



# 2017 PARISH REPORT

CHRIST CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL MACON, GEORGIA



**CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER**

REV. CYNTHIA C. KNAPP

**VESTRY ELECTION PROCESS AND BY-LAWS**

REV. KNAPP

**INTRODUCTION OF VESTRY CANDIDATES & VOTE**

LIZZIE CLARK

**INTRODUCTION/RECOGNITION**

REV. KNAPP

SENIOR WARDEN

OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS

YOUTH INTERNS

COMMITTEES/MINISTRIES

**RECTOR'S REPORT**

REV. KNAPP

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

DAVID MCCAIN

**PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

ELLEN BUNKER

**CLOSING PRAYER**

REV. KNAPP

**DISMISSAL**

REV. ZACHARY D. NEUBAUER

*The vestry will meet in the Cloister Room immediately following the dismissal*

# FROM THE RECTOR

## “PUT YOUR HAND INTO THE HAND OF GOD.”

As I look back on 2017, I am aware it has been a very full year filled with wonderful opportunities to share in life and ministry with you, to walk with you through hard times like illnesses, funerals, and other challenges of life, and to share in your joys and celebrations. I continue to learn more about you and to greet those who are new to our parish community.

In many ways I have experienced a very steep learning curve as I get to know people, history, traditions, and the way things operate here at Christ Church. Many of you have been very helpful in offering your assistance and leadership as we do the work of the Church together, and for that I am grateful. We have many gifted people who are so critical to the life and ministry of this church. Many have been carrying out those ministries for several years. It is very much a team effort composed of very committed people. As we have moved forward together, I hope that people have stepped into ministry opportunities which they enjoy, and that will be a blessing to them, to us, and to those they serve.

By expanding ministries wherever possible, we have increased the number of people who are able to participate and shared the opportunities for leadership roles. By embracing the priesthood of all believers, we are able to live into the fullness that the body of Christ is meant to be.

We have worked together to develop and grow a number of ministries over the past year:

Last January, we hired Jonathan to cover the Parish Administrator position as a half-time responsibility,



bringing him to full-time status when combined with his position as Organist-Choirmaster. Recently we increased his hours as Parish Administrator by 8 hours a week to better address the demands of this position.

Helen Stewart volunteered to be Coordinator of Children's Ministries, including Sunday school. She has strengthened and enriched this important ministry with much-needed leadership.

The Adult Christian Education Ministry has brought together a team of parishioners, led by John Blanks, all of whom are gifted educators and committed to spiritual growth. They bring a variety of voices and perspectives to our offerings for adults during the Sunday School hour. They share the responsibility of teaching and have enriched this ministry by expanding the classes offered.

Jane Willingham leads the office volunteer ministry. These men and women offer immense help in our day-to-day operations by responding to phone calls and visitors with a welcoming presence, and providing assistance in everything from helping people to locate community resources to folding bulletins. We couldn't manage without them!

We hired Zac Neubauer as our new Curate in July. Ordained to the

priesthood in August, he has provided much-needed help with Clergy responsibilities. He is a quick study and brings wonderful gifts of ministry to his work with us. Zac, his wife Erica, and their three boys make a wonderful addition to our parish. Zac is building the Young Family Ministry at Christ Church.

Rachel Horkan and Susannah Maddux have assumed leadership and oversight of the Nursery Ministry. They have developed a manual of policies and procedures and are working to ensure loving, high-quality, consistent childcare for our little ones. This frees parents to attend classes and worship knowing their children are safely in good hands.

Hal Brickle was hired as Coordinator of the Weekend Lunch Program. He provides a level of management and organization that has strengthened this program and expanded involvement with our community organizations and churches.

We continue to build our Youth Ministry. After a bumpy start this fall, we brought in Justis Ward and Laura Ann Harrell to work on a part-time basis as youth interns. Justis works in campus ministry at Mercer with the Wesley Foundation and also leads worship at his church. Laura Ann is a senior at Mercer and a confirmed

Episcopalian. They are in the process of building relationships and working to expand our youth community.

This year Christ Church held two Alpha programs, which were opportunities to build both faith and relationships with other parishioners. We discovered that meeting in a parishioner's home is a better environment for these classes and seems to be more accessible to people on a weeknight.

We are blessed to have an increased participation of the homeless and vulnerable in our worship services. At the same time, as more and more acts of violence have occurred around our country during the last year, many parishioners expressed concern about our safety here on the Christ Church campus. In order to balance the safety of our children and adult parishioners with our call to be welcoming to strangers, we created a committee led by Julie Groce to examine ways to

increase overall awareness, evaluate life-safety procedures, and assess any new security measures that may need to be put in place.

We hired Erica Neubauer to redesign the Christ Church website and to create a new logo for use in parish communications. The existing Communications Committee will have an advisory role in this process. Elizabeth Schorr's company will continue to provide day-to-day support and she has played an instrumental role as a member of this committee.

The life of a parish continues to grow and change as we respond to needs and seek to fulfill the ministries to which we are called. We honor our traditions through a liturgy that is very much a part of who we are as Episcopalians and we seek to welcome those who are new to us. 70% of The Episcopal Church today is comprised of people who did not grow up in

the Episcopal Church. When we draw the circle wider, there is a place in our family for everyone. We are, after all, a diverse bunch and we have much to offer. At the same time, we need to work harder to develop and continue to support the faith of our young people so that they are fed and nourished in their own church where they will continue to be active through adulthood. I look forward to all that 2018 holds as we walk forward together with the Lord.



**Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp**  
Rector of Christ Church



# CURATE'S REPORT



It is hard to believe that I have only been here for six months. Thanks for welcoming my family and me into the Christ Church community. We feel like we have successfully settled into life here in Macon and look forward to continuing our time with you. In considering the idea of settling in, I would like to thank all of you who were part of my ordination service back in August. My ordination was a special day for me. It had the feel of a college commencement. It comes at the end of a long period of preparation, but in reality is not the end, but is rather the beginning of a newer and bigger stage of life.

When I was brought on as Curate here at Christ Church, I was given two main areas of responsibility, young families and men's ministry. Since July I have been trying to get to know folks throughout the congregation, but especially in these two groups. Since the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is already in place, I have focused most of my energy thus far into the young families. The general plan thus far for the young families is to have two opportunities a month to gather together. These gatherings

have taken the shape of socials at the Rectory, special services and parties at the church such as the ones for All Saints' Day and St. Nicholas Day, and service projects outside the church, such as making Christmas cards and delivering them to residents at Carlyle Place while also singing some Christmas Carols. The young families have also gathered to participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial March.

Currently I am leading the Everyday Spirituality Sunday School class, which has as its goal the encouragement and resourcing of folks who want to grow their faith outside the Sunday morning communion service context. I developed this class with young families in mind as often it is tricky to make the transition from growing our faith as an individual or couple to doing so with young children. (The class is not limited to young families, though, so please join us even if you're not in that specific category.) We have had some good discussion, fellowship, and sharing of resources that I hope will continue and will lead into another essential of parish life. One of the best ways to grow as a Christian is through a small group. Small groups allow us to read the Bible together, pray for each other, and to encourage and support each other as we walk with God. To that end, we will be starting a young families small group in mid-February that looks at the Gospel of Mark. I'm working on finding out who is interested and figuring out a night of the week that would work well.

As I mentioned, I have given less attention to the men's ministry up to this point. I have enjoyed leading the Wednesday morning Men's Bible Study. We have had some valuable discussions as we looked primarily at Philippians and now are in the midst of Jonah. After Jonah, we'll be moving into the Gospel of Mark which should take us to our summer break. I have also been participating in the Brotherhood of St. Andrews when possible and meeting with men for lunch to discuss thoughts and ideas. I plan on giving more attention to the men's ministry in 2018, including organizing a men's retreat and an idea that I'm calling The Macon Experiment. Details to follow later in 2018.

**Rev. Zachary D. Neubauer**  
Curate



It has been my privilege to serve as Senior Warden of Christ Church for the last several years – for Rev. Harriette J. Simmons; at the request of the Bishop Wright during the transition after Harriette’s retirement; and for Cynthia during her first year as Rector.

During this time, I have been amazed to witness how many of our parishioners are actively involved in our many ministries, guilds and committees. Christ Church is blessed to have such a dedicated, committed congregation. Thanks to all of you! Finally, I am especially grateful to our clergy and staff, who work tirelessly, largely behind the scenes, to make Christ Church a better place.

**Lawrence Williford**  
Senior Warden

## FROM THE WARDENS

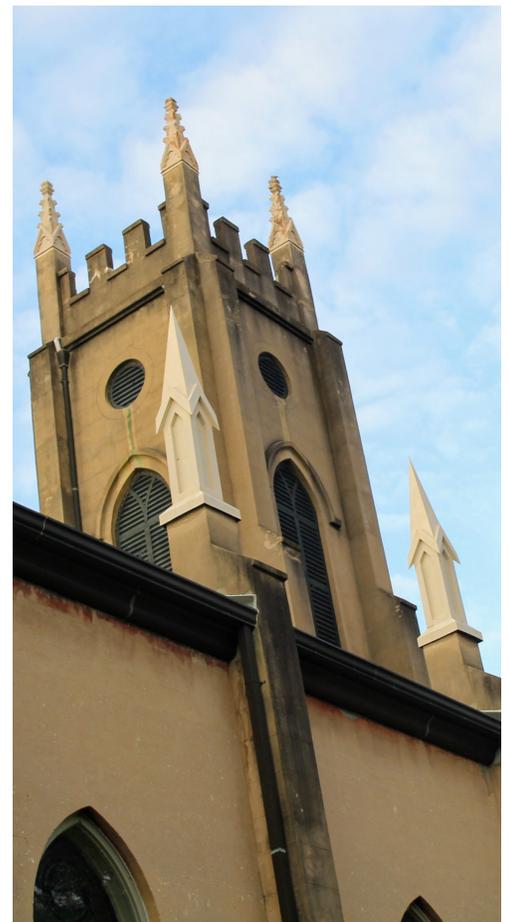
Among the many property issues under my charge, research to improve both the women’s bathrooms in the Parish House and the single bathroom in the chapel were continued. These improvements have remained on a wish list. First we checked for help via grants. To date, that has been unsuccessful, and we are considering moving forward using other resources.

Concern over our church’s exterior led to several consultations. Through Maryel Battin, we initially spoke with historic preservation experts from Washington, D.C., who were making a site visit to Historic Macon at the same time. They recommended we consult with Bennett Preservation out of Charleston, SC. Following their recommendations, the church’s stucco has been examined by Tony

Long. Most of the stucco is in good condition, but minor weaknesses will be addressed. In the near future, the stucco’s patina will be cleaned in multiple locations with different cleaning solutions. Then, a host of “personages” will make a decision which solution and cleaning method is to be used.

Bonnie Dowling (Grounds) and John Willingham (Buildings) have each given separate reports. We cannot thank them and their helpers enough for the nurturing of our physical assets.

**Emory Johnson**  
Junior Warden &  
Strategic Planning Committee Chair



# STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship Committee members for the 2017 campaign were as follows: David McCain, Dell Bunker, Hal Greer, Betsy Hatcher, Gene Hatcher, Jed Hill, Tori Stewart and Susan Welsh. Reverend Cynthia Knapp and Lawrence Williford also assisted in the campaign by attending meetings and giving advice and suggestions throughout the process.

The theme for this year's campaign was "Planting Seeds for the Kingdom." The campaign began on September 24, 2017, with a period of reflection that lasted approximately two weeks. Pledge packets were mailed out the week of October 2, 2017. Included with the pledge packets were a stewardship letter from Rev. Knapp and me, a pledge card, and a list of ongoing ministries at Christ Church. We asked that everyone consider the ways we can commit our time and talent through the ministries of Christ Church as a way to give back to the Lord, not only with our finances, but also in the other ways we serve. The campaign officially ended on November 5, 2017. There was not a Stewardship Luncheon this year. Instead, our membership was encouraged to support the Christ Church EYC and consider attending the Garden Gate luncheon held on Friday, November 3, 2017.

To date, this year's campaign has resulted in pledges totaling approximately \$625,000 based on 143 pledge cards. The Stewardship Committee is following up with additional calls to our congregation and hopes that additional pledges for 2018 will be received.

The pledged amount is approximately \$45,000.00 less than the 2017 pledges. A number of members moved or passed away in 2017. The Church also received significant estate gifts and other lump sum amounts not included in the pledge amount.

In an effort to make pledge payment easier, we reminded the membership of the six ways the pledge can be paid:

1. Check
2. Online banking transfer
3. Payment through Vanco
4. Credit card payment
5. Stock transfer
6. Payment from an IRA

Throughout the campaign, we used different strategies to raise awareness. Members of the Stewardship Committee spoke to the congregation to encourage participation, and the campaign was mentioned in *The Chimes*. Reminders about the campaign were made during Church

services, and appropriate scripture and sermons increased awareness of the campaign and the goal of offering our time, talents and treasure to show gratitude to God for all that He has given and done for us. A banner with the campaign theme was placed in the Narthex.

Committee members have been making follow-up phone calls for pledges not yet received. Handwritten thank-you notes from a committee member have been written for each pledge received.

I greatly appreciate the commitment and support for the campaign by my committee members, the clergy and Vestry, the church staff and volunteers (especially Financial Secretary Brent Gunn, with whom I worked closely), and the membership of Christ Church.

I look to continuing my service as the Stewardship Chair for next year's campaign.

In Christ,



**David H. McCain**  
Stewardship Chair

# TREASURER'S REPORT



The major source of revenue for the General Fund is pledged income from our parishioners. Many thanks to all who fulfilled their pledge commitments in 2017 and to all who otherwise donated their time, talent and treasure to Christ Church during the past year!

While our major source of revenue is pledged income, our major expense is for personnel. Our other primary General Fund expenses include operations, and buildings and grounds expenses that are required to upkeep our historic facilities. We did not have a full staff in 2017 as we experienced several clergy and personnel transitions. Aided by a number of service contract renegotiations, operations expenses were also reduced. Due to these items and several other gifts to the church, we were able to set aside funds in anticipation of higher expenses anticipated for 2018.

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of our Stewardship Committee, headed by David McCain, who have done a wonderful job securing pledged income for the upcoming year. This effort continues to be ongoing. While all donations are appreciated and vitally important, pledged income allows Christ Church to plan for ongoing operations, as well as and new and continued programs for the coming year. We are fortunate to have both a generous congregation and good stewards of the funds entrusted to Christ Church.

**Ellen Bunker**  
Treasurer

## Highlights of Financial Statements

### General Fund Income

Thus far, collections for 2017 pledged income is below the budgeted amount by \$7,087. Unpledged income and other sources, and income from other sources, however, resulted in actual receipts exceeding the budget by \$35,504 for the year.

### General Fund Expenses & Net Income

Total expenses were \$27,393 below budget, primarily due to several budgeted expenses that were pushed to 2018, which resulted in the General Fund net income of \$1,109.

# MEMORIALS

The Memorial Committee receives and distributes funds that are given as memorials. This money is a source for all unbudgeted or extra items that come up within the Church. We always welcome new members.

**Joan Hatcher**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Christ Church – General Fund Income & Expenses December 31, 2016 & December 31, 2017 Actual

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2017 Budget
REVENUES			
General Fund Receipts	\$ 831,323	\$ 804,486	\$ 798,021
EXPENSES			
Personnel Expenses	\$ 485,359	\$ 482,386	\$ 491,400
Search/Nominating Committee	\$ 14,286	\$ -	\$ 8,000
Operating Expenses	\$ 146,978	\$ 138,260	\$ 149,183
Buildings Committee	\$ 18,883	\$ 28,526	\$ 20,436
Grounds Committee	\$ 7,552	\$ 5,751	\$ 7,561
Finance Committee	\$ 8,045	\$ 3,100	\$ 11,000
Vestry Expenses		\$ 299	\$ 700
Stewardship Committee	\$ 24	\$ 101	\$ 1,100
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 84,127	\$ 84,090	\$ 84,090
Rector's Discretionary Fund (outreach)	\$ 11,192	\$ 6,689	\$ 6,000
Worship & Music Committee	\$ 28,561	\$ 30,976	\$ 21,800
Pastoral Care Committee	\$ 387	\$ 203	\$ 400
Parish Life Committee	\$ 1,148	\$ 1,558	\$ 1,700
Christian Education Committee	\$ 4,754	\$ 6,730	\$ 10,700
Welcoming & Nurturing Committee	\$ -	\$ 71	\$ 1,000
Communications Committee Miscellaneous	\$ 5,802	\$ 7,921	\$ 6,000
Ministries	\$ 2,676	\$ 1,578	\$ 2,700
Youth Committee	\$ 5,455	\$ 5,138	\$ 7,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	\$ 825,229	\$ 803,377	\$ 830,770
GENERAL FUND NET	\$ 6,094	\$ 1,109	\$ (32,749)

\*Note: 2017 Pledges totalling \$40,735 were prepaid and booked in 2016.

# WORSHIP



The Worship Committee is composed of our rector, our curate, our organist/choir master, and the leaders of the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Acolytes, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Vergers, and Usher/Greeters. I would like to thank Cynthia, Zac, and Jonathan, as well as Nan Harper, Ginny Rozier, Bonnie Collins, Richard Hughes, and Duncan Walker for their faithful participation in, and strong commitment to, our committee.

The Committee coordinates the schedules of all of the ministries that support our worship services. We meet at least once each quarter and more often as needed to review the liturgical calendar and plan all of Christ Church's worship services.

We give special attention to the services of Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints, Christ the King, Christmas Eve, and Christmas. We discuss when it is appropriate and desired to have incense or streamers, and we discuss the scheduling of baptisms and of Choral Evensongs. We also work together to schedule liturgical participants for weddings and funeral and to coordinate special services such as Ordinations and Installations. Each year, we coordinate trainings for new worship leaders and review sessions for veteran participants.

Christ Church is very blessed to have so many parishioners who participate in the several ministries

that support worship in our parish. More than one bishop has remarked that our liturgies run more smoothly than nearly anywhere else in the Diocese of Atlanta. I am honored to serve as Chair of this committee.

**Julie C. Groce**  
Worship Committee Chair

# MUSIC

Our music program continues to grow and provide a level of musicianship which often surpasses my expectations. We are a blessed people and have such a vibrant and highly-respected Music Ministry throughout Macon and Central Georgia. January 4th, 2018, marked my fourth year here at Christ Church, and I am thankful to be a part of this wonderful parish.

Our adult choir actively participates in weekly rehearsals and services. The continued relationship with Mercer University, and with other surrounding universities, has afforded us the opportunity to provide experience for young musicians, while also greatly enhancing our worship. In addition to their regular duties for Eucharist, they sing Evensongs two to three times a year and a service of Advent Lessons and Carols. On December 17th at 5pm, our Advent Lessons and Carols drew a total of 147 people from the parish and local community.

If you've been to a service when the Christ Church Choristers have assisted in worship, you have truly experienced the greatness and love of God's creation. We have seen new members in both our Choristers and Novice Choirs. They are all extremely talented, hardworking and well-behaved musicians. It gives me great pleasure to be their Choirmaster. Their abilities to sight sing, memorize, and maintain a superior level of musicianship are unsurpassed. With continued nurturing and encouragement, the children's music ministry will continue to blossom.

In 2017 we installed our new Rector and ordained our new Curate, and music played a key role in these services. We also hosted the Washington & Lee Singers on February 21st at the request of the Townsend School of Music at Mercer University as part of their concert season events. In October, my dear friend Matthew Michael Brown from North Carolina, performed a spectacular organ concert. The concert was very well attended, and I look forward to offering additional concerts in the new year. A new venture in 2017 was combining voices with St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir to perform *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré. I am looking for others way to expand our choir's reach in the near future.

While overall attendance for choir has been down, it is not numbers that matter. It is the affect music has on us as people living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It elevates our senses in worship. It transcends all else and helps to "give us the wings of faith to rise against the veil." It is often said that "those who sing, pray twice." Christ Church is a singing church, and for this, I am well-pleased.

As we continue this journey with Christ to the mountain peak, perhaps we should add to the Beatitudes the quote by William Arms Fisher, American composer, music historian, and writer: "Blessed are the music-makers for they shall uplift and unite the Earth." What will be your contribution? "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." (*Colossians 3:16*)

Music at Christ Church Macon is alive and thriving! Thanks be to God! "Soli Deo Gloria"

**Jonathan Alan Poe**

Organist-Choirmaster & Parish Committee



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's ministry at Christ Church oversees Sunday School for ages 2-5th grade. It also plans and executes numerous special events and services for families throughout the year. We are always actively seeking volunteers to teach Sunday School and help with the special events.

The curriculum used for our Sunday School program is The Godly Play Curriculum. There are four classes that meet during the 10:00 Sunday School hour:

- 2 and 3 year olds - Modified Godly Play Curriculum
- 4 and 5 year olds - Godly Play I
- 1st - 3rd grades - Godly Play II
- 4th and 5th grades - Godly Play III

The special events and services for 2017 were Three Kings Service and dinner; Ash Wednesday Service and simple supper; Easter Egg Hunt between the 9AM and 11AM Easter Sunday Services; Lego My Bible Summer Sunday School; end of summer Field Trip to the Cathedral; All Saints' and All Hallows Eve Service and Party; Advent Wreath Making; St. Nicholas Service and Celebration; and the Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist.

**Helen Stewart**



# ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We had a very good set of offerings for everyone for the year 2017, and attendance in the classes was very strong. We will continue to have two offerings each church school session.

September began with Faith through Harry Potter, Illuminating the Psalter, and the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. Our Alpha program was in full swing and our multitude of Bible studies continued.

During Advent, Faith through Harry Potter continued and we had four lessons covering the Song of Mary, the Song of Zachariah, the Song of Angels, and the Song of Simeon.

As we begin our new year of church school, our two offerings are the Divided Kingdoms and Developing Everyday Spirituality.

**John Blanks**

# YOUNG FAMILIES

The Young Families' Ministry is in its initial steps. We've been meeting monthly with social events (such as a Taco Night at the rectory) or worship services and socials (such as All Saints' and St. Nicholas), and have done one service activity by singing Christmas carols at Carlyle Place.

There is now a Christ Church young families' Facebook group and updated mailing list to better improve communication. If you are not part of the Facebook group or are not on the e-mail list, please be in touch, and I'll make sure to get you added.

**Zac Neubauer**

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The women of ECW began the year with our annual fall kick-off party, hosted by Joy Tharpe in her lovely new home. The kick-off party was well attended by so many women of Christ Church! We announced the new officers for the year: Blair Sumrall as President, Kelly Causey returning as Secretary, and Rachel Horkan returning as Treasurer.

In November, we held our bi-annual Garden Gate event, which turned out to be a resounding success. Thanks to our panel of capable committee chairs and the generosity of our loyal parishioners, we raised \$11,500 which we plan to put back into the church this next year in a project we have currently underway. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who were involved, especially Blair Sumrall and Ware Sanders (Chairs), Elizabeth Schorr (Vendors), Elizabeth McCain (Silent Auction), Jenny Greer and Erin Bickley (Wine Raffle), Gwen Wilson and Ginny Rozier (Flowers), Kay Greer and Laura Evans (Luncheon), Cason Wilkin and Kelly Causey (ECW Booth), and Elizabeth Cleveland and Martie Banks (Casseroles).

The Christmas party was great fun, and Barbara Domingos was so gracious to host us this year. Her home was lovely and all decked out in its finest for the holiday season. We collected a mound of toys for donation to Macon's children in need. Many thanks are owed, as always, to Kay Greer and Kitty Walker for organizing this fun event.

We were instrumental this year in supporting the Christian Education ministry. We purchased new Godly Play materials and provided for a total overhaul of the nursery equipment to update items and meet current safety standards.

We look forward to closing out the year with our spring gathering. Thanks again to all of our members for a great year!

**Blair Sumrall**

## MEN'S MINISTRY

I've really enjoyed leading the Wednesday morning Men's Bible Study. This autumn we studied Philippians. Right before Christmas we took a crash course through Obediah, Jude, and Philemon. These are three of the shortest books of the Bible and they all feature some Advent themes, so it was a nice lead-in to Christmas.

We're starting 2018 by heading back to the Old Testament and have just started the Book of Jonah. The plan is to study Jonah and then to jump into the Gospel of Mark to correspond with the Sunday lectionary.

If any men in the church want to join us, we meet from 7:15-8:00am in the Cloister Room. Following the study a few of us then continue over to Between the Bread (Michael's on Mulberry) for breakfast.

**Zac Neubauer**

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

The building committee is charged with maintaining the physical plant of the church.

- New shades were installed in the Parish House nursery.
- Stencil wall area in the church was repaired.
- The rotting porch balustrade on the Harrold House was removed.
- Examination of the stucco on the church exterior was performed.
- The offices of the Rector, the Associate Rector, and the Parish Administrator were freshly painted.
- The roof of the Harrold House was repaired.
- The exterior of the Harrold House received touch-up paint.
- Routine plumbing, HVAC, and electrical services were accomplished.

I want to express my appreciation to Phil Groce and crew, Bonnie Dowling and Tony Long.

**John Willingham**

## GROUNDS

The grounds of Christ Church have been well-maintained under the leadership of Bonnie Dowling and her committee.

**Bonnie Dowling**

## OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Office volunteers offer a valuable service in that we perform certain duties that will allow more time for the staff to work without frequent interruptions. Our duties include answering the phone and the doorbell, greeting visitors, making reminder phone calls, and doing clerical work.

During 2017, sheers were placed on the entrance doors for privacy, and a visual doorbell was installed to allow volunteers to see the visitors and speak to them before answering the door. We think these are great safety feature additions.

We work at the reception desk in the Harrold House. The schedules are flexible in that we usually work twice a month for several hours in either mornings or afternoons. If you're looking for a meaningful and valuable ministry, more volunteers are always welcome!

**Jane Willingham**

## PARISH LIFE

During 2017, the faithful women of Christ Church assisted with numerous social events for Parish Life. In January, the Annual Meeting brunch was held in the Great Hall and a reception honoring Joseph Shippen and his family was held in May. Throughout the summer, Lemonade on the Lawn was hosted each Sunday following the 10:30 service.

The annual Church Picnic was in October at the farm of Lane and Tim Sheridan. Following Lessons and Carols in December, there was a reception in the Great Hall. In addition to these annual events, special committees were created to host the reception for Zac Neubauer's ordination and to provide catering for the Garden Gate preview evening. Throughout the year, more than fifty Christ Church women contributed to the social life of Christ Church.

**Kay Greer**

## PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral Care Ministry supports our church members by preparing food for them in times of need- such as illness, surgery, or the birth of a new baby. In addition, when a loved one passes away, the Good Grief Committee provides food at home or a reception after a funeral for the family of the deceased.

We encourage all members of Christ Church to contact the church office in times of need so that we can best minister to our church members. The Pastoral Care Ministry operates with this goal: The clergy and members of Christ Church will provide pastoral care, support, and counseling to its members in time of need and joy.

**Sally Hatcher**

## WELCOMING & NURTURING

The Mission of the Welcoming & Nurturing Committee of Christ Church is to integrate prospective and new members into the body of Christ in a manner which glorifies God. To do this, the Committee encourages all new members to worship and to grow their faith through participation and service in a ministry. During this past year, the committee developed a strategic plan to ensure accomplishment of this mission with the goal of welcoming all Church visitors and new members into the Church's congregation and its ministries.

The committee works through five subcommittees: Foyer Dinner Groups, New Member Welcoming Receptions, Data/Tracking, Communications, and Shepherding.

Foyer Dinner Groups are a way for new members to be warmly welcomed into the Christ Church family via meals and fellowship in parishioner homes and are coordinated yearly by this Committee.

New Member Welcoming Receptions are planned for the spring and fall to introduce and welcome newcomers.

Information data on visitors and new members is tracked and coordinated between this committee, the Rector, and the Parish Administrator, to enable all to work in tandem to better meet the needs and interests of the new members and to incorporate them into Christ Church. Thirty letters were sent out based on visitation cards received during 2017.

This committee will continue with the plans made in 2017 for contacting new visitors via a welcoming letter, learning their interest in Christ Church by a phone call from the Rector, and then adopting a Shepherding program as needed for those new members who are interested.

This committee will meet bi-monthly, or as needed, throughout 2018.

**Daryl Sumner**

# OUTREACH

The Christ Church Outreach Committee includes lay members, clergy and vestry. Many of the members represent various ministries supported by the church and committee.

In 2017 ministries supported by the Outreach Committee and Christ Church included Daybreak, Loaves and Fishes, Crisis Line/Safehouse, Path to Shine, Rescue Mission of Middle Georgia, Appleton Episcopal Ministries, Book 'Em, and Haitian Hope. Ministries largely focused on the downtown area as established by a vision statement developed several years ago. Support is provided financially, through in-kind donations of wish list items, and through volunteering.

The largest outreach project at Christ Church is the Weekend Lunch Program, which feeds the downtown hungry on Saturdays and Sundays. The program is run from our kitchen and served in Jones Chapel. It works in partnership with other area churches and service organizations who provide teams and financial support. 2017 saw a change in leadership in the Weekend Lunch program which has resulted in a reduction in expenditures, improvement in security, and improved participation in the various teams, both internal and those from other churches and the community.

Each month a different ministry is featured in our Ministry of the Month program. A feature is included in all Christ Church publications which details educational information about the ministry and a current needs list.

The committee is led by co-chairs and supported by the clergy as well as the Vestry. Several new members have joined the existing members on the committee. We look forward to another year of Outreach. If you are interested in joining the team, or if you have suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

**Susan Allen & Shannon Davis**

# BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

The Brotherhood of Saint Andrews is our Christ Church men's organization that not only enjoys fellowship but increases The Holy Spirit in our lives by daily devotion, prayer, reading scripture, and doing service.

We meet monthly for fellowship and discuss some interesting topic. Our service projects have been the Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras festival "An Evening on Bourbon Street" and helping with weekend meals for the hungry. We welcome all men to join.

**Tom Jones**



# DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The Daughters of the King is an Order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, or churches in communion with it, or churches who are the Historic Episcopate. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. A Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of Christ on her parish.– *National Handbook*.

The *Holy Spirit Chapter* of The Daughters of the King has been described as a “quiet ministry”. Our profile in the work of the parish is not one with a high visibility but one which we believe is of high value. Our greatest work is that of prayer; prayer for the parish as a whole and prayer for individuals as requested. One of our most committed and devoted members maintains a prayer list that is separate from the public prayer list of the parish. She updates this list on a regular basis and sends it out to the Daughters. Any member may add names to this list. Prayers are not limited to parishioners. Persons asking for prayers may share their specific need, or not, as they wish. This list remains confidential to the Daughters. At times these needs may be known to the parish at large because they have been shared by the person that requested our prayers. Another part of our ministry is the making of the baptismal banners. A personalized banner is created for each person receiving the sacrament. This banner is a gift to the child or adult being baptized and is an additional outward sign of being enveloped into the arms of Christ and the family of Christ Church. In Advent, we held a Quiet Day during which The Rev. Dr. Gary Abbott presided. This was a morning of focused prayer and education directed toward our preparation for Advent. Throughout the year, we will offer for day and night meetings and share ways to enrich our purpose of prayer in new and fresh ways.

**Eleanor Bishop & Wendy Johnson**

# HEALING MINISTRY

We are continuing to expand the healing ministry at Christ Church that was begun many years ago as the Order of St. Luke. Some of those who continue to participate have been involved since its inception, some were trained through the McNutt ministry of healing which is a resource used by the Order of St. Luke, and some are new to the ministry and in the process of being trained. We have been using the book *Praying for Wholeness and Healing* in our training, which is a resource used in training by the Order of St. Luke in many Episcopal churches.

Currently we have six lay people participating in this ministry who were already trained and have many years of experience in praying for healing. (This includes three who have been part of Christ Church in the past and who have come back to help with the ministry when their schedules permit and they are able to be in town.) In addition, we have six who have felt a call to this ministry and are in the process of training.

We have committed to offer quarterly healing services on Sunday evenings at 5:00. The scriptures, music and message at these services all center on healing. Individual prayer for healing with laying on of hands is available to everyone who would like to receive healing. At these services we have needed four stations, each with a team of two lay ministers to accommodate the need. This prayer time is more extensive than what we are able to do at the rail during our weekly Wednesday Healing Service or at our Sunday morning worship services. (It is more along the line of what Trisha Barfield does in the clergy sacristy at the 11:00 Service on the third Sunday of the month.) It is our hope to have prayers for healing offered more consistently on Sunday mornings when we have a large enough group of people who have completed the training. Because of the response of the congregation to this ministry, we believe at least two prayer ministers are needed at the rail each Sunday to accommodate those who would like prayer.

Virginia Green is the coordinator of this ministry and has been facilitating the training along with Trisha Barfield and Cynthia Knapp.

**Virginia Green**

# PARISH STATISTICS

## 2017

### Sacramental Acts (2017)

Baptisms	7
Confirmations/Receptions	3
Deaths	10
Marriages	1

### Membership

Active Members	694
Newcomers	38
Transferred Out	4
Transferred In	6

### Number of Services

Total Sunday Services	140
Weekday Services	78
Home/Private	38
Total Communions	11,374
Avg. Sunday Attendance	190

### Children's Sunday School

Ages 2 & 3	8
Ages 4 & 5	12
Grades 1-3	18
Grades 4-3	10

## 2016

### Sacramental Acts

Baptisms	5
Confirmations/Receptions	0
Deaths	14
Marriages	3

### Membership

Active Members	678
Newcomers	0
Transferred Out	6
Transferred In	1

### Number of Services

Total Sunday Services	140
Weekday Services	277
Home/Private	34
Total Communions	11,813
Avg. Sunday Attendance	209

### Children's Sunday School

Ages 2 & 3	11
Ages 4 & 5	10
Grades 1-3	18
Grades 4-3	10

# TRANSITIONS

## **Baptisms**

Jeffrey Adam Kinney  
Harper Elizabeth Oakley Kinney  
Lena Rose Lewis Israel  
Elizabeth Claire Branch  
Marilyn Louise Schorr  
Richard Henry Maddux IV  
Thomas Bridges Smith

## **Confirmations/Receptions**

Elizabeth West McArthur  
Virginia Lee McArthur  
Emma Grace Timms

## **Marriages**

Susanne Marie Walker & Matthew Charles Birch

## **Burials**

Jackson Spencer Combs  
Earl Thornton  
Royal "Roy" Stanley Servais  
Lt. Col. Keith Pat Leslie  
Mary Jane Brock  
Doris Bracken McEachern  
Mildred Craven  
William Penn "Bill" Thompson, Jr.  
Susan Cassel

*Names are listed in chronological order of services.*

## VESTRY

Lawrence Williford, *Senior Warden*

2015–2017	2016–2018	2017–2019
Lizzie Clark	Ellen Bunker	John Blanks
Nan Harper	Laura Evans	Kay Greer
Emory Johnson	Ted Robinson	Barbara Jenkins
Molly Muse	Walker Stewart	Will Horkan

## VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Brian Causey  
Lizzie Clark  
Julie Groce  
Nan Harper  
Gene Hatcher  
Emory Johnson  
Alan Meadors  
Molly Muse

## CLERGY & STAFF

The Right Reverend Robert C. Wright, *Bishop*  
The Right Reverend Don A. Wimberly, *Assisting Bishop*  
The Reverend Cynthia C. Knapp, *Rector*  
The Reverend Zachary D. Neubauer, *Curate*  
Mr. Jonathan A. Poe, *Organist-Choirmaster & Parish Administrator*  
Mr. Robert Hubbard, *Sexton*  
Mrs. Carolyn Simmons, *Assistant Sexton*

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