

## **Christ Church Vestry Meeting Minutes** **April 14, 2011**

**Present:** Wilson Anthony, Barbara Cairns, Ted Cover, Oliver Faulkner, Andy Johnston, Wes Jones, Ruth Kirk, Martha Lankford, Gina Pike, Dana Robertson, Rich Tucker, Ann Wick

**Also Present:** Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Linda Boyden, Susan Casscells

**Absent:** Steve Brodt, Betsy Field, Bitsy Robbins

The meeting was called to order by the Rector at 7:03 PM.

Opening prayer offered by Ann Wick.

Minutes from the March, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

### **Special Reports**

**Report on Labyrinth Development:** Linda Boyden (see Addenda A, B, & C)

Gina Pike gave a brief summary of the Labyrinth History/Timeline and Preliminary Fund-raising Plans which had been distributed to the Vestry. Materials on the planned design for a labyrinth were presented by Linda. The labyrinth is proposed to be located behind the Memorial Garden. The space lends itself to the project. A colored rendering will be prepared for the congregation. Surrounding the labyrinth will be gravel and a boxwood hedge. There will be a sitting wall at the rear, and the wall will match the wall surrounding the Memorial Garden. There will be a stone terrace which will act as an entryway to the labyrinth and Memorial Garden, and the site will be handicap accessible. Two paths will lead from the stone terrace around the Memorial Garden to the labyrinth. Linda then distributed the Labyrinth Budget Costs, Options, and Planning document. Discussion followed concerning the timing for installation of each of the four construction phases. Rich moved and Wilson seconded a motion to approve the fund-raising plan presented by the Labyrinth Committee as presented. A campaign to raise the additional funds necessary for the installation of the labyrinth will begin on May 23, following the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cal Wick's Ordination to the Priesthood. The motion carried unanimously. Further discussion ensued regarding the timing of the construction, and guidance was provided by the Vestry that no construction phase should begin unless the funding has been completely secured. As the Labyrinth Committee believes that the best way to proceed is to construct Phases I and II at the same time, it was decided that construction would begin on or around July 1. This will give approximately 5 weeks for the fund-raising program to raise the funds necessary for the completion of Phase II installation. Ruth expressed thanks to the Buildings & Grounds Committee for quickly gathering the budget estimates for the vestry presentation.

**Report on Annual Meeting:** Susan Casscells (see Addendum D)

Susan reviewed the timeline for the meeting. Children will be in the Chapel and infants in the Nursery until we are ready to serve lunch. All Vestry members are expected to attend. We will offer a number of ways for the congregation to RSVP for the event including at the vestry voting tables. A separate town meeting to review the finances of the parish will be presented by the Finance Committee at a date to be determined.

## **Cluster Reports**

### **Service to Others:** Barbara Cairns (see Addendum E)

Barbara highlighted some items included in the Cluster Report. The enrollment in Christ Church Episcopal Preschool for the 2011-2012 school year is very strong. The Preschool board has 4 members completing their terms and 5 persons will join the board, resulting in one additional member on the board. Barbara noted that the CCEP Gala is April 29 and encouraged all Vestry members to attend. It was noted that the work at Epiphany House has been very successful, with a number of participants moving through the reintegration process. The work of the Outreach Committee for 2011 Grants was reviewed. Each person on the committee reviewed and presented 2-3 grant requests for consideration. The Committee recommended 38 grants focusing on poverty which will address causes, symptoms, and solutions. The total Outreach Budget for grants is \$222,058, which is a significant amount and has a powerful beneficial impact on the Wilmington Community. Ann moved and Wilson seconded a motion to accept the report and approve the allocations as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Vestry's vote is a show of confidence in the process and the work the Outreach Committee does.

### **Spirit Life:** Wilson Anthony (see Addendum F)

The schedule for Holy Week was reviewed. The Vestry was encouraged to attend the Christ Church Choir performance of Bach's *St. John Passion* at 4 PM on Palm Sunday. Our very own Clerke will perform the role of the Evangelist. New for this year are double services at 9 AM on Palm Sunday, with a service for families with children in the Chapel. Services will be offered now each day of Holy Week with Evening Prayer on those days when another service is not planned. Holy Saturday Vigil watch begins at 7 PM with Compline and continues until the 6 AM service Easter morning. At 10 AM on Holy Saturday there will be a wrap-up of the Lenten ACE program with a meditation by the Rector in Parish Hall A. Easter services were reviewed. The annual visitation of the Bishop on June 26 will include Baptism and Confirmation for those not able to participate on Pentecost. Bill Owen has received a gift that will allow for a performance of Philip Ledger's *Requiem: A Thanksgiving for Life*. The performance is planned to be part of a service on Sunday, September 11 to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

### **Stewardship and 2010 Budget:** Wes Jones (see Addendum G)

Wes reported that 2010 pledge income came in at 4% over budget and that based on an analysis performed by Mike Sayer, 80% of our members pledge and 97% give financially. A discussion followed of the 100 members who give but don't pledge. This is a fairly stable number of those members who choose not to make a formal financial pledge. Wes reported a 1% increase in pledges and dollars for FY 2011, the first time in 6 years there has been an increase in the pledge total at the end of the stewardship campaign. The goal is \$42,000 above what has been pledged so far.

### **Warden's Report:** Andy Johnston

Andy led a discussion on a letter received from Bishop Wright that asks for input from the vestries of the diocese on the future of the Cathedral Church of St. John. The Cathedral is facing serious financial issues, and input was requested by the Bishop on financing and the future of the Cathedral Choir School. The Bishop has requested a response by May 9. Ruth reviewed the plan that St. John's presented to Diocesan Council, which is ambitious. Much discussion followed, including plans, possible collaboration, what has happened

before with other distressed churches, what will be done differently if funding is secured, what data there is from successful revitalizations of churches in urban areas, and other issues. Andy will contact the Bishop with questions generated by the discussion. Andy distributed the CCCH Policy for Purchasing Goods and Services. It was agreed that revisions to the policy are necessary and will be taken up by the Vestry at a later meeting.

**Rector's Report** (see Addendum H)

Ruth distributed several handouts which discuss membership in the Episcopal Church and how congregations shape and are shaped by society. There are 10 weddings scheduled at CCCH in 2011. A service was added for Palm Sunday recently, and we are grateful to the Altar Guild for stepping up to the plate. At the May Vestry meeting, Ruth will announce her choice for the next Senior Warden. Wilson and Andy agreed to solicit interest, screen candidates, and present a youth candidate for approval to the Vestry at the May meeting.

Ruth led a devotion. The Vestry was encouraged to think about the cross of Jesus Christ and walk through Holy Week knowing not just the beginning of the story but also the end of the story. Christ's death and Resurrection has the power to transform lives.

The final prayer was given by Steve Brodt.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Our next meeting is May 12, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Robertson, Clerke

**ADDENDUM A – Christ Church Labyrinth Project**

**HISTORY/TIMELINE:**

- Summer/Fall 2006 – Rector search begins/labyrinth chosen as symbol of that spiritual journey
- September 2006 – Communicator article/Find Our Way to Calling a New Rector (Jennifer O'Connor)
- October/November 2006 – Parish Profile published; message from senior warden (Leslie Kelly)/invitation to "walk with us"
- Fall 2006-Spring 2007 – Labyrinth hung in Narthex ; parishioners able to follow journey/search process
- July 2007 – letter to parish from Senior Warden (Leslie Kelly); labyrinth apt metaphor
- August 2007 – Communicator article/Ruth's call, labyrinth (Betsy Field)
- Spring 2009 – the Labyrinth Committee formed
- May 14, 2009 – eNEWS; A Word From the Clergy about labyrinths (Ruth Kirk)
- Summer 2009 to present – ongoing committee research/meetings; visit/walk labyrinths; LABYRINTHS IN DELAWARE (researched and written by Betsy Field at request of Ruth and Worship Committee); cost/materials info compiled; survey of various CC groups (youth/Sunday school, CCEP, ACE, Worship Committee, Quiet Day, informal parishioner sample); regular meetings of Labyrinth Committee
- November 11, 2010 – Buildings and Grounds proposed Labyrinth Project to Vestry
- December 2010 – Communicator article; labyrinth history/committee activity/Quiet Day/invitation to join committee (Steve Boyden)

- December 11, 2010 – Quiet Day; portable labyrinth and info available
- December 12, 2010 – ACE; Ruth presents on labyrinths
- January 2011 – Labyrinth Committee and description/mission added to CCCH website
- February 2011 – \$25,000 gift of gratitude and thanksgiving to Christ Church to be used for the purchase of labyrinth kit – pavers and design (Cal and Ann Wick)
- March 2011 – Vestry votes to accept gift from Wicks
- March 2011 – \$7,500 memorial gift toward Labyrinth Project (from Dick Rust-see letter)
- March 29, 2011 – Communicator article; history/announce Wicks’ gift/info (Steve Boyden)
- April 8, 2011 – Labyrinth meditation (Ruth Kirk)
- April 9, 2011 – Lenten Quiet Day with Mpho Tutu; portable labyrinth and info available

**FUNDS NEEDED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH LABYRINTH PROJECT:**

\$25,000 - labyrinth kit – pavers and design

\$15,000 - land prep/installation

\$40,000 TOTAL

**FUNDS RECEIVED OR PLEDGED TO DATE:**

\$25,000 - Wicks’ gift

\$ 7,500 - Rust memorial gift

\$ 5,300 - pledges from Labyrinth Committee members

\$ 2,200 - Buildings and Grounds (dovetail with Memorial Garden improvements)

\$40,000 TOTAL

**ADDITIONAL FUNDS NEEDED TO COMPLETE FINAL PHASE OF LABYRINTH PROJECT:**

\$35,000 – Please note that the committee plans to raise an additional sum to cover a second phase of the project that will include the installation of footpaths, lighting, and landscaping. This information will be presented by the Buildings and Grounds Committee chair, Linda Boyden. The second phase of the project can be completed over time and will be shaped/alterd according to the amount of money that is raised.

**FUND-RAISING PLAN FOR SECOND PHASE OF PROJECT:**

*See PRELIMINARY FUND-RAISING PLAN* – Steve Boyden and Joan Sharp will lead the fund-raising portion of The Labyrinth Project.

**THE LABYRINTH COMMITTEE SEEKS:**

- VESTRY APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE LABYRINTH – TO BE FORMALLY ANNOUNCED IN MAY WHEN CAL WICK PREACHES
- VESTRY APPROVAL TO EMBARK ON A FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN FOR LANDSCAPING, LIGHTING, ETC. FOR THE LABYRINTH

- Submitted by Gina Pike on behalf of the Labyrinth Committee

**ADDENDUM B – Preliminary Fund-raising Plan**

**Project cost breakdown:**

\$25,000—pre-cut stone labyrinth kit

\$15,500—site preparation and installation

\$35,000-45,000—paths, lighting, landscaping, benches

**As of April 12, 2011, we have sufficient funds to purchase and install the labyrinth.**

The Vestry has accepted a \$25,000 gift from Ann and Cal Wick to purchase the labyrinth itself. Ruth received a \$7,500 contribution which will be used toward the preparation and installation.

All nine members of the Labyrinth Committee have donated or pledged support for the project, for \$5,300. Buildings & Grounds will provide the remaining \$2,700 needed to complete the installation from their operating budget.

**Next Steps:**

Although this project might easily be funded by a few large gifts, our plan is to build interest and a sense of ownership throughout the parish by casting a wider net and soliciting smaller donations from a wide range of people.

We will continue our regular communication to the parish in weekly and monthly publications, adding an appeal for contributions.

On the Monday following Cal Wick’s Sermon on May 22, we will send a letter to each household in the parish, reinforcing his message and asking that they consider a donation.

We will supply a copy of the Forward Movement brochure *Walking the Labyrinth* to anyone contributing from \$1 to \$49, and a brochure plus a labyrinth lapel pin for contributions above \$50.

We will explore special giving opportunities, e.g, memorial naming opportunities for benches, trees, shrubs, or stones in the labyrinth.

**ADDENDUM C – Labyrinth Budget Costs, Options and Phasing**

**Phase I – Fully Funded**

- Labyrinth Kit (pavers and pattern) \$25,000
  - Site preparation and installation with entry terrace \$15,000
  - Electric conduit under Labyrinth for future use \$ 500
- Subtotal: \$40,500

**Phase II –As funding becomes available, these items, listed in order of priority, should be completed with Phase I**

- Stone seating/retaining wall \$ 8,000
  - Pea gravel border path with edging \$ 2,600
  - Boxwood Hedge Landscaping \$ 3,700
  - Stone Column w/ instructional bronze plaques \$ 2,000
  - (2) Benches \$ 2,000
- Subtotal: \$18,300

**Phase III**

- Path # 1 (in crushed stone with edging) 255’ \$ 6,600
- Electrical conduit and light fixtures \$ 5,800

**Phase IV**

- Path # 2 w/ steps(in crushed stone with edging) 220’/8 steps \$ 8,400
- Electrical conduit and light fixtures \$ 4,200
- (2) Benches \$ 2,000

## Phase V

- Upgrade paths to flagstone

\$ TBD

### ADDENDUM D – Annual Meeting Timeline

The goal of our committee is to design an Annual Meeting that is a celebration of our ministries and life together. We want it to be upbeat and fun. We don't want the parish to have to "put on this meeting" by bringing food, baby-sitting, or some other task. We want them to come and celebrate together.

#### Annual Meeting Time Line – May 15<sup>th</sup>

- **Two Services – 8 and 9**
  - Ruth will give the Rector's Address at both services
  - 9 o'clock Service will be like a 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – children 4 and up will attend
- **Procession to the Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall**
  - No receiving line at back of the church
  - Process to Annual Meeting behind Ministry Banners carried by youth
  - Choir will lead procession singing a familiar hymn where the parish at least knows the refrain – or give out handouts with the words
  - Children will wave streamers they made in Sunday School
  - Children 4 – 11 will go to Chapel for their own event with Pete Moses
- **Meeting will begin between 10:30 and 10:40**
  - Parish Halls A and B will be set up with round tables with 8 chairs, tablecloths and centerpieces, water and small baskets with snacks
  - Coffee will be stationed around the room
  - Slide show – Ministries Year in Review – will be playing on the drop-down screens in Parish Halls A and B as parishioners come in and sit down
- **Celebration of Ministries (aka Annual Meeting) – each piece is 10 minutes max**
  - Senior Warden – Welcome, Fun Facts, interesting statistics about CCCH
  - Youth Ministries – video presentation or other engaging presentation
  - Outreach – Focus on Epiphany House
  - Care of our Parish Family – a presentation of how we care for each other including Parish Life, Pastoral Ministries, Notes of Care, Friendly Freezer, Celebration of Life
  - Music/Worship/ACE – this might focus on the 90-Day Bible Study
  - Ruth's THANK YOU's – honoring some special people in the Parish
  - Vestry Election Results and Commission of Vestry
- **LUNCH at 11:45**
  - Lunch will be catered
  - Two buffet stations – one in Parish Hall C and one through the Kitchen
  - Desserts will be placed on tables
  - Drinks at self service stations around the room
- **MARKETING**
  - Communicator Articles – March, April, May
  - Bulletins – Four weeks before event
  - Christ Church E-News – 3 weeks before event
  - Invitation – send out week of April 11<sup>th</sup>; postcard Invitation to all Parishioners ½ page size
  - EASY RSVP Button on Home Page of Website
  - Sign-up sheets at vestry election tables week before
- **BUDGET** – Depending how many people, we are asking for a budget up to \$5000

## ADDENDUM E – Service to Others Cluster Report

### PASTORAL MINISTRIES

The Pastoral Ministries Team held its regular monthly meeting on April 12, 2011.

- **Books on Grief**, a series of four books published by the Stephen Ministry, are being given to parishioners who have recently lost family members.
- **Caregivers Support Group** continues to meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. At the most recent meeting, there were six participants.
- **Celebration of Life** facilitated eleven receptions following memorial services during the past calendar year. Co-coordinator Dodo Newlin plans to step down from that role but will remain as a monthly coordinator on the 33-member committee to handle receptions during the months of August and December, months when it is traditionally difficult to find coordinators. Ginny Gordon will remain as a co-coordinator, and Russ will work with Dodo and Ginny to find a replacement for Dodo.
- **Eucharistic Ministry** is going well. Zona Lindsay is the Coordinator. Volunteers are needed to assist with the 4:00 PM service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at Stonegates Health Care. Interested people should contact Susan Sherk or Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly.
- **Flower Ministry** continues to run smoothly, thanks to Coordinator Maggie Sanger and Millie Miller. The memorial flowers are always well received.
- **Friendly Freezer** is benefiting from the donation of leftover soup from the Wednesday evening Lenten suppers. Linda Hopkins has been taking the soup to the freezer on Thursday mornings for later food deliveries.
- **Helping Hands** is going well. Mary Hunt is joining Martha Lankford as co-coordinator immediately. Russ, Mary, and Martha will meet after Easter to discuss the direction of this growing ministry. Use of a new computer system for scheduling volunteers is still under consideration.
- **Notes of Care** is presently under the leadership of Lucy Cluett following Marge Foulsham's resignation as Co-chair. Marty Rushlow will step up to be co-chair with Lucy in June.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** presently has 15 shawls available for distribution.
- **Resource Library** has recently made some acquisitions and more are planned.

In other discussion, the Team reviewed individual ministry write-ups which will be compiled for Pastoral Ministries section of the Annual Report.

Work continued on the crafting of Organizational Guidelines for the Pastoral Ministries Team.

### GLOBAL MISSIONS TEAM

- The Youth who will make the trip to Jalonga, DR this summer continue pre-trip meetings and just completed another service project at St. Michael's.
- There will be a Global Missions visioning meeting in May, facilitated by Wil Sherk.

### CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL PRESCHOOL

The Board of Christ Church Episcopal Preschool last met on April 12, 2011.

#### Head of School Report

- Jo Harney reported that enrollment for the next academic year is strong with about two spots available at each grade level, with the exception of the Cherubs – there will be no Cherub class next year, but there will be an Early 2's Class.
- All teachers continue required training for Delaware Stars. An assessor will come in the fall and visit all classrooms.

- Enrollments for the Summer Camp continue to come in, with 7-11 children enrolled for each week, with the exception of week four, with only 2 enrolled.
- The academic year calendar for next year has been completed.
- Participation in Procure, a tuition and payment-processing program, is being considered. Tuition Express would process tuition payments for parents; recurring ACH transactions, recurring credit card transactions, and point of sale/credit card swipe transactions.
- Jo Harney would like to enroll Denise Harris in an Administrative Assistant skills workshop – this was approved by the Board.

#### **Budget Planning**

- Rob Friz presented Actual (preliminary) vs. Budgeted figures through March 2011. The overall figures continue to trend positively. Budget planning is ongoing.

#### **Trustees**

- Ted Cover provided a spreadsheet listing current trustees, including start and end dates of terms and specific committee involvement. Three trustees will rotate off the Board in June, and the Board Chair will rotate off in July. Six new Trustees will begin three year Board terms in June, increasing the size of the Board by two members, as was approved at the March meeting. Short biographies of the new Board candidates for the class of 2014 were provided, though the names remain confidential at this time.

#### **Admissions and Marketing**

- Kim Dolan provided Admission/Enrollment figures for next year and reviewed the breakdown by class and program. The total enrollment, to date, for the 2011-12 year is 69.

#### **Development**

- Margaret Simperts and Valerie Wolslayer reported very positive receipts from all CCEP events as well as annual giving. Plans for the April 29 Gala and Auction are falling into place, and the Board members were thanked for their donations of time or goods/services to the event. Everyone was encouraged to attend the party and bring a friend.

### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

The Outreach Committee has concluded the discernment process for the 2011 grant awards. Forty-nine applications were received with requests totaling \$372,475. With a designated focus on poverty, the requests address its causes, symptoms, and solutions. With each application read by every committee member, presentations, and discussion, the Committee recommends granting 38 gifts totaling \$180,350. Within the group, 2 agencies received grants in the past but not 2010, 4 are recipients for the first time, while 3 previously funded agencies have not been recommended for funding this year. Our resources are distributed toward housing, food, art, mentoring, tutoring, mental health, serving people with disabilities, healthcare, camp experiences as well as religious stewardship.

In addition, the Committee stewards funds for the ongoing ministries of the Youth Group, Global Missions, Emmanuel Dining Room, our stake in Jessie Ball du Pont grants, an educational presentation for agencies, plus our second installment to a new fund to be a cornerstone for a future endeavor such as Epiphany House. Together with the grant awards, our Outreach commitments total \$222,058.

We are grateful to our clergy liaison, The Rev. Russ Bohner, for joining us in this work. The generosity of resources—time, talent, treasure and spirit—required to generate the revenue, relationships, and stewardship is outstanding. The Outreach Committee is privileged to represent the Parish and seeks the Vestry’s approval of the following slate of grant awards:

#### **2011 Grant Allocations:**

AIDS Delaware	\$ 3,000
Brady Kohn Foundation	\$ 1,000
Brandywine Pastoral Institute	\$ 5,000
Camp Arrowhead	\$ 2,000

Cathedral Choir School	\$20,000
Christina Cultural Arts Center	\$ 2,000
Connecting Generations	\$ 7,000
CONTACT Lifeline	\$ 2,500
DAPI – Delaware Adolescent Program	\$ 2,500
Delaware Futures	\$10,000
Delaware Guidance Services	\$ 2,500
First State School	\$ 1,500
Friendship House	\$25,000
Garage Youth Center	\$ 500
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 5,000
Interfaith Housing	\$ 7,500
Kuumba Academy Charter School	\$ 1,000
La Comunidad Hispana	\$ 1,000
LACC – Latin American Center	\$ 1,000
Limen House	\$ 5,000
Literacy Volunteers	\$ 2,500
Pathways to Wholeness	\$ 2,500
Practice Without Pressure	\$ 750
Prestige Academy	\$ 1,000
Reading Assist	\$ 8,000
Rodney Street Tennis & Tutoring	\$ 1,000
Serviam Girls Academy	\$ 2,000
SOAR – Survivors of Abuse in Recovery	\$ 9,000
St. Michael’s School	\$25,000
Stehm	\$ 1,000
Sunday Breakfast Mission	\$ 1,000
TRIAD	\$ 1,000
Trustees of Color	\$ 500
Urban Promise	\$ 2,500
Wellness Center	\$ 2,000
West Center City Early Learning	\$ 3,100
Wilmington Senior Center	\$ 2,500
YWCA	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Subtotal:	\$180,350

**CCCH Programs:**

CCCH Youth Group	\$ 1,000	
Global Mission Fund	\$ 2,500	
Emmanuel Dining Room	\$ 9,000	
Jessie Ball du Pont match	\$10,000	
Cornerstone Fund*	\$10,000	(*potential new capital project)
Reserve, other gifts, exp.	\$ 7,458	
Agency breakfast	\$ 1,750	
Special/year-end	\$ 1,750	
TOTAL ALLOCATED:	\$222,058	

- Submitted by Martha Lankford, Gina Pike, Barbara Cairns, Ann Wick

## ADDENDUM F – Spirit Life Cluster Report

### Worship

1. Palm Sunday will be observed on April 17<sup>th</sup>. All morning services on Palm Sunday include the blessing of the palms and at 9 and 11 AM the gospel story of the passion of Jesus. A Young Children's Service with Eucharist takes place at 9 AM in the Chapel for families with children under the age of 6.
2. The Christ Church Choir, with orchestra, under the direction of William Owen, will present a performance of J. S. Bach's *Passion According to St. John* on Palm Sunday, April 17 at 4 PM in the Church. Our own Dana Robertson will sing the role of the Evangelist. A donation of at least \$25 per person is requested to defray the cost of this performance.
3. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week, April 18, 19, 20. This year in Holy Week we offer worship every day at 7:30 PM so that the story of the passion can sink into the depth of our hearts. Join us for Evening Prayer in the Church on these days.
4. Maundy Thursday, April 21. A Children's Service takes place at 5:30 PM in the Chapel, sharing the Lord's Supper and the ritual foot washing, loving and serving our neighbors, following the example of Jesus. The Parish Life and Worship Committees sponsor our Maundy Thursday Supper, a sharing in fellowship around the table at 6:15 PM in the Parish Hall. We worship in the Church at 7:30 PM to observe the mandate of Jesus. The service includes Eucharist and foot washing and concludes with the stripping of the altar, in readiness for Good Friday.
5. Good Friday, April 22. Good Friday is the most solemn day of the Church year—the day we remember our Lord's death for our salvation. The church is open for personal devotions all day. At noon our worship is in the Church for the Good Friday liturgy, including a sermon and the veneration of the cross. At 4 PM our Children's Service is in the Chapel to remember Jesus on the cross. At 7:30 PM our worship is Tenebrae, a service of scripture readings, music, and prayer as the shadows deepen to darkness and Christ is laid in the tomb.
6. Holy Saturday, April 23. At 7 PM we gather for Compline to open the Vigil Watch, keeping watch throughout the night, tending a sacred fire, and making prayers in the silent and darkened church until sunrise on Easter morning.
7. Easter Day, April 24. At 6 AM we begin in the darkness to bring the new fire of Christ's light into the sanctuary, welcoming the dawn of resurrection in the Great Vigil of Easter service, with music from the St. Cecelia Choir. Following the Easter Vigil, all are invited to share in a potluck breakfast in Parish Halls A and B beginning at 7:30 AM. At 8 AM we worship in the Chapel for the traditional spoken service of Holy Eucharist, Rite I. This year's Young Children's Service for families with children under the age of 6 includes Eucharist and takes place at 9 AM in the Chapel. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 10:15 AM in the playground behind the Parish Center. Between the 9 and 11 AM services, a special potluck coffee hour will be held in Parish Halls A and B. Parishioners are invited to bring quick breads, coffee cakes, muffins, cinnamon rolls, doughnuts, etc. to share. At 9 and 11 AM we offer Easter's Eucharist in the Church. The Christ Church Choir sings, with Choral Eucharist at 11 AM.
8. Baptismal Services will be held on Sunday, May 8 and Sunday, June 26.
9. Confirmation will be held on Sunday, June 12, the Day of Pentecost. Frank Turner, retired Bishop of Pennsylvania, will preside.
10. Our Bishop, Wayne Wright, will have his annual visitation on Sunday, June 26.
11. We are preparing for September 11, the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and our congregation's usual "kick-off" picnic. The program staff believes the best approach to marking 9/11 will be to add a special worship occasion that Sunday afternoon. A recent widow, very supportive of the music program at CCCH, came to the rector and organist looking for a way to memorialize her husband, thinking of contributing for a special Evensong. She has agreed to support the Christ Church Choir in a 9/11/11 performance of Philip Ledger's *Requiem: A Thanksgiving for Life* (first performed here

on All Saints' Day in 2007). Bill and Ruth will plan whether the worship is Evensong and Requiem or Eucharist and Requiem for that afternoon at CCCH.

### **Spiritual Formation**

1. The Lenten Sunday Adult Enrichment was based on the book *24 Hours That Changed the World*. The series has been well attended, with an average of 80. A final session of mediation on Christ's final 24 hours will take place on Holy Saturday at 10:00 AM.
2. The Lenten Wednesday evening series was *The Stewardship of Creation: Fulfilling God's Charge to Serve and Guard the Earth*. The evenings began with a gathering for soup supper, followed by presentation and discussion led by Jennifer on the scriptural basis for environmental stewardship.
3. On Friday, April 8, Ruth led a guided meditation on the canvas labyrinth in the Parish Hall. After sharing some history about the existence, use, and tradition of labyrinths in the Christian church, she explained the three stages of walking a labyrinth. Those present were then invited to walk the Parish Hall labyrinth using, if desired, stones, shells and crosses to symbolize their intentions as part of their spiritual journey. Participants expressed their appreciation for Ruth's meditation and this opportunity.
4. A Lenten Quiet Day entitled "*Seeing with the Eyes of Goodness*" was held on Saturday, April 9, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Chapel. The Rev. Mpho Tutu, Executive Director of the Tutu Institute for Prayer & Pilgrimage, led meditations followed by quiet time for reflection, reading, meditation, prayer, use of a labyrinth or a walk outside. Copies of *Made for Goodness*, a recently published book co-authored by the Rev. Tutu and her father, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, were available for purchase and signing at the Quiet Day.
5. The Confirmation Class held its retreat on April 1, 2, and 3 at Camp Arrowhead. 26 youth participated in the retreat. The adult leaders for the retreat were Lynne Jensen, Ruth Lawson Kirk, Marcy Kempner, Chuck Durgin, and Tom Marcin.
6. An informational meeting for parents and youth for the 2012 Pilgrimage was held on Sunday, April 10 at 4 PM for all 8th and 9th grade J2A families.
7. Planning and preparation continues for the Dominican Republic trip June 26-July 2. Youth and leaders will be gathering for a working retreat on April 15-16 in preparation for their trip. Charcoal Pit fund-raiser nights for the DR trip will be held on Monday, April 18 and Monday, May 16. The youth going to Jalonga will prepare a Fiesta Dinner on Sunday, May 22 at 6 PM. Tickets will be on sale in early May. During May the youth will collect baseball supplies, especially baseball gloves and balls, for the Dominican Republic.
8. Becca Durgin, Max Holdsworth, and Lynne Jensen will be part of the Diocese of Delaware's delegation to the National Episcopal Youth Event June 21-28. The group will travel to Indianapolis by bus with other delegations from Province 3. This year's Episcopal Youth Event will feel similar to past events in many ways, yet it is shaping up to be a very different experience. There will be three full days of worship, sharing, praying, learning, singing, and working, calling participants into a greater awareness of and commitment to God's mission in the world. It will be followed by three days of mission, an opportunity for youth groups to engage in urban or rural mission. Embracing the "Anglican Marks of Mission" as their charge, the gathering will strive to engage the passion and energy of faithful youth, to embrace their call to ministry, and to empower them to put their faith into action.

### **Parish Life**

1. The UrbanPromise Silent Auction was held at Christ Church in Parish Halls A and B on Thursday March 24. A committee composed of UP volunteers from different churches, including Christ Church, helped plan the event over several months with assistance from Susan Casscells who shared her materials, experience, strategies, and advice regarding the management, organization, solicitation, and presentation of auction items. The turnout for the auction was very good, drawing many participants for the first time to CC who were very enthusiastic and appreciative of the

opportunity to be there for the evening. Jamie Jones and Betsy worked the kitchen together with the UP Interns and StreetLeaders who set up all the Parish Hall tables, served the food to guests, stored the tables at the close and mopped the floor, all done with a spirit of welcome, hospitality and gratitude. Proceeds yielded over \$20,000 (twice the previous year) and that with no alcohol served! A special thank you to Ajit George who donated an iPad to the event after having done so a few weeks earlier to the CCEP. At the end of the evening Rob Prestowitz, the ED of UP, gathered all who worked on behalf of the auction into a circle of prayer, thanking God for his blessings through Christ Church in support of UP's ministries, those who donated, served, and attended.

2. An Interfaith Event will be held Sunday, May 15 at 4:30 PM at Temple Beth Emeth. Collections during the month of May could be items for kids aging out of foster care.
3. Pipe Organ Encounter; Monday, June 20. The event is sponsored by the Delaware Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. This is a National event, and this is Delaware's year to host. It allows kids ages 13-18 (with keyboard background) to have an opportunity to get some experience playing and hearing pipe organs. It's designed to encourage and develop the next generation of organists. We will have some of the kids taking lessons at CCCH on the mornings of June 20-24 (they split the kids up among the various participating churches). We will provide lunch in the Parish Hall on Monday the 20th for the entire group plus chaperones.

#### **Website Redesign Team**

1. The group has worked for the past month on developing a site map and conceptual design for a new homepage. A detailed review of numerous church websites was performed so as to benchmark and identify desirable design criteria.

- Submitted by Wilson Anthony, Betsy Field, Bitsy Robbins, Rich Tucker

### **ADDENDUM G – Stewardship Cluster Report**

#### **Campaigns**

The 2010 pledge income came in at \$1,207,114, 103.9% of total pledge and over budget— best ever!

There were 521 pledges of 631 "total givers"; 132 pledges were over given for \$41,609; 15 pledgers gave nothing and 55 were under their pledge. Historically, excellent results!

The 2011 campaign is complete at \$1,170,537 on 541 pledges, a 1% increase in pledges and dollars over 2010. As stated last month, this year's pledge to-date is higher than last year—the first increase since 2005!

Pledge Status: 2011 Goal = \$1,213,235 2011 Pledge 3/28/2011 = \$1,170,537

As previously reported, the Vestry has authorized the use of the remaining contingency reserve (\$103,638) and to take an additional 1% draw on the endowment as needed to meet the 2011 budget of \$2,084,070. Based on the past 2 years, the outlook for reaching our budget as the year progresses is very good.

A recent Treasurer's reassessment of the parish membership showed 80% of our members pledge and 97% of member give financially to the parish.

#### **Stewardship Committee – Phil VanWormer**

This year's successful "Ask, Thank, Tell" Stewardship Campaign results are summarized above and is essentially complete. A list and follow-up plan have been identified for 29 parishioners who pledged last year and have not YTD with a potential of \$50,000 of additional pledges.

Our strong Stewardship Team will be returning for the 2012 campaign. They are active working with a goal to “increase 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.”

**Finance Committee** – Bryan Keenan

The Treasurer’s report was reviewed and results included in the above summary. Ned and Mike are also working on a reassessment of our membership numbers for reporting purposes. It was agreed that a Financial Summary Presentation is expected by the congregation and will be prepared for the Annual Meeting. The 2011 first quarter financial report from the Business Manager will be reviewed at the next meeting in advance of next month’s Vestry and annual meetings.

- Submitted by Wes Jones

### **ADDENDUM H – Rector’s Report**

**Personal:** I was pleased to have two days (replacing Fridays that were not days off) at Virginia Seminary earlier this month. I had lunch with Loren Mead, a wonderful and insightful mentor, and enjoyed time with other colleagues and friends. The book on the women of VTS is soon to be published and will include some of the interview conducted with me a year ago. I have no plans to be away from the parish until I attend the CREDO II conference, June 13 to 20. CREDO stands for Clergy Renewal, Education, and Development Opportunity, and is sponsored by the Church Pension Group. It is a time to review wellness goals as they relate to health, spiritual life, vocational journey, and financial planning. CPG pays for all but \$500 of the cost of the program, a retreat that strengthens the health of the church by improving the health of the clergy.

**Staff:** This month I am working to complete the Letter of Agreement with **Bill Owen**, who has never had a document confirming his benefits and other details of his employment at Christ Church. I have sought such a LOA for members of the program staff, lay and ordained, with an understanding that the Employee Handbook provides the details of our policies and procedures with the staff. In May and June, **Bill** takes the final two months of sabbatical leave that had accumulated under the verbal agreement with me and with the previous rector. **David Hearn** will again presume the leadership of the music ministry. This coming weekend **Russ Bohner** is attending the last of his conferences as a part of the program on spiritual direction. We will miss him for Palm Sunday worship but are pleased he gains so much from this training program.

**Parish:** We are currently scheduled for ten weddings in 2011, including three this month. God’s blessings for **Catherine Dolan and Ron Kershner, Kevin McVey and Jenna Brooks, and Charlotte Greenewalt and Max Barus** to be united in holy matrimony. CCEP and CCCH welcome two infants, the Ritz family and the McGinley family have new candidates for baptism and eventually the preschool, born this month.

We welcome **Phil Van Wormer** as the new chair of the Stewardship Committee. Most of the members of last year’s committee (all men) agreed to return for another year. Thanks again to Rosanne Miller for her strong leadership.

When I make a change or an addition to our worship life, it has an impact on many people. Just a few weeks ago, the program staff decided to add a service for young children and their families this Palm Sunday. We know this is right: it completes the series of worship services more suitable for children than the worship services in the church through Holy Week. I am grateful to the staff for their creativity and involvement, especially **Lynne Jensen and Nadine DiLorenzo**, but more, I am grateful to the Altar Guild and their chair, **Mary Henderer**, for taking on yet another service in a very full week. I do not believe I give this

“behind the scenes” ministry enough thanks and praise for the work they do week in and week out. Please join me in expressing your gratitude to Mary when you see her.

**Special:** At the request of the Vestry, following is a report of the income and expenses of Christmas and Easter memorial contributions over the last three years. It has been a long-standing tradition in the church to invite contributions from members in memory of loved ones to pay for extra flowers and music. If there are questions, or suggestions to improve or change this process, please speak with me.

<u>Year</u>		<u>Income</u>	<u>Adornment Expense</u>	<u>Music Expense*</u>	<u>Difference</u>
2008	Easter	7,745	2,955	3,600	1,190
	Christmas	5,650	2,033	2,825	792
2009	Easter	7,366	1,563	3,700	2,103
	Christmas	8,770	993	3,500	4,277
2010	Easter	6,365	1,410	3,600	1,355
	Christmas	5,255	1,039	3,565	651

\* 2008 - 2010 = \$4,500 Christmas & Easter, \$4,500; Worship Supplies, \$2,500; Messiah = \$11,500  
 2011 = \$4,000 Christmas & Easter, \$4,000; Worship Supplies, \$5,500; Messiah = \$13,500

Difference is general operating income for that year