

# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH KENSINGTON



*2017 Annual Report*

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*We are a community of seekers, doubters and believers, alive with joy!*

## OUR MISSION

We seek to grow in relationship with God and each other, finding and offering hope in the world through God's love.

We are called to:

- Create a Christian community that welcomes and nurtures seekers, doubters, and believers.
- Support each other in the spiritual journey to know and follow Jesus Christ.
- Be a faithful presence in the world by example and service to others.

We hold fast to the hope of a world made whole by the experience of God's love and invite all to share the quest through worship, ministry, fellowship, and learning.



## 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

Report of Quorum	Peter Bartram, Clerk of the Vestry
Opening Prayer	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Approval of Agenda	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Approval of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes	Sharon Bartram, Jr. Warden
Sr. Warden's Report	Doug Smith, Sr. Warden
Spring Endowment Ministry Grants	Ted Seale, Endowment Committee
Rector's Remarks	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Recognition of Staff	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Report of Nominating Committee & Introduction of Candidates for Vestry and Diocesan Delegate	Sharon Bartram, Jr. Warden
Nominations from the Floor	Sharon Bartram, Jr. Warden
Vote	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members	Doug Smith, Sr. Warden
Commissioning of New Vestry and Oath of Office	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Scheduling of 2019 Annual Meeting: February 27, 2019	Peter Bartram
Grace for the Annual Meeting Luncheon	The Rev. Emily Guthrie
Hymn 376 <i>Joyful joyful we adore thee</i>	All
Dismissal to the All Parish Luncheon	

### Luncheon in Undercroft

*Many thanks to Tony Coe for serving as our Parliamentarian today.  
Vestry members will meet briefly in the library following the dismissal.*

# Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting

26 FEBRUARY 2017

The 2017 Christ Church Parish Kensington Annual Meeting was called to order at 11:22 a.m. by Rector Emily Guthrie.

Clerk Peter Bartram, announced that there was a quorum: 80 were needed, 95 registered.

The 2016 Parish Annual Report was distributed.

The opening prayer was led by the Rector.

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were approved with no changes by voice vote.

Senior Warden's Report:

Christ Church is fertile soil - come into the garden and flourish. Plant your seeds, grow God's kingdom; grow something that makes a difference.

Rector's Report:

We all want to belong, to be part of things, like the children bringing the elements during the service. Undertake the task of being Church. Practice speaking truth and love, and listen to others speaking of their truth and love. Church is a school for love. We are one team. Hold firm to our commitment to love one another and to be honest with one another. Share who you are - be yourselves even when disagree. Practice being on the same team.

It takes a lot to keep this place going. Thank you to the wardens, Doug Smith and Sharon Bartram; to Treasurer and master of spreadsheets Bonnie Douglas, to Clerk Peter Bartram, to Nora Buckley and Mickey Sayles and others who continually devote so much of themselves here, to office volunteers, to the Vestry, and to the Verger. Special thanks to the staff: Kurt, Madison, Ann, Teddy, Lenord, Angeles. Kurt is in his tenth year; Lenord his 28th.

Recognition:

Ted Seale recognized as a group members of the Legacy Society who have remembered Christ Church in their wills or estate planning and registered with the Parish Office. More member are always welcome; contact Ted or the office for assistance if needed in finding someone to help with estate planning.

Nominating Committee Report:

Frank Shaw thanked members of the nominating committee and introduced candidates for diocesan convention delegate and vestry:

Ray Berry - Diocesan Convention Delegate, 2 year term

Kathy McKay - Diocesan Convention Delegate, 1 year term

Bill Bruce - Diocesan Convention Alternate Delegate, 2 year term

Ken Amaditz - Vestry, Communications

Virginia Blackman - Vestry, Worship (currently completing part term, eligible for full term)

Yvonne Bryan - Vestry, Pastoral Care / Inreach

Barbara Ferry - Vestry, Outreach

Additional nominations from the floor were invited. There were none. The slate was elected by voice vote (with no dissenting votes).

The investiture of convention delegates and vestry members was completed, and thanks given to those going off the vestry: Margaret Buckley, Betsy Robbins, and Kay Bondehagen.

The date for the 2018 Annual Meeting is Sunday, 25 February.

The meeting closed with a hymn, prayer, and grace for the luncheon to follow. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Submitted 4 March 2017

Peter Bartram, Clerk

# Report of the Rector

Dear Beloved Community:

This year has flown by. Perhaps they all do? On the pages of this report, you will find snapshots of what we've been up to this year. Rather than re-list all those whose names grace these pages, I want you to know that I celebrate and give thanks *for each and every person* named within as well as those whose contributions are known only to God. I am so grateful for the generosity of this parish in the myriad ways you contribute to the life of the Christ Church community.

So too, I give thanks for the staff who undergird the work of the parish. Ann, Madi, Teddy, you are extraordinary leaders and teachers. Lenord, you keep our facility beautiful and ready for our gatherings. Kurt, you keep us all running, organized and to the extent that anyone can, on mission, often leading by example. We are all indebted to your administration and care. As Ann Enkiri noted, we said farewell to our previous nursery caregiver Angeles Lara in 2017, and welcomed Mary Mutisya, who came our way through our links with the Kenyan-American community! I hope you have the joy of getting to know Mary, a child whisperer and woman of great grace.

This year we mourn the loss of loved ones: Kay Bondehagen, Mary Grady, Charles Jackson, David Robbins, Jenny Lester, Bill Bruce and most recently, Gerry McKiernan. We also said goodbye to those who moved away: Diane and Larry Jung, Karen and Max Fowle, Jean Keleher, Brett Holmgren, Gary and Cynthia Lett, among them. We are blessed by nine new households who pledged commitment to the church. We also have multiple newcomers who aren't quite members, or are they? Membership is hard to track! How do you know you're a member? How do you get involved? How do others get to know these tremendous new folks? In order to address that, the vestry commissioned a *Membership Task Force* this fall. They are specifically charged with designing a welcoming newcomer integration process to assist visitors and newcomers become 'official' members of Christ Church. Part of that will be clarifying the meaning/requirements of membership at Christ Church. A big thanks to the members of the Task Force: Lance Kilpatrick, Cynthia Mitchell, Bob Quinn, Mary Hanlon and Eva-Marie Nye. They are doing awesome work, and will report to the vestry and the congregation this Spring.

Speaking of the vestry, thank you to the 2017 vestry for your leadership and wisdom this past year. We're making progress on a number of fronts, many of which are demonstrated in this report! Particular thanks go to Sr Warden Doug Smith and outgoing Jr Warden Sharon Bartram. For the past two years Sharon has been an incredible leader, wise, organized and ever willing to jump in to fill a gap.

In 2018, I will focus on deepening my skills as a leader so that I am better able to facilitate our growth as a community. I will attend Credo this May (the national church's investment in the personal and professional growth of clergy), partner with a coach, and avail myself of other training opportunities. In May, I will have been with you all at Christ Church for three years. Reasonably aware of how things work, it is time to dive into the exciting work of creating our next chapter together.

With the help of the vestry, and the entire congregation, we will begin an intentional process of reflection, visioning, and discernment so that we can articulate who we are as a church and who we want to become in the coming years. Having a clear identity and mission is essential! While there is continuity, as we evolve over time, our identity needs to evolve over time. How will we express God's dream for us and for the world?

We can take risks for love and trust new life in the future because we are committed to the journey of faith, to the practice of gathering in worship in communion with one another, to prayer, to study, to caring for the ill and those in pain, to listening, to serving, to hospitality (eating is high on Jesus' list of favorite activities, especially with not terribly churchy people) and to celebration. We do this to both tend to, and stretch our hearts, bodies, souls, and minds. We do this to strengthen *us* to be God's people *in the world*.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. said some fifty years ago: "church is not a place you go to, but a place you go *from*." We strengthen one another so *that* we might live as Christ's own at home, in the neighborhood, at work, at school, wherever we are in the world. Let us go out from Christ Church to humbly serve and love our beautiful and broken world in Christ's name; and boldly work for the unfolding of a more just and generous world, for the sake of Love.

Blessings, love and gratitude,  
Emily+

## Report of the Wardens

2017 was a great year to be part of the Christ Church family. In 2017 new ministries were born and took root, and new families joined and participated in our parish community. Throughout the year we were inspired and challenged by Emily's thought-provoking sermons and uplifted by her joy-filled personality. In a year of turmoil and crisis in the world around us, we found solace and refuge in our faith and in our Christ Church community.

In 2017, new approaches and ministries were driven by the passion of our parishioners. One of the great ideas that rose from within the parish was our support for Nyumbani and the orphaned children of Kenya. While we supported new initiatives like Nyumbani, we continued sustaining our important outreach relationships with organizations like Bethesda Cares, feeding the homeless; Rebuilding Together, repairing homes for those in need; and Arcola Elementary School, supplying food, school supplies, clothing and Christmas presents for underprivileged children in our community.

Dr. Theodore M. Guerrant (Teddy), our widely celebrated Organist and Choir Master, expanded our music program, adding breadth, depth and scope. His organ recital in September was a great success, delighting us with the glory of music while introducing Christ Church to the wider community.

Our youth program continues to thrive. Shepherded by Madison (Madi) Chase, our young adults' spirituality is growing as they prepare to be Christ's body in the world. Among other things, our youth group cleaned up Sligo Creek for Earth Day, participated during the Lenten season in the Lord's Prayer challenge and had fun social events throughout the year. The high point of the year was their extremely successful mission trip to Rutland, Vermont.

Ann Enkiri, with help from parish volunteers, continued the tradition of excellence in our Sunday School program and held an incredibly successful Vacation Bible School attracting children from our wider community and sharing the joy of learning about Jesus with children from PreK4 through Grades 4/5. Programs like Prime Timers, the Bible Study group, and EfM continue to thrive at Christ Church. Both our Library and Children's Library grew and added new materials to enhance our education and understanding, or just add to our enjoyment. Our community gathered for coffee hours to get to know each other better and Adult Education forums to learn and participate. Social events saw wide intergenerational support. It was a darn good year.

Our Stewardship campaign saw an increase in the average pledge amount and the support of new pledging households. With other church resources, this helped establish a workable budget that will allow us to continue to work towards fulfilling our mission and strive to help create God's kingdom on earth.

Finally, we would like to express our sincerest thanks to all who have worked so hard to support our parish community and show God's love, especially the dedicated and talented members of the Vestry and the many ministry leaders. God bless you all.

Respectfully,

Doug Smith  
Senior Warden

Sharon Bartram  
Junior Warden

# Report of the Treasurer

In 2017 we passed a deficit budget, projecting a net operating deficit of \$14,739. While pledge income was above expectations, total income fell short of our projection. However, total expenses were much less than expected, enabling us to end 2017 slightly better than estimated, with a net operating deficit of \$9,399. A summary of the fiscal results from 2012 through 2017 is shown below:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Unrestricted Income	623,976	576,742	501,274	454,801	495,106.71	509,659
Restricted Income	37,112	28,466	23,092	40,079	40,679	32,807
Total operating Income	\$661,088	\$605,208	\$524,365	\$494,880	\$535,786	\$542,466
Personnel Expense	\$400,874	384,827	339,322	323,264	330,823.15	346,950
Property Expense	\$90,020	75,227	80,542	83,959	83,156	80,520
Ministry & Admin. Expense	150,808	141,484	115,805	111,100	130,734	124,396
Total Operating Expense	\$710,483	\$641,702	\$601,538	\$535,669	\$518,323	\$544,713
Net Operating income	\$19,386	\$3,670	(\$11,304)	(\$23,443)	(\$8,927)	(\$9,399)

## Analysis of Parish Income

For the second straight year, both our pledge income and our total operating income have improved over the previous year, indicating that we have successfully come out of the transition with a new rector.

## Parish Expenses

Expenses in 2017 were slightly higher than 2016, primarily due to increased personnel costs (including health insurance), but overall were less than budgeted. The net effect was that although we had budgeted a \$14,739 deficit, we ended 2017 with only a \$9,399 deficit.

## Our Cash Position

We ended 2017 with \$139,083 in our operational checking account. This is offset by \$10,101 in accounts payable and \$41,834 in undistributed Endowment grant funds. The balance of our reserve account within our Diocesan Funds account is \$63,325. The Capital Reserve's balance is \$39,865. The Operational Reserve's balance is \$167,372. This balance meets our guideline of having enough of a reserve to cover operating expenses for two to four months (at an estimated average of \$48,434 per month for 2017).

**Our Operational Budget for 2018**

		<u>Budget 2017</u>	<u>Actual 2017</u>	<u>Budget 2018</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Stewardship		\$ 390,450	\$ 405,256	\$ 410,000
Other unrestricted income		126,171	104,403	105,560
Restricted income		49,850	32,807	26,025
		\$ 566,471	\$ 542,466	\$ 541,585
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>				
Personnel		\$ 342,761	\$ 346,950	\$ 354,161
Real property		89,400	80,520	89,100
Ministry & other		149,049	124,396	134,799
		\$ 581,210	\$ 551,865	\$ 578,060
<b><u>Net Income</u></b>		\$ (14,739)	\$ (9,399)	\$ (36,475)

As shown above, this again is a deficit budget, with a very large projected deficit. While we are fortunate to have reserves that can cover some deficits, this is not sustainable. However, for 2017 the pledge income exceeded our projection, and this is the third year in a row when the amount pledged is greater than the previous year. We have tried to make conservative estimates for our 2018 income and ensure that our expense estimates are sufficient to cover probable costs. For the past three years, while we have had deficit budgets, the actual deficits have been less than projected. We hope that that will again be the case.

For the 2018 budget year, we again need to:

- Increase the number of pledges made.

Continue to carefully monitor both income and expenses to ensure that we meet the parish's goal of long term financial stability.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Douglas, Treasurer

# Report of the Budget and Finance Committee

**Committee Members:** Robin Atkinson (chair), Hill Carter, Kurt Ellison, Ted Seale, Bonnie Douglas, Doug Smith, and Bob Quinn. The committee met monthly in 2017 to review the parish's financial activity for the preceding month.

## Goals for 2017

The committee hoped to move closer to the goal of a balanced budget in 2017. However, we realized that achieving a balanced budget would be difficult given that the projected deficit was \$14.7k.

## Developments in 2017

- The parish again finished the fiscal year with a smaller budget deficit than had been projected: \$9.4k vs \$14.7k.
- In 2017 we did exceed our budgeted figure for pledge income. We collected \$405k as opposed to the budget goal of \$390.5k. This is a welcome reversal of our recent trend of collecting less pledge income than we had budgeted.
- However, we did experience an inexplicable drop in plate collection for the year, well under our budget goal. Based on historical data, the 2017 budget projected that we would collect \$86k; but in fact we only collected \$64K, a 25% shortfall.
- For the year we collected \$9k from Columbarium niche sales. This puts us \$18k away from repaying the original \$53k loan from our operational checking account that was used to finance the Columbarium addition.
- Committee members have spent recent months soliciting 2018 budget proposals from ministry leaders, negotiating spending reductions in certain areas, and integrating that data with the results of the stewardship campaign to build the 2018 budget.

## 2018 Budget

The projected budget deficit for 2018 is \$36k. This situation has been brought about by a series of cost increases without an increase in income. Rising personnel costs, an increase in our Diocesan contribution, expected cost increases for grounds maintenance, and overall increases in ministry costs have led to this larger than expected increase in the projected budget deficit for 2018.

Respectfully,

Robin Atkinson  
Chair, Budget and Finance Committee

# Report of the Endowment Committee

Committee members:

Chair (member of the Parish)

Chair-

Ted Seale

Three members by position:

Rector –

Emily Guthrie

Senior Warden-

Doug Smith

Treasurer-

Margaret Douglas

Three members of Vestry:

Robin Atkinson

Sharon Bartram

Frank Shaw

Three members of the Parish:

Suzanne Lawrence

Tim McLellan

Peter Turner

**Goals** for 2017 were:

- meet quarterly;
- continue good financial oversight of the invested funds;
- receive and review proposals for mission and ministry grants;
- award the approved grants;
- monitor progress of grants;
- review the investment statements of the fund;
- honor Legacy Fund members with recognition at Annual Meeting;
- prepare plans to invite new members to join the Legacy Society;
- evaluate 5-year performance of investment fund and select incumbent/new advisor
- update a brochure for planned giving and coordinate with Stewardship.

**Accomplishments** of 2017:

Our funds are invested in the Diocesan Investment Fund and at year end 2017, the market value of the Endowment Fund totaled \$661,626.47, an increase of \$74,707.44 or 12.73% over the amount at year end 2016 of \$586,919.03. Income to the Fund totaled \$15,478.17 with \$15,478.17 from investments and \$0.00 from contributions. Expenses totaled -\$1,151.62. Investment net gains totaled \$84,519.89. A transfer of \$24,139.00 was made from the Endowment Fund for the 2017 Mission and Ministry Grant Awards and administrative expenses. The transfer results in a net ending market value of \$661,626.47 for 2017.

The committee held two sessions for grant applications: one in March and one in September. The annual distribution of the Endowment Fund may be made only for the following purposes (Categories for Mission and Ministry Grants):

Capital needs of the Parish that are beyond the reasonable scope of the annual operating budget of the Parish;

Outreach ministries and grants of a scope and nature beyond the ordinary scope of the operating budget of the Parish; and,

Seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects.

The following awards were made:

Mission and Ministry Grant Awards 2017			
Project Name	Category	Grant Amount	Purpose
Music-Choir Robes	1	\$2,250.00	Replacement of older, worn out robes for choir members
Outreach-Financial Peace U	2	\$1,500.00	Program costs and scholarship money to offer two courses
CenMoCo – Youth Council	3	\$1,500.00	Share of CenMoCo diocesan youth leader
Property-Parking Lot Reseal	1	\$5,400.00	Capital project to reseal asphalt parking lot
Property-Rectory Gutters	1	\$2,000.00	Capital project to replace old gutters on rectory
Communications- Website update	3	\$6,050.00	Funds for update and upgrade of parish website
Administrative- Computers	1	\$2,050.00	Funds for replacement of parish computers
Inreach-Community Dinners	3	\$3,000.00	Funds to purchase food for monthly community dinners designed to welcome newcomers.

**Recommendations for 2018:**

- meet quarterly;
- continue good financial oversight of the invested funds;
- receive and review proposals for mission and ministry grants and make awards;
- honor Legacy Fund members at annual meeting February 25, 2018;
- update a brochure for planned giving and coordinate with Stewardship;
- prepare plans to invite new members to join Legacy Society;
- evaluate 5-year performance of investment fund and select incumbent/new advisor.

Submitted by: Ted Seale, chair

# Report of the Stewardship Committee

**Committee members:** Brad Christmas (Vestry Chair); Shannon Finn (Co-Chair); Jim Kennedy; Sharon Bartram; Doug Smith; Kurt Ellison.

**Goals** for 2017: What did the members hope to accomplish during the past year?

Continue the success achieved in 2016.

Continue and strengthen the “Alive with Joy” concept

Receive pledges totaling \$440,000

Celebrate the importance of giving and recognize the efficiency and excellence of Parish administration.

**Accomplishments** of 2017: Like last year, we ran a six-week campaign, and were able to raise \$428,144.80 in pledges (as of January 28, 2018). While this result was short of our \$440,000 goal, it is still an exceptional outcome and is expected to increase over the next two months. The average pledge amount of \$3,371 was the highest in recent memory.

Year	Total Pledges	Pledged \$	Average Pledge
2012	196	\$559,716.86	\$2,855.70
2013	198	\$530,088.86	\$2,677.22
2014	162	\$418,574.86	\$2,583.80
2015	141	\$377,789.00	\$2,679.35
2016	141	\$413,474.00	\$2,932.44
2017	135	\$430,860.44	\$3,191.56
2018	127	\$428,144.80	\$3,371.22

Throughout the stewardship campaign, we engaged members of the parish to provide spoken and written testimonials about Christ Church and its importance in their lives. At the conclusion of the campaign, we celebrated and thanked the parish with a Novemberfest champagne brunch on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Recommendations** for 2018: The stewardship campaign would benefit from additional members. Selection of a theme and preliminary planning should occur earlier in the summer.

Submitted by: Brad Christmas

# Report of the Parish Administrator

The mission of the office is to support and enable the ministry of Christ Church. In 2017 our team in the office included our Parish Administrator, Kurt Ellison; and Lenord Hawkins, our faithful sexton of 29 years.

Ministry in the office is particularly wide ranging and never dull. Anything can, and frequently does happen during a typical week at Christ Church. We handle problematic HVAC units, budget questions, pledge questions, newcomers, electrical emergencies, power outages, crashing computers, pledge statements, the weekly bulletins, baptism certificates, mass mailings, wedding parties, funerals, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, space usage, outside groups, recording contributions, snow emergencies, vestry meetings, pastoral emergencies, and parishioners' needs – just to name a few. While the minutia keeps me busy, the heart of administration is a sense of ministry, which is something I take seriously in the parish office.

Amid the myriad of routine tasks which take place “behind the scenes” I am particularly proud to have assisted with several church accomplishments in 2017:

**Supporting the Stewardship Campaign** — We have really turned a corner on our stewardship situation in 2017 - it was our joy to welcome 10 new pledging households into the Christ Church family!

**Managing the Christ Church Facilities** — Careful stewardship of our building has left us with no deferred maintenance. Our property and grounds team keeps on top of needed repairs in both the rectory and church facility. Lenord Hawkins, our faithful sexton helps keep the church in order as we welcome the many people who darken our doors during the week for Al-Anon meetings, AA meetings, Zumba, EFM, as well as Sunday worship.

**Supporting the Finance Committee** - Working with our finance team to effectively manage Christ Church's resources is a joy. Christ Church is blessed with a finance team focused on supporting the mission of Christ Church.

## **Thanks**

I would like to thank those who have volunteered in any capacity in the office during 2017. Without these folks, we just would not be able to do the voodoo that we do do:

Our office volunteers; Sharon Bartram, Sue Mitchell, and Nancy Gagne  
Our counters: Ted Seale, Bob Hoffman, Doug Smith, Joan Edler; and a very special “thank you” to retiring counter, Louise Gorman.

Serving you as your Parish Administrator these past eleven years has been a true privilege!

Kurt Ellison  
Parish Administrator

# Report of the Children's Christian Formation Ministry

**Committee members:** Nursery Care--Juana Angeles, Mary Mutisya; Chapel Co-Leaders-- Cynthia Winder, Barbara Ferry; Godly Play-- Andrea Dorff, Stephanie Feller, Aime Keith; Grades 1-3 Dwight Allen, Shannon Finn; Grades 4 & 5-- Liz Quinn, Kitty Shuler, John Ward; Vestry Representative-- Brian Woodward; Children's Minister—Ann Enkiri.

## Goals for 2017:

A primary goal was to prepare and conduct a survey of parents for feedback on current ministry programs and to subsequently meet with parents to brainstorm ways to improve current ministry programs. Another important goal was to recruit more adult volunteers to participate in preparing for and helping at Vacation Bible School.

## Accomplishments of 2017

Parent Survey and Meeting April/May 2017 Parents completed a short online survey on Children's Ministry Programs and then met with ministry members and Emily to discuss the survey results and brainstorm ideas. This was an important accomplishment that had been in development for a while. While the majority of programs earned strong approval ratings, we learned some valuable ways to improve and brainstormed ideas in a collaborative spirit. We are working to incorporate this feedback into improving our programs. To date, we have:

- Enriched Sunday School classes with a series of lessons on Baptism.
- Marked the Baptism lessons by having the children helping adults make a 'Light of Christ" banner during a coffee hour.
- Introduced the wearing of acolyte robes by Christmas Pageant readers as a milestone of their readiness to lector and acolyte.
- Practiced recitation of The Lord's Prayer at Chapel in preparation for the children leading the congregation in prayer at an upcoming date.

Children's Chapel Year-Round We have been consistently welcoming nine to fourteen children for a gathering activity and worship. With the support provided by two regular volunteers, Cynthia Winder and Barbara Ferry, these children are growing in Christian knowledge and in fellowship with one another. We offer two Children's Bulletins (Ages 3-6 and Ages 7-12) children at Sunday services.

Vacation Bible School July, 2017 Together, Cindy Winder and Kitty Shuler identified our VBS theme and image: God's Glorious Garden. Working with Ann Enkiri, they drew on Episcopal Relief and Development resources to plan the VBS lessons. Five youth leaders and twelve adult leaders guided this friendly and energetic group of 21 children as we planted a garden on our grounds, worshipped in our sanctuary, baked in our kitchen, learned in our classrooms, read in our Children's Library, "dressed-up" in our Nursery, listened and sang at Children's Chapel, and enjoyed playing and eating together.

Sunday School Classes School Year 2017-2018 We are thrilled that we again could offer three classes, thanks to our teacher volunteers. The team approach of sharing this Sunday responsibility continues to work well.

Godly Play Training October 2017 Ann Enkiri completed Godly Play's core training and returned with a deeper knowledge of presenting 14 sacred stories.

Nursery Care November/December 2017 This Fall, we bade a fond and regretful farewell to our Nursery caregiver, Miss Angeles Lara, who began a new job. We were promptly blessed by the hiring of Miss Mary Mutisya who brings many years of childcare experience and a heartfelt faith in God to caring for our little ones.

### **Recommendations for 2018:**

- Recycle the God's Glorious Garden theme for VBS 2018 (July 9-13, 2018), thus jumpstarting our planning, recruiting and registration for VBS. We will Recruit VBS volunteers by asking them to give a small amount of time to help prepare, support or lead a particular activity.
- Set up an in-house Godly Play training for current and prospective teachers.
- Use Godly Play materials to enrich classes for older children.
- Experiment with offering Sunday School before the 10 AM Service on selected Sundays.
- Identify some Family Coffee Hours and plan for parents and children to help with inter-generational activities.
- Support discussion and exploration of how to serve our middle-school-bound "graduates" in continued faith learning and action.

Submitted by: Ann M. Enkiri

## **Report of the Youth Ministry**

Committee members: Madison Chase (Youth Minister), Katie Wallace, Lori Pujol, Rena Godfrey, John Holbrooke (Youth Team Members).

### **Goals for 2017:**

2017 was a year full of excitement for the youth of Christ Church. We started off the year with a flurry of activity – Super Bowl chili, the Vermont-i Gras pancake dinner and silent auction, and kicking off confirmation class, to name just a few. Each month brought a new experience and opportunities for growth – from our visit to the Museum of African-American History and Culture, to worship at the Friends Meeting of Washington, to breaking Ramadan fast with our Muslim brothers and sisters at the Islamic Community Center of Potomac. These experiences really underscored an important goal for the youth this past year: to give them the space to love others as Jesus did. There were also ample opportunities for spiritual exploration and growth – whether through one of the activities described above, or in weekly youth group meetings, or in confirmation class. The youth came together, enjoyed each other's company, and expanded their spiritual horizons every step of the way.

On a personal note, I continued to learn my role as youth minister, and then re-learn it when I started my Masters of Social Work in September. I strove to divide my time efficiently and effectively, such that re-turning to school would enhance my work here and not subtract from it. There were a few bumps in the road, but I'm fortunate to have a patient and supportive community of parents, youth, and adult volunteers who have taken it all in stride.

### **Accomplishments of 2017:**

Fourteen youth and three adults – seventeen souls packed into two large vans – ventured out to the Green Mountains of Rutland, Vermont, for last summer's mission trip. I never could have imagined what kind of impact that trip would have on the youth and adults who went. Friendships were forged, challenges were faced, and comfort zones were pushed. All told, the group returned having grown closer to each other, to their sense of service, and to God. This success was due in no small part to the assistance of chaperones Rena Godfrey and John Holbrooke – drivers extraordinaire, patient sounding boards, and great companions. I cannot thank them enough for their time and talent.

Sunday morning youth group has continued to draw substantial numbers of youth each week – usually at least eight, sometimes as many as fifteen. I guess we must be doing something right to get that many teens out of bed on a Sunday morning! We have had a few new folks join over the course of the year, and they have been great additions to the group. Many thanks to Lori Pujol, Katie Wallace, Rena Godfrey, and John Holbrooke for continuing to engage the youth each Sunday, and for helping keep me sane and focused.

The youth have remained active in many different aspects of parish life - ushering, acolyting, helping out with Children's Chapel and VBS, and marching in the Labor Day parade. Words cannot fully express how grateful I am for the congregation's support of our program, particularly at last February's Vermont-i Gras silent auction. Not only did parishioners donate excellent items, and not only did vestry members take time to help us run the event – we raised nearly \$2,000 for our trip to Vermont! More recently, the 2018 chili fundraiser was a hit once again – over five gallons of chili were made and sold by the youth, raising over \$500 for this year's trip to New York City. (Extra special thanks to Tara Flynn, Lance Kilpatrick, and Amy Brown for being “the adults in the room” as we made the chili.)

As part of my effort to keep the youth group running at peak efficiency, I formed a youth council, consisting of Aidan Kilpatrick (senior high chair), Camille Amaditz (junior high chair), Walker Prindle (social media chair/historian), Ellie Flynn (service/mission chair), and Paige Chase (social event/welcoming chair). These five young people have met with me once a month since November 2017; they have been instrumental in planning lessons, activities, and events for their peers to enjoy. I look forward to seeing what new ideas they share in the year to come.

I would be remiss to not include the completion of my first ever confirmation class in this list. I met with Aiden Finn, Ellie Flynn, Shelby Hutton, and Olivia Deelen on Sunday evenings, from the end of March to the beginning of November last year. These four youth amazed me each week with their questions, their thoughts, and their compassion. The class culminated in a beautiful ceremony at the National Cathedral, where I got confirmed right alongside the other four. It was an incredible experience and such a privilege to learn, laugh, and go through the sacrament of confirmation with Aiden, Ellie, Shelby, and Olivia. I'm excited to teach the class again in the fall of 2018.

#### **Recommendations for 2018:**

As great as 2017 was, I want 2018 to be even better. I would love to see more intergenerational cooperation and activities, so that the youth feel even more that they are full members of the congregation, and so that the adults of the church get to know and love these kids as I have. I hope to expand upon the work we've already done, especially in terms of connecting Christ Church youth to other youth in the community (Episcopal or otherwise). In times like these, where it can feel like we're all growing farther apart, it is particularly important to be intentional and make connections – for a stronger, more loving world.

Submitted by: Madison Chase

## **Report of the Parish Life Committee**

#### **Committee members:**

Gail Troussoff Marks is chair and the vestry member associated with Parish Life. Parish Life enlists participants from the whole parish to host coffee hours and help with potlucks and receptions. Some of our most active participants have been coffee hour and popsicle coordinators Jane Aylor, Sharon Bartram, Terri Clausen, Shannon Finn, Duane Boniface, and Katharine Gagarin. They have also hosted coffee hours.

Other coffee hour hosts include The Blackman Family, The Bullard Family, Kate Duchelle, Barbara Ferry, Tara Flynn, Rena Godfrey, Vivian Lacroix, Suzanne Lawrence, Diane Mand, Lew and JoAnn Price, The Prindle Family, The Quinn Family, Lauren Robinson, Charles Serpan and Helen Urquehart. Other Parish Life contributors are Aime Keith, Susan Atkinson, Sue Mitchell, Brenda Rupli, Diane Jung, Debora Roberson, Emily Barry, Amy and Frances Brown, Ted and Annie Seale, Suzanne Shaw, Sarah Leung, and my apologies to the others that I have inadvertently left out.

#### **Goals for 2017:**

Parish Life wanted to expand the pool of people who help with the social events at Christ Church. Another goal was to continue to streamline running coffee hours every Sunday and bring new ideas to hosting. We tried out some donut Sundays and having ministries host coffee hours.

#### **Accomplishments of 2017:**

Over the course of the year coffee hour attendance has grown as well as the accompanying spirit of community and conversation. We have expanded coffee hour contributors but would like to enlist more. Coffee hour coordinators handled 2-month shifts, spreading the responsibilities out.

The year started out with the 12th Night Dinner. It was a potluck dinner with coordination by the Women's Fellowship Group, in particular Aime Keith, Jane Aylor, Sharon Bartram and Shannon Finn. Ted Seale was the wine steward and handled all aspects of the wine service. Parish Life organized the celebratory receptions for Easter, Pentecost and Christmas. We were honored to have Bishop Mariann Budde visit on September 10th and join us for our annual summer picnic. Aime Keith and Jane Aylor coordinated this fun and energetic event with the Men's Group and Carl Keith handling the grilling.

#### **Recommendations for 2018:**

The Parish Life committee functions largely as the "worker bees" for events. Recently, it has been a fluid group serving to support events of the church on an event-by-event basis. However, since there are events such as 12th Night, Easter, Pentecost, Christmas and a summer picnic that are annual events, the Parish Life committee could move toward creating a core group to plan out the year. There will always be additional events added in such as the Bishop's visit which can be organized as needed. An idea to continue to expand the net of coffee hour hosting is to create teams with a "veteran" coffee hour host and someone new to hosting. Having the Men's and Women's Group host on a regular basis has been discussed but not fully implemented.

Submitted by: Gail Troussoff Marks

## **Report of the Communications Committee**

In late 2017, Ken Amaditz, Vestry Communications Minister, reconvened the Communications Committee following a two-year inactive period.

The initial meeting focused on a discussion of the role of this committee in Christ Church and how it can effectively serve the needs of other groups within and beyond the church.

Four identified areas included:

- 1) reviewing our current website and discussing how it can be redesigned to be more welcoming, user friendly, attractive to a broader viewing audience, and more informative for visitors and parishioners to encourage old and new visitors to check us out by attending a worship service or event.
- 2) looking at past communications committee activity with a goal of developing a strategic plan for the future,
- 3) coordinating publicity needs for other ministries and groups, and
- 4) developing a consistent visual identity that will be implemented as a style guide to coordinate 'branding' of printed and posted materials.

With only seven volunteers initially, the website became the single focus for the first few months and our meeting agendas have included:

- Reviewing our current site – discussing target viewers, what message do first time visitors receive from navigating the site--who are we?, who do we want to be known for? who do we want to invite to join us?
- Reviewing a wide range of other websites to identify key elements and design features with the committee's positive reactions and also listing less effective site elements that detract from a visitor's experience,
- The Endowment Fund provided a one-time amount to contract with a professional website designer. With assistance from Administrator Ellison, the Committee reviewed bids to select one finalist to work with us in the new site design process. This process is currently underway.

In addition to the initial focus on the website, which will include multiplatform usability (such as smartphones, Facebook, etc.), the committee defined four other goals and strategies including:

- 1) creating a mission/goals statement defining the Communications Committee's role within CCPK;
- 2) planning how we will interface with other ministries and groups;
- 3) creating strategies for enhancing visual communications throughout the church with bulletin boards, signage, banners, rotating information displays, and other techniques to invite participation in activities, share information;
- 4) developing a style guide based on the new website to coordinate all visual elements such as typefaces, colors, taglines, terminology, and other strategic elements to reinforce the mission and identity of Christ Church.

The Communications Committee currently has two co-chairs, our Vestry member, and six members, and would welcome additional parish members interested in writing and editing chores, research tasks, and ideas development and implementation planning. We hope to meet monthly September through June.

Submitted by Co-chairs Virginia Sheard and Cindy Winder

# Report of the Pastoral Care Committee

**Committee members:** Yvonne Bryan, Carol Jones, Pamela Prindle, Katharine Gagarin, Nora Buckley, Margaret Buckley, Linda Rowan, John Ward, Kate Duchelle, Helen Urquhart, Kathy McKay, Suzanne Shaw, The Rev. Emily Guthrie

**Goals** for 2017: What did the members hope to accomplish during the past year?

In 2017, the Pastoral Care Group clarified and expanded the mission/goals as follows:

Pastoral Care at Christ Church Parish Kensington provides a ministry of hope and caring so that no member of our congregation feels alone. Working faithfully with our Rector, our covenant to the congregation is to:

- visit the ill at home or in the hospital, support members of the congregation through phone calls, cards for birthday anniversaries, illness, births, and deaths, lunch meetings, and other social engagements,
- support those going through a life crisis,
- maintain contact with those unable to attend church due to chronic illness or disability,
- support friends and family involved in care giving, comfort the bereaved.

**Our Activities include the following:**

## Eucharistic Visitors

This program allows designated members of the congregation to deliver consecrated Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to attend our church services. Each week, kits containing the Eucharist elements are blessed at the altar and given to pairs of parishioners at the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist portion of Sunday services. The team then takes the kit to ill or housebound parishioners.

One member of each team is specially trained and licensed to administer the Holy Eucharist off-site; however, anyone is eligible to be the second member of a team. Serving in this ministry provides a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow parishioners and make them feel part of our church community even if they cannot attend services.

## Prayer Tree

The Prayer Tree provides immediate prayer support for parishioners who are undergoing traumatic events in their lives. While we offer Prayers for the People as a community during our services, sometimes people need prayers immediately. Prayer Tree does just that. The church office or individual prayer tree members generally provide the names of those in need of prayers. The idea is simple. A phone call or e-mail and a prayer - that's all it takes.

## Health Ministry

Health Ministry is a way for volunteers in our parish to develop a vision for health and wellness within our parish community through, for example, education, wellness counseling, resource referral, support group development and home support/visitation. It is not necessary to have health care experience to volunteer for Health Ministry. Health Ministry is in its infancy at Christ Church. In order to move forward with this ministry, we need volunteers willing to serve on a Health Committee to work with clergy and the vestry to establish parameters/goals for supporting the health of our parish community.

## Accomplishments of 2017:

In 2017, the first meeting of the Pastoral Care Group was convened Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. At that meeting, we discussed general thoughts regarding experiences of the ministry, meeting social needs as well as spiritual needs and, in general, brain-stormed regarding ways to enhance Pastoral Care at CCPK. The following key points emerged from our meeting and have guided us throughout the year:

### **What do we need to do our ministry?**

Peer support for Lay Eucharist Visitors, Better understanding of the needs of our CCPK Community, and Training. In order to address those needs, we decided to meet quarterly to check in with one another. We also will have periodic workshops; for ex., on supporting people with dementia; visiting people in hospitals or other institutions.

### **Issues/Possibilities to address:**

- Increasing the number of Lay Eucharist Visitors, including expanding the age range of Lay Eucharist Visitors;
- Increasing the number of pastoral visitors, including adding those who might want a visit, but not communion
- Creating a ***transportation ministry*** for people who might be able to get to church, but simply don't have transport.
- Caregiver support

### **Outcomes Achieved:**

We are pleased to report that in 2017 we accomplished the following:

- Established quarterly meetings of the Pastoral Care Group – two meetings convened in 2017 (May & October)
- Added and trained three new CCPK parishioners as Lay Eucharist Visitors
- The Lay Eucharist Visitors' list has been expanded to include 4 additional CCPK parishioners
- With the assistance of our Rector, a training workshop on Spirituality and Dementia was convened for Lay Eucharist Visitors on Sunday February 11th, 2018. Dr. Janice Hicks shared strategies and tools for assisting/listening/engaging at different stages of memory loss. Dr. Hicks also discussed Spirituality and Dementia more generally with the CCPK community at the Adult Forum on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### **In Progress:**

- "Transportation Ministry" established; implementation details being worked out
- "Health Ministry" in the process of being revamped/reinstated which we believe will be an important addition to our CCPK community resources

### **Recommendations for 2018:**

The current Leadership remains in 2018 and we will continue to work on achieving the goals not accomplished in 2017 as well as establishing new goals for 2018.

Submitted by: Yvonne Bryan

## **Report of the Prime Timers**

The Prime Timers (for all ages, especially seniors) met monthly (September to June) in the undercroft of the church on the first Thursday of the month from 11:30am - 1:30pm for social time, lunch and to enjoy a speaker from the Montgomery County Historical Society or the community. Topics range from the Civil War in Montgomery County to how to keep healthy while traveling! A HUGE thank you to Diane Mand and Nora Buckley for organizing these wonderful gatherings.

# Report of the Outreach Committee

## Committee members:

Charles Briggs, Co-Chair/Recording Secretary  
Elizabeth Quinn, Co-Chair  
Eva Nye, Financial Secretary  
Peter Bartram  
Sharon Bartram  
Tina Cleland  
Judy David  
Kate Duchelle  
Sue Mitchell, Member Emeritus

Barbara Ferry, Vestry Liaison  
Peter Gergen  
Cynthia Mitchell  
Lee Puricelli  
Robert Quinn  
Lauren Robinson  
Virginia Sheard  
Doug Smith  
Victoria Thanos

## Goals for 2017:

The committee realized that for Outreach in our parish to be more vibrant, we needed to become more accountable beginning with appointing a Recording Secretary who will keep detailed minutes and make sure all "action" items are fulfilled. We also have become more involved in the budget process, creating a budget for 2017 that includes upcoming projects assuring more transparency to the parish in regards to Outreach funding and spending. We still seek new ideas from parish members and will continue to promote those projects that can involve the full parish. Some ideas being vetted by the committee: becoming more active in the Samaritan Ministry and possibly sponsoring a refugee family.

## Accomplishments of 2017:

During 2017, we continued many of our traditional Outreach programs (Arcola Elementary, Bethesda Cares, Rebuilding Together, etc – see details below) and embarked on some new adventures:

**New Regional Outreach Group Formed:** Members of the Outreach team brought together members of Outreach committees of many of the churches, as well as the synagogue of the Kensington Ministerium. We have met twice in 2017 and have begun to promote each other's outreach and social justice activities and are beginning to plan joint programs. The group is now being called the **Kensington/North Chevy Chase Interfaith Consortium for Justice and Compassion**. Representatives of the group met with the leaders of the Kensington Ministerium who have blessed us with their approval of our new group.

**New Nyumbani Fundraiser:** Also new this year, we hosted a fundraiser to benefit the children and families of Nyumbani (Swahili for "Home") and Tuko Pamoja in Kenya who have been infected or affected by the AIDS epidemic and live with the devastating conditions of poverty and environmental degradation from a prolonged drought. The evening included Kenyan food, music, dancing and craft sales. More than \$2200 was raised for medical equipment for the caregivers at Nyumbani and a similar event is planned in October 2018.

## Arcola Elementary Partnering with the Linkages to Learning Program:

Collected and donated over 60 backpacks filled with school supplies  
Donated 42 Turkey Day Food Bags to families who did not have the means of providing meals during the Thanksgiving break  
Donated 50+ bags of food for families during the Christmas break  
Donated Angel gifts for 67 children and 7 new coats for those children identified as need them by the school.

## Bethesda Cares:

Cases of water, socks and toiletries that were donated to Bethesda Cares during 2017.  
The Bethesda Cares Sandwich Brigade continued to make sandwiches for the homeless the first and second Saturdays of the month. The Brigade is made up of the following families:

Bullard; Atkinson; Simpson; Nye-Purcelli; Carter; Christmas-Flynn; Duchelle-Smith; Barry; Lawrence; Feller; Holbrooke; Finn-Boniface; Robbins Family; McKay; Zein Shukri; Kean; Haskell; Thanos, Sue Mitchell and the Quinn-Sheard Family

**Other efforts:**

Monies were collected for **Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)** that provides relief in times of disaster and promotes sustainable development by identifying and addressing the root causes of suffering.

A special collection for the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund was also collected for ERD.

**Heifer International:** Partnering with the Sunday School, "Agnes the Lamb" again collected monies for Heifer International for their "pass the gift" program.

**Rebuilding Together Project Day:** For over 20 years, parish members have volunteered on the last Saturday in April to help a low-income family make their home a safe and warm place to live. This year more than 30 volunteers helped update a home for challenged adults. The committee has also allocated \$2000 towards the co-sponsorship with Revere Bank of a project house for the 2018 Project Day.

**Giant Gift** cards were donated to the Parish office to hand out to those in need that come to our door.

**Meals on Wheels:** Members of Christ Church continue to assist in delivering meals to people who are still in their homes, but cannot cook for themselves anymore.

**Stepping Stones Shelter:** We collected household items and toiletries for the clients at Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville.

**Recommendations for 2018:**

In 2018, the Committee is looking forward to the following:

**January:** Reflection and our Planning Month for 2018

**February:** Episcopal Relief & Development Month

**March:** Heifer International and the return of Agnes the Lamb

**April:** Rebuilding Together Project Day is April 28<sup>th</sup>

**May-June:** Comfort Cases collection and "packing party"

**Summer** – Arcola Elementary Summer Camp & Backpacks

**September/October:** Nyumbani and our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kenya Night (date TBA)

**November:** Arcola Thanksgiving Food Bags

**December:** Arcola Christmas Food Bags and Angel Gifts

In addition:

We plan to work more closely with the newly-formed Kensington/North Chevy Chase Interfaith Consortium for Justice and Compassion on joint projects.

Will also address any outreach needs that arise during 2018.

Submitted by: Elizabeth Quinn and Charlie Briggs, Outreach Committee Co-Chairs

Date: February 12, 2018

# Report of the Property Committee

Team members: Peter Turner, Ted Thanos, Lew Price, Farrand Prindle, Ted Seale, Duane Boniface, Bob Waechter, Doug Smith, Hill Carter, Doug Leavens, Liz Quinn, Ron Leung, Sarah Leung, Peter Bartram, Mickey Sayles, Gail Marks, Suzanne Shaw, Bob Quinn, Anne Meyers, Kurt Ellison, Frank Shaw.

## Goals for 2017:

Keep the building and grounds a friendly and joyful space to support the worship and mission of the Parish; maintain the property and make minor improvements within our budget.

## Accomplishments of 2017:

The grounds team held our Annual “Green Team” and Mother’s Day planting this May. Thanks to the volunteers who came out to spruce up the gardens and grounds!

We also had a successful “Property Day” in June, when about 16 volunteers spent the day painting, gardening, and making minor repairs to the Church building and grounds. Special thanks to Ted Thanos, who sent out a crew to repair damaged wallboard in two rooms in advance; Suzanne Shaw, who helped select paint colors; to Bob Durbin and Duane Boniface, who returned after Property Day to finish up painting; and Peter Turner, who fixes everything always. Among the spaces painted were the Vestry room (the former youth room), upstairs hallway in the Education Wing, and the pantry.

Thanks to support from the Endowment, we were able to have the parking lot sealed and re-striped, making our most-used entry space more attractive and preserving its useful life. We also had the exterior windows scraped and repainted, and the walnut tree that hung over the parking lot removed.

Other minor projects included:

Randy Prindle attended a workshop on parish safety, and provided a report to the church leadership. Randy, Peter Bartram, David Blackman, and other volunteers have undertaken various long-needed repairs, including:

Repair of the broken louvres in the closet doors in the Undercroft

Scraping and repainting the iron railings in the back of the church.

Repair of several windows.

Various minor repairs in the kitchen.

We’d like to extend a special thanks to M.P.Energy Services and parishioner Marlon Pujol for replacement of the air handler in the boiler room.

## Recommendations for 2018:

We held the line on property spending in 2017, coming in under budget. This was partly because of savings on snow removal. We also elected to defer a few contemplated maintenance or upgrade projects, determining that they could prudently be postponed without increasing the risk of increased future expenses or creating safety or operability issues. We’ll endeavor to keep within budget constraints again this year, and will be taking another look at undertaking several special projects for the upcoming year, perhaps with further support from the Endowment. In particular, we are continuing to work on projects relating to the rectory drainage, outdoor lighting at the parish, AC replacement, and getting a handle on our utility bills, which are rather opaque.

We are continuing to pursue ideas for renovations of the kitchen, coordinating with the ad-hoc working group organized by Gail Troussoff Marks, again with support from the Endowment.

Volunteers are welcome! Please contact Frank Shaw or Peter Turner if you’re handy or have a green thumb and would like to help out. We particularly need volunteers to take on various ongoing or one-time chores in the grounds management, as our volunteer profile is changing and we would like to increase the volunteer effort to avoid having to hire out additional grounds maintenance.

Submitted by: Frank Shaw, Vestry coordinator for Property Committee

# Report of the Worship Committee

**Committee members:** Virginia Blackman (Vestry Liaison), Nora Buckley (vergers), Tony Coe (acolytes), Susan Atkinson (altar guild), Emily Barry (altar guild), Deborah Bartlett (music), Brad Christmas (ushers), Teddy Guerrant (music), Ann Enkiri (children's worship).

## Goals for 2017:

- Recruit new people to serve in worship – either “behind the scenes” or as a leader/participant in the service
- Provide resources to help in welcoming visitors and new parishioners to our services – explanations of the “how and why” of worship practices at CCPK
- Provide resources to make worship welcoming for children – both those who go to children’s chapel and those who remain in the sanctuary.
- Pay greater attention to beginning each service at the advertised time, ensuring that the flow of services is smooth
- Begin a “Why do we....?” Question and answer column in the church newsletter to explain components of the Episcopal worship tradition (such as Why do we kneel? Why do we stand? Why do some people genuflect and others don’t?)

## Accomplishments of 2017:

- Formally recognized several long-time contributors to worship ministries who are stepping back from their roles
- Incorporated new members into several ministry areas (see following reports)
- Increased number of worshipers at late Christmas eve service and Feast of Lights services (Average total of all Sunday attendees for last 4 years: 152, 156, 137, 149)
- Worshiped with our neighbors at the Thanksgiving Service
- Recognized need for quarterly worship coordination meetings

## Recommendations for 2018:

- Lector training to ensure that all persons serving in this role have shared expectations
- Need to coordinate with communications team to improve web presence and social media outreach to help introduce potential visitors to worship
- Need to identify existing resources to help facilitate “worship notes” or Q&A column in the church newsletter/email
- Identify more opportunities for youth participation in the worship services – children and youth have all spoken about their eagerness to serve
- Focus recruitment of older children, youth, and adults to serve as acolytes.

Submitted by: Virginia Blackman

# Report of the Organist and Choirmaster

In reading back over my annual report from last year (2016), I am happy to report this year (2017) that things seem to be running smoothly in "Music Land!" The various problems in getting our instruments up and running again (three pianos, a harpsichord, and an organ) have, for the most part, been resolved, and, with routine maintenance and regular tunings, we are now on stable ground. The four-octave electric keyboard that enables the carillon to play manually was re-discovered, a new cable was purchased, and we can now enjoy hearing the hymns that will be sung during our upcoming services played from our church tower before the organ preludes on Sunday mornings.

The choral library/choir room reorganization has worked nicely, and we are building our choral library as we build the repertoire that our choir sings. We have 18 regular choristers (and a couple of other singers who join with us for special occasions) who sing faithfully (a big commitment in terms of time and effort), and who are learning vocal technique through vocalises sung at the beginning of each rehearsal, along with a varied repertoire that teaches singing in various styles. The choir is challenged with more demanding repertoire for Lent and Easter, Advent and Christmas, and special services (such as All Saints' Sunday when the choir sang "And I Saw a New Heaven" by Edgar Bainton) during the church year. During Lent last year the choir sang the "Missa Secunda" by Hans Leo Hassler, and the "Tantum Ergo" by Franz Schubert, both in Latin. For the community Thanksgiving service at St. Paul's United Methodist Church the choir sang "Simple Gifts," and this past Christmas the choir sang Christmas Music from Germany (including "The Little Newborn Jesus Child" by Dietrich Buxtehude, "For us a Child is born" by Johann Kuhnau, and "O Beloved Shepherds" by Andreas Hammerschmidt), augmented by Samantha Scheff, harpsichord, Filbert Hong, violin, Richard Rolls, Baroque flute, and Anne Rolls, viola da gamba. Choir solos were sung by Deb Bartlett (alto), Jason Saffell (tenor), and Filbert Hong (baritone). The choir enjoys gathering socially, as it did after Christmas in the lovely home of Chuck Serpan. Other guest musicians over the past year included Dr. Ronn K. Hall, bassoonist, and Robert Foster, pianist, who played lovely solos on Easter Sunday. During the month of August, when the choir was on recess, we enjoyed special music by Richard and Anne Rolls, Christine Castillo and Jeanne Morin, Mary and Jason Saffell, Cindy Hutchins and Miranda Cooter, and Filbert Hong and Anne Rolls. Mary Linn, cellist, accompanied Filbert Hong, violinist, in the Vivaldi Sonata in G Minor, RV 28, on April 2. Ten new choir robes were gifted to us by the Endowment Fund, and ten lovely scarves were brought to us from England by Peter and Christine Turner.

I played an organ recital on Friday, September 1, entitled "A Gallic Sampler: French Organ Music Across Four Centuries" including works by de Grigny, Balbastre, Lefebure-Wely, Franck, Saint-Saens, Widor, Vierne, Mulet, Dupre, Langlais, and Durufle. Tenor Jason Saffell assisted in leading hymns on which two of the works were based.

As we move into Lent and Easter this year, the choir is preparing two Mass settings (the Missa Brevis in F Minor by the very gifted young area composer Alistair Coleman, and the Solemn Mass by Louis Vierne), both to be sung in Latin.

I am grateful for the continuing music ministry of Deb Bartlett and Roma Hart who faithfully provide music for the 5 p.m. service, assisted on occasion by Christine Castillo and Toku Kawata.

The successful music ministry of any parish community depends on the support of its Rector, its Parish Administrator, the Vestry, the music committee, and the parishioners themselves who form the core of the choir and offer their financial support for the music being made within its church walls. In all cases I could not be more fortunate than I am here at Christ Church.

Teddy

# Report of the Altar Guild

**Committee members:** Susan Atkinson and Emily Barry (Co-Directors)

**First Sunday:** Valerie Thomas (chair), Kathy McKay, Brenda Rupli, Linda Rowan, Margaret Broe Fitzpatrick

**Second Sunday:** Emily Barry (chair), Annie Seale, Ted Seale, David Blackman

**Third Sunday:** Eva-Marie Nye (chair), Susan Atkinson, Katie Wallace, Jan Croke

**Fourth Sunday:** Sheila Gart (chair), Nora Buckley, Anne Myers

## Goals for 2017:

The Altar Guild hoped to recruit new members during 2017 and have its membership well-distributed among the four Sunday groups.

## Accomplishments of 2017:

The Altar Guild prepared the three altars in the main sanctuary and chapels for services. For the main sanctuary, members of the Guild prepared for the three Sunday services and the regular Wednesday evening service, plus any additional services such as those during Christmas and Holy Week and baptisms or funerals. In addition to setting up for all services, the Altar Guild cared for the Church silver, brass, vestments, altar hangings, and linens. The Guild also maintained the supplies of communion wafers/bread, wine, liquid paraffin, candles and other items necessary for our services, ensuring that we were never without these essential supplies. The Guild consists of four teams, with each team being responsible for services one week per month, plus one of the four Fifth Sundays that occur each year.

Emily Barry, Susan Atkinson, Eva Nye, Chuck Serpan, and Virginia Blackman served in the Bread ministry, making the bread used at Eucharist services. The Bread ministry welcomes anyone with an interest in bread-making and an hour or so once every few months. Members of the Bread ministry need not be members of the Altar Guild.

Long-time Altar Guild member and First Sunday chair Sue Mitchell retired early in 2017 from the Guild. She is missed by all and we were blessed to have benefitted from her many contributions over the years, especially documenting and keeping our Altar Guild instructional guide up to date. We are grateful to Valerie Thomas for assuming Sue's position as First Sunday chair. Altar Guild also added several new members this year: Linda Rowan, Margaret Broe Fitzpatrick, and Jan Croke.

Through the generous gift of an anonymous donor, the Altar Guild was able to send away the two brass candelabra on the High Altar for much needed refurbishment of the brass and stabilization of the oil candles. They now look like new and the candles no longer wobble.

## Recommendations for 2018:

The Altar Guild actively encourages anyone who is interested to join us. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve behind-the-scenes in the worship of the church and to connect in a small group environment with your fellow parishioners. It is a predictable and set once-a-month time commitment. Individuals interested in supporting on a rotating basis are also welcome. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Susan Atkinson ([atkinsonrw@aol.com](mailto:atkinsonrw@aol.com)) or Emily Barry ([emilybarry@me.com](mailto:emilybarry@me.com)).

Submitted by: Susan Atkinson and Emily Barry

# Report of the Lay Worship Ministers

*(Lectors, Chalicists, Healing Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors)*

**Members:** Dwight Allen\*, Robin Atkinson, Jane Aylor, Ray Barry, Peter Bartram, Sharon Bartram, David Blackman\*, Charlie Briggs, Amy Brown\*, Yvonne Bryan, Margaret Buckley, Nora Buckley, Jim Cannon, Hill Carter, Joan Centrella\*, Tina Cleland, Marcia Coe, Tony Coe, Kathy Cowan, Kate Duchelle, Katherine Gagarin, Sheila Gart, Carol Jones, Sharon Judge, Aime Keith, Elizabeth Lakey, Suzanne Lawrence, Ron Leung, Anne Meyers, Cynthia Mitchell\*, Ramzi Nemo, Susan Patch, Pam Prindle, Lee Puricelli, John Rowan, Linda Rowan, Teodora Salow, Ann Scherer, Ted Seale, Frank Shaw, Suzanne Shaw, Kitty Shuler, Helen Urquhart, John Ward, Ruki Willis, Tom Willis.

**Other Lectors and helpers:** Susan Atkinson, Deb Bartlett, Claire Blackman, Virginia Blackman, Madison Chase, Paige Chase, Mary Lou Cumberpatch, Bob Durbin, Nikki Emden, Leslie Everhart, Charlie Flynn, Ellie Flynn, Rena Godfrey, Aiden Kilpatrick, Lance Kilpatrick, Sue Mitchell, Eva Nye, Bob Quinn, Christianne Robbins, Yoko Sawanobore, Annie Seale, Atticus Goodenow (Apologies to anyone I missed.)

## Goals for 2017:

Lay ministers were active in all of our regularly scheduled services and in regular visits to our home-bound parishioners, providing approximately 755 volunteer hours as lectors, chalicists, healing prayer ministers and Eucharistic visitors.

## Accomplishments of 2017:

Our lay ministers are a valuable part of our worship services, either by their presence as scheduled or arranging for a substitute, and checking with the Vergers prior to a service in case an extra is needed. Our "other lectors and helpers" provide a wonderful addition to the regular schedule by reading in special services and assisting in many other ways.

We bid farewell to 2 members as they moved away: Brett Holmgren and Gary Lett. Jim Cannon and Scott Wykoff are on sabbatical. David Blackman stepped up to become our scheduler. We also welcomed 5 new participants, indicated above with an asterisk. On Youth Sunday two of our teens became chalicists for a day, Ellie Flynn and Walker Prindle.

The addition of 4 new members of our Eucharistic Visitors allowed us to expand our visitation list for CCPK members.

## Recommendations for 2018:

Maybe we could say something about our in-service from yesterday. These kinds of programs allow us to better understand the needs of the members we serve. Maybe we should organize these types of in-service programs twice a year. My other thought was to mention perhaps a religious retreat for our Eucharist visitors.

We encourage participation in any of these ministries; just tell a priest or verger of your interest.

Submitted by: Nora Buckley

## Report of the Flower Guild

**Members:** Nora Buckley (Directress), Frances Brown, Kate Duchelle-Smith, Gail Marks, Anne Meyers, Pam Prindle

**Goals for 2017:**

The Flower Guild arranges and places the flowers or greens in the church and throughout the building. We continued our adjusted arrangement schedule so that parishioners that would be away for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas would be able to see the Harvest Array and some of the Christmas Flowers.

**Accomplishments of 2017:**

With a crew of 5, most coming in every week, we arranged flowers for 3 altars, the music room, the offices, the Library/Parlor and the narthex hallway. Additionally, we occasionally assist Parish Life in providing some arrangements for the undercroft.

Gail isn't able to come on Saturday because of her job, but often picks up flowers for us from the wholesale florist and works on arrangements independently. We welcomed Pam into our group in the fall.

Aime Keith had to drop out for now in order to care for her little boy, Ian.

**Recommendations for 2018:**

We welcome additional members. While we usually work on Saturday mornings for about 2 hours, our scheduling is flexible so we can work with you to accommodate your time. We would also like better coordination and use of the flower sign-up chart, located on the Parish Administrator's office door.

Submitted by: Nora Buckley, Directress

## Report of the Vergers

**Members:** Nora Buckley, Tony Coe, Pam Prindle, Charles Briggs

**Goals for 2017:**

The vergers work to make the liturgy of our services as beautiful as the physical surroundings of our building and enrich the worship experience for the congregation, priests, and all participants by coordination and planning, dealing with practical problems as they arise, and eliminating worldly distractions.

**Accomplishments of 2017:**

While there is plenty of work here at CCPK, our vergers have many additional activities: Tony is the Vice-Chancellor of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and Chair of the Committee on the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese; Pam works as a Travel Medicine nurse specialist at Foxhall Immunizations; Charlie is a case-worker for Samaritan Ministries; Nora continues to serve as a Stephen Minister in the Kensington Ecumenical Group.

Nora and Pam were able to go to the Annual Conference of the Verger's Guild of the Episcopal Church held in Atlanta, Georgia. The keynote speaker was the Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry. This conference included an outreach project for the homeless where part of the group made thousands of sandwiches and the other part packed care-packages. Information obtained from the various workshops and discussions with other vergers is valuable. Nora also assisted in the dispensing of Holy Oils at our cathedral during Holy Week.

**Recommendations for 2018:**

We will continue working together with our priest, aiming towards making services as smooth and joyful as possible. Additionally, we would like to see our lay ministries continue to grow (acolytes, lectors, chalicists, healing ministers and eucharistic visitors).

Submitted by: Nora Buckley, Head Verger

# Report of the 2017 Diocesan Convention

If one word could describe the 123rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Washington, it would be "ALL." The event was held on Saturday, January 23, in the nave of the Washington National Cathedral.

## **ALL Day**

Basically, the convention is a time for clergy and representatives from all parishes throughout the diocese to get together to pray, sing, and vote on representatives in the Diocese and to vote on resolutions or other motions.

## **ALL Praying**

The day began with a church service. Imagine being in church with more than 500 people who know all the prayers and hymns by heart. That's what it was like. Yet, for the non-choir types, the hymns were accessible. Consider "Song of Praise," by John H. Husband; "There is a Balm in Gilead," "This Little Light of Mine," and "You'll Know We are Christians by our Love."

## **ALL Listening**

The Reverend Dr. Delman Coates, senior pastor of the 9,000-member Mt. Ennon Baptist Church in Clinton, Maryland, gave the sermon. He spoke of a God of Progress and stressed that change "doesn't have to be a critique of the past, but an open door to the future." In Dr. King's last sermon, given at the Cathedral, he told the story of Rip Van Winkle, who slept through the American Revolution. Rev. Coates drew on King's caution not to erect monuments to the past and miss what God is doing today. Is the church paying attention to what is relevant today?

In her remarks to the delegates, Bishop Marriane Edgar Budde confessed that she lacks courage. But Bishop Budde gets around it by imagining God asking her: "Well, what do you got?" and then giving it all she has. Indeed, she does.

## **ALL Important**

Bishop Budde outlined several issues of importance in the Diocese:

### 1. Racial Justice

The next time you're at an old church with a balcony, look up. Chances are you're looking at where enslaved people sat. The Bishop talked about race as a fault line in our country and she invited us all to set the table for conversations about race. Look for more information as we approach the 50th anniversary of the killing of Reverend Martin Luther King on April 4.

### 2. The Epidemic of Gun Violence

As of the day of the Convention, there had been 13 school shootings in the United States. She spoke of the work of St. Mark's, Capitol Hill, which has hosted an annual service for loved ones and activists involved in gun violence issues since the mass murders at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Incidentally, last year this same parish opened its doors in hospitality for people in town for the Inauguration one day and the Women's March the next.

### 3. The Opioid Crisis

This national issue needs our attention. St. Paul's Piney Parish in Charles County is removing the stigma around this issue and helping people who may have been living in the shadows.

### 4. Immigrants

Bishop said that that 34 of our 88 congregations in the Diocese are multicultural. Many immigrants are involved in and find support from their church communities. More than 100 families at St. Matthew (San Mateo) in Hyattsville, one of the largest churches in the Diocese, may be impacted by changes in Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

### 5. Financial Health of Congregations

Bishop Budde also talked about the Commission for Financial Health of Congregations, a long-term initiative designed to assist congregations with the tools needed to improve stewardship and financial practices.

## 6. Collaboration in Ministry

Another key goal of the Bishop and Diocese, the Bishop spoke about is parishes working together to help others. She cited the example of youth groups from churches in Poolesville who worked together to feed families.

### **ALL Happy**

Thanks was given for the 10-year anniversary of the Bishop Walker School for Boys in Anacostia, and their recent move to the Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC).

### **ALL Voting**

On one ballot, which everyone seemed to be relieved about, the following people will be representing the Diocese:

Clerical Member Standing Committee (serves as an advisory group to the Bishop):

The Rev. John Harmon, and The Rev. Beth O'Callaghan

Lay Members of Standing Committee (serves as an advisory group to the Bishop)

Jo Ricks and Anton Vanterpool II

(They join our own Lee Puricelli who serves on the Standing Committee!)

### **Clerical Alternate Deputies to General Convention:**

The Revs. Rosemarie Duncan, Gayle Fisher-Stewart, Glenna Huber, and Sheila McJilton

Lay Alternate Deputy to General Convention:

Fernand Hermoza, Enid LaGesse, Toni Schooler, and Matthew Taylor

### **ALL Budget Approved**

Here are a few highlights on the budget:

Total revenue is expected to be \$4.21 million, approximately \$126,000 more than in 2017.

The proposed 2018 budget is balanced.

### **ALL Constitution and Canons Passed**

Christ Episcopal Church's verger Tony Coe, who also serves on the Diocese's Committee on the Constitution and Canons, recited five amendments to the Convention that were passed without discussion. (Tony would be happy to discuss this with anyone who has questions.)

### **ALL Three Resolutions**

There were three resolutions, which were submitted before the Convention:

Resolution 1—Becoming a Sanctuary Diocese: Offering a Sacred Welcome to Immigrants

Several delegates spoke eloquently about the need to welcome all. This resolution was overwhelming and enthusiastically voted for.

Resolution 2—On Inclusion of Transgender People

After presentation, this resolution passed overwhelmingly with no discussion.

Resolution 3—On the Gendered Language of God

Very simply, the resolution called for gender-neutral language of God while keeping the beautiful language for the Book of Common Prayer if and when the Book of Common Prayer is updated. (The national Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music will present preliminary proposals for revision at the 2018 General Convention.)

One delegate holding a bible went up to the microphone to speak out in favor of the resolution. Holding "The Inclusive Bible," a translation of the bible produced by the Catholic organization called the Quixote Center Collective, nearly 15 years ago, she wondered when the Episcopal Church would catch up. The Reverend Shawn Strout (formerly of Christ Episcopal Church, Kensington and currently at St. Paul's, K Street) offered more specific language for the amendment, which was incorporated.

The amendment was voted on with very few dissenters.

### **ALL Welcome**

At the end of the day, the convention seemed to reflect the Diocese's desire to be more welcoming for **ALL. Amen.**

Submitted by Kathy McKay  
Diocesan Delegate

## **Necrology**

*People buried from Christ Church in 2017*

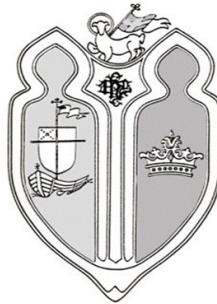
Kathryn Battle  
Kay Bondehagen  
William Bruce  
Mary Tucker Grady  
Charles Jackson  
David Robbins  
Mary Sawyer

## **Baptisms**

*we welcomed these newly baptized members  
into the household of God in 2017*

Porter Scott Quinn  
Kailee Tatsuko Ludwick Cummings  
Henry James Wallace





# Christ Episcopal Church Kensington

## Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde  
**Bishop of Washington**

The Rev. Emily Guthrie  
**Rector**

Kurt Ellison  
**Parish Administrator**

Ann Enkiri  
**Children's Minister**

Madison Chase  
**Youth Minister**

Dr. Theodore M. Guerrant  
**Organist and Choirmaster**

Lenord Hawkins  
**Sexton**

Mary Mutisya  
**Nursery Caregiver**

Nora Buckley, Anthony Coe,  
Pamela Prindle, Charles Briggs  
**Vergers**

## Vestry

Doug Smith  
[dcsmith1942@verizon.net](mailto:dcsmith1942@verizon.net)  
**Senior Warden**

Sharon Bartram  
[psbartram@verizon.net](mailto:psbartram@verizon.net)  
**Jr. Warden**

Margaret Douglas  
**Treasurer**

Peter Bartram  
**Secretary**

Brad Christmas  
**Stewardship**

Frank Shaw  
**Property**

Robin Atkinson  
**Budget and Finance**

Brian Woodward  
**Education**

Yvonne Bryan  
**Pastoral Care / Inreach**

Lance Kilpatrick  
**Membership**

Barbara Ferry  
**Outreach**

Virginia Blackman  
**Worship**

Gail Marks  
**Parish Life**

Ken Amaditz  
**Communications**



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