



## CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

### 2023 Actuals and 2024 Ministry Budget

<b>Income:</b>	<b><u>Actual 2023</u></b>	<b><u>Approved Budget 2024</u></b>
Pledges	1,534,913	1,636,132
Plate Collections	26,460	26,500
Endowment/Investment Income	558,119	543,453
Gifts & Bequests	69,903	66,779
Preschool Allocation & Transfers	311,086	264,445
Green Show & Special Offerings	128,460	139,000
Miscellaneous Income	<u>58,751</u>	<u>60,700</u>
	2,687,692	2,737,009
<b>Expense:</b>	<b><u>Actual 2023</u></b>	<b><u>Approved Budget 2024</u></b>
Giving Beyond Christ Church	422,633	424,052
Adults, Children, & Youth Formation	18,346	22,000
Worship & Music	152,810	161,040
Online Worship	24,419	26,000
Parish Outreach Ministry	92,431	57,000
Fellowship, Pastoral Care, & Other Program Costs	39,308	39,334
Administration (Salaries & Staff Support)	1,398,902	1,475,991
Administration (Communications/Risk Management/Other)	178,209	176,472
Utilities	116,070	115,482
Property Management & Other Property Expenses	231,254	234,038
Contingency Funds	<u>13,310</u>	<u>5,600</u>
	2,687,692	2,737,009
<b>Net Income:</b>	-	-

Each year the rector and her staff work with the finance committee to present a budget to the vestry, funding the ministry that we share as Christ Church Christiana Hundred. Your pledges make up 60% of our ministry's funding, which result from our annual giving campaigns each fall. This process, followed by most Episcopal congregations, trusts the members to make ministry happen, giving a tithe or percentage of what God has provided us to demonstrate our gratitude for God's blessings and our commitment to serve as Christ serves us. Pledging a contribution enables our clergy and leadership to estimate our income and determine the funding of our mission and ministry.

The finance committee and vestry hold the following priorities for funding:

- We are called to growth, strengthening the congregation with new members (including families with young children and youth) who also work, pray, and give for the spread of God's kingdom.
- We take care of the buildings and grounds that have been handed on to us so that we can carry out our ministry today and preserve this sacred space for the next generation.
- We have a preschool to nurture and form young children in the Episcopal tradition. It is an essential ministry of this parish family.
- We give to others. We want to make an impact in the local community and in the Dominican Republic and by our annual contribution to the Episcopal Church in Delaware.
- We invest in music for worship, which is part of our congregation's identity and is funded in large measure by a history of endowment contributions and bequests.
- We live in a culture that leans toward beauty and excellence. While we are not Winterthur or Hagley, we share their standards for excellence in what we offer for all who come to Christ Church.

The priorities we hold help us craft the expenses that sustain and strengthen us in faith, hope, and love as we follow Jesus Christ together and reach out in service to others.

For 2024, the finance committee performed a detailed review of the past three years of expenses, especially around the care of our property. The budget adopted by the vestry estimates a 4% increase in income and is based on the level of member pledges known when the budget was presented to the vestry in February 2024. In 2023, the vestry did not fully finance the contribution to the diocese but restored that contribution in 2024. However, a reduction was made in the contribution of parish pledges committed for allocation through our outreach committee to area agencies that serve those in need. As a congregation, we commit 17.5% of our income (from special offerings, dedicated contributors, and the Green Show, as well as pledges) to serve others through the diocese, our outreach partners, and our companions in the Dominican Republic.

Any budget is an act of faith, and our faith is in Jesus Christ, who calls us into this "loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ."

Questions about the 2024 Ministry Budget may be directed to the rector, wardens, treasurer, and members of the finance committee and vestry.