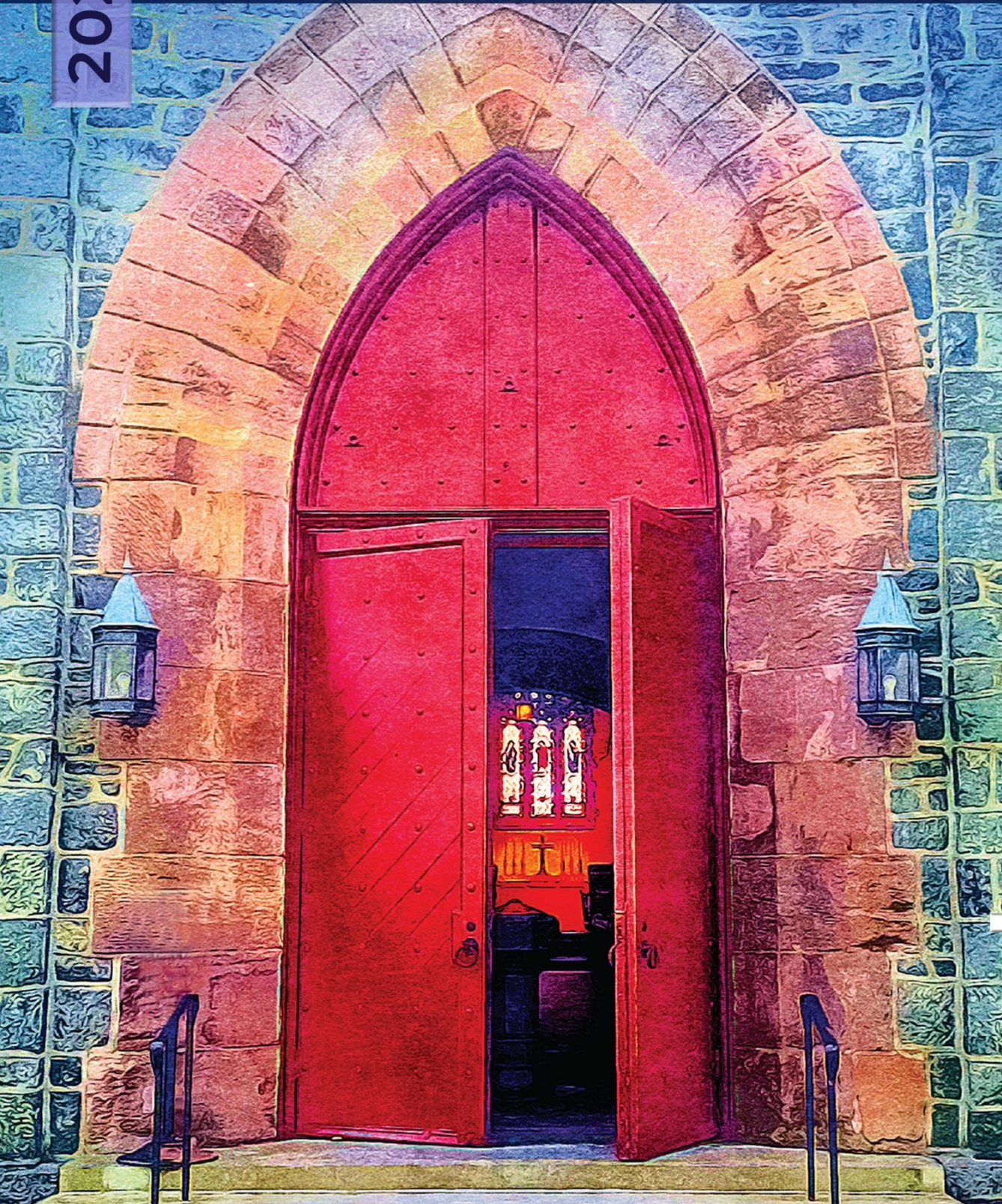


2025-26

Reports for The Parish

178TH ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Report



CHRIST CHURCH
CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

A REPORT FOR THE PARISH COMMUNITY

Though our congregation was founded in 1848, it wasn't until 1856 that our beautiful church was completed. The first service of worship was held on May 4, which was the seventh Sunday in Easter. This is the reason we assemble for the annual meeting, held on the third Sunday each May and, this year, as in 1856, on the seventh Sunday in Easter. I am pleased to present this report of our ministry as we devote our life and labor to the Lord Jesus Christ. Even with 100 pages it would be impossible to capture the fullness of our ministry, our service to God and to others in Jesus' Name. That is why we also tell of our ministry each week as we use our digital communications to lift up our many ministries week by week and provide an up-to-date website, which contains a wealth of information about the parish.

As we continue our efforts in reaching the ambitious goals of our 2022-2027 strategic plan, again, this year, I have asked the clergy and program staff to summarize their ministries in this report to the parish (pgs. 3-10). Their work addresses the first two goals of our strategic plan, now three years underway. While these staff reports will not be shared in presentations at the 178th Annual Meeting, I think it valuable for the parish to hear from each member of our team as they share the work they have accomplished and future efforts they anticipate.

In the development of the parish strategic plan, we did not include our preschool as an avenue for our goals for growth and for deeper faith and witness. In the past year, working together on the facility master plan and with the development of a strategic plan for CCEP, it is clear that we must count our preschool ministry as an effective element for our growth. Sheila Abio, our head of school, presents a report in this document (pgs. 16-20) and will speak at the May 17 annual meeting.

There are two reports in this document that address the third strategic goal and represent the presentations made to the parish at the annual meeting on May 17 (pgs. 11-15). The finance and property committees oversee the wise management of our resources and report to the vestry every month and the parish every year. Financial documents are also shared on our website.

This year marks two significant anniversaries among the ministries of our parish. We mark 25 years in ministry with the community of Jalonga in the Dominican Republic (pg. 21) and 20 years in ministry for Christ Church Episcopal Preschool. Both ministries will be recognized at the May 17 meeting.

My Rector's Report is found at the conclusion of this Annual Report (pgs. 22-25). There are many other ministries not mentioned in this document that aid our parish in being a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Ministry Match is a great way for us all to offer time and talent in carrying out these ministries. To learn more, visit the website or call the parish office, and we can connect you with a ministry leader.

Thank you for your part in Christ Church Christiana Hundred's 178 years of ministry.

Faithfully,



15th Rector of Christ Church Christiana Hundred



Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Our Mission

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Our Core Values

Belonging: There is a place for you here.

Care: We support each other and those in need.

Community: We nurture relationships and connections where all of God's children can experience love, hope, and peace.

Episcopal Faith: The Episcopal tradition guides our worship, spiritual development, and church life.

Growth: We celebrate and encourage lifelong spiritual development of children, youth, and adults.

Sacred Experiences: We appreciate the beauty and holiness of our shared life, liturgy, music, and grounds.

Service: Following Jesus' example, we love and serve our neighbors by sharing our time, talent, and treasure.

Our Key Goals for the Next Five Years

We will grow our Episcopal faith community with God's help.

- By year-end 2027, we will have more than 2,000 active members, a 50% increase since 2022, by inspiring current members, re-engaging inactive members, and attracting new members, especially families with children and youth.

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

- By year-end 2027, weekly worship attendance will have grown to 775 (this includes all services offered through the week) and participation in our program offerings for children, youth, and adults will average 150 children, 70 youth, and 470 adults engaged.
- Our Ministry Match implementation will have energized our members in caring for one another and supporting parish ministry, and our next generation of lay leadership will be in place.
- We will be known as a church that serves in our local community, sharing our time, financial support, and Jesus' message of hope, love, and self-worth to those disadvantaged by poverty and underserved in education.

As stewards of the gifts that God entrusts to us, we will faithfully manage and share our property, financial resources, and the time and talents of our members to support our ministries in and beyond Christ Church.

- By year-end 2027, we will have monthly events that draw people to our campus, both for CCCH programs and for use by the local community.
- We will ensure the sustainable stewardship of our parish for future generations through our commitment to pledging, our care for the master property management plan, and our efforts to expand legacy giving to strengthen our endowment.



REPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATE RECTOR

Transition

What a wonderful first year it has been for me at Christ Church! At this time last year, my hire was announced and my transition began. With the parish's patience and help from Ruth and the staff, I managed the summer schedule of eucharists, baptisms, funerals, pilgrimages, and vacations and settled into the life and rhythms of CCCH. A week at Memorial House with some parishioners provided a welcome respite for me before preparing for the fall season.

Adult Formation

In addition to preaching and assisting with liturgies, my responsibilities have included Adult Formation and Pastoral Care. These areas are pivotal parts of Goal 2 in the Strategic Plan: "We will grow deeper relationships with God and with each other, following Jesus Christ." I planned several 3-week series in consultation with Ruth and a small group of parishioners. We tried various formats and topics to help parishioners go "Deep and Wide" in their spiritual development. Subjects ranged from Becca Stevens' *Letters from the Farm*, to photography as a means of spiritual exploration, to Handel's *Messiah*, to artistic expressions of "epiphany," to God in Creation. A longer series during Lent focused on how Benedictine monastic practices might enhance a non-monastic's spiritual way of life.

Presentation and discussion were the most common formats, but guest speakers and opportunities to practice were also included. We experimented with different food offerings before these sessions. Soup and bread served with china and glassware were popular and enhanced fellowship but required extra work and preparation for some individuals. I plan to assess the benefits and drawbacks of this approach over the summer before fall programs begin again.

The phrase "small groups" at CCCH is used to describe many different ministries. I tried to visit each such group at least once this year. Most specifically, the phrase refers to groups of about a dozen who meet weekly or bi-weekly, sometimes over meals at home or on Zoom, to discuss Scripture or a spiritual idea or practice. More broadly, it includes all groups meeting for spiritual formation, such as Bible studies and fellowship. With a year's experience, I hope to reevaluate how Adult Formation is described on the website to help newcomers identify opportunities they'd like to pursue and to encourage longstanding members to try new possibilities for their own formation.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care has included presiding over bi-monthly meetings with the heads of the various teams who provide such care. These sessions have produced inspiring stories of love and faithfulness, as well as some efficiencies. The Intercessory Prayer Group is now part of this work. Lay Eucharistic Visitors visited about eight parishioners each month, with demand for more volunteers. **The Very Rev. Bill Lane** and I have offered a service of Holy Communion monthly at Stonegates and at Country House. Notes of Care, Grief Support, and Flower Ministries have continued to flourish. This past year, I also began to serve as the clergy liaison for the Parish Fellowship Team.

The decision to reduce clergy from three to two has increased the urgency to further develop a lay pastoral leadership core. The Stephen Ministry program, once a part of CCCH, is again a possible direction for the parish. This ministry focuses on listening and supporting those experiencing new or difficult situations, such as medical diagnoses, new children, empty nesting, or caring for aging relatives. We have sent one individual for training to help prepare Stephen Ministers for this work. Look for upcoming announcements about training sessions and please consider joining this important ministry of listening and accompanying others as we strive to meet the growing need for pastoral care.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped Kristin and me transition to our new home. For me, it has felt like a homecoming – much is familiar and exciting, yet there is also much that feels new. I look forward to driving down Buck Road every morning when I work here. Staff and volunteers make this a special place in a delightful setting shaped by God and God’s stewards. I look forward to the coming year.

Peace be with you,

Thom

The Rev. Thomas Word Peters
Associate Rector





REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

For all of us, in both our personal and professional lives, taking stock of the recent past is a very important exercise for the thoughtful and purposeful planning of the near- and long-term future. Such is the intent of this report for the ministry of music.

The Choirs of Christ Church:

The Christ Church Choristers

Under the direction of their newly appointed director, **Cameron Kuzepski**, our choristers have continued to learn about the traditions of the Episcopal Church and to develop their musicianship skills utilizing the Royal School of Church Music Voice for Life program. Without question, this has been a recalibration year as we negotiate the realities of two, rather than three staff members serving each Sunday morning; the schedule does not allow us to rehearse the choristers during the 10:30 AM service, as was their pattern for the past few years. Nonetheless, the dedicated families and choristers who have trained and rehearsed throughout the year have excelled in their work and have earned our accolades. You can read more about their activities in Cameron's report. Both he and I are proud and are thrilled with their work!

The Parish Choir

Christ Church is fortunate to have a number of talented congregants who are gifted musicians willing to share their gifts in the Parish Choir. Anchored by members of the Christ Church Choir, the Parish Choir (numbering 16 in total) sings monthly and for special services throughout the year. Their service is invaluable. Both Cameron and I are consistently impressed with their offerings and with their commitment to their ministry to the larger congregation. We welcome anyone interested in singing to contact the music office and have a conversation about what participation in the Parish Choir entails.

The Christ Church Choir

This choir, now in its 112th year of singing, continues to be a blessing to our congregation, a musical light upon a hill, and an active influence in the world of Anglican sacred music. In addition to singing most services held at Christ Church, and in smaller numbers with the Parish Choir and Choristers, the Christ Church Choir (CCC) continues to hone its skills as a cohesive musical instrument and deepen its bonds of affection one to another.

- **Choral Scholars:** This season has seen the CCC welcome two Joe Thompson Choral Scholars, **Natalie White** and **Ryan Hunter**. These young musicians have made remarkable commitments to the Choir in their senior year in high school – a time when all too often, students are stretched beyond reasonable expectations. Yet these two seniors have maintained their commitments in a fully professional way and have become invaluable to our choral sound. Both will be honored for their contributions and commitment at Choral Evensong on June 7. Please join us then as we give them our thanks and wish them well as they head to college.

- **Choral Residency:** The Choir completed its third Choral Residency in the summer of 2025, singing daily services at the stunning York Minster from July 21-27. The Choir was joined by some 30 pilgrims from Christ Church (and beyond) in York led by Ruth and David Beresford. During our time at York Minster, the Choir sang thrilling music from our repertoire and had the distinct opportunity to sing the European Premiere of Joel Phillip's *Who Has Made this World* (commissioned by Christ Church in memory of beloved tenor David Lockart), as well as the World Premiere of the *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D-flat* by Minster Director of Music Emeritus Philip Moore (commissioned by Christ Church in memory of Amelia Hearn, daughter of David and Kathryn and sister of Matthew and Liz). Philip also worked with the choir in rehearsal in York prior to our offering of his new canticles at our final Choral Evensong. It was a thrilling and transformative week, to say the very least.
- **Choir Concerts:** The Christ Church Choir presented four performances of the complete *Messiah* with Tempesta di Mare, Philadelphia Baroque Orchestra, in December. Two performances were here at Christ Church (both to a full church) and two performances in Philadelphia (one at Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church, the other at Holy Trinity Church, Rittenhouse Square). These performances were simply outstanding and raised the bar yet again for this beloved work within the region. Our Choir carried our congregation's spirit and commitment to great music and great music-making in a most remarkable way. Our next iteration of Handel's *Messiah* will be in December of 2028 – watch for it!
- **The Choir Community:** Lastly, though not related to the Choir's work, we have had two pregnancies in our Choir: **Bailey Jo Oehler** and her husband gave birth to Lucy Jo several months ago, and **Kiera Wadsworth** and her husband are expecting their firstborn in mid-June. The Choir celebrates with them, and we want you to as well!

Christ Church Concert Series:

As has become our practice (some might say tradition!), through the generosity of our Friends of Music, both parishioners and friends of Christ Church, and by our amazing partnerships with both Piffaro, the Renaissance Band, and Tempesta di Mare, Philadelphia Baroque Orchestra, we have been pleased once again to offer a wide range of concert offerings to the greater Wilmington community spanning the entire season October through May. Our beautiful church and chapel have opened their doors in welcome to hundreds of concertgoers (parishioners, friends, and first-timers to Christ Church). Great thanks go to **Talley Brown** for her ministry to these concertgoers as docent and greeter on behalf of you, the Christ Church congregation. We welcome others to join that ministry in the coming year. Simply contact the music office if you might be interested in being a concert docent.

Our Friends of Music provide the financial underpinning for our concert offerings. Their financial support makes this series of programs, principally those produced by Christ Church (such as last December's *Messiah* performances and our January Messiaen organ recital) possible. We would not be able to offer them without such generosity as our annual Ministry Budget *does not* fund these events.

Please consider a contribution to the Concert Fund when you receive your music brochure in the mail this September or whenever you are so moved! Your support is vital (in the truest sense of the word: *vitae* – life-giving).

Christ Church Music Staff Notes:

The 2025-26 program year saw Cameron Kuzepski named as our assistant music director and director of the Christ Church Choristers. Cameron has been a tremendous gift and blessing to our music ministry here at Christ Church; both of these new roles seemed a natural fit at this time in his development as well as to meet our present needs.

Also in this program year, the rector and vestry granted me a sabbatical (the plan when I came to Christ Church has been a two-month sabbatical every five years, rather than the typical pattern of a three-month sabbatical every seven years), keeping us on track with our plan from my hiring here, which was disrupted by the Covid pandemic.

I used part of this time to visit colleagues and their parishes, observe their work, speak with them and their rectors about their parishes post-Covid, and attend their Sunday services. It was both enlightening and reassuring – Christ Church is doing very well by every comparative measure, and our leadership and commitment are strong.

The second part of my sabbatical was spent in England where I played two large organ recitals in Scotland (Paisley Abbey in Glasgow and Dornoch Cathedral in Dornoch), spent a week in York (on the heels of our time there with the CCC in July), and a week and a half in Oxford and Cambridge listening to and observing some of the finest choirs in the world. A few days in London rounded out my time away. During this time, our then Organ Scholar, Cameron Kuzepski, with admirable skill and dedication, got the choirs up and running following our August break. I am grateful to Ruth, our rector, the vestry, and to Cameron for such an amazing gift of time and space to recharge and renew.

Faithfully and gratefully,

Bruce J. Barber, II
Director of Music





REPORT FROM THE ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR & DIRECTOR OF THE CHRIST CHURCH CHORISTERS

The Chorister Program at Christ Church Christiana Hundred is experiencing a vibrant and joyful renewal. While the ensemble has transitioned from 26 singers to a smaller group of seven, this dedicated and enthusiastic cohort has embraced the opportunity to grow together with remarkable focus, spirit, and musical curiosity. Their commitment has fostered a strong sense of community, and their shared excitement for learning continues to shape a truly special program.

Each rehearsal is filled with energy as the choristers engage with core musical skills. They are studying solfège, a system that assigns syllables to pitches to strengthen inner hearing and pitch accuracy. They also practice scale degree singing, which helps them understand how each note functions within a key and builds strong tonal awareness. Their work in Anglican chant psalm singing connects them to the expressive beauty of the Anglican tradition. And perhaps their favorite activity is melodic dictation, which is listening to and writing down melodies as they are played on the piano. This sharpens both their listening skills and musical memory.

The results of this focused work have been extraordinary. The choristers have also made tremendous strides in sight singing. They approach new music with confidence, independence, and a sense of musical understanding that is both exciting and inspiring for all to witness.

This growth has been beautifully shown in services throughout the year. The choristers sing one 9 AM service on their own, as well as regularly joining the 10:30 AM service alongside the Parish Choir and the Christ Church Choir Schola each month. I believe their collaboration with these ensembles has strengthened their musicianship and enriched the parish's musical life.

Two Choral Evensong services this year were particular highlights. Both were deeply moving and musically impressive with the choristers singing with poise and confidence. They were supported by members of the Christ Church Choir Schola and the Parish Choir. These services reflected not only their hard work but also their growing artistry and ability to contribute meaningfully to this treasured tradition.

Holy Week was another standout moment in their year. The choristers sang at two Maundy Thursday services with reverence and beauty. This was followed by a particularly memorable Good Friday service sung completely unaccompanied. This really showcased their musical independence and sensitivity. Their joyful singing on Easter morning was a triumphant celebration, full of energy and enthusiasm.

Looking ahead, plans are underway for an engaging and dynamic summer camp that will continue to build on these skills while fostering creativity, friendship, and fun. The camp will be offered August 24-28 from 1:30 to 6 PM at Christ Church Christiana Hundred. Students aged 6 to 16 are invited to participate. Each day will be filled with fun musical and non-musical activities. The five days will end with a concert offered by all attendees. This program will be open to the public. With such a passionate and hardworking group of young musicians, the future of the chorister program is very bright. If you know of a child between the ages of 6 and 16 who has an interest in developing more as a musician, please contact me to set up a time to get together.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Kuzepski
Assistant Music Director & Director of Choristers



REPORT FROM THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

It has been a little over two years since I became your minister for children and youth, and it has been such a pleasure to serve this parish and these ministries. Looking back at this past year, our children and youth ministry has successfully launched a new program, welcomed new families, and seen growth in our classrooms and in the lives of those served by these programs. I am grateful for the partnership of the Children and Youth Ministry Team, who advise and support me in carrying out the plans for these essential ministries.

Our Sunday Formation Programs

We had a delayed start this year due to the roof repair project, but thanks to the patience, flexibility, and dedication of our families and volunteers, we were able to successfully kick off all our programs in October. Since then, our formation offerings have seen regular attendance averaging between 40-60 children and youth in our classrooms on any given Sunday. Our confirmation class has remained one of our most popular Sunday morning programs with 15 youth attending classes.

The CCEP Connection

We have been blessed to welcome some new families in our 9 AM services and our morning formation programs – a good number of whom were introduced to the parish via CCEP. It is a joy to lead Godly Play for the CCEP students and to lead chapel alongside **Mother Ruth**. Working together with our Head of School, **Sheila Abio**, we offered one co-sponsored preschool and parish event, Family Movie Night, with more soon to come.

New Program for Middle Schoolers

This year we launched a new program, our Middle School Service Team. I wanted to offer more for our middle schoolers outside of Sunday mornings, giving them a chance to connect with one another, the church, and their community. After meeting with parents last summer, they influenced the idea of a service-focused opportunity. The Middle School Service Team began last October and met every third Sunday afternoon with the goal of planning and leading a service project for the community by the end of the program year. With a team of 10-12 youth each month, we learned together about biblical leadership, real needs in our community, the importance of service in our faith, and then enjoyed fellowship over dinner with the High School Youth. The team has successfully planned a Blood Drive with the Blood Bank of Delmarva happening on Saturday, May 23.

High School Youth Group

We currently have over a dozen active high schoolers this year, taking part in the Sunday evening youth group gathering most Sunday nights to break bread together, enjoy fellowship, and learn about different topics such as Christianity and Culture, Paul and his teachings, and Identity. Our annual mission trip to the Dominican Republic has 13 youth joining us on the trip this year with a former participant returning to join us as a leader. Both the trip and the youth group are open to friends and neighbors, and I encourage invitations.

Looking Forward, Needing Ministry Partners

This has been another great year for our Children and Youth ministries and to continue our growth and success, I need your help. This year we are saying goodbye to a large cohort of active seniors, which will have a major impact on our youth group and acolyte program next fall. We are also in need of new teachers and leaders in

our formation programs next year as some will be moving on or switching classrooms. What this ministry needs most is willingness and dedication.

Parents, I ask for your dedication: to bring your children and youth to worship and formation regularly and to encourage them to find a way they can serve – whether as an acolyte, assisting in our formation classrooms, or serving on the Middle School Service Team. Without your encouragement and example, our children search after other goals and miss the benefits of Christian community.

For our other parishioners, whether you watched your own children grow up here in our formation programs or if you have experienced the joy of witnessing that for other families, I ask for your willingness and dedication to invest in those who are here now. I ask that you invest by joining a team of formation teachers on Sunday mornings or volunteering with our Youth Group or Middle School Service Team. If you can't do that, then make it a priority to attend our monthly All Ages Fellowship or drop by a 9 AM service or coffee hour to see our children, youth, and their families and let them connect with the community we have here at Christ Church. There is so much potential for our Children and Youth ministries to grow even more, and I hope that you join me as we continue to invest in these programs in the coming year.

Blessings,

Mason Cruz

Minister for Children and Youth

**Thank you to our Teachers and Leaders
in Children and Youth Ministry!**

Godly Play for Pre-K & Kindergarten

Arwen DeCostanza and Wendy Stith

Godly Play for 1st through 3rd Grade

Marianne Archbell and Angela Gustavsen

Godly Play Substitutes

Vera Belger and Christine Cook

4th & 5th Grade

Derek Anderson and Jamie Poston

Rite-13 (6th & 7th Grade)

Shelley Kinsella and Bobbin Tuleya

Confirmation (8th Grade)

John Henley, Heather Jefferson, Alexandra Morton, and Wil Stith

Senior High Youth Group

Mason Cruz, Sarah Saxberg-Turner, and Hannah Walker

Members of the Children and Youth Ministries Team from 2025-2026

Arwen DeCostanza, Jennifer and David Hall, Laura Muhlbauer, Jamie Poston, MJ O'Connor



2025-2026 PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

At our 178th Annual Meeting of the parish, our Assistant Treasurer, **Bob Reardon**, provides a review of our financial resources and management. He serves on the finance committee, which meets each month to provide careful oversight of our funds and assists the rector with the preparation of the ministry budget for the vestry's authorization. **Christine Cook** serves as the convener of the finance committee and partners with the treasurer, **Mark Parsells**, and with Bob to oversee the work of the committee and communicate with the parish. In turn, Christine is supported by **Terri Carpe**, the financial manager, a contracted part-time employee. The figures in the following report are provided by Terri, Bob, and Christine.

Assets & Liabilities

The value of our endowments and assets held by the parish:

- **Endowment Funds** (March 2026 value is \$11,494,354) which are primarily assigned for an area of ministry, like capital projects or the choir, either at the donor's request or by the designation of the vestry. 37% of the endowment is for generic parish operations and were received from undesignated legacy contributions.
- **Temporary/Restricted Funds** (March 2026 balance is <\$213,362>) are designated funds given and expended for a particular purpose, like the capital improvements fund or the concert fund, or are temporary in nature, like deposits for a pilgrimage. The negative balance reflects the expenses related to the leak remediation project (*see **Liability** below for more details*).
- **Pension Fund** (March 2026 value is \$907,188) which was established for the lay members of CCCH staff before The Episcopal Church provided a 401(3)b. This fund supports current retirees and a future retirement for one of our staff.
- **Property Value** (March 2026 value is \$6,106,301) The gross Book Value of our buildings and grounds is nearly \$16 million, but accumulated depreciation of \$9,751,963 provides the above net of \$6.1 million.
- **Liability** The leak remediation capital project cost was almost \$1.4 million. The cost is reflected in a temporary/restricted fund and is the reason for the negative balance for the total Temporary/Restricted Funds (*reported above*). We have chosen to reflect the \$1.5 million self-loan, which the vestry authorized from our endowment funds for the urgent leak remediation project, as a liability. From a "big picture" perspective of our church finances, it is not a liability since we effectively owe it to ourselves. As of April 30, 2026, \$129k in principal and accrued interest has been returned to the endowment. Only the accrued interest is included in the 2026 ministry budget.

The 2025 Annual Budget Results

In the published financial report to the parish,¹ the committee noted that “2025 pledges fell \$77,000 (4.5%) below budget. In addition, higher than expected utility costs caused Buildings & Grounds expenses to exceed budget by \$20,000. Although the rector was able to hold Administration & Personnel costs \$52,000 below budget, a transfer from the contingency reserve of \$41,000 was required to balance the 2025 budget.” The Contingency Fund is a restricted account allocated at the designation of the vestry, sometimes used to close a budget’s shortfall.

2025 MINISTRY BUDGET FOR CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED						
	2025 YTD Actual	2025 Ministry Budget	Actual vs Budget		2024 YTD Actual	2025 Actual vs 2024 Actual
Income						
Pledges & Contributions	1,597,057	1,674,542	(77,485)		1,616,125	(19,068)
Plate Collection	29,836	29,716	120		31,368	(1,532)
Endowment & Investment Income	522,901	518,204	4,697		550,021	(27,120)
Expected Gifts & Bequests	65,188	66,238	(1,050)		61,817	3,371
Special Offerings	124,954	119,000	5,954		145,191	(20,237)
Transfer/Rental/Other Income	370,914	286,288	84,626		338,696	32,218
Contingency Reserve	41,011	768	40,243		-	41,011
Total Income	2,751,861	2,694,756	57,105		2,743,218	8,643
Expenses						
Outreach/Giving Beyond the Parish	414,216	409,211	5,005		429,099	(14,883)
Parish Programs	393,681	309,800	83,881		365,329	28,352
Administration	1,649,877	1,701,916	(52,039)		1,584,699	65,178
Buildings & Grounds	294,087	273,829	20,258		334,111	(40,024)
Contingency/Vestry Allocation	-	-	-		29,980	(29,980)
Total Expenses	2,751,861	2,694,756	57,105		2,743,218	8,643
Income Less Expenses	-	-	-		-	-

2026 Ministry Budget Adopted by Vestry

The finance committee recommended the 2026 ministry budget to the vestry, estimating a slight increase over the 2025 budget in income and expenses that sustain our worship, fellowship, and service to others. Pledge & Contribution income is budgeted to increase by \$58,000 (4%) to \$1,655,125 – still \$19,000 below the 2025

¹Located at the bottom of our website’s “About: Who We Are” page, selecting the FINANCE REPORTS button.

budget. Expenses were redistributed to reflect vestry priorities to increase outreach allocation funding to counter decreases in prior years and an increase in the transfer to the capital improvements fund, which had been reduced in 2025. The largest reduction in expenses for 2026 is in personnel costs with the elimination of a third clergy staff member.

	2026 Budget	2025 Actuals	Budget Vs Prior Year Actuals
Income			
Pledges	1,655,125	1,597,057	58,068
Plate Collection	30,120	29,836	284
Endowment & Investment Income	540,807	522,901	17,906
Expected Gifts & Bequests	64,737	65,188	(451)
Special Offerings	129,150	124,954	4,196
Transfer/Rental/Other Income	335,207	370,914	(35,707)
Contingency Reserve	-	41,011	(41,011)
Total Income	2,755,146	2,751,861	3,285
Expenses			
Outreach/Giving Beyond the Parish	443,911	414,216	29,695
Parish Programs	319,388	393,681	(74,293)
Administration	1,626,180	1,649,877	(23,697)
Buildings & Grounds	365,667	294,087	71,580
Contingency/Vestry Allocation	-	-	-
Total Expenses	2,755,146	2,751,861	3,285

The 2026 ministry budget and a report of the 2026 first quarter results in our stewardship of the parish finances can be found on our website, <https://www.christchurchde.org/finances>.

Committee Members

Allison Ayers Hardy Drane
 Barbara King* John Olsen*
 Jaqueline Whalen*

Mark Parsells, Treasurer
 Bob Reardon, Assistant Treasurer
 Christine Cook, Convener
 Ruth Beresford, Rector *ex officio*
 Terri Carpe, Finance Manager *ex officio*

**Appointed from vestry*



PROPERTY COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Major Roof Repairs Complete. Campus in Good Shape.

At the past two annual meetings, I have reviewed the historic investments that were made across the Christ Church campus (2024) and the repairs that we believed urgently needed to be made to the parish hall and education wing's building envelope (2025).

Last summer and into late fall, we undertook the work necessary to address areas of water penetration in this envelope. This included the flat roof of the education building, particularly above the kitchen; the walls where the new (as of 2001) education wing meets the original parish hall structure; the elevator tower; and the obsolete parish hall chimney structure. With the exception of two exterior doors that remain on backorder, the scope of work we commissioned with Whiting-Turner Construction was completed shortly before the Green Show in early December. I want to acknowledge the tremendous support I received from **Thorpe Moeckel**, who represents the vestry on the property committee and **Jon Payne**, who on almost a daily basis provided essential liaison work with Whiting-Turner and their subcontractors on behalf of Christ Church, as our designated construction representative.



The vast majority of the cost of this project was funded outside the normal Property Budget through a loan from our endowment. In a normal year, the property committee seeks to address system planned replacement requirements and repairs across our campus. Our funding is provided via an annual endowment allocation and a budgeted amount from the annual ministry budget. This allocation can vary — and in 2025 our annual budgeted allocation was reduced from a previously planned \$100,000 to \$25,000. As a result, we reduced our project spend from approximately \$150,000 to just under \$90,000.

Over the course of the year, the following projects were tackled by the property committee:

- Replacement of the front porch awning at the Squirrel Run cottage
- Replacement of a failed steam boiler in the Rectory during the December freeze (2026 Budget)
- Painting and floor refinishing work in the Parish Halls following the completion of the roof project
- Carpet purchased for 3rd floor hallways (to be installed in 2026)
- Tree removed on north side of church
- Additional landscaping work and cleanup across campus
- Thermostats replaced throughout the Parish Center with programmable, electronic units
- New fire panel and alarm system installed in the church

In 2008, Christ Church established a Capital Projects Reserve of \$350,000. This reserve is funded, as previously stated, with annual contributions from the endowment and an allocation from the annual budget. We began 2025 with a Capital Reserve of \$209,664. Total income from endowment and budget was \$117,084. The property committee expended \$89,000. At the conclusion of 2025, our Capital Projects Reserve stood at \$237,748.

We are blessed to be the stewards of our beautiful campus and facilities. Our annual budget and reserve enables us to both plan for replacement (carpeting, painting, landscaping), add new systems when necessary (for example, emergency generators on each of the residences), and address emergency needs (such as the aforementioned Rectory boiler). Through our efforts, we hope to ensure that our irreplaceable property is secure for the generations to follow us here at Christ Church Christiana Hundred. It continues to be a pleasure to serve you all!

Respectfully submitted,

John Faulkner
Property Committee Convener

Committee Members	
Randall Attix	Barbara Cairns
Michael Flynn	
John Faulkner, Convener	
Thorpe Moeckel, Vestry Representative	
Lisa Tuleya, CCEP Faculty Representative	
Jon Payne, Owner’s Representative for Construction	
Michael Sayer, Facilities Manager	





REPORT FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

Chase Curiosity – Discover Friendship – Spark Joy

2025-2026 – Celebrating 20+ Years!

Our preschool is thriving as we celebrate 20 years of educating young children, creating community among families, school, and church, while honoring and nurturing children in the Episcopal tradition.

This year, we completed and launched a 5-year strategic plan, added 12-month-old students to our school, and are preparing to begin writing our self-study for PAIS and SAES Accreditation.

Enrollment

The 2025-2026 school year started with 63 students enrolled, and five students were added throughout the year. Approximately 20% of the CCEP community are also parish members. We have reached our enrollment goal of 75 students for the 2026-27 school year. The Beginner and Nursery programs for our youngest students both have a waiting list. The Primary classes (for 3-year-olds) can accommodate four more students; enrollment is at 20 students, six more students than this school year. Prekindergarten enrollment stands at 10 students. Full-day enrollment has grown by 20% for the 2026-27 school year. Enrollment for the 2026 summer camp is averaging 25 students for each of the eight weeks of summer camp, and we are close to achieving our targeted enrollment but have room for more children in our 2026 summer camp.

Campus & Classrooms

Through the week, you can find children in the outdoor classroom studying nature, doing a science project, or enjoying imaginative free play. In addition to time spent on the playgrounds each day, faculty take their classes to the field, the labyrinth, the front lawn, and for play time in the safety of the circle entrance. Each class attends Spanish, Music/Movement, Art, and Godly Play each week.

Worship occurs on Thursdays in the Chapel of the Christ Child. Once a month, the Chapel service includes parents and special friends as the school worships together. Together as a learning community, we hatched chicken eggs and learned about the life cycle of chickens. Several students were able to see the hatching of baby chicks in real time, and students were able to hold the baby chicks. We also raised butterflies beginning from the larva stage and then released them into nature. These activities are becoming annual traditions, and we are identifying additional learning community projects to incorporate into our curriculum. With



the support of the Church and the Creations Care Ministry, a compelling initiative began in our primary and pre-kindergarten programs.

Curriculum

A dedicated team of teachers representing each program came together over the summer months to design a new and creative curriculum tailored specifically for CCEP children. This collaborative curriculum team worked thoughtfully to ensure that all learning goals are aligned with the Delaware Early Learning Standards while reflecting the unique mission and values of our school.

The curriculum is organized around engaging weekly themes and is intentionally designed to be experiential, creative, hands-on, and meaningful. Lessons encourage exploration, curiosity, and joy in learning, while remaining grounded in our Episcopal identity and faith. Teachers also incorporate the expressed interests of the children, allowing learning experiences to feel relevant and responsive to each classroom community.

To strengthen the home-school connection, weekly lesson plans are shared with families, providing insight into classroom activities and offering opportunities to extend learning beyond the school day.

Faculty & Staff

We have 11 full-time teachers and four part-time teachers. We are hiring two new teachers to fill positions that were not filled last year due to lower enrollment. We have one teacher retiring, but she will stay on as a substitute teacher. **Jennifer Fordham**, our preschool administrator, is entering her fourth year at CCEP. **Lisa Stevens** continues as the director of special programs, and **Valerie Long** is an administrator and teacher, serving as our coordinator of licensing rules and regulations. **Jennifer McGuire** maintains our website and social media platforms, and **Nancy Freeborn** manages all aspects of our food program.



Finances

The school began the year with a balanced budget, reflecting assertive goals for grant and fundraising line items. Fundraising examples include the Annual Fund, the Gala, the Running of Rams, and the annual Christ Church Golf Classic. Fundraising events and grants are essential components for the preschool's financial health and commitment to growing the endowment for future sustainability.

We have achieved our fundraising goals and have received three sizeable grants this year. Our community truly values CCEP, and we are grateful for the support and generosity! The March financial report reflects a 3.27% increase over the projected budgeted tuition income. This is due to added enrollment and families extending their child's day throughout the school year. We expect to begin the 2026-27 school year with a balanced budget.

Accreditation

The school has begun a comprehensive accreditation initiative in partnership with the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS) and the Southwest Association of Episcopal Schools (SAES), marking an important step in our ongoing commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. Accreditation is a rigorous, reflective process that ensures our programs, operations, and mission align with best practices in independent education.

During the upcoming school year, all members of the church and school community will actively participate in the development of a detailed self-study. This process involves the creation of reports across every area of school life, including academics, facilities, finance, governance, and community engagement. The purpose of the self-study is twofold: to thoughtfully identify areas where we can grow and improve and to recognize and celebrate the many strengths and accomplishments that define our school.

This collaborative effort will culminate in a 4-day visit from an accreditation team composed of experienced professionals from peer institutions. Scheduled for October 10–13, 2027, this visit will provide valuable external insight, affirm our successes, and offer guidance for future development. Through this process, we aim to strengthen our foundation and ensure we continue to serve our students and community with excellence.

Strategic Plan

Launched in February 2026, our 2025-2030 strategic plan names three pillars to guide our work as we affirm our commitment to spiritual formation, the development of the whole child, and cultivate hearts to serve others.

Mission

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool (CCEP) educates young children, creates community among families, school, and church, and honors and nurtures children in the Episcopal tradition.

Vision

CCEP is a ministry of Christ Church Christiana Hundred (CCCH), serving children from 12 months through pre-kindergarten. Through a developmentally appropriate, play-based, and literacy-rich curriculum, we seek to promote a child's full potential emotionally, academically, physically, and spiritually.

Values

Together, as a preschool and parish, we:

- Welcome all children regardless of religion, race, socioeconomic status, or ethnic background.
- Strive for intentional teaching to meet children's needs.
- Create environments that promote mutual respect, trust, and professional growth.
- Collaborate to achieve optimal goals for children, staff, families, and our community.
- Seek an intentional mindset for continuous improvement.
- Manage ourselves with integrity and respect for one another.
- Engage in two-way communications that are clear, honest, and timely.
- Uphold ethical and moral behavior in all aspects of CCEP and CCCH.

CCEP's Strategic Plan for Excellence and Growth

Small Hands, Big Futures is the title of this strategic plan, reflecting our deep conviction to the foundational years during a pivotal stage of brain development when lifelong patterns take shape in a child's life. Through this plan, we affirm our commitment to spiritual formation, the development of the whole child, and cultivating hearts to serve others. Guided by our faith, we pursue this mission with the intention of working faithfully alongside God each day, building strong foundations that lead to lifelong happiness, curiosity, joy, and love.

Excellence Begins Here

- The school will cultivate a community of excellence for faculty, staff, and leadership as they nurture and inspire young students.
- The school will achieve dual accreditation from the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools and the Southwest Association of Episcopal Schools.

- The school will nurture an engaged board that supports quality leadership and healthy operations of the school.

Faithful Foundations for Lifelong Learning

- As a united community of faith, Parish and Preschool work in close partnership to plant the seeds of God’s love in the earliest years, laying the foundation for a lifelong spiritual journey.
- Implement and continually strengthen a joyful, play based, teacher-developed curriculum, aligned with essential early learning standards and our Episcopal identity while honoring each child’s developmental timeline.
- Ensure financial stability through faithful stewardship, including a reserve of 50 percent of our annual operating expenses in the unrestricted endowment.

Sacred Spaces for Small Feet

- Utilize our campus, classrooms, and chapel to develop the whole child.
- Maintain and enhance a physical environment that supports our mission.
- Develop a campus master plan collaboratively with the church to maximize the flexible use of our school spaces.

Driving the Strategic Plan

Our strategic plan is informed and driven by our board, school leadership, and the following functional committees: Curriculum & Accreditation, Development, Facilities & Capital Improvement, Finance, Governance, and People & Culture.

To download a copy of the CCEP 2025-2030 strategic plan, visit www.ccepde.org/strategic-plan.

The first quarterly update is also available; please contact Sheila Abio in the preschool office for a copy.

Governance

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool is a ministry of Christ Church Christiana Hundred. The board of trustees advises the head of school on the day-to-day oversight of CCEP and is made up of educators, parents, alumni parents, parishioners, and vestry members. For the 2025-2026 school year, those serving as trustees included:

David Nichols, Convener, Chip Sawyer, Treasurer, Emily Horst, Secretary
 Chuck Arensberg*, Louise Barton, Nancy Borda, Cindi Cozza*, Jordan Daniels
 Kendall Drew*, Michele Harra, Emily Kiernan, Faith Muirhead, Bart Reese

**Vestry representatives*

In addition, there is oversight provided by the board of directors, which is made up of the members of the vestry and four independent directors, who are usually also trustees. The directors meet twice a year to review annual budgets and approve the nominees for new trustees. This double governance structure aims to keep the parish and preschool aligned in purpose as one community, facilitating communications and casting a vision for the future while fulfilling the school’s mission.

It is a blessing in my ministry to lead and serve our school and church community. There is so much history to celebrate through these last 20 years, and exciting growth is on the horizon! CCEP is emerging as a mature institution, always eager and ready to help young ones and their families chase curiosity, discover friendships, and spark joy in the heart.

Sheila Abio
Head of School



Chase Curiosity – Discover Friendship – Spark Joy





Global MISSIONS

25 Years in the Dominican Republic!

This year marks a quarter of a century of youth mission trips, broken only by the Covid pandemic. From the first family trip to the youth trip planned for this June, our parish has partnered with the Episcopal Church in the Dominican Republic and the people of Jalonga in creating a community center. We purchased the land, built the walls, painted them a few times over the years, and watched as broken ground became playgrounds and learning spaces. First, the center was used as a high school, but now, the center houses one of the only early-learning programs in the country, supported by our contributions along with the church's support and the government's financial aid to serve more than 140 children in Jalonga and the surrounding villages.

This was Fr. Ricardo Potter's dream: to provide a good start to the youngest generation of the community, feeding them, teaching them, and shepherding them to love and follow Jesus Christ.

To support that dream, our project teams funded and installed solar power and a water treatment facility on the site, where residents work to bottle and distribute clean water, raising funds for the ministry of the school.

Our database records for participants starts with the first group in 2002 and includes members of 132 parish households who have made the journey and served the project, making a difference and making bonds of friendship. For the past 15 years, **Brad du Pont** has been an adult leader, organizing logistics and bringing his "can-do" attitude to each youth mission trip, monitoring the development of the water treatment plant, and partnering with the local leaders in setting goals for growth and the work that each year's youth team will accomplish.

We celebrate this anniversary and ask God's continued blessing on our partnership with Jalonga.



REPORT FROM THE RECTOR

It is a joy to share ministry with the people of Christ Church Christiana Hundred and to mark 178 years for this parish and in my 18th year serving as your rector. In *The Book of Common Prayer*, the Catechism teaches that we are all ministers, lay and ordained, representing Christ Jesus and his Church, bearing witness to him wherever we may be and with whatever gifts we have been given. While those in holy orders – bishops, priests, and deacons – have particular responsibilities, the “duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.” *BCP p 856*

Members in Ministry

As we strive to accomplish the goals of our 2022-2027 strategic plan, only with the investment of our lives in service to Christ Jesus, inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit can our parish experience the growth in membership and a deeper relationship with God and with one another. In the past year, several lay leaders have come forward to take part in accomplishing our goals.

- We have new leadership for the ministry of *Invite, Welcome, Connect* – **Elizabeth Fiechter** has taken the responsibility to guide a small group of members who are eager to strengthen our evangelism and welcome so that those who come to visit us stay on to become a part of our parish family.
- We have new leadership for the ministry of *Parish Fellowship* – **Janet Amodei and Jenny Simonton** have taken the lead of a good team of members who encourage us to play with one another, building stronger bonds as we come to know one another.
- Each holiday, the church is adorned with artistic floral designs. **Amy Johnson** led the volunteers on the *Adornment Team* for many years. This past year, **Sam Greenberg** has taken on the team’s leadership, with the support of **Leslie Guccione**.

Many other members have continued to lead ministry teams and committees. In these and several other efforts to worship God, connect with one another, serve our neighbors and one another, and manage the resources God has entrusted to this parish, we rely on the gifts of time and talent, supported by a love for this community and its continued vibrancy.

Faithfulness is deep in this parish, and some tenures in ministry are long. In 2012, **Mark Parsells** was appointed to serve Christ Church as our treasurer. He agreed to a three-year term and has been a wise and careful steward of our financial resources for 14 years. This spring, Mark decided it was time to enjoy Cathy’s retirement and their travels together, as well as his executive coaching, which takes him across the globe. At our annual meeting we will honor Mark’s fidelity and his trustworthy leadership in our community. He will continue to serve as a trustee of the Episcopal Church in Delaware and as the treasurer for the trustees.



No Episcopal parish can be formed without an elected body of lay leaders, the wardens and vestry. For a second year, **Ran Barton** has served as our senior warden, fully engaged in the leadership of Christ Church. I’m grateful

for his keen mind, quick humor, and great heart. He and **Alexia Wolf** and all the vestry lead the parish with wise management and a dedication to accomplishing the goals of the strategic plan. Each vestry member generously gives time and talent, not only in the monthly meetings, but in committees and on ministry teams, attending events, and being available to provide counsel to me and my staff. I give thanks for the leadership of the outgoing members of the vestry, **Chuck Arensberg, Scott Nickle, Jaqueline Whalen, and Alexia Wolf**, and our youth representative, **MJ O'Connor**.

Of course, there are many others who deserve our gratitude and recognition for their faithful ministry, whether in altar guild, ushers, choirs, and other worship ministries, or serving on committees and ministry teams for outreach, formation, fellowship, invitation & welcome, or managing and maintaining our resources in property and finance, the members of our facilities master plan team, our vestry, our preschool board of trustees – to one and all, we cannot be Christ Church without you. Without each minister – the 4-year-old toddling up the aisle carrying the cross, a child serving the chalice at the Sanctuary service, the gardener weeding in the cool of the summer evening, the greeter standing in the cold wearing a warm smile – without you, we cannot create a loving and joyful faith community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ. To one and all, I honor and appreciate your ministry.

The Staff and Colleagues with whom I Serve

Last year, we bid farewell to **the Rev. Michael Kurth**, who became the rector of our neighboring parish, St. David's Brandywine Hundred. My husband, **the Rev. David Beresford**, served as an interim from Advent 2024 through September 2025, first taking her ministry areas when **the Rev. Stacey Carpenter** left Christ Church, then those held by Fr. Michael, and then alongside **the Rev. Thom Peters** when he joined us in ministry as the associate rector in July 2025. I am grateful for David's faithfulness in serving Christ Church.

In the past 2½ years, I have engaged in search processes for two lay staff members and two full-time clergy. In each search process, I've involved members representing the ministries and called new partners and colleagues to share the parish and preschool ministry. Together, we invited **Mason Cruz** and **Sheila Abio** in 2024 and Thom Peters in July 2025. Thom brings five years of ordained leadership and a lifetime of experience in education honing his great pastoral and teaching gifts for his ministry as our associate rector. **The Rev. Erin Richardson-Severin** arrived in September 2025 to serve as our curate. Erin came with the conviction and zeal of a new Christian, having been baptized a few years before her discernment for holy orders. In ministry with us for a short time, we discerned this was not a good fit for her or for us, and her tenure ended in December 2025.

Since that time, with the support of the vestry, I proposed we do not search for another curate at this time. Financial constraints which we faced in forming the budget for 2026 made it clear that filling that third clergy position was not tenable at this time. This does limit the ease with which we can offer a full service schedule and pastoral care that requires the presence of one who is ordained. We will continue to encourage lay ministry for teaching and in opportunities for member-to-member pastoral care.

In this report, you have heard from the program staff and clergy, but none of the work that we do would be possible without the partnership of the administrative and facilities staff. Each one brings a unique story and set of skills to Christ Church, but they all possess a common concern for our parish – the property, the people, and the work we do. **Sherry Lawton-Fasic** worked to expand our marketing efforts through digital media and keeps us all organized and busy. **Mike Sayer** has worked closely with John Faulkner and Jon Payne in staying ahead of property maintenance and improvements, including the leak remediation project. **Deborah Webb** keeps creating beautiful images of our parish to post in digital media or to create notecards and calendars for us to enjoy. **Jane Rubini** may work part time, but her support for pastoral care and our prayer life is offered with a full

heart – and she manages the database, flower memorials, and service schedules. **Deb Piper** works six hours a week to advance our annual stewardship campaign and renew our efforts for The Legacy Society. **Jen Fordham** is counted as a CCCH staff member but exclusively supports CCEP as our preschool administrator. **Andy Marine** cares for the property and for all of us. With **Charles Parfitt-Simpson** and **Leroy Folks**, the three of them are constantly tending to those behind-the-scenes tasks that are essential to our opening our doors each day.

My Work of Ministry

For those ordained to the priesthood, we are called to serve as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop in the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God. That is from the Catechism again. *BCP p 856*

In my ministry this year, I have:

- Accompanied the youth on the mission trip in the Dominican Republic and led a holy pilgrimage to Northern England with 29 others, exploring the Celtic influences of our faith, and am preparing for another mission trip this June and an adult pilgrimage in October 2026 to Rome.
- Joined the outreach committee as their clergy liaison, supporting **Geri Krolin-Taylor** and **Chris Scott** as they set monthly agendas, organized the outreach breakfast for area nonprofits and agency partners, and determined allocations for 2026, contributing over \$214,000 to 24 agency partners.
- Delighted in singing as a part of the Saturday worship band most weekends, appreciating the talents of our members and professional musicians as we praise God and lead that informal, intimate worship.
- Thoroughly enjoyed each Thursday morning, first leading a Eucharist at 6:30 AM, then a hybrid bible study, then sharing the leadership for CCEP chapel worship with the children and family chapel services.
- Grieved with those who grieve, leading funerals crafted to minister to the family while proclaiming the Good News of the resurrection. This is a pastoral ministry that our parishioners share in, offering hospitality and support for the family around the reception and extending our care in grief support.
- Rejoiced with those who rejoice – weddings, baptisms, confirmations, graduations. It is a joy to share the lives at those important moments.
- Attended several meetings or supported the conveners of each of our six committees (outreach, stewardship, finance, personnel, preschool trustees, and property) and the vestry, as well as offering support for the leaders of ministry teams, including the Green Show's leaders, **Janet Amodei** and **Shelley Kinsella**.
- Served in the diocese as an intake officer, which means if one of my clergy colleagues may have done injury or broken trust, I am among the first to help the Episcopal Church in Delaware address it and to determine the way forward.

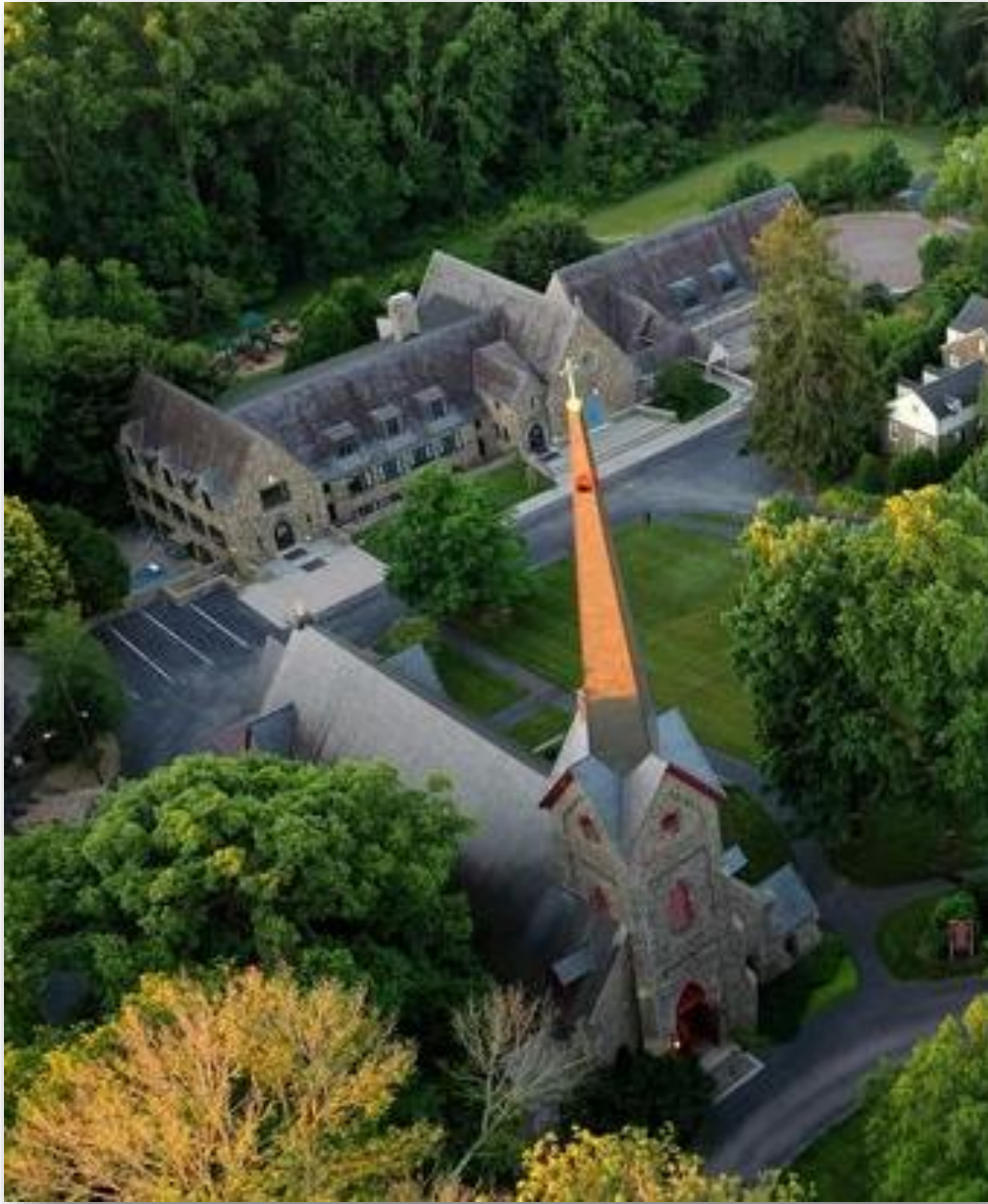


- Crafted liturgies that are varied in style and substance, marking the liturgical season and respectful of the intended congregation. I treasure partnering with staff and clergy colleagues and garnering input from participants so that services are thoughtfully and prayerfully prepared.

There is more I could list. Some say I am too busy, but I love all that I do for God and for the church. I pray that the example of my faith gives witness to the love of Jesus that heals, blesses, and restores us to unity with God and with one another. Thank you for the privilege of serving Christ Church and sharing in ministry with you. This is a gift we offer one another, in loving and joyful service in this parish, to the glory of God.

The Rev. Ruth Beresford
Rector





There is a place for you here!

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