

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Columbus, Georgia

2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Annual Meeting

January 31, 2021

The meeting was conducted via Zoom and phone. A video was presented highlighting the events of the last year. The Annual Reports, short and long forms were sent to members via email and USPS.

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards called the meeting to order. Tanya Edwards-Jones, Senior Warden, opened with a prayer.

Voting was conducted using text and prior contact for privacy. The agenda was presented and unanimously approved. The minutes from the 2020 meeting were sent electronically prior to the meeting and were unanimously approved by a show of hands.

Rev. Burton-Edwards presented the slate of nominees for the three open Vestry Terms. The biographical information was sent electronically prior to the meeting and again presented over Zoom prior to the vote. Deidre Bohannon, Spencer Garrard, and Julia Slater were unanimously elected to three-year terms with 100% in favor via text and prior phone call.

Karen Lord, treasurer, reviewed the 2020 budget with information regarding the impact of COVID. She then presented the 2021 budget which was developed assuming things may continue as they are now under COVID. Money was put in the designated fund as worship in person resumes and financial needs change. This will allow for flexibility in uncertain times.

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards reported for the Property Committee. The renovations are in completion, the War on Rodents has been successful, and the committee continues to work on the grounds' projects.

Celia Page reported for the Outreach Committee. She reported that the 2021 budget will be similar to the 2020 budget and will continue to support the current programs.

Mitch Grossman reported for the Endowment Committee. He shared a video focusing on the necessity and goals of the Endowment fund.

Malinda Shamburger, Executive Director of the East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation, gave an overview of the current programs and future plans to develop affordable housing for the area. She encouraged the congregation to become involved in the program.

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards thanked all who have volunteered this year and offered a prayer for the start of a new ministry. She introduced the theme of Lent: This Little Light of Mine with a focus on the Gospel of Mark. She also reported that the new Vestry will address the plan for regathering. She thanked the staff for their flexibility during COVID and their willingness to take on new roles and duties.

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards thanked the outgoing Vestry. Parting gifts were given to each: pens made by Dan Ginter of oak from the Nave, paperweights with the date of their service on Vestry, and night lights with pictures from the windows in the Nave. The windows represented the individual member: Tanya Edwards-Jones (Senior Warden) – the Pentecost window; Mike Smith (Junior Warden) - the Burning Bush window; and Ray Capo – the St. Thomas window.

Ron Wirt, incoming Senior Warden, closed with a prayer.

Rev. Edward Lowe offered the dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Gammage Ginter, Clerk of the Vestry

2021 PARISH DATA

37 NEW MEMBERS:

David Acton
Paula Acton
Edozie Anusionwu
Mukosolu Anusionwu
Nkiru Anusionwu
Zane Anusionwu
Ace Burton
David Burton
Cam Clayton
Sarah Clayton
Karrmen Currin
Lizzie DiQuattro
David Goodman

Malerie Goodman
Kathleen Harr
Katie Holbrook
Lola Beth James
Melissa James
Dorothy Jones
Reginald Jones
Henry Meeks
Emily Moore
Traci Newton-Lopez
Lynn Smith
Joe Stewart
Rolene Stewart

Kibby Taylor
Clementine Wadkins
Kern Wadkins
Robert Wadkins, Jr.
Brian Walker
Hannah Walker
Addie Walton
Chris Walton
Dan Wilcox
Rose Wilcox
Stefania Wilcox

4 Baptisms:

Zane Anusionwu
Ace Burton
Henry Meeks
Clementine Wadkins

1 Marriage

Joe Mills & Jimmy Rutland

22 Confirmations/Receptions

David Acton
Paula Acton
Esi Akyempong
Ace Burton
David Burton
Cam Clayton
Sarah Clayton
Riley Connery

Karrmen Currin
Barbara Ellis
Delilah Farrow
Melissa James
Emily Moore
Anabelle Mullen
Michelle Mullen

Nancy Prescott
Mary Scribner
Kibby Taylor
Martha Wade
Brian Walker
Hannah Walker
Stefania Wilcox

10 Deaths/Burials

Chuck Bentfeld
Charlotte DuPriest
Mike Edmondson
Lowell Jergens

Shane Jolley
Reginald Jones
Clifford Swift
Joseph Wells, Jr.

Dick Traugh (died 2015)
Shirley Traugh (died 2017)

RECTOR'S REPORT

A little over halfway through 2021, your Vestry and I came to an astounding realization. We revisited *St. Thomas 2020 Vision*, the vision for expanding St. Thomas ministry and witness we discerned together in 2019.

- Share our witness and expand our media presence
- Go deeper in learning
- Reach out to young adults
- Strengthen fellowship
- Care for our facility and finances



Of course, 2020 unfolded in ways none of us expected. In 2021, however, we were delighted to realize that God had enabled us to make progress on all of these goals.

- We launched a **new website** and got more comfortable with offering online worship and learning opportunities.
- Dr. Denny Clark joined our staff as our **Parish Theologian** and gathered a team to lead adult formation. He and Meg worked together to develop seven **Journey Groups** which met inside, outside, and online to explore questions of faith.
- We said goodbye to Holle Tubbs who became Diocesan Youth Missioner and prepared to welcome our new full-time **Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries**.
- Journey Groups, Zoom prayer meetings, and St. Thomas Shepherds provided **new avenues for fellowship and care**. As the pandemic eased, we met outside for special events.
- The congregation was extraordinarily generous, enabling us to reduce our endowment draw and save for the future. Gifts and pledges to our **Continuing Faithfulness Capital Fund** helped us prepare for major repairs. Thanks to a gift from Judy Harding, the parish hall is being refreshed.

In 1958, visionary people gathered to begin St. Thomas. In 2022, in many ways, St. Thomas is *Beginning Anew*. As we re-start ministries and programs following the Covid-19 pandemic, we are discovering new ways to worship, learn, and serve. The community around us has new needs and vision. We are a renewed congregation.

In the reports that follow we asked, ministry leaders to share how St. Thomas is Beginning Anew and practicing Continuing Faithfulness in this remarkable time. As you read, pray in thanksgiving for what we accomplished together in 2021, and pray in hope as we look ahead to 2022 and beyond.

I give thanks to God for the Continuing Faithfulness you all demonstrated in 2021. It was another difficult year in many ways, but you responded with faith and wisdom. Thanks to all of our committee members, vestry members, and to our Senior Warden, Ron Wirt, our Junior Warden, Michelle Mullen, and our Treasurer, Karen Lord, for their steady guidance. Thanks to our hard-working and talented church staff who continue to amaze me with the dedication and joy they bring to their work.

It is a privilege to serve among you, especially as we Begin Anew with the help of God.

Blessings,
Grace

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

| 07

Vestry members are the stewards of the resources of the church. Our discussions and decisions encompass finance, property, personnel, worship, education, and service. The Vestry is a partner with the Rector in the mutual discernment of our mission. Monthly meetings include a Rector's report, a finance report, approval of larger expense items, and broader discussion of strategies and plans. In order to grow together in faith and vision, we include time for formation in each meeting, usually by presenting chapters of a book we are reading together.

As Senior Warden, I serve as the Vestry liaison to the church's Finance Committee and present their reports to the Vestry. Also, the Senior Warden meets with the Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Rector in advance of each Vestry meeting to preview the items for discussion. This smaller group serves as a sounding board for the Rector on numerous practical matters that may not require a vote of the Vestry. Michelle Mullen and Karen Lord served very capably in 2021 as Junior Warden and Treasurer, and they contributed significantly to our discussions.

Beginning Anew

The year 2021 included many decisions related to COVID safety, including the reopening of our facility, and how to conduct worship safely. This effort included such innovations as services in the labyrinth, hybrid worship (both in-person and online), outdoor youth gatherings, family vacation bible school in the parish hall, and drive-through and take-home activities. We are grateful for the extraordinary leadership and flexibility of our Rector, staff, and volunteers during this time.

To provide for the expanding schedule of in-person worship, our kitchen manager, Seth Burgamy, took on many of the duties of a sexton. This was a good use of his abilities while meals had been suspended, and going forward, the Vestry has approved combining the part-time positions of sexton and kitchen manager, so that Seth can perform both roles in an expanded position.

The new position of part-time parish theologian was created on a trial basis and then approved as a continuing position. Denny Clark's leadership has resulted in an expansion of adult formation activities and the doubling of participation.

I had the opportunity to attend, along with Grace, the annual conference of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP), which held sessions on leadership, witness, strategy, and the role of the Vestry in "entering into the spiritual care-taking of the congregation." In the wake of the pandemic, we were encouraged to "think like a startup" instead of an established organization. For the church, this might mean a willingness to try something different, evaluate its success, and then keep – or not keep – that approach.

Continuing Faithfulness

In 2021, we received the reports on the previous two budget years from our new auditor, James Jordan of Newnan, GA. He is a CPA and Certified Fraud Examiner who specializes in Episcopal churches. While the audit turned up no irregularities, we did change some processes with approvals and documentation in response to his recommendations.

Our intrepid Property Committee has dealt faithfully with roof leaks, termites, rodents, flooding, and asbestos removal in the past year. They have prepared an excellent report projecting the life of various sections of our roofing and HVAC installations.

We have approved upgrades to our sound system, website, and communication software, and we are already seeing the results of that investment.

Your Vestry is a terrific group of servant leaders who contribute in so many ways. We serve overlapping three-year terms, so each year we have three new members join, while three rotate off. My thanks go to all who have served.

Ron Wirt, Senior Warden

**Senior Warden: Ron Wirt (3rd), Junior Warden: Michelle Mullen(2nd),
Deidre Bohannon (1st), Larry Dooley (3rd), Jon Ezzell (2nd), Spencer Garrard (1st)
Brian Schwartz (2nd), Malinda Shamburger (3rd), Julia Slater (1st)**

(Each member serves a 3-year term. The year of each vestry member's term follows his/her name.)

Rector: Grace Burton-Edwards

Clerk: Sara Ginter

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

| 08

Vestry members assist the Rector in the nurture of Christ's Church through oversight while ensuring the focus remains on the church's mission. This is accomplished through monthly vestry meetings with thoughtful discussion and discernment. As Junior Warden, I am the Vestry Liaison to the Property Committee. In addition, I meet with the Senior Warden, Rector, and Treasurer prior to each vestry meeting to approve the upcoming vestry meeting agenda. Both Ron Wirt, Senior Warden, and I support Rev. Grace when issues arise in between vestry meetings that do not require a vote.

"Begin Anew" sums up St. Thomas in 2021. While remaining mindful and dedicated to Covid-19 safety protocols, we reopened, offering a variety of worship opportunities both in person and online to attend to the spiritual needs of the community. Adult formation classes, journey groups, youth and children's classes, and outdoor coffee hour were all welcomed additions in 2021. I am thankful to St. Thomas staff for their hard work, creative planning, and flexibility.

Thank you for allowing me to serve St. Thomas as your Junior Warden during this transformative year. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated group of people.

Michelle Mullen
Junior Warden 2021

TREASURER'S REPORT

The task of this ministry includes safeguarding the assets of the parish, providing and administering an annual budget, managing the finances to help assure funding for ministries of the church, and making recommendations to the Vestry regarding anything involving the finances of the parish.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

In 2021 the budget for St. Thomas was purposefully flexible to allow for additional funds should the parish return to meeting in person while still maintaining the option of at home worship through online services. Although meeting in person remains a challenge, the flexibility of the 2021 budget allowed for resources to make meeting in person safe and in accordance with Diocesan guidelines. As we Begin Anew with more resources needed and a growing parish, this ministry continues to be faithful in finding ways to provide funding for those needs.

Who participated in 2021?

Those serving on the finance committee are Karen Lord, Norm Easterbrook, Mike Morrill, Steven Slater, Tracy Leopard, and Frank Feagle. Also active with this group is the Senior Warden, Ron Wirt. Instrumental in providing pertinent information and directing the work were Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards and Patty Slembariski.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Lord
Treasurer 2021

We invited ministry leaders to summarize their activities in 2021 by responding to these questions:

- What is this ministry?
- How did this ministry “Begin Anew” and practice “Continuing Faithfulness” in 2021?
- Who participated in 2021?

ACOLYTES

Wilson Ford, Acolyte Director

Acolytes serve by carrying the petite cross, gospel book, or torches, and also serve as crucifer. Acolytes resumed assisting with worship each Sunday as we met in person and also special worship services. Serving as an acolyte is a wonderful way for our children and youth to participate in worship and serve our church. In 2021 I began serving as "Acolyte Director." As director I train acolytes and assist with scheduling. At the beginning of this year we continued "Acolytes of the Day" in online worship. Acolytes were invited to submit pictures of themselves holding a candle and those pictures we included in worship services online. As we regathered for in-person worship Acolytes began serving again as well. We added the position of "Gospel Bearer" to give younger children the opportunity to participate. We also held an Acolyte Picnic in 2021 after a morning of training to celebrate the ministry of acolytes and their participation at St. Thomas. Acolytes were also given St. Thomas facemasks in appreciation for their service.

Esi Akyempong
Austin Churchwell
Grayson Connery
Riley Connery
Elyse Dahlgren
Will Ezzell
David Flinn
Robert Holloway
Asha Hostetter

Vivian Hostetter
Lola Beth James
Gideon Jones
Keagan McFalls
Kelly McFalls
Riley Mullen
Kingston Olive-Allison
Sam Olive-Allison
Kevin Pistorio

Laraia Pistorio
Mary Scribner
William Sealy
Wyatt Perkins
Lovick Sudayi
Martha Wade
Ruthie Wade
Colin Young

ADULT FORMATION

Denny Clark, Parish Theologian

‘Adult Formation’ is ‘Episcopal-speak’ for living out what the Apostle Paul urged when he wrote, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2). Other Christian traditions often use terms like “discipleship training” or “adult Christian education” to talk about basically the same thing. In ‘Formation’ – whether as adults or as children and youth – we are being ‘formed’ to become ‘Christlike,’ since we understand Jesus to be *definitive* for understanding what God is like and what God calls us to become. We profess that ‘God became flesh’ in Jesus, and therefore we likewise seek for God to ‘become flesh’ in us.

Practically speaking, Adult Formation at St. Thomas includes all learning activities for adults in the congregation. Early this past year, we engaged in “Continuing Faithfulness” by carrying out those activities within the constraints imposed by COVID, providing Adult Formation activities up through May only by Zoom or in-person outside, including a Zoom series led by Denny Clark which dealt with what Christians might learn from other religions using imagery of Light and Darkness, a Zoom series by Fr. Edward Lowe on Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Cost of Discipleship*, Welcome classes led by Fr. Edward, using the book *Walk in Love*, and training sessions he provided for shepherd groups.

Starting in June, we were able to “Begin Anew” our Sunday Adult Formation, both in- person and by Zoom – a model which we intend to continue. We implemented this hybrid model in a cost-effective, relatively low-tech way, investing in a cart for an existing television monitor, and a new camera, and microphone capable of picking up group conversation. The hybrid process has certainly had its glitches as we have been learning how best to use the equipment and have improved the building’s wifi capabilities, but we greatly appreciate the patience and the feedback that has enabled us to improve the effectiveness of the system, which now works quite smoothly.

Sunday Adult Formation has two main goals which we have deliberately, intentionally pursued: a) provide a balanced variety of topics and issues (biblical, theological, historical, liturgical, societal, experiential, spiritual), and b) utilize and nurture the rich leadership resources of our members and community partners. St. Thomas has worked well in dealing with both those goals. Since June, our Sunday Adult Formation has dealt with the following: King David’s kingship, the role of science in faithful living, the Letter of James, becoming a living kidney donor, dealing constructively with societal divisions and chaos, a Welcome class introducing people to the Episcopal Church, the affordable housing shortage in Columbus, the work of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship (and a related Sunday evening session on preventing gun violence), understanding the Church Year, and an overview of the Four Gospels in January 2022. Each Sunday 12-30 people participate in these sessions. We have had an incredible array of 23 Sunday Adult Formation leaders/presenters/coordinators, including Ray Capo, Denny Clark, Art France, Cindy Cox Garrard, Sandy McCann, Joe Mills, Lauren Mitchell, Mike Nichols, Perrin Nicolson, Susie Olive-Allison, Vicky Partin, Mike & Charlene Rallo, Martha Robert, Brian Schwartz, Malinda Shamburger, Brian & Hannah Walker, Jonathan Walz, and Rev. Grace, as well as Melanie Atha (Executive Director of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship) and Columbus community leaders, Pat Frey and Lisa Walters. Thank you to them all!

The Thursday Women’s Lectionary Study group, led by Rev. Cindy Cox Garrard, provides an excellent learning opportunity and caring connection for women in our congregation and the wider community, involving 15-20 each week.

Wednesday programming has been a longstanding St. Thomas tradition, including dinner, choir rehearsal, and Formation activities for children, youth and adults. The COVID Delta variant outbreak hit just as we were hoping to resume those activities. Out of the despair of that setback came a plan for us to ‘Begin Again’ in a different way, leading to our 11-week Adult Formation experiment with small Journey Groups, meeting in-person or online on Wednesday evenings or Sunday afternoons/evenings. We wanted to provide a way for people to study and to grow, but also to get to know others over an extended period of time. We adapted a curriculum, *Transforming Questions*, that deals with a range of common questions regarding beliefs and practices within The Episcopal Church. It was designed to include a large group presentation, followed by discussion in small table groups – an impossibility in a pandemic situation. Instead, our Parish Theologian, Denny Clark, video-recorded a presentation which group members either viewed during their session or watched individually prior to meeting with their group, and then discussed the issues specified for the session.

The Journey Group process received overwhelming positive reviews in the evaluation we conducted at the concluding celebration of the process on December 12, with numerous suggestions for how Journey Groups can be further improved. Strikingly, our Journey Groups involved 200-300% the number of people that our 'normal' Wednesday programming included in pre-COVID days! Many thanks to Ron Wirt, Susan Wirt, Brian & Hannah Walker, Kibby Taylor, Susan Sealy, and Danny & Sara Ginter – the Facilitators of the small groups. Thanks also to Meg Olive-Allison who coordinated the distribution of materials and other organizational tasks, and to Seth Burgamy for his weekly set-up for multiple groups.

We thank our Rector, Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards, Fr. Edward Lowe (Associate Rector up through April), and Dr. Denny Clark (Parish Theologian since May) for their leadership and guidance of our Adult Formation program, as well as our Adult Formation Coordinating Group (Perrin Nicolson, Libby McFalls, Spencer Garrard, and Paula & David Acton) for their valuable input and feedback as we moved into our Fall programming and now into a new year. Most especially we thank you, the people who are St. Thomas Church, for your active participation in Adult Formation!

ALTAR GUILD

Sue O'Dell, Chair

The primary purpose of the Altar Guild at St. Thomas Episcopal Church is to prepare the altars in the Nave and the Chapel for the Eucharist. Care of the altar, sanctuary, vessels, linens and vestments are other "behind the scenes" tasks necessary to support the liturgical life of the parish.

There are currently three altar guild teams with about four members each. In normal times, each team is "on duty" for two weeks out of six. The teams are responsible for Sunday services in the Nave and the Chapel as well as the Wednesday night service in the Chapel and a monthly Friday morning service. The teams work together to prepare for Christmas season and Holy Week and Easter services and other occasions such as weddings and funerals.

2021 participation:

- Team 1. Sue O'Dell, Carole Hill, Malone Moore, Beverly Gordy and new member in 2021 Amy Hatfield. Allen Gordy was a valuable honorary member of our team.
- Team 2. Darlene Everitt, Paula Evans and new members in 2021 Barbara Ellis and Leslie Holloway
- Team 3. Jo Cates, Lisa Herring and Marianne Sheehan.

Although circumstances prevented some of our members from active participation in 2021, they were always with us in spirit and prayer. Those members are Charlie Snipes, Brian Schwartz, Sandi Pauli and Nicholas Foster.

The Altar Guild continued to adjust throughout 2021. As conditions improved, the Diocese allowed resumption of inside services following strict guidelines. Our procedures changed several times during 2021 but we adapted to help St. Thomas "Begin Anew."

Through the closeness of working together, our altar guild members have developed deep friendships and mutual respect for one another. This ministry has helped us to be closer to each other and strengthened our dedication to our tasks as well as our individual relationships with God. It is a joy to participate in the work we do for each St. Thomas service. There is no greater privilege for a lay person in the church than to reverently prepare the altar for the eucharist. We need and wholeheartedly welcome new members and our hope is still to add a fourth team.

BOXWOOD SOCCER

Greg Herring, Coach

The Boxwood Soccer Club began in 2014 as a St Thomas ministry. Our teams practice at the Boxwood Recreation Center, located in the East Carver Heights neighborhood, and we compete in the Columbus Youth Soccer Association. We will field four teams ages 6-13 for a total of about 50 children this coming season.

From our teams a community has evolved of coaches, parishioners, parents, relatives, and neighbors who have become involved in coming to games and in volunteering to help. When the spring 2020 season was shutdown, our community stayed together. We were able to connect families in need to Wynnton Neighborhood Network, CVEM and others. When soccer resumed the following fall, we all came together to make it happen in a safe and fun way, despite the difficulties.

Our southside kids have gained the respect and admiration of the entire Columbus soccer community. We are all so very proud of their accomplishments. Our U12 team went undefeated in the fall 2021 season winning the regular season title. The previous season they were awarded the Sportsmanship Award as voted on by the league coaches.

BOXWOOD PATH TO SHINE

Lisa Herring, Coordinator

Path to Shine – Columbus is an affiliate of a Diocese of Atlanta ministry, Path to Shine. We serve children in elementary school as mentors. In the spring of 2021 we had two students who graduated from the program. One had been with us since he was four and tagged along with his older brother. We held a celebration at Country's Wings with mentors and students. Then we took a trip to Barnes and Noble to buy books with the gift card they receive when they graduate. They also receive a nice certificate. We ended with ice cream!

Also in 2021, mentors and students took a field trip to Westville. We got to see the forge and blacksmith and the shoemaker. The shoemaker let students try their hand at sewing the leather. The students were able to learn history in a "hands on" way that makes an impact. We were all hot, so we went to the Icy Girl and got frozen ices with gummy spiders.

In the spring semester 2021 we had five students with three mentors and the affiliate coordinator. These students received two new books at the end of the semester. When they were online for school on zoom, they were able to use donated Chromebooks from Path to Shine. One family used a Mifi device from Path to Shine to receive internet. We were able to help a struggling middle schooler who had graduated from Path to Shine but needed our assistance. In the spring Jennifer Fletcher packed snack bags that were delivered to doorsteps of families with the assistance of volunteers Vicky Partin, Martha Robert, Jenny Holder, Donna Sharp, Ruth Nichols, Nelia Partain and Celia Page.

We began anew when we started meeting again in person in the fall semester. We kept the same mentors but added new students. We contacted Brewer Elementary and added two students with the referral of the counselor there. We added two siblings of two former students.

At Halloween, students carved a pumpkin to take home. At Christmas, students received four or five new books. We had a nice Christmas party and students painted ornaments and made crafts to take home. "Snack Angels" provided the Christmas party festive snacks. "Snack Angels" are coordinated by Sara Ginter and are Mitch and Allyson Grossman, Sherry Wade, John and Vicky Partin, Donna Sharp, Carole Hill, Jana Speer, Jessica Ezzell, and Leslie Holloway. They provide a healthy snack for each Path to Shine meeting for five students. We thank them so much for this service.

Path to Shine will Begin Anew with a new Director, Marie Davis, as Lesley-Ann Drake retired after 11 years. Path to Shine Columbus mentors are Margo Easterbrook, Chad Keene, Malinda Shamburger, and Lisa Herring, Affiliate Coordinator. We all took the new Path to Shine training this year, to begin anew with new knowledge and enthusiasm! Margo and I attended the Affiliate Directors meeting on July 23 at the Diocese of Atlanta. We received new manipulatives, books, workbooks, games, and supplies. We have great new ideas for 2022 and hope to train new mentors to join us!

BOXWOOD FANN

Lisa Herring, St. Thomas Liaison

Boxwood Friends and Neighbors Network serves 12-20 families who are involved in our ministries or the neighborhood in East Carver Heights. These families have issues with food insecurity that include unemployment, underemployment, single parents, and women on fixed incomes who are caring for grandchildren and dealing with health issues. Most of our families live in the area. This group meets at the Boxwood Recreation Center. Members unload and sort food, clean bins, listen to speakers and celebrate birthdays. We usually met every two weeks with one speaker meeting and one organizational meeting each month.

This ministry "began anew" in 2021 by continuing to serve those who need it and yet working in a way that is safe with the awareness of COVID and necessary safeguards to be in place. We started out working with Carver Heights Presbyterian Church. We had to sort food with limited volunteers and offer drive up pick-up. Those that could help, did so with masks and hand sanitizer. Boxwood F.A.N.N. members loaded bins into trunks of cars. We added more families and share with other families in need. We continued to meet the needs of our vulnerable seniors and families in a safe way.

We "began anew" when the Boxwood Recreation Center opened back up. We knew it could be hard to transition back since many members were new and not used to having to help sort and unpack. However, most members were eager for the fellowship and the opportunity to hear speakers who shared valuable resources. Some of the speakers were, The Area Agency on Aging, Dr. Glenn Fussell on elder care and dementia, Mequetta Snell-Quick with the Urban League, Reggie Lewis with Cure Violence Columbus, and others. We did lose some members but also actively used this opportunity to "being anew" and recruit other members from our Boxwood Soccer and Path to Shine families.

Boxwood F.A.N.N. "began anew" under the direction of Malinda Shamburger and Lashanda Thomas Coordinator. Volunteers are Greg and Lisa Herring and the entire Brown family- Marie, Benny, Deshawn, Deamon and Anthoni Brown.

BREWER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Margo Easterbrook

What is this Ministry?

This ministry supports the students, teachers, and staff of Brewer Elementary School. It is our mission to improve the educational experience of at-risk students living in low-income households who attend Brewer Elementary School.

While we were not able to resume our weekly tutoring sessions in 2021 due to Covid related concerns, we have been able to support the learning process in numerous ways.

How did the Ministry Begin Anew and Practice Continuing Faithfulness?

Through the generosity of St. Thomas parishioners, we donated school supplies and backpacks to Brewer students at the beginning of the school year. At Christmastime, St. Thomas parishioners again generously donated socks and underwear to replenish the clothes closet. In addition, we supplied more than 2,000 kid-sized masks to Brewer as well as cleaning supplies to help the school maintain a safe environment.

We have been able to support the teachers and staff at Brewer during this difficult year by hosting a Back-to-School lunch at the beginning of the school year. We also provided lunch boxes from Jason's Deli to teachers and staff on their return to school in January as well as providing teachers with an abundant Snack Bar during teacher appreciation week in May.

We attended Community Partners meetings, volunteered at Thanksgiving and Christmas meal giveaways, and maintained the Brewer Uniform and Clothes Closet on a weekly basis.

At a time when teachers, staff, and students are overwhelmed, I am proud to say that St. Thomas has been faithful in their ongoing support of Brewer Elementary. I am thanked by teachers who stop me in the hall on a regular basis to tell me how much our support means to them.

We are hoping to resume our Brewer Buddy Tutoring sessions in 2022.

Who takes part in this Ministry?

Volunteers include Lisa Herring, Grace Burton-Edwards, Sara Ginter, Dan Ginter, Ruth Nichols, Jennifer Fletcher, Donna Sharp, Celia Page, Jenny Holder, Vicky Partin, Norman Easterbrook, and myself.

Most importantly, we are thankful for the generous and ongoing support of St. Thomas parishioners.

CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY EPISCOPAL MINISTRY

Martha Robert, Director

For over 40 years, **Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry** has worked in communities throughout the region to care for neighbors who are suffering from the burdens of poverty and marginalization and to build positive relationships across differences of race, culture, socio-economic status, religious practice, and the many ways we are divided. CVEM has been a way for Episcopalians and our neighbors throughout the valley to affirm the dignity of each and every human being and work toward God's dream of Beloved Community.

2021 was certainly a year to Begin Anew with continuing faithfulness to the ministry's rich history; and woven throughout CVEM's programs, governance, and operations is evidence of the continuing faithfulness of the people of St. Thomas!

CVEM's Board of Directors--which includes St. Thomas' **Malinda Shamburger, Cindy Cox Garrard, and Darius Sudayi**--and Executive Director **Martha Robert**, took a big step to Begin Anew by announcing the plan to sell the ministry house on Lockwood and **move to the Beallwood neighborhood**. A huge pandemic takeaway for CVEM is that Direct Service can operate remotely with primary communications via telephone. That, in turn, allows us to continue to serve neighbors throughout the valley region in times of crisis while also starting a new endeavor of becoming residents of a low-income neighborhood.

We continued focusing on **building capacity in Direct Service** to better respond to the on-going economic fallout of the pandemic and systemic burdens on people in low-wage jobs and on fixed incomes:

- securing more funds in order to provide as needed a full month's rent and/or utility balance that makes a huge difference in a family's ability to recover financially and regain housing stability*
- recruiting more volunteers to respond to the dramatically increased number of folks seeking assistance each month
- creating a process to help churches, service agencies, and Home for Good utilize hotel stays as a form of emergency shelter in coordination with one another to optimize use of time and financial resources and, most importantly, assuring that the people being housed in hotels are connected with essential social services including case management

In 2021, Direct Service assisted 605 neighbors in 274 unduplicated households in Muscogee, Russell, Lee, Stewart, Harris, Chattahoochee, and Randolph counties. Twenty (20) households received assistance more than once during the year; additionally, 17 families received gift cards for the holidays. More than **\$87,000 was provided in assistance, 92% of which used for housing and utilities while the remainder assisted families with childcare, employment, beds, State ID, medical and transportation needs, and Christmas**. The continuing faithfulness of **Linda Prince**, one of two intake volunteers, has facilitated this assistance to so many neighbors in the region.

The timing of vaccines available to 12-17 year-olds and overall low Covid numbers made getting together for **TAP - the Thompson-Anderson-Pound Art Program** - more possible in 2021! While we cannot yet resume full-scale TAP, **Debbie Anderson** connected with 17 teens to prepare materials for our **Bloom Where You Are Planted** theme developed by **21 adult volunteer co-planners**. The teens packed materials in bags that were delivered to a total of **82 Tappers and Teens**, and helped Debbie design and create our unity piece **Rock Flower Garden at the main library on Macon Road**. Numerous TAP families, co-planners, and community friends attended the outdoor dedication of the garden in July.

The monthly **Striving for Justice Film Series** conversations, begun in June 2020, continued to draw participants from around the country and offer a safe space to learn about and explore stories of injustice. The films focused on racial, environmental, and economic injustice and connected us to our local histories of lynching, understanding implicit bias, what it means to be Black in America, and acknowledging the genocide of indigenous people with its roots in the Doctrine of Discovery and western Christianity. The Striving for Justice planning group includes St. Thomas parishioners **Vicky Partin, Malinda Shamburger, and Brian Schwartz**

More about all of CVEM's programs and events can be found on our website at www.cvemjubilee.org and on Facebook and Instagram.

In 2021, St. Thomas' financial commitment included \$18,000 through the outreach budget and an astounding \$20,653 in 2nd Sunday offering collections for Direct Service assistance. Many parishioners are faithful CVEM donors, serve in leadership positions, and volunteer to staff as well as participate in all programs and events. **St. Thomas' continuing faithfulness to loving our neighbors is manifested in all aspects of CVEM's operations!**

The St. Thomas folks who participated in the life of the ministry in some way in 2021--not previously named and with hopes of not inadvertently omitting anyone—include: **Susan Anderson, Barbara Billings, Sonya & Gerry Boyd, Angie Braid, Barbara & David Brandenburgh, Joanna Brunson, Reggie Brushwood & Bill Lacy, Seth Burgamy, Ann Burr, Grace & Taylor Burton-Edwards, Raymond Campbell, Martha Carlsen, Nicole & Jack Ceccato, Denny Clark & Toni Fisher, Pat Daniel & Steve Hodges, James Decker, Christine DiFelicianantonio, Ian Dooley, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Robin & Alex Ericksen, Mary Etchison, Mick Etchison, Delilah Farrow, Paula Evans, Jon & Jessica Ezzell, Pam & Frank Feagle, Neal Fenter, Tom & Monica Fortson, Kathy & Art France, Mary Free, Spencer Garrard, Dan & Sara Ginter, Cindy Godwin, Linnea Grosse, Mitch Grossman & Allyson Young, Lisa & Greg Herring, Carole Hill, Ena Hunt, April Jacobs, Renee & Bob McAneny, Sandy & Martin McCann, Libby & Mike McFalls, Marquette & Rick McKnight, Pat McMahan, Joe Mills & Jim Rutland, Charlene & Randy Moore, Jim Morpeth, James Motos, the Mullen family, Ruth & Mike Nichols, Mandy Ochoa, the Olive-Allison family, Michael Owen, Celia Page & Jenny Holder, Nelia Partain, John & Vicky Partin, Sandi & Bill Pauli, Jan Pittman, Nancy Prescott, Susan & Spence Sealy, Donna Sharp, Stephen and William Slater, Patty & Chris Slembariski, Anna Slembariski, Bennett Stoltz, Florence Studstill-Wokoko, Bernie and Molly Sutter, Bobsie & Clifford Swift, Kibby Taylor, Jack Tice, Sherry & Tom Wade, Mary Jane & Bob Wadkins, Hannah & Brian Walker, Jonathan Walz, Skip & Peggi Williams, TaKira Williams, Susan & Ron Wirt, Frances Woolfolk, and Michelle Young.**

Thank you, St. Thomas, for your continued faithfulness in being such a significant part of CVEM!

COMMUNICATIONS

Meg Olive-Allison, Director of Parish Engagement

The Communications Ministry at St. Thomas helps to organize the internal and external communication of the church. This includes managing the website, Facebook, Instagram, emailed newsletters, mailed newsletters, emailed prayer list, as well as handling internal requests from staff members, requests from parishioners seeking information about happenings in the church or assistance with projects, and responding to inquiries from visitors and potential new members. This ministry creates and handles special printed communications projects throughout the year such as seasonal newsletters, Annual Parish Report and the stewardship campaign materials.

Highlights from 2021:

- We have a new website! Working with Membership Vision, we rolled out a new website in November. The new site allows for much more dynamic content as well as integration with social media, newsletter, and other communication tools.
- We have a new logo! Through the website development process we worked with a graphic designer who learned about who we are as a parish and helped create a logo that represents and shares St. Thomas with the community.
- We changed our email communication schedule from daily (begun in 2020) to three times a week. This change helps us stay in regular communication as well as gives us three different opportunities for communication and connection during the week. These regular messages are sent to 483 people on our email list.
- We continued using Zoom, Eventbrite, SimpleTexting, and a conference call line to better connect from home.
- We continued sharing "Celebrations and Sorrows" by email each week.
- We continued mailing seasonal newsletters to the parish as another way of staying connected.

CREATION KEEPERS

Christine DiFeliciano, Chair

Creation Keepers' mission is to share in the stewardship of our Earthly home. Working to slow the realities of climate disturbance, we as faithful stewards REAP (R4, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Refuse; Educate; Advocate; and Prize God's gifts of beauty and wonder).

The Creation Keepers 2021 highlights were:

- Toured the new George Washington Carver Victory Garden and Farm envisioned by Mr. Ronzell Buckner's Turn Around Columbus (turnaroundcolumbus.org). This garden and experiential learning - working opportunity will serve the youth and their parents of East Carver Heights.
- Contemplated the Season of Rogation by availing the documentary Unbreathable: The Fight for Healthy Air for CVEM's Striving for Justice Conversations.
- Continued environmental action awareness through several Zoom workshops sponsored by GIPL (gipl.org) during their month-long program, Eco-Faith from Home: 30 Days of Climate Action and Zoomed with other Green Teams across Georgia.
- Explored climate action opportunities with a new partner ENVIRONMENT GEORGIA (environmentgeorgia.org/feature/gae/about-us).
- Read and Reflected on St. Francis's Canticle of the Creatures at ReflectionsonCanticleoftheCreatures.pdf (enej.org). Our own Mick Etchison penned a reflection, The Chaotic Winds of the Pandemic at Verse 6.
- Celebrated on a beautiful October Saturday West Point Lake's beauty and ecological importance with Chattahoochee River Keepers, GIPL, and members of St. Thomas.
- Sustained coordination efforts to minimize St. Thomas' carbon footprint with a future solar solution.

EAST CARVER HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Malinda Shamburger, Director

In August 2021, East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation celebrated its first anniversary as a nonprofit organization. This organization began as a ministry of St. Thomas seven years ago with a \$10.00 soccer ball on an overgrown field. Our community now includes four soccer teams, coaches, team managers, and, most important, parents! Additionally, Path to Shine and our Family and Neighbors Network are thriving. We could not have dreamed that Boxwood Ministries would become this incredible force in East Carver Heights. Currently, the organization has completed the work to get 501c3 status and is waiting on IRS approval. In the meantime, we continue our work with our neighbors in East Carver Heights.

We would especially like to give a special thanks to our board of directors for joining us on this journey and for their continued support.

East Carver Heights Board of Directors

City Councilman Jerry Barnes, Marie Brown, Reverend Grace Burton-Edwards, Margo Easterbrook (Vice President), Lisa Herring (Secretary), Greg Herring (President), Paul Hostetter, Sebastian Villa (Treasurer)

Of course, we have to thank all of you at St. Thomas. You have prayed, mentored, coached, and generously provided financial support.

Please read our Soccer, Path to Shine, and FANN annual reports for more information about our programs.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Mitch Grossman, Chair

The 2021 Endowment Committee consists of devoted members including Marianne Richter, Robert Moore, Michael Ankerich, Allen & Beverly Gordy, Ann Burr, Marcel Meijer, Reverend Grace Burton-Edwards and Committee Chair, Mitch Grossman.

The finances of St. Thomas are basically divided into three categories -the Annual Budget for salaries, repairs, supplies and utility bills, Capital Campaigns or special offerings for special larger projects usually having to do with facilities, and the Endowment fund for long term support for the life of our church. St. Thomas's Endowment fund provides us a source of income each year to support church and faith life related projects beyond the day-to-day operations. Only a small portion the Endowment fund is used each year and the remainder is left to grow in investments.

The endowment committee spends 75% of our time talking about how to grow endowment participation and 25% of our time in financial oversight with Truist Bank Advisory Services. Supporters that make a contribution to the fund understand the importance of continued faithfulness now as well as in perpetuity. Many who choose to contribute do so because of a sense of both gratitude and obligation to St. Thomas. Contributions can be made to the endowment at any time or as gifts upon death. These gifts can be direct gifts such cash, securities, real estate, or charitable life insurance or trusts. Memorial tributes to the endowment fund can be made publicly or anonymously.

The endowment committee encourages each of us to think about taking part in planned giving by becoming a member of the Legacy Society. This coming year we will spend more time sharing information about the endowment and how by joining the Legacy Society you can take an active approach in continuing faithfulness for many generations to come.

EPISCOKIDS

Erin Redden, Children's Formation Director

Nursery

Due to Covid, our Nursery has had lower attendance than in past years. Diane Berson remained on staff and the following people joined the team: Madison Redden, Katie-Spencer Sealy and Dorothy Uwanawich. Our staff was fully vaccinated and wore face masks to keep our youngest parishioners as safe as possible.

Children's Formation

As were we able to safely gather at church, our children were invited to Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall. Using the lectionary readings, Ms. Erin and Ms. Katie shared the Gospel with as many as 15 children every Sunday when we met in person. The Gospel is shared simply, and designed to stir children's imaginations and spirituality.

Wonderful Wednesdays took place on Wednesday evenings in the Narthex and on our front patio so we could socially distance and work together outside as much as possible. Episcokids between the ages of 4 years old and 5th grade encountered relevant themes through centers that they rotated to each week that connect to the Bible and their everyday lives. Our children grew in their relationship with God and each other as they explored, played and discovered new ways to live out their faith together. We had a "wonderful" group each week with up to 18 children on average.

Highlights of 2021 include:

- Holy Week @Home Kits
- The Flowering of the Cross at our Outdoor Easter service
- Vacation Bible School, Compassion Camp, was intergenerational and offered on Sunday mornings in the Parish Hall in June! Every Sunday we offered a story, family activities and crafts, and beautiful music shared virtually.
- Back to School Backpack blessings on the lawn
- Outdoor Pet Blessing Drive Thru and service
- Trunk or Treat
- Virtual All Saints Presentations & Procession - 19 participants
- At Home Advent Wreath Kits
- St. Nicholas Visit
- Christmas Party
- Virtual Epiphany Pageant - 25 participants
- Epiphany Event with children activities

As we continue to grow in our faith and live into our baptismal promise we want to continue to provide opportunities to expand our ministries both virtually and in person (when directed by diocese) by sharing the Good News to our neighbors and members of our greater community.

FLOWER GUILD

Ralph Wimberly, Chair

The Flower Guild entered 2021 with its own set of challenges. I am still disappointed that we can't be together as a group in person yet but I am hopeful this year will be a new different.

The Flower Guild provides a way for us to bring our talents to share with altar and other events throughout the church year. My dedicated team has shared their many talents and faithfulness to support this ministry.

Last year we were able to follow the liturgical calendar a tad more normally. We were able to cover High Holy days as well as the ordinary time of the church year. We celebrated a great Easter and Christmas. I still miss the many traditions but this year we can create new ones when the time is right.

This year I have all the faith we shall Begin Anew and Continue our Faithfulness in support of what God has lead us to do. I am grateful for the in person or support from afar.

Many thanks to Jo Cates for stepping in to provide flowers, Sara Ginter for letting me raid her yard for greenery, Ceci Shirley for her support, and honorary Flower Guild helpers Isiah Harper, Ray Capo, Paula Evans and the help from Frances Woolfolk.

We shall be together again soon. I miss you all but all comes in God's timing. Thanks to all who have supported this ministry through your generous donations.

GROUNDS

Martin McCann, Chair

The Grounds committee scheduled several Saturday workdays in the spring and fall. Turn out was good and the volunteers got a lot done weeding, clearing, and pine strawing each time. In addition, the property committee agreed to increase the workload for Jamie Ibarra, who maintains the grounds on a weekly basis. The areas the Saturday workday crew cleared, Jamie has been able to maintain in a tidy fashion. Dan Ginter has been mowing the soccer field and behind the Day School. He also maintains equipment in the shed. Vicky and John Partin and other volunteers have maintained the labyrinth. This was especially noted, as we had several outdoor services there this summer

Fences were repaired and a fence added behind the Day School. A walkway was added to the side of the outreach center for better access for wheelchairs and to help to keep the floors clean. Over Christmas break, asphalt repairs were made in several areas of the parking lots.

Vestry has approved a plan for Ray Crocker's landscaping group to clear and rework several areas about the church, Day school, and Outreach Center. This will take place in 2022.

KITCHEN

Seth Burgamy, Kitchen Manager

In November of 2021 we were able to begin serving food again in altered ways. For Sunday mornings we created an outdoor space for enjoying coffee, treats and fellowship. During Advent the kitchen provided dinners for the Episcopal Peace Fellowship, the youth and their families after confirmation, and the celebration of completing the first journey group session. Holiday goodies and hot wassail were enjoyed as safely as possible at a party after the Carol Service.

LABYRINTH

Vicky Partin, Chair

A LABYRINTH POEM

(With some Revisions)

By Jackie Hill

Under a canopy of trees at St. Thomas Church
Is a special path of peace
A place to practice mindfulness,
Focus inward, process grief.

The labyrinth walk can lighten your load
When life becomes too much to bear.
Walk alone – or with others, sing, pray, or be silent.
Renew, rejoice, recommit that you care.

It helps calm you down,
See course corrections,
Or just clear your mind
And seek new life directions.

As COVID continues to take its toll and wanes
Walking the labyrinth in the new time
May reveal the path for a better life to unfold.

Again our beautiful labyrinth, nestled outdoors near the entry to St. Thomas, certainly came alive in 2021! For many it became the best quiet place for prayer and worship, celebrations and thanksgiving, discernment and discovery, healing and reconciliation.

On January 18, Creation Keepers began its monthly meetings at the labyrinth. Then on February 17, our Ash Wednesday service was held around the sacred path. Weekly worship services continued there from March through June, when they were moved inside for air conditioning.

On October 21, the I AM Institute based in Oregon, made its third pilgrimage to meditate around the St. Thomas labyrinth. Fifteen people walked in silence and sat on the benches for over an hour of peace and quiet.

What is a labyrinth?

A labyrinth is an ancient archetype with a singular meandering path that leads from an outer edge to a center. Unlike a maze, which is designed to puzzle or confuse, a labyrinth has one path in and one path out. For 4,000 years or more, the labyrinth has been used as a practice that incorporates walking, silence, and meditation among other things. Labyrinths are found in every culture and on nearly every continent.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS

Meg Olive-Allison

2021 saw the return of Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) and Lay Readers to in-person worship. These volunteers have dedicated their time and talent to serve everyone in this parish, in addition to serving in weddings and funerals. We are grateful for those who have returned to serving at the altar or reading in services and are hopeful others return in 2022 as they are comfortable.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Readers in 2021 include:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Barbara Brandenburgh | Anne Huie-Strong | Martha Robert |
| David Brandenburgh | Ena Hunt | Deborah Scribner |
| Ann Burr | Susan Leigh | Malinda Shamburger |
| Jack Ceccato | Edward Lowe | Ceci Shirley |
| Denny Clark | Pauline Marth | Mike Smith |
| Dan Dawson | Marquette McKnight | Joseph Stewart |
| James Decker | Charlene Moore | Sonny Taunton |
| Christine DiFeliciantonio | Malone Moore | Dan Van Kley |
| Donna Dooley | Randy Moore | Ruthie Wade |
| Tanya Edwards-Jones | Perrin Nicolson | Sherry Wade |
| Cindy Cox Garrard | Meg Olive-Allison | Tom Wade |
| Spencer Garrard | Susie Olive-Allison | Travis Wade |
| Dan Ginter | John Partin | Kevin Waldrup |
| Christine Hansen | Vicky Partin | Hannah Walker |
| Linda Harmon | Laura Perkins | Chris Walton |
| Amy Hatfield | Heidi Regan | Jonathan Walz |
| Elizabeth Hostetter | Sid Regan | Ron Wirt |
| Paul Hostetter | Erin Redden | Molly Wright |
| Vivian Hostetter | | |

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Donna Sharp, Coordinator

What is this ministry?

The Lay Eucharistic Visitors (Homebound Visitors) offer an extension of our Eucharist table. We take communion and visit with homebound members and with parishioners who are in the hospital until they are able to return to church. This ministry extends our church so all parishioners are able to receive the bread and wine of Christ.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

Although we were unable to visit our homebound members, we made calls, sent cards and prayed for our homebound parishioners. We tried even during this time to show they are important members of our church by delivering small gifts during Easter and Christmas. This is a way to continue our faithfulness to all members of our church.

Who participated in 2021?

We are blessed with a dedicated team: Beverly and Allen Gordy, Carole Hill, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Martin McCann, Daniel Mitchell, John Partin, Donna Sharp, and Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards. We have also added two members: Cindy Cox Garrard and Kibby Taylor.

MCCANN AFRICAN MISSION

Sandy McCann, Coordinator

Martin and I have now been home from Africa for five years, but we and others continue to support theological and undergraduate education in Tanzania through the African Mission Fund. This account allows donors to not only avoid the high cost of individual wiring but also to get a tax-deductible donation.

We delayed buying computers for the incoming degree class at Msalato Theological College for the academic year beginning in August of 2020 because of Covid 19. In early 2021 we bought seven Dell computers for \$4,484.05. Shipping and Customs was an additional \$1,284.08. Although the computers arrived in Tanzania in three days, it took another four months of heckling and hassle before the computers were delivered to the students. Both we and Bishop Chilogani agree that sending computers from the United States is no longer feasible.

Another option is to support the local economy by buying the computers in Tanzania. Because three students joined the aforementioned class late, I had the opportunity to try this route. The cost for a comparable computer is over twice the price in the US, but the Reverend Moses Matonya helped me to purchase them in Dodoma. The transaction was smooth and hassle free. This may prove to be the new way forward.

The gift of a computer is nearly beyond the comprehension of a poor student in Tanzania, but for theological students to have any hope of keeping up with the world, especially in a land where almost no one can afford books, a computer is a library and a lifeline to the outside world.

\$4,000.00 from the African Mission Fund was also sent to the Diocese of Mara in northern Tanzania where a trusted classmate, fellow teacher, and friend of Sandra, the Right Reverend George Okoth, is the bishop. This is to provide food, housing and staff for the 108 pastors of the diocese to attend a one-week theology conference at the Bible College. There has never been any post-seminary education in Mara as funds have never been available. I know from experience that the pastors in the far-flung fields of Tanzania are hungry for additional education, and I know how desperately it is needed and appreciated. Virginia Seminary has been providing this for Msalato Theological College for the last ten years, and the pastors consider this the highlight of their year.

We commend Patty Slembariski for her conscientious record keeping and her unfailing graciousness in assisting. We thank St. Thomas for continuing to keep open this account that enables the church to stay in communion with our Christian brothers and sisters around the world.

MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

Ann Johnston, Chair

The Memorials and Appointments Committee is responsible for receiving gifts in memory of parishioners and for the decoration of the campus. We are also responsible for the maintenance of the Columbarium. In 2021, we met several times to choose paint colors and carpet for the administration hallway and for some of the offices. We also met to rehang the art work in the hallway. We began the process of choosing paint colors and carpet as well as furnishings for the refurbishment of the parish hall. This process will continue into 2022. If you are considering giving a memorial gift or if you would like to join the committee please contact one of the members. We are: Mary Free, Lynne Hahn, Nelia Partain, Jonathan Walz, Ralph Wimberly, Ann Johnston, Chair, and Julia Slater, Vestry.

MEN'S GROUP

Paul Hostetter and Spence Sealy

What is this ministry?

The St. Thomas Men's Group was formed to offer the male members of St. Thomas Church an opportunity to support feeding ministries, yard work around the church, parking assistance, outreach activities, and social time together as men of faith.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

After a pandemic that separated us, we offered service opportunities for our members that have been uplifting (yard work, support of the Boxwood Soccer Program, etc...), and social opportunities that have created deeper connections at a time when friendship and faith are more important than ever. The social events occurred in the homes of Ray Capo and Mike Dempsey, and also at gatherings at the restaurant Jarfly, which provides an outdoor (safe) space in which we can meet.

Who participated in 2021

Taylor Burton-Edwards, Ray Capo, Mike Dempsey, Larry Dooley, Frank Feagle, Mitch Grossman, Isiah Harper, Greg Herring, Paul Hostetter, Mike McFalls, Robert Moore, Roger Redden, Spence Sealy, Mike Smith, Kevin Waldrup, Ron Wirt, and several guests.

MUSIC

Rick McKnight, Organist & Choir Master

The first half of 2021 was filled with live streaming, pre-recorded musical pieces and trying to make plans A, B, C... Each Wednesday evening we held a Choir Zoom call to keep in touch. We used a lot of soloists. Finally at the end of May the choir was back for a few weeks before Summer Choir began taking place. We had a lovely fellowship meal outdoors in May.

We co-hosted an AGO event with Southeastern Councillor Sue Mitchell Wallace, a concert of her organ compositions with three trumpeters from our congregation – Roger Redden, Chris Walton and Brian Walker. We began the fall with no regular Wednesday rehearsals – meeting just before Sunday service. Lots of communication kept us together in community. In December we held regular full rehearsals for three weeks in order to produce a Carol Sing and our Christmas Eve services. We also sang at the Convocational confirmation at Trinity on December 5.

Through COVID-tide we have learned to take care of ourselves and each other and we are reminded of the joy of singing.

2021 St. Thomas Choir Roster

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Debbie Anderson | Seyi Isijola | Steve Scott |
| Chris Barbee | April Jacobs | Kristie Sholtis |
| Raymond Campbell | David Lewis | Jim Sholtis |
| Jennifer Canfield | Karen Lewis | David Serrano |
| Michael Canfield | Karen Lord | Louise Tulloh |
| Cristian Cantu | Marquette McKnight | Kevin Waldrup |
| Joe Fischer | Emily Moore | Addie Walton |
| Michelle Folta | Payne Newsome | Chris Walton |
| Cindy Cox Garrard | Ruth Nichols | Ralph Wimberly |
| Christine Hansen | Jefferey Oakman | Ron Wirt |
| Isiah Harper | Mary Ann Rahm | Susan Wirt |
| Katie Holbrook | Martha Robert | Molly Wright |
| Elizabeth Hostetter | Adleyn Scott | |

OUTREACH COUNCIL

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards

The St. Thomas Outreach Council is a gathering of leaders of all of our outreach ministries - African Mission with Msalato Theological College (Sandy McCann); Boxwood FANN, Soccer, and Path to Shine (Greg and Lisa Herring and Margo Easterbrook); Brewer Partnership (Margo Easterbrook); Creation Keepers (Christine DiFelicianantonio and Vicky Partin); CVEM (Martha Robert); East Carver Heights (Malinda Shamburger); Episcopal Relief and Development (Florence Wakoko); WNN Food Pantry and Utility Assistance (Jo Cates and Libba Russell). Brian Schwartz served as the vestry representative in 2021. Meg Olive-Allison supports communication and parish engagement with outreach. We are grateful to Celia Page who served as chair of the council for three years.

Most of these ministries submitted a separate annual report detailing their activities in 2021. Once again, these ministries illustrated tremendous resilience in continuing to love and serve our neighbors in the midst of the challenges of the ongoing pandemic.

The Outreach Council annual budget is determined by vestry. In 2021, this amount was based on a formula developed in previous years - 10% of budgeted pledges minus our diocesan assessment. That amount in 2021 was \$40,892, distributed as follows:

- Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing: \$1,200
- African Mission: \$3,000
- Boxwood Ministries and Brewer Partnership: \$2,150
- Bridge of Columbus: \$300
- Carver Heights Presbyterian: \$1,200
- Creation Keepers: \$1,146.26
- CVEM: \$18,000
- East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation: \$6,000
- Episcopal Relief and Development: \$500
- Global Episcopal Mission Network: \$150
- Path to Shine organization: \$1,500
- Paz Amigos: \$1,000
- Wynnton Neighborhood Network: \$3,000
- Miscellaneous: \$1,745.74

In addition, the Outreach Council gave \$1,000 to Turn Around Columbus from the Outreach account in the designated fund. The Council also gave \$1,185 from outreach funds in designated to East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation as a start-up grant. Budgeted funds remaining at the end of 2021 were transferred to the Outreach account in our designated fund to be used for future outreach opportunities. We are grateful for the generosity of St. Thomas members which allows our congregation to support and be part of so much good work in the community.

PARISH LIFE

Erin Redden

We on the Parish Life committee are a group of dedicated volunteers who enjoy hospitality. We normally coordinate with Seth in the kitchen to make possible parish dinners, funeral receptions, and special events in the life of the parish. All are invited and welcomed to join in. Unfortunately, as you all know, we were unable to work together through most of the year. However, we utilized our outdoor spaces to offer a Tailgate Party, a Graduation Recognition Parking Lot Picnic, Trunk or Treat, and more. We also provided safe spaces and practices to host an Advent Wassail Party and Epiphany Gathering. We look forward to creating more experiences with our Parish so that we can work together and welcome everyone to the table.

PASTORAL CARE: BEREAVEMENT

Donna Sharp

What is this ministry?

Bereavement booklets are sent to families who have lost loved ones in their immediate family. A set of 4 booklets are sent during the year that follows the loss of their loved one, to help with ideas of how to cope with their loss.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

The ministry sent a set of booklets to 42 families in 2021 and a total of 96 individual booklets this year with a personal note in each. We give families help dealing with the loss of a family member and hopefully help their faith stay strong.

Who participated in 2021?

Steve Scott has done an outstanding job in this ministry. He does all the notes and mailings. He is a dedicated man. Adley Scott had notecards printed with a beautiful painting of our church she did to accompany each booklet. They are a blessing to this ministry.

PASTORAL CARE: PRAYER GROUP

Donna Sharp

What is this ministry?

The Prayer Group takes time to pray together for our parishioners, our neighbors, our church, and the world. We meet each Monday at 11:30 am. We pray from a public list and private list. The names on our private prayer list and the reasons are held in confidence. All are welcome. Another opportunity for prayer has been Zoom evening prayer. We gather in the evenings on Zoom on Tuesday and Thursdays for the brief service of evening prayer.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

During this pandemic, the prayer group continued to meet weekly together. We have met all year by Zoom. Technology blessed us with the ability to continue praying together. This year, even those that travel to other homes for the summer were able to join our prayer group weekly. We have continued our Faithfulness throughout the new year.

Who participated in 2021?

Sonya Boyd, Ann Burr, Nicole Ceccato, Sara Ginter, Lynne Hahn, Renee McAneny, Pat McMahon, Donna Sharp, Mary Jane Thomas, Martin & Sandy McCann, and others lift up the needs of our parishioners, friends of the parish, and the needs of the world.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Frank Feagle and Ann Johnston, Co-Chairs

The mission/ministry of the Property Committee is to manage the maintenance, repair and improvements of St. Thomas's buildings and grounds in such a fashion that all members and visitors will feel they have been in the presence of God when in attendance, helping us to reach others in our wider community.

The committee meets on the first Monday of each month. Members serving during 2021 were Ann Johnston, Chair; Frank Feagle, Co-Chair; Dan Ginter, Dan Dawson, Justin Selway, Lynne Hahn, Joe Akyempong, Martin McCann, Tanya Edwards-Jones, and Marianne Richter.

During the year, the committee engaged in on-going maintenance and repair projects, such as scheduling and managing landscape activities and workdays, supervising repair of heating and air conditioning equipment, roof leaks and plumbing and electrical problems. Following are some of the more stand-alone accomplishments:

- Security camera installation and remote entry at office area entry doors.
- Repair and replacement of damaged tile floor and fencing at Day School.
- Developed Roof Replacement Plan for all building roofs.
- Sidewalk installed in area serving Food Bank and Outreach Center.
- Developed plan for renovation of Social Hall.
- Developed program for AED Defibrillator acquisition and certification training of users.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Norm Easterbrook, Chair

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for securing pledges from the parish to meet the annual operating budget for the coming fiscal year as approved by the elected Vestry. The committee coordinates a schedule of activities, produces narrative and budget materials and works with our Rector to assist members of the parish in discerning their financial commitment to the general operation of the church and its related ministries.

This year, the committee focused on emerging from the COVID crisis and what that meant for our parish. Once again, parishioners were generous and thoughtful and our committee joins with all other committees and our Vestry in being truly moved and grateful for the generosity that every member has shown. Suffice it to say that the Love of Christ continues to shine brightly in the response from our parishioners.

With the proposed budget from the Vestry together with input from church staff and clergy, the Stewardship committee told the story of St. Thomas beginning anew. Beginning anew meant supporting the continuing needs and ministries of the parish while expanding in areas that are restarting as COVID restrictions lift and supporting continuing ministries, or ways of serving the parish and the larger community that were discovered as we maneuvered our way through the challenges brought on by COVID.

The committee, in consultation with the Finance Committee, Clergy, Staff and Vestry, determined to add an additional appeal to stewardship seasons moving forward. The appeal is called Continuing Faithfulness. This appeal is directed to support the capital needs of our building and grounds – portions of which are now approaching sixty years old! The funds received through this line are not for the mundane upkeep of our buildings and grounds but for large scale projects outside of mundane repair and maintenance. Our hope is that as gifts are made to this fund that we will avoid or greatly reduce the need for special emergency campaigns to address large scale capital projects.

With the generosity of our congregation, the campaign was successful in securing total pledges in the amount of amount of \$567,654. \$77,548 or 15.8% over commitments made in our last fiscal year.

We are very pleased and grateful to report that \$113,333 in gifts were made to the Continuing Faithfulness fund. This means that some major capital projects can now be completed for the preservation of our buildings and grounds making the church surroundings more comfortable, inspiring and enjoyable for all.

As is always the case, the stewardship season is a time to reflect upon life changes that have taken place in our parish in the previous year and this was an extraordinary year. We are grateful for those making first time pledges and to those who continued or increased their commitments to support the work of the church for the coming year. We all have reason to celebrate this campaign as successful.

The committee will continue to work to stress the importance of every member making a pledge commitment to St Thomas. The work of stewardship is easy and rewarding. We encourage any who are interested to engage with the committee as we steward resources to fulfill the vision of our congregation beyond 2020.

Stewardship is purely a function of our congregation. It is our expression of faith and trust in the ministries of our parish, our Rector and our elected Vestry. To that end we thank the Vestry for their guidance; we thank Patty for her excellent work in managing reports, communication with members of the Parish and her insights; and we thank Grace for her thoughtful, compassionate, and excellent guidance in our work. This year's committee was made up of Norman Easterbrook, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Malinda Shamburger, Ron Wirt, Meg Olive-Allison, Patty Slembariski, and Rev. Grace.

ST. THOMAS DAY SCHOOL

Kym Futch, Director

St. Thomas Day School's purpose is to build a strong core of school readiness in each student through social, intellectual, emotional, and physical development in a loving Christian-based teaching environment. St. Thomas started the year off with full classes and staff. The staff is focusing on the future of the school, with its purpose to make it the best day school in Columbus. The Day School ended the year with 16 staff and 88 children.

ST. THOMAS READERS BOOK GROUP

Sonya Boyd, Convener

Over the seventeen years of the existence of the Saint Thomas Book Group, we have faced numerous challenges. However, none have impacted us as has Covid-19. Nonetheless, the group has continued to read and share a variety of books. We have also maintained contact through phone calls, emails, and texts. We were highlighted in Columbus and the Valley magazine, the January-February, 2021 issue. We postponed the meetings until May, when we enjoyed a round table discussion of books that we anticipated for Fall. This was our first in-person gathering since February, 2020. Following that meeting, we prepared to discuss three selections beginning in September: *Charms for the Easy Life* by Kay Gibbons, *Furious Hours* by Casey Cep, and *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg.

Our January, 2022 selection is *Death in Focus* by Anne Perry. Everyone is welcome. We will provide information on any forthcoming late Winter and Spring selections, as well as meeting times and locations, as soon as it is available. We will continue reading a variety of selections as we focus on books that address moral, ethical, and/or spiritual issues and dilemmas.

A number of the attendees are not members of Saint Thomas; some are not Episcopalian. The book group is an opportunity for fellowship and learning, but it also serves as a tool for outreach. We average fifteen persons at each meeting. Our thanks go to Reverend Grace and our Vestry, as well as to the staff of St. Thomas who have made it possible for us to meet in 2021. We continue to honor Covid guidelines as established by the Diocese of Atlanta and by the Vestry of St. Thomas.

USHERS

Dan Ginter, Captain

Ushers have an important role in the St. Thomas ministry. They are the first people to meet and greet people as they enter the church. They demonstrate a positive Christian attitude and are there to assist. Ushers ensure the security during the service by locking all doors, being aware of any possible intruders, assisting in the collection of the offering and communion, and helping a Vestry member count the offering. With the addition of the new Automated External Defibrillator (AED), ushers will know the location of the device and how to use it if the situation arises. Anyone wanting to join the usher ministry is welcomed and will be given the opportunity to serve St. Thomas.

In 2020, there were 24 ushers and by the end of 2021, there are now 30 ushers. Ushers have served 60 times in 2021 for regular and special services and funeral services.

The following is a list of ushers in 2021:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Angie Braid | Greg Herring | Vicky Partin |
| Barbara Brandenburgh | Lisa Herring | Steve Scott |
| David Brandenburgh | Tommie Hunter | Deborah Scribner |
| Reggie Brushwood | Bill Lacy | Spence Sealy |
| Michael Dempsey | Keith Leigh | Malinda Shamburger |
| Skip Farrow | Bob McAneny | Ceci Shirley |
| Neal Fenter | Renee McAneny | Christine Slusher |
| Dan Ginter | Mike McFalls | Sonny Taunton |
| Allen Gordy | Malone Moore | Dan Van Kley |
| Beverly Gordy | Randy Moore | Kevin Waldrup |
| Allyson Grossman | Robert Moore | Brian Walker |
| Mitch Grossman | Michelle Mullen | Hannah Walker |
| Amy Hatfield | John Partin | |

VERGERS

Meg Olive-Allison

While the verger takes on a visible role in making sure a worship service moves smoothly, much of the verger's work is done behind the scenes and prior to the start of the service. A partial checklist a verger goes by at St. Thomas looks something like this:

- Touch base with lectors and lay Eucharistic ministers (LEMs) to make sure they are in attendance and are prepared for the service; if not, assign replacements.
- Check the readings to make sure they are properly marked.
- Activate the sound system and make sure the microphones are working.
- Light the candles on the altar.

The work of our vergers allows Rev. Grace time to greet parishioners, make announcements, and prayerfully prepare the parish for worship. While preparing the church for worship, vergers, as part of their ministry, also offer words of greeting and welcome to newcomers and visitors.

Vergers faithfully carried out this ministry in 2021 when in-person worship resumed. Our Vergers also serve on our Worship Committee.

Vergers who served in 2021

Tanya Edwards-Jones

Paul Hostetter

Perrin Nicolson

Malinda Shamburger

Travis Wade

Jonathan Walz

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Pam Feagle, Chair

The purpose of the Welcome Committee is to follow up with those visitors who fill out a visitor's card, either online or in person, or whose names have been passed on to us. Most of this past year we did not have visitor cards available in the pews, and only started making those available again in November. The committee met via Zoom most months, and once in person. During these meetings, the visitors' names and information were discussed and assigned to an individual committee member. That member followed up with the visitor, informed them of activities they may be interested in, encouraged them in any way appropriate, made sure they were added to our email list, etc. We keep in contact with these visitors and form relationships with them until they either join or stop attending or indicate they are not interested.

We were very successful in continuing to meet and stay on top of our duties. In spite of the limitations on our committee, thirty adults and seven children joined St. Thomas in 2021, aided by our committee members. We try hard not to let anyone slip through the cracks.

Participants in the Welcome Committee this past year were Barbara Brandenburgh, Pam Feagle, Sara Ginter, Beverly Gordy, Jenny Holder, Rick McKnight, Nelia Partain, Malinda Shamburger, Rev. Grace, and our Vestry Rep, Spencer Garrard. We also had a new recruit rejoin us in November, Kevin Waldrup.

A sub-committee of the Welcome Committee is the Pew Card Committee, which was reorganized and reactivated in November of 2021. The members of this committee are Kevin Waldrup, Allen Gordy, John Partin, Sara Ginter, and Jenny Holder. Pam Feagle organizes the schedules.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards

What is this ministry?

The ministry of worship is the heart of our life together. We gather to give thanks to God, be nourished by word and sacrament, and go in peace to love and serve. We were delighted to return to more familiar patterns of worship over this past year, both inside and outside, while continuing to live stream services and invite people to participate from home. We welcomed the St. Thomas Choir and acolytes back to the 10:30 service in the nave. Children's Chapel resumed, meeting in the parish hall to spread out. Our ushers, vergers, lectors, and lay eucharistic ministers resumed their duties. Our altar guild and flower guild prepared the spaces where we gather. Worship at St. Thomas is truly the work of the people, an offering of all of our lives to God.

How did this ministry "Begin Anew" and practice "Continuing Faithfulness" in 2021?

The congregation and worship leaders were extremely adaptable over the year. We began 2021 with worship exclusively online at 8 am and 10:30 am on Sundays. As the weather improved, we resumed the practice of meeting outside at the labyrinth at 9:15. In Lent, we began meeting inside at 10:30 with limited seating, continuing to livestream services from the Chapel and Nave. When the weather became too hot, we stopped gathering at the labyrinth and moved the early service to 8:30 am, a change that has worked well. We added a "Family Eucharist" once a month, a service focused on very young children designed to help them learn our patterns of worship and offer their thanks to God.

Who participated?

The Worship Committee consists of Dan Ginter (chair of our ushers), Rick McKnight (Organist and Choirmaster), Sue O'Dell (chair of Altar Guild), Ceci Shirley and Ralph Wimberly (chair of Flower Guild), Larry Dooley (Vestry representative), and all of our Vergers – Michael Ankerich, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Paul Hostetter, Joe Mills, Perrin Nicolson, Malinda Shamburger, Mike Owen, Travis Wade, and Jonathan Walz. Rev. Grace leads this committee.

WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

Mary Lou Jarrell, Board Chair

Wynnton Neighborhood Ministry is a ministry of eight different congregations (St. Thomas is one) who work together to serve the needs of those who need a helping hand with providing food for their families or assistance with past-due Georgia Power, Diverse Power or Liberty Gas bills within Muscogee County. We are open Monday - Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. During 2021, we added food assistance on the 1st Saturdays of each month (with some leeway on when the "first" is when it falls on a holiday), during the same hours. We also added a website (which allows on-line donations) and a Facebook page to help tell our story, a partnership with the Junior League of Columbus Diaper Bank, as well as working with the Servant Leadership Programs of Columbus State University and Brookstone School and the Beta Club of Columbus High School to bring new volunteers into our family. How we help our clients changed in 2020 due to Covid. We've continued to have our clients remain in their cars not only on a day to day basis but also for our larger holiday giveaways.

During 2021, Wynnton Neighborhood Network assisted 3,541 families (10,214 individuals, of whom 4,095 were children) with much needed food. This includes the 424 families we served during our Thanksgiving and Christmas giveaways! We also helped a record number (516) of families with financial assistance to keep their lights or gas on.

WNN Volunteers from St. Thomas include: Angie Braid, Seth Burgamy, Jo Cates, Beverly Gordy, Elizabeth Hostetter, Ena Hunt, Barbara Kreyling, Renee McAneny, Martin McCann, Mike Nichols, Meg and Susie Olive-Allison, Linda Prince, Charlene Rallo, Libba Russell, and Mary Jane Wadkins. St. Thomas Youth assist with packing bags for the Thanksgiving and Christmas distribution.

YOUTH

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards

2021 was a year of transition for St. Thomas Youth. In April, we said "Goodbye" to Father Edward Lowe, who assisted with youth group while serving at St. Thomas. In August, we said "See you soon" to Holle Tubbs, who left St. Thomas to become Diocesan Youth Missioner on Bishop Wright's staff. Also in August, we said, "Hello" to Daniel and Lauren Mitchell who graciously stepped in as interim youth leaders. And in December, we said "Welcome back" to Taylor Mack as we announced that she would join St. Thomas staff in 2022 as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at St. Thomas.

Here are other highlights from 2021:

- Youth met online at the start of the year.
- Youth prepared a music video which premiered at the Shrove Tuesday online pancake supper and was shared widely throughout the diocese. It was based on "One Day More" from Les Mis and offered a humorous take on how the pandemic has affected us all.
- When the weather improved, the group began meeting outside for "Foursquare and Prayer."
- Older youth, serving as crucifers, were the first acolytes to return to worship leadership.
- We celebrated the graduation of several seniors with a Pentecost Picnic.
- Youth resumed meeting on Wednesdays in the fall.
- Several youth took part in confirmation classes on Sundays in the fall and were confirmed at a service at Trinity Church on December 5.
- Youth assisted with the Pet Blessing and with Trunk or Treat in October.
- Youth packed bags for Wynnton Neighborhood Network Thanksgiving and Christmas giveaways.
- William Sealy joined the Diocesan Youth Council, and several youth from St. Thomas took part in Happening at Camp Mikell in the fall.

We are excited that St. Thomas Youth are "Beginning Anew" in the year ahead.

2021 & 2022 FINANCIALS

| OPERATING ACCOUNT | 2021 Budget | 2021 Actual | 2022 Budget | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | |
| Contribution Income | | | | |
| Pledges | 470,501.00 | 471,844.57 | 544,948.00 | <i>96% of pledges</i> |
| Gain/Loss - Stock Gifts | 0.00 | (335.80) | 0.00 | |
| Member Givers | 66,873.00 | 99,756.57 | 75,416.00 | <i>3 year average</i> |
| Post-Campaign Pledges | 1,500.00 | 1,205.00 | 1,500.00 | |
| Total Contribution Income | 538,874.00 | 572,470.34 | 621,864.00 | |
| Other Income | | | | |
| Transfer From Designated | 20,000.00 | 24,408.86 | 15,000.00 | |
| Endowment Draw -Unrestricted | 66,612.00 | 66,612.00 | 70,189.00 | <i>3.5% of 3yr avg</i> |
| Miscellaneous Income | 0.00 | 2,385.26 | 0.00 | |
| Use of Building | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Baird Draw | 18,309.00 | 18,309.00 | 19,299.00 | <i>3.5% of 3yr avg</i> |
| Desig.funds transfer-Boxwood | 0.00 | 16.25 | 0.00 | |
| Desig.funds transfer-Baird Ed | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,695.00 | <i>For young adult ministry</i> |
| Desig.funds transfer-Flowers | 0.00 | 1,262.28 | 0.00 | |
| Desig.funds transfer-Music | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Total Other Income | 104,921.00 | 112,993.65 | 106,183.00 | |
| Special Income | | | | |
| Day School | 24,000.00 | 24,000.00 | 24,000.00 | |
| Renewal Fund | 50,128.00 | 0.00 | 50,128.00 | |
| Utility Reimbursement | 3,600.00 | 4,800.00 | 6,000.00 | |
| Total Special Income | 77,728.00 | 28,800.00 | 80,128.00 | |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 721,523.00 | 714,263.99 | 808,175.00 | |

2021 & 2022 FINANCIALS

| EXPENSES | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Admin/Payroll/Benefits | | | | |
| Administration | 38,600.00 | 43,373.28 | 42,330.00 | |
| Payroll/Benefits | 423,544.00 | 408,352.77 | 470,201.00 | |
| Total Admin/Payroll Benefits | 462,144.00 | 451,726.05 | 512,531.00 | |
| Christian Education | | | | |
| Adult | 1,500.00 | 1,055.82 | 1,500.00 | |
| Children | 3,500.00 | 2,900.53 | 3,500.00 | |
| Young Adult/College | 1,695.00 | 0.00 | 1,695.00 | |
| Youth | 3,500.00 | 2,482.58 | 3,500.00 | |
| Total Christian Education | 10,195.00 | 6,438.93 | 10,195.00 | |
| Diocesan Pledge & Expenses | 62,085.00 | 61,884.96 | 62,938.00 | |
| Evangelism | 3,500.00 | 1,444.42 | 4,000.00 | |
| Outreach | 40,892.00 | 40,908.25 | 48,351.00 | 10% pledges minus Dioc.commitmnt |
| Parish Life | 3,600.00 | 4,276.67 | 12,100.00 | |
| Properties | 98,300.00 | 114,677.71 | 107,000.00 | |
| Capital Reserve | 23,000.00 | 23,000.00 | 20,000.00 | |
| Stewardship | 2,000.00 | 1,990.73 | 2,000.00 | |
| Music | 8,500.00 | 12,232.19 | 19,310.00 | |
| Worship | 9,000.00 | 8,381.30 | 9,750.00 | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 723,216.00 | 726,961.21 | 808,175.00 | |
| (OVER) UNDER ACTUAL | (1,693.00) | (12,697.22) | 0.00 | |

2021 & 2022 FINANCIALS

DESIGNATED ACCOUNT

Designated funds include contributions to African missions and other parish, community & world ministries. By the canons (rules) of the church, all designated gifts are used for the purposes for which they were designated. The Vestry is charged to oversee all financial transactions of the parish.

| DESIGNATED ACCOUNT | 2021 Actual |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance | 249,196.24 |
| Revenue & Credit adjtmts | 471,796.86 |
| Expenses | (227,145.52) |
| 12/31/21 Cash Balance | 493,847.58 |

| Special Outreach Collections | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| African Mission | 3,742.82 |
| CVEM | 21,478.00 |
| Rctr's Discr. | 10,417.00 |
| WNN | 7,641.00 |
| Total | 43,278.82 |

| ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS | Dec.31 Balance |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Unrestricted (Wilkins) | 2,410,230.18 |
| Restricted (Baird) | 664,977.77 |

2022 PLEDGERS

140 PLEDGES

TOTAL = \$566,214

David & Paula Acton
Debbie Anderson
Max Anderson
Michael Ankerich & Charlie Snipes
Royce & Tamara Ard
Marty & Beth Barr
Barbara Billings
Deidre Bohannon & Lauren Copes
Gerry & Sonya Boyd
Angie Braid
David & Barbara Brandenburgh
Reggie Brushwood & Bill Lacy
Ann Burr
Grace Burton-Edwards
Raymond Campbell
Ray Capo
Paul & Jo Cates
Jack & Nicole Ceccato
Denny Clark & Toni Fisher
Cam & Sarah Clayton
Susan & Ami Connery
Dennis & Karen Cook
Murray Craig
Paul Dahlgren & Ellen Free
Michael & Hunter Dempsey
Christine DiFelicianantonio
Larry & Donna Dooley
Norm & Margo Easterbrook
Tamara Edwards
Mike & Barbara Ellis
Paula Evans
Darlene Everritt
Jon & Jessica Ezzell
Frank & Pam Feagle
Neal Fenter
Joe Fischer
Summer Flinn
Art & Kathy France
Mary Free
Spencer & Cynthia Garrard
Dan & Sara Ginter
Cindy Godwin
Allen & Beverly Gordy
Linnea Grosse
Mitch & Allyson Grossman
Lynn Hahn

Kenny & Mickie Hall
Judy Harding
Sam & Linda Harmon
Sammy & Amy Hatfield
Greg & Lisa Herring
Carole Hill
Steve Hodges & Pat Daniel
Paul & Elizabeth Hostetter
Ena Hunt
Tommie Hunter
Seyi & Nike Isijola
April Jacobs
Melissa James
Paul & Ann Johnston
Tom Jones & Tanya Edwards-Jones
Lewis & Lori Kent
Tom Lanham & Deborah Bordelon
Kelli Leak
Tracy Leopard & Penny Wise
Karen Lord
Steve & Pauline Marth
Bob & Renee McAneny
Martin & Sandy McCann
Mike & Libby McFalls
Rick & Marquette McKnight
Charles & Pat McMahan
Andrew & Chelsea Meeks
Marcel & Catrina Meijer
Joe Mills & Jim Rutland
Randy & Charlene Moore
Robert & Malone Moore
Mike & Eliza Morrill
Tom & Michelle Mullen
Kathleen Mullins
Kerry & Amy Nelson
Mike & Ruth Nichols
Perrin & Becca Nicolson
Virginia Nixdorf
Sue O'Dell
Meg & Susie Olive-Allison
Michael Owen
Celia Page & Jenny Holder
Nelia Partain
John & Vicky Partin
Bill & Sandi Pauli

Carlene Pawlowicz
Jan Pittman
Nancy Prescott
Linda Prince
Maryann Rahm
Mike & Charlene Rallo
Roger & Erin Redden
Sid & Heidi Regan
Marianne Richter
Martha Robert
Joe & Libba Russell
Brian Schwartz
Steve & Adley Scott
Spencer & Susan Sealy
Malinda Shamburger
Donna Sharp
Mark & Marianne Sheehan
Michele Shumpert
Steve & Julia Slater
Chris & Patty Slembariski
Darius & Christine Slusher
Mike & Lynn Smith
Joe & Rolene Stewart
Bernie Sutter
Clifford & Bobsie Swift
Sonny Taunton
Kibby Taylor
Bill & Mary Jane Thomas
Dick & Debbie Tompson
Steve & Deborah Tucker
Louise Tulloh
Dan & Linda Van Kley
Julie Van Meter
Garrett & Timothy Vance
Tom & Sherry Wade
Travis & Mitchi Wade
Kevin Waldrup
Brian & Hannah Walker
Chris & Addie Walton
Del & Joann Weeks
Dan & Stefania Wilcox
Ralph Wimberly
Ron & Susan Wirt
Debbie & Diana Young
+2 Anonymous

2022 CONTINUING FAITHFULNESS PLEDGES & GIFTS

55 PLEDGES & GIFTS

TOTAL = \$113,333

Debbie Anderson
 Barbara Billings
 Gerry & Sonya Boyd
 David & Barbara Brandenburgh
 Ann Burr
 Grace Burton-Edwards
 Ray Capo
 Jack & Nicole Ceccato
 Cam & Sarah Clayton
 Paul Dahlgren & Ellen Free
 Norm & Margo Easterbrook
 Jon & Jessica Ezzell
 Frank & Pam Feagle
 Neal Fenter
 Art & Kathy France
 Mary Free
 Spencer & Cynthia Garrard
 Cindy Godwin
 Allen & Beverly Gordy
 Linnea Grosse
 Mitch & Allyson Grossman
 Greg & Lisa Herring
 Steve Hodges & Pat Daniel
 Ena Hunt
 Tom Lanham & Deborah Bordelon
 Tracy Leopard & Penny Wise

Martin & Sandy McCann
 Robert & Malone Moore
 Tom & Michelle Mullen
 Kathleen Mullins
 Mike & Ruth Nichols
 Perrin & Becca Nicolson
 Sue O'Dell
 Meg & Susie Olive-Allison
 John & Vicky Partin
 Carlene Pawlowicz
 Nancy Prescott
 Mike & Charlene Rallo
 Roger & Erin Redden
 Sid & Heidi Regan
 Martha Robert
 Joe & Libba Russell
 Brian Schwartz
 Donna Sharp
 Chris & Patty Slembariski
 Mike & Lynn Smith
 Kibby Taylor
 Julie Van Meter
 Garrett & Timothy Vance
 Tom & Sherry Wade
 Dan & Stefania Wilcox
 Ron & Susan Wirt

