

UNDERSTANDING OUR FINANCE REPORTS

Your pledges and gifts support all St. Thomas ministries.

In 2023, the congregation gave generously to support our work together. Pledges and contributions exceeded what we had budgeted.

Thank you!

Other income includes reimbursements by groups using our campus, transfers from designated funds, and support from our two endowment funds.

Endowment draws for 2023 were 4% of the average of the total value of the funds over the past three years. Funds are managed by Truist in their non-profits division. We budgeted a 4% draw for 2024 and will receive that income quarterly. In addition, we budgeted an additional 1% draw from the Wilkins Endowment and 1% from the Baird Property Endowment to have available for financing costs if needed for our Vision Campaign.

The increase in **Admin and Payroll** for 2024 reflects a cost of living raise for most staff, adjustments based on a review of salaries by vestry, increases in health care costs, a 25 hour per week children's position, and the addition of a part-time office position in 2024.

Expenses for Christian Formation, Parish Life, Evangelism, Flowers, and Music are tallied in the operating account. Income from these programs (special donations, book purchases, activity fees, meals, softball jerseys, etc.) is reflected in other income.

Our **Diocesan pledge** is tallied by the Diocesan Office based on 10% of three prior years of operating income. St. Thomas plays our part in supporting the work of our bishop and staff, diocesan youth ministries, community ministries like CVEM, and Camp Mikell.

The **Outreach budget** is based on 10% of the total of budgeted pledges minus our diocesan pledge. As pledges increase, our Outreach budget increases! **Outreach collections** are additional gifts from St. Thomas members.

The **Designated Account** includes funds held in reserve, the capital reserve fund, special gifts for restricted use, and gifts given for use at the vestry's discretion.

In addition to supporting our ongoing ministries, St. Thomas parishioners also made generous gifts and pledges to our **Making Room for All Vision Campaign**.

Thank you for supporting the work of St. Thomas now and in the years to come!

ST. THOMAS FINANCES 2023-2024

OPERATING ACCOUNT	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
REVENUE			
Contribution Income	679,964.00	696,111.63	746,132.00
Other Income	236,326.00	227,564.50	316,432.00
TOTAL REVENUE	916,290.00	923,676.13	1,062,564.00

OPERATING ACCOUNT	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
EXPENSES			
Admin/Payroll/Benefits	606,788.70	600,945.83	665,248.00
Christian Education	10,750.00	12,653.75	14,000.00
Diocesan Pledge & Exps	66,352.00	66,397.07	71,840.00
Evangelism	4,250.00	5,063.50	4,500.00
Outreach	52,839.30	52,839.30	57,500.80
Parish Life	18,000.00	16,737.50	13,000.00
Cap.Imprvmnts Financing	0.00	0.00	73,360.00
Properties	112,000.00	118,696.29	117,726.00
Capital Reserve	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Stewardship	2,000.00	1,913.64	2,000.00
Music	19,310.00	24,075.95	19,310.00
Worship	12,000.00	12,353.30	12,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	916,290.00	923,676.13	1,062,484.80

DESIGNATED ACCOUNT	2023 Actual
Beginning Balance	486,838.55
Revenue	1,671,275.13
Expenses (inc.trnsfrs to CDs)	(1,940,629.28)
12/31/23 Cash Balance	217,484.40

VISION CAMPAIGN	
Total Gifts/Pledges	2,949,402.00
Total Cash on hand	1,183,810.00

ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS	Jan.1 Balance	Dec.31 Balance
Unrestricted (Wilkins)	2,031,316.52	2,122,317.30
Restricted (Baird)	529,110.55	580,304.03
ESG	0.00	108,477.83

Outreach Collections	
African Mission	11,450.00
Brewer Elementary	4,000.00
CVEM	7,719.25
Rector's Benevolence	3,420.00
WNN	5,049.00
Total	31,638.25

2023 Summary Report



FROM THE RECTOR

Loving Every Person. Making Room for All. These words describe St. Thomas in 2023 so well.

We lived even more fully into our commitment to Love Every Person. Service to others. Vibrant outreach partnerships. Pastoral care and fellowship. Lots of learning together. A new Campus Ministry. Inspiring worship.

We also invested time and energy in our *Making Room for All* Vision. Many new members. A more welcoming entrance created by the Swift Garden Trail. Dedicated work to refine the design of for an accessible nave and parking. Meetings in homes in support of the Vision.

It all goes together. We are *Making Room for All* because we are committed to *Loving Every Person*.

Some of the many accomplishments of 2023 are outlined here. More are described in more detail in the long version of the Annual Report, available on our website. As you read either version, give thanks to God for the privilege of sharing in God's work of *Loving Every Person* and *Making Room for All*.

Blessings,
Rev. Grace

LOVING EVERY PERSON



We celebrated the beginning of Rick McKnight's 20th year as Organist and Director of Music at St. Thomas.



Rev. Grace and Rev. Adrian Chester of Greater Beallwood Baptist exchanged pulpits for a day!



CVEM Striving for Justice explored anti-Semitism, care for the environment, and the Community Remembrance Project of the Equal Justice Initiative.



Rev. Roxane and faithful musicians launched our Contemplative Healing Eucharist.



Creation Keepers hosted a Clean Energy Summit and a Green Team Summit, with help from local partners, inviting leaders from many faith communities to love people by caring for the environment.



Our annual yard sale raised \$7,211.93 for CVEM.



Five Boxwood soccer teams played their hearts out, won several state and local championships, and learned more about teamwork and friendship.



Journey Groups explored This We Believe (the Nicene Creed), Liturgical Life Principles, and Manna & Mercy.



Our Summer of Service introduced us to more outreach in our community – Feeding the Valley, Direct Services, Stewart Community Home, Safehouse Ministries, & more.



We shared "God Made You FABULOUS" and other stickers at the COLGAY Pride Festival.



Episcokids celebrated Living into God's Dream at summer VBS – our last VBS with Mrs. Erin before she began a new ministry as a high school principal.



St. Thomas Youth participated in a week of Joyful Justice with CROSS Missions in Charlotte, NC.



We added Brewer Buddy Packs to the robust work of our school partnership, sending meals home with 80 students each week.



St. Thomas Day School refreshed the main hallway and playgrounds to welcome young students and inspire joyful learning.



A new Tween Time Sunday School class gathered teens and tweens for study of the scriptures and community-building.



Rev. Cindy Cox Garrard led a weekly women's lectionary Bible study, with 25 to 30 women from across the community.



Our softball team finished in 4th place in the church league tournament.



A new Episcopal Campus Ministry, in partnership with the Diocese of Atlanta, created a safe space for college-age young people to grow in faith.



We partnered with StoryCorp to launch One Small Step in Columbus.



St. Thomas Readers Book Group thanked Sonya Boyd for 18 years of dedicated leadership and reorganized to continue gathering together.



Rev. Roxane led an inspiring youth and young adult confirmation class.



We welcomed the Duarte family to Columbus, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee.



Advent lunches focused on Promise and Hope in the Promised Land.



The St. Thomas Kitchen served over 2300 meals and supported fellowship and life together.



24 parishioners sent cards and messages to parishioners less able to gather in person – an extension of our pastoral care.



Wynnton Neighborhood Network Food Pantry served 19,681 people, up 30% from 2022.



Vestry and Endowment Committee opened an ESG fund within our portfolio to diversify assets and reflect our values.



Excursions (River Dragons, Hansel & Gretel, Goodwill Industries, Tootsie, & more) created ways to build relationships, have fun, and learn together.

MAKING ROOM FOR ALL



Average Sunday Attendance at St. Thomas grew from 179 in 2022 to 281 in 2023.



St. Thomas hosted our Convocational Confirmation Service in January.



Worship teams added new members: Altar Guild, Lectors, LEMs, Ushers, Vergers. We are grateful for your service!



St. Thomas Choir welcomed many new members, Nathan Smock & Michelle Folta provided incredible leadership while Rick was out on medical leave.



A new worship brochure enhanced our welcome and provided an orientation to our worship traditions.



Our Welcome Committee followed up with over 130 visiting households.



Children's Chapel moved back to the Chapel!



We welcomed the Veterans Memorial Middle School Choir, Rainey-McCullers Choir and Jazz Band, and Schwob Singers to worship and special events.



The Swift Memorial Garden Trail and refreshed labyrinth created an inviting park-like entrance to our campus.



Monthly work days helped care for our grounds and buildings and provided opportunities to serve together.



The Men's group cooked 300+ hotdogs for a record crowd at Trunk or Treat.



Our Construction Committee and Vestry selected Batson-Cook as our General Contractor for our *Making Room for All* Vision project.



The Design Committee finalized architectural and interior design for the project.



Our Fundraising Committee led both an annual pledge campaign & a capital campaign, and the congregation responded generously.



19 parishioners hosted meetings in their homes to invite support for the Capital Campaign.



Many, many parishioners took part in many, many meetings in preparation for Making Room for All.



The Property Committee managed several projects to create a welcoming environment – kitchen remodel (after a Christmas Eve flood), routine maintenance to our Nave Windows, Day School Breezeway Roof, and new roof on the robing hallway.