

Christ Episcopal Church

Prince George's Parish
Rockville, Maryland

Annual Reports for 2017



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PARISH STAFF AND OFFICIALS

Clergy

The Reverend Cynthia A. Simpson Assistant to the Rector

Parish Staff

Thaddeus P. Cavuoti	Director of Music and Organist
Michele Craig	Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Judith Schneider	Parish Administrator
Pam Turner	Office Assistant
Angel Garcia	Sexton
Erin Lopez	Parish Bookkeeper

VESTRY

Christine Carrico (18)	Senior Warden, Communication, Fellowship
Wayne Cross (19)	Junior Warden, Property, Stewardship Chair
Steven J. McNeil (18)	Finance, Treasurer
Margaret (Peggy) Gilliam (18)	Choir
George Wolohojian (18)	Capital Campaign
Meghan Matulka (18)	St. Francis' Flock
Mary Barnstead (19)	Choir, Adult Christian Formation
Katherine Schexneider (19)	Outreach
Geoffrey Fuller (20)	Property
Adebayo Lanionu (20)	Welcoming
Delia McCormick (20)	Environmental Stewardship

LAY DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Joyce Bryant
Henry Mulzac
Lisa Tarantino

ALTERNATE LAY DELEGATE: Christine Carrico

ASSISTANT RECTOR'S REPORT

This coming fall (2018) I celebrate entering year twelve of ministry with you. This place and people declare with amazing wonder the glory of God and I savor the deepening of relationships that I experience over our increasing time span together. The impressive groups I note below carry out significant acts of devotion in Christ's name, with their reports and their saintly membership included elsewhere in this booklet. I consider it a privilege to work with each one.

Ministries to which I am staff liaison:

Adult Christian Formation – Fran Palmer-Hill, newly retired Chair
Environmental Stewardship —Janice Musselman, Chair
Fellowship – Bobbie Power, Chair
St. Francis' Flock (animal welfare) – Lori Nicely, Chair
Welcomers - myself, transitional Chair

The Adult Christian Formation committee has moved in the natural “life cycle” of healthy organisms, to the place where regeneration occurs. The two committee members and chairperson who constituted this group in 2017 have all faithfully served for OVER a decade and steered a tremendous evolution in the quality and variety of Formation opportunities in our parish. Two of these saints, Chair Fran Palmer-Hill (fall 2017) and Jack Gregory (spring 2018), retired from their service with other ministrations calling to them. Karen Near continues on this team with Mary Barnstead, our newest member. Any parishioners interested in this most stimulating and spirit-forming enterprise are invited to contact Karen, Mary or myself to come aboard. Planning Adult Forums, Advent/Lenten studies and devotional materials are key parts of the scope of this ministry group.

I also give tremendous thanks for the ministry of our Rector, Fr. John, now retired, and carry with me enormous wisdom and blessing from my tenure with his leadership. It was a delight to work on ways of celebrating his ministry, such as inviting Vestry members, staff colleagues and other parish leaders to write reflections of appreciation for him that we published in our January and February 2018 Angelus newsletters. I continue to marvel at the gifts and profound ministries of our Senior Warden, Dr. Christie Carrico; our wise and generous Vestry, and all of my accomplished staff colleagues. These saints grace our parish with much leadership, light and vitality.

In 2017 I began year 2 on Diocesan Council, involving monthly meetings and other events pertinent to our wider ministries as Episcopalians in the DC/surrounding MD area. What a terrific learning experience and source of inspiration this journey has been, and how I love representing our parish!

Back at our local level, some of the seasonal responsibilities I take on in addition to committees include oversight of Passion Gospel readers and rehearsals, weekly pastoral ministry support and visits to homebound parishioners; worship leadership as assigned by our beloved Rector, and other ministrations which from time to time arise.

I thank you for the ongoing joy and privilege of serving you and ministering in your name.

--Cindy Simpson, Assistant Rector

Senior Warden's Report

As hard as I tried, I could not get Fr. McDuffie to step out of retirement to write the Rector's Report so I am combining the Rector's Report with the Senior Warden's Report. This has been a momentous year in the life of Christ Church. Our long-time Rector, John McDuffie, retired on January 28, after 19+ years. While we feted his tenure with us and wished him all the best in his retirement, his departure left a void and a tangible sense of loss in the congregation. Staff and Vestry have soldiered on, trying to keep things as normal as possible during the uncertainty of transition. I am especially grateful for the hard-working staff as they not only continued with their ministries, but also provided me with support as I traversed the unknown territory of canonical ecclesiastical authority: Michele Craig, our Director of Children's and Youth Ministries; Tad Cavuoti, our Director of Music; Judith Schneider, our Parish Administrator; Pam Turner, our Office Assistant, who joined us in November; and Angel Garcia, our Day Porter. I especially want to thank the Rev. Cindy Simpson, our Assistant Rector, who has assumed liturgical and pastoral responsibility for the church in the wake of Fr. John's departure, in addition to her already full schedule of church and school responsibilities.

I also want to thank all of our Vestry members for their commitment of time and talent to insure the smooth running of the church. Their commitment to seeing us through the transition period, to insuring the selection of a stellar Search Committee for the new Rector, to dealing with a less than optimal budget, and to managing the various and sundry issues that arise unexpectedly in the life of a church is truly a blessing. Special thanks are due to Junior Warden, Wayne Cross, and to Geof Fuller who serves on the Property Committee with Wayne. This year has presented its usual unusual challenges, including downed trees, raised sidewalks, roof leaks, lightning rods, roof leaks, shingles blown off during a windstorm, roof leaks, leaking boilers, toilet leaks, ceiling leaks, and roof leaks, to name a few. In particular, Geof has shouldered all of the property issue load for the past several months and has done so with amazing efficiency and unfailing good humor.

Stepping back to last year at this time, we were just embarking on a joint Capital Campaign with the Church and School: Firm Foundation, Bright Future. Under the leadership of George Wolohojian, Paul Mammalian, and their steering committee, we got off to a roaring start and by the time we went public with the campaign in August, we had already raised \$1.9 million towards the \$4.5 million goal. This happened because members of the steering committee devoted much of their summer to personally visiting parishioners and school families and sharing their excitement about the plan to secure the financial future of both church and school. Fund-raising slowed significantly as both church and school entered their annual fund-raising phase, but we are expecting to re-energize the Capital Campaign this spring. We currently stand at \$2.4 million, slightly over half way to our goal. Two of the Church projects benefitting the church deserve mention. Christ Episcopal School dedicated their Raise the Paddle fundraiser at their annual gala to starting the renovations on the Murdock Room and we hope that this project can begin as soon as this summer. A joint church/school committee is already meeting to discuss how to proceed. In addition, Church and School have agreed that regardless of whether we reach our full goal or not, the church building will be getting an elevator. Another part of the plan for the future, sale of the Jefferson Building, has not gone quite as well. There has been a great deal of interest in the building, but no buyers. We were warned that it could take 2-3 years to sell the building so we haven't given up hope, but we are also exploring other options for managing should the building not sell.

It seems that no Rector's Report can be complete without addressing the operating budget. In September of 2017 we projected an operating budget based on \$785,000 in pledge income. By December, it became clear that we were not even close to meeting that goal. The Finance Committee met and reduced the pledge income expected to \$700,000, less than in the previous year's budget. This involved getting rid of

all of the increases that had been proposed, including adding one paid singer to the music budget, increasing the funding for Serving Others Sunday, initiating scholarships to enable more youth to attend work camps, increasing our pledge to the Diocese since we would be using their services extensively in our search for a new Rector, and various other inflationary and infrastructure-support based increases.

As of March, we were still more than \$20,000 below this figure in pledge revenue. There are multiple reasons for this including: long-time generous donors either dying or moving away, anxiety with regard to individual finances, the increasing demands of maintaining our aging building and infrastructure, our good fortune in attracting young families who may not have the resources to pledge as generously as longer-term parishioners, and concern over getting a new rector. However, if you look at the numbers this year, the primary reason for our shortfall is that we are significantly below the number of pledges in previous years. As you will hear from our Treasurer, we have plans to make up this difference this year by using the salary that we are not paying for a Rector for February and March, but next year is another matter. Next year we will have to budget a full year's salary for a Rector, and at a salary that meets Diocesan standards. The shortfall for this year remains a problem as we search for a new rector since candidates will see our financials, and they will see that we fell short of our budget, pledging even less than last year. They will see that we can't pay a salary that meets Diocesan standards. We are not the only Episcopal church in Montgomery County that is searching for a Rector. Two of our neighboring churches are as well, so we have competition. As I said to the Congregation in March, I think it would be absolutely tragic to find a new Rector that is the perfect fit for us, only to lose her/him to another church who can afford to pay a more competitive salary. So while it would be wonderful if people would pledge or increase their existing pledges to makeup this year's shortfall, it is absolutely critical to the future of this church that everyone step up and pledge for next year.

Let me say personally, that I have found the last three months challenging. It is never easy to step into a position held by someone for many years where much of the process and procedures are in that person's head. Even with all of staff's help I have felt like I was flying blind much of the time. I have learned a lot about the operations of the church and the people who make it work. I have come to appreciate the advice and expertise available to us from the Diocese. In this regard, I want to particularly recognize Paul Cooney, Canon to the Ordinary, and the Rev. Canon Paula Clark who has been, and continues to be, a guide star during the transition process. With all the administrative issues that have crossed my desk, I am particularly thankful (as should you all be) that I was not called upon to perform the Rector's homiletic duties as well! I am particularly grateful for the talents of the Rev. Cindy Simpson, the Rev. Peter Bastien, and the Rev. Hemshand Gossai who have led our services, celebrated our Eucharists and preached our sermons in the post-McDuffie era.

Despite all the anxiety and frustration, I think we are entering a really exciting time in the life of the church and school. We are searching for a new Rector and have the opportunity to shape the future of this church. While we do what we do pretty well, there are always opportunities for improvement

and change and we are in a position to address this. The Search Committee will be holding a series of focus groups to get your thoughts about the future directions of the church. I hope you will all take the opportunity to participate so that the Search Committee can get a real sense of direction from the congregation. We have a subcommittee of the Vestry looking into what would be involved in merging our 9 am and our 11 am

services and whether that is a feasible idea. We are moving ahead with the permitting and financing necessary to build the new school building and renovate the parts of the church building used primarily by the school. And finally, we are getting ready to welcome an Interim Rector who will guide us through these endeavors and into the new tomorrow for Christ Church.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christie Carrico
Senior Warden*

Search Committee

I am pleased to announce the members of our parish who will be serving on the newly formed Search Committee for a new Rector for Christ Church:

David Craig	Lynn Posorske
Barbara Fennelly	Stephen Renfroe
Honore Kaseya	Jim Suit
Susan Lin	Mark Wright
Emily Pearce	

Each of these people possess a variety of gifts and talents that will be invaluable during the search process. Each has accepted the charge that Vestry has put forth and has agreed to serve at least a year in this capacity.

Please be assured that you, the parishioners, will be kept informed on a regular basis of the work and progress of this committee.

--Janice Musselman, Chair

ACOLYTES

Activities:

Thirty-two young persons from age 11 through high school senior form the acolyte corps at Christ Church. This year we had a class of six newcomers who were installed on January 14 – Jean-Claude Dinda, Kyle Glynn, Kristian Glynn, Abigail Keenan, Teddy Lin, and Christine Ngandu. In addition we welcomed three transfers from other parishes – Louise Keenen, Teddy Keenan, and Rachel Pepper. We are fortunate to have such a large number of young people who are willing to dedicate their time to the worship at Christ Church. This spring three acolytes will graduate from high school. A new training class will occur in the fall and we continue to encourage lots of new youth to try us out.

The principal function of an acolyte is to assist the clergy in the orderly conduct of church services. Acolytes are scheduled to serve in rotation for all three services each Sunday - 7:45 am, 9 am, and 11 am. In addition, acolytes serve for extra services at Thanksgiving, Christmas, during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Also for weddings and many funerals.

In order to become an acolyte, a teenager participates in an intensive seven week training program (usually in the Fall) on liturgy and church history, as well as the mechanics of serving as we practice it at Christ Church. The ribbon colors worn by the acolytes denote the number of years the individual has been an acolyte. A black ribbon is worn for the first year; purple for the second; green for the third; blue for the fourth; and red for the fifth. If an individual has served for six years, a silver cross is awarded to the acolyte. This year Will Fowler, Juliana Martin, Mandy Mossman, Megan Mossman, Alina Philip, and Aliza Philip received six-year crosses. In addition, Jorgen Jackson and Olivia Maust have been acolytes for seven years.

Acolytes are quite special people, and being an acolyte is one of the ways a teenager can actively contribute on a regular basis to worship in this parish.

I want to especially thank the parents of all the acolytes for helping me to support this important youth ministry. I am proud and happy to be able to work with the young people of this parish as Acolyte Master.

<p><u>Meetings:</u> as needed, Tuesday evenings at Church <u>Officer:</u> Bob James - (240) 731-9928; bobjames3@msn.com <u>Purpose:</u> To assist the clergy of Christ Church in the orderly conduct of worship.</p>
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--Bob James

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is responsible for preparing the sanctuary for religious services at Christ Church. These services include the three Holy Eucharists on Sundays, the Wednesday noontime services, Eucharistic chapel services for Christ Episcopal School, weddings, baptisms, memorial services and funerals. Some members take on additional responsibilities such as wedding coordinator or flower arrangers on special church holidays. We maintain the candles, linens, silver, brass, altar frontals and hangings and are responsible for the repair and purchase of new clergy vestments and the seasonal sanctuary colors.

Altar Guild members, both female and male, work in teams of three (two in the summer months) for a period of 2 weeks. Each team has a crew leader, an experienced member of the guild. Composition of the teams changes with each rotation so that you come to know all the volunteers and make new friends in the process. Currently at 16 working members, we continue to look for new volunteers and hope you will consider joining Altar Guild for our very special work at Christ Church.

<u>Meetings:</u>	No scheduled meetings, but frequent consultations with the Clergy. Training provided.
<u>Chairperson:</u>	Anna Von Arx 301-838-9284

--Anna Von Arx

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (LLEM's)

The Lay Liturgical Eucharistic Ministers at Christ Church are trained and licensed to assist the clergy during liturgical services. Our tasks include reading Old and New Testament lessons, assisting in the Gospel processions, leading the recitation of the Nicene Creed and the Prayers of the People, and serving the chalice at communion. At the 7:45 AM Sunday service and at other smaller services, LLEMs may also act as the acolyte. LLEMs also serve at special services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. We may also be asked to participate in the liturgy for weddings and funerals.

This year, we have eighteen active members who serve in this important role in the worship life of our church. Four members are currently inactive due to various reasons, but we hope they will be able to re-join the rotation soon.

Service	# LLEMs/Service	# Active	# Inactive
7:45 AM	1	4	0
9:00 AM	2 - 3	5	1
11:00 AM	2 - 3	9	3
TOTALS	5 - 7	18	4

LLEMs may be called upon to serve 1-3 times per month, depending on the number of services. During this time of transition, as we look for a new rector, we often need to add additional LLEMs to the schedule to help serve when there is only one priest participating in a service.

Any confirmed parishioner over the age of sixteen may volunteer for this important ministry. New participants are always welcome, and we would benefit greatly from additional volunteers, particularly ones who are available to serve during the 9:00 AM service. Anyone interested in becoming an LLEM should contact Rev. Cindy Simpson or Allison Roulier.

No meetings held, but available to Clergy and Parish Secretary as needed.

--Allison Roulier

LECTORS

Currently, there are about 25 members of Christ Church currently serving as lectors at the 9 and 11 AM Sunday services, and at the 10 AM service during the summer. The lectors read lessons from the Old Testament, Epistles, and Apocrypha. We also read at various other special services during the year such as the Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Passion Gospel, and during Holy Week. New participants of all ages are welcome. Schedules are made and distributed quarterly covering the time periods of September-November, December-February, March-May, and June-August. Please contact Amy Ellis or the Rev. Cindy Simpson if you would like to become a lector. Training is available.

--Amy Ellis

MUSIC

This has again been a program year of great Liturgy and Song, and the consistent week-by-week efforts of the people of Christ Church make our sung worship a unique offering to the Lord. Few parishes are so richly blessed with music of an inter-generational variety at such a high standard. Congregational singing is strong with the support of an extraordinary pipe organ in the chancel, a moveable chest organ in the chapel, a vintage Steinway grand piano in the nave, handbells and other instruments for special occasions, and also *a cappella* - without any accompaniment. We delight in bringing to life historical music related to the readings and in discovering new compositions worthy of great religious texts. Starting with our youngest worshipers at Children's Church, extending through the boys and girls of Choristers, our Choral Scholars, and the many generations of adults in the Choir and Congregation, we take special care and pride in offering our best to God when we gather.

On the last Sunday in November we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with music composed by Martin Luther and his colleagues. The congregation learned Luther's paraphrase of the Isaiah passage culminating with "Holy is God the Lord of Sabaoth". The Choristers and Choir learned Bach's music for "O Lamb of God, pure spotless" and the German text of Telemann's "Ein Feste Burg". We all enjoyed the bouncy rhythm in singing the original renaissance form of "A mighty fortress is our God". This delightful musical celebration of our Lutheran connections and their influence on our Anglican heritage has continued throughout the year.

In April, thanks to generous allocations in the music budget, we were once again able to hire a superb Brass Quartet to help us celebrate Easter. Players were from the National Symphony, Marine Band, and Air Force Band. The spectacular fanfares they provided truly expressed Easter triumph and joy. Tad Cavuoti and Jason West provided the brass arrangements.

Guest Instrumentalists throughout the year have included: Robert Toense, *flute*, Juliana Chitwood, Steve Romer, and Laura Knutson, *violin*, Rob Singer and Brett Dodson, *trumpet*, Tiffany Hitz, *French horn*, Jan Duga, *tuba*, Karen Near, *timpani*. The instrumental arrangements are written by Tad Cavuoti using the computer program *Sibelius*.

It is significant that due to budgetary cuts in 2017-2018 we regretfully said farewell to our professional Staff Singers. For decades we have had the aid of Staff Singers to strengthen choral singing within the parish and to give great continuity for the musical offerings of our choirs. We truly would not have functioned with such consistency without them. They have provided focus, aided in the teaching of notes, and found ways for the children of the Choristers and the adults of the Choir to improve vocal

production and nuances of phrasing and pronunciation. They also allowed the choirs and congregation to choose from a far wider variety of music than might otherwise be possible. We do, indeed, thank the many volunteer members of the Choir who have continued to lead the congregation in song and to prepare the special choral music of psalms, service music, and anthems. At the same time we acknowledge that the ministry of music at Christ Church has been compromised.

CHORISTERS OF CHRIST CHURCH (Ages 8-14)

Meetings: -- Thursdays - Rehearsal from 4:30pm to 5:30pm
-- Sundays - Warm-up at 8:25am for the 9:00am service (*or 10:15 am for the 11:00am service*)
-- On the first Sunday of the month, Choristers sing at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services.
-- On the second, third, & fourth Sundays of the month, Choristers sing at the 9:00am service.

Director: Tad Cavuoti
Corrigan Peters – Head Chorister
Olivia Yeatman – Deputy Head Chorister

Purpose: To provide training in music for leadership in worship

Activities: This has been the twenty-first year of mid-week rehearsals and leading Sunday worship on a regular basis. It involves special efforts on the part of each Chorister, and the dedication of many parents. The basics of music reading and vocal exercise, which are part of each rehearsal, show themselves in the strength of leadership the Choristers are able to provide. We are blessed this year with a dozen Choristers: eight veterans, and four new members!

In former years, once a month the professional Staff Singers, Choral Scholars, and Parents join with the Choristers at 9:00, allowing them to offer music from the richer repertoire available for mixed voices. On an increasing basis, the Choristers still have the opportunity to sing with the adults of the full Choir at 11:00 (choral Kyries & Glorias, and both Anglican and Gregorian chant psalms) and to provide solos for anthems and cantors for the Alleluia. For a sixteenth season both children and adults will have sung together as an inter-generational choir a Viennese classical setting of the Mass by Haydn, accompanied by string trio. There are very few children's programs, which can offer music at this level.

Special events include: Halloween Supper, Christmas Eve 4:00pm Service.

The season ends with the presentation of RSCM awards for faithful service, musical skills, and leadership.

CHORAL SCHOLARS (Teens)

Meetings: -- Rehearsal Thursday evenings from 7:30pm - 9:30pm
-- Sunday warm-up at 10:15am for the 11:00am service
(*second Sunday of the month 8:30 for the 9:00 service*)

Director: Tad Cavuoti

Purpose: To provide training to future Section Leaders and Staff Singers

Activities: Choral Scholars follow a demanding schedule of 37 rehearsals and 54 services during the season, "shadowing" an adult Staff Singer. They are able to sight-read music and to maintain an independent part. They sing with the adult Choir most Sundays, and once each month help the Choristers in singing SATB music at 9:00. Former Choral Scholars often join us for Christmas services.

CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR (Adults and Teens)

Meetings: -- Rehearsal Thursday evenings from 7:30pm - 9:30pm
-- Sunday warm-up at 10:15am for the 11:00am service

Director: Tad Cavuoti
Jan Schiavone - Librarian

Purpose: To provide musical leadership for the 11:00am service

Activities: Christ Church Choir has drawn on the fullest of traditions in offering choral music of many styles and historical periods during liturgical celebrations, giving special attention to a correlation with the lectionary. The Choir leads the singing of hymns appropriate to the day and congregational service music, which changes by liturgical season. They also chant the Gradual Psalm, and sing an Offertory Anthem and Communion Motet.

This year, due to the increased learning curve in the absence of Staff singers, the monthly offerings of choral Masses were reduced. Portions of the following were sung: Darke's Communion Service in E, Victoria's Missa O Quam Gloriosum, Hassler's Missa Dixit Maria, and Haydn's Little Organ Mass.

In addition to Sunday services, the Choir sang at 11:00pm Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and the Easter Vigil. This year there was no choral music at 8:00pm on Christmas Eve.

It is interesting that technology has caught-up to liturgical music in a big way, and many of our Choir members find it useful to practice our repertoire by watching and listening to youtube. There are some excellent video and audio recordings available on-line! It is also possible to research printable editions of public domain compositions. A few years ago, who would have guessed?

Some of our more unusual repertoire this year included:

Aichinger	Factus est repente	Durufié	Ubi caritas & Tantum ergo &
Barrow	Lord, when thy kingdom comes, remember me		Notre Pere
Brewer	Magnificat in D	Nestor	Faithful cross
Cavuoti	Ego sum panis vivus	Tallis	O nata lux
Croft	God is gone up with a merry noise	Telemann	Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott
		Wesley	Wash me throughly
		West	Light's glittering morn

Soloists have included Kate Albus, Marcia Chervenak, Summer Hardinge, Allison Roulier, Susan Lin, *Sopranos*, Robert Toense, *Tenor*, and Charlie Meininger, *Bass*.

SUMMER CHOIR

Meetings: Rehearsals Sunday morning at 9:15am

Director: Tad Cavuoti, Don Hague, Jason Kent West

Purpose: To provide musical leadership for the 10:00am service in June, July, and August

Activities: Throughout the summer months, singers gather before the principal Sunday Eucharist to prepare a Metrical Psalm, Offertory Anthem, hymns, and other service music. At a time when most parish choirs stop functioning, and families are often moving and "church shopping", we are able to maintain strong choral leadership in worship, and even try out a number of new hymn-tunes and anthem settings.

BENEFIT CONCERTS

In the past 13 years we have sponsored 47 benefit concerts, including choral programs, organ recitals, and an opera performance. Donations, ticket receipts, and other gifts have been passed on to Episcopal Relief and Development, Community Ministries of Rockville, Manna Food Center, and the Choir Scholarship Fund.

The National Philharmonic Singers, a chamber choir of highly skilled musicians, joined us for their annual Christmas Concert. They delighted a capacity audience with a concert of Advent and Christmas favorites. Audience participation is required! Many thanks to directors Stan Engebretson and Victoria Gau.

For an eighth consecutive year, the Choirs of Richard Montgomery High School presented their mid-year concert during Lent at Christ Church. Their new director Carrie Eyler chose led the students in a varied program balanced between *a cappella* compositions and those accompanied by piano, flute, and cello. A capacity audience of parents and Christ Church parishioners was quite literally awed by the performance.

These concerts are not only enjoyed by parishioners, but they also serve as outreach to the community in attracting large audiences from outside our parish. Donations at these concerts in the past 7 years allowed us to send over \$ 23,000 to Community Ministries of Rockville, and an enormous number of canned goods to Manna Food Center.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In the past year I have been able to accompany the Richard Montgomery High School Choir on a concert tour of Italy. As part of a 200 voice festival chorus we sang a concert in the lush acoustic of the Gothic church of Santa Maria sopra Minerva. We toured the Vatican and sang a Mass in the vast Renaissance splendor of St. Peter's Basilica where all Christians were invited to receive the Eucharist. As our 25 singers from RM moved on to Pisa and Florence, we gave recitals at the Duomo in Florence and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. In these beautiful and historic churches Ron Frezzo graciously allowed me to conduct the students in my composition "Ego sum panis vivus". Stopping in England before returning from across "the pond", I was able to attend the daily sung Latin Mass at Westminster Cathedral, hear Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral, have a lesson on a Renaissance style "F-compass" organ, do some research on musical manuscripts at the British Library, and hear a stylish performance of the Faure Requiem at St. Martin in the Fields.

In September I found inspiration at the Diocese of Maryland's Church Musicians' Retreat, held annually at the Claggett Center on the Monocacy River near Frederick, MD. Sixty colleagues gathered to hear Bishop Chilton Knudsen's keynote address, worship at the Eucharist, trade experiences and concerns, and read through new and unfamiliar music. I was able to present two of my compositions written for Christ Church: "Rejoice in Christ the King" and "For God so loved the world".

In October I used one of my Continuing Ed weeks to visit two parishes on the north shore of Chicago. St. Luke's, Evanston has an incredible acoustic, a fantastic vintage Skinner pipe organ, and a tradition of high standards in choral music sung by well trained choirs of children and adults. I was able to spend a few hours exploring the organ and conversing with one of the organists. Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest has a modest acoustic, but a superb British pipe organ, and again a high standard of choral music for adults and children. In addition to Sunday mornings, they sing a monthly Evensong.

Every four years they make a summer pilgrimage to sing a week of services at an English cathedral. I attended a Thursday choir rehearsal, the Sunday morning 10:00 Eucharist, and had a number of interesting conversations with their organists, staff singers, and the interim rector.

In January I attended the American Sarum IV conference hosted by Trinity Church in Princeton, NJ. Sixty participants and presenters, both musicians and clergy from various parts of the USA and the UK gathered to discuss and experience developments in Anglican and Episcopal liturgies starting before the Reformation and extending to the present day (and beyond). We began with an Evensong and late night Compline sung elegantly by the Trinity choirs. Then for the next three days the conference celebrated in song Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer, Eucharist, Evening Prayer, and Compline. The music was both elaborate and yet simple at the same time. There was ample opportunity for reflection both within the services and in the sessions and meals surrounding them. It was clear that there is great wisdom and strength within our heritage, and the opportunity for refinement & discovery in our future.

I keep in touch with my colleagues in the Association of Anglican Musicians (AAM) through the monthly Journal and frequent email threads. There is an exceptionally strong group of members in the DC area acting as a resource and support group. Topics range from suggesting repertoire for particular occasions to formulating contract specifics on sabbaticals and asking advice on dealing with transition and turmoil. A recent book by Andrew Gant recommended by this group is The Carols of Christmas – the most scholarly and yet entertainingly readable book on the music and text of traditional carols. Every chapter ends with a *zinger* surprise!

Many know that I invest much time and care in composing for the church and other institutions. This year I have written a dozen descants, reharmonizing and heightening our singing of several favorite hymns. Encouraged by parishioner Vince Patterson, I was commissioned to create a symphonic band arrangement of French composer Paul Vilette's *Hymne a la Vierge*. Another first performance this spring was *Noba Nanas*, a grand fugue in the style of Bach, but based on the vaudeville tune "Yes, we have no bananas". It is scored for flute ensemble ranging from the tiny piccolo, through the common C flute and alto G flute, down to the 4-foot long bass flute, and the rare 8-foot long great bass flute.

I must thank the vestry for providing Continuing Education funds to the lay staff on par with those provided to the clergy. This expands enormously our possibilities for professional development.

--Tad Cavuoti

USHERS

There is always a welcome for those who feel that they would like to be a part of this ministry. We are still in need of folks to volunteer to serve-- for regular Sunday services or for occasional mid-week services.

The new Head Usher for the 9:00am service is Peter Hardinge. There are eight people assigned to serve in this time slot (10:00am during the summer).

For the 11:00am service, we have two people assigned to week one and one person for weeks two, three, and four. We have no substitutes. Many of our ushers have either moved away or have passed on. We are in need of new ushers willing to commit to a weekly schedule. Any family or individual who would like to join should contact the Parish office. Help will be gratefully received!

<u>Meetings:</u>	Upon the call of the Rector	
<u>Officer:</u>	Buzz Von Arx	- Head Usher for 7:45 am services
	Peter Hardinge	- Head Usher for 9:00 am services
	John Lynch	- Head Usher for 11:00 am services

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Sunday School Prayer *by the Kindergarten Class of 2013*

Our Father, we thank thee for our many blessings.

We thank thee for our families – our mothers, fathers, sister and brothers

We thank thee for the fun of friends and the games we play; we thank thee for the beauty of nature, especially the snow

We thank thee for the joy of animals and the love of our pets; we thank thee for wonderful foods like ice cream

We thank thee for the kindness of our teachers and coaches; and especially thank thee for the gift of ourselves.

We ask thee to help guide us so that we share our love with those around us

So that we do well in school and learn about our world

So that we can remember how Jesus died on the cross for us

So that our families and friends can be safe and happy

Thank you for all that you have done for us. In Christ's name. AMEN.

Highlights of 2017

- Sunday school for Preschool through Sixth Grade – Meets 1st & 2nd Sunday Mornings
- Nursery Care for infants and toddlers – weekly from 8:45am – 12:15pm
- Children's Church Sunday Morning Worship Service meets weekly Sept – May at 9am
- SOS- Serving Others Sunday Projects Monthly – Martha's Table McKenna's Wagon DC, Manna – Smart Sacks Program, St. Ann's Infant & Maternity Home & Heifer International
- Back to School Year Fall Picnic and Activities
- Advent & Epiphany Craft Workshops
- CBS Shelter Lunch Packing, Sandwich Making and Bag Decorating – 2 weeks a year!
- St. Nicholas Visit & Celebration
- Christmas Outreach Project – Collection of Toys & Books for St Ann's Home in DC
- Mitten and Hat Collection for Stepping Stones Shelter & Meadow Hall Elementary School
- Flowering of the Cross and Easter Egg Hunt
- Mother's Day Flowers
- Annual Meeting Children's Activities and Chicken & Waffle Brunch
- Teacher Appreciation Day and Parish Year End Picnic
- Happy Haunted Halloween Trick & Treats
- Nativity Pageant and Family Christmas Caroling & Dinner
- ARK Project - \$160.00 collected for Heifer International Project in Children's Church

Nursery: Connie, Izzy & Annabelle Heister, Megan Mossman, Maggie Lin, Aliza & Alina Philip, Juliana Martin, Courtney Herzog, Genesis Escobar, Jessica Nolasco and Jennifer Hettihewa

Sunday School Volunteers: Stacy Johnston, David Craig, Michele Craig, Aliza & Alina Philip, Juliana Martin, Mandy & Megan Mossman and Izzy Heister

Children's Church: Craig Peters (Musician), Mandy Mossman (Assistant) & Aliza Philip (Helper)

and the many..... Parents, Grandparents, Friends & Youth Volunteers who help out every Sunday morning

THANK YOU!!!!!!

For more information contact:

Michele Craig, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
301/762-2191 #15 or mcraig@cecrockville.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Vision Statement:

Through friends, laughter, love, hospitality, faith and diversity we are the present and future of the church. We are a welcoming community open to all who are searching, growing and learning. As the youth of this diocese we will continue to create programs and events that celebrate God's loving presence in the church and the world. *Written by and for the youth, October 2001*

Highlights for 2017

- 2 Work Trips to Heifer International Learning Farm in Rutland, MA
- Work Trip to Boston, MA at Community Serves and Rosie's Place
- Urban Mission Trip to Washington DC for a week of hands-on helping in non-profits
- Hosted the Diocesan Hunger Walk at Washington National Cathedral
- Markoff's Haunted Halloween Adventure and Dinner
- Hosted the Diocesan Ice Skating Party in Rockville Town Center for 100+ youth & adults
- Youth Group Gatherings – service, games, activities, movies, dinners, fun and friends
- Advent & Epiphany Crafts Workshop Assistants
- Movie Days & Cooking Dinner
- Weekly Acolyte participation in Worship Services and 7 week training classes
- Post - Annual Meeting Chicken & Waffle Brunch and Children's Activities
- Providing meals and supplies for the CBS Shelter in Rockville's 35 residents – twice yearly
- Participated in the Live NOW, Serve NOW Service weekend at the Cathedral
- Easter EGG-stravaganza and Easter Egg Hiding
- Worked at DC Central Kitchen for day & night shifts on MCPS holidays and breaks
- Youth Choral Scholar Members
- Children's Church Assistants & Leaders
- Nursery Care Volunteers and Staff
- Volunteers at Manna Food, Martha's Table, DC Thrive, DC Central Kitchen, DC Union Mission, Anacostia Waterway, Stepping Stones Shelter, Sophia House, & other non-profits
- Monthly SOS at Christ Church– Serving Others Sunday Projects to benefit Others in Need

Goals for 2018

- Children continue to actively participate in weekly Sunday morning worship services
- Bi-Monthly Seasonal Family Gatherings and Activities – on and off site
- Continue expanding “hands-on” community service projects for children, youth & families
- Growing and retaining our community of children & families at CEC
- Educational Forums on Faith in Our Families and Parenting Issues
- Continue to build attendance at Sunday School with more Parent Involvement
- Continue to build relationships with all youth at CEC
- Weekend Urban Work Trips – New York, Philadelphia & Richmond
- Continue to improve a database and seasonal contact with all former Youth now in College

CHRIST EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Christ Episcopal School is accredited by the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools (AIMS--MDDC). We are pleased and proud to be part of AIMS, the organization that accredits independent schools in the competitive education market of the Greater Washington area. We are also members the National Association of Episcopal Schools and the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association.

By design, an Episcopal school education's value is in its empowering program that provides a community of care, strong spiritual and moral teachings, challenging academics integrated with the arts, service to others, stewardship of the earth, and a wide variety of enriching opportunities to hone the innate talents and interests of its students. The CES leadership is committed to these tenets of Episcopal education and to being faithful stewards of the school's resources that make this education happen every day for each child in our care. Our dedicated families and their work with the Parents Association, supporting us with "heart, hand, and treasure," help us to make our Episcopal education exemplary.

This year the leadership teams of faculty, administration, and the Board of Governors continued the hard work set before them to continue to provide a steady and strong school. We continue to look for ways to deliver high quality services. The school, with help from the church, is on track for running a balanced budget (before depreciation) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Church and School continue to work together to achieve our goal of providing an Episcopal education of uncommon excellence. Sharing facilities, resources, and personnel is part of the helpful symbiotic relationship that parish schools enjoy. We are grateful for the faithful service of the Rector and the Senior Warden on our Board of Governors and for their participation in numerous school activities.

This year saw a multitude of programmatic and facilities enhancements. Some of the highlights of our accomplishments follow:

- 2017 marked the year when a major capital campaign was launched to raise money to build a new, 12,000 square foot school building and remodel a variety of spaces in the church building, including the classrooms occupied by the school and the Murdock Room. The campaign was organized with the help of Ward, Dreshman and Reinhardt, Inc. By December 2017, the campaign had raised \$2.4 million dollars, the largest fund raising effort in the church's and school's history. The campaign will continue to run through 2018 with goal of reaching \$4.5 million dollars by the end.
- The Board of Governors of Christ Episcopal School continues to use the strategic plan, adopted in December 2014, to guide its direction and prioritize action items for the 2017-2018 school year and the future.
- As part of the strategic initiatives outlined in the CES Strategic Plan, the Jefferson Building was put on the market to sell. Selling the building will reduce the church's and school's debt load and bring financial relief and flexibility.
- Funds were raised during the 2017 auction and gala to remodel one of the lower school classrooms in the church building. This money has not yet been spent but will be used when the building project commences in the church building.
- The 2017 Gala was a huge success. This gala was a celebration of CES's 50th anniversary. It was well attended by former faculty, staff and students.
- New faculty and staff members who joined Christ Episcopal School in August 2017 include Amy Katz (Middle School Math), Vicky Masson (Lower and Middle School Spanish), Colleen Street (Third Grade), Cindy Medema (Fourth Grade), Lu Ann Cornman (Middle School English) and Marion Entwisle (Director of Extended Day and Summer Camp).

- In January, two representatives from the Association of Independent Maryland and DC schools visited CES to conduct the Five Year Reaccreditation process. The visit was very successful and CES's accreditation was approved for continuation.
- PRM Consulting group was retained in order to monitor CES's retirement plan with TIAA.
- During the 2016-2017 school year, a small group of faculty members developed and implemented a character education program that has continued with great success into the 2017-2018 school year. Named Cardinal Character, this program offers students direct instruction on a variety of noble character traits that are also tied to Paul's "fruits" of the spirit. The Head of School has been invited to share this program at the National Association of Episcopal Schools' Biennial Conference in Atlanta, GA in the fall of 2018.
- CES graduates continued to be accepted at prestigious independent schools. The 2017 graduate acceptances included St. John's College High School, Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, St. Andrew's Episcopal School (Delaware), The Hill School (PA), Episcopal High School (VA) and Sandy Spring Friends School.
- Students from preschool 2's through 8th grade continue to benefit from a wide variety of field trips throughout the Rockville community as well as in DC and Maryland. Such field trips have included performances at the Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University, The White House, The STEM conference at the DC Convention Center, the Baltimore Aquarium, Rockville City Police and Fire Departments, Lancaster Farm, Episcopal Schools Day at the National Cathedral, Imagination Stage, Croyden Creek Nature Center, the Vis Arts Center in Rockville, Adventure Theatre, Great Harvest Bread Company, NAVSEA facility at Carderock, Woodend Nature Center, Lady Maryland in Baltimore, Folger Shakespeare Theater in DC, Montgomery County Public Library, Meadowside Nature Center, Calleva, National Building Museum, Udvar-Hazy Center, Organization of American States, Homestead Farms, South Mountain Creamery, National Aquarium in Baltimore, Mount Vernon, Gettysburg, Monticello, Locust Grove Nature Center and the US Capitol, among others.
- The students participated in a variety of academic competitions including the National Geographic Geography Bee, the Scripps Spelling Bee and the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association (MAESA) Scholars' Fair, where our students participated in the Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Visual Arts, Science Fair and Technology competitions.
- A specially selected group of 8th grade students participated in a Diversity Leadership Conference sponsored by EastEd and held at Sandy Spring Friends School.
- The one-to-one laptop program continues to grow. All middle school students own their own laptops. CES owns thirty laptops that are shared throughout the Lower School.
- The school maintains its close relationship with the surrounding community and Rockville City Government. Lower School students went trick-or-treating in City Hall and at the City Police Department. The Rockville mayor came to CES to address the students at the annual Geography Bee, present the awards and speak to the fourth grade class about the position of mayor and its responsibilities in Rockville.
- The Head of School continues active participation as a member on the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association Board. She completed her term as a member of the Accreditation Commission of the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools and has been nominated to serve on the Board of the same organization. Elections will take place in April 2018.
- Using its newly approved status of being able to issue I-20 visas to international students, CES accepted its first international student in the fall of 2017. This student was from The Ukraine and enrolled in the 8th grade class.
- In the fall of 2017, CES entered into a formal partnership with YMM Art Space, based in Shenzhen, China. Through this partnership, CES's art teacher and art curriculum are being provided by YMM Art Space. This is the first international partnership of its kind.

- In November, the Head of School visited China for twelve days where she presented at an innovation in education conference in Chengdu and visited YMM Art Schools in Shenzhen, Chengdu, LeShan and Beijing. At each school she spoke to the art educators about CES and American education.
- The scholarship program being offered to Rockville City Government employees is now coming to fruition. The first family to take advantage of this program enrolled a child in the fall of 2017. Two more families have begun the application process for the fall of 2018.
- The Extended Day and Summer Camp programs continued to expand in 2017. Enrollment continues to grow in the variety of enrichment classes that are being offered, and the revenues for the 2017 summer camp program was \$20,000 more than previous years. There is optimism that this program will continue to grow in quality and participation.

We continued this school year with important steps to affect the quality of the academic programs; enhance our extra-curricular programs and administrative functions; renew facilities; improve communication between the school, the families, and the church; provide opportunities for student social leadership and outreach to the wider community through service learning; and establish a strong web presence. Our value is evident in our quality, an unyielding commitment to excellence, our service, our design, our delivery and our mission.

Thank you to all who are a part of this educational experience and who have contributed in their own ways to Christ Episcopal School. I am grateful for the faithful support of the Rector of Christ Church, School Chaplain, Vestry of Christ Church, Board of Governors, the faculty, staff and parents. I want to express my thanks to you and my hope that you will continue to support our collective efforts in any way you can to help continue the tradition of the Christ Episcopal School experience for our current students and the students yet to come.

Respectfully submitted,

--*Caroline Chapin, EdD*
Head of School

MISSION STATEMENT

Academic excellence, respect and a passion to serve are the inspiration for our community. At Christ Episcopal School, every student and parent is a priority, and every interaction is rooted in our CES promise: to nurture students to become kind, confident, well-rounded individuals prepared to contribute to their community and thrive personally, spiritually and academically.

<u>Meetings:</u>	Third Thursday of each month
Board of Governors,	
<u>Officers:</u>	Glenn Reemes, Chair
	Dr. Caroline Chapin, Head of School
	The Rev. Cynthia A. Simpson, Chaplain

THE ANGELUS

The Angelus is the Christ Church’s newsletter which is published monthly. Issues are primarily sent out electronically, but anyone can call the office to get a printed copy. Printed copies are also available in the back of the church. Alternately, we encourage visits to our Church website where the newsletter is also posted: <http://www.christchurchrockville.org>.

The mission of *The Angelus* is to cover the significant events and issues of the Christ Church Community as reported by our clergy, members of the vestry, and representatives of Church Ministries – Worship, Outreach, Fellowship, Stewardship, Christian Education, Pastoral Care and Environmental Stewardship. We welcome article submissions and photos from any interested party.

- We would love more photos for the Angelus. It would be nice to find a staff photographer for events but any and all pictures are welcome.
- What about having an article by each member of the vestry about the ministries? I think this might be valuable especially to new or inquiring parishioners.
- If anyone would be interested in assisting with the editing/formatting, please contact Tim Smeltzer at Angelusnewsletter@yahoo.com.

<u>Meetings:</u>	Held as necessary
<u>Officers:</u>	Tim and Kathy Smeltzer, Editors

COFFEE HOUR

During the Programmatic Year, Coffee Hour Angels and Bakers provided hospitality and refreshments for our parishioners on Sundays between the 9:00 A.M. and the 11:00 A.M. Services. Coffee Hour is one of the ways our church carries out its Baptismal Covenant to continue the Apostles’ teachings with fellowship. Each Coffee Hour has two teams: Bakers and Angels. Bakers provide the food, and the Angels provide the hospitality. Both contributions enable the congregation to mingle in fellowship while enjoying delicious refreshments. Each team is assigned a specific Sunday from September through May. Their donations of time and talent are invaluable.

We were pleased to welcome several new volunteers as either Bakers or Angels this year, and are always delighted to add more participants. If you would like to be a part of this very rewarding ministry, or if you have any questions, please contact Nancy Small at nwsmall@hotmail.com, or 301-762-2449.

<u>Meetings:</u>	Every Sunday from September to June
<u>Contact:</u>	Nancy Small

--Nancy Small

FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship Committee plans, coordinates, and hosts multiple functions during the year. These include receptions, luncheons, Back to School Picnic, the monthly Supper Club and Summer Lemonade on the Parish House Front Porch.

Supper Club meets on the second Saturday of each month throughout the year except during Lent, and is an opportunity for adults to come together, share a potluck dinner, and just have fun. Parish members sign up to host the dinner. For more information see the weekly bulletin or contact Bobbie Power.

If you would like to join the Fellowship Committee please contact Bobbie Power. Phone: 301-460-4458.

Meetings: The Fellowship Committee meets as needed to plan events. Often we meet informally during or after coffee hour on Sundays, or for dinner at a local restaurant or committee member's home.

Committee Members:

Bobbie Power, Chairperson	The Rev. Cynthia Simpson, Parish Liaison
Christie Carrico	Janet Miranda
Carolyn Cole	Nancy Small
Ellen van Valkenburgh	Nina Craig

--Bobbie Power

DESSERT AND DEAL

The Bridge group continues to meet once a month, September through June, for dessert and a friendly game of cards. There is a \$2.00 fee to defray costs, at the end of the year if we have extra we donate it to the Church. We welcome new members and our numbers are growing. You do not have to come with a partner. Foursomes are made up of those who are there, we average 2 to 3 tables a month. Contact Barbara Wolper and Dotty Reitwiesner if you would like to join us for a sociable evening.

Meetings: The third Monday of each month September through June
Officers: Barbara Wolper and Dotty Reitwiesner

--Barbara Wolper

COUNTERS & DATA ENTRY

Counters are a group of volunteers who count and sort the plate offerings every Sunday after the last service. The cash is counted and verified; the pledge envelopes are separated out and grouped together; all other envelopes are grouped into separate funds. These are all bundled into a tamper-evident plastic bag and put in the safe. This process takes about twenty minutes for two or three people. Encouraging parishioners to put their envelope numbers on **all** checks, not just pledge checks would also save time for the volunteers.

In the beginning of the week, the collection information is entered into the ACS database and the monies deposited in the bank. Checks are no longer xeroxed; all the information is entered from the check itself. This has saved a great deal of paper. Any checks that come from a one-time visitor are xeroxed. Any visitor that gives money more than two times has a record created for them. Several new fund codes were created to better identify and track the income. A transaction list of every entry and a recap sheet are then printed, copies of which are given to the accountant, the senior warden, and the treasurer. A copy is also kept in the office file. The accountant gets the deposit slip from the bank. At the end of every month, a monthly tally sheet is printed and compared with the accountant’s numbers. A separate deposit is currently created for the Korean Ministry.

The following people are currently donating their time on Sundays.

1st Sunday:	Emily and Gary Correll	4th Sunday:	Bryan Roslund Mark Wright Steve McNeil
2nd Sunday:	Linda Rhoads Jane and Sam Ireland		
3rd Sunday:	Barbara Wolper Jim Robertson Stephen Renfroe	5th Sunday:	Melinda Colferai Suzanne Viglianti

<p><u>Meetings:</u> no formal meetings <u>Officer:</u> Suzanne Viglianti 301-929-3128 <u>Purpose:</u> prepare collections; data-entry and deposits of the collections; reports to Vestry</p>
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*Respectfully submitted,
--Suzanne Viglianti*

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Care Committee, under the guidance of Reverend Cindy Simpson, offers a ministry that can take many forms, some of which are handled by members of the committee while others are shared by other members of the congregation.

At its twice monthly meeting, the Committee offers intercessory prayers in response to requests from parishioners for themselves, a loved one or a friend. There is a public prayer list, as well as a private list known only to members of the committee. Members of the committee also call, visit or write cards and notes to those on the lists.

In addition, members of the Committee bless prayer shawls made by parishioners that are then delivered to parishioners whose needs are particularly acute.

The Flower Delivery Ministry falls under the umbrella of the Pastoral Care Committee as does the Christ Church Chefs Ministry.

The members of the Pastoral Care committee find that both our life together and the ministries in which we serve are blessings that enrich our spiritual lives. We welcome all who would like to participate in any of our activities.

<u>Meetings:</u>	First and third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 – 8:45 PM in the Parish House.
<u>Contacts:</u>	Kaye Kubas, 301-279-7556 Marylouise Roach 301-963-0962

CHRIST CHURCH CHEFS

A Pastoral Care Ministry of nourishment and encouragement.

The Christ Church Chefs have been doing a fabulous job taking meals to those who are in need in our church. We are a subcommittee of the Pastoral Care Committee. We are a group of chefs who will happily provide a simple meal to you or your family in time of need or crisis. We are happy to comfort you with a homemade meal that meets your dietary needs and lessens the stress and concerns you may have as you go through a difficult time such as medical treatments, surgeries, family crises, or the excitement of welcoming a new baby to your family.

If you need this help or know of someone who is in need of help as they may be home alone, or they just need to feel the care and concern that we can extend to them by delivering a home cooked meal, please contact the church office, Reverend Cindy, or Marylouise Roach.

Layperson to contact for the Christ Church Chefs is Marylouise Roach at 301-963-0962

--Marylouise Roach

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Mission Statement:

Exhibiting a reverence for and a desire to live in harmony with the Earth and all that exists within it, we strive to educate ourselves and others so that we may use our resources rightly as the good stewards that God intends us to be.

We undertake these responsibilities in thanksgiving for His creation and for the deepening of our personal relationships with God, our Creator.

As part of our strategic planning for 2017, our committee decided to focus on two projects:

- 1) To finish the landscaping/gardening expansion project that was more extensive than previously imagined
- 2) To create a third energy audit that would better serve the needs of our parish, albeit, on a smaller scale than planned in 2016

Our in-house gardeners, Carolyn Oakford, Diana Locke, Ann English and Nancy Thompson, continued to design the remaining areas to be planted, removed dead plants and replaced them with either native plants and/or plants more conducive to our weather and climate. They greatly improved the appearance of the areas in front of the church and along the side driveway by the porch entrance to the school. Improvements were also made to the timed watering system. We also held both a spring and fall workday to assist in these endeavors. Last summer we saw an increase in our bird and butterfly populations thanks to the addition of milk weed plants and a birdbath. Many a Cardinal and Chickadee could be seen flapping their wings in their new bathtub.

We are greatly indebted to Carolyn, Diana, Ann and Nancy, without whom this transformation would never have occurred. Our special thanks also goes to Robert Toesne, Peter Heister and Angela Garcia who on a regular basis prune, trim and water the plants.

Since we were denied a grant from the State of Maryland we were unable to follow through with our energy audit as planned for both the Parish House and church buildings. This was initially very disappointing to our committee. Not to be deterred, Charles Bevington came up with an alternate plan for just the PH that he and Mark Wright worked on with Standard Energy Solutions. This audit also failed to materialize as SES failed to provide us with a contract. Please stay tuned as we are working on, yet another, plan.

While the landscaping and energy audit occupied much of our focus and work for 2017, other important ESC activities were taking place simultaneously:

- Rogation Sunday in early May was celebrated with a short but deeply meaningful outdoor service led by Fr. McDuffie and The Rev'd Cindy Simpson. We are very grateful for the ongoing support from our clergy.
- A bulletin board for our use is located in the dining room. Barbara Hunt-Wolper and Ruth Hanessian keep us current with the latest environmental issues. Please check it out.
- The monthly Angelus articles are written by Melissa Scales who provides us all with informative and beneficial news in the world of conservation and preservation. I hope that we all read these important messages.
- An ES lending library has been created in the Oratory. There are interesting books and DVDs for you to borrow.
- The semi-annual Montgomery/Rockville Police Dept. Drug Recall Program remains an important outreach activity for our parish.

We are a small, but deeply committed group of parishioners who feel called to read, learn and inwardly digest the biblical message of Creation, and to spread this message to others. If you feel called to join our group, we welcome you at any participation level. We meet the third Sunday on alternate months in the PH at 12:30 pm. Our meetings times are noted in the weekly bulletin and in the parish email on Fridays. Why not share your gifts and talents to this important cause?

We are deeply grateful for the guidance and direction from The Rev'd Cindy Simpson. Her dedication and enthusiasm are inspiring to us all, as are the perspectives that each member of the committee brings to our discussions.

*Respectfully submitted,
Janice Musselman, Chair*

ST. FRANCIS FLOCK

St. Francis Flock is an animal welfare ministry that seeks to honor God by being good stewards of God’s creatures. The Flock was granted Vestry approval in February 2015 as a formally recognized committee of the church and its charter was approved in March 2015.

St. Francis Flock continues to welcome opportunities to partner with other ministries at Christ Church, as well as to seek new ways to serve God, fellow parishioners, and the local community, in recognition that the responsible care of God’s creatures falls within the stewardship of creation.

Key Accomplishments

Key accomplishments for 2017 include the following Flock sponsored/supported events and ongoing services:

	Key Event (Annual)	Purpose/Benefit
1	Blessings of the Animals (October)	Celebrated and honored God’s gift to us, our pets, by having them blessed at the annual service. Attendees included parishioners, church leadership, and visitors from various parts of Montgomery County. Services included blessing of pets. Hospitality included information table and music.
2	Celebrate Animals Fair (May)*	Showcased diversity and dedication of work being done by 14 non-profit animal welfare organizations. Attendees included families from the parish, Christ Episcopal School (CES), local families from Rockville/Montgomery County, and other animal welfare enthusiasts from the DC region. Hospitality included games/activities for children, food/drinks for sale.
3	Pet Memorial Service (November)	CANCELLED for 2017 ONLY due to family emergencies for multiple Flock members. Memorial Service to resume in 2018. Celebrate and honor the lives of pets that have passed by providing a formal church service. Attendees typically include parishioners, church leadership, and visitors from various parts of Montgomery County. Hospitality includes food/fellowship in the Murdock room following the service.
4	Animal Welfare Site Visit/Field Trip	CANCELLED for 2017 ONLY due to family emergencies for multiple Flock members. Site visits to resume in 2018. Sponsor a field trip/site visit to increase awareness among parishioners of animal welfare issues. Attendees include parishioners and church leadership.
	Key Services (Ongoing)	Purpose/Benefit
5	Pet Food and Supply Donations	Sponsored food donation drives in support of the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County’s Chompers Pet Food Bank. Christ Church parishioners donated 295 pounds of pet food in 2017 to help local families struggling to provide for their pets. Service helps keep pets with their families and decreases the likelihood of the pet being surrendered to a local animal shelter. Sponsored a special disaster relief drive by donating pet supplies to Pet Connect, a local rescue organization that is partnered with the Humane Society of the US. The Flock also delivered several bags of linens, supplies, etc., to the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County, the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center, and to the Montgomery County Humane Society.
6	Pet Bereavement Support/Counseling	Provided ministry (sympathy cards, prayer lists) to those grieving the loss or illness of a beloved pet. Card and prayer list recipients included parishioners, friends/family of parishioners, and members of the local community.
7	Hospitality	Ensured the continuation of vegetarian options at parish socials and Flock-sponsored events. Increased inclusiveness for vegetarian and vegan parishioners and guests; increased awareness of vegetarian options to broader church community.
8	Education/Outreach	Hosted Second Chance Wildlife, a local non-profit, to educate parishioners on rehabilitation services offered to help injured, orphaned, or ill wild animals. Attendees included parishioners and church leadership. Partnered with Christ Episcopal School to offer Denise Machado, an animal welfare volunteer, to talk with students about creature care of small animals. Denise has a unique background suited for this type of outreach, as she is an elementary school teacher who has been an animal welfare volunteer for 30+ years.
10	Assistance to Seniors/Disabled Parishioners	Offered assistance to Christ Church elderly and/or disabled parishioners in driving them and/or their pet to the veterinarian. Service helps ensure continued care of pets for elderly/disabled parishioners.

*New for 2017

Goals

Goals for 2017 were to (1) continue providing existing services at or above the same service level and (2) introduce new engagements (e.g., Celebrate Animals Fair) that could potentially become annual recurring events. Achievement of goals were capped at 78% as a result of having to cancel two events due to several Flock members having family/personal emergencies. However, the on-going core services (food drives, outreach, bereavement counseling, etc.) were met at 100%. Goals for 2018 are to successfully complete all annual and ongoing services at or above the same service level and to sponsor select new engagements (e.g., Lenten Film Series) to raise awareness with parishioners about key animal welfare and environmental sustainability issues.

Finances

St. Francis Flock continues to demonstrate fiscal responsibility and financially benefits the church. Although the Flock was granted a \$1,000 budget, we only spent \$544 (\$456 unspent), as several members self-funded food, supplies, t-shirts, and Facebook promotions for key events. In addition, the Flock (1) received donations totaling \$178 which were given to the church's general fund, and (2) served as an attractant for bringing new members to the church who share in the Flock's mission/vision of formal recognition and support of animal welfare as a Christian value (stewardship of creation). The Flock has been granted a budget of \$1,000 for 2018.

Leadership

Flock leaders for 2017 included: Lori Nicely - Chair & Recorder, Carolyn Cole- Pastoral Care and Hospitality/Fellowship, Meghan Matulka- Education & Communications and Vestry Liaison, Debbie Thompson – Community Outreach, Cindy Simpson- Church Staff Liaison.

Flock leaders for 2018 include: Lori Nicely – Chair & Recorder, Carolyn Cole – Pastoral Care and Hospitality/Fellowship, Meghan Matulka – Education & Communications and Vestry Liaison, Debbie Thompson – Community Outreach, and Cindy Simpson – Church Staff Liaison.

Members include: Nina Craig, Ruth Hanessian, Laura Keenan, Louise Keenan, Laurel Pepper, Rachael Pepper, Leslie Porter, Reenie Prettyman, and Rhea Wilson.

Doing Small Things with Great Love

Every little act, every mention of animal compassion, every presentation and shared humane meal, every pet blessing and food drive, every conversation and kind word - it all matters!

Please join us! St. Francis Flock meets the second Sunday of every month at 12:30p in the Parish House.

Contact us at stfrancisflock@cecrockville.org or <https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisFlock/>



St. Francis Flock Animal Welfare Ministry

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Committee, in partnership with clergy, staff and other CEC committees, provides strategic guidance and implementation of church communications activities. These include the church website and Facebook site, *The Angelus* newsletter, informational brochures, advertising, signage, and other initiatives to improve information sharing and engagement with CEC. If you have an interest in these activities, we welcome you to get involved! Please contact Jeremy Snider at webmaster@cecrockville.org or 301-661-0600 for more information.

Ministry Information – As we begin the search for a new Rector, it is more important than ever that we present accurate information about our diverse array of ministries, including up-to-date descriptions, photos and contact details. This information is published in several places:

- the Ministries section of the church website (descriptions, photos and contact info) and the website calendar (ministry events)
- individual ministry brochures available in the Oratory (near the Nursery)
- the CEC Facebook page (ongoing updates and photos of ministry activities)

Please contact webmaster@cecrockville.org or facebook@cecrockville.org if you have updates about your ministry, including any recent photos or new contact information. We can also provide ministry leaders access to their ministry’s Google Calendar.

Ministry Partnership – We continue to work with other ministries, most recently the Welcoming Committee, to identify ways we can assist with communications-related activities. If your ministry would benefit from such assistance, please let us know!

2017 Updates

Ministries Fair – Last September, the committee again sponsored the annual Ministries Fair, featuring representatives from numerous church groups and Christ Episcopal School. Many thanks to all who participated and to Christie Carrico for organizing this event.

Christ Church Website (www.christchurchrockville.org) – The website is the first exposure many visitors have to Christ Church, and it serves as a convenient resource for parishioners. In 2017, about 7,800 people visited the church website – 85% of them for the first time. Additionally, the church’s Google Business listing generates numerous website visits, requests for driving directions (via Google Maps), and phone calls. New sections of the site include:

- **Rector Search** – Updates about the search process for a new Rector will continue to be posted at www.christchurchrockville.org/rector-search
- **Capital Campaign** – Information about our capital campaign, Firm Foundation, Bright Future, is available at www.christchurchrockville.org/capital-campaign

Facebook (“Like” Christ Church at www.facebook.com/christchurchrockville) – Christ Church’s Facebook page is a great way to keep up with the many activities going on at CEC and to become part of our online community. Over 350 individuals have already “liked” our page. If you have an announcement to be posted, please email facebook@cecrockville.org.

Special thanks to Fr. McDuffie, Rev. Simpson, Michele Craig and Judith Schneider, as well as Christie Carrico, Laurie Hofmann, Kathy Moch, George Opryszko, Tim Smeltzer and Tom Rhoads for their commitment to this vital communications ministry.

~ Jeremy Snider, Chair

Welcome Committee

There are three aspects of the ministry of Welcome Committee which complement each other in some ways. The committee schedules greeters on a rotation basis to physically welcome first time visitors to Christ Episcopal Church and to direct such individuals to sign the guestbook, giving their names and contacts. The recently retired Fr. John McDuffie and Rev. Simpson have a weekly routine of reaching out to these visitors through letters, phone calls and/or emails.

Every six months, one in winter and the other in summer, newcomers are invited to attend a welcome reception, during which time each is given an opportunity to introduce him/her self, briefly stating names, interests and hobbies. The host of the ceremony usually asks parishioners who share matching interests and hobbies as the newcomers to get introduced in order to establish meaningful connections on a personal level. The reception also serves as a forum for introducing the representatives of various committees at CEC, each of which extends an open invitation for the newcomers to join any committee of their choosing. Statistics have shown that those who get involved in activities by joining a committee usually achieve fulfilling Christian life than those who don't.

The Welcome Committee meets once a month to discuss organizational issues or simply to evaluate the effectiveness of a recent reception event. During such monthly meetings, the committee pens a handwritten “thank you” card to each newcomer with the pictures taken at the time of reception enclosed. There are about 15 committee members who support the welcome ministries in various capacities that range from greeting following the conclusion of Sunday worship to hosting the reception events, and writing the editorial article featured in the Monthly Angelus. Ministries Fair is an annual event which offers all committees at CEC, including the welcome, the opportunity to showcase their mission statements and to invite parishioners to enlist in a committee that interests them. The Welcome Committee is delighted to welcome Adebayo Laniiyou, Vestry Liaison, and Laura Spears who recently joined the group.

Welcome Committee also takes on issues that benefit CEC community as a whole. Recently, a signage proposal sponsored by the Welcome Committee, was reviewed in a joint session of the Communications and Welcome Committees, and is intended to supplement the existing signage in guiding newcomers to various event locations within the building with ease. A joint effort between the two committees is also looking into strategies of disseminating information, through the website and published brochures, in order to boost membership.

-- Ken Ekechukwu

<u>Welcome Committee</u>		
Rev. Cynthia Simpson, Chair	Kate Yeatman, Angelus Editor	Hans Ackerman
Kerry Cross	Adebayo Laniiyonu, Vestry Rep.	Laura Spears
Ellen Youstra	Honoré Kaseya	Mark Alexander
Alan Tolerton	Jack Gregory	Dotty Reitwiesner
Peggy Gilliam	Kit Flynn	Ken Ekechukwu

THE BARGAIN BOX



Fr. John McDuffie and Rev. Cindy Simpson blessed The Bargain Box at a 60th anniversary celebration in November 2017. See photos in the January Angelus.

FAQ

- WHO is in charge? Donna Wolohojian (Manager), Christie Carrico, Kerry Cross (Consignment Manager), Heidi McWorkman, Kathy Moch (Treasurer), Bobbie Power, Linda Rhoads, Jessica Wolohojian
- WHO are the Volunteers? About 45 volunteers at the moment. Will YOU be our 46th?
- WHAT do Volunteers do? Sort, clean & price donations, staff the front desk, intake consignments, deliver recyclables
- WHAT do you sell? New & gently used furniture, clothing, jewelry, household items, purses, shoes, books & toys. Items that we do not take are listed on our website, or you may call the store to double check.
- WHEN are you open? 52 weeks a year, 6 days a week, 6 1/2 hours a day, 39 hours a week, Mon - Sat., 10 - 4:30
- WHEN are you closed? Sundays, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, a few days at Holy Week, Christmas & New Year's
- WHERE is the BBox? 398 Hungerford Drive (Route 355) near Town Center bargainbox@cecrockville.org
301-762-2242 www.facebook.com/BargainBoxRockville www.Bargain-Box.org
- WHY is the BBox a Mission of CEC? In 1957 The Bargain Box was commissioned as an all volunteer outreach ministry of Christ Church. In 2005, the Vestry approved The Bargain Box Committee's mission to use its profits to support outreach programs in Rockville and Montgomery County that feed, clothe or house residents in need along with similar activities of CEC, Youth Group, Sunday School, CES, and EDOW/ERD.
- HOW much funding does the BBox receive from the CEC budget? None



2017 INCOME (\$112,587)

- Sales: Donated items (\$75,483), Consignments (\$26,115), Furniture (\$3,836), Jewelry & Art Auctions (\$4,899), Serving Others Sunday Sales & Raffles (\$1,793)
- Monetary Gifts (\$350)
- Interest (\$111)

GIFTS IN KIND RECEIVED Cleaning supplies, Postage, Computer paper & ink, Furniture, Volunteer appreciation events

2017 EXPENSES (\$83,709)

- RENT: Including Property Taxes, Water, Sewer (\$58,945) *(\$4,912 per month!)*
- UTILITIES: Electric (\$4,198), Gas (\$1,069), HVAC Maintenance Contract (\$900), Telephone (\$575)
- BUSINESS: Bank Fees (\$44), Brochures (\$142), Supplies/Postage (\$1,139), Website/Email (\$204), License (\$50)
- CONSIGNMENTS: Consignor payments (\$9,247)
- STORE MAINTENANCE: Custodians (\$3,580), Trash/Recycling (\$2,225)
- VOLUNTEER PERKS & EVENTS: (\$1,391) (including Bethesda Big Train Night)

2017 OUTREACH DONATIONS: (\$37,035) Recipients are listed on page 2 of this report.

Free Clothing Program Montgomery County residents may receive five items of free clothing every other month with a referral from local service agencies. We gave away clothing valued at \$2500.

Non-monetary Donations & Recycling

- | | |
|---|---|
| Animal Shelters (linens, stuffed toys) | Frederick Rescue Mission (clothing, shoes, linens) |
| CC Altar Guild (vases, supplies) | Habitat for Humanity (electrical & building supplies) |
| CC Fellowship (kitchen items, linens, decorations) | Interfaith Clothing Center (clothes & toys) |
| CC Newcomer's (decorations) | Journeys for Women (infant items) |
| CC Sunday school, YG (supplies for projects & shelters) | Lions Club (eye glasses) |
| CES Chapel (costumes) | Rockville Senior Center (household items) |
| Dry Cleaners (wire hangers) | Shady Grove Transfer Station (books) |

2017 MONETARY DONATIONS \$37,035

CHRIST CHURCH OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- ✚ Rector's Discretionary Fund \$1500 (CEC families in need)
- ✚ Assistant Rector's Discretionary Fund \$1700 (CEC families in need)
- ✚ Sunday School Children Serving Others Sunday (SOS) Activities \$1000
- ✚ Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) (November 18) \$500
- ✚ Youth Group Shelter BBQ (5th Sundays, for 70 women & staff)
April 30 \$550 July 30 \$550 October 29 \$550
- ✚ Youth Group Shelter Week Meals 9/25-10/1 \$500
- ✚ Youth Group Summer Mission Trips (\$100 per attendee)
Appalachian Mission Trip \$300 DC Urban Week Trip \$1300
Heifer Farm & Boston Trip \$1200 Heifer Farm & NYC Trip \$1300

LOCAL FOOD BANKS & SHELTERS

- ✚ Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (*Chompers Pet Food Bank*) \$500
- ✚ Bethesda Cares \$500
- ✚ Bethesda HELP \$500
- ✚ Frederick Rescue Mission \$1500
- ✚ Gaithersburg HELP \$500 (food & financial assistance)
- ✚ Interfaith Works Women's Center \$550
- ✚ Interfaith Works Women's Center, Rose Room repairs \$500
- ✚ Interfaith Works *Make Your Mark Montgomery 5K* sponsorship \$500
- ✚ Manna Food Center *Goldberg Smart Sack Program* \$2000
- ✚ MCPAW (Montgomery County Partners for Animal Well-Being) \$500
- ✚ Rainbow Place Women's Shelter \$1000 (open November through March)
- ✚ Rockville HELP \$1500 (food & financial assistance)
- ✚ City of Rockville Holiday Fund Drive \$500

LOCAL SUPPORT SERVICES for Children & Families

- ✚ Comfort Cases \$1000 (suitcases & supplies for children in foster care)
- ✚ Community Ministries of Rockville *Elderly Ministries Program* \$1500
Kaseman Health Clinic \$1500 *REAP Rockville Emergency Assistance Program* \$1500
- ✚ Dayspring Church Interfaith Neighbors Ministry \$200
- ✚ Family Services, Inc. Betty Ann Krahnke Center \$1000
- ✚ Interfaith Works *Friends In Action Program & holiday food drive* \$1500
- ✚ Salvation Army (hurricane relief & holiday food drive) \$1000
- ✚ Shady Grove Pregnancy Center \$1000 (medical assistance & infant supplies)
- ✚ Stepping Stones Family Shelter and THRIVE35 Campaign \$1535
- ✚ A Wider Circle \$1000

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

- ✚ Bishop Walker School for Boys \$1000
- ✚ Diocesan Hunger Fund \$500
- ✚ Episcopal Relief & Development (US hurricane & fire relief) \$1000

MEMORIAL DONATIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS

- ❖ For Virginia Grier Montgomery Hospice \$100
- ❖ For Ella Weston-Dawkes Christ Church Columbarium Landscaping \$100
- ❖ For Bargain Box's 60th Anniversary CEC All Saints Walkway Brick \$100

OUTREACH

Outreach Committee members include Mary Belknap, Kathy Bisselle, Shona Bramble, Emily Correll, and Ralph Veale. Ben Shuman is the chair. Katherine Schexneider is the liaison to the Vestry.

In 2017 the Outreach Committee continued its ongoing efforts to guide CEC in serving those most in need of our assistance. We continue to encourage wider volunteer involvement with Outreach activities among parishioners. Regular updates on Outreach programs and activities are provided in the “Inside Outreach” column of the *Angelus*. Unfortunately we have lost several members over time and are seeking additional volunteers. Specific ministries supported by CEC through the Outreach program are listed below in alphabetical order.

BISHOP WALKER SCHOOL: The Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys is an Episcopal School for children of low-income families. The school nurtures the spiritual, intellectual, social, physical, and artistic development of our students in a Christian community of learners that welcomes boys of all faith traditions. Working in close partnership with students and their families, Bishop Walker School strives to create an environment where every boy receives the structured support required to fully develop his unique gifts. BWS seeks to foster the love of learning, intellectual curiosity, spiritual foundation, and moral character each boy will need to achieve his fullest potential as a student, as a citizen, and as a child of God.

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES OF ROCKVILLE: CEC continues its long tradition as an active and principal supporter of the work of CMR. CMR offers financial and hands-on support for direct service programs, which include the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic, offering primary medical care, referrals to specialists, and health education to uninsured adults; Jefferson House, providing supportive housing to homeless men; Rockland House, providing permanent housing with supportive services to women coping with homelessness; the Language Outreach Program, offering English language and citizenship classes; the Elderly Ministries Program, providing a range of home support services that prevent premature institutionalization of low and moderate income individuals as they age; and the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP), offering emergency financial assistance for medication, rent or mortgage, utilities, and other essential needs.

DIOCESAN HUNGER FUND: CEC provides financial support to the Diocesan Hunger Fund, a mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. This is a feeding ministry giving grants to local soup kitchens and food pantries in the District of Columbia and the four adjoining Maryland counties. The grants help programs that provide relief to those facing hunger and malnutrition. These grants frequently make the difference for essential programs facing shortfalls.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB: English Conversation Club is a weekly discussion group for nonnative speakers who wish to improve their English skills. CEC provides financial support for program materials and activities. The free classes meet on Monday evenings in the dining room and welcome students from all over the world. Mary Belknap and Emily Correll provide coordination for this program with help from Judy Nierman.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT: Episcopal Relief & Development is a response of the Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world. Hearing God's call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being together with the generosity of Episcopalians and others with the needs of the world. Episcopal Relief and Development administers funds received from the Church and raised from other sources for emergency needs here in the U.S. and around the world. CEC provided financial support to this organization as part of disaster response following the deadly hurricane season in 2017.

LOAVES AND FISHES: CEC provides financial support for the Loaves and Fishes feeding program at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Church in Washington, D.C. In addition, volunteers from CEC carpool downtown on the third Sunday morning of each month and on Labor Day to help prepare and serve a wholesome midday meal to approximately 250 persons who are homeless or living on a very low income. Emily Correll is the CEC volunteer coordinator for Loaves and Fishes.

MANNA FOOD CENTER: Manna Food Center is the primary food bank for Montgomery County. Individuals and families from our area in need of food assistance are routinely referred to Manna for aid by schools and social service and religious agencies. Collection carts for non-perishable food are located in the back of the church and in the dining room. Parish support for the collections has been robust. Michele Craig is the point of contact for the Manna Food Center collection carts.

SAMARITAN MINISTRY OF GREATER WASHINGTON: Through its Outreach budget, CEC provides financial support to Samaritan Ministry, a consortium of over forty Episcopal and other parishes in the greater Washington area that offer material assistance, counseling, and limited job training to persons reclaiming their lives after suffering homelessness, joblessness, or devastating illness. The intensive, personalized help provided by Samaritan Ministry is often unavailable through public social service agencies.

INTERFAITH WORKS WOMEN'S SHELTER: On the last Sunday of every month that has five Sundays, CEC provides a fresh, healthy dinner for residents of the Interfaith Works Women's Shelter. This is a transitional shelter for women who have faced homelessness, mental health, or substance abuse challenges. The team prepares the complete dinner, including main courses, side dishes, and desserts. In 2017 CEC volunteers from all age groups joined together by shopping, cooking, serving, or making monetary donations to create meals for residents to enjoy. Michele Craig is the CEC coordinator for Interfaith Women's Shelter meals.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER: Rise Against Hunger (formerly known as Stop Hunger Now) is a 4-star Charity Navigator rated relief organization dedicated to ending hunger in our lifetime. They do this by organizing meal packing events whose meals are distributed by partner organizations in developing nations primarily to children in educational settings. CEC has held packing events since 2009 with meals distributed to such regions as Haiti, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Korea. The event is always supported by significant set-up and preparation aid from the CEC youth group and attended by families from Christ Episcopal School. About 65 people participated in the November 2017 event which resulted in 15,000 meals being sent to those in need on the island of Madagascar in Africa. David Craig was the 2017 coordinator.

<p>The Outreach Committee welcomes you to its next meeting. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the Parish House from 7:30 – 8:30 P.M.</p>

-- Ben Shuman, Chair

PROPERTY REPORT

The Property Committee consisting of Wayne Cross (Junior Warden) and Geof Fuller (Vestry) had a busy year. Maintaining a historic property such as Christ Church can be a challenge and consists of many planned and unplanned maintenance actions.

Among some of the planned maintenance actions were:

- Maintenance and repairs to the rose and transept windows and mill work - \$22,300.00
- Replacement of the Jefferson Building Windows - \$56,220.00. The church expects to be reimbursed by the school once the Jefferson Building is sold.
- Lightning suppression system for the bell tower - \$6,100
- Upgrade of the church sound system and microphones to meet FCC requirements - \$4,019.00
- Repair of iron rail of exterior ramp to dining room - \$500.00

There was also a considerable number of unanticipated property expenses. A sampling of these includes:

- Boiler rebuilt in main church boiler room in addition to other miscellaneous repairs to the boiler and HVAC systems over the course of the year - \$5,000.00
- Repairs to and re-plastering of areas of the interior wall of the worship area due to water damage - \$840.00
- Cleaning the parish house boiler - \$372.00
- Wind storm on 3/2/18 - Roof damage to the Jefferson Building, church, parish house and CES preschool buildings, damage to the Hillstrom House and loss of 8 pine trees due to sustained high winds; subsequent repairs, cleanup and removal of the trees – this is still being worked but most costs will be covered by insurance.
- Repair of waste lines in both bathrooms in dining room area, repair of steam lines and rebuilding of all toilets - \$1,922.00
- Raccoon family removal from Hillstrom House chimney - \$550.00
- Toilet replacement and repairs in the parish house - \$ 1,740.00

Potential future issues:

Repairs to the floor in the nave of the church
Drainage of spaces outside the foundation walls near the Murdock Room
Repairs to the Jefferson Building eaves
Bell tower humidity
Water damage to parish house ceiling resulting from toilet leakage

*Wayne Cross, Jr. Warden / Property Chair
Geof Fuller, Vestry*

2007-2018 PLEDGE ANALYSIS

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Pledge units	210	245	245	234	242	226	229	222	224	219	226	206
Total amount pledged:	\$682,147	\$769,214	\$780,890	\$718,664	\$689,500 (see End Note)	\$624,405	\$597,795	\$576,819	\$589,869	\$532,845	\$502,116	\$461,257
\$15,000+	5	7	8	6	6	4	4	4	4	4	0	0
\$7,500 - \$14,999	13	13	13	15	11	13	9	6	10	6	10	11
\$5,000 - \$7,499	17	21	23	17	23	16	19	25	19	16	13	15
\$2,500 - \$4,999	51	54	54	49	46	43	41	36	38	40	42	32
\$2,000 - \$2,499	26	24	20	22	23	25	27	21	20	18	23	18
\$1,500 - \$1,999	16	17	18	16	24	20	19	27	32	29	24	31
\$1,000 - \$1,499	31	42	45	52	43	47	39	42	39	41	50	40
\$750 - \$999	13	20	14	10	9	14	14	17	19	13	17	12
\$500 - \$749	21	26	29	25	32	27	29	21	19	30	26	27
\$250 - \$499	11	16	14	15	15	11	16	17	18	14	18	17
\$100 - \$249	5	4	5	5	8	6	10	6	6	8	3	2
\$1 - \$99	1	1	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
No pledge received*	41	27	17	24	18	18	21	30	32	32	21	31

*This number does not include several 2017 pledgers who are now deceased, are known to have left or who have notified us of their intent not to pledge. 9 new pledges are included in 2018 (30 in 2017, 31 in 2016, 26 in 2015, 36 in 2014, 22 in 2013, 33 in 2012, 28 in 2011)
 91 (45%) of 2017 pledgers who pledged again in 2018 increased their pledge. (46 in 2017, 48% in 2016, 59% in 2015, 56% in 2014, 53% in 2013, 47% in 2012, 44% in 2011)
 79 (39%) held their pledges at the 2017 level (39% in 2017, 43% in 2016, 31% in 2015, 28% in 2014, 37% in 2013, 40% in 2012, 43% in 2011)
 31 (15%) reduced their pledges (15% in 2017, 10% in 2016, 11% in 2015, 16% in 2014, 10% in 2013, 13% in 2012 and 2011)
 Average new pledge: \$1,655 (\$1,602 in 2017, \$2,159 in 2016, \$1,609 in 2015, \$1,225 in 2014, \$1,268 in 2013, \$861 in 2012, \$1,179 in 2011)
 Average renewed pledge: \$3,320 (\$3,354 in 2017, \$3,336 in 2016, \$3,254 in 2015, \$3,318 in 2014, \$2,916 in 2013, \$2,901 in 2012, \$2,798 in 2011)
 The top 10 donors (5%) pledged \$192,140 (28% of total)
 The top 20 donors (10%) pledged \$270,820 (40% of total)
 Largest 2018 category: 51 pledge units pledged between \$2,500 and \$4,999
 Second largest 2018 category (excluding group of 41 that did not renew): 31 pledge units pledged between \$1,000 and \$1,499
 Average pledge of those who pledged: \$3,248 (\$3,140 in 2017, \$3,187 in 2016, \$3,071 in 2015, \$3,007 in 2014, \$2,763 in 2013, \$2,607 in 2012, \$2,594 in 2011)
 Average pledge excluding pledges of \$5,000 or above: \$1,854 (\$1,705 in 2017, \$1,693 in 2016, \$1,703 in 2015, \$1,634 in 2014, \$1,668 in 2013, \$1,565 in 2012, \$1,561 in 2011)
 Median (half above, half below) pledge: \$2,000 (\$1,800 in 2017 & 2016, \$1,560 in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011)
 Average pledge (top 50% of dollars pledged): \$10,705 (32 donors-15%)
 Average pledge (lower 50% of dollars pledged): \$1,908 (178 donors-85%)

End Note: In 2014, a special appeal to assist with deficits from two prior years resulted in temporary pledge increases. The total amount pledged for both regular operations and the special appeal was \$727,677.

2017 FINANCIAL REPORT and 2018 BUDGET

2017 Financial Highlights

- Christ Church posted net operating income of \$7,883 in 2017, aided by a large memorial gift (\$50,000) and strong investment income.
- Pledge income totaled \$715,800 compared to \$773,400 reported in 2016. In 2017, we converted from 'cash basis' to 'accrual basis' accounting. As a result, we deferred (i.e., excluded from 2017 income) pledge gifts of \$56,800 received in 2017 that our members had designated as prepayments of their 2018 pledges. If we had applied this accounting change to prior years, pledge income would have increased 1% in 2017.
- We received memorial gifts of \$53,500 during the year, compared to \$34,200 of such gifts in 2016.
- Investment income grew 84% to \$37,400 in 2017, as a strong stock market boosted returns for both our investment account and a charitable trust portfolio from which we receive income distributions.
- Operating expenses fell by \$23,500 (2%) to \$1,352,900 in 2017. A planned reduction in our financial support for the Diocese of Washington, phase-out of the choral leaders program (i.e., paid singers), and lower maintenance and utility costs all contributed to the spending decline.
- We ended the year with a cash balance of \$201,200. This amount included Capital Campaign gifts of \$58,900 received in December and forwarded to Christ Episcopal School (CES) in January, the pledge prepayments of \$56,800 (to be recognized as income in 2018), and \$14,800 drawn from the Endowment Fund but not yet spent for the intended purposes. Accounts payable at year-end totaled \$21,800.
- The Endowment Fund generated investment income of \$394,900 in 2017, and ended the year with a balance of \$2,680,600. During the year we drew \$103,100 from the Fund to cover renovation costs for the Jefferson Building in preparation for sale, repairs to the transept and rose windows, the addition of a lightning rod on the Bell Tower, and a CES scholarship. At year-end, Fund assets of \$116,800 were available for clergy transition costs and future spending requests approved by Vestry.

2018 Budget Notes

- Our Stewardship Committee was given a goal of \$785,000 for pledge income in 2018, but we fell well short of this mark. The budget for pledge income was set at \$700,000.
- A major portion of the pledge income shortfall will be offset by anticipated savings resulting from the rector position becoming vacant for part of the year. Additional adjustments made to balance the budget included the deferral of planned spending increases for Diocese support, the *Serving Others Sunday* program, Youth Group workcamps, and evangelism; we also eliminated the choral leader position we had hoped to fund. Proposed staff pay raises of 2.5% were retained in the final budget.

Our 2017 financial statements currently are being audited by an independent CPA. The Treasurer and other members of Vestry would be happy to respond to any financial questions or requests for additional information. We greatly appreciate your ongoing financial support of Christ Church and its ministries.

Steve McNeil, Treasurer

2018 BUDGET SUMMARY AND 2016 – 2017 OPERATING ACTIVITY

	2018	2017		2016
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL
RECEIPTS				
PLEDGES	700,000	715,780	775,900	773,382
LOOSE PLATE & OTHER GIVING	100,100	157,572	97,800	135,721
YOUTH MINISTRY	20,000	20,799	20,000	23,002
RENT & FACILITIES USE	22,300	23,600	12,100	22,300
COLUMBARIUM	6,000	3,050	12,000	7,150
CES – RENT	271,000	269,244	270,700	267,544
CES – SHARED EXPENSES	133,000	133,296	138,800	131,996
INVESTMENT INCOME	19,600	37,434	15,600	20,290
Total Receipts	1,272,000	1,360,775	1,342,000	1,381,385
OUTLAYS				
DIOCESE SUPPORT	59,400	59,400	59,400	67,600
CLERGY SALARIES & BENEFITS	211,800	270,131	267,100	259,476
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	152,300	145,185	152,900	145,336
YOUTH MINISTRY	151,000	149,793	149,100	153,932
MUSIC MINISTRY	95,000	112,082	106,100	116,197
OUTREACH MINISTRY	38,200	52,323	38,200	51,538
ALTAR / WORSHIP / FELLOWSHIP	29,200	21,242	32,100	27,748
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	135,300	139,417	133,300	151,472
UTILITIES	68,400	74,416	73,200	76,722
INSURANCE/EMPLOYMENT TAXES	60,400	57,711	59,900	55,573
MORTGAGE DEBT SERVICE (P&I)	271,000	271,192	270,700	270,842
Total Operating Expenses	1,272,000	1,352,892	1,342,000	1,376,436
NET OPERATING INCOME	---	7,883	---	4,949
YEAR-END BALANCES				
CHECKING ACCOUNTS		201,213		51,108
INVESTMENT ACCOUNT		161,583		142,098
ENDOWMENT FUND		2,680,644		2,388,811
Total Cash and Investments		3,043,440		2,582,017
Mortgage note payable (4.9%, due 2035)		3,224,604		3,331,895

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund of Christ Church (the Fund) continues as a component of the Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington D.C. As noted previously, the DIF invests in Vanguard equity index funds (60 - 70%) and Vanguard fixed Income index funds (30-40%). The Christ Church Endowment Fund Board (the Board) believes that the DIF continues to be a solid choice for the Fund, as the DIF meets (our) investment goals of total return with prudent risk parameters. And, for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17), this investment philosophy has been nicely rewarded.

For FY17 (October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017), the Ending Balance for the Fund was **\$2,574,149.18**. This recognizes a gain of **\$302,784.73** (or 13%) from the Ending Net Balance of the Fund in FY16 - **\$2,271,364.45**. The performance of the Fund in FY17 reflects a 16% gain in the Standard and Poor 500 index for FY17 and parallels an associated gain in the equity components (approximately 65%) of the DIF portfolio.

With the positive performance of the Fund in FY17, the Board was able to commit for disbursement **\$111,383.47** from the Fund to the Vestry. (*Per the by-laws, disbursement is based on taking either: 1) the lesser of the earnings for the current fiscal year [**\$302,784.73**] or 2) 5% of the average of the net year end balances of the Fund over the previous three years [$\$2,227,869.43 \times 0.05 = \mathbf{\$111,383.47}$]). The new “set point” for the Fund principal for FY18 is **\$2,227,869.43** and this principal is not invaded by the FY17 funds for disbursement.*

Prior net balances and disbursements over the past four years (current year, plus FY2016, FY2015, and FY2014) and the net balance for FY2013 are listed below

<u>FY</u>	<u>Sept 30</u> <u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Earnings for</u> <u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Net Balance</u>	<u>Annual Growth</u>
2017	\$2,574,149.18	\$111,383.47	\$2,462,765.71	13%

2016	\$2,381,693.17	\$110,328.72	\$2,271,364.14	9.3%
2015	\$2,179,339.14	-0-	\$2,179,339.14	(2.4%)
2014	\$2,370,929.65	\$ 138,625.00	\$2,232,304.65	7.8%
2013			\$2,180,411.00	

Annual Growth % = (Ending Balance Current Yr – Residual FY16 funds for disbursement - Net Balance Prior Yr)/Net Balance Prior Yr

The members of the Endowment Fund Board include: Emil (Buzz) Von Arx (chair), John Mattingly, Linda Rhoads, Christie Carrico, Steve McNeil and Father John McDuffie.

Respectively submitted,

Emil Von Arx III, M. D.
Chairman, Endowment Fund Board