

Christ Church Christiana Hundred Strategic Plan
Vestry Update to the Parish – First Quarter 2025

Goal 1: We will grow our Episcopal faith community with God’s help.

Vestry Team Members: Chuck Arensberg, Ran Barton, Audrey Bruce, Barb King, Bart Reese

- This quarter’s “Newcomers: Belong” course assisted 14 new members to discover how they can deepen their connections to the parish.
- We held an Invitation Workshop in January where 11 members honed their skills and built confidence for inviting friends and neighbors to join them in worship and fellowship here.
- In collaboration with Christ Church Episcopal Preschool, we held a Family Movie Night in March that drew over 70 children, giving their parents a much-desired opportunity to socialize with other adults while the little ones were safely occupied.
- We held a Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night in February, which was a highly successful new fellowship offering.

Goal 2: We will grow deeper relationships with God and with each other, following Jesus Christ.

Vestry Team Members: Cindi Cozza, Alexander Maynard, Jamie Poston, Jaq Whalen, Alexia Wolf

- We conducted an inventory of current adult formation opportunities, and these are listed on the parish website.
- We established criteria to assess whether adult formation opportunities should remain as they are, be modified, or be discontinued. Additionally, we have created an Adult Formation Feedback Form to gather parishioner input on our programs.
- We launched an engagement/parish direction survey, and trends in key metrics are being analyzed by the Vestry for insights and future strategy planning.
- We have assessed the needs and current state of pastoral care in the church community and have drafted a plan to develop training for lay volunteers. The first step in this process was the March 8 session “Fostering Compassionate Care: A Congregational Conversation.” There were 30 attendees, and many expressed interest in learning more about a training program.
- The team that built the Ministry Match Discovery Tool held a Zoom session for our parish ministry leaders to teach them the many ways it can be used and how we can derive the greatest value from its capabilities. Fourteen leaders participated in the live session, and it was recorded for later viewing by others. Announcements will be made at all worship services encouraging everyone to take the Ministry Match survey again as a refresher.

Goal 3: As stewards of the gifts that God entrusts to us, we will faithfully manage our property, financial resources, and the time and talents of our members to support our ministries in and beyond Christ Church and will increase the use of our buildings and grounds to connect with our community.

Vestry Team Members: Ted Ledden, Thorpe Moeckel, Scott Nickle, Eliza Phillips

- We continued our in-depth investigation into the causes and extent of water leakage into the new wing of the Parish Center and areas around the chimney and elevator. Comprehensive designs for repairing the damage and protecting the structures for the future are nearing completion.
- We chose a new name for our planned giving program: The 1848 Legacy Society, which we will be sharing more about in upcoming parish communications.