

Christ Church Christiana Hundred Strategic Plan

Vestry Update to the Parish – 1st Quarter 2026

This quarterly Vestry update, informed by Year Three of our Strategic Plan work, reflects progress across our shared goals as we seek to grow in faith, deepen community, and faithfully steward the life and resources of our parish.

Goal 1: Growing our Episcopal faith community with God's help

- Eight prospective members attended the January Belong class and plan to join the church at Pentecost through a welcome liturgy; at least two have already pledged
- Supporting newcomer integration through the Belong class and ongoing Invite, Welcome, Connect (IWC) efforts
- Strengthening the IWC ministry as it reviews and begins implementing ideas from the vestry "Inviting Others" retreat work session
- Developing practical ways to welcome new residents, support young families, and foster connection among young adults, including visits to new residents, meal delivery to new parents, and fellowship opportunities for young adults
- Continuing to expand approaches for inviting others into parish life through ongoing IWC meetings
- Creating opportunities to connect CCEP families with worship and parish life through shared events currently in planning
- No updates this quarter on life transitions support; this remains an area for future development
- Beginning renewed efforts in 2026 to reconnect with sporadically active members

Goal 2: Growing deeper relationships with God and one another

- Expanding adult formation opportunities, including seasonal offerings with shared clergy and lay leadership
- Using participation and feedback to guide and strengthen future programs
- Supporting youth engagement through regular gatherings, relevant discussions, and adaptable programming
- Offering meaningful service and mission opportunities, including youth-led local projects in development and a Dominican Republic trip
- Strengthening connections between the parish and preschool through shared events and family engagement
- Connecting parishioners with ministries through intentional, relationship-based discernment and follow-up
- Supporting pastoral care ministries and preparing new leaders through Stephen Ministry training
- Encouraging leadership development to support long-term parish vitality

Goal 3: Stewardship, Facilities, and Legacy

- Completed the Leak Remediation Project, with new Chapel patio doors ordered and scheduled for installation, and continued progress on additional facility improvements
- Advancing the Facilities Master Plan with broad parish participation, on track for mid-May completion, and including a parish-wide update and discussion on April 25 in the Parish Hall
- Forming a Capital Campaign Advisory Team to explore potential funding for leak remediation and future priorities identified in the Facilities Master Plan
- Strengthening year-round stewardship through regular storytelling in eNEWS highlighting why we give, pledge, and volunteer
- Deepening engagement across parish committees and the wider community through active participation and communication about parish ministries and events
- Establishing the 1848 Legacy Society and preparing for a November 1, 2026 recognition event following Evensong to honor and celebrate members of the Society