

Christ Church Christiana Hundred



ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

Christ Church Christiana Hundred
P. O. Box 3510 - Greenville
Wilmington, DE 19807-0510
Office (302) 655-3379
Fax (302) 655-2259
Preschool (302) 472-0021
www.christchurchde.org



Mission:

As followers of Christ, we share the beauty and power of God's transforming love through worship, community, and service in the world.

Vestry:

Andy Johnston, *Senior Warden*
Steve Brodt, '11, *Junior Warden*
Dana Robertson, '11, *Clerk*
Ned Jackson, *Treasurer*
Mark Attix, *Assistant Treasurer*
Wilson Anthony, '12
Barbara Cairns, '13
Ted Cover, '13
Oliver Faulkner, *Youth Representative*
Betsy Field, '12
Wes Jones, '13
Martha Lankford, '12
Gina Pike, '12
Bitsy Robbins, '11
Rich Tucker, '13
Ann Wick, '11



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From the Rector:

Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

In the fourth year of my ministry among you and the 21st year of ordained priesthood, I can say without hesitation, God is good—all the time. In my monthly reports to the Vestry, I describe my ministry as your Rector in four areas. Permit me to do the same in this annual report.

Personal

All ministry is derived from the life we live, so relationships and experiences of my journey find their way into the priestly vocation. In the past year, my mother's Alzheimer's disease slowly progressed, which deepens my compassion for the many members whose loved ones are marked by degenerative disease. In the past year, my eldest child graduated from high school and flew the nest to attend Temple University. As I watch my children mature into adults, I am grateful for the blessing of this parish community that extends support, offers witness, and at times, ministers in ways a parent cannot.

I did a fair bit of travel this past year, most journeys related to my work within the congregation and beyond as I take my place in the councils of the Episcopal Church. I was blessed to experience two pilgrimages: the J2A pilgrimage to Italy in July 2010 and the Choral pilgrimage to England in February 2011. These sacred and shared journeys create bonds of affection and deepen my spiritual life as I encounter the Holy with companions in the congregation. It is as if the well of my soul is filled by these pilgrimages. In the last year, I have made several trips back to my seminary. You may know that the chapel of Virginia Theological Seminary was destroyed by fire last October. I serve on the committee for the development of a new chapel for the ages, with the hope that it serves as a sanctuary and training ground for the next 123 years or longer. This work makes me appreciate our sacred space, the fine organ, the beautiful grounds, and our commitment to maintain and improve it for those who come after us. We do not serve for our needs only but for the needs of others still to cross our threshold and experience God's grace and peace here. I also attended the conferences of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes and the National Association of Episcopal Schools. These gatherings teach me about our context for ministry and the opportunities we have in common with other congregations that have the stewardship of endowments and a school ministry. Each time members of the congregation joined me so that we gain perspective and insight for our own work.

Staff

In May of 2010 our head of school, Catherine Dolan, tendered her resignation. With zeal and talent, the board of trustees assembled a search committee and, in a matter of weeks, recommended one candidate to be our interim head of school. Jo Harney had not previously served as a head of school but as a highly regarded teacher and department chair with a wealth of experience in the Episcopal context. The board of trustees was elated to remove the "interim" part of her title as soon as she had fulfilled the requirements of the state's licensing agency.

Also that May we welcomed Mike Sayer as administrative assistant for stewardship. His experience in my former congregation allowed us to quickly regain our footing after the dismissal of Shannon Tusso. Mike's disposition makes him a lively colleague and a caring employee.

In the past year, we have seen The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly grow into a fine priest. Having curates come and go on shorter cycles reminds the congregation that all the clergy are a part of Christ Church for a time and a season, each a servant in their turn. Within the year I anticipate Jennifer will receive a call to a new ministry, and we will search for the next seminary graduate and support them in their development. We are blessed by the presence of The Rev. Canon Carl Kunz, who occasionally assists in worship and offers pastoral care from time to time. We are enriched by the ministry of The Rev. Calhoun Wick, a non-stipendiary priest and member who joins the staff clergy in offering a variety of gifts for ministry that enrich worship, teaching, and pastoral care. With The Rev. Russ Bohner and me, your clergy strive to better serve God and strengthen the faith of Jesus Christ in this place.

The Personnel Handbook states, “As an employee of Christ Church, you represent this ministry in both your work life and private life. As a result, you are expected to always be sensitive to how others may see you socially, spiritually, and ethically. We encourage you to strive toward a life that is an example to others of your relationship with God and your beliefs.” We have an excellent staff that understands their primary purpose is to serve the members of the parish in their ministries as together we carry out the mission of Christ Church Christiana Hundred.

Consider the tenure of this staff. From the longest serving to the latest to join the team, each member of the staff stands ready and willing to assist the congregation in carrying out its ministries.

July 15, 1977	Keith Dawson becomes business administrator on John O’Hear’s staff.
September 1, 1983	Bill Owen is called as organist & choirmaster on Adam Lewis’ staff.
July 15, 1989	Walt Morris starts as sexton.
September 12, 1989	Sherry Lawton-Fasic begins as a secretary for Adam Lewis; now she is parish administrator responsible for all communications as well.
September 24, 1992	Linda Hopkins joins the staff as the housekeeper; she cleans the church and chapel and coordinates the contracted cleaning service.
September 1, 1996	David Hearn becomes the assistant organist for Bill Owen.
August 9, 1999	Don Somers joins Walt Morris as sexton.
April 1, 2000	Millie Miller begins as administrative assistant.
September 1, 2001	Nadine DiLorenzo becomes director of the St. Nicholas (children’s) Choir.
August 22, 2006	Jane Rubini begins her part-time position as an administrative assistant.
May 1, 2006	Carl Kunz offers clergy leadership to end the interim ministry and continues as a pastoral associate.
September 1, 2007	I am called to be the 15 th rector of Christ Church and begin my ministry.
July 1, 2008	Lynne Jensen is called to the staff as minister for children & youth.
August 24, 2008	Russ Bohner is called to be senior associate rector.
June 15, 2009	Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly becomes our curate.
May 3, 2010	Michael Sayer joins the staff as administrative assistant for stewardship.
July 19, 2010	Jo Harney is called as head of school for CCEP.

Parish

As the Rector I am called as pastor, priest, and teacher to shepherd the Vestry and staff in manifesting God's vision for our mutual ministry; to work for the health and development of the congregation as a holy and life-giving center for members, staff, and the surrounding community; to create worship that inspires people of all ages; and to strengthen all aspects of the stewardship of our members and the resources we hold in common. I carry out these responsibilities in collaboration with members and staff, both clergy and lay. The reports in this document reveal these efforts in the year that is past. In addition, I highlight some details of our parish ministry.

In 2010 and thus far in 2011, our parish has recorded 29 baptisms, 16 adult confirmations, receptions, or reaffirmation of baptisms, 11 marriages, and 34 burials. We are preparing candidates for confirmation in June, including 25 youth, and are preparing another seven couples for weddings planned in 2011. The clergy lead worship monthly at the Methodist Country House and join lay ministers in bringing a monthly service to Stonegates Health Care Center. In addition, hospital visits, pastoral calls, spiritual counsel, and welcoming those seeking a faith community keep the clergy active in sharing the love of God in many settings. The clergy are partners in ministry with members who also share God's love in tangible outpourings of care as we demonstrate the transforming love of God here.

You can feel that love and a large measure of joy as well when you visit the Parish Center when our Preschool is in session. Each Tuesday I lead their chapel with Lynne Jensen and Nadine DiLorenzo to teach them of God's great love. This is an aspect of parish ministry few priests are privileged to share. Hearing 70 little voices sing *Spirit of the living God* or *I've got the joy down in my heart* reminds me we are all called to live out the promise to support each of the baptized in their life in Christ.

In the worship of the parish, we have expanded the offerings more suitable for young children in worship, especially for holy days. This year we added a Palm Sunday service for children. This is an area I hope we keep expanding, not only for young children but for those who approach the mystery of God in ways that reach beyond the worship of *The Book of Common Prayer*. While I am steadfast in my desire to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church, we can also explore alternative and emerging ways of worship that express the transforming love of God in Christ Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The development of a labyrinth is one such way I see Christ Church expanding the experience of worship. Bringing a canvas labyrinth for our Quiet Days in Advent and Lent allowed individuals a form of body prayer, incorporating the body's movement with the interior work of the spirit.

Another way that worship is serving this parish is through the care the clergy and staff take in planning special services for the holy days and for evensong, and especially our care in crafting funerals that communicate the power of God's love to those gathered to grieve and celebrate their loved one. I believe that Christ Church has a new reputation about our memorial services. It is time to stop telling the old stories about the way it once was and work together so that the wider community comes here to experience our parish as a holy and life-giving sanctuary in times of need. It is time to reach out to those we have lost over conflicts around funerals and Sunday schedule changes and invite them to join us in the worship of God by people of all ages and in all situations.

In my work to strengthen our stewardship, I have been honored to partner with Rosanne Miller over the last two years on our annual campaign and with Ernie Ruppe in the development of planned giving and the new Legacy Society. Stewardship is an act of faith and the work of the heart. I'm grateful to both of them and to the committees they have led that are called to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of time, talent, and the finances God has entrusted to them.

Thank you to all of you who have faithfully made and completed pledges to the annual campaign, or joined the Legacy Society, or completed your capital campaign pledge. Those pledges were made more than three years ago as we improved our facilities and increased an endowment fund for similar improvements in the future. Such giving toward our common life—in regular and special offerings and bequests—has allowed us to weather the financial downturn and the subsequent reduction in endowment income for our operating, or ministry budget.

At the same time, we have given time, talent, and the finances God has entrusted to us in acts of outreach to agencies and ministries that also serve God's purpose. In the last two years, we have been blessed with excellent leadership for the Green Show in Elizabeth Brodt and Allison Brokaw. The financial resources generated by our labor and creative talent, as well as our pleasure at a great party in early December, support the lives of our neighbors, those whom we are called to love and serve “with gladness and singleness of heart.” Thank you to everyone who participates in the Green Show and to those who offer leadership in organizing it each year.

Diocese and Wider Community

Through our outreach, we are connected to a wide range of organizations that serve some part of God's purpose today. By our very nature, we are connected to 36 other congregations in Delaware and to The Episcopal Church in 16 nations. When the earthquake devastated Haiti, our contributions supported our Episcopal brothers and sisters. Our presiding bishop has made the rebuilding of Haitian churches one of our denomination's top priorities, and our diocesan bishop dedicated this year's mission fund to that work. When our pilgrims visited Florence, Italy, we shared communion with our Episcopal brothers and sisters. When our youth perform mission work in the Dominican Republic, we are working alongside our Episcopal companions to share the goodness and love of Christ together.

We pray every week for one of the congregations or ministries of our diocese, mindful that we are bound together in a common life. For the 2011 ministry budget, the Vestry voted to increase our diocesan giving from the minimum contribution requested (10.8%) to the Fair Share portion (14.3%) or an increase of more than \$54,000 over the 2010 budget. This increase allowed the diocese to fully fund its ministry budget; it touches the lives of our brothers and sisters around the state. Still, there are congregations in our diocese that are struggling to maintain their ministry with shrinking membership and expanding needs. Each vestry around the diocese has been asked to reflect on the call to mutual ministry, especially with the Cathedral Church of St. John in Brandywine Village. Christ Church must prayerfully discern God's purpose for us and our ability to respond to that call while honoring the leadership in congregations, on our diocesan council, and from our bishop.

In the past year, one aspect of my ministry in the wider community has not received much attention at Christ Church. Two years ago, Hal Erskine convinced me to join the Association Board for the YMCA of Delaware. In that capacity, I attended a meeting last summer, hearing about a program called “Stewards of Children” promoted by the Darkness to Light Foundation.

Reflecting on the emotional and spiritual devastation caused by the widespread sexual abuse of children by a doctor in Sussex County, the YMCA wondered how its call to social responsibility might transform such darkness to light. You may not know that before seminary, I was an investigative caseworker for Child Protective Services in Indianapolis. For 18 months my work was solely with families where children were victims of sexual abuse. Sitting in Wilmington's Community Services Building, I was reintroduced to the need for the prevention of such abuse, an insidious violence that leaves a wide range of dysfunction in its aftermath. The program, "Stewards of Children," is a 3-hour training that raises awareness about the pervasive nature of abuse and what ordinary adults can do to prevent it. The executive director of the YMCA, Mike Graves, introduced Malcolm Gladwell's principle of the tipping point. Tony Cucuzzella (another Y board member) and I received the training in February, and our preschool teachers attended a training this April. If we can train 35,000 Delawareans to make them stewards of children, we have the possibility of shining light into the darkest corners of our society. It has been my honor to work alongside other non-profit agencies and representatives from our government to promote such an undertaking in the next five years. With our Attorney General, the Steering Committee for Stewards of Children is appealing to Delaware's leaders of industry, government, and non-profits to join in the work of child abuse prevention this June. I anticipate serving on the YMCA Board and the Steering Committee as one way to promote Christ Church as a holy and life-giving place for people of all ages and a community that promotes the care of children.

In closing, permit me to record words of gratitude for the Vestry and wardens. This vestry has worked together since October 2009 when the congregation passed the new bylaws moving our annual meeting from October to May. They truly care about their work of oversight for our service to others, our stewardship, and our spiritual life. They have brought devotion, humor, insight, honesty, and many other spiritual and temporal gifts to our monthly meetings to guide this parish in its ministry and mission. I am grateful to each one of them and offer thanks for their excellent leadership. Please join me in expressing gratitude to the four retiring members: Steve Brodt, Bitsy Robbins, Ann Wick, and Dana Robertson, who was elected to complete Judy Sargent's unexpired term. Dana will continue at the table as the clerk, or secretary of the Vestry. With this retiring vestry class, Andy Johnston also retires from his duty as senior warden. Andy was junior warden for a year before becoming the senior warden in October 2008. His steadfast counsel has guided me from the second month to this 45th month of my ministry at Christ Church. I am grateful for his leadership for our parish family and his care for the success and excellence of my ministry. Steve Brodt became junior warden in October 2008 and with Andy, has provided guidance for this Parish and this Rector. Thank you, Andy and Steve, for your fidelity, your discernment, and your counsel.

I began my report with a verse of scripture most frequently heard at weddings. It closes Paul's passage about love. His words were addressed to a community of faith as they strived to live together as followers of Christ. I hear this verse as I consider the ministry of the year that is past and the ministry that is in our future. Faith abides here: it has been strengthened by our learning, our devotion and prayer, and our stewardship. Hope abides here: it is manifested by our Vestry's leadership, the imagination of the Futures Group, in our ministry with children and youth, and in the collective work of the Green Show. Love abides here: in our care for one another, our fellowship and welcome, our outreach to our neighbors, and in our worship where we share in the beauty and power of the transforming love of God. God is good—all the time.

*The Rev. Ruth Lawson Kirk
15th Rector of Christ Church Christiana Hundred*

From the Senior Associate Rector:

Inspired—a word that well describes the past year at Christ Church Christiana Hundred.

Inspired—brilliant in a way that reveals the presence and action of God's Holy Spirit. As Senior Associate Rector, I am entrusted with pastoral leadership for Adult Christian Enrichment, Pastoral Ministries, and Outreach, and I am awed, amazed, and grateful for the overflowing grace and blessing of God's Holy Spirit, present and acting so powerfully in and through Christ Church.

This past year God's Holy Spirit inspired us to do great things. Working with others in the community, we bought, renovated, and equipped Epiphany House—an act of generosity for women coming out of prison or a rehabilitation facility, an act of love that says to these women: you are important and Christ Church cares about you. Almost 200 of us set out to read the Bible cover to cover in 90 days, and the waves of grace from that project still wash over our church, filling our study sessions, and drawing us deeper into God's Word. We have fed, transported, visited, brought Holy Communion to, organized receptions for, cried with, laughed with, sat with, listened to, and prayed with so many people from our church and community that Christ Church has the well-deserved reputation of a Christian community that serves and cares well.

This past year God's Holy Spirit inspired us to do small things. More than the grains of sand on the beach, more than the stars in the sky, unnoticed except by God and those who received these gifts, we offered to one another and our neighbors simple acts of love—a kind word, an embrace, a listening presence, a sacrifice—the overall effects of this love cannot be known or counted.

Inspired—if we look carefully, we can see God's presence and action this past year even in our struggles, disappointments, and disagreements. We can see God present and acting even in our grief and experiences of death. At the heart of our common life is the power and richness of our corporate worship. Through our Sunday liturgies, together with all of our other worship, we open ourselves to God's Holy Spirit—the gift of our baptism, the grace of Holy Communion—and are enlivened, empowered, and sent forth to do the work that God gives us to do, to be the church that God calls us to be, to live and speak and act as people *inspired*.

I am blessed to serve in the name of God with all of you—my colleagues, friends, sisters and brothers in Christ. Thank you for a great year. May God continue to inspire us all.

*The Rev. Russell Bohner, TSSF
Senior Associate Rector*

SERVICE TO OTHERS CLUSTER

The cluster of Service to Others is both our outreach and member ministry as we care and serve one another and our neighbors in the name of Christ Jesus.

Outreach:

Outreach Committee

Membership: Barbara Cairns (Chair), Tomoko Werbe (Co-Chair), The Rev. Russ Bohner, Jinni Butz, Nancy Chesser, Beth Duncan, Betsy Field, Stephanie Grant, Athena Jolly, Gary Jolly, Lucinda Laird, Didi Lovett, Kyra Marcin, Diane Mateson, Millie Miller, Ben Osbun, Jim Patton, Tom Scott, Glenn Sherk, Susan Sherk, Janice Stoeckle, Joe Stoeckle, Connie Wissing

Joy in the work describes the Outreach Committee's endeavors from 2010 through May of 2011. The path has been abundant and transforming—for those served as well as for those who serve. A 2010 survey of the Parish reaffirmed the congregation's desire for the Outreach Committee to direct contributions where they are most needed and to strengthen our ties to the community. With *joy in the work*, our ministries involved:



The restoration, decoration, and outfitting of Epiphany House. With the leadership of Linda Boyden and the generosity of parishioners donating skills, time, revenue, and goods—from brooms to beds and more—a house became a home for women seeking to rebuild their lives after incarceration. Plus, parishioners brought forth their gifts to counsel, to feed, to train, to provide, and to lend an ear and a kind heart.

- Results: opening a home and helping to launch a significant new ministry for women already resulting in 28 participants, with 18 women progressing to Stage 2, nine residents to Stage 3, and two moved onto independent living! Our hearts are transformed as well; our well of inspiration filled.

Restructuring and refreshing the Green Show; two seasons harnessing skills, resources, and creativity under the leadership of Elizabeth Brodt, followed by Allison Brokaw.

- Results: tremendous Christian community and revenue exceeding expectations; generating \$80,050 and \$88,000 for 2010 and 2011, respectively. The funds provide a generous cornerstone to our giving program and wonderful fellowship.

Over 20 members of the Outreach Committee serve as liaisons to two to three non-profit agencies, getting involved in their work, deepening our connections. Each committee member commits to the discernment of nearly 50 grant applications for work addressing poverty—its symptoms, root causes, and solutions, with Tom Scott's careful oversight of the allocation process.

- Results: awarding grants from \$500 to \$25,000 to 37 agencies in 2010; 38 in 2011. Total distributions in the two grant seasons were \$216,611 and \$222,058. Grants address housing, food, tutoring, health, mental health, marketing, camp opportunities, religious ministry, needed goods, arts, and services for the disabled. Inspired by the ministry at Epiphany House, in 2011 the Committee has committed \$25,000 as a cornerstone gift to establish a new fund for a significant future endeavor such as the Epiphany House ministry.

Leveraging our connection to the Jessie Ball du Pont Fund with a grant submitted in partnership with Connecting Generations, an agency whose highly-acclaimed program elevates mentoring skills and programs while fostering collaborations with schools and other agencies.

- Results: Connecting Generations was awarded a 2-year grant of \$120,000, allowing them to develop and implement an online training program making it more readily and widely available as well as cost-efficient.

Over 30 collections serving the constituents of 24 agencies.

- Results: Abundance—clothes, school and art supplies, food, diapers, Easter baskets, Thanksgiving dinners, medical supplies, Christmas gifts, bedding, home furnishings, and more. Resources are shared, needs met.

A presentation and breakfast for agencies, presented in the fall of 2010. This annual program is designed to foster the success of our agencies and their leaders.

- Results: With Wil Sherk lending professional expertise, a distinguished panel of leaders in the corporate, non-profit, and foundation arenas spoke to the power of, and necessity for, collaboration. Hospitality, knowledge, and connections were shared.

During a record recession, the parish continually responded to Christ's call to service. The paths involved channels the committee can measure and many more that we cannot as they are embarked upon by parishioners independently. The Outreach Committee is humbled by and grateful for the generous sharing of time, talent, treasure, and spirit. As we proclaim at the end of services, *our worship has concluded, our ministry begins!* *Barbara Cairns, Chair*

Emmanuel Dining Room – Men

Membership: Hal Schneikert (Chair), Larry Ashby, Bill Bizjak, Bill Campbell, Nick Cerchio, Don Huntley, Bill Jones, Bryan Keenan, Bill Patty, Mike Rushlow

Men in the parish purchase, prepare, and serve lunch at EDR West at 2nd and Jackson Streets on the 1st of odd numbered months (excluding January 1 which is handled by a private foundation). From June 2010 to the present, we prepared over 1,250 meals. There is an ongoing need for this ministry, and additional men for the team would be very welcome. *Harold Schneikert, Chair*

Emmanuel Dining Room – Women

Approximately 20 parishioners serve on this committee. Four or five gather in the church kitchen at 9:15 AM on the 22nd of each month to make 240 subs which are delivered to EDR East at 3rd and Walnut Streets. Nancy Frederick picks up the rolls, meat, cheese, and lettuce from a sub shop in Hockessin. Three new members have joined the group this year, and additional members are always welcome. *Marge Hardham, Chair*

Global Missions

Membership: Tom Scott (Chair), The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Steve Brodt, Nick Cerchio, Reeve Draper, Beth Faulkner, Lee Glen, Wes Jones, Bruce Kallos, Homi Kapadia, Shireen Kapadia, Charles Kelly, Matt Kempner, Tom Marcin, Al Mascitti, Valerie Mascitti, Rosanne Miller, Maggie Moran, Vicki Novak, Gina Pike, Aino Pulles, John Taylor, Maryann Younger, Kris Younger



The building up of relationships first breaks open the real presence of God and the real hope of lasting change and transformation. We have been invited to join the work of the people of Jalonga and the Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic. This experience provides a unique time for spiritual enhancement and building of relationships both outside and within the Parish of Christ Church. It provides an opportunity to serve with the people of the Dominican Republic and be ministered by them and each other.

Our hope is that:

- participants will work to broaden their experience and understanding of the Dominican Republic, its people, and diversity

- there will also be daily opportunities for fun, fellowship, relaxation, reflection, and prayer
- participants will build lasting and fulfilling relationships with each other and with the people of the Dominican Republic.

In June 2010, eight youth and five adults worked in Jalonga for one week, the culmination of many months of preparation, including three local mission work days in the city of Wilmington. While in the DR, the group built an outdoor classroom, which is currently in use every day at the community center in Jalonga.

A new group of youth is in the process of completing their pre-trip service work for a June 2011 trip.

Tom Scott, Chair

Good Works Gifts

Good Works Gifts provides an alternative to physical gifts. It is a good way to honor a special person in your life. Monetary gifts, in honor of that special person, are made to one of the agencies supported through the Christ Church Outreach Program. Christ Church sends a beautiful card to the honoree notifying them of your gift. The cards are appropriate for any occasion: teacher gift, birthday, anniversary, Mother's/Father's Day, or in sympathy, celebration, honor, or memory of your designee. In the last year, approximately \$1,200 was donated to area non-profits via Good Works Gifts.

Tom Scott and Betsy Field, Co-Chairs

St. Michael's Book Sale

St. Michael's School & Nursery was established in 1890 by the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware to care for children of working parents. At Christ Church we sell donated books and collect aluminum cans and printer cartridges for recycling, which benefits St. Michael's and the environment. All proceeds benefit St. Michael's Scholarship Fund. Over \$1,800 was raised this past year.

Muff Scott, Chair

Pastoral Ministries:

Pastoral Ministries Team

The Pastoral Ministries Team (PMT) is the umbrella organization for all of the pastoral ministries at Christ Church Christiana Hundred that offer Christian care and hospitality to people in need within and beyond the Christ Church family. Team membership is comprised of representatives from all the pastoral ministries. The team facilitator is Tilly Maassen, the advisor is Lisa Simon, the clergy representative is Russ Bohner, and the staff associate is Millie Miller. The purpose of the Pastoral Ministries Team is to provide, in confidence, mutual care and support for all involved in the many caregiving ministries of CCCH. The team meets monthly during the program year and is currently writing organizational guidelines that will guide how the PMT operates in the future.

Books on Grief

This series of four booklets, published by the Stephen Ministry, is given to people who are grieving the loss of a spouse. This year, seven parishioners have received some or all of these books.

Tilly Maassen, Coordinator

Caregiver Resource Library

This collection of books and pamphlets that support and inform caregivers is located in the Commons Room. *Marion Godfrey, Coordinator*

Caregiver Support Group

This support group meets every fourth Wednesday at 1:30 PM in the Commons Room. The group attempts to answer the question: "Who cares for the caregiver?" Those involved in caregiving are aware that caring for another often involves feelings of isolation and loneliness. The group has had as few as four and as many as ten participants at a meeting. Participants include both parishioners and other caregivers who become aware of the group. The group creates a safe place for sharing by not judging or giving advice and maintains confidentiality. Our goal is to encourage and support caregivers. *Lauren Passarello and Bob Brandt, Coordinators*

Celebration of Life

Members of this ministry help families with coordinating and planning receptions following burial or memorial services. Our volunteers are present at the start of the reception, set out the food and utensils, and ensure that the reception goes well. Eleven receptions were organized in the past year. *Ginny Gordon and Dodo Newlin, Coordinators*

Eucharistic Visitors

Ten Christ Church parishioners are licensed by the Diocese of Delaware to take Holy Communion to parishioners who cannot, for whatever reason, come to church on Sundays. Currently, this ministry is serving six parishioners and their families. Eucharistic Visitors take Holy Communion to the recipients on the third Sunday of every month. *Zona Lindsay, Coordinator*

Flower Ministry

Every week, volunteers gather on Monday mornings to arrange and deliver three or four bouquets of flowers taken from the Sunday altar flowers. The flowers are delivered with a card and printed prayer to parishioners who are experiencing an important life event. The ministry coordinator calls the recipients to arrange delivery on Sunday evenings. Fifteen volunteers participate in this ministry. *Maggie Sanger, Coordinator*

Friendly Freezer

Meals are provided to parishioners who are experiencing a major life event. Each meal includes a card with a brief prayer. The offer of a home-cooked meal is often appreciated as much as having a meal delivered. The coordinators schedule monthly coordinators, keep empty containers near the freezer located under the church, check the supply of meals in the freezer, and solicit more meals from the congregation or organize cooking in the church kitchen to provide new meals. The monthly coordinators are notified by the church office when a meal needs to be delivered. Every meal delivery is recorded. This ministry accepts leftover food from church functions such as the Green Show and other luncheons and dinners held at the church. More than 30 meals have been delivered since June 2010. *Kristin Ledden and Joan Gee, Coordinators*

Helping Hands

Volunteers provide assistance tailored to the needs of parishioners who require short-term help following surgery, an illness, birth of a baby, or other life event. Assistance may include meal preparation and delivery, transportation, respite for caregivers, errands, and other help as may be needed and is appropriate. Volunteers are notified as a need arises and are given the

opportunity to provide assistance at the level that they choose. This ministry has 42 volunteers who have provided more than 52 meals and 31 rides in the past 11 months.

Martha Lankford, Coordinator

Notes of Care

Parishioners write personal notes to people who celebrate a wedding, birth, baptism, anniversary, special birthday, or who experience illness, death of a loved one, or other important life event. Since June 2010, 130 notes have been written by 14 volunteers. Marge Foulsham is retiring after many years of faithful service, and Marty Rushlow has agreed to co-coordinate this ministry.

Lucy Cluett and Marge Foulsham, Coordinators

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This ministry gives prayer shawls—as tangible evidence of our love and prayers—to comfort those “in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.” Anyone making and donating a shawl is part of this ministry. The group usually includes 15 to 20 participants. Fourteen shawls were distributed in the past year. In October 2010, 20 shawls were blessed at an 11 AM service. Currently, 15 shawls are available. New prayer cards, one of which is attached to each shawl, have been printed.

Eleanor Sinclair, Coordinator

Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry provides confidential one-on-one care, support, and help to people experiencing a difficult life crisis. Although this ministry no longer meets regularly, trained Stephen Ministers are available if needed.

Max Cluett, Margaret Ferreira, and Tilly Maassen, Coordinators

Visitations

Volunteers visit members of our church family who are homebound or in care facilities.

Margie Shepherd and Tilly Maassen, Coordinators

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool



The mission of Christ Church Episcopal Preschool is to educate young children, create community among families, school, and church, and honor and nurture children in the Episcopal tradition. What a delightful and inspiring mission to live by!

Jo Harney was called to the position as Interim Head of School in July 2010 through a search process chaired by Ted Cover. After five months as Interim, Jo was named the permanent Head in December. She leads a faculty of 17 talented teachers who provide a program of excellence for children aged 18 months through five years. Our teachers have taken a great number of continuing education classes this year focusing on Delaware’s Early Learning Foundations and the Environment Rating Scales, an internationally recognized assessment of classroom learning environments. We earned our second Delaware Star in December and are hard at work on our third Star.

Seventy-nine children are currently enrolled, and admissions for the 2011-2012 school year are very strong with classes full or nearly full. We have the largest Pre-K class ever for next year and will be offering an “early 2’s” class to accommodate children between 18 and 27 months of age. We also offer an 8-week summer camp.

Using funds generated through our cost allocations to the church and the Annual Fund, improvements to our facility this year have included new carpet and hard floors in downstairs areas, new furniture to enhance our learning environments, new sandboxes on both playgrounds, and wonderful new signs both on campus and in the surrounding area. Our outdoor classroom was the subject of a featured workshop at the 2010 National Association of Episcopal School's conference last fall.

CCEP parents, children, and staff have participated in monthly outreach projects for causes identified by the parish. A group of over 100 dedicated volunteers provides support to the school in many ways, including serving on the Board, participating in the Parent Association, chairing committees, and managing our Annual Fund appeal. The 2009-2010 Annual Fund drive, combined with our Spring Gala, raised over \$50,000 for the operations of the Preschool.



The mission of the Preschool is as strong today as it was at the founding of the school in 2006. We would love to show you the school and demonstrate how being an integral part of the church benefits the children in our care. Come and visit soon!

Jo Harney, Head of School

Maryann Younger, Board Chair

Denise Harris, Assistant to the Head of School

SPIRIT LIFE CLUSTER

The ministries in the Spirit Life cluster proclaim the good news, baptize, teach, and nurture believers of all ages, strengthening the spiritual community and creating followers of Christ who worship God.

Parish Life:

Parish Life Committee

Membership: Dana Robertson and Jennifer O'Connor (Co-Chairs), Lauren Andersen, Bill Bizjak, Chuck Durgin, Renee Eckley, Sandra James, Rufus Miller, Susan Nickel, Scott Poole, Bitsy Robbins, Bob Siegwarth, Al Smith, Suzanne Smith, Janice Stoeckle, Joe Stoeckle

The Parish Life Committee (PLC) promotes and facilitates hospitality, fellowship, and relationships by orchestrating social events, utilizing the committee's collective institutional knowledge and experience and skills of planning and promotion.



Since last summer, the PLC has sponsored a variety of parish events, including a night at the Blue Rocks (held jointly with St. David's parish), the Crab Feast, a week at Memorial House in Rehoboth, the Parish Picnic, the Hayride and Cookout at Bellevue State Park, the Thanksgiving Baskets Interfaith Outreach Event, Christmas Caroling, and the Newcomers Reception. Many members of the Parish helped with Lemonade on the Lawn and Coffee Hour, and special treats were provided for occasions such as the Blessing of the Animals and Baptism Sundays. Parishioners also made culinary contributions to potluck meals for the Christmas Pageant, Epiphany, Maundy Thursday, and Easter breakfast. The Foyer Group program was reinvigorated with an emphasis on including newcomers. These gatherings and celebrations are part of the glue that bonds a worshipping community into a family.

The PLC is interested in soliciting and developing ideas for new events that will appeal to a variety of parish members and recruiting event leaders and volunteers.

Jennifer O'Connor and Dana Robertson, Co-Chairs

Coffee Hour/Lemonade on the Lawn

Coffee Hour between the 9 and 11 AM services and Lemonade on the Lawn after the 10 AM service in the summer are wonderful venues for parishioners to gather and greet one another. Volunteers host these events each week, adding a personal touch to this time of fellowship. Al and Suzanne Smith have faithfully coordinated these efforts for the past three years. Richard and Lucinda Laird assume responsibility for the group in May 2011.

Foyer Groups

Foyer Groups enable parishioners to develop a deeper awareness and appreciation of each church member. Each foyer group meets together four times a year to enjoy food and fellowship. Sixty-two people signed up for this year's groups, and seven groups comprised of seven to eight people were formed. A list of newcomers was made available to group members so that new members of our church could be included when cancellations occur.

A questionnaire will be sent out in October asking Foyer Group members what they liked about the groups, what they would like to see changed, and ideas for improving the groups. An announcement inviting parishioners to sign up for the next round of groups will be issued in the fall.

Cathy Welsh and Lauren Andersen, Co-Chairs

Green Show

Membership: Allison Brokaw (Chair), Elizabeth Brodt, Robbie Chabalko, Mary Ingham, Nan Jackson, Lee Kallos, Xannie Morris, Barbara Petroll (Vice Chairs), and over 50 dedicated, talented, and enthusiastic volunteer parishioners



For 57 years, the Green Show has served as the annual fund-raiser at Christ Church, providing fellowship for parishioners and Outreach funds for community organizations.

The 2010 Green Show raised \$88,000 in net profit. Additional highlights included the establishment of a Vice Chair team to support the Green Show Chair in running the event, the increase in the number of treasurers from two to six volunteers, and the creation of new treasurer procedures to ensure the safekeeping of all funds. For the first time, Silent Auction items were collected and viewed online; to increase net profit, select departments were relocated on a trial basis; and the invitation was redesigned.



A new Chair is currently needed for the 2011 Green Show. Additional goals are to continue the fun and fellowship that this wonderful event provides, to increase parishioner participation, and to contribute generously to our community organizations in need.

Allison Brokaw, Chair

Greeters

Greeters offer the ministry of hospitality and welcome. Coming to church is about building relationships, not only with God but also with a faith community. It means so much to the stranger who first approaches the doors of our church to know that we are looking for new members to join us in the worship of God and the service of Christ in this church and the world. Volunteers are always needed to assist in this effort. Martha Lankford schedules 9 AM greeters, and Connie Alegranti recruits for the 11 AM service.

St. Faith's Guild

St. Faith's Guild meets six times a year, October through December and April through June, on the first Thursday evening of the month. Among their activities, this group of women bakes cookies for Emmanuel Dining Room, contributes crafts or baked goods for the Green Show, and hosts a Christmas party in December and a picnic in June. St. Faith's is the only remaining Ladies' Guild in the parish. New members are always welcome. *Madaline Cullen, Chair*

Spiritual Formation:

Adult Christian Enrichment

Membership: Catherine Lombardozzi (Chair), Sandy Anderson, Ran Barton, The Rev. Russ Bohner, Robby Chabalko, Meredith Griffin, Don Huntley, Steve Werbe

Adult Christian Enrichment offers relevant and engaging programs that inspire us personally and corporately to grow in faith, hope, and love.

The 90-Day Bible Challenge

From June 1 through August 29, 170 parishioners took the challenge to read the entire Bible from cover to cover in 90 days. Ten people from other churches took the challenge along with us. More than 130 parishioners completed the program, with others continuing to read the Bible well into the fall and winter. During the 90 days, the clergy led five weekly Bible studies with an average weekly attendance of 100 parishioners. The Sunday discussion session averaged more than 60 parishioners each week. Kris Younger and Russ Bohner developed a social networking site where participants could engage in online discussions about the Bible. Russ Bohner led this Challenge and maintained enthusiasm and engagement with weekly email blasts and topic summaries. We ended the program with a joyous celebration in the Parish Halls on Sunday, August 29.

Lenten Series

For Lent 2011, we offered two series. The Sunday series followed the book, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, by Adam Hamilton. Over 120 parishioners read the book, and an average of 80+ parishioners attended the five Sunday sessions, which were led by Ruth Kirk and Russ Bohner. Ruth Kirk led an additional meditation on the crucifixion on Holy Saturday. The Wednesday series was titled "The Stewardship of Creation" and used a new curriculum published by The Episcopal Church. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly led the five sessions, each of which began with a home-cooked soup supper. The series averaged 25 parishioners.

Modern Prophet

The Rector received a private grant to invite a modern prophet to come and speak at CCCH, and she asked ACE to help her with this project. Bryan Stevenson, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, spoke at Christ Church on Thursday, January 20. More than 100 people from

CCCH and the surrounding community came out to hear Mr. Stevenson speak. His dynamic and inspiring presentation focused on the prevalence of injustice and our need to work for justice in America.

Sunday Adult Enrichment

These Sunday morning offerings were held in Parish Hall A from 10:10 to 10:50 AM and averaged 80+ parishioners each Sunday. Our theme for the fall was ongoing Bible study, with topics suggested from the 90-Day Bible Challenge, and our theme for January and February was social justice. Topics on Sunday mornings included: "Revelation to John," "Jesus: Alive or Dead," "First Corinthians," "James," "Ecclesiastes," "Widow, Orphan, and Stranger," "Hymns of the Bible," "God and War," "The Labyrinth," and "Joseph's Story." Guest presenter Dr. Lynn Weber of the University of South Carolina offered two sessions on "Understanding Race." Cal Wick led a reflection titled, "What's on your Wall?" Lastly, guest presenter The Rev. Dr. Tom Laymon, Executive Director of the Sunday Breakfast Mission, led a session on "Understanding Homelessness."

Theologian-in-Residence

Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson, R. W. Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, was our 2010 Theologian-in-Residence September 24-25. Dr. Johnson gave a lecture Friday evening and conducted a workshop on Saturday, both of which were open to the public and focused on the theme "Living Jesus." Ninety-two people attended the lecture, and 60 people participated in the workshop.

Other Offerings

The Books, Brew, & Banter book study continues to meet on Tuesday mornings, and the Thursday early morning Bible study also continues to meet regularly. During January, Ruth Kirk led a book discussion on *Strength to Love* by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Future Plans

ACE is considering offering the 90-Day Bible Challenge again this summer, is already planning for our next Theologian-in-Residence program for fall 2011, and is working with the Buildings & Grounds Committee on the restoration and updating of the Commons Room Library.

Catherine Lombardozzi, Chair

Children's Ministry



Children's Ministry includes: all Sunday morning Children's Enrichment programs (three Godly Play classes for 3-year-olds through 2nd grade at 9 AM, two Living the Good News classes for 3rd-5th grades at 10 AM, Children's Enrichment at 10 AM, as well as our Summer Godly Play program), Vacation Bible School, Godly Play with Christ Church Episcopal Preschool, special fellowship events throughout the year, and children's worship services.

The Godly Play program at 9 AM continued to expand this past year with the introduction of new stories and the addition of sharing feasts in the classroom. Children's Enrichment for the Godly Play students at 10 AM, led by Lynne Jensen and Nadine DiLorenzo, was designed around the theme of "The Fruit of the

Spirit.” Each month a different fruit of the spirit was explored through music, games, and drama. In addition, Spanish and yoga enrichment were offered.

Living the Good News Episcopal Lectionary curriculum was piloted this year for the 3rd-5th grade classes. The lectionary used in the curriculum is the same used at the 9 AM service. Discussion, games, and activities exploring the scripture passages for the day were offered for each class.

Clergy-led Chapel Chats were offered three times this year including Russ Bohner sharing on the “Saints of God,” Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly on “Lent,” and Ruth Kirk on the “Holy Eucharist.” These large group sessions were offered in the Chapel.

Our nursery is open to children under the age of three years old. It is open Sunday mornings from 8:45 AM until 12:15 PM during the program year and from 8:45 until 11:30 AM through the summer. Leah Rowe, Jessica Hunt, and Haley Ladner are our trained child care providers. They offer safe, loving care for the youngest children on Sunday mornings.

The Summer Godly Play program was held during the 10 AM service. During summer of 2010, the theme was “Saints of God.” The children gathered in the Chapel, heard one of the stories of the saints of God, and then returned to the church service at the time of The Peace.

Vacation Bible School in August was a great success this year. 70 children gathered to share in story, music, games, crafts, and fun around the theme “Living on the High Seas.”

Throughout the year there were many opportunities for fellowship for children and their families including a Children & Youth picnic, a hayride, Trunk 'n Treat, St. Nicholas Celebration, Christmas Pageant, Family Movie Night, Kids' Music Experience with Pete Moses, and the Easter Egg Hunt.



Godly Play is offered by Lynne Jensen during the week to all seven classes at Christ Church Episcopal Preschool in addition to a weekly chapel service led by The Rev. Ruth Kirk, Nadine DiLorenzo, and Lynne Jensen. All of our parish family fellowship events are shared with both the church and the preschool.

Welcoming children in worship is very important at Christ Church. Throughout the year there are special worship services designed to be welcoming and open to young children and their families. These include the services on the first Sunday of each month, Baptisms, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Day.

The Children's Committee focused on Children's Enrichment at 10 AM including the curriculum for the 3rd-5th grades and the Godly Play Enrichment this past year. Chapel Chats, fellowship offerings, and special children's worship services were also a priority for the committee. The committee will focus on creating a Christ Church lectionary and theme-based curriculum for the 3rd-6th grades next year that will meet the needs of our children. Expanding the 10 AM Godly Play Enrichment and offering of trainings and fellowship throughout the year for teachers

are also the work of the committee in the next year. A special thanks to all those who shared in ministry this year with our children!

*Lynne Jensen, Minister for Children & Youth
Joyce McGhee, Children's Ministry Committee Chair*

Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry at Christ Church includes the three Journey to Adulthood Sunday morning classes at 10 AM, Confirmation preparation, a partnership with Global Missions for the Youth Dominican Republic trip, special youth events, and community service offerings. This past year it also included a Junior High Mission trip and a Holy Pilgrimage to Italy.

The Journey to Adulthood program on Sunday mornings includes Rite-13 for 6th and 7th grades, J2A for 8th and 9th grades, and YAC (young adults in church) for 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. Journey to Adulthood balances Bible study, prayer, and both serious and playful activities to nurture the whole person during the difficult passage from childhood to adulthood. Leaders model living the faith and remind young people of the ever present love and mercy of God. This past year we ended a "2" cycle of J2A, and all classes moved up to the next class with new leaders. A new room was added and decorated for the large J2A class at the Rectory in addition to updates to the new Rite-13 space.

Summer of 2010 included three youth trips. The Youth Mission Trip to Jalonga, Dominican Republic was in June of 2010. Eight youth and five adults traveled to the DR to further our work there. Four junior high youth and two adults traveled to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to participate in a Youthworks Mission trip. They joined 85 other youth and leaders to serve the Harrisburg community. Our youth worked at a mental health facility and a produce and food bank during the week in Harrisburg. In July, nine youth and four adults traveled to Italy to follow in St. Francis' footsteps on a Holy Pilgrimage. After two years of preparation, the pilgrims were transformed and changed along the 12-day journey.

The youth of Christ Church participated in many community service projects throughout the year including UrbanPromise, Friendship House, St. Michael's School & Nursery, and SOAR. In addition, they raised money for the victims of the Haiti earthquake and the people of Jalonga in the Dominican Republic.



There were a lot of fun events as well including lock-ins, go-carting, lunches at Five Guys, Charcoal Pit, and Seasons Pizza, and a Hunger Banquet. The Christ Church youth also participated in diocesan events such as 30-Hour Famine, the Bishop's Bash, and Wintercamp this past year.

Worship is very important at Christ Church. Many of our youth are involved in worship each Sunday as acolytes, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers. This year the St. Agnes Girls' Choir began, and they are now offering their voices to worship on Sunday mornings and special services throughout the year.

Twenty-five youth and five leaders gathered together for a Confirmation preparation retreat this spring. In addition to the retreat, regular attendance is required at the Sunday morning J2A class. Confirmation takes place this year on June 12 and 26.

Training of youth leaders was of the highest priority this past year at Christ Church. There were five trainings plus a J2A training offered. The leaders at the trainings, along with the staff, designed a new “Safeguarding God’s People” policy for Christ Church. The document was adopted by the Vestry in November of 2010.

The Youth Committee work this year has been to continue to vision and develop the youth program at Christ Church. Ranie Good has taken the leadership role on the committee for 2011. The group will work to develop a leadership team of youth to help further their ministry in the parish. Expanding the Youth Committee to include youth leaders and a broader group of parishioners including teachers, parents, and those called to work with youth, is one of the top priorities of the committee.

During the next year, there will be many new and exciting possibilities for youth at Christ Church. Two of our youth will be part of the delegation this summer for the Episcopal Youth Event in Minnesota. There are 16 youth and five leaders preparing for the Youth Mission Trip to Jalonga. The J2A class has begun its preparation for Holy Pilgrimage in 2012. The Rite-13 class will plan their mission trip for the summer of 2012. We hope to have further service and fellowship opportunities for youth offered in the next program year as well. There will also be further training opportunities for youth and adult leaders. A special thanks to all those who have been leaders, teachers, and mentors for the youth at Christ Church!

*Lynne Jensen, Minister for Children & Youth
Ranie Good, Youth Committee Chair*

Worship:

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is meant to provide a forum for active reflection and discussion on how the power of God is experienced by the congregation through current worship services in order to consult with the clergy on ideas for continuous improvement.

The Worship Committee has been dormant for the past year and is currently being restructured and expanded. In its dormancy, other subcommittees and related groups have continued their work.



In the coming year, the Worship Committee will begin meeting regularly. A subcommittee will be formed to explore the feasibility of an alternative worship service. The Spiritual Formation Subcommittee will continue its work, as will the work needed for weekday Eucharist services.

Spiritual Formation Subcommittee

Membership: Betsy Field (Chair), The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, John Crossan, Janet Dill, Barbara Tucker

The Spiritual Formation Subcommittee plans Quiet Days during the different liturgical seasons to offer parishioners and the community some “set apart” time for silence, prayer, reading, reflection, writing, and meditation. During the 2010-2011 church year, Quiet Days were offered in the Chapel of the Christ Child in Advent and Lent. The Very Rev. Ian Markham, Dean and

President of Virginia Theological Seminary, provided the meditations in Advent for a quiet morning centering on the joy of the Incarnation. In April, The Rev. Mpho Tutu, Director of the Tutu Institute for Prayer and Pilgrimage, led a Lenten Quiet Day, focusing on patterns of prayer. Participants in Quiet Days have the opportunity to use the Chapel, Commons Room, a canvas labyrinth in the Parish Hall, and our grounds. Both Quiet Days were well attended (approximately 40 in Advent and 65 in Lent) and drew participants from the church, the community, and the surrounding dioceses.

Weekday Eucharist

Weekday Eucharist services are held Wednesdays at 9 AM and Thursdays at 6:30 AM. Lectors read the lessons and lead the Prayers of the People about twice a quarter. The Eucharist on the first Wednesday of every month is a healing service. The Thursday services are followed by Bible study with a clergy person.

Lectors in 2010 included: Zona Lindsay (Chair), Mark Attix, Betsy Field, Holli Gravett, Jane Hardesty, Margaret Higgs, Ruth Holden, Ann Marcial, Eileen Maroney, Barbara Selby, and Jeff Simonton.

*The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly
Rosanne Miller, Worship Committee Chair*

Acolytes

Acolytes are an integral part of our worship at Christ Church. This ministry is a wonderful way to serve as a leader in the parish, to develop new friendships, and to learn about the holiness of worship. Those who are 13 years or older who have participated in the Rite-13 liturgy may serve as acolytes. Training is provided throughout the year. Currently, there are 41 acolytes and eight advisors participating in this ministry at Christ Church.

Altar Guild



The Altar Guild at Christ Church Christiana Hundred currently consists of 70 members. Each member is assigned to one of eight teams, and each team serves in rotation throughout the year with each team serving one week at a time. Each of these eight teams is headed by a captain who works with her team to assign coverage of the duties during the week in which they serve.

The Altar Guild prepares the sanctuaries of both the Church and the Chapel for their services of worship. Normally, there are three services on Sunday and two midweek services. The Altar Guild also prepares the sanctuaries for baptisms, funerals, and memorial services. In addition, the Altar Guild cares for the vessels and linens used during services of worship and for the frontals and hangings that adorn the worship space.



This past year the Altar Guild researched the purchase of a new Crèche for use in the Church during the Christmas season. It was hoped that these figures would prove to be a bit sturdier

than what had been used in the past, and the Altar Guild was very pleased by the numerous positive comments received by parishioners during the weeks in which it was displayed.

The Altar Guild at Christ Church meets as a group at least twice a year for fellowship, business, and further training. It has members who have served for many years and members who are relatively new. The group continues to welcome new members who are willing to commit themselves to serving in this ministry. We offer training sessions and serve as mentors during the first rounds of duty. We ask only that each member of the Altar Guild serve with diligence, dignity, and dedication.

*Mary Henderer, Directress
Gina Pike, Assistant Directress*

Bread Bakers

A group of 12 parishioners bake bread rounds that are used during the 9 AM Eucharist (except during Advent and Lent). Folks work from a recipe that has been researched for this particular purpose; ideally, the bread should not be crumbly or under baked. Bread is also used for special children's services.

Isabella Patty, Chair

Church Adornment

Membership: Elizabeth Brodt and Suzanne Smith (Co-Chairs), Nancy Chesser, Pat Forbes, Alice Ivy, Amy Johnson, Lee Kallos, Lucinda Laird, Stephanie Miller, Fan Milligan, Claire Murray, Barbara Petroll, Gina Pike, Dana Robertson, Marty Rushlow, Maggie Sanger, Karen Woicekowski

The Church Adornment Team decorates the Church for all special holidays: Advent, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Christ the King, and Thanksgiving. During the past year, the team reviewed photographs of the Church from the 1940's and incorporated some of the past into our recent Christmas adornment. Also, fresh designs are created throughout the years, mixing new design elements with more traditional ones. We are always looking for people to join our crew, and any level of experience is welcome.



Elizabeth Brodt, Chair

Wedding Committee

Membership: Randy Sawyer (Chair), Marge Foulsham, Joan Gee, Ginny Gordon, Margaret Higgs, Sally Hyde, Bobbie Larned, Nan Naeve, Isabella Patty, Gina Pike, Vida Ruppe

The Wedding Committee is made up of members of the Altar Guild who act as advisors to and facilitators for couples being married at Christ Church. Since last June, nine weddings have taken place, with the help of this group's coordination of details. Seven more are planned in 2011. New members are always welcome!

Randy Sawyer, Chair

Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors

Eucharistic Ministers are licensed through the Diocese of Delaware to serve the chalice during Eucharist and read the lessons or prayers of the people. Lectors read the lessons appointed for the day. Forty-nine parishioners serve in these roles. Recruitment of Eucharistic ministers and lectors is ongoing; an annual training session occurs each November.

*Bitsy Robbins, Chair
Eric Romano, Youth Coordinator*

Intercessory Prayer Group

The Intercessory Prayer Group meets at 9:20 AM every Tuesday in the Chapel. Currently, we have seven readers and hope to add at least three more this year. We feel it is important to pray for those in need. This group was started over 59 years ago and has met without interruption since then. All are welcome to join us for a quiet ten minutes that will strengthen you in every way.

Betty Brandt, Chair

Labyrinth Committee

Members: Steve Boyden (Chair), Mark Attix, Linda Boyden, Betsy Field, Jim Graham, Ruth Kirk, Barbara Morgan, Gina Pike, Joan Sharp

The Labyrinth Committee was formed in 2009 with the objective of building Parish awareness of labyrinths as a method of meditation and prayer to help people in their faith journey, assessing the possibility of installing a labyrinth on Christ Church grounds, building interest and knowledge among potential users (liturgy, preschool, pastoral care, etc.), and arranging for the installation and use of the labyrinth.

In the past year, the committee has proposed a site for the labyrinth, contacted vendors and obtained pricing, communicated regularly with the Parish, provided a portable labyrinth in two Quiet Day settings, held instruction sessions, received financial pledges or gifts totaling almost 50% of the cost to purchase and install a labyrinth, and met with the Vestry twice to discuss the project.



With Vestry approval, the committee plans to embark on a fund-raising campaign to bring in the remaining contributions needed to complete the installation of the labyrinth. Going forward, we will inform parishioners and guests about the use and value of walking the labyrinth and offer programs and special opportunities for its use in alternative worship and personal devotion.

Steve Boyden, Chair

Music

This has been an exciting and rewarding season for the Music Department at Christ Church, especially in these difficult financial times.



The Letty Downs Musician-in-Residence Program is now fully funded, thanks to the efforts and generosity of the family of Alletta Laird Downs, long-time supporter and Chair of the Music Committee. Over \$200,000 was raised to create an endowment for this program that allows us to bring a world-renowned musician in the Anglican Communion to teach, rehearse, and make music at Christ Church for one week each year. This year's musician was Andrew Lumsden, Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral, who played a brilliant recital and challenged the Christ Church Choir with some exciting new music. We are now in negotiation with several individuals to be our guest next season.

The Christ Church, St. Cecilia, and St. Nicholas Choirs have faithfully provided music for our services throughout the year, and I am grateful to all of the singers for their devotion and dedication. Nadine DiLorenzo has had good success this year with recruitment, and the sound of the St. Nicholas Choir has improved. The St. Cecilia Choir has provided regular solid choral support for the 9 AM services, and their anthem repertoire continues to expand. The Christ Church Choir continues to sing the 11 AM services with 3rd Sunday Choral Mass Settings and Choral Evensongs about once a month. Our annual complete *Messiah* performances remain popular, and for the past three years, we have added a Palm Sunday concert that we hope to build into the annual calendar and budget. These are some of the ways the music program has been vital in Christ Church's outreach into the community.

The exciting news is our new choir of teenage girls called the St. Agnes Choir. They have sung at different services over the past few months, and I have enjoyed working with this dedicated group of six girls. They are committed to maintaining a high musical standard and developing an important opportunity for our youth to sing. It has been a dream of mine since I have been at Christ Church, and it is a great joy to see this evolve.

Looking ahead, we are planning to mark the tenth anniversary of 9/11 (September 11, 2011) with a Choral Eucharist including Philip Ledger's *Requiem: A thanksgiving for life*, which he wrote for us in 2007. It should prove to be a special and moving way to mark this day. I continue to be grateful to David Hearn for his solid and ongoing help and to our Rector for her unerring encouragement and support.

William Owen, Organist/Choirmaster
Steve Boyden, Music Committee Chair

Ushers

Families typically usher at the 9 AM service each week, while men and women serve on usher teams at the 11 AM service and on special occasions. Ushers greet parishioners, hand out bulletins, assist anyone who needs help, and collect and count the offering. Folks generally serve once every other month, so this is a great opportunity for those seeking a role with a low time commitment. Currently, we need a 9 AM coordinator for this ministry. Rod Maroney serves as Chair of the 11 AM usher teams.

STEWARDSHIP CLUSTER

The cluster of Stewardship includes the ministries that manage the resources we share in common.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Membership: Linda Boyden (Chair), Mark Attix, Keith Dawson, Frank Giammatti, Mark Grunza, Bill Jones, Leslie Kelly, Rick Kirk, Doug Nickel, Mike Sayer, Jeff Schlerf, Chris Simon

This committee oversees and maintains all aspects of CCCH buildings and grounds and provides for the changing facility needs of our Parish through planning and management of new construction, renovations, and improvements.



Accomplishments from June 2010 to present:

- Exterior painting of the Church and Rectory
- Interior painting of 2nd floor classrooms in Parish Center Addition
- Replace carpeting in 3rd floor hallways of the Parish Center
- Seal coating and restriping of parking lot
- Expanded smoke alarm system in Church
- Land & Biodiversity Management Plan with DNS
- Landscaping beds on lawn side of Church
- Maintenance tree work and removal
- Replacement of hot water tank
- Repaving of Buck Road with Association
- Youth Annex expansion
- Outline painting on crosswalks for improved safety
- New street signs and upgraded site graphics for CCEP

Future projects over the next six months:

- Commons Room upgrades to include library shelving, cabinetry, and furnishing refurbishment
- Replacement of hot water heater
- Replace carpeting on 2nd floor of original Parish Center
- Install Induction Loop Hearing Assist System in Church
- Replace aging phone system
- Tree work and replacement
- Labyrinth installation
- Memorial Garden plaques and landscaping

Beyond six months:

Working within a comprehensive long-range Facilities Master Plan, we are able to project annual facility maintenance and improvements based on past experience, current usage, and future parish needs. This ensures the continued strength of the Capital Projects Reserve, established to fund ongoing maintenance. The Facilities Master Plan is continually updated and currently forecasts future projects through the year 2030.

Linda Boyden, Chair

Communications Committee

Membership: Kay Keenan (Chair), Ran Barton, Jinni Butz, Bill Haley, Sherry Lawton-Fasic, Vicki Novak, Dana Robertson, Lee Tashjian, Kris Younger

Our charge from the Rector is to ensure that Christ Church provides excellent communication to our parishioners and to our community in a way that is Christ-centered, highly professional, and continues to meet people where they are most comfortable.

This committee was reformed in 2011 and held its first meeting in February 2011. Many thanks are given to the following people for their service from the founding committee which served through 2010: Aimee Elson, Helen Giammattei, Jim Graham, Alexandra Kirtley, Sherry Lawton-Fasic, Didi Lovett, Betsey Moran (dec.), Dana Robertson, Dixie Sanger

Anticipating the future we will:

- redesign the website targeted for evangelism
- explore and recommend if a new look and feel for our stationery as well as our parish-wide communications (eNEWS, Communicator, bulletin, etc.) is appropriate
- develop a Crisis Communication plan so that there are procedures and guidelines
- develop and implement a media and PR plan
- identify a photographer pool to ensure that significant events in the life of the congregation are captured.

Kay Keenan, Chair

Website Redesign Team

Membership: Wilson Anthony, Bill Haley, Kay Keenan, Sherry Lawton-Fasic, Tom Scott, Kris Younger

In April 2010 the Website Redesign Team was formed with the task of updating all aspects of the Christ Church website. Currently, the committee is completing work on Creative and Technical Briefs which will be used as the basis for outside firms to prepare proposals for the development of a new site.

The committee's work has been guided by two primary goals. First, increasing the appeal and functionality of the website, particularly the homepage, in an effort to make accessing information about Christ Church easier and attract new members to the church. Second, the team aims to make the website more broadly functional for CCCH members so as to provide valuable tools for the work of the congregation's many committees and other groups.

In the preparation of the Creative Brief, the committee has engaged in the following key activities:

- a critique of the existing site, what we liked, what we didn't
- interviews with clergy and Vestry and a survey of parishioners in an attempt to ferret out requirements, impressions, opinions, and ideas around what our new website should have (or not) and provide for the audiences we've identified
- mapping of the prospective site. The team looked at existing and potential pages within the website and worked to put them into clear, effective, user-friendly groupings, using three primary "pillars" of information: Worship, Serve, and Gather.

- a broad review of other websites, many of them from churches, to identify website features and design elements that are effective and desirable. The sites with the best design elements and notes from the team on their attributes are included in the Creative Brief.

The team is currently working to create a list of firms that are well qualified to bid on the development of the new website. A bidding process will follow, and a formal request for funding will be made to the Vestry. Working with the selected contractor, the team hopes to have a new site up and running by the end of 2011.

Wilson Anthony

Finance Committee

Membership: Bryan Keenan (Chair), Wilson Anthony, Steve Brodt, Keith Dawson, Ned Jackson, Andy Johnston, Wes Jones, Bruce Kallos, The Rev. Ruth Kirk

We give thanks for the service of Judy Sargent, who recorded our minutes until her resignation from the committee on her move to Austin, Texas.

The Finance Committee: develops a multi-year financial plan for the parish; reviews and reconciles operating budget income and expense and presents a recommended operating budget to the Vestry; recommends the endowment spending rate and other financial policies to the Vestry; reviews the performance of the endowment's investment managers; reviews the performance of the lay pension fund's investment managers; and provides quarterly financial reviews to the Vestry (through the Treasurer).

The highlight of our ministry has been the strength of pledges in spite of the recession. In future years, we would hope to reduce our draw on the Endowment by increasing pledge income.

Bryan Keenan, Chair

Treasurer's Report

A very important part of our budget is a 5% draw from our Endowment Fund. This draw is calculated using a 12-quarter (3-year) moving average. This method smoothes out what otherwise could be large drops or increases in annual withdrawals. However, in periods of extended market devaluation, this method has these effects on our withdrawal in any single year:

- delays the impact of the market falloff
- generally extends but greatly reduces the impact of the market bottom
- extends the impact of the market fall of a few years

We appear to have bottomed in the current recession in late 2009. This means that 2010 and 2011 are still being adversely impacted in our Endowment withdrawal. The Vestry wisely decided to cover this period by using our Contingency Fund (normally about \$250,000) to prevent undue fluctuations in our budget. You can see in our numbers below that we budgeted a contingency usage of about \$100,000 in 2010 but only had to use \$50,000. In 2011, we have budgeted \$210,000 but again believe that we can reduce that amount. A significant increase in our Endowment (due to greatly improved market valuations) will allow withdrawals to steadily increase in the next several years, and the Contingency Fund will be rebuilt.

If you have more detailed questions concerning the Christ Church budget, we will have a Town Meeting on Finance on Sunday, June 5 at 4:30 PM where we will attempt to answer any and all questions.
Ned Jackson, Treasurer

**CHRIST CHURCH
2010 & 2011 MINISTRY BUDGETS**

		BUDGET FYE '10	ACTUAL FYE '10	BUDGET FYE '11
		(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
INCOME				
=====				
Parish Giving ('10 Pldg = \$1,166,572)		1,170,000	1,200,499	1,213,235
Plate Collections		19,000	15,340	19,000
Endowment Income 5%		382,000	381,000	346,300
Expected Gifts and Bequests		75,672	79,234	68,172
CCEP Transfer		90,000	90,000	90,000
Transfer from Restricted Funds		7,500	7,500	7,500
Green Show, Thanks, Xmas, Easter		95,000	115,601	95,000
Rental & Miscellaneous Income		39,550	35,007	34,600
Contingency Reserve		100,521	49,809	210,263
<hr/>				
TOTAL INCOME		1,979,243	1,973,991	2,084,070
=====				
MISSION				
=====				
A. Outreach				
1) To Outreach from Budget	17.78%	312,113	312,113	370,597
2) Passthroughs to Outreach	4.56%	95,000	117,301	95,000
<hr/>				
Sub-total Outreach	22.34%	407,113	429,414	465,597
B. Parish Programs	7.64%	163,426	155,483	159,146
C. Administration	55.27%	1,078,232	1,074,809	1,151,905
D. Buildings and Property	14.75%	330,472	314,285	307,422
<hr/>				
TOTAL EXPENSES	100.00%	1,979,243	1,973,991	2,084,070
=====				
INCOME LESS EXPENSES		0	0	(0)

**CHRIST CHURCH
SUMMARY OF FUND BALANCES**

Note: All funds except the Property Fund are at market value.

	12/31/10	12/31/09	12/31/08
OPERATING FUNDS			
Working Capital	180,000	180,000	180,000
Net Income	0	1,595	94,372
Temporary Restricted Funds	773,161	870,527	995,765
Total Operating Funds	953,161	1,052,122	1,270,137
ENDOWMENT FUND	8,417,684	7,565,250	6,421,286
PENSION FUND	1,428,178	1,296,691	894,224
PROPERTY FUND			
Book Value	13,646,077	13,620,375	13,427,163
Accumulated Depreciation	4,835,837	4,511,510	4,188,380
Book Value Net of Depreciation	8,810,240	9,108,865	9,238,783
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	19,609,264	19,022,928	17,824,430

Futures Group

Membership: Wil Sherk (Chair), Steve Brodt, Kim Fortunato, The Rev. Ruth Kirk, Roger Kirtley, Rosanne Miller

The purpose of the Futures Group, created in 2009, is to assist the Rector and Vestry in considering how Christ Church is positioned for the future by developing a compelling vision for mission and ministry that addresses the complexity of our rapidly changing world.

The primary work of the group in the past year was to design and lead the vestry retreat in October 2010. The time was spent considering the internal and external influences that affect the congregation and its members, reviewing the mission statement, and exploring pathways for mission as we strive for excellence in ministry, imagining the congregation in 2018—not too soon nor too distant to be an aspiration. The Vestry planned to continue its aspirational work in the course of the year, including time for vision development during monthly meetings.

Ruth Lawson Kirk

Office Receptionists

The telephone at Christ Church is answered by a volunteer from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday. This service frees the staff from interrupting their duties, and anyone calling the church hears a friendly voice to direct their call. More than 30 parishioners share the ministry by volunteering twice a month for a 3-hour shift—either morning or afternoon. Lucy Cluett and Helen Giammattei share the responsibility of signing up volunteers on a 6-month rotation basis. Volunteers enjoy bringing a book as they have free time between calls. This ministry is of great help to the staff and clergy, and it provides us the privilege of participating in the life of the church.

Lucy Cluett and Helen Giammattei, Co-Chairs

Personnel

Membership: Carol Mongan (Chair), Pete Borden, Bob Brandt, Steve Brodt, Andy Johnston, Lu Johnston, The Rev. Ruth Kirk, Fred Moran

The Personnel Committee assists the Rector with the effective management of our staff and assists the Vestry with recommendations with regard to annual compensation and personnel standards and practices as collected in the Personnel Handbook.

Pete Borden has been the chair of the Personnel Committee since its inception more than a decade ago. This year he resigned as chair but continues as a member of the committee. Carol Mongan accepted the leadership of the committee, with gratitude for Pete's dedication and diligence.

The committee's work over the past year included an exit interview with the outgoing Head of School for Christ Church Episcopal Preschool and consultation with the search committee for the employment of the new Head of School, Jo Harney. In cooperation with the Finance Committee, a review and recommendation on lay pensions was given to the Vestry for action. The committee also conferred with the Rector about a Letter of Agreement for the Organist/Choirmaster, crafted after 27 years of ministry with three Rectors and two Interim Rectors.

Each fall the committee reviews staff compensation and makes a recommendation to the Vestry for budgeting purposes. The annual performance review process is planned for early summer each year. The committee receives a summary of each staff member's review; the chair receives the complete review. The chair collaborates with the Wardens for the performance review of the Rector.

In the coming year, the committee intends to refine the performance review process, review and update the Personnel Handbook, and review the position descriptions developed in 2008 and 2009.

Ruth Lawson Kirk

Planned Giving

Membership: Ernest Ruppe (Chair), Jon Abramczyk, The Rev. Ruth Kirk, Rosanne Miller, David Roselle, Harold Schneikert, Harold Woodward



The Planned Giving Committee develops and implements a continuing planned giving program for Christ Church. The Legacy Society created in 2010 includes those who made planned gifts in the past and those who have informed us that Christ Church is in their estate plan. The first celebratory event for

the Society was held in November. An estate planning luncheon (No Rich Fools!) was held in April 2011 with guest speaker, Peter S. Gordon. Also, new descriptive pamphlets were put in place in April. Future plans include the continuation of education efforts within the Parish about planned giving and the Legacy Society to increase membership. A second Legacy Society event is planned for this coming fall.

Current Legacy Society Members: Linda and Steve Boyden, Catherine Collison, John Crossan, J. Simpson and Margaret Dean, John and Beth Faulkner, Francis and Helen Giammattei, Harry and Lynn Glaze, Marguerite Hardham, Andrew and Lucille Johnston, Bruce and Lee Kallos, Richard and Ruth Kirk, Rufus and Rosanne Miller, Nancy Naeve, Josephine Osbun, Dana Robertson, Ernest and Vida Ruppe, Michael and Martha Rushlow, Judy Sargent, Harold Schneikert, Margaret Scott, and four who wish to remain anonymous.

Ernest Ruppe, Chair

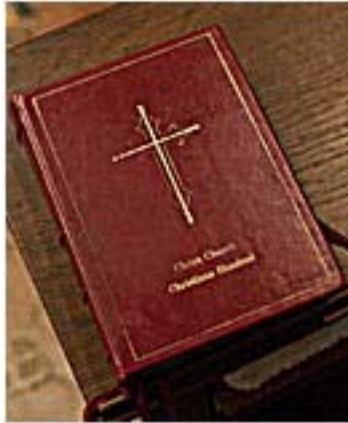
Stewardship

Membership: Phil VanWormer (2011-2012 Chair), Rosanne Miller (2009-2010 Chair), Steve Boyden, Hardy Drane, Bob Elder, Fritz Hinz, The Rev. Ruth Kirk, Mike Sayer, Joe Stoeckle, Joe Zakielarz

The Stewardship Team helps parishioners of Christ Church to grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances that God has entrusted to them.

After prayerful consideration, the 2010 Stewardship Committee chose the book, *Ask, Thank, Tell* by Charles Lane to guide its efforts over the past year. The focus was on increasing the percentage of pledgers among parishioners and to encourage fair share pledging that was intentional, proportional, generous, and cheerful. The congregation responded with its first net increase in pledging since 2005, including 63 new pledges. The campaign concluded with a special "Ingathering" service followed by a letter of gratitude mailed to every parishioner who provided a pledge.

Future plans include increasing the level of year-round communication and dialogue about how Christ Church can facilitate stewardship for each parishioner as their personal act of worship, expression of faith, and discipline for spiritual growth with God. *Phil VanWormer, Chair*



ALMIGHTY GOD, look with favor upon Christ Church Christiana Hundred as we reaffirm our commitment to follow Christ and serve in his name. Let your Holy Spirit inspire our worship, learning, and devotion. Guide us to be good stewards of the manifold blessings we have from your provision. Grant us courage, patience, and vision to strengthen us in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.