CHRIST CHURCH
IN THE
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK



PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

February 1, 2026

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

CHRIST CHURCH 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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CHRIST CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

as of December 31, 2025

CLERGY

The Reverend Canon Joan E. Fleming	Rector Emerita
The Reverend Daphne Roberts	Deacon

STAFF

Suzanne McDonald	Director of Music & Organist
Brittney Girault	Parish Administrator
Elaine Winkler	Bookkeeper
Carlos Garcia	Sexton
John Ager	Treasurer
Catherine Ambos	Coordinator

WARDENS

Meegan Adames	Rector's Warden
Jonathan Gloster	People's Warden

VESTRYMEMBERS

James Nichols (2023-2026)
Gordon Arsenoff (2023–2026)
Mark McMahon (2024–2027)
Jonathan Clark (2025–2028)
Eleanor Forbes (2025–2028)
Debra Lowe (2025–2027)

CHRIST CHURCH 2025 PARISH STATISTICS

	2023	2024	2025
Average Sunday Attendance:	77 (33 avg. views)	75 In person ASA: 61 (40 avg. YT views)	71 In person ASA: 61
Average Sunday Attendance June through August:	56 (37 avg. views)	47	66
Average Sunday Attendance 8a.m. (in person only):	22	19	20
Average Sunday Attendance 9:30/10:30a.m.:	62	62	63
Average Wednesday Noonday Prayer Attendance (online only):	7	7	7
Total attendance on Easter Vigil and Easter:	397 (In person plus Zoom) (180 total views)	232 (92 total views)	231
Total attendance Christmas Eve/Day:	160 (118 total views)	100 (102 total views)	100

- *Worship continued 52 Sundays in 2025. This number includes combined 9:30 services and pastoral visits with communion on Sundays.*
- *All numbers are in person attendees PLUS Zoom attendees unless otherwise indicated.*
- *"Views" are YouTube views.*

HOLY BAPTISMS

Christian Adeyemi Davies (May 25)
Zuri Sierra Pratt-Davies (October 5)
Kareem Leone Pratt-Davies (October 5)
Jhanina Nichole Barron (November 23)

CONFIRMATIONS, RECEPTIONS AND REAFFIRMATIONS

Confirmations: **Reaffirmations:**

MARRIAGES

N/A

TRANSFERRED INTO CHRIST CHURCH, NEWLY ATTENDING or RETURNING

N/A

TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER CONGREGATION or MOVED

N/A

BURIALS

Sylvestra Oterene Millar (May 17)

CHRIST CHURCH
AGENDA FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, February 1, 2026

1. Opening Prayer(s)
2. Call to Order, Determination of Quorum, and Eligibility to Vote
3. Appointment of Secretary of Meeting and Announcement of Parliamentarian
4. Appointment of Tellers
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of February 2, 2025
7. Appointment of Rector's Warden
8. Report of the Annual Meeting Committee
9. Distribution of ballots
10. Nominations from the floor
11. Balloting and Declaration of Those Elected
12. Treasurer's Report
13. Finance Committee Report on Budget
14. Warden's or Vestrymember's Remarks
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

CHRIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Christ Church in the City of New Brunswick

Annual Parish Meeting of Christ Church
Held at First Reformed Church, New Brunswick
Sunday, February 2, 2025, following the 9:30 Holy Communion Service

The Rector the Reverend Joanna Hollis opened the meeting with prayer by the Reverend Daphne Roberts, Deacon, at 11:05 a.m., called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m., and announced the presence of a quorum of eligible voting members. She appointed Paul Ambos as Secretary of the Meeting and noted that he would also be serving as Parliamentarian.

On motions duly made, seconded, and carried, the Agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the February 4, 2024 Annual Meeting were approved as distributed and as printed in the Annual Reports booklet.

Rev. Hollis appointed Mark McMahon as Rector's Warden. She called on Penny Gordon for the report of the Annual Meeting Committee, who reviewed the nominations as contained in the printed report.

The Committee nominated Jonathan Gloster as People's Warden. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

For the office of Vestrymember – full three-year term, the Committee nominated Jonathan Clark and Eleanor Forbes. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

For the office of Vestrymember – two-year unexpired term, the Committee nominated Debra Lowe. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

For the office of Deputy to the Diocesan Convention, the Committee nominated H. Arthur Phills, Mervis Johnson, and Karen Bemis. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

For the office of Alternate Deputy to the Diocesan Convention, the Committee nominated Ashlinn Fields, Jeffrey Fields, and Meegan Adames. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

For the office of Delegate to the Northern Convocation, the Committee nominated Ashlinn Fields, Jeffrey Fields, Beth Binde, H. Arthur Phills, Mervis Johnson, and Karen Bemis. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, nominations for this office were closed.

A motion to declare all uncontested nominees elected pursuant to Section 4.7(c) of the Bylaws was duly made, seconded, and carried, Secretary Ambos cast a unanimous ballot, and Rev. Hollis declared the following persons elected:

People's Warden: Jonathan Gloster
Vestrymember full three-year term: Jonathan Clark and Eleanor Forbes.
Vestrymember two-year unexpired term: Debra Lowe.

Deputies to the Diocesan Convention: H. Arthur Phills, Mervis Johnson, and Karen Bemis.
Alternate Deputies to the Diocesan Convention: Ashlinn Fields, Jeffrey Fields, and Meegan Adames.
Delegates to the Northern Convocation: Ashlinn Fields, Jeffrey Fields, Beth Binde, H. Arthur Phills, Mervis Johnson, and Karen Bemis.

Ms. Gordon thanked the members of the Committee and those candidates who agreed to serve.

John Ager presented the Treasurer's Report. In 2024, pledge income was relatively stable and expenses slightly increased. Although the investment portfolio gained from a strong stock market, its overall value declined due to draws to cover expenses. We paid the diocesan pledge as asked, but buildings are starting to suffer from deferred maintenance.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the Treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Meegan Adames presented the Finance Committee report on the 2025 Budget as adopted by the Vestry. Costs are increasing, and the anticipated draw on our investment account will not be sustainable in the long term. We need to increase income in the future.

There was no old business.

Rev. Hollis expressed thanks to the members of the Parish Vestry for their leadership, and particularly to the Executive Committee of Wardens Mark McMahon and Sheila Cooper and Clerk Gordon Arsenoff, as well as the following members now rotating off the Vestry: Wendy Benjamin and Meegan Adames.

Following a closing prayer by Rev. Hollis, the meeting was on motion duly made, seconded, and carried, adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ambos
Secretary of the Meeting

BY-LAWS OF CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK[1]

PREAMBLE

Governed by a Royal Charter granted in 1761 by King George III, this parish accedes to the constitution, canons, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church and to the constitution and canons of the Diocese of New Jersey and acknowledges their authority.

ARTICLE 1. NAME AND CORPORATE SEAL

Section 1.1 *Legal name*. The full corporate name of the parish is "The Rector Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church in the City of New Brunswick" except that while the office of rector is vacant the name is "The Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church in the City of New Brunswick." Parish agreements must be signed by the rector, sealed, and attested by the clerk of the vestry, using the full corporate name of the parish.

Section 1.2. *Informal names*. In correspondence, press releases, and other similar uses, the parish may use shortened forms of its name such as "Christ Church," "Christ Episcopal Church," and the like.

Section 1.3. *Seal.* The vestry authorizes a corporate seal for sealing documents. The seal must bear the full corporate name, the words "Corporate Seal," and the year "1761." The seal must be kept at the parish offices in the custody of the clerk of the vestry.

ARTICLE 2. OFFICE AND RECORDS

Section 2.1. *Parish office.* The parish office is in the Parish House, 5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Section 2.2. *Parish records*. Record books, minutes, deeds, documents, and other papers and records belonging to the parish must be kept at the parish office, or in the New Jersey Room of Alexander Library, or such other place as the vestry may authorize. Upon request to the clerk of the vestry, any parishioner may have access to such documents, except for personal correspondence files of the parish staff and any privileged matters. The clerk of the vestry will assist persons in gaining access to archives held outside parish offices.

Section 2.3 *Financial records*. Parish financial records must be kept in accordance with requirements set by the diocese. Parish accounts must be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant or as otherwise permitted by canon. The fiscal year begins on the first day of January in each year. Pledges are privileged matters.

ARTICLE 3. PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1. *Parishioners eligible to vote*. In order to be eligible to vote at parish meetings, members of the parish must be:

(a) baptized,

(b) at least sixteen years old,

[1] Amended By-Laws adopted by Parish meeting January 28, 2001 (major revision). This version is as further amended through May 15, 2017.

(c) living in or near New Brunswick,
(d) of good moral character,
(e) adherents to The Episcopal Church and to no other religious body,

(f) regular attendants at church services in the parish (i.e., more frequently present than absent unless for good cause prevented),
(g) regular contributors to the current expenses of the parish for the preceding six months, and
(h) confirmed in or otherwise received into the parish in accordance with canon before the day of the meeting.

Parishioners not eligible to vote may attend and speak at parish meetings.

Section 3.2. *List of voting members*. The rector and wardens must keep a list of parishioners eligible to vote. This list is open to inspection by any parishioner.

ARTICLE 4. PARISH MEETINGS

Section 4.1. *Time and place of annual meeting*. Annual meetings of the members of the parish are held in the Church on the fifth Sunday in January or the first Sunday in February, whichever applies in a given year, or at such other time or such other place in the City of New Brunswick as may be specified in the notice of the meeting.

Section 4.2. *Notice of annual meeting*. Notice of the time and place of the annual parish meeting must be given

(a) by written notice posted on all doors to the Church for at least fifteen days prior to the date scheduled for the meeting,
(b) by written notice mailed or emailed at least fifteen days prior to the date scheduled for the meeting addressed to all parishioners eligible to vote,[2] and
(c) by oral notice given by the officiating minister during services on the two Sundays before the day scheduled for the meeting.

The vestry may provide by resolution for further notice.

Section 4.3. *Special meetings*. Special meetings of the members of the parish for any purpose may be called by the rector (or if the rectorship is vacant by either warden) at any time, upon the same notice as specified in Section 4.2 of these By-Laws. The meeting is held at the time and in the place within the City of New Brunswick specified in the notice. The notice must specify the object for which the meeting is called, and no nonprocedural vote may be taken upon any matter not specified in the notice. The rector must notice a special meeting upon the written request of a majority of the vestrymembers or upon the written request of thirty parishioners eligible to vote. If the rector fails to act within a week of such request, one or both wardens must notice the special meeting.

Section 4.4. *Chair and secretary of parish meetings*. Any annual or special parish meeting is chaired by

(a) the rector or
(b) if the rector is absent or if there is no rector in office, one of the wardens selected by the meeting or

[2] Section 4.2(b) amended by the Vestry November 8, 2011, from "by written notice mailed at least thirty days prior to the date scheduled for the meeting addressed to all parishioners eligible to vote, and".

(c) if no warden is present, one of the vestrymembers selected by the meeting or

(d) if no vestrymember is present, any parishioner eligible to vote selected by the meeting.

The clerk of the vestry, or any other parishioner eligible to vote appointed by the chair, is the secretary of the meeting and enters the proceedings in the minute book of the vestry and signs the minutes together with the chair.

Section 4.5. *Quorum*. Three parishioners eligible to vote constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4.6. *Agenda at annual meetings*. The order of business at each annual parish meeting is:

(a) Opening prayer

(b) Call to order, determination of quorum, selection of chair, and appointment of secretary and tellers

(c) Approval of minutes

(d) Appointment of one warden (the "rector's warden") by rector if present

(e) Report of Annual Meeting Committee, distribution of ballots, and nominations from the floor for (i) the remaining warden (the "people's warden"), (ii) the four vestry members to be elected, (iii) three deputies to the Diocesan Convention, (iv) three alternate deputies to the Diocesan Convention, (v) six delegates to the Northern Convocation of the Diocese, and (vi) any other officers necessary or appropriate

(f) Closing of nominations and presentation of nominees for the vestry

(g) Opening of the polls (the polls to remain open for at least one-half hour upon each ballot)

(h) Treasurer's report

(i) Budget report

(j) Other business

(k) Adjournment and closing prayer.

Section 4.7. *Method of voting and election.*

(a) The chair of the meeting may vote.

(b) Elections at any parish meeting (other than a selection of the chair of the meeting) are by secret ballot. No other votes at any parish meeting may be by secret written ballot. No cumulative voting or voting by proxy is allowed. The vestry may by resolution provide for absentee ballots for parishioners unable to attend a meeting.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 4.7(b), a motion may be made to have the secretary of the meeting cast a unanimous vote for the candidates of any ballot section that is uncontested, after nominations from the floor are closed.[3]

(d) If the required number of officers is not elected upon the first ballot by a majority of the votes cast, one or more further ballots are taken until a majority is achieved. On each such further ballot, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes on the preceding ballot is deleted.

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[3] Section 4.7(c) added by Vestry, March 10, 2003, renumbering following subsections.

(e) After all balloting has been completed, the results as announced are final[4], the persons so elected assume their offices upon the adjournment of the meeting,[5] and all ballots are destroyed.

(f) The chair of the meeting is the judge of the qualifications of the voters, receives the vote, and declares the result.[6]

Section 4.8. *Tellers*. The chair appoints three or more tellers to act at any parish meeting. Each teller must act with strict impartiality. The tellers receive all votes and ballots, count and tabulate all votes and ballots, determine the result, and do anything else necessary to conduct the election or vote with fairness to all parishioners. The tellers must make a report in writing of any matter determined by them.

Section 4.9. *Annual meeting committee and other nominations*.

(a) At each October vestry meeting, the rector must appoint a parliamentarian and an annual meeting committee of five parishioners eligible to vote and must post the names of the committee members on the church premises. The Annual Meeting Committee is a nominating committee. The parliamentarian advises the committee as to compliance with the requirements of this section and serves until a successor is appointed. Members of the committee serve through the annual meeting.

(b) Nomination forms must be made available in the church for parishioners. Forms must allow for self-nomination but may not otherwise require the consent of the nominee. Nominations for any office to be filled at the meeting may be submitted in writing to the committee (care of the parish office) by any parishioner eligible to vote, up until four weeks prior to the date scheduled for the meeting.

(c) Where an unexpired term is to be filled by election, the unexpired term is to be treated as a separate office for purposes of nominations and voting.

(d) If the committee receives insufficient nominations to complete the number of officers to be elected, it must make additional nominations in order to present at least a complete slate to the meeting. The committee must verify the qualifications and willingness to serve of all nominees and must post a list of the nominees on the church premises at least one week prior to the date scheduled for the meeting.

(e) Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the meeting by any parishioner eligible to vote. Such nominees must be present at the meeting and must certify their willingness to serve if elected.

Section 4.10. *Qualifications for certain offices*. Only parishioners eligible to vote who are communicants (having received Holy Communion in or from the parish at least three times during the previous twelve months) may serve as warden or as deputy to the diocesan convention.

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[4] Phrase "the persons so elected immediately assume their offices," deleted by Vestry, January 8, 2007.

[5] Phrase "the persons so elected assume their offices upon the adjournment of the meeting" inserted by Vestry, December 9, 2014.

[6] Subsection 4.7(g) added by Vestry, January 8, 2007 to read "All persons elected at the annual meeting assume their offices immediately, with the exception of wardens and vestrymembers, who shall attend the next regular meeting of

ARTICLE 5. THE RECTOR

Section 5.1. *General duties and responsibilities of the rector*. The rector has exclusive charge of the worship and of all things affecting the spiritual interests of the parish, subject to the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer, the canons of the Church, and the godly counsel of the bishop. It is the rector's duty to give orders concerning the worship of the church, together with all that appertains thereto. The rector is at all times entitled to access to the church for purposes of worship, religious instruction, and other purposes authorized by the Church. The rector has spiritual direction and control of all Christian education, parish schools, and other educational and charitable associations connected with the parish, and if present presides with right to vote at all parish and vestry meetings. The vestry may take no (a) affecting the personal rights of the rector, or (b) relating to the sale or other transfer of church investments,

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the vestry as nonvoting observers and shall assume their offices at the close of such meeting." Subsection deleted by Vestry, December 9, 2014.

or (c) relating to selling or mortgaging real estate owned by the church, unless the rector is present at the meeting.

Section 5.2. *Actions upon the advice and consent of the wardens and vestrymembers*. The rector may appoint or employ a parish secretary, sexton, bellringer, messenger, or other personnel only upon the affirmative vote of one or more of the wardens and of a majority of the vestrymembers. The persons so appointed may be discharged upon a similar vote, with the consent of the rector.

Section 5.3. *Vacancy of rectorship*.

(a) Upon the death, resignation, or removal of the rector, the wardens must immediately give notice of the vacancy of the rectorship to the bishop.

(b) While the rectorship is vacant, any acts specified in these by-laws to be done by the rector will unless otherwise specified be done instead by the wardens jointly. With the consent of the bishop the vestry may contract for services of an interim rector, with such duties, privileges, and responsibilities as the contract may specify.

(c) While the rectorship is vacant, no priest may officiate at regular services of the church without the consent of the bishop.

(d) No vestry vote may be held upon the election of a new rector unless (i) the candidate is recommended by the bishop to the parish or (ii) the bishop otherwise approves the candidate upon thirty days' notice prior to the vote. An election of a new rector must be by two-thirds vote of the vestry. Upon such election, the wardens must immediately send written notice thereof to the bishop.

ARTICLE 6. ASSISTANT MINISTERS

Section 6.1. *Appointment of assistant ministers*. The vestry may employ one or more priests as assistant ministers to serve upon such terms as the vestry may specify and otherwise under the direction of the rector. No vestry vote may be held upon the appointment of any assistant minister unless the bishop has approved the candidate upon thirty days' notice prior to the vote. An election of an assistant minister must be by affirmative vote of the rector, one or more of the wardens, and a majority of the vestrymembers.

Section 6.2. *Term of office of assistant minister*. Unless originally appointed to serve for a shorter term, any assistant minister serves at the discretion of the rector and may not serve beyond the period of service of the rector. When the rectorship is vacant, the wardens and vestrymembers may reappoint any assistant minister pending the call of a new rector, upon terms agreed to by the vestry and the bishop.

ARTICLE 7. WARDENS AND VESTRYMEMBERS

Section 7.1. *General duties and responsibilities of wardens and vestrymembers.* The wardens and vestrymembers provide leadership in the parish, ensure that parish funds are expended properly, elect the rector, and provide for the rector's maintenance. The wardens and vestrymembers, under the rector, protect church property and provide for all things needed for the orderly worship of God and for the administration of the Sacraments and Ordinances of the Church.

Section 7.2. *Number and functions of wardens*. There are two wardens: the rector's warden and the people's warden. In addition to other duties that may be required by law or by canon, the rector must appoint one warden to serve as administrative chair of the vestry and the other to serve as program chair, each with such duties as may be prescribed by the vestry.

Section 7.3. *Number and functions of vestrymembers*.

(a) There are six[7] vestrymembers (formerly and in the corporate name referred to as "vestrymen").

(b) In addition to other duties that may be required by law or by canon, each vestrymember must serve on such committees (as appointed by the rector) and fulfill such other functions as may be prescribed by the vestry. Vestrymembers are expected to attend all regular and special vestry meetings.

(c) Any warden or vestrymember is subject to removal from office by vote of the vestry upon a fourth absence from any regular or special meeting within any twelve-month period, regardless of the reason for the absence. The rector's warden must give a written warning upon a third absence, may thereafter request the member's resignation, and upon the fourth absence must move the vestry to consider removal from office.

Section 7.4. *Terms of office of wardens and vestrymembers*. Each warden serves for a term of one year from appointment or election and may serve no more than six successive terms. Each of the six[8] vestrymembers serves for a term of three years from election (or, where elected to fill an unexpired term, until the expiration of the predecessor's original term of office), with the vestrymembers as a whole serving in rotation, two[9] vestrymembers (one-third) elected each year. No vestrymember who has been elected to a full term is eligible for reelection until the next annual meeting following the expiration of the original term of office. Any former vestrymember may at any time be elected or appointed to fill an unexpired term due to a vacancy on the vestry.[10]

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[7] Changed from "twelve" by Vestry, February 14, 2017, effective May 15, 2017 upon filing of Certificate of Change.

[8] Changed from "twelve" by Vestry, February 14, 2017, effective May 15, 2017 upon filing of Certificate of Change.

[9] Changed from "four" by Vestry, February 14, 2017, effective May 15, 2017 upon filing of Certificate of Change.

[10] Sentence "Wardens and vestrymembers and officers of the vestry serve their terms of office until their successors have assumed office pursuant to the provisions of Section 4.7(g)" added by Vestry, January 8, 2007. Deleted by Vestry, December 9, 2014.

Section 7.5. *Regular vestry meetings*. Regular vestry meetings are held monthly in the months of August through June at a time and place to be determined by the vestry without notice other than announcement at the prior meeting.[11] Meeting dates for regular vestry meetings must be included in the parish calendar, but notices of such meetings need not be sent to members of the vestry. Parishioners may attend and observe regular vestry meetings except when the vestry goes into executive session.

Section 7.6. *Special vestry meetings*. Special vestry meetings may be called at any time, upon twenty-four hours notice in person or by direct telephone conversation, or upon five days' notice by first-class mail or by email, by

(a) the rector, or

(b) the wardens if there is no rector, or if the rector is absent from the diocese for three calendar months, or is incapable of acting, or if the rector has refused to call the meeting within one week after the receipt of a request signed by a majority of the vestrymembers, or

(c) a majority of the vestrymembers, in case of failure of the wardens to call the meeting within one week after the receipt of their request.

No business may be transacted at a special meeting unless its subject matter has been described in the notice of meeting. No business may be transacted at vestry retreats unless notice is given as for a special vestry meeting. Parishioners may attend and observe special vestry meetings except when the vestry goes into executive session.

Section 7.7. *Quorum*. At any regular or special meeting of the vestry, a quorum consists of:

(a) The rector, one of the wardens, and a majority of the vestrymembers currently in office of

(b) The rector, both wardens, and one less than a majority of the vestrymembers currently in office or

(c) The rector and two-thirds of the vestrymembers currently in office or

(d) If the rector is absent from the diocese or is incapable of acting and has been so absent or incapable for more than three calendar months, or if the meeting is called by the rector and the rector is absent therefrom, or if the meeting is called by the wardens or vestrymembers and the rector is absent therefrom, one warden and a majority of the vestrymembers currently in office, or both wardens and one less than a majority of the vestrymembers currently in office.

Section 7.8. *Powers of vestry*. In addition to any other powers that may be provided by law or by canon, the vestry may

(a) build, maintain, and furnish buildings for parish purposes,

(b) appoint or employ such assistant ministers and lay assistants as they deem necessary for the conducting of religious services,

(c) sue and be sued and otherwise act as a duly constituted corporate entity, under the corporate name of the parish, and

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[11] Amended by Parish Meeting January 31, 2010. Previously first sentence read: "Regular vestry meetings are held monthly in the months of September through July at a time and place to be determined by the vestry."

(d) own, hold, and dispose of any real estate and other property, subject to such restrictions on use and disposition as may be imposed by law, by canon, or by the terms under which the property may have been received by the parish. Section 7.9. *Voting*. Unless otherwise required by these by-laws, the vestry acts on the affirmative vote of a majority of the vestry present at any regular or special meeting. The chair may vote on all matters. A vote on any matter may, upon the request of any two members, be by roll call.

Section 7.10. *Vacancies among the wardens and vestrymembers*. In the event of the death, resignation, removal, incapacity, or refusal or neglect for six months to serve in his or her capacity

(a) of the rector's warden, the vacancy is filled by appointment by the rector;

(b) of the people's warden, the vacancy is filled by vote of the vestry, upon nomination by any vestrymember; or

(c) of any of the vestrymembers, the vacancy is filled by vote of both wardens, upon nomination by the rector, pending the next annual parish meeting, at which time the remainder of the unexpired term is filled by election by the meeting. Section 7.11. *Clerk of the vestry*. At the first regular or special vestry meeting following each annual parish meeting, or in the event of a vacancy, the vestry must select one of the vestrymembers to be the clerk of the vestry. The rector or any other member of the vestry may nominate one or more candidates, who may be elected by voice vote or, on motion, by ballot. The clerk of the vestry is responsible for distributing proposed minutes of vestry meetings to members of the vestry by the Sunday before the next regular vestry meeting, has such other duties and responsibilities prescribed by law and as the vestry may determine, and may be removed from office by the vestry. The vestry may also appoint a recording secretary.

Section 7.12. *Treasurer and assistant treasurer*. At the first regular or special vestry meeting following each annual parish meeting, or in the event of a vacancy, the vestry must elect a communicant of the parish to be the parish treasurer. The rector or any other member of the vestry may nominate one or more candidates, who may be elected by voice vote or, on motion, by ballot. An assistant treasurer, also a communicant, may be similarly elected. The treasurer and assistant treasurer must receive notice of all vestry meetings and must attend vestry meetings in order to advise the vestry on financial matters. If not members of the vestry, they do not have the right to vote. The treasurer and assistant treasurer have such duties and responsibilities as the vestry may determine and may be removed from office by the vestry. The treasurer and assistant treasurer must be bonded as required by law.

Section 7.13. *Vestry committees*. The rector appoints members of a property committee, a finance committee, and such other standing and special committees as the vestry may establish, with such duties as the vestry may by resolution prescribe. Membership on vestry committees is not restricted to members of the vestry. The rector and one warden are ex officio members of all committees, but their absence at a meeting thereof does not prevent the finding of a quorum.

ARTICLE 8. TERMINOLOGY

Section 8.1. *Vestry*. As used in these by-laws, the term "vestry" means the rector, wardens, and the vestrymembers collectively. Each of such persons is a "member of the vestry".

Section 8.2. *Bishop*. As used in these by-laws, the term "bishop" means the bishop or the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese of New Jersey.
Section 8.3. *Diocese*. As used in these by-laws, the term "diocese" means the Diocese of New Jersey.
Section 8.4. *Charter Day*. The vestry should provide by resolution for a memorialization of the November 2, 1761 issuance of the parish's charter of organization, to be held during the month of November each year.

ARTICLE 9. AMENDMENT AND REPEAL
Section 9.1. *Method of amendment and repeal of by-laws*. These by-laws may be amended (a) by affirmative vote of the rector, if present, one or more of the wardens, and two-thirds of the vestrymembers present at any regular or special vestry meeting held on seven days' notice of such change or (b) by majority vote of parishioners at the annual or any special parish meeting noticed for such purpose or (c) as may otherwise be required by law.

III. **Opening of Meeting and Quorum**

1. Login Time. The Clerk shall schedule Internet meeting service availability to begin at least 30 minutes before the start of each meeting.
2. Signing in and out. Members shall identify themselves as required to sign in to the Internet meeting service, and shall maintain Internet and audio access throughout the meeting whenever present, but shall sign out upon any departure before adjournment.
3. Quorum. The Annual Parish Meeting Managers shall determine and report to the Clerk the presence of a quorum as required by the New Jersey Revised Statutes section 16:12-10 on the basis of members' login information. The members present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. Less than a quorum can adjourn.

IV. **Conduct of Meeting**

1. Technical requirements and malfunctions. Each member is responsible for his or her audio and Internet connections; no action shall be invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a member's individual connection prevented participation in the meeting.
2. Forced disconnections. The Rector or Priest-in-Charge as President of the meeting may cause or direct the disconnection or muting of a member's connection if it is causing undue interference with the meeting. The President's decision to do so, which is subject to an undebatable appeal that can be made by any member, shall be announced during the meeting and recorded in the minutes.
3. Assignment of the floor. To seek recognition by the President, a member shall use the Zoom "raise hand" request and await recognition. Once the pending action is completed, the Annual Parish Meeting Manager shall clear the online queue.
4. Motions submitted in writing. A member intending to make a main motion, to offer an amendment, or to propose instructions to a committee, shall, before or after being recognized, post the motion in writing to the online area designated by the Clerk for this

purpose, preceded by the member's name. Use of the online area designated by the Clerk for this purpose shall be restricted to posting the text of intended motions.

5. Seconding of motions and related posts. Members responding "so moved" to a request from the President for a motion, or seconding any motion that requires a second, must do so using the Zoom "raise hand" feature. Once the pending action is completed, the Annual Parish Meeting Manager shall clear the online queue.

6. Display of motions. The Clerk shall designate an online area exclusively for the display of the immediately pending question and other relevant pending questions (such as the main motion, or the pertinent part of the main motion, when an amendment to it is immediately pending); and, to the extent feasible, the Clerk, or any assistants appointed by him or her for this purpose, shall cause such questions, or any other documents that are currently before the meeting for action or information, to be displayed therein until disposed of.

7. Video display. The President, the Clerk, or their assistants shall cause display of the video of the member currently recognized to speak (if such display is permitted by them) or report.

V. **Floor Nominations and Voting**

1. Nominations from the Floor. Any persons who have not been nominated through the Nominating Committee or the Clerk of the Annual Parish Meeting may be nominated for office by written nomination form for such purpose, completed and submitted to the Clerk no later than a week prior to the opening of the Annual Parish Meeting, provided that when the President invites nominations from the floor for that office the person making the nomination confirms the nomination and the person nominated confirms willingness to serve if elected.

2. Voting. All votes will be taken by the Zoom polling feature, unless the President authorizes voting to be done by (a) an outside online voting service or (b) by mail-in ballot for those members unable to participate electronically. If mail-in ballots are authorized, they must be received by the Clerk in sufficient time to be tabulated prior to the opening of the Annual Parish Meeting so that they can be included in the total vote counts. Results of votes may be reported to the President by the Chair of the Balloting Committee, if one is appointed, or the Clerk.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

The Annual Meeting Committee has received the following nominations for the February 1, 2025 Annual Meeting of Christ Church, for the offices to be elected at the meeting.

These nominees are qualified as members of the congregation in good standing and have confirmed their willingness to serve if elected.

People's Warden (one year term)
Jonathan Gloster

Vestrymember (three year term)
Karen Colabaugh
Melbourne Garber

Deputies to the Diocesan Convention
Gordon Arsenoff, Karen Bemis, Isha Davies

Alternate Deputies to the Diocesan Convention
Tisha Abbott, Chris Davies, Stephen Greenwood

Delegates to the Northern Convocation
Gerri Callahan, Isha Davies, Ashlinn Stansbury-Fields, Jeffrey Fields, Jeremiah Weston, Monica Williams

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Isha Davies, Chair, Gordon Arsenoff, Patricia Buckendahl, James Nichols

INTERIM RECTOR'S 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

It was 10 years ago on March 1st when I took my seat at the annual convention of the Diocese of New Jersey, being held in Cherry Hill. It was also my first official day of work as the Episcopal chaplain at Rutgers University. Much has changed since that day, at Rutgers, at Christ Church, in New Brunswick, in the diocese, and in our world.

As you know, the vestry of Christ Church, the chaplaincy committee of Episcopal Campus Ministries at Rutgers, and I, have embarked on this new journey of working and walking together. I count it as a great honor to be asked to walk with you for this time of transition. We don't know exactly what is next, but together we will listen to the Spirit and each other as we strive to discern and make God's will a reality in our midst.

The connections between Christ Church and Rutgers are both old and deep, as are the ties between the mission of Christ Church and that of ECMR. Being fairly new to the Christ Church and ECMR stories, I'm not sure the last time the two ministries worked this closely together. Regardless it's an exciting if challenging time for all.

The vestry of Christ Church and the chaplaincy committee of ECMR have agreed to a 60/40 division of both my ministry duties and salary expenses. It has already been a bit challenging as we have worked out the shared costs. We are still figuring out my time and presence in both ministry contexts. Needless to say, these are uncharted waters in which we are sailing, and there are no doubt more unknown unknowns ahead. As I've asked of you before, please be patient with us.

As I began my position on January 1st, I don't have a detailed report as a rector usually might. I will, however, seek to provide reflections and commentary on some areas of interest and concern for the parish.

Staff

One of the great plusses to this new ministry configuration is that I already know the staff of Christ Church, and we already know we work well together! I am so thankful to serve alongside Daphne, both at the altar but also in parish life. I look forward to getting to know her style even better as the "busy time" of the Church Year is almost upon us! Brittney is such a treasure and truly keeps the management of the parish running, no matter what challenges may arise. I appreciate her tenacity and reliability. And I have seen Carlos' hard work firsthand as well for years. He handles with skill the many challenges and regular maintenance of the different needs of our historic buildings and property. Many thanks to Elaine for her continuing and much needed work as our bookkeeper. Having such a reliable and resilient staff puts my mind at ease.

Vestry

I have attended only one vestry meeting so far, but I am thankful to see such a gifted and dedicated group taking leadership during this time of transition. I look forward to embarking on this critical aspect of parish life. From our tireless wardens, Meegan and Jonathan, to the liaisons that make sure so many different areas of parish life receive the attention they deserve. I especially want to thank Jim, and Gordon as their vestry terms come to an end. We have seen your gifts and faithful service, and we are counting on your ongoing service to continue to make the parish a richer place for it. And I welcome all the new members who will be joining us after the annual meeting.

Music

If I knew anything about Christ Church before I accepted this call it was how important music is to the life and ministry of the parish. People are very passionate about our music program. It's good to be reminded that the ultimate purpose is leading the parish deeper into worship, not letting our egos get in the way. I look forward to working more closely with Suzanne as we look ahead to Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. I know she's excited, as am I, to collaborate in this vital part of our life together. And not to overlook the hard work the choir does every time they help lead our worship, offering their many gifts to the glory of God. I need to remind them regularly how important their presence is in our midst.

Liturgy

The lifeblood of any parish is its volunteers. And one of the greatest ways people serve is by helping lead liturgy. Whether it is as a lector, prayer leader, Eucharistic minister, usher, greeter, part of the production team, or an altar guild member, we are only as strong as our volunteers. Let's make it a priority to raise up more volunteers to keep our liturgical teams strong, committed, and energized.

Formation Programming

As you may already know, I was a public school teacher for seven years before I left that profession to attend seminary. Even then, I made it clear that education and formation were (and remain) a primary focus of my call to the priesthood. Whether I have served in a parish or strictly in campus ministry, my tenure as a priest has always been guided by my instincts as an educator.

I am excited to get to know more about the adult formation programs already in place such as Tuesdayers, and WomenSpirit. From educating the youngest to the oldest in the parish, from baptismal and confirmation preparation to adult studies, I am excited to join the many other educators who already serve Christ Church in these important efforts.

Community Involvement and Outreach

During my decade in this city, I became familiar with all the ways Christ Church has done outreach to the people of New Brunswick. From Elijah's Promise and the Christ Church Food Pantry, to Laundry Love and the Interfaith Rotating Shelter, there are many ways that the people of this parish demonstrate the greatest commandments: Love God, love your neighbor as yourself.

I have already been active with one of the interfaith clergy groups in the city. I am also quite active in an interfaith group of chaplains at Rutgers. We regularly meet with several university deans, as well as the staff of the counseling center and the police department. Living as I do just off campus in the midst of multiple student dwellings, I am well-acquainted with the needs and problems that off-campus students experience. Outreach to them has always been part of our mission at The Canterbury House, and I'm always looking forward to trying new ways to reach out. I invite you all to join me and the students in these efforts, and I hope students will engage with the parish in your outreach as well. They are always looking for ways to be involved, and we have many opportunities right at their use.

Episcopal Campus Ministry at Rutgers

Some of the good news from the campus ministry front – the attendance at our weekly meetings at The Canterbury House has returned to pre-COVID levels. There is great excitement and engagement among the student leaders, as well as many new faces worshipping in our chapel and gathered around the tables at mealtimes. They are already talking about ways they'd like to connect with the Christ Church community, and I know they will be ready to hear ideas coming from parishioners. There is a great interest in inter-generational activities, including studying, listening, and working side-by-side.

Not only do I want you to know that my office door is open here at the parish, but so is my office door at The Canterbury House. If you're ever in the neighborhood, don't hesitate to drop by. Even if I'm elsewhere, there are usually students studying, eating, or just relaxing in the house. Some of them love spending time with the cats. You don't have to be a cat lover to belong at the "C House", but it sure helps!

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. Scott Russell

DEACON'S 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

2025 at Christ Church was a year of pivots. Laundry Love is no longer onsite for clients to have their laundry washed and dried at the laundromat. Laundry cards are distributed through Choice Food and Resource Center on Remsen Avenue.

The Grief Group Series concluded in January. The group members shared their thoughts and feelings as we all learned more about grief and how we handle it.

Rev. Joanna and I distributed ashes on Ash Wednesday at the New Brunswick Train Station. We were greeted by some of the same faces from last year while encouraging new commuters to join us for a prayer and ashes. The Lenten Series was "Bread of Life" with Jesus feeding bodies and spirits. We traveled through Lent, from the wilderness to the shorelines of Galilee, and found the sacred in the ordinary—like bread, simple yet essential. When we gathered at the Lenten Retreat to fellowship and pray, we baked communion bread. On Good Friday, we joined St. Alban's for a joint service.

Another pivot was Rev. Joanna leaving Christ Church for a once in a lifetime opportunity in Japan. Her absence has been felt deeply by all of us. I have been making pastoral calls. I have also been attending as many community meetings and events as possible to represent the church.

Before Rev. Joanna left, she ensured we had an Advent program entitled "From the Manger." "From the Manger" celebrates the birth story in a town called 'House of Bread," as Jesus continues to feed the world today. The intergenerational advent retreat entitled "Carols, Cookies, Crafts and More" was hosted in conjunction with Fr. Scott and Canterbury House. We sang carols and enjoyed a cookie swap while making Christmas ornaments and mangers to take home.

Christ Church hosted the Interfaith Rotating Men's Shelter the last week in December and will again in February 2026. Rev. Joanna and I discussed creating a Wedding/Funeral Ministry. My plan for 2026 is to put it into action. The additional responsibilities have been a blessing to me. I hope I have been a blessing to others.

Faithfully,
The Rev. Daphne P. Roberts, Deacon

CHRIST CHURCH RECTOR'S AND PEOPLE'S WARDENS 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2025 we celebrated many things despite some significant challenges discussed later.

- We gloriously celebrated 13 years of Rev. Joanna Hollis' ministry at Christ Church. Throughout her ministry we had many accomplishments which included:
    - Strategic planning focus
    - Development of strong lay leadership
    - Sustained focus on outreach
    - Diversified worship and liturgy
    - Development of strong ecumenical relationships within New Brunswick
- We celebrated the final installation of the new Handi-lift supported by generous contributions of parishioners.
- Strong support for our 2025 stewardship campaign and many lay leaders eagerly stepping up for new leadership positions.
- Strong progress by the 4th Century task force in visioning our future. This work led to the recent completion of our Trinity Wall Street grant application for a feasibility study on potential redevelopment and use of parts of our campus.
- A smooth transition to supply clergy in 2025 and a new Interim rector for 2026.
- Commissioning of the Search Committee for the new Rector of Christ Church.
- Establishment of a new Mission Statement to carry us into the 4th Century of Christ Church's presence in New Brunswick.
- Continued financial discipline to reduce the drawdowns from reserve funds for operating expenses.
- We continued to provide vital outreach ministries through our support of the Choice Food and Resource Center at Unity Square, Laundry Love, and the Interfaith Rotating Shelter.
- We celebrate new tenants for space use of the Parish House basement. In addition to providing revenue, the New Jersey Association on Corrections provides a vital mail distribution service for formerly incarcerated individuals. The mission of this organization aligns with our mission as a parish.
- We also celebrate the Parish staff in dealing with changes and challenges throughout the year. We have a deep gratitude for Brittney Girault, Suzanne McDonald, Elaine Winkler, and Carlos Garcia. Their continued diligence and hard work are invaluable to maintaining our ministry at Christ Church.
- We celebrate the leadership of the Vestry and other lay leaders who maintain the active community of Christ Church. We'd especially like to thank Gordon Arsenoff and Jim Nichols who are rotating off the Vestry after 3 years of faithful service and lots of hard work!
- We celebrate the ministry and service of the Rev. Daphne Roberts, Deacon, who led and supported worship, pastoral support and many other activities before and after Rev. Joanna departed.
- We celebrate the ministry and service of Canon Steven Connor who provided long term supply to Christ Church while still maintaining his role of Canon of the Ordinary for the Dioceses.
- Finally, and most importantly, we celebrate you, the parishioners and friends of Christ Church for your continued support, hard work and encouragement during this time of transition. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up in large and small ways over the past few months. We couldn't do all of this without you!

Despite our many accomplishments, we did have several challenges during the year.

- In late January 2025, two of the remaining boilers servicing the main Church building were damaged due to a water main break in the lower level. From late January to early March, we celebrated worship

services in the Ross Room. Despite the challenges, the parishioners maintained strong attendance. We thank the First Reformed Church of New Brunswick for allowing us to use their main meeting room for our annual meeting in February.

- Shortly after the boilers were repaired, the water heater in the basement of the Parish house failed.
- We also had significant maintenance on boilers serving the Parish House and Choir Room.
- Challenges with ICE enforcement against immigrant communities have stressed our outreach programs and required changes to how we minister to the vulnerable in our community.
- While we wish Rev. Joanna the best in her new call in Japan, it was a bittersweet moment sending her off and facing uncertainty in our near future.
- We must discern what the new leadership in Christ Church's future will look like. First among these is the structure of our clergy and our relationship with other ministries within the community.
- The 4th Century Task force and parish profile development will be required to make tough decisions on the structure and use of our buildings and how we partner with other churches and faith-based organizations in the community.
- Fiscally we need to make difficult decisions to align our expenses with the revenue we receive from pledge, plate and other sources without drawing down on our reserve funds. The current rate of drawdowns is unsustainable and must be reduced dramatically. This requires increases in revenues from new sources and reduction of expenses on what is necessary to efficiently operate the parish. During our interim period, we are accomplishing this in part with shared clergy costs. We also reduced our Marks of Mission support for the Diocese of New Jersey below our canonical asking.
- We realize there is a need for significant enhancement of our communication platforms to better inform the congregation and community at large of our programs, worship services and other activities.

Our goals for 2026 include:

- Thriving in our new interim-rector relationship with Fr. D. Scott Russell with a goal of expanding our relationships with Rutgers and other ministries in the area.
- Enhancing our technology capabilities to include updates in external communications platforms and enhanced sound quality in the main nave.
- Stabilizing and growing our active church membership by expanding leadership opportunities and connecting parishioners to leadership opportunities that align with their skills and passions.
- Progressing our search process through development of a parish profile, determining the shape of the rector's role, and defining the skills and qualities required of them.
- Controlling our expenses to align with realistic revenue projections. This also includes being creative in new revenue generating opportunities.
- Completing a feasibility study partially funded by a grant from the Trinity Wall Street Foundation. This will help us define efficient use of the physical plant to advance our ministry and provide sustainable income for the future legacy of the parish.

We continue to depend on all of you for your support. Please continue to reach out to us with thoughts, concerns and fresh ideas! We are blessed to be entrusted with the leadership of our parish family.

Respectfully submitted,

Meegan Adames, Rector's Warden

Jonathan Gloster, People's Warden

MUSIC MINISTRY
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The Christ Church choir sang a wide range of music throughout the year. Highlights included "God So Loved the World" by Bob Chilcott, a well-known contemporary British composer, and music from Taizé—a contemplative style of worship that originated in an ecumenical monastic community in France. We also featured service music and anthems by David Hurd, an acclaimed American composer and organist from New York City.

Open Choir continued to grow, singing once a month. Over time, this expanded to **Open Choir Plus**, which provided an opportunity for instrumentalists in the congregation to participate alongside singers.

Joyful Noise, our children's and youth choir, continued to meet for two hours weekly, developing strong music skills through the Royal School of Church Music program. They participated in Open Choir and sang monthly for worship services.

As a congregation, we explored new hymnody from many different sources and participated in anthems written for both choir and congregation. With the combining of services once a month, we worshipped using Rite I, and music was limited to a more meditative style.

The Gallery Choir sang three times during the year, showcasing repertoire for both organ and choir. This allowed congregants who could not commit to weekly rehearsals to share their musical gifts. We also invited **Deep Trebles**, an a cappella group from Rutgers, to present music at coffee hour. Sadly both the Gallery Choir and visiting a cappella groups have been put on hold for now, but I hope we will be able to resume these programs in the future, allowing us to expand our outreach in the community.

All of these programs are open to anyone to join. I hope that next year you may consider participating in our music ministry.

Our year ended with a traditional Lessons and Carols Service in the midst of the first snow storm of the season. The service at the last minute was moved to zoom with the dedicated choir and guest musicians in the chancel. An example of dedication was the guest bass had to shovel for an hour and half to get to the service! I want to thank all the musicians, singers, instrumentalists and youth for a wonderful Christmas Eve service. Sonya Headlam, in the midst of a busy concert season, joined me in a benefit concert for the music program. My understanding over $1300 was raised .I thank you all for your generous support

It is a true pleasure to serve as music director/ organist from the balcony, leading such a wonderful, music-loving congregation in worship week after week

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne McDonald
Music Director Christ Church, New Brunswick

DISCIPLESHIP TEAM
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

I had the privilege of being the vestry member who liaised with ministries that fall under the umbrella of discipleship: Church School, the Tuesdayers, and WomenSpirit. I invite you to review their separate reports below.

Additional discipleship offerings centered on Lent and Advent. Deacon Daphne and I collaborated with the Reverend Joanna on the Bread of Life Lenten series and intergenerational retreat. During Advent Daphne and I facilitated the From the Manger Advent series. With the support of Sheila Cooper and Father Scott of the Canterbury House we also organized the Cookies, Carols, and Crafts intergenerational retreat.

I welcome suggestions on how to help us grow corporately and individually as disciples. How is God calling you to grow as a disciple in 2026?

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Clark

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

CHILDREN'S FORMATION

The church school is very small this year with the service at 9:30 we moved the church school to 9:00am. The church school only have the preschool to 2nd grade which only has 3 children who attend. The 3 children who attend has come every Sunday so far. We have one child who is schedule for the 3rd to 5th grade class. We are still using the Spark for our lessons.

The older children have gone to a youth group type setting where they will take different trips during the year and do some service projects in the community. The reason went this way we do not have as many children who attend the church.

Prayerfully submitted,
Margaret Brown-Stansbury
Church School Superintendent

TUESDAYERS

The Tuesdayers meet weekly over Zoom on Tuesday evenings (except for second Tuesdays) to discuss books on a variety of religious topics. We began the year with 14 Fresh Ways to Enjoy the Bible by James Coakley. Prior to a summer break our topic was How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith by Mariann Edgar Budde. In the fall we discussed Love the Ones Who Drive You Crazy: Eight Truths for Pursuing Unity in Your Church by Jamie Dunlop.

As we gather for each meeting we catch up on what's been happening in our daily lives. We formally begin with a prayer and a scriptural reflection, both from the Sunday bulletin insert Taking Faith Home. After the book discussion we close the meeting with a prayer whose parts were composed by current and former members. Between books we gather for dinner and fellowship at a local restaurant.

Newcomers are always welcome. Look for announcements in the Sunday bulletin and weekly parish email regarding the start of new books.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Clark

WOMENSPIRIT

WomenSpirit, a group dedicated to supporting the well-being of women, continues to meet weekly on Wednesday evening for ninety minutes beginning at 7:30pm. Since COVID our meetings are online via the following zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84615703996 password: 678556.

During the past year, we have continued to read devotional material extensively. These readings are recommended by those participating in the weekly convenings. Two recent readings that we found profoundly meaningful were: Celebration of Discipline by Richard J. Foster and Joyful Living, A Story of Faith and Family by Robyn Scott-Johnson. We recommend both books to you.

On October 29, 2025, we had the wonderful experience of engaging in a ninety-minute online conversation with Robyn Scott-Johnson, author of Joyful Living. Ms. Scott-Johnson spoke about her faith and how her FAITH carried her through a long and difficult series of family health issues that could be classified as traumatic. A direct quote from Scott-Johnson reveals the essence of her writing. She wrote: "A Mother's love is a Gift from God. When both my daughters were faced with serious medical challenges, it was that love and my faith in God that gave me the courage and the strength to overcome unbelievable obstacles in order to see them through."

Looking forward, it is our intention to continue our weekly meetings online. We have decided to continue focusing on ways to support, to comfort and to uplift one another by keeping prayer journals that help us to intentionally noticing and sharing the following: "where we see God in our lives."

We open each meeting by reciting our WomenSpirit Prayer: "Be with WomenSpirit, God, as we strive to embrace a Christ-like fellowship by encouraging healing, enlightenment and personal development through prayer.

We close each meeting by praying Compline from the Book of Common Prayer.

We welcome newcomers. Please feel invited to join us even if you cannot commit to being with us each Wednesday. You are welcome!

Please speak with Towanda Stovall (steestovetop@gmail.com), Penny Gordon (pasgordon@aol.com), Jane Otto (jdjotto@gmail.com), Penelope Lattimer (pelattimer@aol.com) for additional information.

Respectfully submitted,
Penelope Lattimer, Convener
WomenSpirit

MEN'S MINISTRY

The Men's Ministry is a supportive ministry that allows us a space to discuss our Spirituality and reflect on how our existence influences our connection to God and the Church. We conduct in-depth reflections on the Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons for the Sunday closest to the date that we meet. No preparation is required - Anyone who is able can participate. During the Covid -19 virus epidemic and beyond, the Men's Ministry curtailed its meetings. The Men's Ministry resumed its ministry **on September 25, 2024 through January 29, 2025 (4th Wednesday of each month) via Zoom from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.**

The Men's Ministry Forum did not convene throughout 2025 due to a decline in participation. Jonathan Gloster and I had reached out to all men of the parish to solicit their commitment and participation while avoiding conflicts with other parish activities, but only a few responded. The Men's Ministry can be a fulfilling ministry, but more discussion is required among the men to stimulate interests and determine the best time to convene.

If you would like to learn more about the Men's Ministry, please contact Jonathan Gloster (Cell - 301-467-4368) – (Email - jgloster73@gmail.com) or Artie Phills (Cell - 732-208-4718) – (Email - haphills@aol.com). We always enjoy each other's company and we strive to find God in our dialogue and our support of each other.

Respectfully submitted,
Artie Phills & Jonathan Gloster Men's Ministry Co-Chairs

Stewardship Committee
2025 Annual Report

The Stewardship Committee position remain filled by Ashlinn Stansbury-Fields and Jeffrey Fields. The theme was Tell Out My Soul and because the committee was small we invited everyone in the congregation to attend the meetings on zoom. In attendance was Mark McMahon, Sheila Cooper, Jonathan Gloster, Margaret Brown- Stansbury, Mervis Johnson, Artie Phillis, Tabby Fenn, Rose Sugihara, Beth Binde, and Isha Davies. The committee hosted cottage meetings and we thank Shannon Pullaro, Sheila Cooper, Mark McMahon, Johnathan Gloster, and Jonathan Clark for hosting them either at their house, on zoom, met up to have lunch, and church. The committee also had epistle speakers and for that we thank Kevin Stansbury, Paul and Catherine Ambos.

The goal for this campaign was $240,000. So far 58 pledges have been received that is 2 pledges less than last year. The pledged amount is $255,000, which is $15,000 more than the goal. To provide a little perspective the 2025 Stewardship Campaign saw a pledged amount of $247,994 and a received amount of $233,017.32.

Thank you to all who have given routinely in support of the ministries here at Christ Church. Whether if you pledge or give money by plate, your dedication to our out in reach and outreach is a clear symbol of how deeply we value our mission. Your generosity allows us to truly tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord, through both our words and our actions.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashlinn Stansbury-Fields & Jeffery Fields
Stewardship Co-Chairs

RaiseRight (formerly Shop With Scrip)
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The gift-card program through RaiseRight is continuing to be a part of the fundraising activity of Christ Church, although orders are still significantly reduced due to the coronavirus pandemic and the reduction of in-church attendance. As of the end of 2025 we now have 44 participating families, and not all of those remain active. During calendar year 2025 they and a couple of non-parish participants purchased an aggregate of $38,225 of gift cards, refills, and e-Gift cards, a 26.91% decrease from the $52,303 in 2024. Total rebates to the parish for the year were $1,408.03, compared to $2,153.99 for the prior year.

The largest parishioner orders by amount ordered were placed by Paul Ambos, Shannon Pullaro, Jonathan Clark, and Pat Buckendahl. The highest parishioner rebate totals were generated by Shannon Pullaro, Paul Ambos, Pat Buckendahl, and Jonathan Clark. Gas stations are on the low end of the rebate percentage scale (*e.g.*, Exxon at 1–1.5%, Sunoco at 1.5%), Food stores a bit higher (*e.g.*, Stop & Shop at 3.5%, ShopRite at 4%), lodging and restaurants in the middle (*e.g.*, Marriott at 6%, Denny's at 7%, and Chipotle at 9%), and specialty and clothing stores on the high end (*e.g.*, Land's End at 14%, L.L. Bean at 16%), although many other types of vendors' cards are available, and bonus rebates are offered from time to time. A listing of the current vendors, their card offerings, and rebate percentages can be downloaded at https://www.raiseright.com/c/Shop/Product/BrandAlphabeticalList.

Some gift cards (depending on the vendor) are refillable. The easiest and quickest way to refill cards or to get eGift e-cards is by setting up Online Payment through a bank account or credit or debit card, or, even better, to order through the RaiseRight mobile app, downloadable at https://www.raiseright.com, but you will need to contact Mr. Ambos to get the church's Enrollment Code. The RaiseRight app even allows you to have cards shipped directly to your home. Frequently asked questions are addressed on the RaiseRight website: https://www.raiseright.com/resources/faq/. If you need further assistance, or to otherwise place an order, please email Paul Ambos at pambos@amboslaw.com. Card orders are submitted monthly usually on the first Monday of every month; delivery can be arranged through Mr. Ambos.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Ambos
Scrip Coordinator

OUTREACH COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORTS

FIVE MARKS OF MISSION

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
To respond to human need by loving service
To seek to transform unjust structures of society
To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Christ Church reaches out to the surrounding community in so many ways, showing the love of God in Christ Jesus to others. Serving in the ministries helps form parishioners into disciples by seeing the face of Christ in each person we serve. The time and talent, aside from the treasure, donated to our work demonstrates how we are stewards of our time, talent and treasure.

CHOICE FOOD AND RESOURCE CENTER (CFRC) AT UNITY SQUARE AND ELIJAH'S PROMISE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

In 2025, the Choice Food and Resource Center (CFRC) celebrated a year of constancy, serving our neighbors in New Brunswick and surrounding towns despite challenges. Since Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was active in New Brunswick in late January 2025, Unity Square put procedures in place to help protect those who use services and those who volunteer at Unity Square. Safety measures include a buzzer system for admission to the building, designation of "Private" areas, and distribution of Know Your Rights materials. In addition, Catholic Charities provides immigration resources, an opportunity to receive assistance from a qualified immigration counselor, each Wednesday.
The following organizations partnered with us in 2025:

- Community Affairs and Resource Center (CARC) Utility programs support
- RWJ- Healthcare and SNAP navigation
- St. Peters Hospital-Community programs, healthcare, vaccines, dental education
- Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey- WIC services
- Rutgers University- ESL classes, IDEA program, Bonner students, volunteers, garden update program, master gardeners education workshop, APSEA health screenings, Pregnancy/infant health workshops, housing rights, cancer education
- Healthier Middlesex- health service, resources, housing rights
- REPLENISH- food and networking
- Community Food Bank of NJ- Food, cooking classes/nutrition education, SNAP navigation
- Middlesex County- aging and disabled services, mental health, nutrition, diabetes education
- New Brunswick Tomorrow- Lead program

- PNC Bank- Financial literacy workshops
- Chase Bank-Financial literacy workshops
- People security bank and trust-financial literacy workshops
- Ocean first foundation- financial literacy workshops
- Brunswick Boxing Gym-Youth programs
- Central Jersey Family Health Consortium-Pregnancy and postpartum health resources
- Dress for success-Resume and interview training
- City of New Brunswick- programing and networking
- NB Public Library-resource sharing
- Holy Family Parish-mental health programs, community clean up
- NB department of public works- compost training, community cleanup
- CoLab Arts-Neighborhood beautification, migration education
- Humana Insurance- health insurance
- Aetna-Health insurance
- Prevention Links-substance abuse education
- Keep Middlesex moving- transportation resources, bike safety
- All about you advocates-health screenings
- Mexican Consulate- resources for Mexican citizens
- New Labor-workers' rights

Statistics for 2025 are little changed from 2024.

Unique Individuals/Households:	**2024**	**2025**
Children ≤17	944	935
Adults	1,548	1,587
Seniors	259	278
Households	667	696
Total Unique individuals	2,492	2,522

Total Served in 2025 Counting All Appointments

Households	4481
Individuals	16924
Adults	9940
Children	6802
Seniors	2174
Sanitary pads (Packages)	4289
Babies diapered	1816
Potty Training pants	140
Adult incontinence	105

The number of different households served by appointment is just a little higher in 2025 than in 2024, partly because a few more slots were added to both the Tuesday and Friday appointment days. Even with approximately 470 available appointments each month, only an average of 79% of the appointments are used. Some months not all slots are taken, and every month a portion of those with appointments do not show. Thanks to Mark McMahon and Catherine Ambos, registrars; Doug Bonar, who escorts our guests and helps them choose their foods, and Pat Buckendahl for inventory support.

As CFRC became eligible for the Community Food Bank of New Jersey (CFBNJ) Diaper and Period Program, diapers, period products, and most adult incontinence needs have been covered by this program. As a result, our Christ Church Packing Program has shifted to assisting Elijah's Promise Community Kitchen by packing disposable flatware sets. Our contribution of approximately 500 sets a month is but a drop in the bucket of the 375,000 meals Elijah's Promise served in 2025 through their Community Kitchen at 18 Neilson Street and their Mobile Meals program where their custom-built food truck brings prepared meals to various locations to serve those who cannot come to the Community Kitchen.

Thank you to our revolving band of "Third Sunday (more or less) Packers," including (but certainly not limited to) Pat Buckendahl, Margaret Brown-Stansbury, Zida Abbott, Thelma Ferguson, Martha Golphin, Dawn Brown, Miranda Guy, Rosie Jhamb, and Dawn Johnson. I am sure I missed some, and I promise to keep lists for 2026.

In Peace,
Catherine Ambos, Christ Church Coordinator
Choice Food and Resource center at Unity Square

LAUNDRY LOVE

New Brunswick Laundry Love at Handy Street Laundromat was humming along by December 2024, meeting the second Monday of each month to walk alongside our neighbors and help them have the dignity of clean clothes. By the end of January 2025, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was spotted outside Robert Wood Johnson Hospital and on Handy Street in New Brunswick. The decision was made to pivot from in-person sessions to a modified system for distributing the Laundry Love packets ($20 Handy Street Laundromat card, Earth Breeze Liquid less Detergent, and dryer sheets) to people who had met with us at the Handy Street Laundromat. In February, letters were sent in English and Spanish to all of the addresses we had for 2024's guests. A total of 18 families picked up cards from the four distribution dates, one each on Wednesday, Friday, Sunday and a Monday. Clearly, Christ Church was too far out of our guests' usual routes. In March we began distributing the Laundry Love packets to people who had appointments for food at the Choice Food and Resource Center with two dates during the week when those who did not have food appointments could pick cards up at Unity Square. Finally, we arranged with Fr. Raymond Nacarino, Pastor of Nuestra Sra. del Carmen, 75 Morris Street, New Brunswick, to meet others who used Laundry Love after the last morning Mass on Sundays to distribute packets. We could no longer meet safely at an advertised time and place each month in a

building fully open to the public. Although this was contrary to the entire purpose of Laundry Love, it was the best way to meet our neighbors' need for clean clothes and provide a measure of safety.

Despite the challenges, in 2025 New Brunswick Laundry Love at Handy Street Laundromat assisted 76 unique families with 285 people. The 309 Laundry Love packets distributed allowed our guests to run 3,090 10-lb. Load-equivalents of laundry for 1,128 people. This is a considerable drop from 102 unique families with 498 individuals assisted in 2024, for a total of 433 Laundry Love packets that supported 4,330 10-lb load-equivalents for 1284 individuals. And we have requests from more families each month to be included in the Laundry Love distribution.

Although the current system gives our guests flexibility in doing laundry on their own schedule, the heart and soul of Laundry Love is the gathering in community and walking beside our neighbors as they do their laundry. We are there to listen and to share resources. Our current model is not consistent with the Laundry Love's Facilitator's Handbook. Moreover, the lack of a regularly scheduled time and location means we are no longer on the Laundry Love nationwide map. This change from monthly in-person sessions at the Handy Street Laundromat was a prudent response to the ICE presence in New Brunswick early last year. We had hoped to return to in-person this year; however, in- person sessions have been cancelled due to ICE agents hanging around the Remsen Avenue/ Suydam St. area (Unity Square neighborhood) and the ICE raid on a laundromat in Morristown on January 12, 2026. If you think you are called to help out either a few months out of the year or on a regular basis, contact Catherine Ambos, msambos@gmail.com, or 732-718-2039. I can no longer carry the whole weight of managing New Brunswick Laundry Love at Handy Street Laundromat. Please help keep this vital ministry going.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Ambos, Coordinator
New Brunswick Laundry Love

Community Garden

This year we had all 9 boxes filled; we gave tomato and pepper to the food pantry. We had 2 people who became gardeners this year. We closed out the boxes in November 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Brown-Stansbury

Interfaith Rotating Shelter

This winter, Christ Church maintained our commitment to hosting the Interfaith Rotating Shelter for two weeks, while other houses of worship joined the program or increased their hosting lengths so that (for the first time since the 2020 hiatus) we are operating over a full three-month season. Last year we wrote that the state experienced record rates of homelessness as the population of people on the streets continued to grow, while our capacity continues to be limited as we are mostly using the same spaces that we used 30 years ago. That trend continued again in 2025 with homelessness further increasing: the number of people sleeping outdoors has doubled since 2022.

Christ Church hosted the shelter December 28-January 4 and will host again February 8-14. The first week was a success with several parishioners volunteering for overnights, meals, and cleanup. We continue to experience challenges with low volunteerism from the parish. Volunteers also came in from our sister Episcopal parishes of St. Barnabas (Monmouth Junction) and St. Luke's (Metuchen), and from the New Brunswick community. Deacon Daphne Roberts served as Chaplain to the ministry, visiting with our homeless guests.

We celebrate receiving a second year of funding from Episcopal Community Services to support our outreach work to the homeless. This year, $10,000 will be disbursed. Last year, ECS funds contributed to the stair-lift capital project, which enables mobility-impaired homeless men to be sheltered with us next year, as well as shelter-specific uses including supplies that help with our weekly moves. Elijah's Promise supported our ministry this year by providing a van and driver for the Sunday morning moves from church to church.

Pray for the safety and comfort of our guests and volunteers. Pray for the shelter and our community to come up with innovative solutions to safeguard the lives of our neighbors in the face of rising homelessness. Pray in thanksgiving for those former guests, once sheltered under our roof, who now have homes of their own. Pray for the root causes of homelessness to be addressed in our society, and for our people and elected officials not to harden their hearts against the needy.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jason Kaelber

Fellowship Committee

On behalf of the fellowship committee, I would like to thank all who participated in hosting coffee hour during 2025. As you may know, fellowship is an integral part of the process as we constantly aim to grow our congregation as well as use this to broadcast our mission and presence in New Brunswick and the state at large.

During the year we were especially blessed host a garden party as a send off for our former rector, Reverend Joanna. We also host Rally Sunday in September. Then there was the Easter egg hunt with coincided with a baptism and finally, late in December we bid farewell to Reverend Stephen. We are thankful to the stalwarts in the committee, Margaret Browne-Stansbury, Wendy Benjamin, Doreen Sirjue, Zida Abbott, Shannon Pullaro, and Stephanie Elson and me, and the numerous other contributors who hosted the hour to celebrate perhaps a birthday, or an anniversary or just life. Who can forget the families of the newest members of our church, those who were baptized, as they hosted the hour on those occasions. This year we hosted three such events. Then there were the special groups

in the church, the vestry, and choir who took their turn to host. We thank them especially, since many of them were doing double duty being members of more than one group.
Going forward, we need new members to volunteer so that there is not a week when there is not a coffee hour. As mentioned, this is a most vital means of meeting your fellow congregants as well as welcoming new inquirers to our community. We need each other. Do help! Please pray for the Fellowship Committee and their continued work.

Sincerely,
Bruce Anderson
Fellowship Committee Chair

Hall Education Fund

A decision was made by the Board of Directors of the Hall Education Fund to dissolve the Fund. The Board resolved to distribute the funds in its investment account to three New Brunswick organizations and solicited from them how they would make use of the funds. Based on their responses, $75,000 was given to Elijah's Promise to benefit students at the Promise Culinary School; $75,000 was given to Town Clock to continue to fund its work with abused women and $75,000 was given to the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Checks were distributed in October. Once the Fund has been legally dissolved, the remaining funds will be distributed to the same recipients or another worthwhile organization in New Brunswick.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMahon
President, Hall Education Fund, Inc.

PARISH SECURITY COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The Christ Church complex is comprised of the church, the attached parish building and the adjacent sexton's house. The New Jersey Office of Department of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) consider Houses of Worship as soft targets, and they have worked with many religious organizations in the past to improve their security measures. The NJOHSP bolsters security within at-risk institutions by sharing information via presentations, convening meetings and conference calls, and solicits funding from the leaders of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to fund the NJOHSP Non-Profit Security Grant Program.

Greeters and Ushers Guidelines:

1. **Greeters and Ushers need to welcome everyone warmly, but at the same time, they need to be alert;**
2. **Recognizing assailants are difficult;**
3. **When Greeters and Ushers encounter a visitor that they don't know, they should have a conversation with the visitor. For example, present a warm welcome and ask the visitor what brings him/her here today, etc;**
4. **In the process, they should look for odd appearance and peculiar behavior in order to determine if the visitor or the condition poses a threat.**

Church Security is the responsibility of everyone:

1. **If we see something strange, we need to say something;**
2. **We may never be affected by assailants; however, we must be prepared to act swiftly and effectively in the face of potential threats;**
3. **We must ensure the protection of our congregation from potential harm;**
4. **We must preserve the welcoming and inclusive atmosphere that defines our places of worship.**

Looking ahead:

No security training was conducted in 2025. The Committee intends do some real training with parishioners about safety if there is a gun incident in the church.

Other training will focus on the following:

1. Greeter Training
2. First Aid Training
3. Enhanced Security Training

Remember that we are all responsible for Security – Let us not drop the ball – See Something – Say Something!

Respectfully Submitted,

Artie Phills - Security Committee Chair
(For: Beth Binde, Jonathan Gloster, James Nichols)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Staff Update

2025 was a year of significant transition for Christ Church. After twelve years of dedicated service, Reverend Joanna P. Hollis departed in August to accept a new calling in Okinawa, Japan. Rev. Joanna's tenure was marked by her ability to foster a strong sense of community among parishioners, consistently reminding us that "love is a verb." Her sermons, which skillfully blended scripture with current events, provided spiritual nourishment and inspiration to all.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Reverend Joanna Hollis for her authentic leadership. Her vision, ability to inspire both staff and volunteers, and commitment to fostering a positive environment have left a lasting legacy. The atmosphere of trust, respect, and collaboration she cultivated has provided a solid foundation for the leadership team and vestry as we move the parish forward.

Following Rev. Joanna's departure, Christ Church was blessed to have several supply priests lead worship services, ensuring continuity in spiritual guidance and support. On January 4, 2026, we welcomed Rev. Scott Russell as our Interim Rector. We look forward to his leadership and the fresh perspective he brings during this period of transition.

Our dedicated staff have been instrumental in maintaining the operations of Christ Church throughout the year. Special recognition goes to:

- **The Rev. Daphne Roberts, Deacon**
- **Brittney Girault, Parish Administrator**
- **Suzanne Davis McDonald, Director of Music and Organist**
- **Carlos Garcia, Sexton**
- **Elaine Winkler, Bookkeeper**

Their unwavering commitment, expertise, and professionalism have ensured that the parish continues to function smoothly and efficiently, especially during this time of change. Their collective efforts have been vital in supporting both the congregation and the leadership team.

Production Minister

We are also deeply grateful for the technical experts who volunteer their time and skills to bring our church services to life every Sunday and on holidays. Their behind-the-scenes work enables us to reach parishioners both in-person and virtually, strengthening our sense of community. Special thanks to:

- **Steve Caruso**
- **Jason Kaelber**
- **Jonathan Gloster**

Their dedication to excellence in production has enhanced our worship experience and ensured that our services remain accessible to all.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2026, the Personnel Committee remains committed to supporting our staff, volunteers, and clergy. We will continue to focus on fostering a positive work environment, encouraging professional development, and ensuring that Christ Church remains a welcoming and inclusive place for all.

We invite parishioners to share feedback and suggestions as we navigate this period of transition together. Your support and engagement are vital to our continued success.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Lowe
Personnel Chairperson

PROPERTY COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

2025 was an active year for the Property Committee, marked by several significant physical accomplishments in addition to ongoing challenges in the area of facilities. Despite these wins, there remains an urgent need to rebuild the Property Committee as a group of parishioners who can assist our part-time sexton, Carlos, in attending to the ongoing physical needs of the church buildings and properties, and to be on call for emergencies.

Most importantly, we have embarked on a major initiative to discern new mission-enhancing and revenue-producing uses for our Church properties as we move into our Fourth Century in 2042, including but not limited to the former Sexton's House at 7 Paterson Street.

Accomplishments:

The year started with the failure of the existing Church boilers in January, the result of a very cold weather, a low-water cutoff malfunction and the bursting of the steam chambers, frozen pipes and flooding. Two new high-efficiency boilers were installed in February, replacing three existing boilers that were more than 25 years old and no longer reparable. Fortunately, most of the replacement cost – a total of about $40K – was covered by our insurance, leaving about $12K out of pocket expense for the church. Additional boiler work was done on the Choir Building (the "Old Parish House" in the fall. Two boilers of similar age to the Choir Building boilers heat the Parish House and will need to be replaced soon.

In addition, we replaced one window in the Choir Room at a cost of $5,000. This window had literally fallen apart, and after many volunteer hours from Kabir Golfin and myself to remove the lower sash, we turned to Feminella Associates of Branchburg, NJ to fabricate and install a new window.

We also had major arboreal work done, including removing much of the dying maple on the corner of Nielsen & Church Street, as well as pruning the trees closest to our buildings. More tree work was postponed until 2026 for cost reasons.

The completion of the new handicapped lift in December ended a multi-year effort to work with vendors and to come up with an appropriate replacement for the old Handi-lift, at a cost of approximately $56,000. The installation alone took several months to complete, between supply chain and labor delays, coordination with the city, and electrical upgrades required. We are especially grateful for major donations from two parishioners, Pat Buckendahl and Shannon Pullaro, and for the ECS Grant obtained by Jason Kaelber, which together covered much of the cost.

Important behind-the-scenes work was ongoing, including meeting with contractors and city inspectors, helping Carlos, and doing the small things that keep the church running – literally keeping the lights on. This could not be possible without the support of the Wardens, and committee members including John Ager and Kabir Golfin, as well as many other members of the parish who volunteered on clean-up days and our other activities.

Wardens Jonathan Gloster and Mark McMahon were constant contributors to these efforts, along with Brittney Girault and most of all, Carlos Garcia, our Sexton. They all deserve our deep gratitude.

Fourth Century Task Force

A great deal of effort was invested in the Fourth Century Task Force, whose goal it is to discern the optimal uses of our church property, including not just 7 Paterson Street, but all of our buildings, in support of our mission and ministries. This task has taken on new urgency given the financial realities facing our parish, and many others across the Diocese and the country.

After attending The Gift of Place Workshops sponsored by Trinity NYC (formerly Trinity Wall Street) Mission Real Estate Development Group, we began work in earnest to formulate a vision for our properties that will both support our ministry and mission and to generate revenue that will help sustain our parish financially into the Fourth Century. This took the form of monthly meetings beginning in June 2025, and many discussions by the Task Force, the Vestry and and the Wardens.

We completed our application to Trinity for a major grant to support the initial feasibility study to work with the parish and community envision realistic options for redevelopment of our property that will allow Christ Church to not only survive but to thrive. These options will be based on market analysis, planning and zoning options, the historic nature of our campus, as well as our spiritual and missional vision. We wrote and published an RFP to seek professional service to assist us, and evaluated the submissions and scheduled interviews in early January.

Goals for 2026

Our goals are to continue the Fourth Century work - we are excited about the opportunity to work with the feasibility consultants on this initial phase of this long-term project. It is also important to continue to rebuild the property committee membership and enthusiasm, so that we can more effectively assist Carlos and share the workload among a larger group of parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,
James Nichols, Property Chair

RENTALS
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2025, the rental program experienced numerous meaningful updates that strengthened both long-term stability and short-term engagement. A comprehensive review of the rent schedule was completed, resulting in revised pricing that aligns more accurately with the square footage, capacity, and functionality of each rental space. This correction ensured fair and appropriate pricing while supporting responsible financial stewardship. The rental program is extremely grateful to Mark McMahon, Jonathan Gloster, and Meegan Adames for their leadership and dedication in restructuring the rental pricing. Their thoughtful analysis and collaborative approach were instrumental in aligning rates with square footage and usage, ensuring a fair and sustainable pricing model.

As part of this rent realignment, rates for long-term rentals were adjusted. This resulted in an increase for our long-standing tenant, Full Gospel Assembly, reflecting the updated rate structure. Our long-term renter First Light continues to occupy the Nicholas Room Monday through Friday mornings, maintaining a consistent weekday presence within the facility.

A new long-term rental relationship was established with the New Jersey Association on Correction. Initially, the organization rented the Nicholas Room during weekdays; however, they have since transitioned into a permanent residence within the basement space, further strengthening their partnership with Christ Church.

We are also pleased to report the continuation of our valued relationship with Rutgers Preparatory School, which hosts both its winter and spring concerts at Christ Church each year. These annual events remain an important part of our rental calendar and community outreach.

During the year, several changes occurred among existing renters. The AA Big Book group, after combining with another AA group, no longer rents space at Christ Church. The Restart Family Worship Center experienced a decline in Sunday attendance and transitioned to a smaller facility better suited to their current needs. Additionally, St. Mary's Coptic Church is no longer a renter.

To support one time rentals and broaden community engagement, Christ Church is listed on Eventective, a platform that connects event hosts with venues in their local area. To enhance visibility and attract new renters, plans are underway to update professional photographs of all rental spaces. These images will better showcase the facilities and improve online presentation. We are extremely appreciative to John Ager, who introduced Christ Church to Eventective and helps keep a pulse on incoming rental inquiries, supporting increased visibility and awareness of Christ Church as an event space.

The rental program continues to evolve, and community members are encouraged to spread the word that Christ Church is available as an event space. These efforts collectively position the rental program for continued growth, increased visibility, and sustainable use in the years ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittney Girault, Parish Administrator

MARION B. DEVOE ALTAR GUILD OF CHRIST CHURCH
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

The Guild welcomes prayers of thanksgiving for members of the Marion B. DeVoe Altar Guild who offer their steadfast "behind-the-scenes" service to ensure that weekly and special services are orderly and reverent. Along with seasoned members Margaret Brown-Stansbury, Sheila Cooper, and Mervis Johnson, we happily welcomed Shannon Pullaro to the Guild in the fall of 2025. Shannon brings her good nature, warm smile, and spirited energy to our team.

With the change in September 2025 to a single 9:30 service, initially as a continuation of the summer schedule, our workload was reduced a bit as we now set up for a single service, omitting the "turn around" step that happened between the 8 am and 10:30 am services. Guild members take turns with setting up and cleaning up as assigned, though it is unsurprising to see those not on the schedule helping out on any given Sunday. It seems to be the nature of an Altar Guild member to quietly contribute when a task needs doing!

The Guild is grateful to The Rev. Canon Steve Connor for donating a set of binders in liturgical colors so that we have a service book for the presider that matches the colors on the altar. His contribution is a tangible reminder of the grace and elegance he brought to our services in the fall of 2025—along with his humility and good humor!

The Guild is also grateful to parishioners Tabby Fenn and John Ager for their contributions during Advent. Tabby collected and donated all the greens that decorated the sanctuary windows and John Ager greened the garden gates and fences. And in preparation for the Christmas Eve service, we are grateful to new "friend-of-the-parish" Silke Severmann for contributing the holly that added color and texture to the outdoor greens and livened up the windows, and to Becca Chant, daughter of the Altar Guild chair, who placed the many poinsettias throughout the church. We are especially grateful as well to parishioners who recognized an opportunity to help the team and stay after the service to take down the Christmas greens, candles and poinsettias: Zida Abbott, Gerri Callahan and Doreen Sirjue. Their kindness and the generosity of giving their time are very much appreciated.

Likewise, Altar Guild members regularly step in for one another when a member is ill or called away on short notice. Without hesitation, they contribute extra time and effort at Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas—which are often busy times at home and work, too. While a small team, the depth of commitment of Altar Guild members is deep. We enjoy each other's company as well as the opportunity to support one another in service to the parish.

The Guild is especially grateful to our parish staff: Brittney, our parish administrator who keeps tabs on flower and other deliveries; Carlos, our faithful sexton who keeps a watchful eye on Guild activities and is always ready to assist when an extra hand or strong back is needed; Elaine, our bookkeeper who keeps our suppliers compensated; and of course, our beloved clergy--Deacon Daphne for her support and encouragement, and Rector Joanna who provided guidance and direction before her departure for

Japan. The Guild looks forward to partnering with the Wardens, Vestry, and Chaplain Scott Russell as we work together during the interim period to provide a reverent environment for worship.

The congregation can support the ministry of the Altar Guild by honoring loved ones at Christmas and Easter through contributions for the purchase of special flowers for those services. In addition, parishioners may make donations that support Perpetual Memorials ensuring that funds are available on a weekly basis to support the purchase of flowers, communion wine, and wafers. A perpetual memorial may be made for a particular date with a "one time" donation of $500 in thanksgiving for, or in remembrance of, family members or friends. Please reach out to Brittney or an Altar Guild member for instructions as needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Christ Church community.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Walworth, Chairperson
Marion B. DeVoe Altar Guild of Christ Church

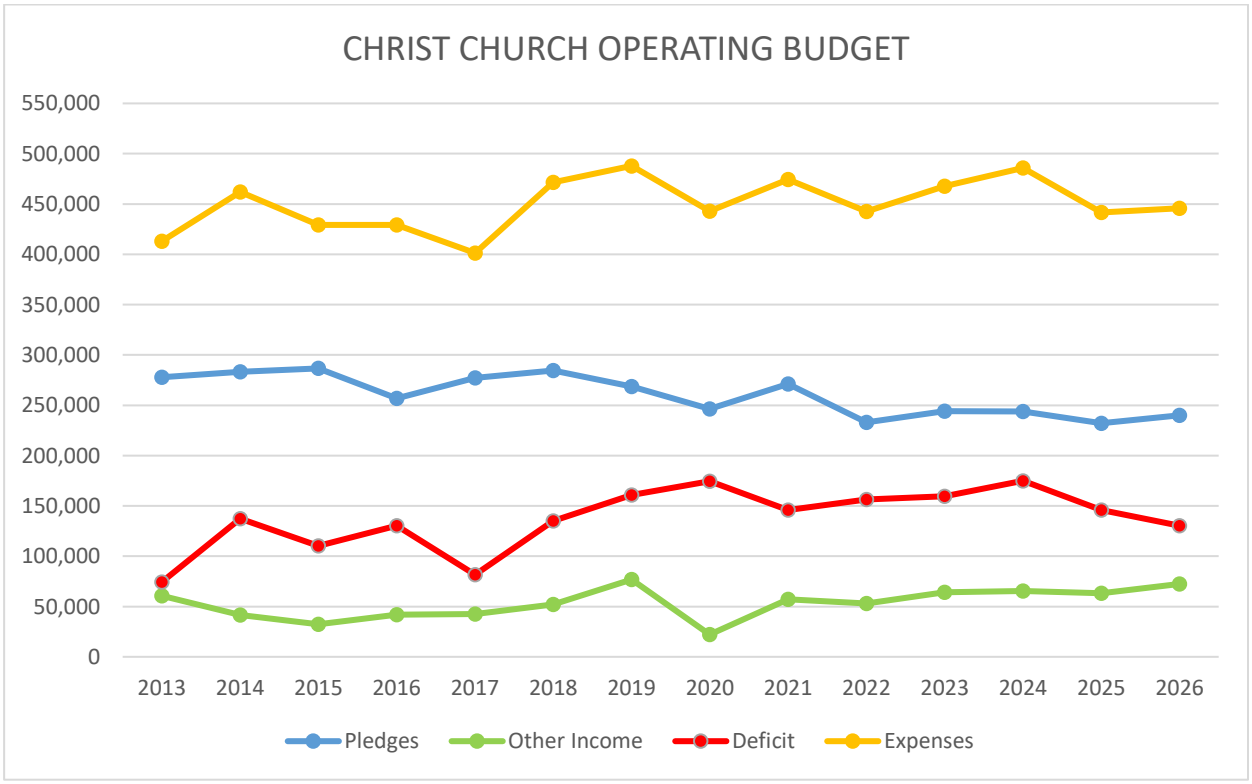
TREASURER'S REPORT 2025

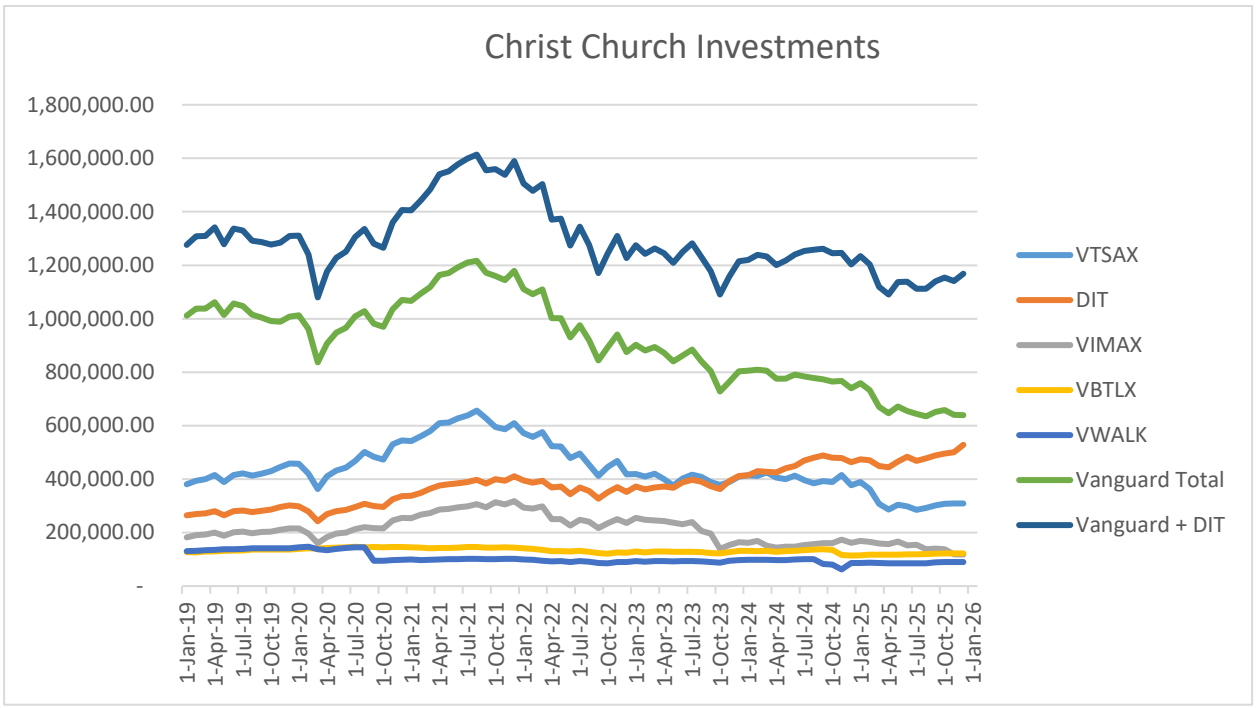
Notes on Annual Financial Report

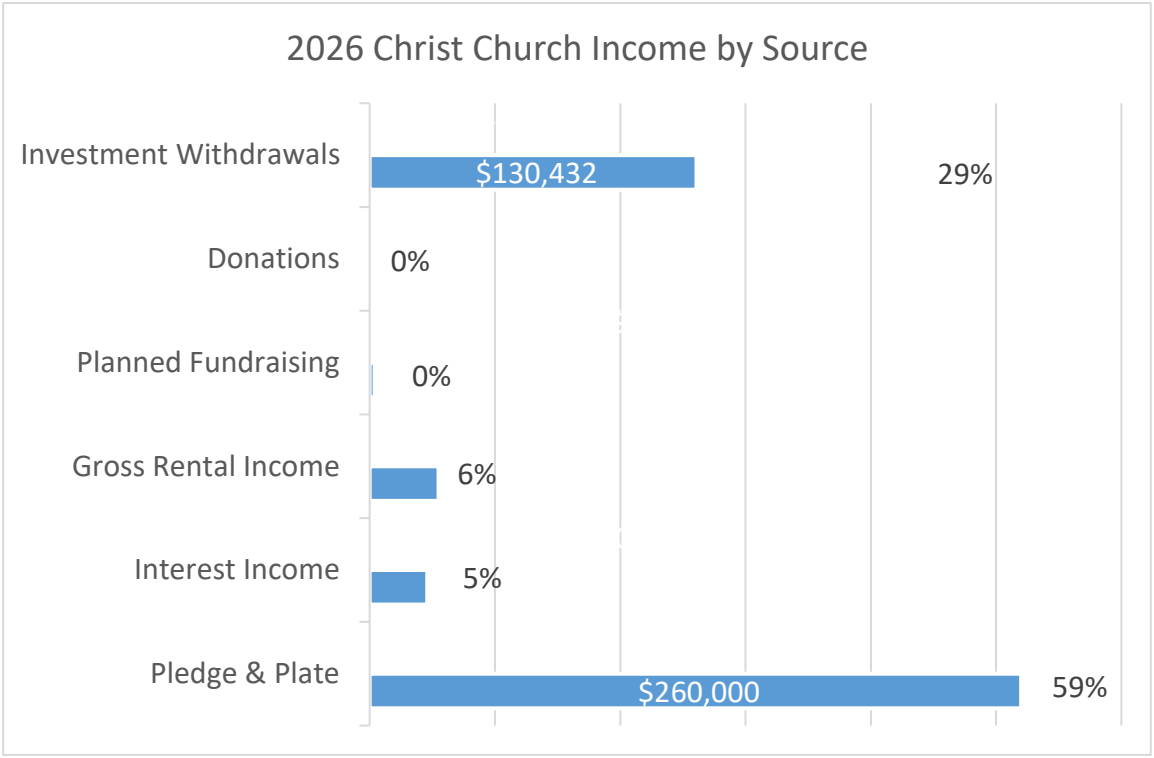
2025: As of the end of December, income decreased by about $15,000 from 2024. The two largest components were pledges at almost $12,000 and plate at almost $9,000. This was somewhat offset by an increase of almost $8,000 from Rental Income and Fundraising. Fortunately, our expenses were almost $45,000 less than in 2024, primarily driven by a decrease of almost $25,000 with the departure of the Reverend Joanna in August.

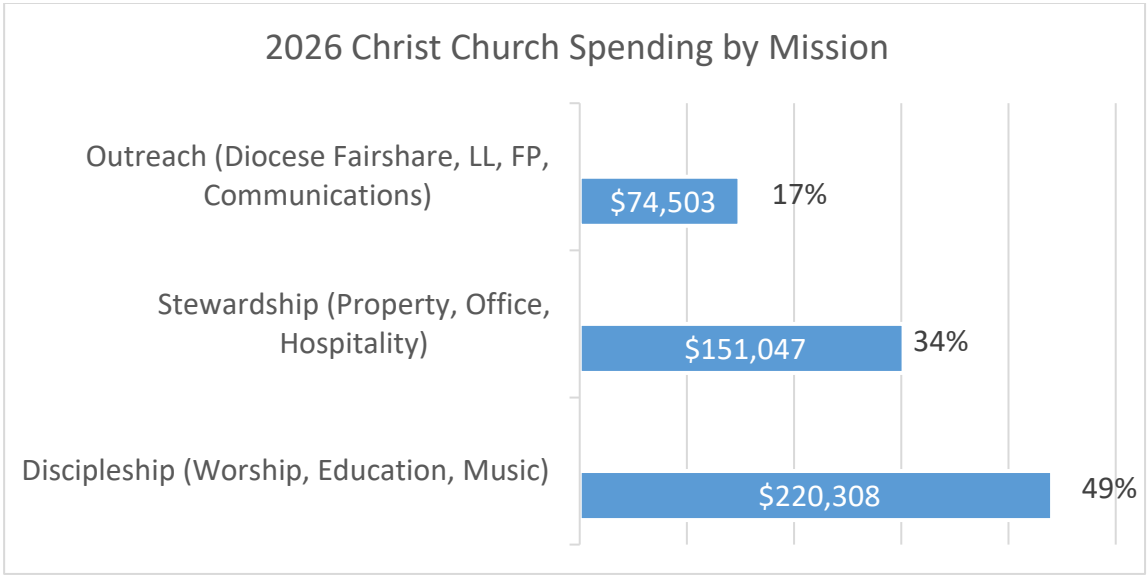
Income: Pledges are significantly below the $270,000 we received in 2021 and the average since then of $245,000. This is no longer being offset by plate which was almost $30,000 in 2024, and almost $35,000 in 2023. Rental income did increase, perhaps because of more aggressive marketing of our spaces. We continue to benefit from a strong stock market, and we are planning to reduce our drawdown to $158,000 for 2026 from the $175,000 we drew down in 2025. Because of withdrawals, the value of our Vanguard portfolio has decreased from a peak of $1,216,647 in September 2021 to $639,508 at the end of December 2025. Our DIT account has increased in value from $264,794 in January of 2019 to $528,404 as of December 2025, in part because of a generous gift from a parishioner this year, and we will continue to draw down 5% annually to offset Vanguard withdrawals.

Expenses: 2026 expenses are budgeted to be almost $100,000 less than 2025. The largest component of this is almost $80,000 in Rector's compensation as we look to find a more sustainable model of supporting our Missions of Discipleship, Stewardship, and Outreach. We are hopeful utilities, health insurance and benefits will remain stable. Unfortunately, we continue to not sufficiently invest in maintaining the fabric of the buildings and moving forward for Property, there remain some deferred projects. Finally, because of the changes in our operating expenses, the amount of our Diocesan Pledge will drop by almost $13,000 from $72,741 in 2024 to $59,890 in 2026.




Christ Church Investments
1,800,000.00
1,600,000.00
1,400,000.00
1,200,000.00
1,000,000.00
800,000.00
600,000.00
400,000.00
200,000.00
-
1-Jan-19
1-Apr-19
1-Jul-19
1-Oct-19
1-Jan-20
1-Apr-20
1-Jul-20
1-Oct-20
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1-Oct-23
1-Jan-24
1-Apr-24
1-Jul-24
1-Oct-24
1-Jan-25
1-Apr-25
1-Jul-25
1-Oct-25
1-Jan-26
VTSAX
DIT
VIMAX
VBTLX
VWALK
Vanguard Total
Vanguard + DIT


2026 Christ Church Income by Source
Investment Withdrawals
$130,432
29%
Donations
0%
Planned Fundraising
0%
Gross Rental Income
6%
Interest Income
5%
Pledge & Plate
$260,000
59%



Respectfully submitted,

John W. Ager
Treasurer

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL, NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Checking/Savings	
1110-Main Account-4050	
11100 Main Checking-4050	35,015.73
11102 4th of July	1,025.37
Total 1110-Main Account-4050	36,041.10
Restr. & Other Current Assets	
1121-Restricted Funds-2490	
11210 Young Churchmans' Trust-2490-Other	32,390.44
11330 Restricted Funds 2490-Other	28,504.53
Total 1121-Restricted Funds-2490	60,894.97
Other Current Assets	
11390 Vanguard 61068027	639,508.17
11400 Diocesan Investment Trust	528,404.09
Total Other Current Assets	1,167,912.26
Total Restr. & Other Current Assets	1,228,807.23
1115-Rectors Discret.Fund-3828	
11150 Rectors Discret.Fund-3828	1,969.01
Total 1115-Rectors Discret.Fund-3828	1,969.01
Total Checking/Savings	1,266,817.34
Total CURRENT ASSETS	1,266,817.34
FIXED ASSETS	
18250 Building Improvement	1,041,758.98
18300 Furniture & Equip.	37,615.90
Total FIXED ASSETS	1,079,374.88
Total Assets	**$ 2,346,192.22**
Liabilities & Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Liabilities	
Liabilities	
20050 403B Payable	24.71
20400 Usage Deposit	5,667.44
20900 Handi Lift	5,937.00
21000 4th Century Task Force	2,500.00
21201 Artie Phills Fund	1,283.13
21202 Music Program Fund	1,259.18
21203 Music Organ Maintenance	3,809.11
21204 Caruso Memorial Fund	4,712.92
21206 Youth Class of 2017	1,196.85
21208 Altar Guild-Perpetual Memorials	14,651.31
21209 Altar Guild Operating Fund	16.36
21210 Young Churchmans's Trust	32,390.44
Total Liabilities	73,448.45

Equity	
29990 Suspense	27,295.44
30030 Fund Adjustments	(214,805.63)
30040 AltarGuildFundBal-Restricted	66,842.25
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	1,634,238.30
Total Equity	1,513,570.36
Total Liabilities	1,587,018.81
Total Liabilities	1,587,018.81
Net Assets	
Fund Principal1	
13550 Offset Account	(159,219.51)
30050 Net Income	918,392.92
Total Fund Principal1	759,173.41
Total Net Assets	759,173.41
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	**$ 2,346,192.22**

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL, NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

OPERATING INCOME & EXPENSES 2025

Accounts	Actual Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Budget Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Actual This Year Year to Date	Annual Budget This Year Year
Revenues				
Revenues1				
40500 Pledge Income	28,131.00	20,833.37	232,319.00	250,000.00
40530 Plate Offering	2,424.23	1,250.00	23,126.35	15,000.00
40675 Investment Dividends	0.00	1,916.63	22,191.00	23,000.00
40700 Donations-Misc.	1,000.00	125.00	1,492.69	1,500.00
45000 Space Usage	4,075.00	2,000.00	21,100.00	24,000.00
45200 Church School Fundraising	0.00	83.37	0.00	1,000.00
45220 Fund Raising-General	(1,025.00)	416.63	3,817.00	5,000.00
45221 RaiseRight fundraising	2,053.01	208.37	(447.31)	2,500.00
45272 Designated Gifts-Operating	0.00	0.00	363.74	0.00
Total Revenues1	36,658.24	26,833.37	303,962.47	322,000.00
Other Revenues1				
41000 Investment Transfers	20,000.00	17,500.00	173,000.00	210,000.00
Total Other Revenues1	20,000.00	17,500.00	173,000.00	210,000.00
Total Revenues	**$ 56,658.24**	**$ 44,333.37**	**$ 476,962.47**	**$ 532,000.00**
Expenses				
Salaries				
51011 Salary - Rector	0.00	4,071.00	40,300.00	48,852.00
51012 Salary-Director of Music	4,270.84	4,270.87	51,250.08	51,250.00
51013 Salary-Sexton	2,876.91	2,593.88	33,378.86	31,127.00
51014 Salary-Business Operations Manager	3,687.84	2,687.87	33,354.08	32,254.00
51015 Salary-Choir Section Leaders	0.00	445.00	2,080.00	5,340.00
51016 Salary-Seminarian Intern	0.00	300.00	0.00	3,600.00
Total Salaries	10,835.59	14,368.62	160,363.02	172,423.00
Other Personnel Costs				
22000 Workers Comp	62.00	208.37	1,749.00	2,500.00
51100 Clergy Housing Allowance	0.00	3,333.37	26,666.68	40,000.00
51110 Clergy Social Security	0.00	566.38	5,122.79	6,797.00
51200 Staff Parking	311.50	483.75	6,853.00	5,805.00
51400 Pension-Clergy	15.00	1,449.75	13,155.38	17,397.00
51500 Pension-Lay	0.00	278.37	0.00	3,340.00
51750 Short Term disability Ins	0.00	51.63	0.00	620.00
51760 Unemployment	0.00	341.88	0.00	4,103.00

51770 Bonus	0.00	250.00	3,400.00	3,000.00
51800 Health Insurance	0.00	2,203.00	20,442.00	26,436.00
51850 Dental Insurance	0.00	121.00	968.00	1,452.00
51901 Education Exp - Rector	0.00	191.63	2,792.45	2,300.00
51902 Education Exp - Music Director	0.00	41.63	0.00	500.00
51910 Life Insurance	0.00	55.50	148.00	666.00
51940 Payroll Tax Expense	615.22	531.13	6,548.79	6,374.00
51960 Professional Reimb. -Rector	0.00	375.00	4,857.28	4,500.00
Total Other Personnel Costs	1,003.72	10,482.39	92,703.37	125,790.00
Other Per & Prof Services				
51020 Supply Office/Sexton	0.00	166.63	0.00	2,000.00
51130 Deacon Stipend	83.33	83.37	999.96	1,000.00

Accounts	Actual Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Budget Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Actual This Year Year to Date	Annual Budget This Year Year
51920 Supply Clergy	0.00	223.75	3,952.48	2,685.00
51980 Bookkeeping Fees	970.20	692.75	8,185.24	8,313.00
53170 Audit Fees	0.00	291.63	3,500.00	3,500.00
Total Other Per & Prof Services	1,053.53	1,458.13	16,637.68	17,498.00
Property Expense				
52010 Property Maintenance	146.50	833.37	8,540.62	10,000.00
52020 Property Contractors	248.00	833.37	5,248.00	10,000.00
52030 Bldg & Prop. Security	55.90	666.63	10,108.95	8,000.00
52040 Pest Control	258.21	108.37	1,975.41	1,300.00
52050 Consumable Supplies	0.00	75.00	914.46	900.00
52060 Tools & Hardware	0.00	50.00	0.00	600.00
54200 Gas & Electric	1,966.00	2,250.00	26,538.04	27,000.00
54300 Water	0.00	166.63	3,402.33	2,000.00
Total Property Expense	2,674.61	4,983.37	56,727.81	59,800.00
Office Expense				
53100 Copier Expense	1,237.30	541.63	7,955.66	6,500.00
53110 Office Supplies	139.71	208.37	1,893.77	2,500.00
53120 Printing	0.00	41.63	0.00	500.00
53130 Postage	0.00	20.87	54.02	250.00
53140 Advertising	0.00	250.00	468.57	3,000.00
53150 Dues & Subscriptions	0.00	105.00	2,178.81	1,260.00
53160 Payroll Processing	78.60	100.00	1,038.60	1,200.00
53180 Bank Service Charges	46.29	41.63	600.56	500.00
53210 Technology	414.66	500.00	6,811.88	6,000.00
53230 Miscellaneous	0.00	41.63	499.22	500.00
54600 Internet Expense	414.55	390.00	4,946.31	4,680.00
54601 Website Maintenance	98.16	41.63	183.33	500.00
Total Office Expense	2,429.27	2,282.39	26,630.73	27,390.00

Music Program				
56200 Music Supplies	0.00	29.13	0.00	350.00
56300 Instrument Maintenance	380.00	150.00	920.00	1,800.00
56400 Supply Organist	0.00	150.00	1,400.00	1,800.00
56500 Music Miscellaneous	7,085.00	125.00	7,240.47	1,500.00
56700 Deferred Maintenance - Organ	1,000.00	83.37	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Music Program	8,465.00	537.50	10,560.47	6,450.00
Committee/Ministry Expense				
53220 Publications	0.00	25.00	270.00	300.00
57010 Adult Christian Education	0.00	41.63	380.77	500.00
57060 Youth Group-Rite 13	0.00	41.63	0.00	500.00
57070 Church School	0.00	100.00	103.94	1,200.00
57100 Worship	0.00	16.63	429.06	200.00
57150 Nursery Attendant	0.00	10.00	0.00	120.00
57200 Vestry	0.00	125.00	398.49	1,500.00
57335 Episcopal Community Services Pledge (ECS)	0.00	208.37	2,500.00	2,500.00
57340 Marketing & Communications	0.00	41.63	0.00	500.00
57350 Miscellaneous	500.00	0.00	801.51	0.00
57370 Pastoral Care	0.00	12.50	6.00	150.00
57500 Hospitality Expense	101.30	250.00	6,114.69	3,000.00
57600 Stewardship Expense	0.00	41.63	0.00	500.00
57605 Outreach Supplement	1,115.00	208.37	1,132.05	2,500.00
57610 Diocesan Convention Expense	0.00	0.00	522.00	0.00
Total Committee/Ministry Expense	1,716.30	1,122.39	12,658.51	13,470.00

Accounts	Actual Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Budget Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Actual This Year Year to Date	Annual Budget This Year Year
Other Expenditures				
55000 Insurance Expense	11,501.00	3,250.87	44,307.50	39,010.00
58080 Diocesan Fair Share Payments	6,061.75	6,061.75	66,679.25	72,741.00
Total Other Expenditures	17,562.75	9,312.62	110,986.75	111,751.00
Total Expenses	**$ 45,740.77**	**$ 44,547.41**	**$ 487,268.34**	**$ 534,572.00**
Net Total	**$ 10,917.47**	**($ 214.04)**	**($ 10,305.87)**	**($ 2,572.00)**

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL, NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

NON-OPERATING INCOME & EXPENSES 2025

Accounts	Actual Dec 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025	Actual This Year Year to Date
Revenues		
Revenues1		
40650 Donations-Rector's Fund	1,060.00	2,488.00
44040 Laundry Love Donations	1,610.00	9,600.00
44050 Food Pantry - Unity Square	1,125.00	1,805.00
44052 Episcopal Community Service Grant	0.00	5,400.00
44060 Hospitality	0.00	50.00
45100 4th Century Task Force	0.00	2,500.00
45230 Music Program Income	965.00	2,000.00
45270 Designated Gifts-non-Operating	23,000.00	30,862.00
Total Revenues1	27,760.00	54,705.00
Other Revenues1		
47060 Men's Shelter Donations	170.00	170.00
Total Other Revenues1	170.00	170.00
Total Revenues	**$ 27,930.00**	**$ 54,875.00**
Expenses		
Committee/Ministry Expense		
57249 Laundry Love Expenses	800.00	9,600.00
57330 Food Pantry Expense	1,098.17	1,149.14
57332 Episcopal Community Service Grant	0.00	2,810.57
57900 Rector's Discretionary Expenses	0.00	2,246.51
58000 Men's Shelter Expenses	0.00	926.67
Total Committee/Ministry Expense	1,898.17	16,732.89
Liturgical Expenses		
59010 Candles	106.83	106.83
59030 Clergy Vestments	(204.26)	0.00
59040 Flowers	(2,530.00)	0.00
59050 Linens	(221.40)	0.00
59066 Oil	0.00	262.55
59080 Misc. Supplies	0.00	129.00
59110 Communion Wafers	41.08	76.08
Total Liturgical Expenses	(2,807.75)	574.46
Other Expenditures		
58010 Designated Expense-non-Operating	23,000.00	30,509.75
Total Other Expenditures	23,000.00	30,509.75
Total Expenses	**$ 22,090.42**	**$ 47,817.10**
Net Total	**$ 5,839.58**	**$ 7,057.90**

FINANCE COMMITTEE
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Income			
Category	**Actual 2025**	**Budget 2025**	**Budget 2026**
Pledge & Plate	$255,445	$265,000	$260,000
Other Revenues	$48,517	$57,000	$52,500
Transfers from Vanguard Account	$173,000	$210,000	$135,000
Total Income	$476,962	$514,000	$447,500

Notes on Income for 2025:

- Pledge & Plate were under budget for the year by about $9,600.
- Other revenues were low due to lower Space Usage, Fundraising (general) and RaiseRight income.
- Vanguard transfers for the year were $173,000 instead of $210,000 as budgeted, since we took about $22,000 as interest from the Diocesan Investment Trust.

Notes on Budgeted Income for 2026:

- Pledge & Plate are expected to be in the same range as the 2025 actual.
- Other Revenues reflect an increase in Space Usage and RaiseRight income.

Expenses			
Category	**Actual 2025**	**Budget 2025**	**Budget 2026**
Salaries	$160,363	$172,423	$160,908
Other Personnel	$92,703	$125,790	$59,558
Other Pers & Prof Services	$16,638	$17,498	$20,800
Property	$56,728	$59,800	$60,600
Office	$26,631	$27,390	$27,290
Music	$10,560	$6,450	$5,700
Committee	$12,659	$13,470	$9,020
Insurance	$44,308	$39,010	$46,004
Diocesan Fair Share	$66,679	$72,741	$59,890
Total Expenses	$487,268	$534,572	$449,770

Notes on Expenses for 2025:

- Salaries and Other Personnel costs were lower than budget due to only 8 months of Rector's salary and benefits.
- Other Pers & Prof Services were low for the year due to underspending on Office Sexton Supply.
- Property related expenditures were less than budget due to less than projected Property Maintenance and Property Contractors expenses partially offset by higher than budgeted Property Security and Pest Control expenses.
- Music expenses were higher than budgeted due to more hired musicians in 2025, partially offset by Music Income, which is not reflected here. Hired musicians were being charged to the Music Reserve account, but that was depleted during 2025 and had to be added back to Music Miscellaneous. Other Music categories, such as Supplies, Instrument Maintenance and Supply Organist were all lower than budgeted.
- Insurance expenses were higher due to a rate increase and the Diocesan Fair Share as shown is low, due to not receiving the bill for the December Fair Share payment until January 2026.

Notes on Budget Expenses for 2026:

- Salaries and Other Personnel reflect the cost sharing of the new Interim Rector with the Rutgers Chaplaincy. A 3.75% cost of living adjustment, as mandated by the Diocese, has been added to the salaries of the Music Director, Business Operations Manager, Sexton and Bookkeeper.
- Other Personnel and Professional Services reflect an increase in Supply Clergy, Supply Sexton and Bookkeeping fees.
- Property and Office Expenses are in line with the prior year.
- Music Expenses reflect a reduction in the use of hired musicians.
- Committee Expenses are lower than 2025 due to no Outreach Supplement being included in 2026. The largest benefactor of the supplement was Laundry Love, and it is projected to be self funding in 2026. Reductions are also planned in Church School, Vestry and Stewardship expenses.
- Insurance Expenses reflect a rate increase from the insurance provider.
- The Diocesan Fair Share expense is down for 2026 due to the Vestry's decision to not fund 100% of the Diocesan ask.

Overall 2025 Actual vs. Budget	
Category	**Difference**
Income	$18,597 under budget
Expenses	$46,697 under budget
Withdrawals from Vanguard Account	$37,000 under budget

Investment Accounts		
Account	**December 31, 2024**	**December 31, 2025**
Vanguard (Investment Account)	$739,680	$639,508
Diocesan Investment Trust (Endowment Account)	$462,906	$528,404

Notes on Investment Accounts for 2025:

- The Vanguard Account was reduced by approximately $100,000 during 2025, even though $173,000 was withdrawn. This reflects a strong investment market that helped offset part of the withdrawal.
- At the end of 2025, the church received a generous donation in the amount of $23,000 for the Diocesan Investment Trust account. Even though a drawdown of $22,000 was made in 2025, it was totally offset by investment gains on the account.

Closing Thoughts:

- The continued use of the Vanguard Account to fund operations emphasizes the importance of the work of the Fourth Century Task Force in identifying means to monetize campus assets. This is a mid to long term project and it must be brought to fruition as soon as possible to guarantee the sustainability of Christ Church.
- Of utmost importance also, is the decision of what type of a Rector Christ Church will need going forward. As we have seen over the past several years, a full time Rector is not within the parish's budgetary constraints.
- If you would like to remember Christ Church in your will or other planned giving, please consider naming the Mustard Seed Endowment as the beneficiary. See Jonathan Gloster if you would like more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark McMahon

2025 BUDGET SUMMARY

CHRIST CHURCH OPERATING BUDGET	2023 Actual*	2024 Actual*	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	Budget Difference	Actual Difference
INCOME							
Pledge	244,118	243,686	250,000	232,319	240,000	(10,000)	(11,367)
Plate	34,521	29,856	15,000	23,126	20,000	5,000	(6,730)
Donations	3,528	(322)	1,500	1,493	-	(1,500)	1,815
Investment Dividends	-	22,991	23,000	22,191	23,000	-	(800)
Gross Rental Income	13,875	13,330	24,000	21,100	27,500	3,500	7,770
Church School Fund.	939	1,027	1,000	-	-	(1,000)	(1,027)
Fundraising - General	9,213	782	5,000	3,817	-	(5,000)	3,035
RaiseRight Fundraising	1,819	(2,363)	2,500	(447)	2,000	(500)	1,916
Designated Gifts-Operating	100	1,975	-	364	2,925	2,925	(1,611)
TOTAL INCOME	**308,112**	**310,962**	**322,000**	**303,962**	**315,425**	**(6,575)**	**(6,999)**
EXPENSES							
SALARIES & BENEFITS							
Rector	146,017	143,787	158,225	120,502	81,425	(76,800)	(23,285)
Music Director	53,201	63,323	60,877	56,352	62,404	1,528	(6,971)
Sexton	32,543	33,382	34,661	35,674	28,043	(6,619)	2,292
Parish Admin.	31,195	32,590	40,291	38,021	39,502	(789)	5,432
Seminarian	1,362	1,467	3,737	-	-	(3,737)	(1,467)
Choristers			5,340	2,080	-	(5,340)	2,080
TOTAL SALARY & BENEFITS	**264,318**	**274,548**	**303,131**	**252,629**	**211,373**	**(91,758)**	**(21,919)**
OTHER PERSONNEL & SERVICES							
Supply Office/Sexton	-	160	2,000	-	2,000	-	(160)
Deacon Stipend	-	1,562	1,180	1,136	1,980	800	(426)
Supply Clergy	2,337	2,237	2,685	3,952	4,500	1,815	1,715
Bookkeeping & Accounting Fees	11,624	7,598	12,213	11,845	12,500	287	4,247
Contractors	10,201	5,697	10,000	5,248	10,000	-	(449)
TOTAL ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL	**24,162**	**17,255**	**28,078**	**22,182**	**30,980**	**2,902**	**4,927**
TOTAL PERSONNEL & SERVICES	**288,480**	**291,803**	**331,209**	**274,811**	**242,353**	**(88,856)**	**(16,992)**
PROPERTY, UTILITIES & SUPPLIES							
Property Expense	15,886	19,005	20,800	21,539	20,800	-	2,534
Utilities	24,495	21,129	29,000	29,940	29,800	800	8,812
Office Expense	29,565	32,062	27,390	26,631	27,290	(100)	(5,431)
Insurance-Gen.	35,572	40,172	39,010	44,308	46,004	6,994	4,136
Designated Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rental Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PROPERTY, UTILITIES & SEF	**105,517**	**112,368**	**116,200**	**122,418**	**123,894**	**7,694**	**10,050**
MISSION AND PROGRAM EXPENSE							
Music Program	6,115	3,117	6,450	10,560	5,700	(750)	7,443
Committee/Ministry Expenses	5,121	13,425	13,470	12,658	9,020	(4,450)	(767)
Rector Search					5,000	5,000	-
Diocesan pledge	62,500	65,195	72,741	66,679	59,890	(12,851)	1,484
TOTAL MISSION AND PROGRAM E	**73,736**	**81,737**	**92,661**	**89,898**	**79,610**	**(13,051)**	**8,161**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**467,733**	**485,908**	**540,070**	**487,127**	**445,857**	**(94,213)**	**1,219**
DEFICIT	**(159,621)**	**(174,946)**	**(218,070)**	**(183,165)**	**(130,432)**	**87,638**	**(8,218)**

2025 Detailed Budget

CHRIST CHURCH OPERATING BUDGET	2023 Actual*	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	Budget Difference	Actual Difference
INCOME							
Pledge	244,118	243,686	250,000	232,319	240,000	(10,000)	(11,367)
Plate	34,521	29,856	15,000	23,126	20,000	5,000	(6,730)
Donations-Outreach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Dividends	-	22,991	23,000	22,191	23,000	-	(800)
Donations-Misc.	3,528	(322)	1,500	1,493	-	(1,500)	1,815
Gross Rental Income	13,875	13,330	24,000	21,100	27,500	3,500	7,770
Church School Fund.	939	1,027	1,000	-	-	(1,000)	(1,027)
Fundraising-Flower Sales	-	375	-	-	-	-	(375)
Fundraising - General	9,213	782	5,000	3,817	-	(5,000)	3,035
RaiseRight Fundraising	1,819	(2,363)	2,500	(447)	2,000	(500)	1,916
Designated Gifts-Operating	100	-	-	364	-	-	364
Memorial Garden Fund	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	(1,000)
General Donation- Altar Guild	-	600	-	-	2,925	2,925	(600)
Total Ordinary Revenue	**308,112**	**310,962**	**322,000**	**303,962**	**315,425**	**(6,575)**	**(6,999)**
Investment Transfers	205,981	180,000	210,000	173,000	135,000	(75,000)	(7,000)
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	**205,981**	**180,000**	**210,000**	**173,000**	**135,000**	**10,000**	**(25,981)**
TOTAL INCOME	**514,093**	**490,962**	**532,000**	**476,962**	**450,425**	**3,425**	**(32,980)**
EXPENSES							
Salaries							
Rector	51,692	50,949	48,852	40,300	44,027	(4,826)	(10,649)
Music Director	45,488	49,297	51,250	51,250	53,172	1,922	1,953
Sexton	31,375	31,720	31,127	33,379	26,312	(4,815)	1,659
Parish Admin.	27,910	28,660	32,254	33,354	33,465	1,211	4,694
Choristers			5,340	2,080	-	(5,340)	2,080
Seminarian	1,333	1,333	3,600	-	-	(3,600)	(1,333)
TOTAL SALARIES	**157,799**	**161,959**	**172,423**	**160,363**	**156,976**	**(15,448)**	**(1,596)**
Other Personnel Costs							
Workers Comp	2,265	1,871	2,500	1,749	2,500	-	(122)
Clergy Housing Subsidy	33,000	35,400	25,000	26,667	1,960	(23,040)	(8,733)
Additional Housing Allow.			15,000		-	(15,000)	-
Clergy Soc. Sec	6,576	6,697	6,797	5,123	3,368	(3,429)	(1,574)
Staff Parking	5,525	6,949	5,805	6,853	3,750	(2,055)	(96)
Pension - Clergy	16,651	21,799	17,397	13,155	11,729	(5,668)	(8,644)
Pension - Lay	2,333	-	3,340	-	3,465	125	-
Short Term Dis Ins	138	-	620	-	620	-	-
Unemployment			4,103	-	4,051	(52)	-
Bonus			3,000	3,400	-	(3,000)	3,400

Health Ins	25,662	24,629	26,436	20,442	11,581	(14,855)	(4,187)
Dental	3,105	1,980	1,452	968	563	(889)	(1,012)
Education Exp	3,334			-		-	-
Education Exp-Rector		2,283	2,300	2,792	753	(1,548)	509
Education Exp-Music Director		-	500	-	500	-	-
Life Ins	475	204	666	148	599	(67)	(56)
Payroll Tax Exp	3,330	5,987	6,374	6,549	5,988	(386)	561
Prof Reim-Rector	4,127	5,003	4,500	4,857	3,150	(1,350)	(146)
Sabbatical		16				-	(16)
TOTAL OTHER PERSONNEL	**106,520**	**112,818**	**125,790**	**92,703**	**54,577**	**(71,214)**	**(20,115)**
SALARIES & BENEFITS	**264,318**	**274,777**	**298,213**	**253,066**	**211,552**	**(86,661)**	**(21,711)**
Other Per & Prof Services							
Supply Office/Sexton	-	160	2,000	-	2,000	-	(160)
Deacon Stipend	-	1,333	1,000	1,000	1,800	800	(333)
Supply Clergy	2,337	2,237	2,685	3,952	4,500	1,815	1,715
Bookkeeping Fees	8,124	7,598	8,313	8,185	9,000	687	587
Audit Fees	3,500	-	3,500	3,500	3,500	-	3,500
TOTAL OTHER SERVICES	**13,961**	**11,329**	**17,498**	**16,638**	**20,800**	**3,302**	**5,309**
TOTAL PERSONNEL	**278,279**	**286,106**	**315,711**	**269,704**	**232,352**	**(83,359)**	**(16,402)**
Property Expense							
Maintenance	4,936	9,629	10,000	8,541	10,000	-	(1,088)
Property Contractors	10,201	5,697	10,000	5,248	10,000	-	(449)
Bldg & Prop Sec	7,640	6,942	8,000	10,109	7,300	(700)	3,167
Pest Control	1,730	1,533	1,300	1,975	2,000	700	442
Consumable Supplies	899	720	900	914	1,000	100	195
Tools & Hrdware	682	182	600	-	500	(100)	(182)
Gas & Electric	21,350	19,277	27,000	26,538	27,000	-	7,261
Water	3,145	1,852	2,000	3,402	2,800	800	1,550
TOTAL PROPERTY	**50,581**	**45,831**	**59,800**	**56,728**	**60,600**	**800**	**10,897**
Office Expense							
Copier Exp	9,418	9,519	6,500	7,956	7,500	1,000	(1,563)
Office Supplies	3,749	1,944	2,500	1,894	2,000	(500)	(50)
Printing	-	-	500	-		(500)	-
Postage	189	70	250	54	200	(50)	(15)
Advertising	1,729	1,731	3,000	469		(3,000)	(1,262)
Dues & Subscript.	1,139	1,982	1,260	2,179	1,000	(260)	197
Payroll Processing	1,189	1,227	1,200	1,039	1,000	(200)	(188)

Bank Charges	598	662	500	601	240	(260)	(62)
Finance Chges						-	-
Technology	5,910	9,073	6,000	6,812	6,000	-	(2,261)
Miscellaneous	405	837	500	499	250	(250)	(338)
Internet	4,672	4,708	4,680	4,946	5,100	420	238
Website	565	310	500	183	4,000	3,500	(126)
TOTAL OFFICE	**29,565**	**32,062**	**27,390**	**26,631**	**27,290**	**(100)**	**(5,431)**
Music Program							
Music Supplies	311	768	350	-	500	150	(768)
Inst. Maint	1,254	540	1,800	920	1,000	(800)	380
Supply Organist	4,550	1,508	1,800	1,400	2,700	900	(108)
Miscellaneous		301	1,500	7,240	500	(1,000)	6,940
Deferred Maintenance			1,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
TOTAL MUSIC	**6,115**	**3,117**	**6,450**	**10,560**	**5,700**	**(750)**	**7,443**
Committee/Ministry Expenses							
Publications	253	203	300	270	270	(30)	68
Adult Christian Ed.	402	420	500	381	500	-	(39)
Youth Group Rite 13	-	-	500		1,000	500	-
Church School	570	690	1,200	104	200	(1,000)	(586)
Worship	181	193	200	429	100	(100)	236
Nursery Attendant	-	-	120	-		(120)	-
Vestry Retreat	-	1,711	1,500	398	800	(700)	(1,313)
Fundraising	280	230	-	-	-	-	(230)
Episcopal Community Services		5,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	(2,500)
Marketing & Comm.	678	687	500		500	-	(687)
Miscellaneous	-	763	-	802	-	-	38
Welcoming & Fellowship	2,015	1,822	-	-	-	-	(1,822)
Pastoral Care	-	54	150	6	150	-	(48)
Hospitality	233	381	3,000	6,115	3,000	-	5,734
Stewardship	360	100	500	-	-	(500)	(100)
Outreach Supplement	-	1,120	2,500	1,132	-	(2,500)	12
Dioc. Conv Exp.	150	50	-	522	-	-	472
TOTAL COMMITTEE	**5,121**	**13,425**	**13,470**	**12,658**	**9,020**	**(4,450)**	**(767)**
Other Expenditures						-	
Rector Search		-	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
Insurance-Gen.	35,572	40,172	39,010	44,308	46,004	6,994	4,136
Diocesan pledge	62,500	65,195	72,741	66,679	59,890	(12,851)	1,484
TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES	**98,072**	**105,367**	**111,751**	**110,987**	**110,894**	**(5,857)**	**5,620**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**467,733**	**485,908**	**534,572**	**487,268**	**445,856**	**(93,716)**	**1,360**
TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME	**308,112**	**310,962**	**322,000**	**303,962**	**315,425**	**(6,575)**	**(6,999)**
TOTAL INCOME	**514,093**	**490,962**	**532,000**	**476,962**	**450,425**	**3,425**	**(13,999)**
(ORDINARY DIFFERENCE)	(159,621)	(174,946)	(212,572)	(183,306)	(130,431)	87,141	(8,359)
(TOTAL DIFFERENCE)	46,360	5,054	(2,572)	(10,306)	4,569	97,141	(15,359)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee Christ Church New Brunswick Committee Financial Audit 2024

Cash Receipts Findings

This portion of the audit was done in the Ross room on June 12, 2025 by Lisa Keenan and Bruce Anderson. The audit requirement was to test 10 percent of all cash receipts for the year. In order to meet this requirement, we inspected the third deposit from the box of physical deposits in every group of ten and additionally also sampled Zelle and PayPal receipts.

Since the pandemic, services are held on zoom and in person. During Sunday services the offering plate was passed around but many donations came into the church either via mail, Zelle, or Paypal.

The counting is done about every 15 days and is done by 4 different people based on availability. The Treasurer is not a counter. A scanner was used most weeks to electronically deposit the checks into a Bank of America account that was set up specifically for this purpose. A few other deposits were physically made and copies of those checks were found. The detailed information was loaded into the Realm people module to account for parishioner gifts to be applied against pledges. Once the deposits were logged in, the exact deposit amount was transferred online to the operating checking account so that cash would be available for disbursements.

Besides physical checks, donations were also made via Zelle and Paypal, although Zelle seemed to be the preferred method of online payments. Zelle sends an email every time a donation is made with the details of the gift which include date, donors name, the dollar amount and what the gift was intended for. Zelle does not provide a monthly report to the church. PayPal was also used in 2024 however there is a fee to the church to use PayPal where there is not one for Zelle. When a parishioner makes a donation using PayPal, they receive full credit for the funds taken from their account and the church expenses the fee. PayPal proceeds need to be moved over online to the church account, which is done about once per month.

Bruce and I reviewed thirteen random samples and completed two pages with the details of each. We were able to tie out the transactions to the bank statements and could identify on the financial statements what accounts the gifts were charged to without exception for all PayPal and Zelle transactions.

We were unable to locate the Bank of America bank statements for the scanned account however we were able to find transfers made from this account into the operating checking account for the scanned deposits from our sample. We were later informed that this account does not have monthly statements.

Bank reconciliations were found for the operating checking account for every month in 2024; however, no reconciliations were performed for the special deposit account and we were not able to review these bank statements, since no statements are issued.

Several bank accounts on the balance sheet do not agree to the balances per the reconciliations. This pertains to the operating checking account, Rectors account and the restricted account 2490. The restricted account statement from the bank does not cut off at month end.

Suggested Cash Receipts Improvements

All relevant reports used to record deposits should be saved along with the reports that are generated from Realm as gifts are recorded.

Every bank account in the name of the church should be reconciled on a monthly basis and the balance on the reconciliation should tie out directly to the balance being carried on the financial statements.

A schedule for counters should be made with two unrelated people working together on a rotating basis, so that no one person preforms the count alone.

A new process needs to be initiated to organize and store all financial records. Currently the records are incomplete and being stored in several different locations. (this was a suggestion from a previous year's audit and the records are much completer and more organized then previously)

Respectfully submitted,
John W. Ager Treasurer