



171st Annual Meeting January 22, 2023

Emmanuel Church

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SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS

In late 1841 mission worship services, called “cottage meetings,” were organized for the millworkers of the fifth ward and held in private homes. As our numbers grew, in 1849 we bought an unused Baptist Meeting House at the northeast corner of South Baptist and Thames Street, and a nearby store was used for the Sunday School. Because Emmanuel welcomed all—with or without money—the parish developed around the needs of the poorer members, through the support of wealthier members. A state charter was granted on June 2, 1852 by the General Assembly and we officially became (and still are) known as “The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of Emmanuel Church.” On March 13, 1852, we became a mission congregation under the name of Immanuel Free Church. Land on the corner of Spring and Dearborn Streets was purchased by Edward King in 1852 and donated for a church to be built. Fundraising began and the church was built and furnished for \$15,000.¹⁹ It was a wooden Tudor structure designed by Richard Upjohn, famed churchman and architect. Michael Spencer, a Newport native, was the builder.



A group of parishioners gathered in 1860 to establish and support a weekday school in connection with the parish. After a few years, as neighborhood children went to local schools, the church school disbanded. It was re-established in 2006 as a preschool. The Emmanuel Day School closed permanently in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic.

While in New York, John Nicholas Brown contracted typhoid fever and died unexpectedly on May 1, 1900. He was survived by his young wife, **Natalie Bayard Brown** and ten-week old son, **John Nicholas Brown, Jr.** As a memorial to her

husband, **Natalie Bayard Brown** gave a new church to take the place of the Upjohn building, which was in disrepair.

In 1922, Newport Hospital named Emmanuel “**the church of the people**” saying, “*only strangers can realize how few open doors there are in a small conservative New England city. If we are at times disconcerted, we try and remember how few desirable avenues are open. In this connection, we must thank Emmanuel Church for its wonderful hospitality.*”

Emmanuel has long been a meeting place for numerous community organizations, some of which began at Emmanuel, outgrew our facilities, and continue to this day, including “Soup’s On.” With a goal of simply feeding people, this endeavor blossomed into a cooperative ministry of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center and twenty-two houses of worship from fourteen different denominations, working together to provide at least one meal every day of the month. A community meal, free and open to everyone, is still offered at Emmanuel at 5pm on the first Tuesday of every month. Also starting at Emmanuel was a support group for parents with developmentally challenged children, now the James L. Maher Center; as well as Hospice, and the Church Community Housing Corporation, a program which helps low-income families buy an affordable home. We have welcomed the Island Dance Company, Seele Chamber Musicale Ensemble, and the St. Petersburg Men’s Choir from St. Petersburg, Russia to share our property. In 2021, we established a long-term space sharing collaboration with Newport Classical now at home in the Newport Classical Recital Hall, allowing Newport Classical to provide year-round programming with the community.

In 2019, we welcomed the Rev. Della Wager Wells as our Rector to lead Emmanuel in our next chapter.

CONTENTS

Serving Our Neighbors _____	2
Vestry _____	4
Staff of Emmanuel Church _____	5
Agenda _____	6
Minutes _____	7
Rector's Report _____	7
Senior Warden's Report _____	12
Junior Warden's Property Report _____	14
Music at Emmanuel _____	20
Ministries of Emmanuel _____	22
Stewardship Report _____	24
Treasurer's Report _____	25
Nominating Committee Report _____	28



VESTRY



The Rev. Della Wager Wells
Rector



Deb Venancio
Senior Warden



Valerie Martin
Junior Warden



Dave Monroe
Treasurer



Elisabeth McCarthy
Assistant Treasurer



Catherine Curtis
Vestry Clerk



Ellen Vadney
Vestry-at-Large



Glenna Randall
Vestry-at-Large



Cindy Larned
Vestry-at-Large



Ed Gosling
Vestry-at-Large



Fay Gosling
Vestry-at-Large



Jackie Breen
Vestry-at-Large

STAFF OF EMMANUEL CHURCH



The Rev. Della Wager Wells
Rector



Randy Elkins
Director of Music
and Events,
Wedding Coordinator,
Parish Administrator,
Sexton



AGENDA

**The One Hundred and Seventy-first Annual Meeting
of
Emmanuel Church
January 22, 2023
11:30 AM in the Church**

Agenda

Opening Prayer

Moment of Silence for Necrology

Christopher Shea
Christopher Perry
Jean Haworth
Donna Whitelatch
John Wayt
Roberta Franklin
James Gizzi
Norman Bestoso
Janet Hunt
Maris Humphreys

Minutes of the 170th Annual Meeting

Rector's Report

Senior Warden's Report

Junior Warden's Property Report

Music Report

Stewardship Report

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report

Open Discussion

Nominating Committee Report

Parishioner Recognition

The Saints Among Us & the Lil Hargrove Service Award

Closing Prayer

MINUTES

The 170th Annual Meeting of Emmanuel Church

February 27, 2022

I. The 170th Annual Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.

II. Vestry Present

The Reverend Della Wager Wells, Senior Warden Deb Venancio, Junior Warden Valerie Martin, Treasurer Dave Monroe, Assistant Treasurer Liz McCarthy, Members-at-Large Jackie Breen, Ed Gosling, Fay Gosling, Margaret Keiran, Catherine Curtis (Clerk).

III. Opening Prayer

The Rev. Della Wager Wells offered an opening prayer.

IV. Moment of Silence for the Necrology

Keith Humphries

Inez Blivens

Norma Campbell

Alice Jones

William Gregory

Christopher Perry

V. Minutes of the 170th Annual Meeting

Nicholas Brown made a MOTION to accept the minutes of the 169th Annual Meeting as submitted. Ellen Vadney seconded. The MOTION carried unanimously.

VI. Rector's Report

The Rev. Della Wager Wells began by noting that faith has allowed Emmanuel Church to grow even in the face of a pandemic. She reviewed the many achievements of 2021: adoption of the new accounting system Realm, Randy Elkins significant contribution to church life in music and many other areas, and the engagement of Newport Classical as a vibrant collaborator.

In sketching her vision for 2022 she used the phrase “radical hospitality” and asked parishioners to imagine the growth that philosophy could and would encourage, citing our keywords “We share our home, becoming a vibrant and loving community.”

VII. Senior Warden's Report

Debra Venancio welcomed everyone and noted that church leaderships reports and committee reports can be found in full in the Emmanuel Church Annual 2022 Report.

In her remarks she made note of the significant contribution Music Director Randy Elkins is making to so many aspects of church life from music, physical plant and parish administration to wedding organization and recruitment.

VIII. Junior Warden's Report

Junior Warden Valerie Martin began her remarks by expressing deep gratitude to the members the Property Committee, Pam Fleming, Dave Monroe and Ed Gosling.

Martin reviewed the work of the Property Committee over the past year. Her report outlined a very busy year for the Property Committee: 25 actions taken for general building maintenance and systems improvement, 5 actions around lawn care and maintenance, 4 actions directed towards parking, the receipt of the Creative Environment Corp. Report on Renovation, 3 actions taken to begin addressing fire safety, 16 actions take to meet the city fire code, 4 actions to address roof leaks, and four actions taken to prepare reports for grant applications.

IX. Music Director's Report, Ministries' Report and Stewardship Report

Attendees were directed to refer to the Annual Report for the Music Director's Report, the Report on Church Ministries and the Stewardship Report.

X. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dave Monroe reviewed the previous year's work and accomplishments, saying that the church ended the year \$180,000 ahead of last year.

Monroe credited this increase to a rise in the stock market, our forgiven SBA PPP Loan, the successful collaboration with Newport Classical and 2022 prepaid pledges. He noted that the 2022 budget was created in the new Realm accounting system.

XI. Nominating Committee Report

The nominating Committee submitted the following roster of nominees for church leadership: Senior Warden - Debra Venancio (second consecutive 2-year term), Treasurer - Dave Monroe (second consecutive one-year term), Assistant Treasurer - Elisabeth McCarthy (second consecutive one-year term), Clerk - Catherine Curtis (second consecutive one-year term).

The Nominating Committee submitted the following names for the Vestry-at-Large: Cynthia Larned and Ellen Vadney, each for a 3-year term.

Diocesan Convention Nominees: Delegates: Ellen Vadney, Deb Venancio, Alternate Delegates: Janet Nobis and Lillian Hargrove.

Audit Committee members: Ellen Vadney, Sandy Chapman and Janet Nobis

A MOTION to approve the slate as presented was made by Nicholas Brown and seconded by Valerie Martin. The MOTION passed unanimously.

XII. Open Discussion

No questions or discussion.

XIII. Parishioner Recognition.

DEACONESS BERTHA BUTTS AWARD FOR SERVICE

Pam Fleming received the Bertha Butts Award for service in recognition of the beautiful year-round landscape she has created at Emmanuel Church.

THE SAINTS AMONG US AWARD

The Saints Award went to the Property Committee: Chair Valerie Martin and members Ed Gosling, Pam Fleming and Dave Monroe for their exceptional service.

XIV. Adjournment

Ellen Vadney made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Dave Monroe seconded. The 170th Annual Meeting of Emmanuel Church adjourned at 1:15 pm.

RECTOR'S REPORT

2022 - the Year of Extending Community

We called 2022 *The Year of Extending Community*, drawing our scriptural inspiration from the Prophet Jeremiah: *Blessed are those who trust in the Lord ... They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.*

So what does it *look like* — to us here at Emmanuel, and to others in the wider community — *when we grow in faith and trust and send out our roots by the living stream?* When we say that, I think we mean that we're drawing deep on our faith and living fully into our baptismal covenant. We all know the beautiful and powerful *words* of the covenant — *to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, persevere in resisting evil, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and respect the dignity of every human being.* The plain meaning of those words is that we *do our best to stay in relationship, say sorry when we're wrong, work hard to do better next time, love our neighbor, and remember God loves every single one of us.*

We began 2022 with only 50% of our organ pipes working, and the remaining pipes had given us fair warning. We had significant leaks in the church roof. Our two main furnaces had reached the end of their useful lives, and the chapel windows were visibly buckling, bending in and out in the winds, and popping out pains of stained glass on the chapel floor.

These were daunting beginnings, but our community at Emmanuel was like Jeremiah's tree planted by water. We sent out our roots by the living stream of the community and worked together to find solutions that were achievable for us in our context. Randy had only been with us several weeks when, through his own expertise and his relationships with organ builders, he helped us find a fantastic organ at an affordable price, fully paid for from our Parker Organ Fund — with money left over for unexpected repairs.

We deepened our relationships with the Alletta Morris McBean Foundation and the van Beuren Charitable Foundation, submitting grant applications that described our hopes for Emmanuel's flourishing as a community center *open to all people at all times in all seasons*, and asked specifically for their assistance in the re-sealing of the rubber membrane roof over the nave, the repair of the chapel windows, and the rebuilding of our heating and ventilation systems.

We prayed our way through Lent thinking about our halos, those clouds of good intentions we have for ourselves and our community, asking ourselves how we can show our halos to each other and our wider community — by smiling, welcoming others, inviting people to join us in worship and fellowship, expanding our service through Soup's On and Newport Classical's chamber concerts. Each Sunday during Lent, we wrote our halo prayers on satin ribbons and tied them on the churchyard fence, gathering them in during Holy Week to weave into an altar cloth to use through Eastertide. The ribbons were all different colors, lengths, textures, and widths — a lot like us at Emmanuel — yet we are all into the fabric of our extended community.

During Eastertide, we received the good news that van Beuren and McBean would fund our urgent repairs to the church roof, the chapel stained glass windows, and the heating and ventilation systems in the church. McBean also urged us to get bids for air conditioning for the large public spaces in the Recital Hall, the Library, and the Nave to better support our vision of welcoming all people at all times in all seasons.

We expanded our community here at home and also reached out into the wider community to form new relationships. We completed the first full year of our space collaboration with Newport Classical, which is not a rental or a tenancy, but a shared future in our community. Now settled into a space that allows storage, offices, and acoustically rich year-round concert space, Newport Classical held its first full year of chamber concerts in the Recital Hall at Emmanuel Church, and its first full festival season this past summer, allowing them to share almost \$35,000 towards our operating expenses at Emmanuel and becoming an essential part of our community here.

Together we agreed to be the major rehearsal site for Newport Folk Festival, and we had a glorious week of seeing the Recital Hall and the Library alive with music. ALSO, there's no written proof *anywhere* that Joni Mitchell herself — the surprise special guest — didn't rehearse here at Emmanuel prior to her first public performance in 20 years! That's what I told everyone I saw at the Lambeth Conference in England just days later anyway, as the whole world was still abuzz with the news of Joni Mitchell's comeback appearance. I was a minor celebrity among all the assembled bishops of the Anglican Communion in Canterbury — or at least the Western ones — as the news spread. *Did you see her?* they'd ask, with faraway looks recalling their college days in the 1970s. *No, but I wasn't there late at night. That must have been when they rehearsed,* I'd say. There are improvements that Newport Classical and we will make this summer in communications, cleanup, and supervision, but expanding our community by having Newport Folk rehearse at Emmanuel is just too marvelous an opportunity for us to miss.

We also shared Emmanuel's amazing acoustic spaces with other local music groups for rehearsal and recital, fulfilling our 2022 plan to collaborate with social service organizations, music and arts nonprofits, and other ecumenical and interfaith communities. With these relationships, we root ourselves deeply by the living water of our faith, so that, as the Prophet Jeremiah writes, our leaves stay green and we continue to grow and thrive.

We extended our community with relationships throughout the global Anglican Communion through relationships renewed and strengthened at the Lambeth Conference of Bishops in Canterbury last summer. In October we welcomed The Rev. Canon Sarah Snyder, reconciliation advisor to the Archbishop of Canterbury and founding director of Rose Castle, an international center for reconciliation, for a Habits of a Reconciler conversation over a beautiful shared charcuterie board and hot cider prepared by our own Annie Guinan, and Bishop Mark Edington of the European Convocation of Episcopal Churches joined us in November to preach while he was Stateside.

As another step in extending our community, we completed our fundraising for our copper hearing loop sound and video streaming system through a grant from the Diocese of Rhode Island and the incredibly generous support of our Emmanuel and Newport Classical community. The new system, which will begin installation in February, will be a game changer, not only for those with hearing aids (sound connects directly to hearing aids via the "T" setting), but for all those sitting in the pews and listening and watching at home. In order to gather sound for the copper loop, we will install suspended microphones over the nave and over the chancel, as well as much better speakers throughout the church, and three interchangeable cameras for live streaming. The improved microphones and speakers — the gathering system for the copper loop — will improve *everyone's* listening experience, whether in person at church or tuning in from home. We can also offer the church as a first-choice affordable recording studio for local performance groups, further extending our relationships with the community in our core area of music performance. We held a "Can You Hear Me Now" dinner in the library prepared by our resident chefs Annie Guinan and Emily Wigutow, celebrating our extended community, raising funds for the copper hearing loop sound project, and testing out a pet idea of mine — a pop up restaurant or cafe.

On a personal note, 2022 has specifically been a year of extending community for Jere and me as both of our adult children married, and we gained two full additional families in the process. And we have leaned hard on our extended community — all of us together — as we addressed my breast cancer diagnosis in the Fall, and I began treatment. This community has been amazing. We have been carried by your prayers, your care, your notes, your cards, your smiles, your gifts, and your calls. The Bishop's and my care team's support enabled my full medical disability insurance, which has allowed us to increase Randy's hours to cover my administrative absence, and to pay supply priests to enable me to rest and care for my immune system while it's suppressed from the chemotherapy.

On New Year's Day, I was surprised by the prayers of this whole congregation, as Fay Gosling presented me with a beautiful prayer shawl knitted by so many of you — Emmanuelites and friends from our wider community. Fay sat with new knitters and old pros, as they stitched row after row of squares, knitting our community together in encouragement, solidarity, and love just as surely as we're all woven into the fabric of our halo altar cloth, every stitch their prayer. I've often imagined your healing prayers as a mantle around my shoulders. My prayer shawl — dreamed, knitted, prayed, and blessed by this community — will hold me through my healing, a warm and tangible manifestation of God's love in our community.

On this Third Sunday after Epiphany, and thinking of my prayer shawl, it's a good time to ask ourselves what Epiphany — or God's manifestation — means to us. We know the Feast of the Epiphany as that moment when God is manifest among us in the person of the new baby king. In a more common sense, an epiphany is a moment, usually sudden, when we all at once understand the essential nature or meaning of something. It's that moment when the lightbulb goes on, and we see something we haven't noticed before. I point to my prayer shawl as such a manifestation — a visible, tangible, warm, enveloping manifestation of God's love at Emmanuel. We will look forward to *2023 as the Year of Manifesting Community* as we celebrate and share all the ways God's love shines out among us.



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

2022 was great year for growth, financially, physically, and spiritually. Under the guidance of our brilliant, diligent, vibrant, intuitive, rector Della+, the vestry each with different backgrounds, gifts and talents evolved into a cohesive group, committed to supporting our life and journey together here at Emmanuel Church.

Gifts come in varied boxes. Just having celebrated Christmas, I think we can all imagine the different boxes under our Christmas trees. Some are square, some are oblong some are round, some are big, and some are little. Some gifts come in bags, and some in envelopes, some with bows and bangles, but the gifts are all special despite their packaging, decoration, or size. The littlest ones may even be treasures. So, for right now, I'd like you to imagine this Christmas tree and all the presents beneath it for a few minutes.

Every one of our vestry members comes with their own special gift in their own special packaging. Size, color, shape, or wrapping doesn't matter, each gift is equally important. Our job is to discover the gifts and plan how to best use them.

We have bakers and greeters, hospitality pros, gardeners, those who enjoy reading God's Word and those who find their joy in setting God's table. We have those who enjoy keeping the books balanced, those who love to sing God's glory, and those who enjoy caring and nurturing our community. We have some whose gift is to care for this beautiful building, and some who are centered in prayer. We have mediators and moderators, note takers to document the life of our community, and we even have cheerleaders to encourage people to give and participate in this wonderfully marvelous church. Each and every one of us is a special gift under the tree.

Now if we look at this beautiful Christmas tree, we can see all the sparkling lights and lovely ornaments, each one representing the things at Emmanuel Church which we are grateful for.

First, that shiny round Christmas bell reminds us we are grateful for our organist and choirmaster, Randy Elkins who has artfully inspired, coached, encouraged, and directed the choir, to become treasured members of the Musicians Circle. He has brought in soloists and musicians to enhance our music and give us the confidence to sing joyfully with our whole hearts. His knack for networking and negotiating has helped us to grow our Wedding Ministry, marking Emmanuel Church as a destination wedding venue. Randy's excitement and dedication has attracted many to our church to enjoy the music at Emmanuel.

Over on the left of the tree is that little glass angel who reminds us of our Outreach ministry, specifically Soups On. Jack and Nancy Allen started this ministry in the mid 1980's to help feed our neighbors who were hungry, whether for nutrition or community, with a warm meal, on China plates, with real silverware and cloth napkins. Jackie Breen joyfully cooks and serves the meals while many volunteers assist in the cooking, setting up and cleaning up.

Then there are the two polar bears sipping a Coca Cola. They remind me of the fundraising dinner for the Copper Loop sound system. For the first time in a long while 50 members of the community got together for a gourmet meal prepared by Emily Wigutow and Annie Guinan. It was an elegant evening with amazing food and interesting conversation and a wonderful kickoff for accomplishing our goal to raise the cost of putting in the new sound system.

The jolly Santa Claus recalls Newport Classical (NC) another special gift. Our relationship with NC has affected our life here at Emmanuel on so many levels. The community and the camaraderie that we have established, to the financial contribution that help us sustain our building. The music alone speaks volumes through attendance at concerts, the free concerts they have provided and the artists that have come to help us with our own music program. Members despite religious practice, have come to our Sunday services and support our ministries.

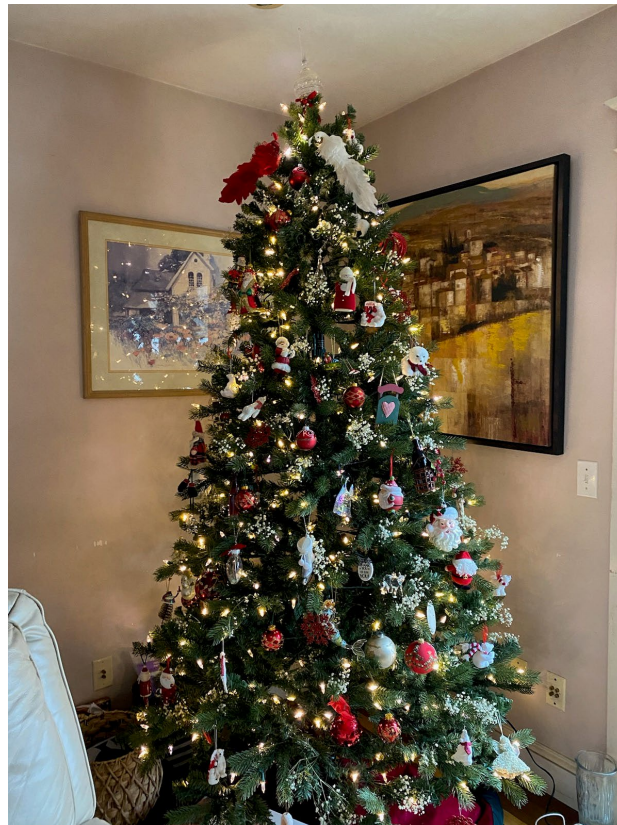
All those twinkling white lights remind me of all of you who have worshipped, pledged, given generously, worked on committees, harvested lettuce, attended to building needs, served coffee and goodies at coffee hours, read, led prayers, dressed the altar, ushered, greeted, led the music or just been present... I could go on and on. We are blessed with all your gifts.

And of course, at the top of our tree, there is that beautiful shining star...Our beloved rector Della+. She works hard every minute of every day to shepherd this flock. She seeks to find a way to get everything we need to maintain our community and our building. If plan A doesn't work, she moves quickly to plan B. She WILL NOT be defeated! She networks graciously with her peers and members of the community. Her mind is always going thinking of ways we can do it better and scopes out the means to get there. She came up with the "Can you hear me now?" fundraiser to improve the sound in our church and potentially be able to use the nave as a recording studio. She is a champion grant writer...and thanks to her skills we have been able to repair stained glass windows, repair the roof, improve our heating system, and add air conditioning. She is even working while she is sleeping. Dreaming of a café in the "living room" or library, which seems almost imaginable after the last couple of weeks of Advent, holding office hours in the library with coffee, tea, cocoa and cookies and live music. And despite life's challenges she is always present, maybe not only physically but spiritually. She is our shining star...Our true gift from God.

Christmas is one of my favorite seasons and Emmanuel Church is one of my favorite places. I look forward to another year as your Senior Warden walking with all of you on this journey.

Peace and Love,

Debbie Venancio



JUNIOR WARDEN AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Property Committee members are:

- Valerie Martin, Chair
- Raymond (Ray) Frandsen
- Edward (Ed) Gosling
- David (Dave) Monroe
- Kevin Venancio

Meeting frequency changed to every two months from every month in 2022, as the Committee members meet informally between meetings to work on property issues.

Scheduled Property Committee Meetings were held on:

February 1, 2022

April 5, 2022

June 7, 2022

August 8, 2022

October 4, 2022

December 6, 2022

* All minutes were submitted to the Vestry

Property Committee Actions

- Fire Department approved required fire safety work completed in 2021.
- Continued our vendor relationship with Tumbleweed to provide parking lot plowing/salting and sidewalk/pathways shoveling and sanding. Price increases for this snow season will be reflected in a \$20 increase per parking lot plowing due to increased gas prices and a \$20 increase in each salting due to supply cost increases.
- Bruno Contracting replaced wood casing on handicapped doors to ensure smoother operation and improved striking mechanism for doors to ensure they remain locked as this was a security and safety issue.

Energy Panels

- 24 of the 117 energy panels (frames covered with two layers of plastic inserted inside our windows throughout the facility) were repaired by a handyman and paid for with the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island Creation Care mini-grant Emmanuel Church received.

Fire Safety Improvements

- Obtained quote from FireEx for required upgrade to the fire suppression system for our kitchen hood in December 2021 for budgeting purposes, for work to be performed in June 2022.
- In June, FireEx notified us that they would need the Fire Department to inspect the hood to determine if it is in compliance before they could do the upgrade.
- When the Fire Department came to inspect the hood, they required that openings in the wall behind the convection oven be sealed with fire rated material. This work was completed, and Fire Ex then completed the upgrade to the hood on 7/20/22. Due to the hood system upgrade,

hydrostatic testing did not have to be performed this year. It will next have to be performed in 12 years in 2034.

- All Fire Extinguishers throughout the facility were inspected and tested annually in December 2022.

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

- Our vendor for the church and parish hall gas heating system attempted to install a programmable thermostat in the church at our request. When the thermostat was installed it resulted in sparking in a relay switch and resulted in the furnace being inoperable for 4 days in January 2021. It was determined that this impacted the pressure switch and a new pressure switch was installed and the furnace has been working appropriately since that time.
- Annual preventive maintenance of gas boilers and furnaces completed in December 2022.
- Annual preventive maintenance of the oil burner in Parish Office Building was rescheduled from 12/29/22 to 1/23/23 due to short staffing and emergency calls by vendor.

Painting

- Property Committee is testing a Rust-oleum Professional High Performance Protective Enamel on the rails to the Narthex and on the gate/fence at the entry to the Parish office.
- Obtained quote and had Bruno Painting repair the ceiling damage on the left side of the Recital Hall facing the stage.
- Notified Bruno Painting that the South Baptist Street Parish Hall Dormer had not been painted as per their 2018 Parish Hall painting contract. Rick Bruno, the owner, had the dormer painted on 9/29/22.

Heating/Ventilation and Option of Air Conditioning Quotes

- We requested quotes for heating, ventilation, and later air conditioning, from our heating vendor, Lawrence Air, in March 2022.
- Lawrence Air gave their first quote on April 10th after a March 25th assessment of our heating and ventilation systems, and later provided us with quotes for optional air conditioning for all areas of the church as requested. The quote for heating/ventilation was \$183,220.64. This does not reflect the electrical system upgrades if needed or engineering/drawings if required.
- Based on this heating and ventilation quote, in application for a grant, Emmanuel received a grant of \$180,000 from the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust in May 2022.
- We asked Jim Farrar, from Farrar & Associates, Inc. for recommendations of local HVAC vendors that he would recommend to work on a project of this size. He recommended UG Nasons and Donovan and Sons.
- We requested quotes from both companies.
 - UG Nasons came three times to perform their assessments (7/7/22, 10/11/22 and 12/20/22). He and his son were very thorough. They sent us their proposal with multiple options for each space on December 22nd. This will be reviewed by the Executive Committee.
 - Donovan and Sons came on 8/4/22 to perform their assessment for their quote. We have called them numerous times for their proposal and we have not yet received it.

Lawn Care and Landscaping

- Pam and Ron Fleming moved to Warren last spring after being very active parishioners. Pam, as a member of our Property Committee, oversaw lawn care and landscaping. Before leaving, Pam did the annual pruning and provided us with written instructions for lawn mowing and the use and care of the lawn mower. She also left instructions for what needs to be done to order and care for our Christmas and Easter flowers.
- Thank you to our volunteer lawn mowers:
 - Tim Adams,
 - The Rev. Susan Barnes,
 - Jim Kaull,
 - Margaret Kieran, and
 - Jere Wells
- Thank you to Jackie Breen, who takes care of the weeding and cleaning up the litter in the parking lot.
- CAM Tree Service was hired to:
 - cut back the overgrown Holly bushes on the left side of the Parish House along the pathway to the apartment deck.
 - cut back other trees that were obstructing the pathway to the back deck and branches of trees that were touching the buildings.
 - trim the Holly bush in front of the Guild Room which was too tall for our volunteers to trim safely.
- Thank you also to our Fall Clean-up Volunteers:
 - Jackie Breen,
 - Ed Gosling,
 - Fay Gosling,
 - Jim Kaull,
 - Valerie Martin,
 - Liz McCarthy,
 - Dave Monroe,
 - Glenna Randall,
 - The Rev. Della Wager Wells, and
 - Jere Wells
- On 10/22/22 the Fall Clean-up volunteers:
 - put together the new small limb chopper to mulch sticks,
 - pruned all rose bushes down to 18 inches tall,
 - trimmed trees over the sidewalk – and made certain the “No Parking” sign at the top of Dearborn is clearly visible and a 6’4” person can walk on the sidewalk under the trees along the street without ducking,
 - cleaned out under Dearborn Apartment Deck and kept wood for the wood stove in the library,
 - removed ivy from sides of chapel/church building and parish office building and recital hall building,
 - removed invasive species from side yard and porch of Dearborn Apartment and in front of Parish Office by lilac tree,
 - took apart the remaining (2) boxes under the big tree along the fence in the main churchyard and removed the plants from the soil from those boxes and put them in the yard waste barrel. Then smoothed out the soil where the boxes were.
 - trimmed bushes away from the Guild Room/Library area wall,

- pruned the following: bridal wreath, juniper, weeping forsythia, Ansonia blue stars, Rose of Sharon, and
- shaped boxwoods.

Parking

- Updated Parking Rules for Permitted Parking and shared by email with permitted parkers and implemented new parking rates.
- The rates were increased at the 1/11/22 Executive Committee Meeting for 2022 to \$575 per year, \$150/month or \$400 for 3 months per car. The budgeted parking revenue for 2022 was \$16,250 and the actual as of November 30th was \$18,075.
- Purchased parking permits for 2023 will be lime green.
- Of the towing companies on the island, only RI Towing stated they will tow on a case-by-case basis if there is room in their lot. A person at Emmanuel will have to sign a tow slip indicating we requested towing.

Roof Assessments and Roof Repairs

- Newport Construction Services assessed the steeple roof and found the copper roof on the steeple to be intact.
- Repair to S. Baptist Street apartment roof for water intrusion at stairwell and in closet completed by Newport Construction Services. Closet and stairwell have been dry over the last many rainstorms. 1 small drop of water was noted on the stairs before Christmas 2022 and we are working with tenant to see if any moisture intrusion persists. Work completed included:
 - Repair slate – removed 10x 14 green slate and replaced with salvaged slate of equal size
 - Repair of windows – removed the two broken windows and put up plywood over the opening. Installed 1/8 inch thick Lexan and used silicone to seal 4 panes. Put sashes back in place.
 - Water proofed northwest corner with two coats of siloxane from the second floor rubber roof on the west side up to and including the parapet and top of the main roof. Approximately 300 square feet were addressed. Also caulked the roof seams.
- Obtained a quote from Newport Construction Services to address water intrusion on the north side (South Baptist Street side) of the church between the lower and upper roof as there had been significant mortar dust found at the pulpit side of the church and some at the lectern. Quote for caulking, clear water proofing and strip in seams and flashing was \$43,410. This work has been completed and paid for with the grant we received from the van Beuren Charitable Foundation.
- Requested of Bill O'Hanley from Newport Construction to survey the slate roof over the Parish Hall to identify needed restoration issues as slate tiles have been noted to be displaced or missing.
- We also requested to have the west slate roof dormer sill caulked to prevent future rain and cold air intrusion.
- We requested two quotes: one to do the entire roof and dormer caulking (\$31,440 plus potentially higher if more slate needed than anticipated) and a second quote to perform targeted slate repair, including the dormer caulking (not to exceed \$5,000).

Windows and Stained Glass Windows

- Repair of a broken leaded arched piece of glass in a Library window was thought to be caused by an icicle. Malone Studio, Inc. performed this repair.

- Obtained five vendor quotes for the Chapel Stained Glass Window Restoration and the Executive Committee selected Malone Studios, Inc. from Portsmouth for this work. Their quote was \$81,350. This work is paid for with the grant we received from the van Beuren Charitable Foundation.
- Priscilla and John Malone began work this past fall on the first two sets of three stained glass windows. The work on the second set of two sets of three stained glass windows will begin in the spring of 2023.

Copper Hearing Loop

- Shaun Crossen, from Shanahan Intelligent Sound & Video Integration, after visiting Emmanuel and meeting with Randy Elkins and Ed Gosling, sent us an interference detector and headphone for us to check for electrical interference.
- Ed Gosling, Fay Gosling, and Dave Monroe worked to identify interference in the entire facility. Electrical interference was everywhere on our campus including the yard.
- GSL Electric owner George and 2 master electricians worked with Ed Gosling and went through the entire campus and checked out all electrical boxes, wiring/conduits/grounds etc. and electromagnetic interference persisted.
- GSL Electric pulled power from the fire alarm panel/system and electromagnetic interference persisted.
- The Verizon tower was shut down briefly and the electromagnetic interference persisted.
- George from GSL Electric spoke with RI Energy about his findings.
- Ed Gosling contacted RI Energy and spoke with the Local Distribution Engineer and requested that he come to assess the situation. RI Energy came once on Thanksgiving week, but due to heavy traffic at the time, they could not set up to do their assessment.
- On 12/19/22 RI Energy found several bad connections on the neutral and ground. They fixed these bad connections.
- Ed re-checked for electrical interference on 12/27/22 and found, with the detector turned on half way to the max, there was no electrical interference heard. When the detector volume was turned all the way up, some interference could be heard. We will have to see if that is acceptable to Shaun from Shanahan. If not, Ed will get the Local Distribution Engineer back to see if they need to address a ground that is shared by Verizon and Emmanuel.
- Thank you, Ed, for your work and follow-up on this project, to ensure the high level of interference we had is eliminated.
- The Copper Hearing Loop is being paid for with a \$15,000 Diocesan grant along with funds from the Harvest Dinner Fundraiser and donations by parishioners to the Copper Loop Fund.

Rental of the South Baptist and Dearborn Apartments

- The long-term tenant in Dearborn Street apartment gave many months' notice. That individual was paying \$1,875/month rent and due to the time of her leaving being a very challenging time of year to find new tenants, she agreed to having her rent raised to \$2,600 for September and October. She moved out on 11/2/22. The new tenant began moving in his belongings the end of November into early December.
- We renovated the 1+ BR/1 bath -6 room Dearborn apartment with new kitchen appliances, new kitchen cabinets/countertops and sink, new bathroom vanity and sink, lighting, flooring, and plastering and painting throughout. New electrical outlets and new kitchen lighting was installed. We trimmed the flowering cherry tree that was blocking the beautiful water view from the apartment deck. We raised the rent in that apartment to \$2,950/month. It will take us 23.25 months to make up the renovation costs and it makes the apartment more marketable.

- We had a 2-month lapse between renters in the one-bedroom, South Baptist Street apartment when the last tenant left. We have a new tenant as of 11/1/22 paying \$1,950 rent per month.

Minor Repairs Made

- Dave Monroe and Ed Gosling have each repaired pews this year.
- Toilets in the Parish Hall were repaired by Dave, Ed and the 1st Response plumber.
- The toilet in the Working Sacristy was repaired by a 1st Response plumber.
- Toilet repaired and faucets replaced in the South Baptist Street apartment by the 1st Response plumber.
- An electrician from GSL Electric lowered the placement of the light switch for the gym so the hydroponics volunteers would be able to safely reach the switch.
- Carriage Lights outside the Narthex entrance replaced by Ed Gosling and Kevin Venancio.
- Drain Pipes x 2 came apart and repaired – one by Kevin Venancio and one by handy man Rob Ferguson.
- Ed Gosling fixed the eye of a securing device on the wall of the South Baptist side of the Parish Hall and applied a chain to the door for use when deliveries are made to the kitchen renters.
- Ed Gosling repurposed a wooden wall file from the office by cutting off some slots, sanding and re-varnishing the file and hung it in the Narthex.
- Ed Gosling resets the timers (twice a year) for the outside lights to come on.



MUSIC AT EMMANUEL

Music Ministry Report for the 2023 Annual Meeting of Emmanuel Church, Newport, RI

In 2022 the music ministry/musicians' circle of Emmanuel Newport saw significant growth. There have been several new singers added throughout the year leaving us up from 6 in January to 14 on the roster as 2022 ended. A new facet of the music ministry is the Summer Choir which invites anyone who wishes to sing to join in. That program was so successful that the model of having all weekly rehearsals take place on Sunday morning at 9 a.m. has been adopted as the model for the rest of the year. Outdoor worship was enhanced greatly by the presence of an organized choir to lead singing.

2022 has seen a blooming piano and organ duet ensemble with Suzanna Laramee and Randy Elkins which has enhanced the worship experience many, many times. Suzanna continues to offer solo work in services as well and generally brings great cheer and attitude to the ministry. And enough cannot be said for her enthusiastic participation in 2021 as worship music leader in the interim time between music directors/organists.

This year we have welcomed Ali Hosford as Artist in Residence singing soprano with the musicians' circle and as soloist in services. We have been blessed with a grant from the Hope Foundation which helps us engage professional musicians like Ali. With this fund we were also able to hire Your Favorite Brass Quintet to participate in our service on July 3 with the theme of Celebrating Freedoms.

Other highlights of the year include

- A continuing, intentional effort to engage with our transient community, inviting them to participate in the musicians' circle when they are in residence in Newport
- Purchase and installation of an Allen Renaissance 450 digital organ after the failure of the winding system in our aging pipe organ.
- Fundraising for a new sound system, hearing assistance system and 3 camera broadcast system for the Church.
- 8 weddings
- Multiple funerals
- A Christmas concert produced jointly with Newport Classical
- Interfacing with other Episcopal Churches in Newport for a Christmas Day Service and a New Year's Day 2023 Lessons and Carols Service
- Work with MLK Center and Newport Sings to foster ideas for a chorus offering specifically for members of the local queer community
- Installation of a humidity control device on the piano in the Church
- Creation of Emmanuel's first outdoor art piano
- Participation in services by visiting friends of Randy Elkins who are also professional musicians.
- Development of collegial relationships between the directors of music at the three main Episcopal churches in Newport which have provided many opportunities not the least of which is exceptional organist substitutes!
- Development of collegial relationship with the music director of St. George's School which has led to many, many marvelous things and many more to come.

- Development of the Scholarship Singer program to be launched in January 2023. This has resulted in the creation of two stipend positions for student singers (generally college level) to supplement and lead voice sections in the choir.
- Moving of the piano from Chapel to Library where it will be used and enjoyed much more often and by a wider community
- Development of relationship with Newport Classical Staff to facilitate sharing/loan of A/V equipment between the organizations
- Offering during the summer and fall of complimentary voice lessons to choir members through the generosity of volunteer choir member Carole Curry.

As we finished 2022 on a high note (pun intended), we look forward to the great cacophony that will be 2023. Our choir has become intergenerational once again. With the addition of 2 college students we will have folks in their late teens and early twenties, folks in their 30s and early 40s, a folk in late middle age, recently retired folks and octogenarians who are still going strong!!! This is something that many choirs in churches much larger than Emmanuel can't seem to do. Our message of inclusion across beliefs, personalities, perspectives, and time of life is truly working to create a vibrant music ministry. I am thrilled to be a part of this growth and look forward to the opportunities and challenges we will face in the future.

Randy Elkins,
Director of Music and Organist



MINISTRIES OF EMMANUEL

Acolytes serve God and the Church, and the clergy in worship. They assist with all worship services, carrying the cross, carrying torches, and serving at the Eucharist. Individuals serve at least twice a month on a rotating schedule which is posted monthly. Trainings are held as needed. New acolytes aged 9 and up (including adults) are welcome. See Della+ and Bobby Gaines for more information.

Altar Guild members are responsible for care of the vessels, candles, hangings, vestments, decorations and linens for the Holy Eucharist, weddings, funerals, and other special occasions. They assist the clergy and acolytes in preparing for all liturgical occasions in the church and All Saints Chapel. This year we welcomed Susan Barnes as our newest member to serve with Bobby Gaines, Margery Cousens, Brian Ladley, and Sandy Chapman.

Christian Formation is currently on hiatus. Bible Study has not yet resumed.

Coffee Hour resumed after the 10:00 service as COVID restrictions relaxed. Church members sign up for their week to bring snacks, make coffee and cleanup after. A small group has been regularly contributing and more are asked to join in.

The Community Engagement Ministry is the “Love thy neighbor” hallmark of Emmanuel Church through parishioners’ incredible time, talent, and fiscal generosity through a variety of initiatives. Many programs were substantially reduced or curtailed during the COVID pandemic. As COVID evolved and we saw isolation begin to thaw we responded by once again opening our hearts, arms, and alms to the community around us. Soup’s On is back up and running to the great delight and appetite of our patrons and the community staff that lovingly supports it. Monetary donations to this ministry reached \$7300, ample to meet the operating budget. We collect nonperishable food goods weekly to help sustain the MLK Jr Community Food Bank. Through Advent we inaugurated a new food program through a Reverse Advent Calendar, collecting one food item every day of Advent, again to sustain MLK Jr’s Food Bank. Our hydroponics team maintained near weekly deliveries of hugely popular and welcome fresh kale and lettuce to the Food Bank. We collected scores of pairs of socks for the needy. Contributions in the amount of \$8100 were made to the Rector’s Discretionary Fund.

We made community donations underwritten by the Baum Fund as follows:

St. Joseph’s Church, (St. Vincent DePaul Fund)	\$250
Rector’s Discretionary Fund	\$1000
Turning Around Ministry	\$822
Salvation Army	\$1232
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	\$2054
Housing Hotline	\$2054
Community Baptist Church Soup Kitchen Program	\$1232

Our **hydroponic** gardeners (Catherine Curtis, Glenna Randall, Doris Shaw, and other volunteers from MLK (Sheila McEntee, Linda Jenkins, Michele Gallagher, Bill Murphy, Meghan McHugh, Constance Metcalf, Lynda Barnes, Lucas Barnes, Anna Lassow, Nancy Horsey and Geannie Griffith) harvested 629 bags of Kale, 82 bags of lettuce and 142 bags of Swiss chard. Each bag is approximately two servings.

Our **Soup's On** meal program reopened in June 2022 serving up to 60 people the first Tuesday of each month.

Eucharistic Ministers are lay people who administer the chalice of wine during communion. They are licensed by the diocese and serve beside the rector during the Eucharist.

Episcopal Charities assists ministries of the Diocese and charities in the community to “bring hope, comfort and healing to Rhode Islanders in need.” Several of those ministries are right here on Aquidneck Island. Thank you to those parishioners who generously contributed.

Flowers have been funded by the many donations for memorials at Easter and Christmas. For specific date memorials, flowers may be ordered, reach out to Randy Elkins.

Lectors & Intercessors read the designated scripture from the lectern in both the church and All Saints Chapel. Intercessors lead the Prayers of the People during worship. A ministry schedule is distributed each month to all leaders in worship.

Ushers & Greeters: Greeters provide a warm welcome to everyone who comes through our doors, answer questions newcomers may have as well as introduce newcomers to the Rector and other parishioners. Weather permitting, they greet guests outside in the courtyard; if inclement weather, in the Narthex. They also ensure that parishioners and guest are provided with masks in accordance with current COVID protocols.

Website and Social Media: Liz McCarthy updates the Events calendar on Emmanuel's website, which displays both church events and local Interfaith events in our effort to be a community hub for religious and spiritual activities. Ellen Vadney uploads sermons and other videos to the site and social media (Facebook, Pinterest, and Instagram). Anyone wishing to learn how to do this please contact Liz or Ellen for training.

Weddings: Weddings that were cancelled due to COVID restrictions were celebrated in 2022 with 8 weddings being held. We receive inquiries through calls to the office and through the wedding page on the Emmanuel website. In addition to music, Randy Elkins coordinates wedding scheduling at Emmanuel.

Welcome Shepherds introduce themselves to new people at our church, give them a tour as well as introducing them to fellow parishioners and answers any questions they may have. This is a specific responsibility of each parishioner.

Worship Rotation. Each quarter of the year we put forth a schedule of Readers, Intercessors, Altar Guild, Chalice Bearers, Ushers, and Counters. It takes many of us to script, choreograph and make the music for each of our services. Readers articulate the word. Musicians and choir sing some of the prayers, psalms, anthems, hymns, and refrains. Chalice bearers dance the liturgy, altar guild sets the stage, the ushers greet and seat the congregation and our rector Della+ plans, directs, and interprets the Word. It is a beautiful collection of volunteers and staff who come together to make each service meaningful and memorable.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

This year's stewardship committee included Susan Barnes as chair of the committee, Lillian Hargrove, Vickie Hicks, Liz McCarthy and Debra Venancio.

The theme of our committee this year was "God is Doing Marvelous Things". This theme recognized all our marvelous gifts we have and how we can perpetuate them. Our "Marvelous" Rector Della+, our "Marvelous" Music Director and organist, Randy, and all the many other ministries we have here at Emmanuel. All wonderful but require money to continue them, maintain them and grow them. We are grateful for our four "Marvelous" speakers who describe how our pledges would accomplish a means to support cost of living, outreach, utilities, and most of all preaching and music: Dave Monroe, Susan Barnes, Barbara Chapman, and Andy Ross. The speakers described the state of our finance, where our finances ore directed, why they came to Emmanuel, and why they stay.

This year we had 54 pledges totaling \$202,000 pledged.

Thank you for your generosity in serving and funding our ministries to celebrate the marvelous things that God is doing through the creative and visionary leadership of our Rector, Della+ to honor the guidance and direction from our vestry, and to invite you to join us in God's service for another exciting, blessed year.

We celebrate the continuation and expansion of our community engagement including our collaboration with Newport Classical which has completed its first full year making possible Newport Classical's first ever season of year-round chamber concert programming, in Emmanuel's handsome, resonant Recital Hall.

Dynamic, delightful, and highly gifted, Randy Elkins has transformed our Sunday worship and our presence in Newport in less than a year. Locating a replacement organ perfect for our needs at an affordable price, recognizing and developing talents of choir members, and drawing others in, and developing Emmanuel's presence as a venue for weddings and events.

Please join us as we grow in God's call to love and serve. Our pledges and yours, are essential in creating the 2023 budget.

We are thankful for all the generous pledges and look forward to another year of faith and community here at Emmanuel Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Venancio and Susan Barnes



TREASURER'S REPORT

2022 Income

Offerings	\$274,167	
Rents, Fees	157,095	
Designated gifts	111,887	
Capital expense project grants	374,450	
Total	\$917,600	*2.7 times budget

2022 Expenses

Personnel	\$153,113
Office operations	20,519
Worship	6,134
Facilities	132,920
Community Engagement	22,508
Capital expense grant expenditures	161,943
Apportionment	28,956
Total	\$526,093

Assets & Liabilities

	<u>12/31/2020</u>	<u>12/31/2021</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>
<u>Unrestricted Accts</u>			
Rockland trust investments	\$115,469	\$128,121	\$115,150
BankNewport Money Market	94,630	197,934	198,505
BankNewport Savings	8,911	17	Closed
BankNewport Checking	114,349	76,166	171,372
DIT Investment Account			258,175
<u>Donor restricted accounts</u>			
Rockland Parker organ fund	67,824	75,815	15,414
RIF Baum engagement fund	216,554	267,370	225,069
RIF Brown Operations fund	219,317	270,734	227,899
Total	\$837,056	\$1,016,157	\$1,211,584
<u>Liabilities</u>			
SBA Roof mortgage	151,072	121,201	105,173
Escrow Deposits			6,247
Net Asset Total	\$685,984	\$894,956	\$1,100,164

2023 Projected Income

Offerings	\$217,216
Rents, fees +	189,403
Designated gifts	22,238
Capital expense project grants	266,516
Total	\$695,373

2023 Budgeted Expenses

Personnel	\$211,921
Office operations	26,012
Worship	10,040
Facilities	113,060
Community Engagement	12,000
Building Grant expenditures	279,516
Designated Gift expense	10,859
Apportionment	31,813
Total	\$695,221

From the Assistant Treasurer:

Dave Monroe, our treasurer, could not be here today to share his presentation so I'm going to present a verbal overview of our financial situation. I may repeat some of the details from other's reports because we don't share them in advance.

We began 2022 with Covid restrictions so we did not have Sunday in person services and yet even so your pledges and plate offerings opened new possibilities for our ministries. Your generosity also allows us to pay our endowment funds back amounts we had borrowed over past years for operations. Restoring capital to our endowment funds will generate interest earnings every year for operations for our future flourishing.

Our other income comes from many sources: weddings of which we had 8, apartment rentals, parking permits, kitchen rental, bell tower rental and our space collaboration with Newport Classical, which was very successful with their music series held at the church and we were beneficiaries from their ticket sales. These revenue sources plus the gifts more than covered our budgeted operating expenses for 2022. We also received generous gifts given for designated expenses such as the flowers for our special services and we can now have flowers on other Sundays. Donations for Soup's On and our hydroponic garden continue to fund these ministries. Generosity for the Rector's Discretionary Fund gave us the opportunity to help more people this past year. Monies given for these designated purposes that were not spent in 2022 are available for 2023.

We fundraised for the copper loop hearing system beginning with a donation from the diocese and then donations from many of us and from others who wanted to support this project. And we even held a wonderful fundraising dinner to celebrate. Work has begun and we have the funds to complete the project, thank you to everyone who supported it.

We received grants this year for major projects thanks to Della's efforts. The grants are for the amounts to pay for the quoted work projects and therefore do not affect our budget. The van Beuren foundation provided a grant to repair leaks in our roof. We began the restoration of the chapel windows with our funds while we awaited another van Beuren grant to complete the restoration project in 2023. We received a major grant from the McBean Foundation for our heating system which we look to accomplish in 2023.

Each year we receive monies from our three endowment funds, the Brown fund is for operating expenses, the Baum fund is for the needy in Newport County and the Parker fund is for our organ. This year we replaced our organ and we can't thank the Parker family enough for their generous gift to the church to support our music program years after them.

We donated the monies from the Baum fund in January 2022 to local nonprofit agencies who were closer to people in need during Covid than we were. Going forward we would like to be more engaged with those in need through our ministries.

Because of the generous gifts in 2022 we were able to open possibilities for our ministries and to keep our building healthy. The music program was expanded to include musicians and singers for our services. Remember the 4th of July service with "Your Favorite Brass Quintet", and Alison Hosford's amazing singing at Christmas as just two examples. We remodeled the Dearborn Street apartment to bring the kitchen and bathroom up-to-date which gave us the opportunity to increase the rental fee which will pay for the improvements in less than three years.

Each month the vestry reviews are financial statements and at our last meeting a week ago they approved the final statements for 2022 and the budget for 2023. If anyone would like to review these statements, they are available in the office and I can meet with you to explain the numbers.

And now I'd like to spend a few minutes talking about the outlook for 2023. As the stewardship report noted, from many of our members we have increased pledges and we have new pledges which will give us support for our operating expenses and for new programs. We are now able to support Randy with full-time status, wearing many hats, and provide him with health benefits and a retirement plan, as he gives so much of himself to us. We can expand the music program with student scholars, singers and musicians that will continue to enhance our worship. We have more funds to support our Soups' On program and our hydroponics food ministry and monies to allow us to engage in new programs to connect us to each other and to the community.

The major building restoration projects planned over 2023 have been funded by grants which leaves us with a budget that covers our operating expenses and provides us with funds to be used for our Community Engagement ministry as we strive to make Emmanuel a community center and embrace Della's ideas and vision for us.

I am excited about the prospects for 2023 after our year of generous giving in 2022 and the generous pledges for 2023. God has done marvelous things!

Sincerely,
Elisabeth McCarthy
Assistant Treasurer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

This year's nominating committee met to identify potential candidates to fill those positions being vacated by off going members of the vestry. The members of the nominating committee, according to the bylaws of Emmanuel Church, are members in good standing of Emmanuel Church and are also pledging members. The Committee included Debra Venancio, Catherine Curtis, Steve Huttler, Suzanna Laramée, Janet Park and Janet Nobis.

Members going off the vestry included:

- Junior Warden, Valerie Martin, who completed a two-year term
- Treasurer, Dave Monroe who has completed two one-year terms
- Assistant Treasurer, Liz McCarthy who has completed two one-year terms
- Clerk, Catherine Curtis who has completed three one-year terms
- Vestry at large, Jackie Breen who has completed one three-year term
- Vestry at large, Glenna Randall who has completed a remaining two-year term

I would like to thank those members going off the vestry for their hard work and commitment, serving our Rector Della+ and the Emmanuel Church Community.

The Nominating Committee this year has identified the following parishioners to be presented for election to the 2022 Vestry.

Junior Warden	Jim Kaull (for a two-year term)
Treasurer	Elisabeth McCarthy for a one-year term)
Assistant Treasurer	Carolyn Swiggart (for a one-year term)
Clerk	Valerie Martin (for a one-year term)
Vestry-at-Large	Brian Ladley (three-year term) David Frazier (three-year term)
Diocesan Convention Delegates	Debra Venancio Ellen Vadney
Alternate Delegates	Janet Park
Audit Committee	Janet Nobis, Ellen Vadney, Sandy Chapman
Returning Vestry Members	Deb Venancio (second year of two-year term as Senior Warden) Ed Gosling Fay Gosling Ellen Vadney

Those who have been nominated have agreed to serve.

Please say hello to these fellow parishioners and thank them for their time and effort in their past, present and future work supporting Emmanuel Church and its mission as we "Share our home, building a vibrant and loving community".

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Debra Venancio, Senior Warden

I am what you would call a cradle Episcopalian. I was baptized and confirmed at Emmanuel Church. I attended Sunday School here and was part of our youth group as a teen. My husband Perry and I have been married for 48 years and have three children and five grandchildren. I graduated from Newport Hospital School of Nursing and received my Bachelor of Nursing degree at the University of Rhode Island and a master's degree in Health Care Administration. At Salve Regina University. I worked at Newport Hospital for 43 years beginning in the Intensive Care Unit and then in Maternal and Child Health. Prior to retiring I worked at St George's School and most recently at St Michael's School as a school nurse. I have been on the vestry as an at large member, junior warden, and Senior warden. I co-chaired the search committee which brought us Della+. I sing in the choir and am one of the readers and intercessors as well as a eucharistic minister.

I love it here at Emmanuel and find it to be a place of comfort and warmth. I am a firm believer in the light, and the people of Emmanuel Church continue to light my way.

Jim Kaull, Junior Warden

Jim Kaull is a third-generation parishioner of Emmanuel Church. His beloved late uncle, James T. Kaull, Jr. was Junior warden at Emmanuel for twenty years ending in 1981. Jim and Nina returned to Newport in 2020 after 39-year careers in Boston and Washington DC. Since returning they have been regular volunteers for "Soups On" and Jim has served as one of the four church volunteers who maintain the Emmanuel grounds. Jim is currently a licensed real estate agent with Gustave White Sotheby's International Realty.

Elisabeth McCarthy, Treasurer

In 2016, Liz happily moved to Newport after retiring from a career in the hospitality field and joined Emmanuel. She is a graduate of Cornell's School of Hotel Administration with a Bachelors degree and from Champlain College, Burlington VT with a Business Masters Degree. Her career included restaurant ownership, event management, sales and conference planning, living in Boston, Colorado, California, Vermont, Cape Cod before arriving in Newport. Liz is now content with walking around Newport, playing golf and bridge, and helping around the church.

Carolyn Swiggart, Assistant Treasurer

Carolyn C. Swiggart came to Emmanuel Church through The Rev. Della Wells and her husband, Jere. My late husband, John Wayt, and Jere were high school friends in Atlanta, and we had a happy reunion in 2020 after the Wells moved to Newport. Upon meeting Della, I moved my "letter" to Emmanuel Church in 2021. I am a life-long Episcopalian, and I enjoy the mission and history of Emmanuel. I live in Jamestown, and I also have a law practice and a residence in Greenwich, Connecticut. Over the years, I have served on the boards of several organizations, including the Indian Harbor Yacht Club, Rotary, United States Power Squadrons, and the Daughters of the Cincinnati. I am also a "Blue and Gold Officer" (candidate liaison) for the United States Naval Academy Admissions Department. My avocations are boating, history, and art.

Valerie Martin, Clerk

Valerie Ann (Lynch) Martin was born in Newport, RI, and was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Church. Valerie married Michael Martin in Trinity Church in 1975. They moved to Tiverton RI in 1981 and attended Holy Trinity Church. Upon moving to Middletown in 1987, the Martin family with children Christine and Michael Jr. began attending Emmanuel Church, as her sisters were then members at

Emmanuel. She has stayed at Emmanuel since that time, even after moving to Bristol for 12 years and back to Tiverton in 2015. Valerie has three grandchildren ages 23, 21, and 14.

Valerie has served on the Vestry in multiple roles over the years – Junior Warden X 2, Treasurer X 3, Assistant Treasurer X 1, and Vestry at Large. As Junior Warden, she has been responsible for chairing the Property Committee. She served as the Chair of the Search Committee for a New Rector in 2009-2010, Co-chaired the Stewardship Committee, was a member of the Forever Emmanuel Steering Committee, and Chaired the Special Events Committee. In the last several years Valerie has been a Counter and has continued in the role of Chair of the Emmanuel Scholarship committee. Valerie, along with her husband, sister and brother-in-law volunteered in running the kitchen for the annual Emmanuel Harvest Fair for many years. Since we returned to in-person worship, Valerie has been an usher/greeter.

Valerie is a retired board-certified nurse executive and a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives with over 36 years of management and leadership experience. She holds a Diploma in Nursing from Newport Hospital School of Nursing, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Salve Regina University, graduating summa cum laude, and a Master of Science in Nursing Administration from URI.

Brain Ladley, Vestry-at-Large

Brian Ladley moved to Newport with his spouse Andy and their son Jordan in 2020. He has been an active church participant since childhood, first where he grew up in greater Philadelphia, PA and later at churches in places he and Andy have lived, including Santa Fe, NM, Brewster, MA then back in PA before relocating to Newport. He began serving on the Altar Guild at his most recent church in PA and is thrilled to continue to serve in that capacity here at Emmanuel.

Brian works in visitor relations at both the Newport Art Museum and the International Tennis Hall of Fame. He recently joined the Elks Club and enjoys volunteering at the Newport Mansions whenever he has the chance.

David Frazier, Vestry-at-Large

David Frazier was born and raised in Oklahoma, graduating from Oklahoma State University with a BS in mathematics. After graduation, David moved to Houston to work for Exxon in information technology. In Houston, David met Lorraine (Quinn), and they married in 1979.

David and Lorraine moved to Oklahoma, where David accepted a job with Halliburton Co., and where their daughter, Molly Kathleen, was born. Molly was born with severe mental and physical limitations. Molly lived a happy and peaceful life, but, sadly, passed away in January, 2022.

David and Lorraine traveled internationally with David's job, residing in Duncan, Oklahoma; London; and Houston. David retired in 2017 as the Sr. Director of Information Security and Risk Management after 38 years of service at Halliburton. David and Lorraine moved to New York in 2018 when Lorraine was appointed dean of the Columbia University School of Nursing. David and Lorraine currently split their time between New York, Houston, and Newport, traveling to Newport as often as Lorraine's schedule permits!

David characterizes his faith journey as “a continuing process of prayer, faith, growing, and learning more about Christ's love and His mission for me in this world.”

David and Lorraine have always been active in church life. David served on the board of deacons in the Baptist church that they attended in Oklahoma and served on the church council at Christ the King

Lutheran Church in Houston, where David and Lorraine both sang in the choir. They also attended Christ Church Cathedral in Houston and Christ Episcopal Church in Little Rock (where Lorraine served as dean of the University of Arkansas School of Nursing).

David has also been active in civic life, serving as treasurer and president of his local Kiwanis club and Toastmasters club. In Oklahoma, David and Lorraine formed a non-profit, Centennial Park, Inc., and David served as President of this organization that successfully raised funds, organized community volunteers, and built the first handicapped-accessible playground in Oklahoma.

David enjoys music (particularly jazz!) and photography, and both he and Lorraine are happy to be members at Emmanuel Church Newport, where the music is beautiful, the gospel is preached, and the community is served!

Parishioner Recognition

The Lil Hargrove Service Award

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Saints Among Us

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Parish Statistics As Taken from Parish Records						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Active Households	142	150	140	144	95	91
Active Individuals	212	265	250	254	178	165
Active Under Age 16	18	26	40	40	4	4
Active New Members		10	30	4	10	5
Families With Children	20	23	28	0	1	1
Children Enrolled in Christian Formation for Young People	35	21	30	0	0	0
Individuals Receiving the Electronic Newsletter	359	401	460	400	399	410
Average Newsletter Open Rate		29%	34%	36%	41%	51%
Average Newsletter Click Through		9%	10%	13%	7%	12%
Followers on Facebook	295	295	339	464	513	546
Sunday Services	107	105	104	62	81	100
Weekday Eucharists	96	83	94	8	5	3
Private Communions	4	0	1	0	0	0
Daily Offices	-	-	4	32	22	4
Other Offices	-	-	69	0	4	2
Daily Offices Held on Weekdays per Parochial Report	106	95	69	4	6	4
Baptisms – under age 16	6	6	2	0	3	0
Baptisms – over age 16	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmations	0	2	0	0	0	0
Receptions	0	1	0	0	0	3
Marriages	4	6	4	0	3	8
Burials	7	8	6	2	6	12
Total Sunday Attendance	5462	5547	4870	2288	2687	4688
Average Sunday Attendance	100	106.7	93.7	44.0	51.7	90.2
Communions	5260	5557	4671	1078	1881	3292