

# 2022 Annual Report



**St. Thomas  
Episcopal Church**  
[StThomasColumbus.org](http://StThomasColumbus.org)

# 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

## St. Thomas Episcopal Church Annual Parish Meeting

January 30, 2022

The meeting was live streamed to a private YouTube channel with voting by an email link sent prior to the meeting. The agenda and annual reports (short and long forms) were sent electronically to members and a printed copy of the short form was available prior to the meeting. A printed copy of the long form is available by request.

A quorum convened and Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards called the meeting to order. Ron Wirt, Senior Warden, opened with a prayer. Rev. Grace read a list of online participants. **A motion was made and 2nd (Sherry Wade/Joe Stewart) to admit the online participants to the meeting. The motion passed without further discussion.**

Rev. Grace announced the appointment of Sara Ginter to the position of Vestry clerk. The minutes from the 2021 annual meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting. **A motion to accept the minutes was made and 2nd (Spencer Garrard/Tanya Edwards-Jones). The motion passed without further discussion.**

Ron Wirt explained the voting process and presented the slate of candidates for the three open Vestry terms: **Susan Connery, Michael Dempsey, and Louise Tulloh**. Voting eligibility was explained. The biographical information was sent electronically prior to the meeting. Ballots were cast and given to the usher to be tallied. Email votes were also tallied.

Norm Easterbrook reviewed the 2021 budget with information regarding the impact of COVID. Funding exceeded the 2021 planned budget using a 3.5% endowment draw. Funds were held aside anticipating COVID expenses and allowed funding for unexpected expenses. The 2022 stewardship campaign response exceeded expectations and pledges more than funded the planned budget. It will allow a 3.5% endowment draw.

Ann Johnston reported for the Property Committee. There have been many improvements to the building and grounds in 2021. Repairs included HVAC, portions of the roof, the back parking lot, security door, painting, and carpet as well as other projects. Judy Harding contributed a gift of \$50,000 which is being used to update the parish hall. Ann shared priorities for the 2022 year.

Ron summarized a year when we had to find new ways to connect, worship, and participate. We worshiped online, tv, and outside. Our music program didn't miss a beat (sorry). We were even able to sing along at home with Rick and Marquette. Our children and youth programs were safe, fun, creative, and worshipful. The outreach programs were able to continue while safely meeting COVID guidelines. Denny Clark joined our staff as Parish Theologian. During the year, 37 new members joined and 22 were confirmed or received.

Rev. Grace announced a gift of \$1,000,000 to St. Thomas made by Clifford and Bobsie Swift. The gift exemplifies a lifetime of faithfulness and a desire to ensure that St. Thomas will thrive in the future. The first installment will be used to match and enhance the capital fund (\$113,333), add to the endowment fund (\$100,000), and pay off the line of credit (\$36,667).

It was announced that three committees have been formed to determine the most responsible way to use this gift: a strategic planning committee (chair: Ron Wirt), a search committee for an assisting priest (chair: Larry Dooley), and a solar energy committee. A celebration will be held at a later time.

In honor of Clifford's rescue of homeless cats, a brick will be placed in the pet memorial garden in honor of Clifford's humane efforts. A gardenia garden will be planted in memory of his love of natural beauty. Cuttings from his gardenias will be featured along with other plants.

Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards thanked the outgoing Vestry members for their faithful service: Ron for his ability to see the big picture as well as the small details and his willingness to serve wherever he is needed; Larry for his insight, humor, kindness, and understanding of how the church works; and Malinda for her positive energy, and dedication to God, church, and community. Parting gifts were given to each member. Rev. Grace thanked the congregation for their faithfulness and generosity; the various leaders who have helped guide us through a year which required extra meetings, creative thinking, and faithful leadership; and the staff for their flexibility, dedication, and teamwork. She announced the creation of an online shop with many items bearing the new St. Thomas logo. A portion of the proceeds will go to youth ministries.

Grace announced the new Senior Warden, Michelle Mullin and closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Gammage Ginter, Clerk of the Vestry

# RECTOR'S REPORT

## Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards

Love God.

Love Every Person.

Learn and Serve Together.

It is almost breathtaking to look back on 2022 for St. Thomas.

As the year began, yet another Covid variant was on the rise. Young children were not eligible for vaccination. Many people were still hesitant to gather inside. We were not able to volunteer at Brewer Elementary. We wondered if we would ever resume more usual patterns of ministry.



Look at what happened by the end of 2022!

- The nave and choir loft are nearly full again, and we continue to have robust participation in worship from home.
- Dozens of people took part in Journey Groups, exploring themes of the Bible with the book *Manna and Mercy*.
- The St. Thomas Choir made a meaningful pilgrimage to Ireland.
- St. Thomas Youth made a meaningful pilgrimage to Washington, DC.
- Brewer Buddies resumed.
- We created a photo directory and filled it with lots of new faces!
- We celebrated Alma Thomas and created art together.
- We remodeled the parish hall (thanks to a gift from Judy Harding) and purchased new (comfortable!) chairs for the library.
- Thanks to your gifts to the Capital Reserve Fund, we replaced the roof above the office building, the roof above the nursery and youth wing, and a 30+ year-old HVAC unit.
- Vestry revised our parish by-laws.
- Children enjoyed a joyful VBS - Living Into God's Dream.
- We had a strong presence at Columbus Pride.
- We launched a young adult group, a young couples group, and a softball team!
- Foyers resumed with dozens of happy people participating.
- We welcomed two new priests to our staff.
- Boxwood soccer teams won TWO state championships.
- Thanks to a gift from Clifford and Bobsie Swift, we launched a strategic planning process with a goal of helping St. Thomas continue to grow and become more accessible to our community.

I could go on and on. The pages ahead describe an amazing list of blessings and accomplishments. Give thanks as you read and reflect.

Also important, in addition to all of the above, we developed a clear statement of mission and purpose to describe who we are and where God is calling us: *Love God. Love Every Person. Learn and Serve Together.*

This is the St. Thomas Story! Thanks to all who support St. Thomas through your presence, prayers, and gifts. You are part of everything that happened in this remarkable year.

Gratefully - Grace

# ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

## Rev. Roxane Gwyn, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care



Beginning my ministry with you in mid-August of 2022, I have been warmly embraced by staff, parishioners, and the wider community. There are several areas in which I was invited and delighted to serve:

**Liturgy:** Being a part of the vibrant worship life of St. Thomas has been a joy. I am present at both Sunday morning services twice a month. I've preached 3 times and celebrated Holy Eucharist monthly, as well as occasionally leading Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays and Evening Prayer during the week. An exciting challenge for me was to create an alternative worship service and liturgy along contemplative lines. With the counsel of a small group of dedicated laypersons, plans have been made and the service will begin on a monthly basis in February 2023. The liturgy will include a healing component, which we're hearing is a welcome element for many parishioners. We hope to expand this service to those beyond St. Thomas.

**Fellowship:** The Strategic Planning Committee discerned the need for someone to coordinate a combination of cultural/social/outreach/fellowship opportunities for adults of all ages (and sometimes children and youth). With the wealth of possibilities in our city, our state, and beyond, we have begun. Named *Excursions*, this program has begun with trips to The Food Mill in Columbus, (which included a good dose of outreach information) and a dance performance at RiverCenter. Plans for 2023 include a local hockey game, a day trip to special places in southwest Georgia, theater and concerts, and perhaps a pilgrimage to Montgomery.

**Prayer:** It has been a privilege to be an integral part (though not particularly a leader) of the Monday Prayer Group. I meet with these faithful parishioners most weeks, and have learned much about the prayer life of our parish. The Prayer Group has been an important portal to pastoral care.

**Pastoral Care:** The heart of my ministry at St. Thomas is pastoral care. My goals for 2022, beyond providing prayers and presence to anyone who asked and many who didn't, were:

- Develop a good working relationship with our Lay Pastoral Care Leader, Donna Sharp. Communicate with her frequently to facilitate a system in which St. Thomas can address pastoral needs as they arise, through a healthy combination of lay and clergy support. Donna and I feel we are good co-leaders. I encourage you to read her report alongside mine.
- Gather and train Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Streamline the schedule and be mindful of folks to add, both visitors and visited. LEV's met in September, were eager to learn and to refine our system, and went forth with a renewed spirit.
- Evaluate the pastoral care areas of providing transportation and providing meals. Beyond faithful friends who occasionally bring others to church for worship and other events, we do not feel a need to organize a particular transportation ministry at this point. Meals for those in crisis situations have been organized on an as-needed basis by staff, with support from priests. We feel this is working well for now.
- Develop a ministry of writing cards to a group of people selected by Grace and Donna. This has gone quite well, with about 20 parishioners writing cards several times year to one or two households.
- Establish my availability as a pastor to St. Thomas folks. Grace and I have worked together to share this ministry, and are in frequent communication about particular situations and about defining and sharing roles.
- Mostly importantly, to get to know as many folks as possible, as well as possible, as quickly as possible. I believe every single person in a parish is deserving of pastoral care all the time. I've thoroughly enjoyed visits, phone calls, and letters with folks who cannot leave their homes and those who can. I was able to share Holy Communion with about 20 households in 2022 in addition to their visits from LEV's.

One challenge in my ministry among you is being a half-time priest and pastor. I continue to live into this, maintaining boundaries while hoping to be available as needed, especially pastorally. Addressing this more specifically with the St. Thomas family is a good goal for 2023.

# ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

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## **Rev. Darius Sudayi, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care**

I am humbled that it has pleased God for me, and my family, to be here at this time. I am thankful for the Diocese and the vestry of this church, under the leadership of Reverend Grace, to invite me to serve among you as your Associate Rector for Mission.

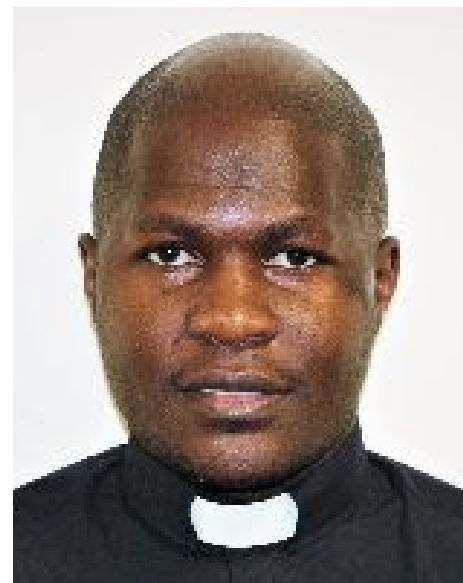
Since December 1, I have been blessed to worship and celebrate Eucharist with you; participate in some of the church's outreach programs especially Brewer Reading Buddies and Path to Shine; attend the Diocesan Annual Council; participate in the staff weekly meetings; and worship with the two congregations in our convocation (St. Mary Magdalene- South Columbus, and St. Nicholas in Hamilton), as a missionary from St. Thomas!

Mission starts with God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God has been in the mission to save, heal, restore and renew His people and the whole world for a long time, and invites us to partner with Him in this work. St. Thomas has been doing this good work for a while and I am honored to join the adventure.

I love to talk! And I love good challenges! So expect to be challenged! As we challenge ourselves to love and do Mission like Christ. For started I would like to challenge you to look into our outreach ministries and join the good work done by these ministries; you don't see where you can fit? Come and share with us where you see God is working and how we as a church can join.

As your Rector for mission I will be doing two Sunday services a month with the good people of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, one Sunday at St. Thomas, and another Sunday where God leads. I look forward to knowing more of you over meetings, lunches and dinners, Wednesday worship, Sunday worship and outreach programs.

Shalom  
Fr. Darius Sudayi



# SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

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Vestry members assist the Rector in the nurture of Christ's Church through oversight while ensuring the focus remains on the church's mission. St. Thomas Vestry is comprised of 9 members and a Clerk of Vestry, recording minutes each meeting. Our monthly meetings are full of thoughtful discussion and discerning decisions on finance, property, personnel, worship, education, and service. At the beginning of each meeting, we include time for faith formation. In addition, as Senior Warden, I meet with the Junior Warden, Rector, and Treasurer prior to each vestry meeting to discuss upcoming vestry meeting items for discussion. In between scheduled meetings both Spencer Garrard, Junior Warden, and I support Rev. Grace when issues arise not requiring a vote.

2022 was a year of growth and vision for St. Thomas. A Strategic Planning Committee was formed to focus on accessibility of the building and growth of the congregation. After serious discussion, the committee concluded accessibility is a concern at St. Thomas. Committee members met with an architect to create an initial draft of renovations to become more accessible for both the congregation and choir while allowing for additional seating in the Nave.

A new Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Taylor Mack, joined the staff bringing enthusiasm and ideas on how to foster strong faith relationships in younger generations while maintaining a fellowship environment. Under her direction, St. Thomas now has an active Young Adults and Young Couples ministry. She also planned and chaperoned a youth mission trip to Washington DC in July 2022 with a focus on our baptismal covenant.

With the addition of Associate Priests, Roxane and Darius, new energy was brought to fuel the growth of our pastoral and mission ministries. Our pews are full once again, services are accompanied by beautiful choir music, children's ministries are thriving, and membership has grown. Wednesday night suppers and fellowship events have resumed.

In 2023 we will continue our Strategic Planning process focusing on outreach and mission. A Contemplative Healing Worship will be added to expand our pastoral care to include all in need of healing throughout the community. The next chapters hold more growth and promise.

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

Respectfully,  
Michelle Mullen

# JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

As a member of the Vestry, I was chosen by the Vestry to be Junior Warden. In this capacity I served with the Treasurer and Senior Warden on a small committee to provide lay guidance for the parish in meetings with the Rector.

One of my primary jobs was to serve as vestry liaison to the Property Committee. While serving in this capacity there were some significant improvements made to the Parish Hall, the drainage systems behind the Parish Hall, repairs to roofs and replacement of some HVAC units. In addition, there were several workdays when member of the parish as well as representatives to the Property Committee cleaned up, mowed, trimmed, weeded, etc. on the church campus.

Another opportunity came about when I was asked to serve on the board of the Day School. On this committee I am one of three parish representatives. My task is to listen and find out if there are situations which might be in need of parish assistance.

When out of town during the last Property Committee meeting, I was asked to meet with the Finance Committee on the day of the Vestry meeting. I found this to be very educational because I am not well-versed in the language of this group. I did, fortunately, learn that I could reasonably understand the what the members said.

I believe that future Junior Wardens will primarily relate to the Property Committee as well as any other assignments requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Spencer Garrard

# TREASURER'S REPORT

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## What is this ministry?

The task of this ministry includes safeguarding the assets of the parish, provide and administer an annual budget, manage the finances to help assure funding for ministries of the church, and make recommendations to the Vestry regarding anything involving the finances of the parish.

## Who participated in 2022?

Those serving on the finance committee are Karen Lord, Norm Easterbrook, Mike Morrill, Ellen Free, Tracy Leopard, David Brandenburgh, and Frank Feagle. Instrumental in providing pertinent information and directing the work are Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards and Patty Slembarski.

## What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?

The challenge facing this ministry is managing the funds available with a budget that can adequately provide for the ministries of the church and growth within the parish while continuing to fund outreach ministries. This ministry is charged with managing monetary gifts recently received that will allow for upgrades and enhancements to St. Thomas that are greatly needed. This will be done by working with the Property Committee and the Vestry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Lord, Treasurer

# 2022 VESTRY, CLERGY & STAFF

## Vestry

Senior Warden: Michelle Mullen (3rd), Junior Warden: Spencer Garrard (2nd),  
Deidre Bohannon (2nd), Susan Connery (1st), Michael Dempsey (1st), Jon Ezzell (3rd),  
Brian Schwartz (3rd), Julia Slater (2nd), Louise Tulloh (1st)

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

Clerk: Sara Ginter      Treasurer: Karen Lord

## Clergy

Rector: Grace Burton-Edwards  
Associate Rector for Pastoral Care: Roxane Gwyn  
Associate Rector for Mission: Darius Sudayi

## Staff

Staff Singer: Debbie Anderson, Staff Singer: Chris Barbee (resigned in 2022), Nursery: Diane Berson (resigned in 2022), Sexton & Kitchen Manager: Seth Burgamy, Parish Theologian: Denny Clark, Staff Singer: Michelle Folta, Nursery: Sara Gonzalez (resigned in 2022), Staff Singer: David Hahn, Staff Singer & Children's Formation Assistant: Katie Holbrook, Staff Singer: April Jacobs, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Taylor Mack, Organist & Choir Master: Rick McKnight, Staff Singer: Hunter Mullen, Staff Singer: Jeffrey Oakman, Director of Parish & Community Engagement: Meg Olive-Allison, Staff Singer: David Rambo-Serrano, Director of Children's Formation & Parish Life: Erin Redden, Director of Parish Administration: Patty Slembarski, Nursery: Evie Smith, Nursery: Sandy Trent (resigned in 2022), Nursery: Dorothy Uwanawich, Staff Singer: Addie Walton (resigned in 2022), Staff Singer: Rachel Ward, Livestream Coordinator: Nick Williams, Housekeeping: Frances Woolfolk

# 2022 PARISH DATA

## 45 NEW MEMBERS:

Susan Anderson	Sylvia Jones	Martha Mullinax	L. T. Taylor
Jennifer Boyd	James Krawiec	Kathleen Mullins	Aaliyah Trent
Shara Bryan-Torsiello	Korie MacDougall	Eve Noland	Isaiah Trent
Evan Collins	Toby McCullough	Amanda Peck	Ron Veasey
Joanna Collins	Virginia McCullough	Kentleigh Peck	Anna Williams
Courtney England	Aidan Mitchell	Shelby Peck	Chris Williams
Mandy Flynn	Eric Mitchell	Tripp Peck	Dave Wilson
Mike Flynn	Hudson Mitchell	Markease Roberts	Jane Wilson
Ky Goodman	Rebecca Mitchell	Adalena Spittlehouse	Mary Jane Wrenn
Leslie Holloway	Shana Monteith	Arabella Spittlehouse	
Soren Huie-Strong	Joe Morrow	Teddie Betty Sudayi	
Sam Humphries	Jerry Mullinax	Lauren Taylor	

## 14 BAPTISMS

Ky Goodman	Kentleigh Peck	Arabella Spittlehouse
Soren Huie-Strong	Shelby Peck	Teddie Betty Sudayi
James Krawiec	Tripp Peck	Aaliyah Trent
Hudson Mitchell	Markease Roberts	Isaiah Trent
Eve Noland	Adalena Spittlehouse	

## 8 CONFIRMATIONS/RECEPTIONS

Shara Bryan-Torsiello	Anna Williams
Leslie Holloway	Chris Williams
Korie MacDougall	Dave Wilson
Shana Monteith	Jane Wilson

*(More confirmations took place in January 2023)*

## 2 MARRIAGES

Sara Flynn & Evans James
Katie Holbrook & Steven Buckley

## 12 DEATHS/BURIALS

Joe Fischer	Joe Russell	Darius Slusher
Charles McMahan	Paul Starnes	Clifford Swift
Virginia Nixdorf	Bernadette St. Clair	Joann Vance
Jon Michael Puerta	Spence Sealy	Sandra Wood



# MINISTRY REPORTS | 09

We invited ministry leaders to summarize their activities in 2022 by responding to these questions:

- What is this ministry?
- Who participated in 2022?
- What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?

## Acolytes

*Wilson Ford, Acolyte Director*

Acolytes serve by carrying the petite cross, gospel book, or torches, and also serve as crucifer. Serving as an acolyte is a wonderful way for our children and youth to participate in worship and serve our church. As director I train acolytes and assist with scheduling. In 2022 the following children and youth participated as Acolytes at St. Thomas.

Esi Akyempong

Lawrence Akyempong

Ace Burton

Austin Connery

Grayson Connery

Riley Connery

Elyse Dahlgren

Eli Demko

Sadie Demko

Luke Ezzell

Will Ezzell

David Flinn

Addison Gaskin

Ky Goodman

Addison Harrison

Owen Harrison

Hunter Hayseldon

Robert Holloway

Asha Hostetter

Vivian Hostetter

Lola Beth James

Gideon Jones

Keagan McFalls

Kelly McFalls

Aiden Mitchell

Hudson Mitchell

Riley Mullen

Kingston Olive-Allison

Sam Olive-Allison

Shelby Peck

Tripp Peck

Wyatt Perkins

Mary Scribner

William Sealy

Ryan Starkweather

Lovick Sudayi

Markese Trent

Martha Wade

Ruthie Wade

Bert Wadkins

Colin Young

Mia Young

## Adult Formation

*Denny Clark, Parish Theologian*

**What is this ministry?**

All followers of Jesus are called to be “disciples” – a New Testament word which can also be translated “students.” As Jesus’ students, we learn to live like him. We learn to look at life, at others, and at ourselves as Jesus does. Everything we do as a congregation and as individual Christians is part of this learning/shaping/forming process, but the ministry of Adult Formation focuses intentionally on that process, seeking to stretch us “beyond” our present level of discipleship. It thus is always looking toward our “Next Chapter” as disciples, providing an opportunity to reflect on where we’ve been, consider new options, and equip us for moving on.

The Anglican/Episcopal Church views **Scripture** (both Old Testament & New Testament), **Tradition** (both theological, liturgical & historical), and **Reason** (i.e., the “life of the mind” that links us with all other people, and our critical, reflective engagement with wider humanity’s very best insights regarding society & the universe) as the complementary, interdependent sources of theology, and these guide our Adult Formation topics and process.

St. Thomas Church’s 2022 Adult Formation activities included the following:

- Sunday Adult Formation, 9:30-10:15, involving 15-45 people each week:
  - “The Gospel According to ...” (5-wk overview the NT Gospels, led by Denny Clark)
  - Viewing & discussing the short film, *Purple*, on talking civilly across social/political divides
  - Follow-up session on Affordable Housing Crisis in Columbus, with Katie Byers, St. Anne’s Catholic Outreach
  - 6-wk Lenten series based on Diana Butler Bass’s *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*, led by various St. Thomas members

- 5-wk Easter series on “Sustaining Creation Care during Eco-Crisis, led by the St. Thomas Creation Keepers, which included presentations by Keith Sims (MercyMed Farmer) and Hannah Schulz & Codi Norred (Georgia Interfaith Power & Light/GIPL) among its sessions
- Letter-writing session, expressing concern to government officials about gun violence
- 10-wk Summer Lectionary-based series on “Old Testament Prophets”
- 11-wk “Challenges WE Face as Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion,” based on issues addressed at this summer’s Lambeth Conference in Canterbury, England
- 3-wk Advent Series on “African-American Spirituals: From Sorrow to Jubilee,” led by St. Thomas choir members
- Journey Groups – multiple small group opportunities (face-to-face, by Zoom, and hybrid) to study, interact, and care for one another. We ran two 11-week series with 5-7 groups each series (plus ‘Individual Adventurers’ who studied the same resources on their own). We used Daniel Erlander’s Manna and Mercy in both series, studying the Old Testament in the Spring and the New Testament in the Fall, accompanied by brief, thought-provoking video clips by South African pastor Alan Storey. Over 70 St. Thomas members were involved in each series, along with a group from St. Julian’s Episcopal Church in Douglasville and even a group of Roman Catholic nuns on a Native American reservation in Nebraska!
- Welcome Classes, led by Rev. Grace, our pastoral team, and lay members of St. Thomas, offered multiple times each year, to introduce The Episcopal Church and St. Thomas to those considering membership and those members wishing a refresher.
- Women’s Lectionary Bible Study, in hybrid format (face-to-face and on Zoom) on Thursday mornings, led by Cindy Cox Garrard, providing study, caring and mutual support for an ecumenically diverse group of approximately 25 women.
- August Wednesday Evenings with Intergenerational Art projects in the style of Alma Thomas, guided by FABArts artist Sietske Johnson, plus reports of the Choir Pilgrimage to Ireland (Rick McKnight and Bobsie Swift), Youth Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. (Taylor Mack & Delilah Farrow), and facilities updates (Ann Johnston)
- Advent lunches again - for the first time in several years with the theme "Sing a New Song to the Lord."
  - A Song of Hope: Dr. Michelle Folta spoke about Voices of the Valley Children's Chorus and the hope she finds in helping young people learn to use their voices.
  - A Song of Peace: Dr. Asante Hilts and members of the leadership team of Cure Violence Columbus spoke about their work to address violence as a public health issue.
  - A Song of Joy: Paul Pierce and Keith McCoy spoke about the work The Springer Opera House does to bring Joy to the community and how actors learn to tell a joyful story even if they aren't feeling joyful.

### **Who participated in 2022?**

Well over 150 different people have been involved in St. Thomas’s Adult Formation activities at some point in 2022. Thank you for your involvement and for inviting your friends to be involved!

Special thanks to the following:

- Those who have helped plan, advise, coordinate, and/or work behind the scenes in Adult Formation: David Acton, Paula Acton, Spencer Garrard, Libby McFalls, Perrin Nicolson, Cindy Garrard, Ron Wirt, Rick McKnight, Christine DiFelicianantonio, Jonathan Walz, and Meg Olive-Allison
- Those who have been the presenter or facilitator for particular Sunday morning sessions: Debbie Anderson, Christine DiFelicianantonio, Larry Dooley, Cindy Garrard, Spencer Garrard, David Hahn, Isiah Harper, Paul Hostetter, Barb Kreyling, Daniel Mitchell, Perrin Nicolson, John Partin, Vicky Partin, Nancy Prescott, Charlene Rallo, Maddie Redden, Brian Schwartz, Malinda Shamburger, Joe Stewart, Brian Walker, Hannah Walker, Allyson Young, Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards, and Denny Clark
- Our Journey Group Facilitators: Donna Dooley, Larry Dooley, April Jacobs, Perrin Nicolson, Malinda Shamburger, Brian Walker, Hannah Walker, Ron Wirt, and Susan Wirt Rev. Grace, for her encouragement, support, and wise guidance.

## What is the “next chapter” ahead for this ministry?

- The “next chapter” of Adult Formation has already begun, because becoming ‘formed’ as disciples of Jesus never ends. Here is what’s already scheduled for the next few months:
- Shared study with Greater Beallwood Baptist Church of theologian Howard Thurman’s book on African-American Spirituals, *Deep River*, on Wednesday evenings during Epiphany 2023
- Sunday Adult Formation:
  - “Living as a ‘Called Out’ People,” dealing with the ‘difference’ we make as a church
  - “Overcoming the Harmful Effects of Purity Culture,” led by Joanna & Evan Collins
  - “The Problem of Suffering” (led by Art France) and “The Significance of Jesus’ Suffering, Death and Resurrection” (led by Denny Clark) during the Lent season
  - A series on Faith & the Visual Arts during the Easter season
- Journey Groups resume on March 1, “Exploring the Nicene Creed,” guided by the book *Loving the Questions: An Exploration of the Nicene Creed*, by the late Marianne Micks, former professor of biblical and historical theology at Virginia Theological Seminary

I hope you will make some aspect of Adult Formation part of your ‘next chapter’! Thank you for the opportunity to work with you in this important ministry!

## 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, each of which 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 Thursday 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.

2022 participation:

- Team 1: Sue O’Dell, Carole Hill, Malone Moore, Beverly Gordy, Pat McMahon, Amy Hatfield, and new member in 2022 Susan Anderson.
- Team 2: Darlene Everritt, Paula Evans, 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 2022 they were always with us in spirit and prayer. Those members are Charlie Snipes, Sandi Pauli and Nicholas Foster.

Some Altar Guild procedures which began due to COVID turned out to be good ideas and have become just the new way of doing things.

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.

A few people have recently expressed interest in Altar guild and we hope to get them involved soon and to eventually add a fourth team. We always welcome new members and we can figure out a way to accommodate anyone's schedule.

# Brewer Elementary School Partnership

## Margo Easterbrook, Partnership in Education Coordinator

Exciting News came to us at the end of this year! Brewer Elementary School was removed from the State's Failing School's List! I was pleased to receive a personal phone call from Principal Pat Woodall thanking St. Thomas for their role in helping them in this multi-year process.

Some of the ways we supported Brewer in the past year include:

- Back-to-School Breakfast for Teachers and Staff
- New Year's Meal for Teachers and Staff returning from Christmas Break
- Box Lunches for Teacher Appreciation Week
- Treat Bags for Teacher Appreciation
- Regular Maintenance of Brewer Clothing and Uniform Closet

Some of the many items donated by St. Thomas Parishioners include:

- Masks (in early 2022)
- Backpacks, Lunch Boxes, and School Supplies
- Art Supplies during August of 2022 as we focused and created art as intergenerational activities
- Snacks for State Testing Week
- Socks and Underwear for Clothes Closet

In addition, the Brewer Buddies Reading Program continues under the leadership of Meg Olive-Allison. Volunteers meet weekly to read one-on-one with at-risk students. Brewer Reading Buddies in 2022 included: Barbara Kreyling, Martha Mullinax, Ruth Nichols, Meg Olive-Allison, Darius Sudayi, and Jane Wilson. Our next chapter goal is to increase the number of active volunteers in this program so that we can reach more children.

Special thanks go to Grace Burton-Edwards, Lisa Herring, Jennifer Fletcher, Sara Ginter, Donna Sharp, Celia Page, Jenny Holder, Ruth Nichols, Martha Mullinax, Vicky Partin, and Norman Easterbrook for their many contributions.

Thanks also to the many unnamed St. Thomas folks who have consistently donated to this ministry. You have made a difference in the life of a child.

# Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry

## Malinda Shamburger, Director

Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry, CVEM, has been a resource in this region for more than 40 years. Our calling is to care for our neighbors. That care looks different for everyone. Some of our neighbors suffer from the burdens of poverty, while others feel the pressure of marginalization daily. CVEM is here to meet the need and join with our partners to build positive relationships across differences of race, culture, socio-economic status, religious practice, and all the ways we are divided. Our mission is steeped in the Baptismal Covenant of the Episcopal Church. We especially want to affirm the dignity of every human being and work toward God's dream of Beloved Community.

In 2022, CVEM literally closed a chapter and moved to the next chapter. CVEM left our long-time home on Lockwood Avenue and moved to Beallwood. CVEM dreamed of the opportunity to dive into the work of Asset Based Community Development. Our director Martha moved to her next chapter. She retired, leaving a legacy of dedication, compassion, and hard work. Under her leadership, CVEM expanded all programs and made new partnerships.

CVEM welcomed long-time volunteer and CVEM supporter Malinda Shamburger as its new director. As Malinda moves CVEM into its next chapter, we will see more community engagement and partnerships. Direct Service will expand its services to include case management, housing, and job opportunity. This move will help Direct Service to better respond to the ongoing economic fallout of the pandemic and systemic burdens on people in low-wage jobs and on fixed incomes:

In 2022, Direct Service assisted 638 neighbors in 251 unduplicated households in Muscogee, Russell, Lee, Stewart, Harris, Chattahoochee, and Talbot counties. Newly implemented guidelines saw a decrease in households receiving assistance more than once during the year; 10 families received gift cards for the holidays. More than \$92,000 was provided in assistance, 90% used for housing and utilities. At the same time, the remainder assisted families with childcare, employment, beds, State ID, medical and transportation needs. Special thanks to Linda Prince. With the retirement of long-time volunteer Norma Wolfe, Linda faithfully took on Direct Service intake, primarily solo.

After a two-year hiatus due to Covid, TAP returned in person, with fewer Tappers, to ensure safety. This year's theme, Come Shine Together, was an invitation each day for the group to Come Shine Together in Healing, Helping, Harmony, Hope, and Peace. In addition, we revisited our Peace tree for our art piece to give it some needed love and attention.

The monthly Striving for Justice Film Series conversations continue in a new format. We have begun doing a deeper dive. The subjects are now discussed over three months. We continue to have people join the conversations from all over the states. We look forward in 2023 to offering some hybrid sessions. Please visit our website to see what we explored in 2022. The Striving for Justice planning group includes St. Thomas parishioners Vicky Partin, Malinda Shamburger, Brian Schwartz, and Lynn Norris from St. Nicholas in Harris County.

**More about all of CVEM's programs and events can be found on our website at [www.cvemjubilee.org](http://www.cvemjubilee.org) and on Facebook and Instagram.**

Many parishioners are faithful CVEM donors, serve in leadership positions, volunteer with staff, and 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 2022 are too numerous to count, and we do not want to leave out anyone. We thank those of you who donated financially. Thank you, friends, who donated your time learning about Direct Service and making calls. We appreciate all the TAP volunteers. We are grateful to everyone who attended a Striving For Justice conversation as a presenter or a participant. Finally, we want to recognize our parishes for their faithfulness in joining us in this work to make the Chattahoochee Valley a place that cares for all of its citizens. Thank you, St. Thomas, for allowing us space to share the good news.

# Communications

## *Meg Olive-Allison, Director of Parish & Community 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.

- Through our Stewardship Process we developed a "tagline" that summarizes our mission at St. Thomas. We rolled out this statement and began using it in November of 2022. *Love God. Love Every Person. Learn & Serve Together.* This summarizes our life and work together well.
- Using software from Instant Church Directory, we created the first pictorial church directory at St. Thomas in years! Church member and professional photographer, Eliza Morrill took the majority of the photos while others were submitted by members. The directory is available in print, online, and through an app on phones and tablets and can be updated easily!
- We are still learning and loving our new website with Membership Vision. The website has additional features we're able to integrate with our existing communication process that has streamlined some of our work. The website platform is undergoing changes in 2023 and we're excited to further connect and continue to use this technology to connect and serve.
- We purchased and began to use Ministry Scheduler Pro to schedule volunteers. This software should make scheduling easier for the office to manage scheduling worship leaders and other volunteers who serve in a variety of roles. Learning this new system has taken longer than expected and we anticipate spending time learning this together in 2023.
- We continue to send email news three times a week with a news and events message on Monday, "Wednesday Word" from Clergy on Wednesday, and "This Sunday at St. Thomas" message on Friday. These regular messages are sent to 519 people on our email list through Mailchimp.
- We continued using Zoom, livestream, and a conference call line to better connect from home.
- We continued sharing "Celebrations and Sorrows" by email each week to 373 email addresses on our Parish Mailing List through Gmail.
- We continued mailing seasonal newsletters to nearly 300 addresses in the parish.
- We developed an internal calendar system for staff using Google Calendars to help us plan, schedule, and coordinate more efficiently.

## Creation Keepers

*Christine DiFeliciano, Chair*

### What is this ministry?

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** the bounty of God's creation and act with intention to:

- **R**educe, Reuse, Recycle, and Refuse.
- **E**xpand our own educational horizons to recognize the interdependence of life in the local Chattahoochee Valley, in our state and beyond.
- **A**dvocate for policy and accountability to dismantle ecological injustice and racism.
- **P**rize God's good gifts of beauty and wonder as we commune in the sacred spaces of our natural environment.

In the gathering magnitude of climate disturbance with its negative impacts to all life, born and unborn, Creation Keepers continued to balance the ominous message of carbon emission realities against the hope-filled message of God's love and our Christian partnership in Earth care.

### Highlights:

- Participated in a focus group with the Partnership for Southern Equity to support their research work with Drawdown GA
- Led seven Adult Formation events for St. Thomas parishioners' awareness of the climate problem.
  - April 24: Art France "What are our Earth Stories of Care?"
  - May 1: Keith Sims "Gardening for Sustenance at Mercy Med: What's Our Part in Ensuring Healthy Food for Community and How do We Repay Earth's Bounty?"
  - May 8 :Christine DiFeliciano, What is "Refugia" and What Role do People of Faith play in Building and Sustaining Refugia

- May 15: Brian Schwartz “The Interconnectedness of Life” | 15
- May 22: GIPL Team Advocating for Action with Hannah Schultz facilitating Adult Formation and Codi Norred preaching in worship
- Spearheaded a letter writing campaign to each of the five Public Service Commissioners who make important energy decisions for Georgia. Our church leadership advocated for their influence on Georgia Power to incentivize greener solutions allowing for a company policy called net metering which compensates rooftop solar customers while reducing peak energy demand resulting in Georgia’s sustainable power solutions.
- Discussion of video: Abandoned: Greed, Neglect and Environmental Injustice. The story of the concerned citizens of Cook County GA founded by Dr. Treva Gear to highlight the local environmental injustice of wood pellet production and forest destruction
- Renewed our Christian bonds and commitments in the natural wonder that God has provided on West Point Lake with participating parishioners. We were guided by our partners at Chattahoochee River Keeper and Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL).
- Continued support for Trees Columbus and strengthened local relationships with Columbus State University through the non-profit Environment GA,
- Shared several Climate Newsletters produced by Meg Olive-Allison | 16
- Enjoyed a presentation by Jonathan Walz on how nature and environmental reference influenced the art of Alma Thomas’
- Brian Schwartz shared the Anglican Communion’s focus on climate justice in Adult Formation
- Gayla Tillman of GIPL gave action steps on the Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign
- Canvassed door to door to encourage civic engagement through voting
- Creation Keepers fellowship overlooking Pine Mt Valley at the home of Art and Kathy France

### Participants in 2022

Christine DiFeliciano, Mick Etchison, Art France, Ann Johnston, Martin McCann, John and Vicky Partin, Brian Schwartz, Jennifer Boyd.

### Plans for the future

Creation Keepers plans to host a “Columbus 100% Round Table Visioning in February 2023 to build political and community support for a Clean Energy resolution. In our continued partnership with GIPL, we plan to host in the fall ’23 a Green Summit, building local and area collaboration with faith communities to influence the fight against climate disruptions and climate injustice.

# East Carver Heights Community Development Corporation

## Greg & Lisa Herring

East Carver Heights CDC began as the Boxwood Soccer Club, a St Thomas Ministry operating out of the Boxwood Recreation Center in the East Carver Heights neighborhood. We have since evolved into the organization we are today. This year started well as we began to return to normal. Unfortunately, the Boxwood Rec was “temporarily” shutdown in August. But as we had done in response to the pandemic, we adapted, and all our programs have continued and grown. As is often the case, when one door closes another is opened. We have begun a conversation with Columbus Parks and Recreation about purchasing or leasing the Boxwood Rec Center. Maybe the next chapter for us is the East Carver Heights Community Center?

### Boxwood Soccer Club (U8 Lightning, U10 Thunder, U12 Storm and U14 Tsunamis)

We once again had a very successful year on the soccer field. During the spring season both our U12 and U14 teams won league titles by going undefeated. During the fall our U10 team made it to their tournament final, the U12 team won another league title and the U14 team made it to the city championship finals. Incredibly, both our U12 and U14 teams won the Georgia State Rec Cup

Championship in their respective age groups. To be this successful the kids have had to learn to support and care about one another and been willing to make sacrifices.

Saturday Boxwood Soccer has become a happening for the players and their families. We now have between 50 to 60 players participating every season. Family and former players are coaches and team managers. A community that includes moms and dads, brothers and sisters, teachers and friends has evolved over the seasons. St Thomas has generously given support financially through the church and through individual donations. Parishioners purchased winter coats given by Santa to each player. St Thomas members participated in our Halloween Trunk or Treat and have given their time and effort in a myriad of ways. Know that your contributions are appreciated by the kids and their families, and your efforts are making a difference in their lives.

### **Path to Shine – Columbus**

Path To Shine®, Inc. is a mentoring program for elementary school children. This year it became a 501-c3 but it was started as a Diocesan program. There are many Path to Shine affiliates in the Atlanta area and Macon but we are the only Path to Shine - Columbus. We are housed at Carver Heights Presbyterian Church's outreach building at 800 32nd Ave. We meet on Tuesdays of the school year from 4:30-6pm. We start out with a healthy snack provided by volunteers. We work on homework or reading and then have a curriculum lesson with a book we read or a speaker.

Students receive new books at the end of the fall and spring semesters. We take students on field trips during the year and have other activities that enhance learning like carving a Jack O'Lantern at Halloween. We have a graduation party for 5th graders with a celebration. Speakers included Perrin Nicholson, Father Darius Sudayi, (after reading *Beatrice's Goat* he talked to the students about growing up in Tanzania), Sebastian Villa Molina-Hispanic Heritage month, and Paul Hostetter presented a creative interpretation of *Giraffes Can't Dance* with a spoken word performer, drums and a bass player.

Path to Shine mentored six students this year. Our mentors are Margo Easterbrook, Sandra Montgomery, Suzanne Burdeshaw, Charlene Rallo, LaShanda Porter and Chad Keene. Sara Ginter organizes and schedules the snack angels, and they are Jennifer Fletcher, Allyson Young Grossman, Charlene Rallo, Donna Sharp, Sherry Wade, Mandy Flynn Jessica Ezzell, Leslie Holloway and Vicky and John Partin. They provide each student with a healthy snack of a sandwich half, juice and fruit.

Our next chapter with Path to Shine – Columbus will be adding more students and hopefully more mentors! Watch us grow and children learn to love learning

### **Boxwood Friends and Neighbors Network**

A Friends and Neighbors Network is where families who qualify for food assistance, work together to unload and sort food, meet, pay dues and then clean up and take the food home. A community gets formed through the work everyone does together and through the meetings which include prayer, a pledge and speakers who bring information about local resources and services. The food is purchased from Feeding the Valley with healthy food in mind. East Carver Heights has few grocery stores offering good produce and healthy options. The dues the group pays are pooled to purchase bulk items like tissue, cleaning products, and laundry pods. On average this year the Boxwood F.A.N.N. has served a dozen families. This year we had speakers from the Pastoral Institute and West Georgia Health Department. The Boxwood Recreation Center was the home for the F.A.N.N. for the first part of the year. Then it closed, so the F.A.N.N. is meeting at Edgewood Presbyterian Church.

Our next chapter is to find a more permanent home for the Boxwood F.A.N.N. Though we love Edgewood Presbyterian, we would like to be back at the Boxwood Recreational Center.

### **Boxwood ESL**

Many of the parents of our soccer players speak Spanish. We asked if they would like to attend English classes at the Boxwood Recreation Center while the players were practicing. Many of them expressed interest, and we began looking for a teacher. Then the Boxwood Recreation Center closed. We found the teacher, Martha Mullinax from St. Thomas, and then we had to find a place. Pastor Gustavo Serra let us



house this at Nuevo Comienzo . It took lots of calls to make this happen but now 7-10 adult learners enjoy learning English from teacher Martha each Monday at 5pm at no cost. At first, we provided snacks for the class but now they bring their own snacks.

Our next chapter for this group is also a wish that they could meet at the Boxwood Recreation Center during soccer practice. We will continue to provide curriculum books and school materials.

## Endowment Committee

### *Mitch Grossman, Chair*

The 2022 endowment committee consisted of devoted members including Marianne Richter, Robert Moore, Ann Burr, Travis Wade, Paul Hostetter, Marcel Meijer, Reverend Grace Burton-Edwards and chair Mitch Grossman.

St. Thomas finances are divided into three categories -the Annual Budget derived from your yearly stewardship giving used for salaries, repairs and utilities; Capital Reserve Fund for larger specific projects; and the Endowment Fund for long term support for the life and love 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.

Over the past year the committee has worked on researching and understanding ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) long term investment accounts. The Vestry approved adding an ESG account. When someone wants to remember the life and love of our beloved St. Thomas, they have an option to include a gift that invests in things that align with our mission and focus on energy efficiency, inclusion, gender & diversity, human rights, and affordable housing.

The endowment committee continues to review endowment financials quarterly with our Truist advisors and work on helping others understand the importance of planned giving. Each year only a small portion the Endowment fund is used, and the remainder is left to grow. Over time, as more generously include their gifts to St. Thomas the stronger the living church becomes for generations to come. Over the 2022 year the Endowment received a \$100,000 gift from Clifford and Bobsie Swift and a gift from the estate of Mike Edmondson. In the coming year the committee will focus on how we can better memorialize these generous gifts in a more meaningful and outwardly way. The endowment committee is very thankful to all those who have given or are thinking about giving to St. Thomas Endowment.

## Episcokids

### *Erin Redden, Children's Formation Director*

#### **Nursery**

Our Nursery is thriving and post Covid we are seeing our numbers begin to flourish. Dorothy Uwanawich remained on staff and the following people joined the team: Sara Ramirez, Alaina Renfroe and Evie Smith. Evie often times assists our youngest Episcokids as they transition to children's programming as needed. At the end of the year, Sara received a fulltime job offer out of state and while she will be missed we look to welcome Tori Torsiello in 2023. She will be bringing several years of childcare experience.

#### **Children's Formation**

Every Sunday our children were invited to Children's Chapel in the newly renovated Parlor. Using the lectionary readings, Ms. Erin and Ms. Katie shared the Gospel with as many as 22 children every Sunday. The Gospel is shared simply, and designed to stir children's imaginations and spirituality. In 2023, we hope to invite members of our church volunteers to participate in a rotation, volunteering their time to facilitate Chapel.

Wonderful Wednesdays took place on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:30 with Ms. Erin and Ms. Katie in the Outreach Center so that the children had lots of room to grow and socially distance as needed. Episcokids between the ages of 4 years old and 5th grade encountered relevant themes through centers that they rotated to each week as well as seasonal workshops. 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.

Shine Time with Ms. Erin and friends took place on Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 10:15. We gave our Outreach Center a makeover with large, children friendly rugs and brightly colored modular furniture. We had centers set up each Sunday with legos, blocks, puzzles and other manipulatives to welcome children to the space and allow time to gather and familiarize themselves with the space and new friends. Our average attendance jumped to between 15-18 children. Our focus was to intentionally strengthen our children’s knowledge of Old Testament stories. We used an online curriculum by Sparkhouse called Whirl Classroom and Spark Bibles.

### Highlights of 2022 include:

- Holy Week programming including Story Blocks to retell the story.
- Flowering of the Cross on Easter
- Children’s Egg Hunt and Parish Picnic on St. Thomas Sunday
- Vacation Bible School, Living Into God’s Dream, written and curated by members of the Atlanta Diocese, intended to be a children’s dismantling racism program, for children between the ages of 4 and 5th grade. Our teens shepherded the children to rotations led by adult volunteers. The program was well received and we plan to build future VBS programs using the same curriculum reminding us all that we are made in God’s own image and are loved.
- Back to School Backpack Blessing
- Outdoor Pet Blessing Drive at Lakebottom Park
- Trunk or Treat
- All Saints Presentations & Procession
- Children’s Advent Workshop and Lunch
- A Visit with St. Nicholas
- Christmas Pizza Party
- Children’s Christmas Pageant with Christmas Lessons and Carols
- Epiphany Event with a visit from the Magi

In 2023, we hope to encourage parishioners to offer their time and talents to the youngest members of St. Thomas Episcopal Church. 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 by sharing the Good News to our neighbors and members of our greater community.

## Flower Guild

*Ralph Wimberly, Chair*

The Flower Guild provides us an opportunity to bring our talents to share on the altar during worship and other events throughout the church year. The team follows the liturgical calendar through the seasons of the church year. This year I have all the faith we shall begin anew and continuing our faithfulness in support of of what God wants us to do. I am grateful for the in person or support from afar.

Many thanks to Barbara Billings, Jo Cates, Anne Huie-Strong, Nelia Partain, Ceci Shirley, Christine Slusher, and Dawn Farrow. Two members have retired from the Guild. Sherry Wade and Sara Ginter will be missed but they still contribute in different ways to this ministry. The following honorary members who stepped in and brought Christmas to life are Isiah Harper, Maddie Redden, Ray Capo, Dan Ginter, Martin McCann, Wilson Ford, and Francis Woolfolk.

I look forward to 2023 and how our participation will continue to bring the altar to life with God's creation.

# Grounds

## *Martin McCann, Chair*

The Grounds committee scheduled several Saturday workdays in the spring and fall. Turnout was good and the work helpful to the appearance of St. Thomas and the Day School. Jamie Ibarra and his wife do a good job mowing and maintaining the grounds. Dan Ginter and Libba Russell have been mowing the soccer field and the area behind the Day School. Vickiy and John Partin, with the help of others, have maintained the labyrinth. Plans are in progress for the memorial garden in honor of Clifford Swift.

For 2023, we would like to be more a bit more creative. We are open to any and all suggestions about organization, schedules, and future plans.

We are very thankful to all those who participated in 2022.

# Kitchen

## *Seth Burgamy, Kitchen Manager*

The St. Thomas Kitchen had a busy 2022! Throughout the year we fed about 2,200 meals on Wednesday night dinners. Special dinners and events included Epiphany, Shrove Tuesday with the youth, Maundy Thursday, Easter Vigil reception, Easter Breakfast for about 300 people, snacks for VBS, the Pentecost welcome breakfast, a couple of baby showers, Pride cookies, pet blessing cookies, the Men's group BBQ lunch, Dawn and Wilson pulling off Thanksgiving dinner, the biggest Wassail party, as well as funeral receptions. Nelia Partain and volunteers organized and prepared food for three Advent Luncheons.

This was all made possible by an amazing teams of volunteers who helped with special events. Regular volunteers Allen and Beverly Gordon and Doug McLeod are great! We also had Wilson Ford join the Kitchen team.

# Labyrinth

## *Vicky Partin, Chair*

The Labyrinth had a quiet schedule in 2022. As we resumed worship and celebrations inside the church building after COVID, walking the sacred path became more of a personal journey. Meditations and brochures were taken from the box, so we know that people visited the site.

The following volunteers worked at the labyrinth during March, April, October, and December: Jessica Ezzell, Ann Johnston, Brian Schwartz, James Decker, and Vicky and John Partin.

We hope that the strategic plan continues to include resurfacing the path in 2023.

Please contact me or Rev. Grace if you would like to schedule a gathering around this outside venue.

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.

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.

## Lay Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors

### *Meg Olive-Allison*

These volunteers have dedicated their time and talent to serve during worship on Sundays and Wednesdays, 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 those new folks who have been added to the roster.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Readers in 2022 include:

Barbara Brandenburgh	Spencer Garrard	Malone Moore	Mike Smith
David Brandenburgh	Dan Ginter	Randy Moore	Sonny Taunton
Ann Burr	Linda Harmon	Robert Moore	Dan Van Kley
Jack Ceccato	Alaina Harrison	Jerry Mullinax	Ruthie Wade
Nicole Ceccato	Amy Hatfield	Kathleen Mullins	Sherry Wade
Denny Clark	Leslie Holloway	Perrin Nicolson	Tom Wade
Sarah Clayton	Elizabeth Hostetter	Meg Olive-Allison	Travis Wade
Evan Collins	Paul Hostetter	Susie Olive-Allison	Kern Wadkins
Joanna Collins	Anne Huie-Strong	John Partin	Kevin Waldrup
Pat Daniel	Ena Hunt	Vicky Partin	Hannah Walker
James Decker	April Jacobs	Laura Perkins	Jonathan Walz
Christine DiFelicianantonio	Melissa James	Charlene Rallo	Stefania Wilcox
Donna Dooley	Rebekah Kreyling	Erin Redden	Ron Wirt
Larry Dooley	Bill Lacy	Heidi Regan	Molly Wright
Tanya Edwards-Jones	Susan Leigh	Sid Regan	Allyson Young
Jessica Ezzell	Taylor Mack	Martha Robert	
Dawn Farrow	Pauline Marth	Deborah Scribner	
Jennifer Fletcher	Marquette McKnight	Malinda Shamburger	
Cindy Cox Garrard	Charlene Moore	Ceci Shirley	

# McCann African Mission

*Sandy McCann, Coordinator*

The African Mission Fund was established in 2004 as a pathway for donations to the mission work of Sandra and Martin McCann during their time in Tanzania. Although they returned seven years ago, donations made to this fund are still being used to support education in Tanzania. Donations are from individuals, both from within and outside of the parish, as well as from the Outreach Council of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Due to Covid and logistical problems, there was a delay in buying sixteen new computers for the incoming September 2022 degree class of Msalato Theological College in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. I am happy to report that earlier this month (January 2023) they were bought in Dodoma, Tanzania, at a total cost of \$7,936.00. The ability to do this locally not only improves the domestic economy but also solves the nightmare problem of shipping lithium batteries from the US.

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, in a land where almost no one can afford textbooks, a computer is a library and a lifeline to the outside world.

Covid also impacted our gift of \$4,000.00 to the Diocese of Mara for a theology conference for their 104 rural priests. Because of fear of Covid and so few being immunized, they resorted to regional small group sessions with the final sessions to be held January 23-27 of this year. I am happy to report that although it was not the whole coming together for refreshment and renewal as originally envisioned, Bishop Okoth reported that it was very meaningful and special for the participants. Money for this sort of post-seminary education is simply not available and is so much needed and appreciated by the pastors who often live a very lonely existence in far flung villages with lack of funds for transport.

We again commend Patty Slembariski for her conscientious record keeping and unfailing graciousness in assisting. We also thank St Thomas for maintaining this account and the Outreach Council who generously support such endeavors.

# Memorials Committee

*Ann Johnston, Chair*

This committee is responsible for the receiving of gifts in memory or honor of parishioners and furnishings of the campus. We are also responsible for the maintenance of the columbarium.

The year 2022, was a busy one for this committee. We continued the work of refurbishment of All Saints Hall made possible by a generous gift from Judy Harding. We oversaw the painting, carpeting, installation of a new coffee station, installation of acoustic panels, and selected six chairs to be placed in front of the fireplace. We consulted with Tanya Edwards-Jones on decorating the restrooms. We moved some of the benches from the labyrinth to the front of the church to be used during coffee hours. We chose new chairs for the library.

If you are considering making a memorial gift or would like to join the committee, please call one of the members. We are: Mary Free, Nelia Partain, Jonathan Walz, Ralph Wimberly and Ann Johnston, chair.

# Men's Group

*Paul Hostetter*

## **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.

This year we held 6 social events at locations including Jarfly, Nonic, and at the home of Michael Dempsey. These opportunities have created deeper connections at a time when friendship and faith are more important than ever. We ran a bbq in support of a parish meeting over the weekend of October 22nd. This entailed the purchase of food to feed over 150 people, an overnight smoking of pulled pork, brisket, and chicken, and both serving and cleanup of our kitchen. We assisted with parking at several events, including Easter and most recently the funeral of our friend Spence Sealy. Finally, we assisted with yard work on the parish grounds throughout the year.

## **Who participated in 2022**

David Acton, Taylor Burton-Edwards, Ray Capo, Denny Clark, Michael Dempsey, Larry Dooley, Skip Farrow, Frank Feagle, Mitch Grossman, Isiah Harper, Greg Herring, Paul Hostetter, Mike McFalls, Robert Moore, Perrin Nicholson, Jim Petty, Roger Redden, Spence Sealy, Mike Smith, Joe Stewart, Kevin Waldrup, Dave Wilson, and Ron Wirt.

## **What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?**

We plan to continue doing what we have been doing: supporting the church's mission and providing social opportunities that allow us to further deepen friendships at St. Thomas.

# Music

*Rick McKnight, Organist & Choir Master*

This was a year when things returned to a new normal. The St Thomas Choir continues to meet from 6:45 - 8:30 each Wednesday from August - Pentecost singing every Sunday for the 10:30 am service. In the summer we switch to a Summer Choir open to all and with rehearsals on Sunday mornings.

This summer a group from the choir sang for a week at St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland where we were the choir in residence. It was a joyful pilgrimage. This December we were invited to sing at St Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta, for the Diocesan Confirmation service. We enjoyed a sandwich lunch arranged by Seth and then traveled by bus and had a glorious experience. And Grace sang with us!

The following Sunday we led a Lessons and Carol service with the children of the parish presenting the nativity in costume, followed by the Wassail Bowl.

In addition to these events we used the Max Burr nave piano extensively during services and presented a piano recital by Italian pianist Davide Bianchi. We invited local instrumentalists to add to our worship. And we sang for the funeral of Joe Fischer and the marriage of Katie and Stephen Buckley. The choir continues to be a large small group whose love of singing brings us together in friendship and care.

**2022 St. Thomas Choir Roster**

Debbie Anderson	Katie Holbrook	Hunter Mullen	Jane Smith-Williams
Matthew Brandenburgh	Elizabeth Hostetter	Payne Newsome	Margaret Terrell
Shara Bryan-Torsiello	Seyi Isijola	Ruth Nichols	Louise Tulloh
Raymond Campbell	April Jacobs	Jefferey Oakman	Kevin Waldrup
Clay Dykes	Brian Jones	Mary Ann Rahm	Rachel Ward
Joe Fischer	Karen Lord	Maddie Redden	Anna Williams
Michelle Folta	Marquette McKnight	Amy Rivers	Ralph Wimberly
Cindy Cox Garrard	Korie MacDougall	Martha Robert	Ron Wirt
David Hahn	Shana Monteith	Adleyn Scott	Molly Wright
Isiah Harper	Joe Morrow	David Rambo Serrano	

# Outreach Council

## Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards

The Outreach Council includes leaders of all of our Outreach Ministries who meet to coordinate our Outreach efforts and determine how the amount of the annual church budget designated for outreach will be shared. The budget for outreach is based on ten percent of the total of budgeted pledges minus our diocesan commitment. In 2022, the total budget for Outreach was \$48,351, designated as follows:

Ministry	Budgeted 2022	Actual 2022	Comments
African Mission	\$6,000	\$6,000	Held in reserve for use in 2023
Boxwood Ministries (Brewer Partnership)	\$2,400	\$2,582	Gifts to East Carver Heights came from reserve funds and miscellaneous
CVEM	\$18,000	\$18,000	Requested pledge
Outreach Miscellaneous	\$18,156	\$11,340	ECHCDC, Creation Keepers, GEMN, BRIDGE, \$6,816 deposited in outreach reserves for 2023
Path to Shine	\$795	\$795	Enrollment fee and insurance
Wynnton Neighborhood Network	\$3,000	\$3,000	Does not include special offerings and individual gifts

In addition, St. Thomas supported outreach ministries with donations from reserve funds and designated gifts.

Ministry	Given in 2022
African Mission	\$11,095
Boxwood Ministries	\$4,275
CVEM offerings	\$9,362
East Carver Heights	\$225
Episcopal Relief & Dev	\$500
WNN offerings	\$8,790

### Who participated in 2022?

Jo Cates and Libba Russell (WNN), Malinda Shamburger (East Carver Heights and CVEM), Greg Herring (East Carver Heights, Boxwood Soccer), Lisa Herring (East Carver Heights, Path to Shine, FANN), Margo Easterbrook (East Carver Heights, Brewer Partnership), Martha Robert (CVEM), Florence Wakoko (Episcopal Relief and Development), Sandy McCann (African Mission), Christine DeFelicantonio (Creation Keepers), Vicky Partin (Bridge), Brian Schwartz (Vestry), Meg Olive-Allison and Rev. Grace (Staff).

### What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?

In 2022, Meg Olive-Allison expanded her staff role from Director of Parish Engagement to Director of Parish and Community Engagement. She has always had a heart for missions, both globally and locally,

and this expansion in her role will allow her to use more of those gifts and relationships in her work with St. Thomas.

In December 2022, Rev. Darius Sudayi joined our staff as Associate Rector for Mission. In addition to supporting St. Thomas Outreach Ministries, part of his work involves serving with other congregations in our area, as an extension of the outreach of St. Thomas.

Our parish strategic planning process is guided in part by the 4 C's of HeartEdge, a movement with the Church of England and ecumenically to strengthen the church to be at the heart of the community while reaching out to those on the edge or margins. In 2022, the strategic planning process focused on "Congregation and Culture." In 2023, Vestry plans to appoint a committee of 8 to 12 people to focus on "Compassion and Commerce."

- Compassion – Explore current and potential partnerships to address local needs, promote opportunities for healing, embrace difference, share gifts, and strengthen our community.
- Commerce – Explore ways to offer our physical and financial resources as part of God's work in this community, including uses that could generate income for the congregation or for others and creatively extend and enhance our participation in God's mission.

Committee members will be people who are grounded in prayer, knowledgeable about the wider community, and eager to see St. Thomas make a difference in the lives of others. It is hoped that many who serve on this committee will be newer members of St. Thomas.

We are excited about all of these developments and expect to have many new stories about Outreach to tell in 2023.

## Pastoral Care

### *Donna Sharp - Chair of the Pastoral Care Committee*

#### **What is this ministry?**

The Pastoral Care Committee serves the congregation by supporting, visiting, praying, and communicating with the St. Thomas congregation.

**Lay Eucharistic Visitors** offer an extension of our Eucharistic table to those who cannot physically join us at church. We take Holy Communion and community to them. This ministry extends our church so all parishioners are able to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. We are blessed with a dedicated team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Ann Burr, Cindy Garrard, Beverly and Allen Gordy, Carole Hill, Daniel Mitchell, John Partin, Donna Sharp, and Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards. We have added two members: Evan Collins and Rev. Roxane Gwyn.

**Meals** for those in times of trouble are offered on an as-needed basis, determined by staff and pastoral care people.

**The Bereavement Ministry** sends Bereavement Booklets to families who have lost loved ones in their immediate family (spouses, parents, grandparents, children). A set of 4 Bereavement Booklets is sent during the year that follows the loss of their loved one, helping with ideas of how to cope with their loss. Steve Scott does all the writing of cards and mailings. Adleyne Scott had notecards printed with her beautiful painting of our church to accompany each booklet. Steve and Adleyne are a blessing to this ministry.

**Card Ministry.** We created a system to mail cards on a regular basis to many of our parishioners. About 20 people signed up to serve, and we have found that old relationships are strengthened and new ones formed.

#### **What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?**

The Pastoral Care Committee will continue to find ways to serve the congregation. We are always open to feedback and new ideas from parishioners.



# 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.

Evening Prayer takes place at 5:30 on Tuesday and Thursday by Zoom. Rev. Grace usually leads us with An Order of Worship for the Evening from our Common Prayer book.

## Who participated in 2022?

The **Prayer Group** is made up of Sonya Boyd, Ann Burr, Nicole Ceccato, Lynne Hahn, Renee McAneny, Pat McMahon, Donna Sharp, and Mary Jane Thomas. We have added two new people to our group, Beverly Tant Gordy and the Rev. Roxane Gwyn. We continue to lift up the needs of our parishioners, friends of the parish, and the needs of the world.

Evening Prayer is a small intimate group that varies from 3 to 10 people. We have 1 person from California that is a regular part of this group. It is a wonderful way to end the day with scripture, prayers, and a community of faith.

## What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?

The **prayer group** will continue to meet weekly together. This year, we will meet once a month in person and the rest by Zoom. We continue our Faithfulness throughout the new year.

We hope to have more people to join us for **Evening Prayer**. Continued posting of Evening Prayer time and word of mouth will encourage an increase in numbers. Although, we would like to improve numbers, the community of faith meeting together is a wonderful way to end the day.

# Property Committee

*Ann Johnston & Tracy Leopard, 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 2022 were Ann Johnston, Chair; Tracy Leopard, Co-Chair; Joe Akyempong, Royce Ard, Frank Feagle, Dan Ginter, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Tom Lanham and Martin McCann.

During the year, the committee engaged in on-going maintenance and repair projects, such as supervising repairs and scheduling/managing landscape activities and workdays. With such a large property to maintain, some repairs seem to be repetitive such as roof leaks and plumbing problems. Some of the major accomplishments of the Property Committee in 2022 include:

- Replacement of two HVAC units
- Replacement of roofs in nursery hallway, administrative area, and parlor area
- Replacement of French drain along the parish hall
- Renovation of All Saints Hall
- Rectory repairs
- New décor and improvements to several bathrooms

In 2023 the committee plans to develop the Swift Memorial Garden, research 'green' opportunities, replace roofs as needed and hopefully replace more HVAC units.

# Rector's Discretionary/Benevolence Fund

## *Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards*

Contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund support unbudgeted needs for the work of the church. Funds given as an honorarium for the rector or given for use in the congregation at the rector's discretion are deposited in the Rector's Discretionary Fund. In 2022, \$2,650 was given to the discretionary fund for use in the congregation at the rector's discretion, and \$7,526 was spent, including some funds given in previous years.

The Rector's Benevolence fund is held in a separate checking account to which the rector is the only person who has access. This is to protect the anonymity of people who are aided by the fund. The Senior Warden reviews expenses from the benevolence fund on a periodic basis. In 2022, \$2,903 was given to the benevolence fund, and \$8,386 was shared, including some funds given in previous years.

# Saint Thomas Readers Book Group

## *Sonya Boyd, Convener*

Over the almost eighteen years of the existence of the Saint Thomas Book Group, we faced numerous challenges. However, none impacted us as did Covid 19. It slowed us, but it did not halt us. The group continued to read and share a variety of books. We have also maintained contact through phone calls, emails, and texts. With a few exceptions, we meet at Saint Thomas. We meet seven times yearly and, in addition, we participate in The Big Read in February.

In 2022, along with our book discussions we participated in a Zoom call with Julia Spencer-Fleming, the author whose debut novel, *In the Bleak Midwinter*, was the kick-off for the Saint Thomas Book Group in 2005. Many thanks to our own Parish Theologian, Denny Clark, who facilitated the technology of the Zoom call.

On Friday January 13, 2023 the group met at the home of parishioner Pat McMahon to discuss *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. The author made an appearance at the Macon Road Public Library on January 20. We will provide information on any forthcoming late Winter and Spring selections, as well as meeting times and locations, as soon as they are available. We plan to continue reading a variety of selections as we focus on books that address moral, ethical, and/or spiritual issues and dilemmas.

The Saint Thomas Book Group supports The Little Library, located at the rear of the campus near the entrance to the Wynnton Neighborhood Network Office and Food Pantry. We also donated copies of our first Fall selection, *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* to the Jackie Robinson Boys and Girls Club of Cairo, Georgia. We encourage literacy.

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 sixteen persons at each meeting. In 2022 we welcomed several newcomers and we are delighted to have them join the group. Everyone is welcome. We thank Reverend Grace and the staff of Saint Thomas for their support.

# 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. Highlights from the year 2022, were the renovation of both bathrooms, landscaping of the front of the school and updating of the playgrounds.

St. Thomas started the year off with full classes and staff - 19 staff and 85 children. The staff is focusing on the future of the school, with its purpose to make it the best day school in Columbus.

# St. Thomas Softball

*Jeremy Mack, Team Captain*

The softball ministry competed in weekly double headers in the Columbus Parks & Rec Co-ed softball league. It brought St. Thomas members together to build and strengthen relationships and also created a connection to St. Thomas for non-members.

Players included: Lyndsey Redondo (who also designed and printed our jerseys), Melissa James, Bear Elder, Ric Ward, Mike Morrill, Chris Williams, Anna Williams, Robert Wadkins, Maddie Redden, Adam Anthony, Lauren Mitchell, Katie-Spencer Sealy, Laura Perkins, Harry Graham, Becca Pillar, Kevin Mills, Wes Varnum, Alaina Harrison, Susie Olive-Allison (Co-Coach), Jeremy Mack (Coach). Special thanks to our score keeper extraordinaire who attended every game and kept score like a professional - Steve Tucker!

There was a large amount of interest in continuing the team. Several members expressed interest possibly playing in a spring league. With better team bonds and relationships, the 2023 season is sure to be a success.

# 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 adapting to, and supporting our return to in-person activities and worship post-COVID. 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, this year, the Stewardship committee chose to simply tell the story of St Thomas Episcopal Church. This perhaps is what makes working with the Stewardship Committee one of the most joyful ways to serve our church. The committee celebrates our heritage in ministry, revels in our the Glory of God in weekly worship, and has the special privilege of helping to enable the growth of ministry both within our congregation and to the surrounding community.

The committee continued the pledge category called Continuing Faithfulness. This appeal is directed to support the capitol 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 143 total pledges in the amount of \$611,078, an increase of \$43,423.50 in commitments made in our last fiscal year. 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 2022.

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 David Acton, Deidre Bohannon, Lauren Copes, Norman Easterbrook, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Jerry Mullinax, Meg Olive-Allison, Patty Slembariski, and Ron Wirt.

## Strategic Planning

### Ron Wirt

One year ago, the vestry appointed a strategic planning committee to work during 2022 to prepare a plan to present to the congregation in 2023. Past wardens and treasurers who are still active members of the congregation were invited to serve. The committee was tasked with considering the following

- Growth of the congregation – Consider staffing and program needs, as well as facility needs
- Accessibility to all – Explore whether it is possible to create greater accessibility to the altar and choir loft, and conduct a cost-benefit analysis of any proposed changes.
- Stewardship of our property – Consider ways to use our building and grounds as part of God's work in this community.

This committee explored how the church could engage the community through culture, compassion, commerce and congregational life. A planning update was presented to the parish in October, presenting for feedback our ideas for the facility that would accommodate growth and enhance accessibility.

David Brandenburg, Ann Burr, Tanya Edwards-Jones, Jon Ezzell (Vestry liaison), Neal Fenter, Cindy Godwin, Mitch Grossman, Ann Johnston, Rick McKnight, Robert Moore, Celia Page, John Partin, Malinda Shamburger, Mike Smith, Bobsie Swift, Sherry Wade, Travis Wade, and Ron Wirt were the committee members, along with Rev. Grace as Rector. We also invited various guests to participate in discussing specific topics.

Next steps will be to form three smaller committees to bring a detailed proposal to the parish: interior design committee to agree on the final look of the nave and balcony, construction committee to navigate estimates and project scope and construction process, and fundraising committee to develop a timeline, process, and goal. These committees will include people on the original planning Committee and others in the congregation. In keeping with our annual budget practice, we plan to set aside 10% of all funds raised for these projects for Outreach. We anticipate forming a Strategic Planning Committee for Outreach in 2023 to develop a proposal to bring to the congregation in 2024.

# 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 for worship. They demonstrate a positive Christian attitude and are there to assist. Ushers ensure 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 2021, there were 30 ushers and by the end of 2022, there are now 32 ushers. Ushers have served 63 times in 2022 for regular and special services and funeral services. It is noteworthy to mention that one of our dedicated ushers (Spence Sealy) passed away in 2022. He was very dependable and a friend to all.

### **The following is a list of ushers in 2022:**

Barbara Brandenburgh	Amy Hatfield	Malone Moore	Ceci Shirley
David Brandenburgh	Greg Herring	Randy Moore	Christine Slusher
Reggie Brushwood	Lisa Herring	Robert Moore	Sonny Taunton
Evan Collins	Tommie Hunter	Michelle Mullen	Dan Van Kley
Michael Dempsey	Bill Lacy	John Partin	Kevin Waldrup
Larry Dooley	Keith Leigh	Vicky Partin	Brian Walker
Skip Farrow	Pauline Marth	Steve Scott	Hannah Walker
Danny Ginter	Bob McAneny	Deborah Scribner	Jane Wilson
Allen Gordy	Renee McAneny	Spence Sealy	Mary Jane Wrenn
Beverly Gordy	Mike McFalls	Malinda Shamburger	Allyson Young
Mitch Grossman	Charlene Moore	Donna Sharp	

# 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.

### **Thanks to our Vergers who served in 2022!**

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 contact and follow-up with visitors who fill out a visitor's card (either online or in person) or whose names have been passed on to us. After many months of Zoom meetings, the committee was able to meet in person with Zoom as an option. During these meetings, the visitors' names and information were shared and assigned to an individual committee member who followed up and provided the visitor with information of activities that they might be of interest, encouraged them in any way appropriate, and made sure they were added to our email list, etc. We maintain contact with them until they join, stop attending, or indicate they are not interested. The committee members strive to provide visitors with a warm greeting and understanding of the welcome, inclusive nature that is St. Thomas often forming lasting friendships with the new members. 30 adults and 15 children joined St. Thomas in 2022, aided by our committee members. Participants in the Welcome Committee this past year were Barbara Brandenburgh, Pam Feagle (chair), Sara Ginter, Beverly Gordy, Jenny Holder, Rick McKnight, Nelia Partain, Malinda Shamburger, Kevin Waldrup, Rev. Grace, and Taylor Mack. A sub-committee of the Welcome Committee is the Pew Card Committee. The members of this committee are Pam Feagle, Allen Gordy, Sara Ginter, Jenny Holder, John Partin, and Kevin Waldrup. The schedule is organized by Meg Olive-Allison.

# Women's Lectionary Bible Study

*Cindy Cox Garrard*

**What is this ministry?**

The Thursday Women's Lectionary Study meets for one hour during the school year and studies the lectionary texts for the following Sunday. A worksheet is written by the teacher and questions and discussion are encouraged. A Zoom option is provided.

**Who participated in 2022?**

Cindy Garrard, Nancy Pedersen, Emily Johnson, Kim Etchison, Donna Sharp, Carol Boers, Faye Melton, Ruth Nichols, Renee Thompson, Susan Lockwood, Martha Ruth Whatley, Bobsie Swift, Ena Hunt, Sandy McCann, Donna Hand, Beverly Gordy, Sue O'Dell, Donna Kemp, *Courtney Reed, Courtney Flemming, Tammy Ridley*, Margaret Love, *Janet Miller*, Mary Lewis Walsh, Ruth Brown

We usually have 4-6 participants on Zoom. Those in italics do not even live in Columbus and could not participate otherwise.

**What are the next chapters ahead for this ministry?**

Some of the women in this group have been meeting for decades. In the past year, we have added many new members, such that we have a mix of women from different congregations and ages. The lectionary focus seems successful, so we will retain that as well as the Zoom/In person choice.

# Worship Committee

*Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards*

**What is this ministry?**

Worship is the heart of everything we do together. We gather to give thanks to God, be nourished by word and sacrament, and go out to serve. We were delighted to welcome many parishioners and newcomers to worship while continuing to offer online options.

**Who participated in 2022?**

In-person worship attendance increased over the year as people became more comfortable with gathering. We continued to see steady participation in our online worship options as well. Here is our average attendance for each month in 2022. Online numbers are based on longest unique views during the first 24 hours (YouTube) or 48 hours (Facebook).

	8:30 in person	8:30 online	10:30 in person	10:30 online
January	17	16	79	55
February	18	26	117	47
March	18	23	138	51
April	49	36	182	60
May	23	19	140	75
June	25	24	153	51
July	16	26	111	43
August	20	26	156	36
September	16	24	143	57
October	18	21	147	41
November	22	25	149	41
December	23	21	160	45

The Worship Committee consists of Dan Ginter (chair of our ushers), Rick McKnight (Organist and Choirmaster), Sue O’Dell (chair of Altar Guild), Ralph Wimberly (chair of Flower Guild), Louise Tulloh (Vestry representative), Wilson Ford (Acolyte Director), and all of our Vergers – Tanya Edwards-Jones, Paul Hostetter, Perrin Nicolson, Malinda Shamburger, Travis Wade, and Jonathan Walz. Rev. Grace leads this committee. Meg Olive-Allison coordinates schedules for worship leaders.

**What are the next chapters for this ministry?**

Rev. Roxane Gwyn is coordinating a Contemplative Healing Service to begin in February, 2023, meeting on the third Sunday of each month at 5 pm.

# Wynnton Neighborhood Network

*Mary Lou Jarrell, WNN Board Chair and Libba Russell*

The Wynnton Neighborhood Network is a group of places of worship in the general area around St. Thomas who have banded together to serve the community by furnishing food and other necessities to needy citizens in Muscogee County who come seeking our help. We are open Monday through Friday, and one Saturday a month. We are open from 10:00 to 12:00. We are the only program that is open 5 days a week or on Saturday. People can come once a month and they do not need a referral. They must live in Muscogee County.

We give those who come two large sacks of food, primarily canned goods, one package of meat, fresh fruits and vegetables if we have them, milk, bread and butter, and other necessities like toilet paper and laundry detergent and cat and dog food. The Junior League has started a program with us to furnish diapers. The food comes from the USDA and from donations of canned goods from the different churches. Each church has two months each year when they are asked to collect canned goods for the WNN. We also buy food at local grocery stores because we cannot get enough from donations or Feeding the Valley, our USDA source.

We also offer assistance with utilities, gas, electricity and water. We will furnish up to \$100.00 twice a year. That is paid directly to the utility company.

This past year, St. Thomas members contributed \$4,705.00 in direct contributions as well as having the food drives twice a year. St. Thomas also contributes by having the ministry housed at St. Thomas. A new contribution from St. Thomas is to have "shoppers" who go out each week and buy all the canned goods and any other grocery item on the list furnished by the food bank that are needed that week. The shoppers deliver the food to the food bank and are reimbursed. This has been a big help this past year.

This year, 2022, We fed 5,176 families, 2000 more than in 2021. That breaks out to 15,141 adults and 6,512 children.

We would have served more, but we had to cut back in July to serving 25 households each day. We were running out of food and the volunteers could not keep up with the large amount of preparation needed to serve more people.

The Utilities clients amounted to 630 clients.

Board members from St. Thomas are Reverend Grace, Libba Russell, and Jo Cates. Volunteers who work at the food bank are: Angie Braid, Jo Cates, Beverly Gordy, Elizabeth Hostetter, Ena Hunt, Melissa James, Barbara Kreyling, Renee McAneny, Martin McCann, Renee McAneny, Charlene Moore, Mike and Ruth Nichols, Meg and Susie Olive-Allison, Linda Prince, Charlene Rallo, Libba Russell, John and Vicky Partin, and Mary Jane Wadkins. St. Thomas Youth continue to help pack the holiday bags for the Thanksgiving and Christmas distribution.

The Wynnton Neighborhood Network will continue to serve anyone who comes to us in need of food or utilities assistance as long as we have the money and the volunteers to do so. We adjust our rules as needed to serve as many people as possible as long as we have money and volunteers to do so. We appreciate having our facility at St. Thomas and plan to continue here.

## Young Adults (YACT)

### *Taylor Mack, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries*

The Young Adults group at St. Thomas began at the start of 2022. The group seeks to serve college students, young adults, and young professionals ages 18 to 25ish throughout the Columbus community. Taylor Mack, director of youth and young adult ministries, started the group alongside other St. Thomas young adults including Maddie Redden, Wilson Ford, Evie Smith, and Ian Dooley. As a team they worked to establish an identity for the group and came up with the name YACT (Young Adults Connecting Together). They also established YACT as an official organization at Columbus State University. Larry Dooley, Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance at CSU, offered to serve as the faculty advisor for YACT, creating a bridge between St. Thomas and the university. YACT met for monthly "coffee shop talks" throughout 2022 at Iron Bank Coffee Co., where the group offered a safe place for students and young professionals to discuss their faith and ask challenging theological questions. They also enjoyed the occasional Sunday lunch at a variety of local restaurants and celebrated the Young Adults Retreat in August with Eucharist, whitewater rafting, and thoughtful reflection.

Seeing the need to reach a broader group of people, a second branch to the Young Adults Ministry was formed in August for "Young Couples." The young couples group is a place for dating, engaged and married couples in their 20s and 30s to fellowship together. The group meets for a monthly social at a restaurant or at the home of a couple in the ministry.

The Young Adults Ministry groups have seen tremendous growth throughout 2022. Looking ahead to 2023, this ministry will seek to serve more young people beyond those involved at St. Thomas. The group will also attempt to engage more with Columbus city events and service opportunities.



# Youth

## *Taylor Mack, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries*

The St. Thomas Youth, affectionately known as the St. Thommies, serves as a community for middle school and high school students at St. Thomas. Youth group is a place for teens and tweens to learn about their faith, support each other, and grow in their confidence as God's beloved children. At the start of 2022, Taylor Mack began leading the St. Thommies as part of her responsibilities as the new Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

The youth group met twice per week for regularly scheduled programming: Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Throughout the year, these regular meeting times were used to provide Christian Education, build community, and encourage self-growth for youth members. Youth also participated in a variety of special events and trips throughout the year. The special events we hosted included Graduation/Youth Sunday, End of the Year Bash with St. Nicholas SNIK, Espresso Yourself Get-Together, Milk-Shake It Up Get-Together, and Whitewater Rafting with Trinity Youth. Youth also had the opportunity to participate in many trips throughout the year including several weekend spiritual retreats at Camp Mikell, the Hunger Walk/Run in Atlanta, Overnight @ Annual Council, and of course our Youth Pilgrimage to Washington D.C. Each special event and travel opportunity focused on establishing community among the St. Thomas youth while also building friendships with others in our Christian community and beyond.

Youth hosted two fundraisers in 2022: the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in March and a car wash in July.

The St. Thommies sought to give back to the St. Thomas community by serving as volunteers for Vacation Bible School, the drive-through Pet Blessing, and Trunk-or-Treat as well as by packing holiday distribution bags for Wynnton Neighborhood network.

In 2022, the St. Thomas youth had one student serve on the Diocesan Youth Commission and two additional youth attend the DYC Retreat in January. We also had two students attend the Happening 76 retreat as Candidates and one student served on the Happening 76 leadership Team. Also, three St. Thomas members attended Happening as adult chaperones, helping plan and execute the weekend's activities.

In the next year, the St. Thomas Youth are looking forward to engaging in more learning and service opportunities including a service trip to Charlotte, NC in July.

# 2022 FINANCIALS

OPERATING ACCOUNT	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	
<b>REVENUE</b>				
<b>Contribution Income</b>				
Pledges	544,948.00	556,042.55	592,745.00	<i>97% of pledges</i>
Gain/Loss - Stock Gifts	0.00	(97.91)	0.00	
Member Givers	75,416.00	90,150.40	85,719.00	<i>3 year</i>
Post-Campaign Pledges	1,500.00	2,600.00	1,500.00	
<b>Total Contribution Income</b>	<b>621,864.00</b>	<b>648,695.04</b>	<b>679,964.00</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>				
Transfer From Designated	15,000.00	52,136.86	43,807.00	
Endowment Draw -Unrestricted	70,189.00	70,189.41	84,486.00	<i>4% of 3yr avg</i>
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	2,997.32	29,800.00	
Use of Building	0.00	1,150.00	0.00	
Webstore Income	0.00	493.99	250.00	
Baird Draw	19,299.00	19,298.94	22,983.00	<i>4% of 3yr avg</i>
Desig.funds transfer-Boxwood	0.00	182.18	0.00	
Desig.funds transfer-Baird Ed	1,695.00	1,695.00	0.00	
Desig.funds transfer-Children	0.00	1,706.97	0.00	
Desig.funds transfer-Flowers	0.00	4,734.69	0.00	
Desig.funds transfer-Music	0.00	8,426.23	0.00	
Desig.funds transfer-Youth	0.00	100.00	0.00	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>106,183.00</b>	<b>163,111.59</b>	<b>181,326.00</b>	
<b>Special Income</b>				
Day School	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	
Renewal Fund	50,128.00	11,106.63	25,000.00	
Utility Reimbursement	6,000.00	5,850.00	6,000.00	
<b>Total Special Income</b>	<b>80,128.00</b>	<b>40,956.63</b>	<b>55,000.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>808,175.00</b>	<b>852,763.26</b>	<b>916,290.00</b>	

# 2022 FINANCIALS

EXPENSES			
<b>Admin/Payroll/Benefits</b>			
Administration	42,330.00	49,062.58	48,340.20
Payroll/Benefits	470,201.00	467,275.99	558,448.50
<b>Total Admin/Payroll Benefits</b>	<b>512,531.00</b>	<b>516,338.57</b>	<b>606,788.70</b>
<b>Christian Education</b>			
Adult	1,500.00	3,111.22	1,500.00
Children	3,500.00	5,585.80	3,750.00
Young Adult/College	1,695.00	2,114.98	1,750.00
Youth	3,500.00	3,626.30	3,750.00
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>10,195.00</b>	<b>14,438.30</b>	<b>10,750.00</b>
			<i>Excess covered from designated funds</i>
<b>Diocesan Pledge &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>62,938.00</b>	<b>63,366.73</b>	<b>66,352.00</b>
Evangelism	4,000.00	4,916.28	4,250.00
Outreach	48,351.00	48,533.18	52,839.30
			<i>10% pledges minus Dioc.commitmnt</i>
Parish Life	12,100.00	27,393.08	18,000.00
			<i>Donations for meals in designated income</i>
Properties	107,000.00	114,793.41	112,000.00
Capital Reserve	20,000.00	20,000.00	12,000.00
Stewardship	2,000.00	1,746.27	2,000.00
Music	19,310.00	26,967.86	19,310.00
Worship	9,750.00	14,269.58	12,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>808,175.00</b>	<b>852,763.26</b>	<b>916,290.00</b>
<b>(OVER) UNDER ACTUAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

# 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.

		<b>Special Outreach Collections</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED ACCOUNT</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	African Mission	11,094.91
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	493,847.58	CVEM	9,362.00
Revenue & Credit adjtmts	903,308.20	Rctr's BnvInc	2,903.25
Expenses	(910,317.23)	WNN	8,790.00
<b>12/31/22 Cash Balance</b>	<b>486,838.55</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>32,150.16</b>

## **ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS**

<b>January 1 - December 31, 2022</b>	<b>Beginning Blnc</b>	<b>Ending Blnc</b>
Unrestricted (Wilkins)	2,410,230.18	2,031,316.52
Restricted (Baird)	664,977.77	529,110.55

# 2022 FINANCIALS

## Major Gifts

The second of four planned undesignated gifts of \$250,000 from Clifford & Bobsie Swift was received in 2022 and deposited into the Vestry Discretionary fund in the Designated Account. We thank the Swifts for their loving generosity

## Endowment Fund Gifts

By vestry resolution, half of all undesignated memorial gifts are deposited in the memorial fund and half in the endowment fund. We received \$20,822.50 in memorial gifts to the endowment in 2022, including gifts from the estate of Mike Edmondson and from Pat McMahon in memory of Charlie McMahon. Also in 2022, Vestry designated for the endowment \$100,000 from a 2021 gift from Clifford and Bobsie Swift.

## Legacy Society

The following persons made a legacy gift to the St. Thomas Endowment upon their deaths or have shared their intention to do so. Please let us know if your name is missing from our records. Thank you to all who bear witness to their faith by supporting St. Thomas during this life and in perpetuity.

Michael Ankerich & Charlie Snipes	Perrin & Becca Nicolson
Margaret Baird	Celia Page & Jenny Holder
Max & Ann Burr	John & Vicky Partin
Grace Burton-Edwards	Murphy Pound
Rusty Callaway	Marianne Richter
Julie Chandler	Donna Sharp
Shannon Dunaway	Mike & Lynn Smith
Roscoe Duncan	Clifford & Bobsie Swift
Tanya Edwards-Jones	Marge Tidmarsh
Neal Fenter	Alice Turley
Allen & Beverly Gordy	Tom & Sherry Wade
Mitch Grossman & Allyson Young	Travis & Mitchi Wade
Judy Harding	Georgia Wilkins
Carole Hill	Ralph Wimberly
Ena Hunt	Gardner & Judy Wright
Lewis & Lori Kent	Ruth Wright
Martin & Sandra McCann	Belle Zimmerly
Randy & Charlene Moore	

# 2023 PLEDGERS

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143 PLEDGES

TOTAL = \$611,078

David & Paula Acton	Sam & Linda Harmon	Linda Prince
Debbie Anderson	Sammy & Amy Hatfield	Maryann Rahm
Max Anderson	Greg & Lisa Herring	Mike & Charlene Rallo
Susan Anderson	Carole Hill	Roger & Erin Redden
Michael Ankerich & Charlie Snipes	Steve Hodges & Pat Daniel	Sid & Heidi Regan
Ashley Becker	Paul & Elizabeth Hostetter	Marianne Richter
Barbara Billings	Ena Hunt	Libba Russell
Deidre Bohannon & Lauren Copes	Tommie Hunter	Brian Schwartz
Gerry & Sonya Boyd	Seyi & Nike Isijola	Steve & Adley Scott
David & Barbara Brandenburgh	April Jacobs	Susan Sealy
Reggie Brushwood & Bill Lacy	Melissa James	Malinda Shamburger
Ann Burr	Paul & Ann Johnston	Donna Sharp
Grace Burton-Edwards	Tom Jones & Tanya Edwards-Jones	Mark & Marianne Sheehan
Raymond Campbell	Lewis & Lori Kent	Ceci Shirley
Ray Capo	Rebekah Kreyling	Steve & Julia Slater
Paul & Jo Cates	Tracy Leopard & Penny Wise	Chris & Patty Slembariski
Jack & Nicole Ceccato	Jeremy & Taylor Mack	Christine Slusher
Denny Clark & Toni Fisher	Steve & Pauline Marth	Mollie Smith
Cam & Sarah Clayton	Bob & Renee McAneny	Mike & Lynn Smith
Susan & Ami Connery	Martin & Sandy McCann	Bernie Sutter
Murray Craig	Mike & Libby McFalls	Bobsie Swift
Paul Dahlgren & Ellen Free	Rick & Marquette McKnight	Sonny Taunton
Michael & Hunter Dempsey	Pat McMahan	Lauren & L.T. Taylor
Christine DiFelicianantonio	Andrew & Chelsea Meeks	Bill & Mary Jane Thomas
Larry & Donna Dooley	Marcel & Catrina Meijer	Dick & Debbie Tompson
Shannon Dunaway	Joe Mills & Jim Rutland	Steve & Deborah Tucker
Norm & Margo Easterbrook	Eric & Rebecca Mitchell	Louise Tulloh
Mike & Barbara Ellis	Shana Monteith	Katie Underwood
Paula Evans	Randy & Charlene Moore	Dan & Linda Van Kley
Darlene Everritt	Robert & Malone Moore	Julie Van Meter
Jon & Jessica Ezzell	Mike & Eliza Morrill	Garrett & Timothy Vance
Frank & Pam Feagle	Tom & Michelle Mullen	Ronald Veasey
Neal Fenter	Jerry & Martha Mullinax	Tom & Sherry Wade
Summer Flinn	Kathleen Mullins	Travis & Mitchi Wade
Mike & Mandy Flinn	Mike & Ruth Nichols	Florence Wakoko
Art & Kathy France	Perrin & Becca Nicolson	Kevin Waldrup
Mary Free	Sue O'Dell	Brian & Hannah Walker
Spencer Garrard	Meg & Susie Olive-Allison	Jonathan Walz
Dan & Sara Ginter	Michael & Allison Owen	Del & Joann Weeks
Cindy Godwin	Celia Page & Jenny Holder	Dan & Stefania Wilcox
Allen & Beverly Gordy	Nelia Partain	Dave & Jane Wilson
Linnea Grosse	John & Vicky Partin	Ralph Wimberly
Mitch Grossman & Allyson Young	Bill & Sandi Pauli	Ron & Susan Wirt
Roxane Gwyn	Carlene Pawlowicz	Mary Jane Wrenn
Lynn Hahn	Gerald & Amanda Peck	Debbie & Diana Young
Kenny & Mickie Hall	Jan Pittman	+2 Anonymous
Judy Harding	Nancy Prescott	

# 2023 CONTINUING FAITHFULNESS PLEDGES & GIFTS

## 48 PLEDGES & GIFTS

TOTAL = \$67,158

Debbie Anderson  
Susan Anderson  
Grace Burton-Edwards  
Ray Capo  
Denny Clark & Toni Fisher  
Paul Dahlgren & Ellen Free  
Norm & Margo Easterbrook  
Jon & Jessica Ezzell  
Frank & Pam Feagle  
Neal Fenter  
Mary Free  
Spencer Garrard  
Dan & Sara Ginter  
Allen & Beverly Gordy  
Linnea Grosse  
Mitch & Allyson Grossman  
Paul & Elizabeth Hostetter  
Ena Hunt  
Keith & Susan Leigh  
Tracy Leopard & Penny Wise  
Randy & Charlene Moore  
Robert & Malone Moore  
Tom & Michelle Mullen  
Kathleen Mullins

Mike & Ruth Nichols  
Perrin & Becca Nicolson  
Sue O'Dell  
Michael & Allison Owen  
Celia Page & Jenny Holder  
Nelia Partain  
Nancy Prescott  
Mike & Charlene Rallo  
Roger & Erin Redden  
Joe & Libba Russell  
Brian Schwartz  
Donna Sharp  
Steve & Julia Slater  
Chris & Patty Slembariski  
Mike & Lynn Smith  
Bobsie Swift  
Katie Underwood  
Julie Van Meter & Fred Romanus  
Garrett & Timothy Vance  
Ronald Veasey  
Tom & Sherry Wade  
Jonathan Walz  
Dan & Stefania Wilcox  
Ron & Susan Wirt



