

# Christ Church Alexandria Annual Report 2021-22



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## Meeting Agenda

11: 20 Opening Prayer.....	Robbie Laughton
11:25 Call to Order .....	The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons
Declaration of Quorum.....	Russ Randle
Appointment of Clerk.....	Anne Ramsey
Appointment of Parliamentarian.....	Russ Randle
11:30 Rector's Address.....	The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons
Warden's Address.....	Brett Levanto
11:45 Treasurer's Report.....	David Rees
11:50 Stewardship Report.....	Chris Zavrel
11:55 Foundation Report.....	Tillman Finley
12:00 Property Report.....	Barry Stauffer
12:05 Introduction of Vestry Slate.....	Jaclyn Moyer
12:10 Rector & Wardens' Award.....	Noelle, Brett Levanto, Libby Witt
12:15 Motion for Adjournment.....	The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons
Closing Prayer.....	The Rev. Lauren Banks

## Mission

Christ Church embodies God's unbounded love by embracing, liberating, and empowering people, whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith.

## Vision

Christ Church embodies God's unbounded love by nurturing people of all ages in their spiritual journey through:

Worship, Christian education, spiritual inspiration, guidance for incorporating God's principles into daily life, and openness to established and new insights into God's teachings.

A warm, inviting, embracing congregation, clergy, and staff, dedicated to serving God and each other.

An inclusive and diverse congregation that offers Christ's welcome to all, regardless of age, race, or sexual orientation.

A generous, compassionate, and proactive parish, working together through outreach and mission.

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## Rector's Report

In February of 2022, we marked two years of pandemic life. The two years prior, 2020 and 2021, were deeply impacted by a constant shifting and changing of our common understanding of what it meant to be together. The constant changes in safety advisories meant that planning more than a month or two ahead was an act of guaranteed frustration for our staff and committees.

But at that two year mark in February 2022, the shifting had slowed enough to allow us to begin to think proactively again, instead of reactively.

We did and still do plan our events with an eye to the health and welfare of all of our congregants, but we can be more expansive in our planning as we know more about how to fight the virus with vaccines, masks, and hygiene.

The beginning of 2022 brought the dedication of the new Bromley Organ and the end of 2022 gifted us our first "normal" Christmas since 2019, with the new tradition of our largest and most robust service being the 4:00 p.m. family and friends service.

In between January and

December, we welcomed 22 new people into the life of Christ through baptism, and celebrated the confirmation and reception of 12 people when Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson came for our Episcopal visit.

2022 also saw the deaths of 17 members of our community, 14 of whom were buried here in our sacred churchyard. We mourn them even as we celebrate their entrance into the land of light.

Robbie Laughton joined our staff in 2022 and has been working to rebuild our youth group and strengthen the presence

of our young adults as he prepares for his 2023 ordination. Julie Simonton joined the staff in the fall of this year, replacing Anne Richardson as our Director of Stewardship.

2022 has prepared us for a wonderful 250th anniversary year in 2023 and we are surrounded by the blessings that are the fruit of our own work, the fruit of the work of those who have gone before us and, most importantly, the fruit of the goodness that God gifts us so freely.

The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons  
*Rector*



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## Senior Warden's Report

When I was first on the Vestry, a friend would regularly needle me over my incomplete knowledge of the going's on in the parish.

"Aren't you on the Vestry?" he'd ask, pointedly, after I professed ignorance over some meeting or ministry. I knew he was joking, but ever since I've taken seriously the responsibility of staying on top of the affairs of the church – a challenge my fellow vestry members hold in equal esteem.

I've learned something, though, in the past three years: It's a blessing that it's so hard to "know everything" about Christ Church. In fact, it might be impossible. We have so many ministries touched by so many hands, all bent towards sharing God's unbounded love, that I'm reluctant to claim familiarity with them all. Participating in the annual meeting is a great exercise in seeing how far this impact stretches. In the pages of this document and from the mouths of your fellow parishioners, this is a chance to touch very briefly every corner of our collective meaning to each other and the world around us.

In the spirit of adding to those reports, I can share the Vestry of Christ Church has much to look on with pride from the past year. As always, it starts and ends with the people that make all this work real. We enjoyed the arrival of our new youth minister, Robbie Laughton, who has been a long-answered prayer in bringing energy and spirit to his many duties around the church. While we parted with the inimitable Anne Richardson, her place was quickly filled by Julie Simonton, who has brought her own focus and intention to the

work of development for the church. Robbie and Julie join a core team of committed staff and facilities assistants who bring their incredible talents to service in our parish and community. The Vestry made some hard – but responsible – choices in its 2023 budget to invest in staff salaries. Their value cannot be overstated, and it should be our collective commitment to continue to recognize it.

We've made considerable investment in our campus over the past year. A major project to replace the roof on the Memorial Parish Hall was completed and we're improving lighting around the churchyard. Preventive maintenance on the historic church is never ending, and big projects lie ahead. Not only will we continue to maintain the historic church – a facelift for the tower's exterior is needed – but a comprehensive reimagining of all facilities is underway to make better use of our parish halls and show off the great things happening within them.

Formation activities continued to return to form and build momentum. Regular Wednesday meetings exploring "everyday theology" from the fictional soccer coach Ted Lasso to very real and pressing political discussions have gathered a faithful group of parishioners committed to tough conversations and joyous reflection. Our youngest members were finally able to return to a full year of Sunday School after years of pandemic disruption, even filling the church in December for the first Christmas pageant since 2019. The youth group has continued its vigor through film studies, ski trips, escape rooms and good fellowship.

The return of long-missed practices continued with the restoration of fellowship activities like dinner church and parish breakfasts. These gatherings have filled both our spirits and our bellies, strengthening us for great work in support of our community and the larger world. Our people got back out for visits to Our Little Roses in Honduras, a walk of the Camino de Santiago, virtual visits with our friends at Mengo hospital in Uganda, and continued connection with the Diocese of Renk in South Sudan. Our attention of course has also been on the celebration of our 250th anniversary, which is off to a strong start. The year provides us a unique opportunity to think with loving and careful intention about our collective past, using the lessons of history to make good into the future on our promise as God's people.

In that spirit, the Vestry committed to work with Justice and Sustainability Associates in reconciling our history in a way that serves us to confront racism and inequality. The project will ask much of us – using our 250th anniversary to consider the legacy we want to build for our 300th. I know this community will be committed to that work. We filled the church for the first presentation by our history committee on the church's grappling with school desegregation in Virginia. We filled the Meade Room for JSA's introduction of its goals. By our presence and commitment, the parish will build on our past to fulfill our future.

In listing these points, I'm keenly aware of how much is omitted. I hope you've already thought of multiple things you wish I'd included, that matter

deeply to you. Every morning (and on Wednesday evenings) I see fellow parishioners gather online for prayer or compline; it's a reminder of the many good things that happen because of the spirit of our fellow parishioners. Being unable to briefly chronicle every aspect of the life of this congregation in a short report really is a blessing.

Reflecting on that blessing – all the work done in the name of this church – brings a useful challenge for all of us: Expand its reach. The vestry has regularly discussed the importance of finding and cultivating volunteers for carrying on ministries that have long been vital to the community. I encourage everyone – and I will undertake my own reflection as I rotate off the vestry – to think about what elements of this church's existence we value most, what groups or individuals sustain them, and how we can invest ourselves in continuing their impact.

Thank you so much to Noelle and Lauren, to the church's lay staff (especially Stephanie, for her patience and attention over the past year), to my fellow Vestry (in particular Libby Witt, our Junior Warden, and Anne Ramsey, who for three years has been our clerk), and to all of my fellow members of this parish. It is because of all of you that this place is so vibrant, so engaged, so caring, that this Senior Warden struggles to keep up with it all.

Brett Levanto  
*Senior Warden*

# Major Projects C

Memorial Parish House Roof Replacement: This project was accomplished in March 2022. The \$240k project cost paid by the Foundation budget and remaining balance will pay off at the end of March 2023.



All church windows and shutter were reglazed and then repainted. Portico windows also were reglazed, sealed, and repainted.

Meade Room Downspouts: Rainwater caused damage to the Meade Room kitchen wall. After investigating, we concluded that water needed to flow farther from the building. Our vendor connected the two downspouts around the Meade Room to the existing inlet grade.



The windowsills around the Parish House's second floor were rotten and were repaired by our vendor.

# s Completed in 2022

We purchased 100 new padded chairs to replace the damaged and old chairs in the Meade Room and Auditorium.



Churchyard Lighting Project: Enchanted Lighting procured and installed churchyard lights and sensors. The project budget was \$11,700 and was donated by Barry Stauffer and Anne Shine.

Churchyard Memorial Stones: One of the historic gravestones was broken years ago. Kline Memorial repaired and reinstalled the stone. Our Facility Assistants also reset all stones in the churchyard that were not straight.



Galvanized Storage Sheds: Our local contractor removed the old shed located in the alley and installed two new ones on the new wood base structure.

Chapel Renovations: All chapel pews were replaced. The wall and ceiling got fresh paint, and two chandeliers were replaced.



## Selected Projects Planned for 2023

- Churchyard Wall Lights: The wall lights and their wiring in church yard (Main Parish House entrance) are not operating. R&M electric company will do this project in February.
- We receiving bids from vendors to replace all stair treads in the Parish House.
- Washington Street entrance steps and lights to the Parish House will be repaired.
- Church tower wooden façade and the shutters need to be replaced. The cost of this project is around \$300k, and we plan to start it in 2025. We are planning to save a portion of our Foundation budget in 2023 & 2024 to be able to handle the project costs. We probably still need to use a grant for a portion of this project, and properties members are currently working on that. When the repairs are completed, we will remove the three ground level tower lights and place other lights on the tower similar to those on the east side.
- Remove/trim old tree in the churchyard next to Cameron Street.

Pouyan Meghdadian  
Facilities Director



# Christ Church Foundation

In 2022, the Christ Church Foundation, thanks to the sustained generosity and support of our parish family and friends, continued our work to preserve the church, buildings and grounds for ministry today and for generations to come.

The Foundation’s investment strategy balances distributions with earnings over a three-year rolling average, ensuring that the assets will provide funds for the future. The majority of the Foundation funds are managed in consultation with Creative Planning investment advisors, in accordance with the investment policy established and annually evaluated by the trustees. The trustees also oversee the independently-managed William Smith Trust. In addition, SBSB manages the Tri-Centennial Trust, a fund maturing in 2076; and the grant from the Daniel E. Offutt, III Charitable Trust for the Ross building property.

In 2022, the Foundation made distributions to the church totaling \$230,000 – representing 4% of the rolling average of the fund assets over the last three years – distributed quarterly for the continuing care of

the church, buildings and grounds and other uses consistent with the Foundation’s Articles of Incorporation.

In recognition of the church’s upcoming 250th anniversary, the Rector has asked the Foundation to work to secure 100 realized planned gifts and gift commitments by the end of 2023. To date, the Foundation is within only a few gifts or commitments of reaching that goal. The trustees are grateful to all who have made known their intent to include a lasting gift to the church through their estate.

We also thank all who made current and memorial gifts to the Foundation during 2022. I invite you to join with the Foundation in preserving Christ Church’s physical campus and our direct impact on the Alexandria community. Supporting the Foundation can be done simply through your financial institution and does not require one to adjust a will. For further information on how you can help, please contact, in confidence, [foundation@historicchristchurch.org](mailto:foundation@historicchristchurch.org).

Since its founding, the Christ Church

Foundation has embodied the continuing legacy of the faith and support of our parish family. We enjoy this church because of the generosity of those who came before us, and we are privileged to be able to give to those who will follow.

Tillman Finley  
*President, Christ Church Foundation*

## Value of Christ Church Alexandria, Virginia Foundation Assets (in '000's) As of December 31, 2022

Foundation funds, managed by SBSB on behalf of Trustees	\$5,391
Loan to Diocesan Missionary Society	\$20
William Smith Trust, managed by SunTrust under terms of bequest	\$388
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,841</b>
Tri-Centennial Trust, managed by SBSB on behalf of Trustees	\$460
Daniel E. Offutt, III Charitable Trust, managed by SBSB on behalf of church	\$828

# Treasurer's Report

Christ Church enters 2023 financially strong. We are incredibly grateful and thankful for the financial support of our parishioners year over year. The Vestry passed a deficit budget for 2022, recognizing the need for continuation of programs, and the difficulty of forecasting revenues while we were still in the pandemic. Revenues came in under expectations in all categories, but particularly in Events & Other, as some of our programming that generates income, particularly church tours, did not return as quickly as we hoped. Our Vestry, clergy, and staff did an excellent job controlling expenses in the face of inflation and higher commodity pricing for natural gas, but this was not enough to offset the drop in revenues, meaning the church did end 2022 in the red. Despite this, the church continues to have strong financial standing across the board, as well as in our reserve funds.

Revenue in 2022 was \$2.064m, including \$1.6m in pledges & offerings and \$410k in rental income from Ross for the Fowler House. Our expenses in 2022 were \$2.147m, including \$881k for worship & programs, \$529k to care for our buildings and campus, and \$449k for mission & outreach. The generosity of the parish in our pledges and offerings allows us to do this important work.

CASH: The parish finished the year with cash &

equivalents of \$590k, including \$305k in our checking and \$181k in our stock donation account.

INVESTMENTS: Our longer term securities were \$940k, including \$343k in the reserve fund, \$258k in the clergy housing fund, and \$340k in the Offutt Fund for mission & outreach.

For 2023, we have budgeted for \$2.195m in revenue and \$2.255m in expenses, for a projected deficit of \$60k. Next year's budget includes much needed

increases in COLA and merit adjustments for Clergy, Admin and Support staff, as well as increase to the music budget. Although the church has approved a deficit budget heading into 2023, vigilant oversight of the budget, fiscal prudence and continued generosity have typically allowed us to eliminate small deficits year over year. We will continue to pray for the health & fiscal strength of this parish. Particularly as the new phase of the Fowler House are set in motion,

which today continues to provide ~20% of our annual income from the lease of the Ross retail space.

David Rees  
Treasurer

## OPERATING RESULTS VS BUDGET

2022 REVENUES	Actual	Budget	Over/ Under
Pledges & Offerings	\$1,604,556	\$1,618,500	-1%
Ross Income	\$409,860	\$416,281	-2%
Events & Other	\$49,630	\$78,500	-58%
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$2,064,047</b>	<b>\$2,113,281</b>	<b>-2%</b>

2022 EXPENSES	Actual	Budget	Over/ Under
Worship & Programs	\$881,079	\$918,326	-4%
Building & Campus	\$523,854	\$532,465	-2%
Outreach & Mission	\$449,266	\$440,704	2%
Accounting & Admin	\$293,212	\$282,507	4%
<b>Expenses Paid from Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$2,147,411</b>	<b>\$2,174,002</b>	<b>-1%</b>

<b>Net Operating Results</b>	<b>-\$83,364</b>	<b>-\$60,721</b>
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# Stewardship & Pledge Campaign Report

What a joy to worship, serve, and grow in relationship with you during 2022! The Stewardship Committee members have been delighted to meet you on campus, off campus, and digitally over the past year. Thank you for your engaging conversations and faithful commitment to the mission and ministry at Christ Church.

During 2022 many of us returned to in-person worship and programs while others continue to participate digitally. We are grateful that both options are available, and Christ Church remains a robust “place together,” whether that’s on campus or online. Across the year,

parishioners returned to campus for Shrove Tuesday, continued to receive check-in calls, gathered at six neighborhood events during the summer, and enjoyed a wonderfully festive Welcome Sunday full of friends and fun.

In August we celebrated the gifted work and warm generosity of Anne Richardson, our Director of Development, who took a new position with Episcopal Church Foundation. In September, Julie Simonton (re)joined the Christ Church staff as Director of Development just as the new program year was getting into full swing.

In the fall we also turned our attention to the 2023



annual giving campaign. This year, our invitation was for us to make a pledge and offer our unfeigned thanks to God for all the gifts and blessings we have received. We invited everyone to pledge an amount that is meaningful and helps deepen relationships with God and Christ Church. For those who had made a pledge in the past, we invited an increased investment in the vitality at Christ Church.

Your response to the campaign, as well as to the invitation in January to increase pledges further in support of our hardworking staff, is a testament to the faithful generosity of this parish. We are grateful to everyone who has made a pledge for 2023. While your pledge certainly affects and sustains Christ Church as an organization, the most profound and positive effect your pledge has is on YOU as a practicing member of our shared Christian faith.

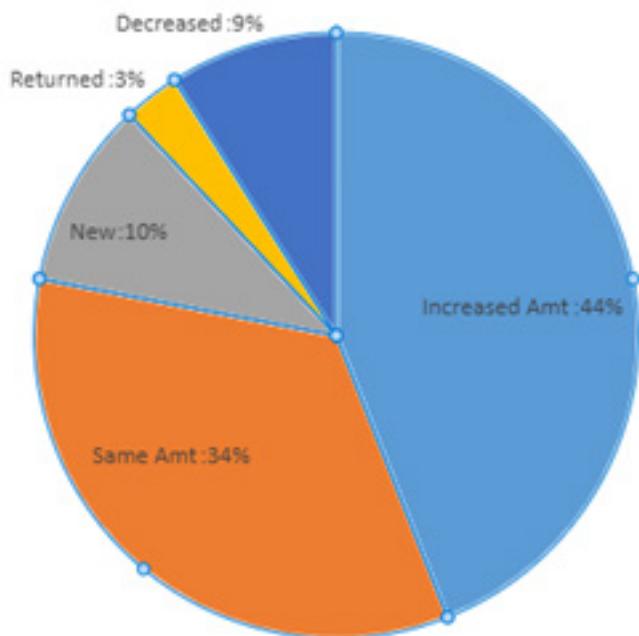
When we make the decision to pledge, we give ourselves the opportunity to grow and deepen our faith by striving to live out the way and teachings of Jesus.

If you haven't yet made your 2023 annual pledge, you can do so by visiting [bit.ly/CCPledgeToday](https://bit.ly/CCPledgeToday) to communicate your intent to financially support our parish.

For this year and always, we look forward to continuing to use the gifts God gives us to do the work God calls us to do.

Chris Zavrel  
*Stewardship Committee Chair*  
 Julie Simonton  
*Director of Development*

## 2023 Pledge: By the Numbers



## *We are grateful to all those who have pledged their fina*

Jason Abel	Caroline Carbaugh	Jaclyn Moyer	Emily Hughes-Ilich &
Abas & Eileen Adenan	Jesi Carlson & Pete Rotkis	Trish Fineran	Mark Ilich
Kathy Albetski	Bob Carpenter Jr.	Linda Fischer	Rick & Jessica Hughes
Carrie Ann Alford	Ken & Esther Carpi	Rodney & Candace Fisher	Jack &
Kris Amundson	Sheila Casey	Andrew & Jessica Floyd	Mary Dixon Hutcheson
Charles & Jane Andreae	Charles C. Chadbourn III &	Paige Foley	Dan Ingram
Charles & Kelly Andreae	Sarah S. Chadbourn	Barbara Franklin	Alicia Marrow
W.P. & Barbara Ard	Brad Chiappetta &	Mary Ellen Freesland	Elizabeth Jex &
E. Ruth Arnold	Maria DeFazio	Dorothy Friedlander	Donna McCaffrey
Joel & Amy Bacon	Bill Chin &	John & Mary Fritsche	Martin Jolly
Stefan Bailey	Denise Jean-Claude	Bill Gallagher &	Rawles & Maryann Jones
Jane Baird	Claire Chow & Jim Beattie	Barb Boehm	Christine Cheevers Jones
William & Deborah Baker	Dave & Catherine Clagett	Russell George	Rich J. Jones
Andrew Baldwin & Jean Kim	Jim & Lisa Coakley	Geoffrey &	Sam & Susan Jones
Lauren Banks	Nicola Collett	Marilyn Giovanetti	Betsy Joslyn
Ken & Jean Barry	Bill & Mary Coulter	Michael Goad	Sherley Keith
Jay & Cindi Bartol	Michael & Jennifer Coulter	David & Laura Gogal	Hadley & Tony Kimberlin
Janet Bausili	Chris & Jilinda Crowley	Jodie Gooby	Nancy Kincheloe
David & Janet Beckmann	Richard Cummings &	Mike & Judy Goss	Ken & Nancy Knapp
Michael Bergin &	Sharon Llewellyn Cummings	Anthony Graves-Buckingham	Fred & Jane Knops
Virginia Amos	Elizabeth Dakin	Alastair &	Fred Koester
Beth Beyer	Sean Dalton &	Stephanie Green	John & Bethany Kucia
Nancy Biegging	Kathryn Howell Dalton	John & Sara Grey	Jim & Carol Lafley
Mary Ann Bier	Mary Daly	Frank Griffin &	Carter & Anne Land
Todd & Sara Boehm	Charlie & Susan Davis	Billy Senter	Robbie Laughton
Sam Brathwaite	Betty Demarest	Jeff & Ava Hage	Tracy Lawrence-Black &
Eric Braun	Marie & Steve Denslow	Richard & Jackie Hagner	Richard Black
Stephen & Cindy Breed	Frances DePree	Tom Hahn	John & Nan Lawson
Chris & Jane Brewster	Vincent Di Lauro &	Mary Elizabeth Hahn	Kris & Paul Lebras
William & Sally Brierre	Paul Vesely	June Hajjar	Jonathon & Lisa Lehman
Sherman & Pam Broka	Adrien & Adam Dickerson	Stephen Hall &	Chris & Dominique Leins
Marilyn Bromley	Jeff & Linda Dienno	Urath Gibson-Hall	Brett & Holly Levanto
Maria Browne & Bill Butler	Steve Ditmeyer	David Halwig	Helen Lewis
Wendy Brookes	Francis & Mari Dobbs	Rob Hanson	Carrie Libell
Michael Brown	Paul & Ginny Doherty	Scott Harman	Steve & Ann Lindblom
Paul & Kim Brown	Carol Donlan	Alex Hartz	Tom &
Terry Brown	Tom Donlan	Russ & Claire Haymes	Dorothy Linthicum
John & Debbie Burns	Marybeth & Carroll Dority	Pat Henkel	Don & Carol Lowe
Mathias Bustamante	Susan & John Douglass	Kathleen Hickman	Dan & Lilian Lowrey
Brian Butcher	Cindy Drago	Jeanne Hoenicke &	Greg & Nan Lukmire
Heather Cable &	Paula Dubberly	Art Bailey	Philip Lyons & Isa Rezende
Andrew Fake	Julie Duke	Leslie & Fritz Hoeffcker	Ellen Maday
Bob & Rebecca Cady	Marianna Dunn &	Ann Hollingsworth	John & Susan Magill
David Caleb	Cindy Gady	Matt Hooper	Bob & Caroline Magill
Paul & Susan Cambon	Patti Dunn	Paul & Mimi Horne	Jeremy & Bridget Mancke
Robin Campbell	Bob & Beverly Dyer	Cornelia Horner	Mary-Eileen Manning
David & Rixey Canfield	Barbara Early	Darrin &	Chris Marbaker &
Jim Cannon	Will Edington	Kelley Brooke Hostetler	Kevin Diana
Cynthia Caples	Rick & Kathy Edmunds	Alex & Anne Houston	Nancy Marsden
Carol Carbaugh	Terilee Edwards-Hewitt	Ron Hudak & Susan Hahn	Lenny & Milly Marsico
	Barbara & Robert Fallon	Mike & Melinda Hudson	Jennifer Mastin Giglio &
	Tillman Finley &	Steve & Laura Humphrey	Brian Giglio
Larry &			



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## *Financial support to Christ Church for 2023:*

Erika Mathis	Nicole Radshaw &	Karlyn Stanley &
Chris &	James Richardson	Bill Porter Jr.
Meredith Mayer-Dempsey	Bob & Anne Ramsey	Barry & Maggie Stauffer
Anna McClure &	Russ & Julie Randle	C. Kearney Steele
David Rees	Audrey Rasmussen	Mark & Nancy Stout
Kathleen McCulloch	John & Nina Ray	Tami Stukey & Rick Aiken
Kevin McFadden	Joanna Reams	Tom Suydam
Bob McIntyre &	Mr. & Mrs. Gant Redmon	John Swallow Jr.
Martha Wilcox	Steve & Anne Reed	Jennifer Tallarico
Josh & Victoria McLaren	Sylvia Renfro	Brewster Taylor
Chris & Ann McMurray	Anne Richardson	Chris Thompson &
Andrea McNicholas	Dave Riggs	Susan Marquis
Robby & Kim Meara	Bill Roberts III	Teal & Adam Thompson
Pouyan Meghdadian &	Tony & Jennifer Roda	Bob & Sandra Thomson
Mahdiah Hosseini	Carla L. Rosati	Harley Thronson
Janet & Jay Merrifield	Pete Rotkis & Jesi Carlson	Stetson & Sandy Tinkham
Kevin Metz & Sara Evans	Ariel Rudy	Laurie Tracy
Dan & Jill Meyer	John & Liz Rudolph	Allyn Trautman
Brianna Meyer	Paula Sampson	Brent & Elizabeth Trigg
Ed & Angela Mills	Andy & Julie Sauter	Ty & Patricia Tylander
Barbara Mills	Ken & Kathi Sawka	Fran Usher
Drew & Maggie Minniti	Maria Saylor &	Robert & Barbara Wade
Doug Mitchell &	Pam Vanderburg	Elizabeth Ward
Kitty Dillon	Emma &	Mike & Kristi Waschull
Jaime &	Alexander Schade	Clara Waterman
Wendy Montes de Oca	Sharon & Bill Schambra	Garrett & Laura Watkins
Barbara Moore	William G. Schauffler IV	John & Bridget Weaver
Ridge & Gail Multop	Witney Schneidman &	Dave &
Liz Nelson	Lee Guerry	Adrienne Wegner
Susan & Andy Nelson	LaVerne Scott-Rayford	Beth & David Wells
Neal Nguyen &	Pat Sheridan	Allen Whitaker &
Rachel Stanley Nguyen	Susan Sherman	Claudia DeSantis-Whitaker
Tim Oliver &	Anne Shine	Elaine Wick
Ginger Haskell	Joe & Carol Shull	Amy Wilczynski
Christopher O'Meara	Jessica Silcox	Ann C. Willis
Susanne O'Neill	Julie Simonton &	Jack & Genie Wilmer
Janet Osborn	Richard Jones	Eleanor L. Wilson
Jayne Osgood &	Steve & Jan Slaton	Libby Witt
Carla Thompson	Michele Smith &	Christianne Witten
Chris & Gabriele Parente	Glen Hewitt	Brian & Julie Wommack
Ruth Perez Kim &	Carmen Smith	Andrew Wright &
Yong Kim	Charleen Smith-Riedel	Caprice Roberts
Judy Phillips	Lyn & Kit Snodgrass	Peter & Christy Wyckoff
Sandy Pickett	Melinda Snow &	Noelle &
Betsy Powell	Steve Teske	Kevin York-Simmons
Mark Pretzat	Emily Soapes	Matt & Julie Zahn
Cecelia Prewett	Wayne Spangler &	Mark Zavack
John & Pamela Prevar	Laura Folk	Chris & Janet Zavrel
Bob & Barbara Pringle	Rob & Holly Spiller	Margaret Zeigler
Jay Purcell &	Jay St. John III &	Carolyn Zollar
Jesse Solomon	Stephanie St. John	Rob & Emily Zuppert
		Anonymous (27)

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## Pastoral Care

This past year the Pastoral Care team has continued to pray for and aim to serve the needs of this congregation. A dedicated team of lay persons meet regularly to develop their pastoral care skills and then stay in contact with, and pray for, people who are sick, dying, or experiencing a tough season of life. As part of this ministry, weekly volunteers deliver flowers from the altar to those experiencing a celebration or sorrow. Lay Eucharistic Visitors are now sent forth by the Church community during the Sunday 10:00 a.m. service once a month. These Lay Eucharistic Visitors take Holy Communion to parishioners who are

unable to come and worship in person. We continued our lunches at Goodwin House Alexandria for Christ Church parishioners who now reside at Goodwin House. To celebrate births within our community, volunteers place bows with name cards on the Church doors and the knitting group supplies handmade blankets for newborns. We continue to discern the ways this committee and clergy can more deeply serve Christ Church and hope to spread the love of God to all who need it in times of need.

The Rev. Lauren Banks  
*Associate Rector*



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## Adult Faith Formation

This past year the Adult Faith Formation added a new series, Everyday Theology. This Wednesday evening opportunity is for adults of all ages to engage in how our understanding of God and Christianity gets lived out in our daily life. We began this series with “Lenten Lassos” in which we considered the tv show Ted Lasso and what elements of Christian discipleship we can learn from the show. We also looked at complicated teachings of Jesus in our “Come on, Jesus!” series and then took on contemporary political issues in “Everyday Theology + Everyday Politics” and finished the year with the “Sacred Enneagram.”

In Advent, our adult education offerings were focused on the theme “Sacred Growth” and we featured the art of Scott Erickson both in our Advent forums and in our Advent Quiet Day hosted by the Daughters of the King.

In conjunction with Daughters of the King we also held a retreat in the fall to help us consider what we’ve lost and found during the pandemic and David Hoover facilitated. For people to contemplate and prayer through the spiritual discipline of walking we’ve offered the labyrinth monthly to the parish and public. The parish has enjoyed an array of Sunday forums, a Lenten book group

study, and a study on various prayer practices offered by Theodore Somes, our VTS seminarian in 2022.

Covenant Class continues to thrive with many new and long-standing parishioners wanting to deepen their understanding of the Episcopal faith and Christ Church. Education for Ministry (EFM) provides an opportunity for people to deepen their knowledge of scripture, church history, and faith through a four-year educational program that also meets on Wednesdays. Ken and Nancy Knapp hosted various online Bible studies throughout the year.

Lastly, for the second year, we continued our summer

Wednesday cookouts in the churchyard with fellowship, worship, and fun for all as part of formation through community!

The Rev. Lauren Banks  
*Associate Rector*

# Children's Ministries

This past program year in Children's Ministries has been one of the most grounded, spirit-filled, and joyful program years we have had in recent memory. While the ongoing pandemic suspended and shifted so many of our beloved practices and traditions in 2020 and 2021, 2022 began with the Fowler House full of children and adults who love them. 2022 ended with a joyful Christmas Pageant and a family Christmas Eve service so full we needed to open the balcony!

In 2022, both Sunday School registration and attendance increased ever so slightly. We have over 70 kids "on the books" for Sunday School,

and weekly attendance is steady at around 45 or 50 kids split between six classrooms and led by a team of almost 20 faithful, loving, brilliant adults. 1st through 4th graders are now engaged in a new curriculum called Weaving God's Promises that offers more lesson options, better preparation materials for teachers, and more opportunities for building community. This has been a significant shift from the previous rotation-based curriculum we have used for this age group, and it has been a welcome change for both adults and children. The strength of the teacher teams who guide our Sunday School classes is a joy to witness as

they engage their own gifts and the gifts of everyone in the room to draw closer to God.

In addition to our weekly Sunday School program, 2022 also saw the addition of midweek formation programming for children that happened concurrently with midweek adult formation as well as summer family fellowship opportunities. If there is a desire for more of this among our parish community, there is the capacity to expand midweek programming and summer fellowship.

The children of Christ Church and their families remain committed to

worshipping God weekly in the main service and in Children's Chapel (sometimes topping out at almost 30 kids), in special services around holy days, in Dinner Church, at the dinner table at home, and beyond. The thoughts, feelings, insights, and questions that these children bring to our life together enrich all of our experiences of God, and we are blessed that their parents have chosen Christ Church as a spiritual home.

Ariel Rudy  
*Director of Children's Ministries*



**CHRIST CHURCH  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES  
2022**



## Youth & Young Adults

After much waiting I was finally able to begin my role as Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries in May of 2022 when my R-1 visa was finally approved. I want to thank the Christ Church community for their patience and understanding during that longer-than-anticipated process. I especially want to thank all those who helped keep Youth Ministry and Fellowship going during the interim, especially Rebekah Givens, Holly Levanto and Elizabeth Trigg. Your dedication to regularly showing up for our youth has made a huge difference, and I continue to be grateful for your support. Our Sunday School and Confirmation teachers – Jessica Hughes, Tilman Finley, and Darrin and Kelley Brooke Hostetler –

are some of the best mentors and leaders our young people could ask for, and I'm so grateful to have them on this team.

Much of my early months here were spent getting to know our youth at various summer events hosted by the Levantos, before diving into multi-week gatherings to watch the Disney+ series *Ms. Marvel*. We used this show to talk about what it means to be growing up and trying to figure out who we are in a world that regularly pulls us in different directions. Other highlights of the year have included bowling, a trip to Ivy Hill Cemetery, a Youth Group Overnight (formerly called a lock-in) followed by participation in the Sunday service, and the recently completed annual ski trip to Bryce Resort. Holly Levanto,

Brent Trigg, Betsy Joslyn, and our seminarians Jared Moore and Ryan Missel have all joined us at various events and I cannot thank them enough.

Some changes this year included switching our Confirmation Class from grade 8 to grade 9. This followed on our experience of a slightly older Confirmation cohort caused by a skipped year in the pandemic, and it was mutually agreed that grade 9 made more sense. We've created a new Sunday School class focusing on the lives of various saints and characters from the Bible, learning how their stories still resonate with us today.

One hoped-for event that didn't come together was a domestic mission trip for this coming summer.

Looking ahead, Noelle and I are planning meetings with the parents of our youth to best determine what our younger members will need going forward, and how we can best mutually support one another in our ministries.

As always, I am so grateful for the collaborative environment fostered here at Christ Church, and I'm looking forward to working even more closely with Lauren, Ariel, Noelle, Jason, and everyone here in the years to come.

Our Young Adults Group (a.k.a. 20s/30s Vision Group) meets regularly for fellowship opportunities away from the main campus of Christ Church. This is groups is largely made up of folks who are new to Christ Church and, in many cases, the Episcopal Church. Highlights have included a Nationals game, games night, and gingerbread house building, with hiking trips and trivia nights planned for the near future.

Robbie Laughton  
*Director Youth & Young Adult Ministries*



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## Music

Musically, the highlight of 2022 was the dedication of the Bromley organ. After so many years of waiting, we are now able to enjoy a truly spectacular instrument to help lead our worship. Nathan Laube and Todd Wilson, both internationally respected organists, each played a recital as part of our inaugural year, and we continued to feature guest organists playing for our Evensong series. In May, the magazine *Choir & Organ*, the largest publication in the world focused on organs and organists, featured a cover story about our instrument. The response from organists all over has been one of universal praise. We are so fortunate to have this instrument!

The adult choir sang five services of Choral Evensong, a hymn festival, and a Lessons & Carols service during 2022. This is on top of their weekly Sunday morning offerings. We welcomed five new members to the choir and continue to invite anyone interested and able to read music to consider joining this wonderful community within the larger Christ Church community.

In the fall, we rejoiced in being able to resume our chorister programs after a hiatus due to Covid. The numbers in the Canterbury Choir are small, but the dedication of several of these children is inspiring. Children have many options for their extracurricular pursuits and I remain thankful for those who make choir one of them. The Cherub Choir has a

large number of new faces and voices this year. And, they are an enthusiastic and friendly group of singers. I'm excited as this bodes well for the future of our chorister program.

Christ Church has continued its interest in commissioning new music for the church. This is a gift not only to our parish community, but also a gift to the larger church music world as well. Former parishioner Bill Roberts composed an original organ composition for Nathan Laube's dedicatory concert that was commissioned by parishioner Bob Carpenter. That work has been published, as has the choral anthem *An Hymn to the Evening*, by Stephanie Martin. Richard Webster wrote a new

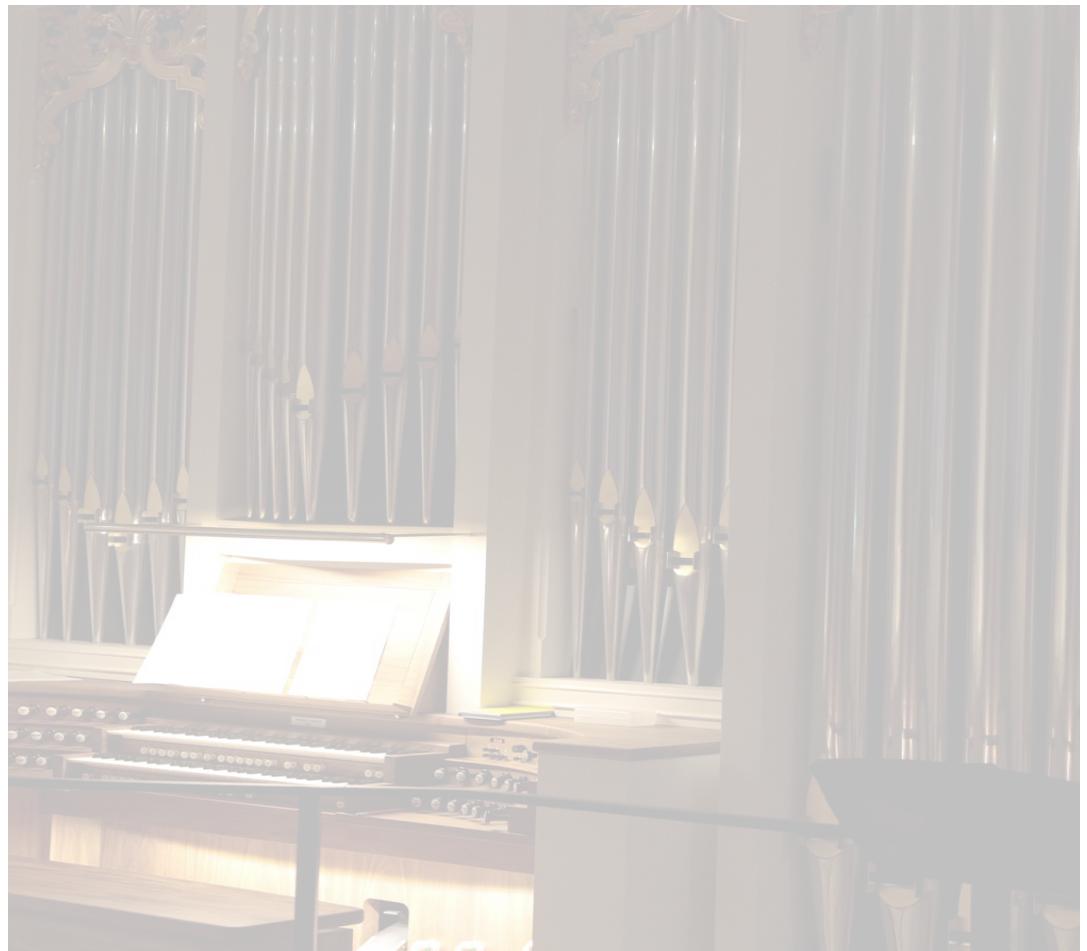
brass arrangement of the hymn "Not the building but the people", and David Hurd wrote a new choral anthem that we will be premiering at some point in the future. Looking forward, we will be premiering a new anthem by Marty Wheeler Burnett, professor of church music at Virginia Theological Seminary, on February 26, 2023 as part of our celebration of the church's 250th anniversary.

We also look forward to the upcoming Evensongs and our guest musicians who will be a part of them. The guest organists/conductors allow the choir to attempt more ambitious music than we are able to do on Sunday mornings with just one person serving as organist

and conductor. In May, we will offer a performance with orchestra of Handel's *Utrecht Te Deum* in a special liturgy celebrating the parish's festal year.

I express my deepest thanks to all of our faithful volunteers who give an untold number of hours in preparing music to offer to the greater glory of God week-in and week-out at Christ Church. Similarly, I continue to find such excitement and inspiration in our parish's hymn singing abilities. We are a singing people, and we are blessed beyond measure because of it. Thanks be to God.

M. Jason Abel  
*Music Director*



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## Outreach Ministries

The community of Christ Church is a safe and welcoming place for those in need in our community, regardless of race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or veteran status. Christ Church parishioners give generously of their time, skills, prayers, and financial resources to our outreach efforts in Alexandria.

The year 2022 continued to be a challenging one for residents of the City of Alexandria. Through grants, individual giving, and our church partners we raised \$697,765.04 for five of our Outreach Ministries in 2022. Our 11 outreach ministries were redesigned in 2020 with health and safety protocols in mind to serve the community during this time of crises, and in 2022 we continued to adapt and embrace the new normal. A lot has been learned about people in need and how to better serve them. We continue to be a successful safety net because of the relationships we have established with other communities of faith, nonprofit partners, and the city government.

Each ministry requires collaboration,

commitment, trust, and, most of all, faith. Our work together over the past three years shows that with God, all things are possible. Our resilience in the face of human crises has kept many people housed, fed, and safe. I, too, am continually blessed and fed by the Christ Church community.

**ALIVE! Partnership**  
Christ Church parishioners resumed picking up and delivering donated furniture to people in our community who otherwise, in many cases, had none. The Furniture Ministry closed in the spring of 2020. The Christ Church team was the first ALIVE! Partner to resume in the fall of 2022. The Housewares Ministry, which continues to be a wonderful source for much needed household items for families, reopened. Thank you to Matt Zahn for being our ALIVE! liaison.

**Bag Lunch**  
Christ Church outreach continued our decades long commitment to the bag lunch ministry at Meade Memorial Church again in 2022. Julie Zahn served as interim coordinator this year as the ministry continues to seek a new leader for this important outreach effort. Volunteers make

and distribute lunches for guests at Meade Memorial Church in Old Town for about five days each month, and sometimes more. The pandemic has shifted our ministry to volunteers' homes and outdoors. Volunteers sign up for a type of sandwich and several lunch bags and prepare the meals in their homes. On the day they are on duty, volunteers bring bag lunches to the church courtyard to serve guests in need. In 2022, we introduced a hybrid variation of our ministry, where we continued with at-home days and added an in-person option for volunteers eager to collaborate at the church and make lunches together. There are currently over sixty volunteers on our signup genius list, and we are adding new interested volunteers periodically. In 2022, we served bag lunches on 46 days, averaging 37 lunches distributed each day (an increase from last year's average of 26 lunches a day) for a total of around 1700 lunches prepared and served by our ministry group this year. We continue to partner with seven other local churches to support this important daily ministry and are looking forward to coming together with

our corps of volunteers to determine next steps as we enter 2023. Thank you, Julie Zahn, for leading this ministry.

**Carpenter's Shelter Meals**  
Carpenter's Shelter is one of two shelters in the City of Alexandria that provides services to individuals and families. Due to the pandemic, our assistance at the desk continues to be on hiatus. Christ Church volunteers' shop, cook and serve dinners onsite the first and third Friday of each month, with pandemic protocols in place. In 2022, we served approximately 576 dinners to residents on 24 evenings. Thank you to Barbara Boehm for leading this ministry.

**Christ Child Ministry**  
The Christ Child Ministry was a huge success in 2022. Thanks to your generosity and our partner churches, we raised \$43,361! These funds meant 247 children from 93 families involved in the Boys and Girls Club of Alexandria, our Lazarus Ministry, or our Refugee Ministry were provided gift cards to purchase gifts, a fleece blanket, a filled stocking, and grocery gift cards. A special thank you to Patrice Hall for her excellent coordination of gifts for the families at the Dunbar Boys and Girls

Club. We are grateful to our friends at Fairlington United Methodist Church for donating the stocking stuffers and hosting our stocking stuffing event, Christ Church Knitters for donating hats, scarves and mittens, Immanuel on the Hill for donating the fleece blankets and for pulling together gifts for families that came to us last minute needing Christmas presents; for the Christ Church parishioners and friends at Fairlington United Methodist Church who prepped the packages for distribution; to Rock Spring United Church of Christ for coordinating deliveries to the families in our Refugee Ministry; and the Lazarus Counselors for delivering gifts. Thank you to Anne Ramsey, Mary Dixon Hutcheson, Darrin and Kelley Brooke Hostetler and Liz Nelson for leading this ministry.

### **Food Rescue**

Every summer Christ Church volunteers rescue fresh food each Saturday from the Old Town Farmers Market. Groups of dedicated volunteers gather to collect, bag, and haul donated produce, eggs, and fresh baked goods from participating vendors. In the summer of 2022 we rescued

2,515 pounds of food from area farmers and merchants, which was distributed through our grocery delivery ministry and Lazarus Food Pantry. We also rescue food each week from local stores including MOM's Organic Market, Panera, and Trader Joe's. Thank you to Andrea McNicholas and Denise Jean Claude for leading this ministry.

### **Ladrey Senior Bingo**

Our Ladrey Bingo ministry had been a mainstay at Alexandria's senior high-rise apartments on Wythe Street for 17 years. On the third Thursday of every month residents are treated to a night of fellowship and fun as they play Bingo and socialize with their neighbors. The ministry resumed in April 2022, with eight sessions occurring. We lost our dear and dedicated ministry co-founder and co-leader Nick Wasilewski this December. Nick faithfully led the Ladrey Bingo Ministry for many years. Thank you to Trish Fineran and Andrea McNicholas for leading this ministry in 2023. Lazarus Emergency Financial Ministry This ministry brings trained financial counselors together with Alexandria residents who are seeking emergency

financial support with rent, utilities, and medical bills. We provide funds, resources, advocacy, and encouragement. Since 2020, this ministry has operated remotely. However, we are looking to bring back an in-person option in 2023. In 2022, Christ Church Lazarus Ministry counselors answered 1,368 calls over 50 weeks and provided over \$468,000 in financial assistance. Over half of these funds went to rental assistance, focused on helping prevent evictions. We prevented 68 evictions in 2022. Thank you to Julie Duke for leading this ministry.

### **Lazarus Food Pantry**

and Grocery Delivery Ministry. The Lazarus Food Pantry shifted from an in-person pantry to a grocery delivery ministry in 2020 in response to the pandemic. This year, from January to May 2022, volunteers made 134 deliveries, serving 323 individuals in these households. In May, we returned to hosting an in-person pantry every Thursday morning. Each week we welcomed an average of 20-25 guests to the pantry to choose groceries for their families. Our partnerships with the Capital Area Food Bank, the Church

of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, our food rescue ministry, and the generous donations of Christ Church parishioners make this all possible. In 2022 we received \$11,935 in donations. Thank you to Anne Shackleton for leading this ministry.

### **Meals on Wheels**

Christ Church delivers Meals on Wheels on the third Wednesday of each month. During 2022 we delivered lunches and dinners to between 40 and 50 clients each day. In addition to delivering meals, we provide a friendly face and check-in to those who may not see anyone else that day. Compared to last year we routinely cover five routes and if everyone is available, we do six routes. All these routes are within the city limits. We currently have 15 volunteers, but they are not always available. We continue to try and recruit new volunteers so that we have substitutes for when the regulars cannot deliver due to vacations, COVID, and other conflicts. Thank you to Jane Baird for leading this ministry.

### **Refugee Ministry**

Since our work with families resettled in Alexandria began in 2016, Christ Church and

other local churches have helped, supported, and fostered friendships with over 70 refugee families who are here seeking safety and freedom. 2022 was an extremely active year for CCRM as Northern Virginia experienced a surge of Afghan refugees arriving on Humanitarian Parole visas. Highlights of the support we were able to provide consists of \$157,087.04 in assistance to the families in our ministry, including \$117,517 in rental support to over 40 families, immigration counseling to over 20 families, 25 new beds and bedding to families who were previously sleeping on air mattresses or the bare floor, 15 educational scholarships, and the formation of a WhatsApp community that has close to 50 members and serves as a hub of resource sharing. Thank you to Amy Bacon and Barbara Fallon for leading this ministry.

### **Thanksgiving Ministry**

In 2022 \$17,382 was donated by parishioners and a group of attorneys from AT&T. Volunteers delivered grocery gift cards to 190 households in the community. In addition, the families in our Refugee Ministry received tote bags filled

with fun supplies to enjoy the holiday: Washington Street United Methodist Preschool donated children's books, The Falls Church Preschool and Sunday School hand-made and laminated decorative placemats; Fairlington United Methodist Church donated pistachios, Immanuel on the Hill donated salt and pepper shakers; and Temple Beth El provided pumpkin pies. Thank you to Amy Bacon, Barbara Fallon, Denise Jean-Claude, and Jane Baird for leading this ministry.

### **Mission Ministries**

Our three missions in the Diocese of Renk, South Sudan; Mengo Hospital and Clinics in Kampala, Uganda; and Our Little Roses Home and School for Girls in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, like the rest of the world, continued to meet with varying challenges in 2022. We were able to assist our mission partners with \$90,444.89 (\$11,000 were budgeted funds from Christ Church, \$79,444.89 were donations). We are looking at 2023 as a year for continued resilience and partnership as we face our successes and our challenges together. This is possible because of the leadership of these missions and their commitment to growing and strengthening their committees within the church as we pursue

the important work that is before us.

### **Diocese of Renk, South Sudan**

For nearly 26 years, Christ Church and the Episcopal Diocese of Renk in South Sudan have shared a covenant to pray for each other, visit when possible, and support vital social services provided by the diocesan bishop. Past initiatives have included building and supplying a four-room medical clinic, and funding the salary of a midwife. We advocate for peace and programs to improve the well-being of our brothers and sisters in Christ. In 2022, no visits were possible, as the pandemic impacted travel globally. We were able to send \$5,030 to help meet the needs of the people in the Diocese of Renk. Thank you to Nancy Knapp for your continued leadership.

### **Mengo HIV/AIDS Clinic**

Christ Church has been a prayerful partner with Mengo Hospital in Kampala, Uganda, for over four decades. In 2022, we had monthly Zoom meetings with Dr. Edith and Racheal Ankunda. We also held two virtual mission "trips" with our committee members and the staff of the clinic. These were wonderful opportunities to build our relationship and learn from one another. Thank you to our partners at Alfred Street Baptist Church for fully funding the clinic's budget in 2022 with a gift of \$70,000. This year we

held our annual September Commanders Football Game raffle and added a bonus of \$200 gift card to Vola's Dockside Restaurant. Ticket sales brought in \$4,051.96 for Mengo HIV/AIDS Clinic. Thank you to Witney Schneidman for serving as the chair of the Mengo Committee.

### **Our Little Roses, Honduras**

Christ Church has been a part of the lives of girls at Our Little Roses for more than two decades. OLR provides education, medical care, and support for girls from birth through university graduation. Currently, there are 71 girls living at OLR. In 2022, had a "Home Team" and a "Travel Team" with both virtual & in person components to our week with the girls of Our Little Roses. There were ways for people of all ages to plan and participate. In 2022 we spent \$11,362.93 on a service project, activities and food for the girls, and our sponsorship of two girls. We are in regular communication with the staff of OLR and we are actively planning our 2023 virtual and in-person mission trip. Thank you to Jane Baird and Anne Reed for serving as co-chairs in 2022.

Melanie Gray, MSW  
*Director of Outreach and Mission*

