church by the Gethsemane window. I am particularly indebted to Jim Cannon and Will Andersen for their willingness to cover services so frequently. I am equally grateful to Lay Assistant Minister Tiffany Clark for weekly assistance in certain technical aspects of the ministry and for streaming the Sunday Forum and other gatherings. John Alexander, who stood up the Livestream Guild in August 2021, continues to serve

as a valuable resource for all of us. Finally, I would like to thank Alan Coker for covering many services over the last year.

With multiple camera inputs and illuminated buttons, the livestream console may look complicated, but it is actually very easy to use with minimal training. I am hopeful that we can recruit more volunteers in the year to come, so that members are only called on to livestream services once every six weeks or so. I encourage any parishioner who is interested in joining this vital ministry to stop by the livestream desk before or after a service to speak with a member of the Guild.

Music – *Thomas P. Smith, Organist and Choirmaster*

The primary focus of the music program at Christ Church, Georgetown, is, as it has been for generations, the preparation and performance of beautiful, finely crafted music for the glory of God and the edification of the worshiping community week after week. With a strong choral tradition at its core, the music program continues to serve as a valuable tool for outreach, evangelism, education, and formation within the parish community, the diocese, and beyond.

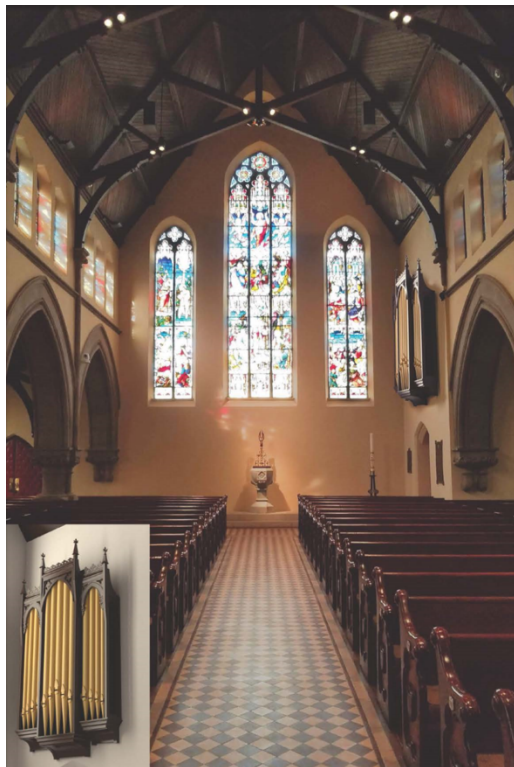
The Choir of Christ Church



The Choir of Christ Church is composed of some of the region's finest professional singers. Drawing upon the very best the Anglican tradition has to offer, this group of 13 voices offers a broad array of choral literature spanning many centuries – from plainsong to the works of living composers. The Choir sings each Sunday at the 11:15 a.m. service – Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer – and for special liturgies throughout the year: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Great Vigil of Easter, Ascension Day, Thanksgiving Day, a Solemn Requiem Eucharist for the Feast of All Souls, services of Lessons and Carols for Advent, Christmas and Epiphanytide, and the various liturgies of Christmas Eve and Day. A quartet from the Choir sings at the 9:00 a.m. Eucharist each Sunday. On occasion, additional singers are added as required by the literature at hand.

The Choir also sings the distinctly Anglican service of Choral Evensong on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month, October through May, at 5:00 p.m. Christ Church is one of a handful of parishes in the U.S. to offer this beautiful, contemplative liturgy with such frequency. Given the steady increase in attendance at Evensong over the course of the past few seasons, it is safe to say that Christ Church has one of the most robust and consistent Evensong congregations of any parish in the nation. The service, which is followed by an opportunity for fellowship and refreshments in Keith Hall, draws dozens of parishioners, many visitors from other churches in the region, and even a goodly number of individuals who do not consider themselves church-goers, but who find beauty and peace within the liturgy.

A New Organ



After years of study and planning, we eagerly await the installation of a new organ during the summer of 2025. The state-of-the-art instrument, to be built by R. A. Colby, Inc. of Johnson City, Tennessee, in collaboration with the Walker Technical Company of Center Valley, Pennsylvania, will replace Christ Church's Allen Organ, which has served the parish admirably for roughly 25 years. The Colby/Walker organ will feature a custom, four manual console, carved casework, non-speaking pipe façades in four locations throughout the Church, and an antiphonal division at the west end of the nave. I am especially excited about the new antiphonal division, which will help to bolster congregational singing, and allow for the types of fanfares and other special effects one would expect to hear in a parish church with a music program such as ours. In conjunction with the installation of the organ, we will upgrade the speech reinforcement (PA) and digital acoustical enhancements systems in the Church, both of which are, for all intents and purposes, technologically obsolete. The cumulative effect of this multi-faceted project, funded through Christ Church's ongoing Third Century Campaign, will be transformative. It will support and, indeed, greatly enhance the rich liturgical and musical life of the parish for decades to come.

Words of thanks...

I extend sincere thanks, in particular, to two groups of dedicated parishioner-volunteers: To those who participate in Christ Church's Livestream Ministry, especially Andy Sigler, chair: Thank you for helping us share the liturgical and musical offerings of the parish with a much broader audience. Your evangelism through technology is bringing new people into the life of the Church week after week. To those who participate in Christ Church's Hospitality Ministry, especially Doris Dixon and Brent Minor, co-chairs: Thank you for all you do to prepare such lovely post-service receptions. Your efforts, most of which take place behind the scenes, have furthered the parish's reputation as a place of Christian fellowship and warm hospitality. It is a great joy and privilege to serve as Organist and Choirmaster in this parish. I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement of the clergy, my fellow members of the staff, and you, the faithful of Christ Church, Georgetown.



Usher's Guild – *T. Alan Coker and Brent T. Minor*

Our church is blessed with a strong and reliable corps of volunteers who serve as ushers at all services. By the end of 2023, a total of 30 persons are members of the Ushers Guild with several new recruits looking to join in 2024.

The Ushers Guild organizes coverage for most services including Sundays at 8, 9 and 11:15 as well as Choral Evensong and the many additional services associated with Christmas and Easter. We also represent the church at any funeral liturgy held at the church. Ushers usually serve once a month depending on the service requirements. Different families assist ushers at the 9 AM service and at other times when there is a focus on youth and families. This is a tremendous help as the 9 AM service has grown over the past year. Ushers serve an important role as they are often the first to welcome congregants to a service. In addition to distributing service leaflets, ushers handle the plate collection and manage the communion release. The Head Usher records the attendance for each service. Ushers also monitor activity in the pews to provide for the safety of the congregation as well as to ensure a peaceful service. Beginning in the fall, the Vestry approved the addition of a security guard at all the major services, and this has been a great help to the ushers. While it is hoped that their services would never be needed, the security guard provides an extra layer of safety that cannot be taken for granted.

The Usher's Guild now holds an Appreciation Dinner each Spring. In addition to reviewing updates to the Guidelines, we take time to honor the services of the ushers from all services. In November, we held another meeting to meet with the new security guard and review safety

precautions. As always, we welcome those who would like the opportunity to serve Christ Church in this capacity.

Chalice Bearers – *Rebecca S. Houston*

The Chalice Bearers support the clergy as they administer Communion during services. This year we lost our guild leader, Paul Gambal after a long battle with cancer. He was full of faith and humor during this difficult time and reminded us of what a blessing it is to be here each day and to have the opportunity to serve our wonderful parish. We hope to continue the good work and to grow in faith and numbers under the continued guidance of our clergy.

Parish Life at Christ Church

Hospitality Committee – *Doris L. Dixon and Brent T. Minor*

The Hospitality Ministry Committee is now in its third year and remains very active. The Committee helps to coordinate social gatherings after Choral Evensong services and other special events at the church. In 2022, receptions were coordinated for 19 Evensong services. No other special events required hospitality support this past year. The committee's primary role is to organize the refreshments, welcome participants to the event, help with cleaning up, and to "pass the hat". Church staff purchase the food, set up Keith Hall for the events, and assist with cleaning up. Not only have these events raised funds to offset costs through contributions, but they have also relaxed the burden of organizing events on already-stressed CCG staff. Doris Dixon and Brent Minor continued as co-chairs in 2023 and are assisted by a small group of volunteers. Those who attend the events seem to appreciate the opportunity to gather as a church family in a relaxed and casual atmosphere where they can meet new people and strengthen their bonds with fellow parishioners. Since many attendees of the Evensong services are often not members of Christ Church, these receptions offer a chance to engage visitors in a meaningful way. Additional volunteers are always welcome and should contact the Parish Office if interested in joining the committee.

Men's Ministry – *The Reverend Nathan G. Huddleston, Associate Rector*

The continuation of our Men's Ministry program remains strong with our Men finding a place for connecting and building meaningful and lasting relationships. The First Men's Retreat in April of 2023 was a huge success with 20 men venturing to the Jefferson Island Club for a weekend was the first of its kind. The next one for 2024 is already planned.





Women's Ministry – *Christina P. Casey*

This Ministry for the women (all ages and stages of life are welcome!) of Christ Church is blossoming! Every 2nd Wednesday of the month, women are invited to come together for a Happy Hour, affectionately known as *Wine Down Wednesday*. Parishioner Honor Ingersoll's heartfelt words capture well the joy and blessings of these get togethers: "I really like *Wine Down Wednesday* and not because of the wine. It's so nice to get to know other parishioners that you don't see on Sunday. I've met so many new people this way." It is our conversations and our new and growing friendships- all grounded in Faith- that make our time together so enjoyable. We continue to grow this Spirit infused Ministry, and preparations are being made for a Women's Retreat led by Tiffany Clark, Assistant Lay Minister with assistance from Chrissy Casey, Youth and Family Minister.... Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Young Professionals Ministry – *The Reverend Nathan G. Huddleston, Associate Rector*

The Young Professionals Ministry has seen exponential growth in 2023! Our Young Professionals met throughout the year for happy hours, gathering dinners, and festive holiday events. Besides being great fun, these casual gatherings provided natural integration points for friends and newcomers to get to know other members of the church and establish a stronger sense of community. Multiple volunteering opportunities and a more focused parish group were natural

offshoots of this vibrant community. The Young Adults continue to infuse fresh energy into the life of Christ Church, and for that we are deeply grateful.

New Members 2023 – *The Reverend Nathan G. Huddleston, Associate Rector*

The redesigned New Members Class and Induction Sunday have proven to be a strong addition to our Sunday offerings. As a result of the New Members Class, we welcomed 26 new members to our parish this fall. The class is designed to clearly mark and honor the incorporation of New Members into our congregation while giving them a deep sense of belonging and camaraderie. We have a New Members Course slated for Spring 2024 with 10-15 interested parishioners already signed up!



Parish Groups at Christ Church

Engaged and Newly Married Group – *Janet C. Kim and John K. Yasuda, Cristina W. L. and R. Lincoln Foran III*

The initial members of the newlywed group met each other during the Winter 2022 membership class and continued our fellowship group as many of us welcomed, and prepared to welcome, new family members in 2022-2023. We met every few weeks at one of our homes and often began with dinner, followed by a Bible study, and finishing with prayer. We read the gospel of Matthew over the course of the winter and spring 2023 and began the Alpha course in fall 2023. We look forward to 2024 together as our group continues to expand!

Faith 2.0 – *Whitney Enright and Adriane Connerton*

Faith 2.0 is a Parish group tailored for young professionals, combining contemplative practices and thoughtful community connections to deepen parishioners' faith. Originating from a shared commitment to spiritual growth, this group utilizes lectionary readings of the day as a guiding framework. By incorporating these readings, participants engage in a focused exploration of their faith, fostering a unique and enriching experience. Faith 2.0 not only meets the spiritual needs of young professionals but also builds a supportive community that resonates with contemporary lifestyles, creating a meaningful space for faith development and fellowship.

This group began in December 2023 during Advent in the chapel, and takes on its next chapter at a chocolate shop around the corner while CCG undergoes renovation. We look forward to stoking the embers of this group's faith and growing the community.



Keeping Faith Group – *John Gilstad and Philip D. Morrison*

Keeping Faith started this year as a small group of parishioners “of a certain age” who shared a back table through the spring Alpha series. It meets roughly every other month for discussion and prayer following a potluck dinner at a member’s home. The focus has trended, as the group’s name implies, to the challenges of keeping and deepening one’s faith while navigating mid-life and later stages of one’s earthly existence. To date, the group has used the presentations and follow-on discussion questions from the Leadership Formation monthly sessions to guide its discussion. We are grateful to Tiffany Clark for helping us see the opportunity to form and chart a path, and for guidance through scriptural landmarks.

Prime Timers – *Will Andersen*

Begun as Mixed and Mature, this group has taken on a new name and evolved into a close-knit, warmly welcoming fellowship of parishioners aged 50 and above. Gathering at a home near the National Cathedral, we make friends and engage in after-dinner discussion with the aim of enhancing our spiritual lives. For most of 2023, we continued to look at the Book of Psalms as a way of sharing our personal journeys of faith, with each evening focusing on the close reading of an individual psalm. In the fall, we began to develop a format of more structured presentations, starting with a talk by Tom Smith on Gregorian and Anglican chant and service music at Christ Church.



Education and Formation at Christ Church

Seminarian Lay Committee – *Sophie Dolamore and Firoze S. Rao*

This autumn we welcomed our newest seminarian to Christ Church, Alexander Swain! Alex is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at Virginia Theological Seminary, class of 2025. The Committee is currently made up of 3 members of Christ Church, plus Alex, so we are a small but mighty group, bringing a diverse range of knowledge and experience to the discussions.

Throughout the fall and winter term, we held all our meetings over supper, trading off hosting. Alex invited us to VTS in November and gave us a wonderful tour of where he currently resides! In his second year, Alex is balancing his time between studies, duties assigned to him at VTS and at Christ Church. He is looking forward to expanding his work at Christ Church this spring, 2024, and getting to know the community better throughout the rest of his time with us. Please look out for the next time he preaches in the coming months; his sermons are extremely thoughtful and engaging. The Committee will continue to meet monthly throughout the spring term, and we look forward to being an ongoing support to Alex in his journey as a seminarian!

Women's Bible Study – *Tiffany A. H. Clark*

The Women's Bible Study continued to grow in number throughout 2023, encompassing women from just about every decade of life who engage. This diverse and accomplished group of women took on the book of Genesis in the spring, tracing relational and theological themes through its extended narrative and, along the way, learning a great deal from each other. In the fall, the group focused on how to read a different genre of Scripture, mining Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians to gain a clearer picture of its author, audience, message, and imagery. Newcomers are always welcome to this lively community of wise, engaged learners that meets both in person and online.

Spiritual Life Group – *Kelly M. Storrs*

During 2023, the Spiritual Life Ministry offered several opportunities for the parish to learn and experience various forms of contemplative prayer practices. During Lent 2023, our Lay Assistant Minister, Tiffany Clark, and parishioner Kelly Storrs co-led a 6-week series on The Examen Prayer, an Ignatian prayer practice.

In the Fall of 2023, we began meeting before each Choral Evensong service for group Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina is an ancient prayer practice which provides a roadmap to enter deeply into conversation with God's Word trusting that it is capable of speaking to us today and given to us in part to aid the ongoing transformation of our everyday lives and selves more and more into Christ's likeness. We share what we hear and offer compassionate listening to all who come from the parish and wider community. Look for us in 2024 to continue to work with the clergy to support individual and congregational spiritual growth using contemplative forms of prayer. For more information about the Spiritual Life Ministry, contact parishioner Kelly Storrs.

Thursday Morning Bible Study – *Ernest Clark, John G. Froemming, and David B. Straut*

Ernest Clark, John Froemming and David Straut led a newly formed Bible study group on alternate Thursday mornings throughout the Fall. A co-ed group of about 10-12 parishioners and friends studied Paul's Letter to the Romans on alternating Thursday mornings at 8am in Keith Hall. For those not able to be present folks could participate virtually as well. In addition to the Bible text, we made use of a Romans study guide authored by our own Ernest Clark! This provided a much-needed framework as well as group discussion questions to help us navigate. The group found this Fall study so fruitful that they have decided to continue this winter/spring on the same Thursday schedule. The focus will be the book of Isaiah. All are welcome!

Littles and Life – *Julia L. Ainsley*

The Littles and Life group seeks to bring together the youngest members of Christ Church, ages birth to three years, and their parents for fellowship and enrichment. Our group grew exponentially in 2023, stretching the size of the nursery, especially during the 9 am service, and giving new parents the time for spiritual growth while their children are cared for. We met four times for songs and play with parishioner Laura Peterson; held a weekly Bible Study during Lent while children engaged in play and a soccer skills class; and successfully kicked off "Bite Sized Bible Study" for parents to meet for 30 minutes after church while their children remain in the nursery.

Bite Size Bible Study – *Megan Murton*

After some experimentation Bite-Sized Bible Study settled on a good format in 2023, meeting on Sundays 10:30-11 for thirty minutes of concentrated discussion about a short Scripture passage (from 1 Thessalonians, and later from Matthew's Gospel). The convenience of meeting at church immediately after worship and the childcare provided by the church nursery made it possible for more families to attend regularly. Ernest Clark took the lead with choosing passages, and he shared the task of leading discussions with Alexander Swain, Julia Ainsley, Matthew

Fredericks, and Megan Murton. Discussions packed a great deal of substance into a small time and struck an effective balance between examining the Scripture in its historical context and applying it to everyday challenges. Meetings opened and closed in prayer, and participants were consistent about giving each other spiritual encouragement, often in specific relation to the challenges of parenting young children. Future meetings will shift to 10:15-10:45am and will address selected passages from Isaiah.

Sunday Forum – *Tiffany A. H. Clark*

In spring of 2023, the Sunday Forum continued its series on various aspects of what it means to be Christian in a post-Christian culture, considering in particular the areas of Christian Spirituality and Christian Community. The fall Forum series addressed social polarization and a reorientation around the Kingdom of God through the lines of the Lord's Prayer. Some fresh faces mixed in with our time-tested lineup of beloved speakers, adding the perspective of diverse Christian traditions and cultural backgrounds. Occasional Round Table discussions allowed for more interactive learning, integrating the input from various lecture topics with the life experience of participants.

Leadership Formation – *Tiffany A.H. Clark*

Continuing an initiative begun in the fall of 2022, Christ Church staff and clergy hosted a dinner and discussion series to deepen faith and strengthen leadership skills among Christ Church lay leaders, guild and committee chairs, and parish group leaders. Each evening included a time to connect with fellow lay leaders over a sumptuous meal, a relevant and stimulating talk around some aspect of integrating discipleship with leadership, and round table discussions around relevant, curated questions. This ongoing series is intended to foster growth for CCG's lay leadership, strengthening community with each other, capacity in particular areas of leadership, and intentionality in following Christ in all aspects of life.



Youth and Family Ministry at Christ Church

Our Youth and Family Ministry Committee, led by co-chairs Catherine Onnen and Amy White, is a caring and dedicated group of parent volunteers who provide essential support to the Youth and Family Minister and programs for our youth and families. Meeting monthly, co-chairs and their fellow committee members play an instrumental role in helping to make the many fabulous Youth and Family Ministry offerings and events grand successes. Thank you to each YFMC member for generously sharing their kind hearts, fine minds, and helping hands!

2023 got underway with our Epiphany All-in, which kicked off our Winter long collection of basic toiletries to be donated to our neighbors in need at Georgetown Ministry Center.

Lent found our children learning much about Jesus and His great teachings on love, prayer, forgiveness, and his sacrifice, death, and Resurrection. Good Friday's reenactment of the Stations of the Cross for Children and Families brought us right to the heart of Jesus and all that would soon give thanks for, celebrate, and honor Easter Sunday morning. On Easter Sunday morning, we celebrated Christ's victory and Resurrection with a beautiful Holy Eucharist in the Church followed by a fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt at the home of nearby parishioners. Mother's Day gave us a wonderful opportunity during the 9am Holy Eucharist Service to bless mothers, offering our prayers and presenting mothers in the congregation with mini- floral bouquets.

The Sunday School Year wrapped up in late May with Youth Sunday. Our 9am Holy Eucharist celebration featured: students and teachers sharing what they enjoyed most about the year, the commissioning of our teenagers and chaperones who would soon embark on Pilgrimage to Scotland, and a blessing over our high school seniors who would soon graduate and begin the next chapter of their precious



lives. Following the service, we celebrated with a picnic in our Chapel Garden where we thanked all who helped to make a wonderful Sunday School year possible, especially our clergy, teachers, Youth and Family Ministry Committee, and volunteers!

June saw 17 (5 adult chaperones, 12 teenagers) Christ Church members participating in a Pilgrimage to Scotland. Walking the way of many past Christians in this extraordinarily beautiful land, our pilgrims were blessed with a most meaningful week together as they learned, explored, and grew in Faith and in their relationships with God, self, and one another.

In August, we held our second annual Children's Summer Bible Camp, "All creatures great and small, our good Lord made them all!" Our 10 campers (ages 3-6) had a great week discovering, learning and growing in Faith and friendship through music, movement, Bible stories, art, and play.

This 2023-24 Sunday School year kicked off in September, with Homecoming Sunday followed by the blessing of Students and Teachers, and the commissioning of the Youth & Family Ministry Committee. With the great assistance of this year's Committee, led by co-Chairs Catherine Onnen and Amy White, many time honored and newly minted CCG traditions came together with much love and Faith.



Fall brought us Pumpkins & Prayers at Butler's Orchard where we gathered for a bonfire, hayride, and fun fellowship. All enjoyed a beautiful night that concluded in the most perfect way: Fr. Nate Huddleston leading us in Compline. With our hearts and voices joined in prayer, we were reminded how very great God is and truly how blessed we are to have one another.

November began with our beautiful Children's Saints Procession followed by our first All Saints All-in. Children of all ages gathered around for a developmentally appropriate lesson on the Episcopal tradition of the Communion of Saints, which concluded with writing and coloring prayers 'Thanking God for the Saints We Have Known' and a thoughtful painting craft.

Advent began with our festive and prayerful Advent All-in. Decorative Advents Wreaths were made, and meaningful Advent Prayers were shared and given out to families to take home and pray. It was a wonderful way to begin our Advent journey!

Our Children's Christmas Pageant was held on a Sunday December afternoon, and - as it does in a most special way every year- our children's retelling of the Nativity of Our Lord reflected the peace, hope, joy and love that is Christmas. That afternoon, our Church was filled with great numbers of children participating, and loads of parents, relatives, friends, and guests attending! The Pageant was immediately followed by a beautiful, 'Cocoa & Carols' reception. We all gathered around the Christmas Tree for its lovely lighting, made meaningful and complete with hymns and prayer. A kind and joyful visit from St. Nicholas rounded out a very special afternoon much enjoyed by all ages!



Nursery Care

Our Nursery is open year-round Sundays at 8:45am-12:30pm for children 4 months and above. We are grateful to Lucie Lytle, our Lead Nursery Care Provider, who brings much love, professional wisdom, and good cheer to our Nursery. Along with Miss Lucie, Teen and Parent Volunteers make our Nursery a warm, safe, Faith-filled and fun space for our Littlest Parishioners!



them!

Sunday School and Youth Education *September- May*

Our developmentally and grade appropriate curriculums foster 'heart and head' knowledge of our Faith and what it means to be a Christian. How do we walk the Way of Love today, the Way that Christ showed his first followers so long ago? In response to that very question, many of our teens volunteer to assist with Sunday School teaching and Nursery Care. Our little children and their teachers love and appreciate having the Big Kids working with

Godly Play (Age 3 through Grade 1)

Godly Play introduces children to the seminal stories of the Old and New Testaments and to the parables with small figures and objects that illustrate the teacher's narration.

Spark (Grades 2–4)

Our Spark class is based on the lectionary for the week, with reading, discussion, and a worksheet or craft.

Connect (Grades 5 & 6)

The Connect class is a two-year course of the major arcs of the Old and New Testaments. In the first trimester our Connect students have learned through reading, video, discussion, and various activities about the “Beginnings” of our relationship with God in Genesis, and God’s “Promises” to Abraham and his descendants.

Youth Programming (Grades 7–12)

For grades 7-12, monthly gatherings are held where topics of the day are discussed through the lens of what it means to live as Christians in our daily lives. With assistance from Youth Group Leaders, these gatherings are student-led and provide a welcoming space for students to learn with and from one another. Youth Acolyting, Lectoring, Assisting in Sunday School Teaching and Nursery Care, participation Feeding Ministries, and leading Youth & Families making of ‘Lunches to Go’ for our neighbors in need are highlights for this age group.



Worship Ministries

Beginning in Grades 5, youth are eligible and encouraged to serve as Acolytes- Crucifer, Torchbearers, and Altar Servers- Lectors, and Greeters/Assistant during our 9am Sunday services. Families serve as Gift Bearers, and they provide snacks to support the 10am Coffee Hours.

We are delighted and grateful to now have so many of our youth and families serving on Sundays in so many ways! In addition to 9am Sunday services, our youth also serve in special liturgies, including the Christmas Pageant, Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas, and during Holy Week.

Youth Confirmation

Our Youth Confirmation program invites all youth ages 12 and older to explore their faith and engage in fellowship through the Alpha Youth Series for Confirmation course. While education is a large component of each class, the true focus is on creating sacred community, participation in the life of Christ Church (worship, fellowship, & service) and promoting healthy engagement with personal faith. In June 2023, 2 youths were confirmed here at Christ Church by Bishop Marian Budde.

My great and heartfelt thanks to our clergy, ministers, staff, Sunday School teachers, Youth Group leaders, Youth and Family Ministry Committee, parents, and our children and youth for all they do to help to make Youth and Family Ministry at Christ Church possible. *'Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.'* Amen, always.

Christina P. Casey, Youth and Family Minister



Outreach at Christ Church

Mission's Committee – *Frances H. Symes*

In the 2023 program year, the Mission Committee was allocated a total of \$141,900 from the church's budget to distribute to non-profit mission partners nominated for support by Christ Church parishioners. The committee followed a few "guiding principles" in its review. For the first time this year, we asked each applicant to explain which of the five "Marks of Mission" of the global Anglican communion it feels it addresses with its work. We assessed the degree to which the applicant organization aligns with those five marks and with the mission of Christ Church overall. Those marks are:

1. To proclaim the good news of the Kingdom,
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers,
3. To respond to human need by loving service,
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation,
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The committee prioritized alignment with the five "Marks of Mission" in its funding recommendations. Next, the committee prioritized local or grassroots organizations; the four international organizations the committee chose to fund are not part of larger national organizations that might have a steadier supply of donors. Finally, the committee preferred organizations that are ministries of the Episcopal church and/or in which more than one member of the parish is meaningfully involved.

In addition, the committee took a serious look at the operating budget of the organization and prioritized organizations where our funding is making a significant impact in terms of their ability to further their mission. Finally, the committee prioritized organizations where we see a potential for further involvement from a volunteer and engagement perspective going forward.

The partners and funding levels recommended by the committee were:

Bishop Walker School for Boys (Local Schools): \$40,000

Breadcoin Foundation (Food Security, Housing and Homelessness): \$3,000

Build Metro DC (Job Training and Life Skills): \$2,000

Episcopal Church of the Atonement, Food Pantry (Food Security, Housing, and Homelessness): \$5,000

Free Minds Book Club and Writing Workshop (Job Training and Life Skills): \$5,500
Friends of Honduras USA (International): \$8,000
Georgetown Ministry Center (Housing and Homelessness): \$24,450
Help with Compassion (International): \$7,000
Humane Rescue Alliance (Animal Welfare): \$2,000
Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre: \$4,000
Jubilee Jobs (Job Training and Life Skills): \$7,000
La Sagrada Familia (Episcopal Church Construction): \$8,500
Mpambara-Cox Foundation, Inc. (International): \$8,000
Oak Hill Cemetery Historic Preservation (Historic Preservation): \$800
Operation Turbo (Military Appreciation): \$750
Seabury Resources for Aging (Animal Welfare): \$8,000
St. Philip's Child Development Center (Local Schools): \$5,500
Washington School for Girls (Local Schools): \$2,400

The recommended funding levels listed above represent the unanimous opinion of the committee following thorough review of the applications and hearty discussion, during which we were fortunate to have the input and guidance of Lay Minister Tiffany Clark. The committee membership includes Frances Symes (Chair), Cristina Foran (Vice Chair), Mike Applin, Lucy Hollins Cannon, Barbara Chang, Stephanie Green, Tom Hastings, Janet Kim, Liz Nibley, Richard Parry, David Shepard, and Page Smith. If you are interested in joining the committee, please speak with the Rector or Rev. Huddleston.

In addition to grantmaking, the committee organizes the Advent Angel Tree, which this year supported Seabury Resources for Aging, St. Philip's Child Development Center, Free Minds Book Club, Vetoga, and Tudor Place. We committed to providing more than 150 gifts or contributions to the organizations and, thanks to the generosity of Christ Church parishioners, all of the wishes were fulfilled in December.

If you are interested in recommending a mission partner, please look for notices regarding the application process in September 2024. In the meantime, the committee is working to organize more opportunities for engagement with our mission partners throughout the year and we hope you will join us.

Feeding Ministry – *Rick L. Shewell*

The Feeding Ministry continues to grow by adding two new opportunities to spread love and kindness to our neighbors this year, Saturday Night Suppers in partnership with Mount Zion United Methodist Church and the Food Pantry in partnership with the Episcopal Church of the Atonement. We thank our faithful volunteers and supporters for their steadfast support as we navigate forward in the way of God's commandments.

Soup Kitchen

On the second Sunday of every month, volunteers from the Christ Church Soup Kitchen, in partnership with the Salvation Army Grate Patrol, prepare and deliver nearly 1000 meals annually. We make sandwiches and assemble lunch bags that are distributed by volunteers riding on the Salvation Army Grate Patrol van. Our ability to serve is limited only by the number of volunteers we can attract so we hope you will join us to serve the less fortunate in the coming year. No cooking skills are required, just a warm heart and a willingness to serve others.

GMC Lunches

Christ Church volunteers prepare over 2,500 lunches annually for distribution to Georgetown Ministry Center guests. Each Sunday, one of our four teams makes sandwiches and assembles lunch bags that are delivered to GMC Sunday afternoon or Monday morning. Keeping our pantry stocked with the proper supplies for this undertaking has proven quite a challenge and that challenge has been met by the support of our diligent and frugal “shoppers” who purchase and deliver the soup, groceries, and supplies needed for all the Feeding Ministry activities.

GMC Extends

For over 25 years, Christ Church parishioners welcomed vulnerable neighbors into our parish home where they were provided food and shelter. In 2020, the pandemic forced the Georgetown Ministry Center (GMC) to make the difficult decision to suspend the Winter Shelter for the 2020–2021 season to protect the safety of the staff, guests, and volunteers. In its place, GMC developed “GMC Extends,” which provides food and essential items during the winter season, but without overnight accommodations. In the first year, partner churches raised money to purchase meals from local restaurants. In the last two years, Christ Church volunteers prepared home-cooked meals for 40 guests that were served either in our Parish Hall or at GMC. Other generous supporters provided money to purchase meals from local restaurants to supplement the home cooked meals. This past year, most of the meals were prepared by Christ Church volunteers. We are truly grateful to the many cooks that prepared home cooked meals and for the extraordinary generosity of the donors that made it possible for us



to feed GMC guests for two full weeks. We hope you will support this important mission with a donation to GMC Extends. To contribute, visit our website at www.christchurchgeorgetown.org. Select Donate at the top of the screen, enter the amount, and select Feeding Ministry from the Fund dropdown box.

Saturday Night Suppers

Every Saturday night, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church hosts 60-80 unhoused Georgetown residents. Each week, a different partner church prepares and serves the meal. CCG volunteers prepare and serve meals on the first Saturday of even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December). This is a large undertaking so we can always use extra hands. Some volunteers prepare entrees, side dishes, or desserts. Others bring purchased food items (fried chicken, hamburgers, etc.,) while still others help set the tables, serve the food, interact with the guests, and help clean up. The appreciation for our efforts shows on the faces of our guests and through their kind words. This can be a life-changing experience and we hope many more CCG parishioners will join us when they are able.

Food Pantry

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement in SE Washington has a Food Pantry and serves as a Food Hub providing food for people in the community. On the fourth Saturday of each month groceries are made available between 9:30 and 12:30 PM. On the second Tuesday of each month from 12 noon to 1 PM fresh produce is available (along with suggested recipes). CCG volunteers work together with Atonement volunteers to re-pack bulk shipments of vegetables into family-size bags for distribution to the local community. There are tasks for everyone from 16 to 80 years old so please join us!



Thrift Shop Guild - *Lucy Cannon*

The Thrift Shop Guild provided roughly \$30,000 of financial support annually from the sales of donated items during its operations from September 1st to June 30th to charitable organizations defined under Section 501(c)(3) of The Internal Revenue Code. These funds were obtained solely from the proceeds of the Thrift Shop sales to support 11 local charities and activities within The

Episcopal Diocese of Washington DC: Christ Church (Georgetown) Discretionary Fund, The Diocese Memorial Scholarship Fund, and The Episcopal Church Women.

Creation Care and St. Francis Guild – *Stephanie L. Green and Sheila R. Ward*

The Creation Care Committee (CCC), working in tandem with the Saint Francis Guild (SFG), is making progress partnering with conservation and animal welfare groups in our community on fun and worthwhile initiatives. CCC Chair Stephanie Green has collaborated with Dumbarton Oaks and Oak Hill Cemetery during the past year on volunteer activities like mulching, weeding, flower planting, and projects that celebrate the great outdoors.

In January 2023 the gifts that had been donated via the 2022 Advent Angels program to the church's Mission Partner Afghan Stray Animal League (ASAL) were given by SFG members to the organization's Founder and President Pam Constable for hand delivery to Kabul. That same month, the SFG also hosted a single session, online Bible study created by the Anglican Society for the

Welfare of Animals entitled "The Two Gardeners." This lovely hour-

long program can be viewed anytime at bit.ly/3TNjqL3.



In June, Lindsey Milstein of Dumbarton Oaks, Mark Hudson of Tudor Place, and Katie Rotramel of Humane Rescue Alliance (HRA), which is the DC animal shelter, participated in a Christ Church, Georgetown, (CCG) Sunday Forum moderated by Stephanie on the stupendous work these organizations are doing in conservation, wildlife protection, and animal welfare. Mark brought to everyone's attention the need for funding to save an historically significant tree on Tudor Place's property.

In July CCC and SFG co-sponsored an animal supplies drive for longtime Mission Partner HRA, which yielded two carloads of donations for our DC furry friends and their caretakers in need. In addition to the supplies drive, the

SFG held a long overdue party for some in-person fellowship that same month. More supplies were

donated at the October Blessing for the Animals, which SFG member Marlin Dohlman delivered to HRA (near Takoma Park) on behalf of the congregation.

Throughout the year the SFG kept in touch with and received reports from ASAL and HRA. In addition to Katie's panel appearance, she also gave an in-depth report on HRA operations, during what was a particularly difficult year, via Zoom in October. ASAL President Pam Constable, whose organization is facing especially harsh circumstances since the departure of U.S. and other countries' armed forces, also participated with the group via Zoom and sent updates on her organization via email.

At the September Health and Wellness Fair hosted by CCG's parish partner the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in southeast DC, SFG members Janet Presswood and Sheila Ward hosted an information booth sponsored by HRA about the low-to-no cost pet healthcare services they offer. This HRA program, called HOPE, is what CCG Mission gifts are used to support.

Throughout the year SFG members shared articles via email with each other about Christian responsibility toward our fellow creatures. Members also attended several of the 2023 CCG Leadership Formation dinner programs.

This past fall Stephanie successfully requested a CCG Mission Committee grant on behalf of Oak Hill to help restore and clean the graves of CCG founders and the land around them. In October SFG members similarly filed requests for gifts to Mission Partners ASAL and HRA. The Mission Committee approved a gift to HRA. Our goal for the CCC and the SFG in 2024 is to continue working with the organizations mentioned here and to bring more service opportunities to the congregation. Questions, comments, and suggestions are welcome, and we are always happy to add anyone with an interest in either of these subjects to our mailing lists.



Finance Reports



Third Century Campaign – *C. Allen Foster and Isabel S. Kunsman*

As of the writing of this report, the Third Century Campaign has raised more than \$9.5 million in gifts and pledges from more than 180 parishioner families. This is an extraordinary achievement, and the impact of the Campaign will be felt for many, many years at Christ Church. The Campaign

has received commitments of all sizes, from \$100 all the way up to more than \$1 million. Many people have stepped forward to play a part in this once-in-a-generation effort, including newcomers to the Parish, long-time parishioners, young families, parishioners from Virginia and Maryland, Vestry members, committee chairs, and Christ Church neighbors, just to name a few. And the Parish is humbled and grateful for this generous outpouring of support.

Just last month, the Parish Hall renovation process began, which will totally transform the building into a facility that will be fully ready to support our growing Parish and to serve the Georgetown community. And while it is exciting that the Parish Hall renovations are underway, there is still work to be done to fully achieve the broader goals of the Campaign.

Plans for the new organ at Christ Church are well underway, and the Parish was grateful to receive a significant contribution designated to support this important project. Additional funds are needed, however, to ensure that the instrument is designed and built in the best possible way both musically and aesthetically. Both new endowment funds have received gifts designated for that purpose, but there is more to be raised to enable Christ Church to have a dedicated source of funds for property maintenance as well as for mission support.

Parishioners can still participate in the Campaign, and gifts and pledges of all levels will be gratefully received.

A list of all parish families who have already participated in the Campaign is included in this report, with deep appreciation from the Rector and the Vestry for their support. The list includes gifts and pledges received as of January 2, 2024. Questions or corrections for this list may be directed to Duane Roth in the Church Office or Campaign Coordinator Marshall Ginn.

LIST OF CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS

Mr. Randolph Adams	Alisann & Terry Collins Foundation
Catherine Ahmad	Mr. & Mrs. James Costan
Mr. & Mrs. Newman Ainsley	William & Laryssa Courtney
Miss Krista Anderson	Mr. Henry Courtney
Dr. & Mrs. John Anthony	R. Emory Cox
Frank & Catherine Applin	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Crocker
Mr. Robert Arnold	Mr. David Cunningham
Geoffrey & Kathryn Baker	Mr. Christopher Cushing & Mr. Stan Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Bartlett, III	Ms. Martha Dale
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Beall	Mr. & Mrs. Eli Debevoise
Lesly Bell	Mr. & Mrs. Dean Dilley
Rear Adm. & Mrs. David Bill, III	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dohlman
Mr. Thomas Birch	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond DuBois
Dr. Elizabeth Bluhm	Mr. & Mrs. James Earnest
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Bourne	Sarah Efird & John Stephens
Miss Anna Brooke	Tippi Ellis
Mr. William Brubeck	Mrs. Anne Emmet
Nancy Taylor Bubes	Miss Anna-Stina Ericson
Mrs. Wiley Buchanan, III	Mrs. Julie Finley
Watkins Burnham Fund	Mr. & Mrs. Allen Foster
Capt. William Burns & The Rev. Catherine Ballinger	Eric Fraunfelter & Harriet Sweeney
Mr. & Mrs. Landon Butler	Luke Frels
Ms. Mary Byrnes	Mr. James Fuller & Ms. Catherine Porter
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Campbell	Miss Catherine Fuller
Mr. & Mrs. James Cannon, IV	Mrs. Anne Gambal
Mrs. Kathryn Carmean	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gibson, III
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Carrington	Mr. Marshall Ginn
Mrs. Britta Chambers	Mr. & Mrs. Ian Glenday
Dr. Barbara Chang-Wai-Ling	Mrs. Eleuthera Grassi
Mrs. Carroll Chapin	Mr. C. Boyden Gray
Mrs. Ellen Charles	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hadley
Matthew & Natalia Cheney	Mr. Leslie Harry & Mrs. Sheila Ward
Dr. & Mrs. Alexander Chester	Mr. Neal Herman
The Rev. & Mrs. Timothy Cole	Francis & Charisse Hiigel
Mr. & Mrs. Terence Collins	Stuart & Gwen Holliday
	Mr. Rodney Hood

Ms. Laura Hornbuckle
Mr. Byron Hurst
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ingersoll, Jr.
Mrs. Lois Jecklin
Ms. Pamela Jenkinson
Dr. & Mr. Deborah Jessiman
Adm. & Mrs. Jay Johnson
Robert & Cindy Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Frederic Kellogg
Mr. Adam Kemerer & Mr. Josiah Osgood
The Rev. Canon & Mrs. Stuart Kenworthy
Mr. & Mrs. John Korsmo
Mr. & Mrs. John Kroeger
Mr. & Mrs. John Kunsman
Mrs. Helen Large
The Hon. Janice Law
Mr. Sidney S. Lawrence, III
Mr. Derek Leebaert
Mr. & Mrs. William Lenyk
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Lindner
Ms. Angela LoRe
Mr. & Mrs. John Lytle
Mr. John Macomber
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mallory
Mrs. Ellen Wills Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Matz
Ms. Marcia Mayo
Mrs. Lee McBride
Ms. Camilla McCaslin
Peter Metzger, II
Mr. Brent Minor & Mr. Alan Coker
Dr. & Mrs. W. Tabb Moore
Prof. & Mrs. Peter Morici
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Morrison
Eric & Hannah Motley
Mr. & Mrs. Byrne Murphy
Miss Gertrude Musson
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Nibley
Gen. & Mrs. John Nicholson
Mrs. Jane Nigra
Mr. Floyd Norton & Ms. Kathleen Patterson
Ms. Evelina Norwinski
Mr. Charles Oat
Mrs. Ellen O'Bannon

Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Onnen, III
Mrs. Alice Parrish
Mr. & Mrs. David Patterson
Mr. Malcolm Peabody
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Peacock
The Hon. & Mrs. Thomas Petri
Mr. Allan Platt & Mr. Timothy Calvey
Mrs. Elisabeth Porter
Frederick Henry Prince Trust
Mr. Brian Quintenz
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Rackley
Mr. Robert Randolph
Mr. & Mrs. John Range
Mr. & Mrs. Firoze Rao
Mr. & Mrs. Garret Rasmussen
Mr. & Mrs. John Richardson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Riddell
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Rodgers, Jr.
The Hon. Judith Rogers
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Rogers, Jr.
Mrs. Evie Rooney
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Rutherford, Jr.
Ms. Diane Salisbury
Miss Jean Schepers
Stephen & Suzanne Schneck
Mrs. Marilyn Sheneman
Mr. & Mrs. David Shepard
Ms. Margaret Shepard
Michael. & Deborah Shepherd
Mr. Richard Shewell, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Simon Sidamon-Eristoff
Mr. David Sigler
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Smith, III
Jean Smith
Edward & Shelley Stewart
Mrs. Crawford Stone
Mrs. Florence Stone
Mrs. Pamela Storch
Kelly & Albert Storrs
Mr. & Mrs. David Straut
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Swain
Mrs. Merriellou Symes
Mrs. Mary Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. G. Richard Thompson

Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Thomson, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Thorley
Mrs. Marion Thorley
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Troup, IV
Mrs. Frances Tyler
Mr. & Mrs. George Valanos
Mr. John Van Voorhis & Ms. Susan Davies
Mr. Robert Volmer & Ms. Taylor Cortright
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Volz
Mr. Frank Waikart
Mr. & Mrs. David Webb

Mr. Lee Webb
Dr. Andrew Weller
Mrs. Eileen West
David & Amy White
The Hon. & Mrs. W. Whitfield
Mr. & Mrs. John Wilhelm, III
The Hon. & Mrs. Edwin D. Williamson
Mr. John Yasuda & Ms. Janet Kim
Mr. Michael Zampella
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zirkelbach
Kathryn & Jack Zoeller

Operations Planning Committee – *Bill H. Courtney*

The Operations Planning Committee (OPC) was established last May to plan for use of the renovated Parish House beginning in January 2025. The renovated Parish House, to be renamed Linthicum Hall, will retain offices, classrooms, and the thrift shop. Upgraded spaces may also be rented out for events such as wedding receptions, meetings and conferences, and community events. These activities are to contribute to the life of the Church and be self-funding, paying a proportionate share of building costs. In weighing recommendations to the Vestry, the OPC will rely on a professional analysis of the rental market and a prudent business plan.

Investment Committee Report – *Terence W. Collins*

The Endowment Fund is managed by the Christ Church Investment Committee through investments in low-cost index funds and actively managed mutual funds. The Fund is broadly diversified among all asset classes and investment styles.

Each year, the Endowment Fund transfers funds to the Church's Operating Account to support programs and the costs of managing the operations of the Church. The amount of the transfer is determined by calculating 5% of the average of the Endowment Fund's last three year-end values. In 2023, an amount greater than 5% was taken that included funds that were not transferred from the Fund during the COVID years. In 2023, \$942,248 was transferred from the Endowment to the Operating Account.

In 2023, the Endowment Fund reported a Total Return of 15.8%. While all asset classes and styles reported solid positive returns, Large Cap Growth was the standout, up 46.8% in the Endowment Fund, as a small group of stocks, coined the Magnificent Seven by the financial press, rose dramatically. As interest rates rose through most of the year, the returns from Fixed Income were held back and dampened the overall return of the Fund. All and all, 2023 was a surprisingly good year given that almost all economists and analysts were predicting a recession and a weak stock market at the beginning of the year. Despite rising inflation and interest rates, consumers continued to spend which kept the economy moving forward.

Since 1982, the Endowment Fund has grown in value from \$776,753 to the present \$16,249,483. Over these 40 years, the Endowment Fund has also transferred \$14,573,711 to the Church's Operating Account.



Treasurer's Report – Charles A. Thorley

Operating Budget	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Actual *	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Revenues					
Plate	\$234,396	\$226,000	\$331,589	\$233,000	\$281,000
Pledge	\$1,479,572	\$1,400,000	\$1,380,229	\$1,431,003	\$1,567,000
Endowment Draw	\$536,320	\$829,966	\$502,572 **	\$842,371	\$840,500
Other Revenue	\$48,903	\$36,100	\$87,658	\$63,850	\$78,651
Transfer to Reserves	-\$232,500	-\$232,500	-\$254,785	-\$229,000	-\$240,000
Total Revenue	\$2,066,691	\$2,259,566	\$2,047,264	\$2,341,224	\$2,527,151
Expenses					
Ministry	\$854,925	\$921,684	\$1,011,506	\$1,045,098	\$1,229,100
Administration	\$489,575	\$500,462	\$434,576	\$465,781	\$501,175
Property	\$375,680	\$500,758	\$426,189	\$527,018	\$515,450
Outreach	\$131,215	\$136,000	\$150,731	\$153,300	\$165,300
Diocean Pledge	\$113,275	\$113,275	\$100,000	\$113,275	\$113,275
Total Expenses	\$1,964,670	\$2,172,179	\$2,123,002	\$2,304,472	\$2,524,300
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$102,021	\$87,387	-\$75,738 **	\$36,752	\$2,851
*2023 Actuals have not yet been finalized.					
**With sufficient cash reserves, a deficit was allowed by not taking the full endowment draw.					

I would like to thank the congregation and the Vestry for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer over the past year. As we conclude 2023, I am pleased to be able to report that the parish remains in excellent financial condition. Throughout the fall, I gave a series of talks designed to explain just how parish finances work. The Vestry and Stewardship Committee continue to believe that transparency is key to ensuring that the healthy financial situation we find ourselves in now continues.

In 2023, we were able to complete another series of capital projects around the church campus. Most notably, we finished the complete replacement of the church and rectory HVAC systems. The Vestry executed a loan to pay for a portion of this project which is well on track to be fully paid before the agreed-upon term. Thankfully, untaken endowment draws from previous years enabled us to fund just more than half of the total project.

We continue to rely too heavily on endowment income as pledges still do not match our operating budget year-to-year. This issue should continue to be highlighted and explained in future years. However, prudent fiscal management has again resulted in a surplus for the year since the entirety of the endowment draw was not taken. The deficit appearing at the bottom of the second column of the above chart is a result of purposely leaving endowment funds in the account so they could continue to grow. Available cash reserves have been more than sufficient to meet expenses. Any deficit remaining from 2023 will be paid and absorbed throughout FY 2024.

and an additional endowment draw will be taken to balance the books as needed. We do not need to do so at this time.

Finally, inflation continues to impact the parish much as it does to each of us individually. Projected costs associated with price increases have been built into the FY 2024 budget and we will again work to limit expenses where possible. I am also pleased to report that we were again able to offer our staff Diocesan-recommended COLAs for FY 2024 and are thankfully able to continue to fund our worship, music, pastoral care, outreach, and mission expenses at the levels to which we have all become accustomed.

Stewardship Committee Report – *Tom D. Casey, Shelley C. Rodgers*

The annual pledge campaign in support of the 2024 operating budget concluded on January 31, 2024, with a third consecutive year of strong results. This most recent stewardship effort, however, brought into focus the need to further broaden the practice of pledging by Christ Church members.

The Stewardship Committee for the 2023-2024 annual pledge campaign included veterans Newman Ainsley, Emory Cox, Lincoln Foran, Terrell Fuller, Rupert Hammond-Chambers, Charles Ingersoll, Brent Minor, Charles F. Oat, Brian Quintenz, Anne Randolph, David Roehrenbeck, David Shepard, Ed Stewart, and Dick Thompson joined by new members Randolph Adams, Thomas Adams, III, Lesly Bell, Chris Burn, Greg & Kerry Carlsen, Taylor Cortright, Russell Firestone, Susan Foster, Jeff Grappone, Courtney & Rachel Houston-Carter, Colvin Matheson, Catherine Porter, and David White. Rev. Nathan Huddleston took over from the Rector as clergy representative to the Stewardship Committee. Shelley C. Rodgers and Thomas D. Casey served as co-chairs for the final year of a three-year term.

Two important tasks in support of the annual pledge campaign to help fund the 2024 operating budget were (a.) continuing transparency and education efforts to improve awareness of parish finances and the importance of pledging in sound budgeting and planning, and (b.) growing the number of regular pledge-making households to enhance resilience and stability of the parish's primary source of funds to pay for ordinary expenses.

A major additional project for the Stewardship Committee this year was production of the first-ever stewardship video for Christ Church. This video can be found on the parish website and the church's YouTube page. Along with being a powerful testament for annual pledging, the video is an effective representation of our congregation and its mission and worship.

CCG *Basics*, a series of question-and-answer sessions, was presented along with the Treasurer to provide opportunities for parishioners to learn more about how our church is

managed and financed. A version of CCG *Basics* was incorporated into the New Members Course. This innovation, executed by the Treasurer and Associate Rector, played a significant role in securing annual pledges from nearly all new members welcomed by the congregation in November.

In its second year, the St. Margaret of Scotland Society of pledge-making households that include Sunday School teachers and/or children eligible for Nursery Care, Sunday School, Confirmation preparation, or the Youth Group produced another set of strong results that include a half-dozen households new to annual pledging.

The Wardens and Vestry provided significant participation in and assistance to the annual pledge campaign. Vestry members spoke at each service on Pledge Sunday, contributed personal perspectives on stewardship to the series of weekly pledge campaign updates, and added their voices to Stewardship Committee outreach to parish households.

Of special note is the stewardship example of many who give time, talent, and treasure to our church. The Ushers Guild, Finance Committee, Docents, Flower Visitor Ministry, Hospitality Ministry Committee, Christ Church members of the St. Francis Guild, the Stewardship Committee, the Vestry and parish officers, and our clergy and senior staff all achieved 100% participation in the annual pledge program.

The Altar Guild, Youth & Family Ministry Committee, Flower Guild, Mission Committee, Adult Acolytes, Chalice Bearers, and Gethsemane Guild came very close to 100% participation.

Overall, the annual pledge campaign for 2024 did well despite challenges not encountered in the two prior pledge seasons. It was expected that some parishioners with commitments to the capital campaign might not increase or could decrease their pledge amounts. That proved to be the case. Also, because of uncertainty for the U.S. economy and global stability, we believe, a somewhat higher than usual number of regular pledgers did not renew their generosity before January 31st. In addition, sadly but naturally, mortality took an above-mean toll on the corps of 2023 pledgers.

The number of new or resumed pledgers for 2024 is an impressive seventy-one. Yet, netting the addition of new/resumed pledgers over the past three years against the number of deaths, households who have moved away from the District of Columbia area over the same period, and pledgers who are not consistent from year-to-year leaves Christ Church with a pledge participation rate well below 50% ~ though markedly above the 37% who pledged for 2021.

As of midnight on January 31st, 2024, three hundred and eighty-two Christ Church members had pledged a combined \$1,483,680.00 of estimated gifts in support of the 2024

operating budget. At a comparable point in 2023, there were three hundred and seventy pledges totaling \$1,478,351.00.

On behalf of the Christ Church congregation, the Stewardship Committee is sincerely and deeply grateful to the faithful pledgers named below. The support of these individuals and families for 2024 operations is fundamental to sound budgeting and management for Christ Church.

Pledgers for 2023

Ms. Susan D. Adams
Mr. Thomas L. Adams, Jr.
Ms. Catherine Ahmad
Mrs. Lee Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Amling
Mr. Will Andersen
Mrs. Krista Anderson
Dr. & Mrs. John Duke Anthony
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Applin
Mr. Robert Carter Arnold
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Arundel
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey Baker
Reverend Frederick S. Baldwin
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Bartlett, III
Mr. & Mrs. George W. Bavin
Ms. Lesly Bell
Mr. Edward Bentley
Mrs. Jane Berkeley
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Best
Rear Admiral & Mrs. David Bill
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Binder
Mr. Thomas L. Birch
Mrs. Suzanne R. Block
Dr. Elizabeth Bluhm
Mr. John Wood Bolton, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Bourne
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Boyse
Ms. Alice Bradford
Ms. Anna Brooke
Mr. William O. Brubeck
Ms. Nancy Taylor Bubes
Mrs. Wiley T. Buchanan, III
Mr. & Mrs. I. Townsend Burden
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher J. Burn
Mrs. Rachel Burnett
Honorable & Mrs. Christopher B. Burnham
Mr. William R. Burns &
 Reverend Catherine Ballinger Burns
Mrs. Nora Leake Cameron
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. James Cannon, IV
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Carlsen

Mrs. E.A. Carmean
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy T. Carrington
Mr. & Mrs. Blaine Dawson Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas D. Casey
Mr. & Mrs. James Caughman
Ms. Faya Causey
Mrs. Britta Chambers
Dr. Barbara Chang-Wai-Ling
Mrs. Carroll T. Chapin
Mr. Christopher K. Chapin
Dr. & Mrs. Alexander Chester
Dr. & Mrs. Ernest Clark
Mr. & Mrs. John Cochran
Reverend & Mrs. Timothy A.R. Cole
Mr. Dylan Colligan
Mr. & Mrs. Terence Collins
Ms. Adriane Connerton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Connolly
Mr. & Mrs. David Copenhaver
Mrs. Roger Cortesi
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Costan
Mr. Henry H. Courtney
Honorable & Mrs. William Courtney
Mr. R. Emory Cox
Mrs. Warren J. Cox
Mr. Jarrod Creasy & Ms. Katherine Harwell
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Crocker
Mr. Christopher Cushing & Mr. Stan Kelly
Ms. Martha V. Dale
Ms. Katherine M. Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Eli Whitney Debevoise
Ms. Johanna DeBonte
Mr. Sargon de Jesus
Mrs. Doris Lewis Dixon
Mr. & Mrs. Logan Dobson
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Dohlman
Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. Dougherty
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Dower
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Dubois
Mr. David Dunn &
 Honorable Amy Bondurant
Mr. & Mrs. James Earnest

Mr. George Eatman
 Ms. Tippi Ellis
 Miss Eizabeth Lee Elser
 Honorable Nancy Ely-Raphel
 Dr. Christine V. Emery
 Mr. David J. English
 Ms. Whitney Enright
 Miss Anna-Stina Ericson
 Mr. Jack Evans
 Mr. Samuel Smith Everette, IV
 Mr. & Mrs. William Farquhar
 Mrs. Natalia Fominykh
 Mr. & Mrs. Allen Foster
 Mr. Eric Fraunfelter & Mrs. Harriet Sweeney
 Mr. John G. Froemming
 Ms. C. Terrell Fuller
 Mr. James Fuller, III & Ms. Catherine Porter
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Galvin
 Mrs. Anne Murray Gambal
 Mrs. Francesca Gamondi
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gibson, III
 Mr. Philip Gignoux &
 Ms. Mary Alice Kleinjan
 Mr. M. Tyson Gilpin
 Mr. & Mrs. John Gilstad
 Mr. Marshall Ginn
 Mr. & Mrs. Ian Glenday
 Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan W. Gossens
 Ms. Anne Grambsch
 Mrs. Temple Grassi
 Mr. & Mrs. John Graubert
 Dr. & Mrs. Richard J. Green
 Miss Stephanie Leigh Green
 Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Gross
 Ms. Ann Haas
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hadley
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Hague
 Mr. Newman T. Halvorson, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. James Hamilton
 Mr. Rupert Hammond-Chambers
 Ms. Kathleen Handley
 Mr. Ray Harry & Mrs. Sheila Ward
 Mr. Michael V. Hart
 Mr. Alexander Haslam

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas S. Hastings
 Mr. Neal Brian Herman
 Mr. & Mrs. F. Eugene Hiigel
 Mr. Josh Hildreth & Mr. Rick Robinson
 Mr. & Mrs. John Hodges
 Mr. Rodney E. Hood
 Ms. Laura Hornbuckle
 Dr. Stephen Titus Hosmer
 Reverend & Mrs. Nathan Huddleston
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Hughes
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hunter
 Mr. Byron W. Hurst
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles S. Ingersoll, Jr.
 Dr. Kay Redfield Jamison
 Mr. Olivier Jeanne & Ms. Jianping (JP) Zhou
 Mrs. Lois E. Jecklin
 Ms. Pamela A. Jenkinson
 Mr. & Mrs. Alistair Jessiman
 Mr. Michael Johns-Hennessy &
 Mr. Bowman Johns-Hennessy
 Admiral & Mrs. Jay Johnson
 Major John Chase Johnson
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Johnson
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Johnson
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter H. Jost
 Mr. & Mrs. Frederic R. Kellogg
 Mr. Adam Kemerer & Mr. Josiah Osgood
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 Mr. & Mrs. John R. Kroeger
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 Ms. Angela LoRe
 Ms. Celia Lovell
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Scott Lurding
 Mr. & Mrs. John D. Lytle
 Mr. John D. Macomber

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 Dr. & Mrs. Alan R. Mandel
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Scott Marquardt
 Mrs. Ellen Wills Martin
 Mr. & Mrs. I. Guyman Martin, III
 Mr. & Mrs. I. Guyman Martin, IV
 Mr. John Blair Martin
 Mr. Colvin T. Matheson
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Matz
 Ms. Marcia Mayo
 Mr. George L. McCabe, Jr.
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 Mrs. Virginia Mentz
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 Mr. Peter T. Metzger, II
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 Mr. Brent Minor & Mr. Alan Coker
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 Dr. & Mrs. W. Tabb Moore
 Professor & Mrs. Peter Morici
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 Mr. Michael Mosettig
 Dr. & Mrs. Eric Motley
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 Mr. & Mrs. Byrne Murphy
 Captain Morgan W.W. Murphy, Sr., USN
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 Ms. Sidney Murray
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 Ms. Susan Van Devanter
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