



2018 Annual Reports



Christ Church Charlotte
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Christ Church Charlotte

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Our Mission

To engage, equip, and empower people to love God, care for each other and serve the world in the name of Christ.

Our Vision

We aspire to be Christ's Church in the world.

Our Core Values

We are a Christ-centered Episcopal Church rooted in scripture, tradition and reason; respectful of and strengthened by our differences. We are committed to being a loving community of support and spiritual growth; being faithful stewards of God's many blessings; and using God's gifts to serve the needs of our community and world.

We are inspired by the belief that with God's help we will accomplish whatever God calls us to do.

(Adopted by the Vestry, 2007)

2018 VESTRY

Amelia Abbott
Bird Anderson
Nikki DeVillers
Bob Dooley
Hooper Hardison
Frank Horne
Alex Kelly
David Kern

Jeanne Kutrow
Carol Lorenz
Sally Mitchener
Burch Mixon
Norfleet Pruden
Jane Showalter
Melissa Tolmie
Dick Parkhurst

RECTOR'S REPORT

By The Reverend Chip Edens

This year has been a remarkable time of renewed energy and beginnings. Last spring a committee of leaders, co-chaired by Hooper Hardison and Carol Lorenz, commissioned by the Vestry, engaged in a discernment process to set priorities for the next five years. Out of this work came the Faith and Courage Initiative, with the following priorities:

- **Enrich Worship Experiences.** This priority invites the parish to discover and rediscover, through education and experiences, the riches of our traditions of music and liturgy, while also looking for new approaches to worship that inspire and challenge us.
- **Cultivate Christian Formation.** This priority charges us to deepen Christian formation for all ages, with an emphasis on Bible study, basics of faith, prayer, and other classical traditions. We will also work to strengthen existing programs, like the Faith Forum, that reach thousands of people in Charlotte and around the world.
- **Practice Wellness and Support.** This priority invites us not only to think about how we care for people in times of need, but also to engage in prevention and early forms of intervention in key areas of wellness, with a particular focus on mental health. We envision new educational programming as well as a new staff member with specialized medical/wellness training who can assist our clergy team as we care for people.
- **Nurture a Connected Community.** This priority invites us to consider the challenges of being a large church in an era when virtual connections create both opportunities and barriers for human relationships. We affirm the church's role in forming and facilitating deep relationships across all generations, and seek out ways to do that better.
- **Build Diverse Relationships.** This priority charges us to take seriously our need to operate in partnership with other churches, traditions, and organizations. While we are aware of our deep resources, we also acknowledge there is much we do not know and much we can learn and accomplish with diverse partners who bring vital wisdom and resourcefulness to the great challenges we must address together.
- **Work for a Just Community.** This priority invites us to go further in the work Christ Church has long embraced: making our city and world a place where all people flourish. We are aware of the deep inequalities and complex history of our city. We are committed to the work of learning, building bridges, and addressing systemic problems that perpetuate the cycle of poverty. We have made significant impacts in affordable housing, education, workforce development, and other key issues that affect economic mobility. We look forward to learning with our partners how we can solidify those gains and continue to make a lasting difference.

These priorities will require just what this initiative asks of us: faith and courage. Yet, we know this is the work of the gospel. This work invites us to have important conversations, to listen to one another and others, and ultimately, to act in a manner faithful to Christ at this moment in our collective history. We look forward to all the moments to come, as we know God not only calls us but also empowers us to do this sacred work.

Thank you for your faithful, courageous commitment to Christ Church.

With deep affection,



ASSOCIATE RECTORS

The Reverend Joshua Case

What a great second year as an associate at Christ Church! It's been so amazing in the last 12 months to grow deeper in my understanding and experience of Christ Church as a spiritual home. During these last months, it's been a holy privilege to continue to pastorally know the community and to empower work with the very talented staff at Christ Church. A few highlights from 2018 include walking the Camino to Santiago with Pilgrims from our parish, working with the staff and Rector to dream about the possibilities of the Faith and Courage Initiative, and the piloting of new resources for child, teen and parent thriving. As 2019 kicks off, I look forward to continuing to see families grow in their practice of spiritual thriving and look forward to engaging in my new work with our Liturgy and Worship Commission. It is a real honor to follow in the legacy of the Reverend Canon Marty Hedgpeth in this way. During the course of this year, my family has continued to transition well to life in Charlotte, with both kids enjoying the community and experience of Christ Church Kindergarten and Preschool.

The Reverend Matt Holcombe

2018 was a year filled with growth, grace, inspiration, and transformation. As the clergy support for Spiritual Growth, Adult Spiritual Formation, and Christ Church Kindergarten & Preschool, I continue to be inspired by the faithful dedication and enthusiasm of parishioners that call our community their spiritual home. Working with adults and the youngest amongst us, I enjoy the variety of experiencing days filled with challenging theological questions, laughter, and growth with both children and adults alike.

With the launch of two new in-depth ministries, "The Good Book Beginning to End" and "Christian Essentials: Living a Christ-centered life," we expanded our already extensive menu of high-quality adult formation offerings which are among the best in our denomination. These new programs were launched while continuing to support and facilitate multiple Bible Studies, EfM Classes, Communication Skills Training offerings, focused Wednesday night classes, Confirmation and Inquirers classes, retreats, and our popular Faith Forum speakers series. None of these classes and offerings would be possible without the commitment and giftedness of Jenny Beaumont, Director of Adult Spiritual Formation, and Patricia Hamilton, Program & Administrative Support for Adult Formation.

In 2018 I had the opportunity to lead two Christ Church Pilgrimages - Scotland and Ireland in April then to Montgomery and Selma, Alabama, in October. Both were fantastic experiences and life changing in two completely different ways. The pilgrimage to Alabama brought with it new opportunities for education around various social justice issues, which has been met with great enthusiasm and participation. With the retirement of The Rev. Marty Hedgpeth, I also had the privilege of supporting the expansive network of Outreach & Mission with Josiah Daniels and Laura Kontizer for a period until a new Associate arrives in the first quarter of 2019.

I am blessed to work with colleagues, staff, parishioners, and community leaders that are changing lives and helping people of all ages to grow in their relationship with God, their neighbors, the world, and even themselves. In the coming year, I look forward to continuing to learn, apply, and build my faith and seeing what God has planned for your life, my life, and Christ Church. Thank you for affording me the privilege to serve God (and you) in such a faithful and courageous community.

The Reverend Lisa Saunders

I continue to marvel at how invigorating and different each day at Christ Church can still be after 31 years here. I

love our staff and the collegiality of the clergy. We miss Marty Hedgpeth terribly but wish her well on retirement.

This year the Wellness Commission was initiated to look for ways to engage, equip and empower parishioners with tools and support to increase and maintain wellness of body, mind, soul and relationships. In a Faith Forum, I interviewed Dr. Matthew Stanford from the Hope and Healing Institute in Houston.

A new monthly support group for caregivers and family members of those with dementia was also started.

As part of the 75th anniversary of Christ Church, I helped produce a video chronicling the Christ Church history. Rick Fitts did an amazing job as filmmaker and film editor, and Matt Holcombe narrated beautifully the script I wrote for the video. It was a labor of love to see it completed and sharing it with the congregation. A special viewing was made at Southminster in the fall.

Last November I published a memoir entitled *Even at the Grave*, which has led to several speaking opportunities in the city and out of town. At Southminster, I particularly enjoyed leading a six-week study of the book and the topics in it, like racism, mental illness, grief and being a working parent. The book recounts many stories and experiences I have had as a priest at Christ Church and the many wonderful people at Christ Church whose courage and heart in the face of loss have inspired me again and again. Proceeds from the book have brought over \$12,000 to the Good News Shop to support ministries for women and children.

The year included continued involvement in several education offerings such as the Women's Bible Study, the Living with Grief and Hope course and the weekly "Bodybuilders" class. It was a year of plenty of milestones as well. I officiated at 27 funerals and 8 weddings, and baptized a dozen children.

The hiring of Jennifer Hamm proved to be a very good thing for Christ Church. She is a pleasure to have as my colleague providing support for me, our Rector and Congregational Care.

The Reverend Patty Rhyne

Together with Kathryn Saunders, Ainslie Wall, the Parish Life Commission chaired by Alison Guggenheim and the Hospitality Committee chaired by Natalie Akin, I am privileged to do ministry in this part of God's vineyard to create an intentionally welcoming and warm environment for all who come to our church.

The Young Adult group has grown steadily this year. We currently have over 300 young adults on our email and newsletter list. We have continued our Young Adult Sunday school class and Young Adult Women's book/Bible study along with our social events and outreach opportunities such as Room in the Inn, the Habitat build and Serve-a-bration.

The Vestry continued to support the Young Adult Leadership Initiative with the help of our Vestry liaison, Amelia Abbott. This initiative encourages young adults to deepen their faith and learn more about Christ Church through mentor groups and education classes led by Chip Edens. Our young adults continue to inspire and encourage me.

The Sages enjoyed another year of educational and fellowship opportunities. We continued the monthly Coffee and Conversation offerings which meet the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM. With the help of volunteer Lynne McAdams, the Sages have a program once a month along with a Christmas Luncheon. The ECW hosted a Tea for the Sages women that was a fun and successful event.

I served as the clergy liaison to the 75th Anniversary Present Committee. This committee was busy planning for the incredible 75th Celebration activities and parish party we had on Friday, April 13. It was a glorious evening, and the committee's hard work under the leadership of Margaret Williams and Nikki DeVillers showed in every aspect of the evening.

Christ Church is an incredible place to do ministry. I am beyond blessed to be in this part of God's vineyard and to work with a generous, gifted, fun, and caring staff and parish.

Thank you for the privilege of serving in this place!

SENIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Frank Horne Jr.

At our Vestry Retreat at the beginning of the year, the Vestry identified four goals for Christ Church for 2018. They were:

- Generosity – Engage all members of the Church as we continue to teach, preach, celebrate and model generosity in all things, including personal financial stewardship, as we move from generosity as an annual campaign to generosity as a year-round ministry.
- 75th Anniversary – Commemorate the 75th anniversary of Christ Church by remembering our past, celebrating our present, and visioning our future.
- Leadership and Engagement – Continue to develop our leadership program for Young Adults and Christ Church Core and engage graduates of these programs into the ministries of Christ Church. Develop a culture of engagement and welcoming for all parishioners throughout the ministries of the Church.
- Sanctuary and Campus Review – By mid-2018 complete a comprehensive review of all facilities and physical plant with specific emphasis on the needs of the sanctuary, given the current roofing situation. Additionally, during 2018 complete a comprehensive study for the physical plant and campus of Christ Church to plan for the future replacement cost needs for depreciating assets.

I am pleased to report we have made excellent progress this year in pursuing all of these goals.

In pursuit of the Generosity goal in late 2017 we hired Sarah Eysen as the Director of Development, which allowed Kimberly Mize to move over and focus on the Christ Church Foundation and the Oak Circle planned giving effort. Additionally, we reinstated the Stewardship Commission in support of this year's Stewardship effort which is being ably led by Jane and Carrington Coulter.

This year we celebrated our 75th Anniversary! Where we remembered our past, celebrated our present and renewed our vision. What a great year! Supported by clergy, over 40 parishioners helped plan and host many events culminating with our Celebration Dinner on April 13, 2018. Additionally, the Vestry approved the six proposed guiding priorities for the future to form the base of our Faith & Courage Initiative.

We are continuing to build our next group of Christ Church Leadership. Our Core initiative continues, and we had twelve participants and eight dinners together where a member of the staff and/or clergy attended each dinner. Our Young Adult Leadership Initiative had three large dinners at church with roughly 60 attendees at the first two. We also hosted small outreach projects with mentor/mentee groups and had a few other small group gatherings. Additionally we continue to build our leadership through our 12 commissions with the participation of over 150 parishioners.

Importantly we completed a reserve study using an outside consulting group. A reserve study looks at all of the capital assets at the Church and estimates when we will need to replace each item and the estimated cost over a 30 year time horizon. This will greatly help future Vestries in their planning. We also replaced the slate roof on the Sanctuary as well as the roof on the Chapel and Sacristy.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work with our very talented Vestry, staff and clergy this year as your Senior Warden. Thank you for this opportunity, and I am excited to continue to participate with you and the rest of the parish in the future growth and exciting opportunities here at our Spiritual Home.

JUNIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Burch Mixon

Christ Church has been blessed with a wonderful physical plant that was built by the many generous members of the parish who came before us. One of the key goals for the Vestry this year was to conduct an audit of our facilities so that we could become more proactive versus reactive in maintaining our physical plant. I am very happy to report that the audit was completed this summer, the Vestry reviewed the results and the audit is being used to plan budgets and action items for 2019 and beyond.

In addition to the audit, the major undertaking for the year was the repair/replacement of the roof on the Sanctuary and Sacristy. This meant that all the slate tiles and underlayment were removed. New underlayment installed, old (and new matching) tiles were put back in place along with all new copper flashing and a new copper roof on the Sacristy. I sincerely hope that none of you noticed that this work went on over the summer, because I think our roofing contractor did an excellent job of keeping our campus clean and minimizing disruption to our normal operations.

Other items completed or begun this year:

- A Security Audit of our campus was completed in conjunction with CCK. A committee has been established and is working on implementation of many of the consultant's recommendations.
- Roof repairs were also made to M207 and the hallway between All Saints' Hall and the church offices.
- A new phone and internet system was installed during the third quarter of the year.
- Repairs and improvements to the duplexes on our campus were started in the fourth quarter.
- Repair of the bell in the bell tower was completed.
- New cubicles were installed in the workroom, allowing improved and expanded workspaces
- New signage was installed on campus
- A committee was formed to assess the ability of our current organ to support the breadth and depth of our music program going forward. Initial assessments tell us that we need to do some maintenance work on the organ, and the committee is defining next steps at this point.

All this work (plus many more general operating and maintenance items) were completed with the tireless and ever cheerful leadership of Wendy Mauney and Jason Scofield. Truly, we could not operate without them. In addition, they are supported by our wonderful team of sextons: Clayton Pride, Nikki Rushing and Greg Young. We thank you all for your support and leadership that allows Christ Church to be our Spiritual Home.

TREASURER

Submitted by Dick Parkhurst

Summarized below are the financial results for the past three years along with the budget for 2018. Annual receipts increased nearly 7% in 2017 exceeding budget by roughly \$50,000, driven largely by increases in unpledged gifts. For 2018, our budget calls for a 2.5% increase in receipts reflecting a 4% increase in annual pledges and a slightly more conservative expectation for non-pledged gifts. The budgeted increase in receipts will support normal inflation, increased allocations to outreach and property maintenance, absorption of Leap of Faith programming within the operating budget, as well as continued transition among our staff.

	2015 Actual		2016 Actual		2017 Actual		2018 Budget	
Operating Receipts	4,499,328		4,424,942		4,725,890		4,841,675	
Personnel & Admin	3,057,469	68.3%	2,879,760	66.8%	3,006,107	66.5%	3,270,924	67.6%
Diocese of NC	490,553	11.0%	486,282	11.3%	497,402	11.0%	490,251	10.1%
Buildings and Grounds	318,973	7.1%	301,031	7.0%	316,247	7.0%	350,000	7.2%
Outreach	346,032	7.7%	346,027	8.0%	370,000	8.2%	400,000	8.3%
Programs	263,063	5.9%	297,978	6.9%	332,416	7.4%	330,500	6.8%
Operating Expenses	4,476,090		4,311,078		4,522,172		4,841,675	
Annual Surplus	23,238		113,864		203,717		-	
Use of Surplus	(74,011)		(151,954)		(106,227)		(85,000)	
Accumulated Surplus	286,675		248,585		346,076		261,076	

For 2017, receipts exceeded budget by roughly \$50,000, driven largely by above-plan receipts of unpledged gifts, totaling \$233,000 for the year. Total expenses were held well inside of budget due primarily to positive variances in personnel expenses and solid management of overall program spending. As a result, we recorded an operating surplus of more than \$203,000. During the year, the Vestry approved the use of approximately \$106,000 of this surplus to replenish our property reserve and support areas of need outside of the operating budget. The remainder of the annual surplus contributed to the unrestricted surplus balance of \$346,000 available for future needs. As reflected above, the vestry approved an additional \$85,000 of surplus for needs outside the operating budget in 2018, including an additional \$40,000 to the property reserve.

Based on our results through October, I expect expenses will finish 2018 in line with our budget while overall results will depend on December receipts that typically account for approximately 25% of full year revenues. If pledges are fulfilled by year-end, I anticipate we will meet our balanced budget objective with the possibility of another surplus.

With an ongoing commitment to stewardship and the dedication of our staff and volunteers, Christ Church remains in solid financial shape. Our continuing challenge is the growth in our parish and the demand it places on our staff and facilities. With a continued and growing commitment to stewardship, I remain confident that our parish will meet the call as we live into our mission to Love God, Care for Each Other and Serve the World.

It is an honor to serve as your treasurer. Special thanks go to Wendy Mauney, Jo Ann Linker and Jennifer Stewart for their daily efforts in tending to the financial matters of our parish.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Submitted by The Reverend Matt Holcombe and Jenny Beaumont

In 2018, Adult Spiritual Formation provided opportunities for people to explore, grow and deepen their faith and their spiritual life. We sought to meet people where they are in their life and offer a variety of transformational learning opportunities.

On Sunday mornings and through weekly classes, we explored some of topics at the heart of our faith with several short series and offerings:

THE LIVING JESUS – A Lenten Series, led by Christ Church clergy, focused on the important roles lived out by Jesus as he walked among us.

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY – A three-part series that explored what it meant to be a human family – a beloved community – amidst the great diversity of our city and nation; and how do we make sure we are growing together in understanding, relationship and collaboration, and not apart. We welcomed Rabbi Judy Schindler, The Reverend Rodney Sadler and Imam Atif Chaudhry as we addressed some of the great issues of our day.

RACE IN AMERICA – Offered on Wednesday evening, this three-week series, led by The Reverend Rodney Sadler, examined the past, present and future of race in America.

ONE GOD, THREE FAITHS: JUDAISM, ISLAM, & CHRISTIANITY – Held in the fall of 2018 and led by Imam Atif Chaudhry, The Reverend Matt Holcombe, and Rabbi Judy Schindler

DISCIPLESHIP MATTERS CONFERENCE – Christ Church Charlotte hosted the 2018 Discipleship Matters Conference, sponsored by Forward Movement and Renewal Works. This national conference explored Christian formation for disciples, scripture engagement, habits of daily prayer, serving the poor, and sharing the Good News. Bishop Sam Rodman, Bishop of North Carolina; and Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple, Suffragan Bishop of North Carolina, spoke about why discipleship matters at special Faith Forums during the conference.

Below is a selection of our classes, pilgrimages and formation groups for 2018.

Pilgrimages – Thirty-one adults experienced a moving Legacy & Justice Pilgrimage to Montgomery, Alabama (October 25 - 28, 2018), and 30 people furthered their faith journey by participating in the Celtic Christianity pilgrimage to Scotland and Ireland (April 19 - 29, 2018).

Lenten Devotion Book – Reaching over 1,000 people, the 50 writers from our parish contributed to the Lenten Devotion Book organized and published by the Adult Formation Commission. Over 600 copies were distributed and over 150 copies were downloaded via the website. The book included writings from new members, youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, commission and vestry members, lay readers, and ushers. Writers were also young adults, band and choir members, Habitat builders, Communication Skills Training facilitators, Bible study participants, care team members, sages, EfMers, adult confirmands and Connect Class mentors.

Christian Essentials Launch – The Christian Essentials program, designed and written by Christ Church parishioners, along with the Reverend Matt Holcombe, launched in February 2018 with three groups and continued into the spring with two additional groups. This fall two new groups launched to provide opportunities for people to explore, grow and deepen their faith journey in a small group experience. Fifteen facilitators were trained for the new program.

Communication Skills Training – Living a Christ centered life in many ways begins with our personal relationships. CST is a course that gives parishioners and members of the broader community concrete tools to deeper and improve their relationships. 2018 brought Makeda Pennycooke and Alice deVries, as new facilitators of CST, to join Mary Davis Smart and Jenny Beaumont in offering 11 classes and teaching 160 people the finer arts of communicating at work, home and in the community.

Education for Ministry – As we grow in our spiritual formation, questions about meaning, purpose and how to

integrate our faith into our lives. EfM is a four-year course that gives participants a framework to see their lives through the lens of faith and offers a community of people with whom to learn and grow. At Christ Church, we offer four EfM groups, with over 40 people, that are mentored by Lois Ann Partridge, Tere Ey, Jenny Beaumont, Alice deVries and Jennifer Bennett.

Adult Confirmation and Inquirer's class – Whether to learn more about our faith, to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation or to recommit to the spiritual life, Adult Confirmation and Inquirers class gives participants the opportunity to learn about the major aspects of our faith tradition. In 2018, thirty people were confirmed, reaffirmed or received during the confirmation service on June 3, 2018.

Christ Church Women's Bible Study – Each Thursday morning over 100 women of all ages gathered to learn about the Bible and to grow closer to God and each other. The group studied the letter to the Ephesians in the winter and spring and the Gospel of Matthew in the fall. Grace Fogg, the leader of CCWBS, along with fourteen small group leaders, provided leadership, direction and inspiration to the group each week.

The Daring Way – Susan Campbell, a clinical psychologist, led the fall offering of the Daring Way class, which helped people learn how to show up, be seen, and live braver lives. The class focused on developing shame resilience skills and developing daily practices that transform the way we live, love, and lead.

Men's Ministries – Led by a team of parishioners, Men's Ministry launched several new initiatives aimed to help men engage more deeply in their Christian faith through fellowship, spiritual learning, and community outreach. Offerings included the Men's Retreat, Men's Ministry Kickoff with Chad Williams, Reading Between the Lines Men's Bible Study and Men's Big Breakfast. In the fall, the team launched Living Big which was designed to help two-man teams support one another in filling up the important "buckets" of faith, family, vocation and other critical areas for a fuller, richer life.

Adult Formation Commission Members: Linda Bomar, Katharine Cheek, Craig Cmiel, Joyce Cmiel, Patricia Hamilton, Shawn King, Makeda Pennycooke, Grace Fogg, Doug Mays, Carol Lorenz – Vestry, The Reverend Matt Holcombe – clergy, Jenny Beaumont – staff.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Submitted by Lindsay Masi, Alice deVries, and Betsy Parkhurst

It has been a year of faith filled spiritual growth and courageous engagement for Christ Church youth and families.

With Alice deVries at the helm of our High School Youth Council and Life Group, both have focused on spiritual practices such as listening and silence and learning how to hear God's voice in stillness. These practices have helped the over 60 students engaged with our Council to give leadership and direction to youth events throughout the year and with providing pastoral support to one another during times of need.

During the course of 2018 over 400 teens and parents participated in our monthly dinner and dialogue events called Faith Talks. These events give families spiritual practices for use at home or on the go. In late spring we confirmed 82 new teens on their journey with Christ. We are so thankful to the countless teachers and mentors who accompanied them on this journey. Likewise, we had numerous seventh grade families take the first step in their journey to adulthood with our Rite 13 liturgies.

The annual Christ Church Chili Challenge raised more than \$11,000 to help boost our capacity to offer pilgrimage to our 31 pilgrims and leaders who walked the Camino de Santiago. With the leadership of the Reverend Joshua Case, Laura Case, Chris and Jeff Weiss, Anne Schmitt, and Mark Riopel, our pilgrims explored their own spiritual journeys and walked more than 125 kilometers.

Sunday morning formation and Sunday evening EYC continue to be meaningful places for youth and families. In 2018 we continued to see good participation in sixth through tenth grades. We have piloted new offerings to engage not only our 11th – 12th graders but also parents with children of all ages with our new Parenting with Faith and Courage class.

Our Youth Commission spent time this year allowing the questions of faith and courage to shape our ministry. One of the chief goals remains the cultivation of communication strategies for parents and families that are relevant and easy to use. We are looking forward to piloting a new app that will address the busy lives of families and assist them in keeping track of our many offerings.

Finally, each week, our Children, Youth, and Family Ministry team meets to focus on programming in a way that meets all families' needs. With the leadership of Lindsay Masi in her new role as Director of CYFM, and the organizational skills of our administrative assistant Betsy Parkhurst, we look forward to continuing to collaborate and innovate in the years to come.

We are grateful to the incredible group of adult volunteers that embrace the youth of the church. Specifically our Youth Commission who continue to be our biggest cheerleaders: Bird Anderson (Vestry liaison), Nancy Blackman, Leigh Bowles, Nancy Cassels, Caroline Coffron, Emily Cooper, Ginger Garner (acolyte liaison), Kim Gordon, Whitley Hamlin, Ralph Hunter, Henry Ijams (Chair), Clem McDavid, Cindy Nicholson, Jim Thorp (acolyte liaison), Kent Walker, Neale Walton, Charlotte Wickham, and Katie Zeck. May God continue to help prepare the future generations of the church to be faithful and courageous!

With appreciation and anticipation for the year to come,

Lindsay Masi, Alice deVries, and Betsy Parkhurst

CHILDREN & FAMILY

Submitted by Lindsay Masi, Emily Kalmbach, and Sarah Ford

We have had a year of growth in Children's Ministry at Christ Church. In January we set goals in three main areas: Welcoming New Families, Safety and Policy, and Parents as the Primary Spiritual Caregivers.

- Our commission has been working with Kathryn Saunders, Director of Newcomers and Parish Life, to identify new families with children birth – 5th grade. Our Welcome Wagon subcommittee received a quarterly list that allowed them to reach out as needed to new families and invite them to worship and other programming.
- We are working with a safety and security team made up of Vestry members, CCK board members, and staff on updating our security around the church so that our parishioners are safe on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. We have also taken an extra step to ensure that all 110 of our children's Sunday School leaders have met the minimum requirement of taking a level one Safe Church Training.
- In the fall we started a new parenting class, Parenting with Faith and Courage, which meets on Sunday mornings during the formation hour. This special class offers a space for parents with children of all ages to come together to discuss relevant topics and to implement our theme of exploring Faith and Courage. We continue to have heavy attendance and insightful conversation.

In addition to working on these goals we have continued the following practices within our children's ministry to keep it thriving:

- Under the leadership of Sarah Ford we have gathered for Large Group Sunday School experiences twice a semester, allowing multi-age groups to come together in one space to learn, play, and worship together. Also under Sarah's leadership, our fourth-fifth grade Navigators group continues to thrive exploring themes of faith and courage.
- This year we had over 260 children, teens, and adults join us each day for our yearly VBS experience. It was another great year thanks to co-chairs Brittany Luther and Catrina Restelli.
- We continue to explore Sunday morning curriculum options that will inspire children with the narratives which will encourage lives of faith and courage for years to come.
- Each week, the Children's ministry team meets with the youth ministry team to focus our programming in a way that meets all families' needs. With the leadership of Lindsay Masi in her new role as Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, the creativity and energy of Sarah Ford as Assistant Director, and the organizational skills of our administrative assistant Emily Kalmbach, we look forward to continuing to engage, equip and empower families for years to come.

Our biggest thank you goes to our children's ministry commission members who are our biggest cheerleaders: Kim Ball, Spencer Buchanan, Cindy Costa, Nikki DeVillers (Vestry Liaison), Jannell Dunaway, Carolyn Giammarinaro (Nursery Liaison), Matt Gordon, Matt Kain, Brittany Luther, Brooke Myer, Billy Morton, Gray Setaro, Whitney Smith, Anne Tobin, and Sally Wyche (chair).

With a grateful heart for all of your generosity,

Lindsay Masi, Emily Kalmbach, and Sarah Ford

CHRIST CHURCH KINDERGARTEN

Submitted by Kelly Coley

Christ Church Preschool and Kindergarten (CCK) is a daily mission of Christ Church. The 228 children that are attending our preschool this year are experiencing an amazing and enriching early childhood education. We are fortunate to be able to share in community and relationships with the children and families of CCK. Our mission is to cultivate our children's unique gifts and talents to inspire lives of learning, serving others and loving God. We seek to inspire children to become life-long learners in a faith-based environment.

CCK's enriching, hands-on curriculum focuses on developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for our children to create, explore and learn in a loving, supportive environment. All-School Chapel, held once a month, is an opportunity for us to come together as a school community in All Saints' Hall to share and learn about God's love through stories, prayer and song. We are grateful to share this experience with Christ Church clergy and staff as they lead the service each month. Parents and family members are invited to join from the All Saints' Hall balcony. Our Four year-old and Kindergarten classes also participate in weekly Chapel with the clergy in the Chapel located beside the sanctuary. Our school-wide service projects, in the fall and spring, give our children and families the opportunity to practice giving to others who are in need in the Charlotte area.

CCK is very fortunate to have an amazing staff that is dedicated to early childhood education. The variety of special classes that enhance our curriculum include Christian Education/Godly Play, Music, Learning Center, Science Lab, Creative Movement and My Gym.

CCK has employed the services of off-duty CMPD police officers to be on campus during the school day. The officers provide extra security and have become a part of our school community.

CCK is governed by a Board of Directors, which meet monthly.

Board of Directors: Allye Lavins (Chair), Allison Popp (Chair-Elect), Matt Holcombe (Clergy Representative), Alex Kelly, (Vestry Representative), Chris Withers (Treasurer), Graham Hunt (Treasurer-Elect), Allison Neilsen (Teacher Representative), Sloan Crawford (Parent Representative), Haley Cheek, Sarah Kain, Catherine Kugajevksy, Clay Morrell, Rett Turner, Campbell Walker, Laura Viccellio, Monica Williamson, Meredith Sorrell (Assistant Head of School), Kelly Coley (Head of School)

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Submitted by Ginny Cobb

“The ECW is the inclusive circle of all women at Christ Church Charlotte”

The mission of the ECW is to provide a spiritual community through fellowship, service to others, and outreach to the women of Christ Church. Additionally, through our mission funding, ECW funds outreach programs that support women and children who are at risk both domestically and abroad.

Connecting Generations, Celebrating Women has been the ongoing theme of the ECW in 2018. Given that our church has celebrated 75 years of existence, we focused on finding our roots and embraced time with each other – both the young, the young at heart, and every woman in between.

In keeping with our theme, in February, we connected approximately 130 women at the annual Friendship Feast; where we were inspired by the lovely and engaging Sonja Nichols who wove the deeply meaningful story of Ruth into our multi-generational audience.

Our retreat took place in April at the North Carolina mountain retreat, Kanuga. Led by Lisa Saunders and several parishioners, our souls were refreshed and fed as we focused on Women as Shepherds, where we studied our role in leadership and self care.

In May, our third annual Sages Tea was held to honor, connect and laugh with our beloved wise women of Christ Church.

At our Fall Friendship Event, we gathered in the GoodNews Shop Café to learn about effortless and gracious entertaining with parishioner and author, DeeDee Dalrymple.

We also celebrated our clergy and staff with a catered Christ Church Staff Luncheon. This allowed almost the entire staff to break bread together and enjoy each other’s company.

Annual greenery sales are underway, and food is being prepared for our Feast and Flora Pop Up. This event will be held in conjunction with The GoodNews Shop’s open house, featuring holiday goodies, as well as book signings by parishioners, Lisa Saunders and Kathy Izard. Funds raised at this event, as well as annual proceeds from the GoodNews Shop, will be allocated to organizations that support women and children in need.

To round out our year, in early December, generations of women at Christ Church will come together once again at our annual Advent Luncheon. We are thrilled to host former Christ Church Associate Rector, Julia Boyd Mitchener. She will encourage us as we learn “How to Let the Light In.”

It has been a blessing and a privilege to serve God and Christ Church in the role of ECW President. As I reflect on the year, I have witnessed the generations of women connecting, conversing, laughing, and praying together. I am so very grateful for the support of the ECW Board, Committee Chairs, Christ Church clergy and staff, and especially, the ECW Women of Christ Church.

2018 ECW Board and Committee Chairs: Ginny Cobb (President), Leesa Clardy (1st VP/Communications), The Reverend Lisa Saunders (Clergy Liaison), Elizabeth Fernandez (2nd VP/GNS Liaison), Nancy Cassels (Treasurer), Natalie Akin (Secretary), Katherine LeSage and Ginger Seabrook (Mission Funding), Caroline Austin (Young Adult Liaison), Lynne McAdams (Sages Liaison), Nancy Neill (Bazaar/Pop-Up Liaison), Jane Showalter (Vestry Liaison), Connell Pinckney (Nominations), Syble Carson (Devotions), Gail Landers (GoodNews Shop), Mary Hahn Fetter and Jenny Joyner (Friendship Feast Chairs), Elizabeth Glasgow and Sarah Ryan (Retreat Chairs), Lynne McAdams (Sages Tea Chair), Kalie Koivisto (Staff Luncheon Chair), Page Gatewood (Advent Luncheon Chair)

NEWCOMERS AND PARISH LIFE

Submitted by Patty Rhyne, Kathryn Saunders, and Alison Gugenheim

NEWCOMERS:

We continue to welcome each visitor that we are made aware of with a personal welcome email, entry into the ACS system so that they receive communications, a tour (if desired), invitations to newcomer activities; and follow-up email(s) – all with the focus and hope that visitors feel connected and become engaged members of Christ Church. This year we added an additional three-week follow up email, and we now compile a monthly list of newcomer families for the Children and Youth Commission members to reach out to separately.

Welcome Center/Greeter Program: We continue to enlist parishioners to be greeters before and after our 8:45 AM and 11:15 AM services, as well as our 5:00 PM service. The greeters are very helpful to visitors, particularly with requests to locate the nursery or Sunday school classrooms. We continue to identify many newcomers this way and feel the greeter impact is significant. In addition, newcomers are encouraged to become greeters so they can feel connected on Sundays.

Vespers in the Garden: On May 10, we welcomed newcomers to a Vespers service in the lovely Funderburg garden. It began as a rainy evening but the feeling of hospitality was abundant, as we were joined by members of the clergy, staff, choir, Vestry and Hospitality Committee. The newcomer attendance was excellent, with approximately 35 newcomers plus staff and parishioners. The dinner was catered by Chef Mary and, despite the early rain, we were able to enjoy dinner and hold the candlelight service in the garden.

Connect Classes: In 2018, we hosted Connect Classes on February 4 and August 19. Developed to be a precursor to the Confirmation Class, these classes are designed to make newcomers feel welcomed, allow them to get to know other parishioners and clergy on a more personal level, and provide information about the Church and our offerings for them to take home for reference. We continue to receive excellent feedback from attendees and notice the impact not only from their comments, but also from their future involvement in Church activities.

Newcomer Dinners: We continue to host family-style dinners to specifically welcome newcomers. These dinners occur on the first Wednesday of the month from October through April. We include a personal element by having a clergy or staff member come talk about their own spiritual journey, along with what they do at Christ Church.

Hospitality Committee: The Hospitality Committee, chaired by Natalie Akin, meets monthly throughout the year and plays the greatest role in the success of the Shrove Tuesday Supper and the Vespers in the Garden event. In addition, the Committee participates as greeters welcoming newcomers and at brunch, as well as assisting with Connect Classes and Newcomer Dinners. They also reach out personally to all newcomers who wish to be engaged. We are grateful for their hospitality. The 2018 Hospitality Committee consisted of Natalie Akin (Chair), Carol Andrews, Caroline Austin, John Crehore, Ansley Cranz, Carr Doerre, Page Gatewood, Shirley Greer, Ellen Holland, Carol Lorenz, Lauren McGuire, Molly Nielsen, Allison Popp, Maude Root, Liz Willett, and Lindsey Williams.

PARISH LIFE:

Parish Life Commission: The commission consists primarily of event chairs, along with representatives of the Hospitality Committee. We hold monthly meetings to discuss how to best connect and engage parishioners through parishwide events. Alison Gugenheim assumed her two-year role as chair of the committee and has done an outstanding job.

Shrove Tuesday Supper: The Hospitality Committee planned a fun evening with jazz music, crafts and supper on Tuesday, February 13. Approximately 275-300 people enjoyed jazz music and wonderful New Orleans-style food, as well as a pancake supper. We were grateful for Chef Mary, who prepared an outstanding supper. We reserved a newcomer table and volunteers were assigned to welcome them and make them feel at home. There were also crafts for the children and a festive time was had by all. Molly Nielsen and Lindsey Williams spearheaded the event.

Easter Egg Hunt: This annual event was very well attended. We hosted two hunts following the 11:15 AM services – one following the Discovery Service and the other following the Church Service. We separated each hunt based on children’s ages. Eleanor Fairey did a nice job of overseeing the event.

Spring Parish Day: The Spring Parish Day was a booming success. Second-time chairs Lauren Carter and Cacky Higgins planned a stellar event, and we enjoyed wonderful attendance. Chef Mary provided delicious fried chicken and all the fixings and, along with fun activities (bounce houses, cake walk, etc.), we had a fantastic event. The volunteers were particularly helpful. This was our largest turnout with approximately 600 people. Lots of community and fellowship on the lawn!

Hot Dog Sundays: We resumed the tradition of hosting Hot Dog Sundays following the 10:30 AM service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the summer months. Wendelyn Kelly, Merrill Mills, and Sara Yorke did a fabulous job organizing and making sure all were fed as they communed together after worship.

iGroups: This year we continued to invite parishioners, newcomers and others from the community through iGroups: An Invitation to Fellowship! These events, offered throughout the year, are intended to be strictly social and appeal to various ages and stages. It is another opportunity to become connected and engaged. We hosted Karaoke in April and a Food Truck Friday in May. The general idea for these events is that they are advertised through a SignUpGenius on our website (and through other internal marketing), hosted by parishioners, and are either free or at a very low cost. Kate Hill and Peggy Horne continued to assist in organizing the events through May. Genie Hufham and Virginia Shaw assumed the role as chairs and will plan events for 2019.

Fall Parish Day: This annual event, welcoming back the parish from summer, was very well attended. Chef Mary provided BBQ chicken and other delicious sides. Blair Oliver and Sarah Kain again planned a fabulous day with entertainment by DJ Thomas Campbell, bounce houses, face painting and a cake walk, all supervised by parishioners and youth. It was a beautiful and fun day and we welcomed many parishioners, as well as a number of newcomers. We added Ministry Connect Tables this year, with representatives from various commissions and staff, to inform and highlight all the opportunities available to parishioners.

Trunk or Treat: This fifth annual event was a booming success – we were delighted to have perfect weather so we could be outside! Approximately 20 families/groups set up their “trunks” in the upper parking lot, while children enjoyed hot dogs and bag decorating. After a parade around the circle, kids were excited to trick or treat amongst the trunks. Mary Catherine Zito and Jannell Dunaway were the chairpersons for this event. We estimate there were 400+ people in attendance – our highest attendance to date.

Parish Life Commission members include: Alison Gugenheim (Chair), Carol Morano (Secretary), Eleanor Fairey (Easter Egg Hunt), Lauren Carter and Cacky Higgins (Spring Parish Day), Wendelyn Kelly, Merrill Mills and Sara Yorke (Hot Dog Sundays), Sarah Kain and Blair Oliver (Fall Parish Day), Mary Catherine Zito and Jannell Dunaway (Trunk or Treat), Kate Hill, Peggy Horne, Genie Hufham and Virginia Shaw (iGroups), Natalie Akin and Lauren McGuire (Hospitality Representatives), and Norfleet Pruden (Vestry Rep). Incoming Event Chairs also serving on the commission are: Kara Hunt, Grace Bailey, Alex Mann, Brittany Ingersoll, Sarah Howie, and Caroline Reed.

Directory: We completed the pictorial directory project with distribution of the directories in early 2018. To date, the majority have been picked up by parishioners and a few remain available for sale. Ainslie Wall has uploaded all the current pictures into ACS.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Submitted by The Reverend Matt Holcombe and Amanda Anders

The Spiritual Growth Commission of Christ Church Charlotte imagines and designs initiatives to help our parishioners explore, grow and deepen their faith lives. It is in its fourth year of ministry and continues to serve as a catalyst for transformation in many areas of ministry.

In 2018, after a year of development, we launched the Christian Essentials course, a curriculum centered around the core values in the Christ Church mission statement: Love God, Care for Each Other and Serve the World. The Spiritual Growth Commission members and the clergy of Christ Church curated a 320-page curriculum to help parishioners explore, grow and deepen their faith in a small group setting. Each class is structured around a learning, applying and building component, which we are calling the LAB. The classes, capped at ten people, are facilitated by lay leaders and amplified by clergy videos. To date, we have completed the course with seven groups and have multiple small groups slated to commence or resume in January.

In 2018, the Spiritual Growth Commission continued to feed parishioners and friends of Christ Church with “The Daily” and “The Good Book.” Both initiatives were designed to make scripture an essential part of our lives. We had over 300 people receiving The Daily scripture reading and its accompanying thought. We had 100 people complete The Good Book (a challenge to read the entire Bible in 242 days) and 30 more parishioners are currently committed to the challenge. There are weekly conversations around the reading which are lay led, and well attended.

In May the Spiritual Growth Commission hosted a Faith and Courage Lunch and Learn for the staff and Vestry of Christ Church. Our lunch theme followed the larger Christ Church theme of faith and courage, and used the LAB method being employed in the Christian Essentials classes. Our “apply” exercise was a watercolor project. There were over 40 watercolors created in our time together, many of which could be seen on the bulletin boards around the campus.

Finally, in 2018, the Spiritual Growth Commission helped publish a new Invitation to Ministry Book, with updated information from our previous edition prepared in 2016. We are always dreaming of new and better ways to invite people into a ministry that fits their time, talents, and interests.

Spiritual Growth Commission Members: Chair - Amanda Anders, Vestry Liaison - Bob Dooley, Tere Ey, Jenny Holofchak, the Reverend Matt Holcombe, Bill Lorenz, Celia Sinclair, Kyle Woodruff, George Rudisill, Tasse Little, Chris Martin, Alison Gugenheim, Patricia Hamilton, Derek Luther and Jenny Beaumont.

OUTREACH & MISSION

Submitted by A.T. Castillo

The Outreach and Mission Commission is focused on reaching out to our neighbors in need on a local, regional, and international level. Our commitment is to deliver God's message to those in need and offer them support through difficult circumstances. This support comes in the form of financial and volunteer assistance.

The commission is currently comprised of 14 parishioners who each serve a three-year term. In a typical year, five members roll off while five new members join the commission. Each member of the commission serves as a liaison to one of the local organizations which our church supports. Leadership is provided by Josiah Daniels, the Director of Outreach and Mission, The Reverend Canon Marty Hedgpeth our clergy member, as well as Jeanne Kutrow from the Vestry. The Commission relies upon considerable support from Laura Konitzer, Assistant for Outreach and Mission. Matt Holcombe joined the Outreach and Mission Commission in November upon Marty Hedgpeth's retirement on All Saints' Sunday, November 4, 2018.

The 2018 budget for the Outreach and Mission Commission increased to \$431,000 or 8.9% of the Christ Church Operating Budget. The commission has five areas of focus for the work that we perform in service of our community and the world. These areas of focus are known as "pillars" and aim to address challenges related to Housing and Homelessness (28% allocation), Poverty Prevention (18% allocation), Children and Education (42% allocation), Reconciliation and Social Justice (5% allocation), and Mission (8%).

In 2018 the Outreach and Mission Commission worked in collaboration with the Leap of Faith Committee and the Vestry to provide funding for two innovative projects. The first grant in the amount of \$250,000 was awarded to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool to fund their Innovation Classroom initiative. This classroom will offer bilingual education to Spanish-speaking and English-speaking families. In addition to this grant, the commission elected to add Charlotte Bilingual Preschool to the operating budget, making them our newest partner. The second grant in the amount of \$500,000 was awarded to The ROC (Rebuilding Opportunities in Construction), a unique inter-agency effort that will provide vocational training to promising students from three marginalized local high schools. We also welcomed our first RISE (Race: An In-depth Spiritual Examination) training in partnership with MeckMin, with plans for more trainings in 2019. In the fall the Reverend Matt Holcombe led a Legacy and Justice pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL "...to confront and confess our failures and fears in order that we may be reconciled one with another." In October, the commission, in association with the Rector and Stewardship team held A Night of Hope, an inspiring evening event that gave 156 parishioners a deeper sense of the incredible impact Christ Church has made in Charlotte and the incredible things to come. On December 2, 2018, we will begin our twenty-first Room in the Inn season. Through this ministry, we will provide over 540 volunteer opportunities while welcoming over 250 neighbors from the community.

Each organization supported by our church through financial assistance must complete a grant proposal. These proposals are reviewed by the members of the commission to ensure they are consistent with our objectives as a church and our available funds. In addition, each outreach gift to an organization must adhere to specific guidelines:

- a) The organization must provide an opportunity for members of our church.
- b) The gift should not exceed 10% of the organization's overall budget.
- c) The gift should not exceed 10% of the Commission's total budget, unless it is a primary initiative for our church with strong parishioner support.
- d) The gift should be at least 1% of the Commission's total budget.

e) The organization should allocate at least 80% of its total budget to programming.

The organizations supported by our church community through the efforts of the commission include:

Charlotte Family Housing	The Men's Shelter
Habitat for Humanity	The YWCA
Urban Ministry Center	Crisis Assistance Ministry
Loaves and Fishes	A Child's Place
The Learning Collaborative	Thompson Child and Family Focus
Communities in Schools (Rama Road)	Freedom School (Rama Road)
Rama Road (Budget and Programming)	Charlotte Bilingual Preschool

One of the major initiatives for our church which is coordinated by the commission is "Serve-a-bration." This event occurs during the first full week in November each year. Opportunities to support our partner organizations through service activities are shared with parishioners. Commission members orchestrate the volunteer sign-up process as well as facilitate each event. In 2018, over six hundred Christ Church parishioners volunteered 1,059 hours to support 37 activities across 14 organizations.

The commission is also responsible for selecting the recipients of our church's Easter and Christmas offerings each year. The director and chair for the commission also maintain a close relationship with the Christ Church Foundation Committee as they make decisions on funding organizations and initiatives.

The 2018 commission membership includes the following individuals:

Director: Josiah Daniels

Clergy: Marty Hedgpeth and Matt Holcombe

Vestry: Jeanne Kutrow

Chip Abbott
Roger Cobb
Gigi Harris
Barbara Pooley
Anne Stolz

Stuart Bonner
Laura Copps
Ann Hartlieb
Henrietta Richardson
Ann Tabor

A.T. Castillo
Doug Ey
Chris Martin
Harry Shaw

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Submitted by Ben Outen

The Music Department at Christ Church enriches worship with the beauty of music each week, on special Feast Days and with occasional services of Evensong. Here are some statistics on our regular offerings:

Over the course of the 52 weeks of 2018, we will have provided 248 Sunday services with music. Of those services, 104 are choral and feature either The Christ Church Choir, The Parish Choir or The Schola Cantorum. The Contemporary Band led 43 Sunday services.

Forty-three Sunday Discovery services are led by cantors and a pianist, and 52 Sunday 5:00 PM services designed to be contemplative are led by cantors and pianists, staff and volunteer.

On Christmas Eve the Music Department will produce four choral services, one Contemporary Band service and one Discovery Service. Christmas Day will be led by organ and brass.

During Holy Week there were three services with choir – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil. Like Christmas Eve, Holy Week culminated in six Easter services, four of which were accompanied by brass, percussion and various other instruments.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, the children's choirs sang for 16 Sunday morning services and children were cantors for 10 Discovery services. In the second half of 2018, the children's choirs have begun to sing for the 8:45 AM Eucharist twice a month.

The Christ Church Choir now offers monthly services of Evensong on first Sundays at 4:00 PM as part of a city-wide effort to make Evensong available somewhere each Sunday of the month from September to May. The Christ Church Choir also sang for the RSCM Board of Directors who held a strategic planning meeting at Christ Church in January of 2018. On October 15 they sang for the Forward Movement Conference held at Christ Church.

The Christ Church Choir and The Contemporary Band led two Parish Day Eucharists together; one in the fall and one in the spring. During the year each celebrated this spirit of community.

The Contemporary Band hosted Troy Bronsink, a leader in the contemporary worship community, for a mid-winter retreat. This time of reflection, education and practice resulted in stronger community and a deeper understanding for band members.

The Children's Choir program uses the Royal School of Church Music curriculum. It is highly structured and rewards achievements with medals and ribbons to be worn with choristers' vestments. Seventeen of our young choristers have begun work toward receiving their RSCM Medal and Light Blue ribbon. In February of 2019 we will participate in an RSCM weekend at All Souls Cathedral, Asheville, NC. As the young choirs begin to participate in these events beyond Christ Church, they will realize that they are part of a musical network that reaches across our country and, even, the Atlantic Ocean. The Chorister's Prayer sums up this initiative:

*Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants who minister in Thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

In May, the Children's Choirs celebrated their year with an awards dinner where they received certificates of participation and amusing awards for the funny things that happened throughout the year.

Lisa Lashley, Music Director of the Discovery Service, has brought cantoring to the Discovery Service and uses both adults and children. Lisa also invited the parents of the Music Club choristers to join their children in the choir to lead worship. It was a great success.

A renaissance of musical culture beyond worship is happening at Christ Church. Our parish has opened its doors

to some of Charlotte's finest ensembles and music education organizations.

Caritas, under the direction of Cathy Youngblood, sang at Christ Church twice in this academic year. The mission of Caritas, 'acapella artistry with a purpose', is lived out through their efforts to stimulate, develop, and promote the appreciation of a cappella singing through public concerts and through their donation of a portion of the proceeds from ticket sales to charitable organizations.

The Bach Akademie of Charlotte under the direction of Scott Allen Jarrett, offered three concerts at Christ Church during this academic year. The Bach Akademie produces concerts of the music Johann Sebastian Bach, the world's most prolific and significant composer of sacred music, in historically informed performances to encourage interest in and to enliven Bach's music for the 21st century.

Christ Church also provides space for The Community School of the Arts of Charlotte to make music education accessible to everyone in our city. CSA, now named Arts Plus, in turn provided music for the celebration of Christ Church's 75th Anniversary.

The Music Department also provides music for weddings and funerals, with many of the participants in the music program, section leaders and volunteers using their time and talents as part of these celebrations of life.

The mission of the Music Department at Christ Church is to enrich worship with beauty and understanding, to educate and support each other in this worshiping community and to offer our unique gifts and resources beyond the parish as service and evangelism. There are many ways everyone can participate. If you or someone you know would like to be a part of this program of Christ Church, please don't hesitate to call Ben Outen, Nick Haigh, Jackson Daisley or Lisa Lashley to find your place in our ministry of beauty and inspiration!

Liturgical Commission:

Judd McAdams
Ginger Garner
Katie Charlebois
Peggy Horne
Melissa Burns
Henrietta Palmer
Lise Hinton
Bill Lowry
Margaretta Leary
David Kern, Vestry Rep
Marty Hedgpeth, Clergy Rep

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Submitted by The Reverend Lisa Saunders

Congregational Care continues to offer support, education and compassion for those in our parish dealing with illness, transition and loss. Often this happens one-on-one, for example:

- A parishioner trained to be a lay Eucharistic minister takes communion to another parishioner who can't get to church.
- A parishioner who is grieving the death of a family member receives a handwritten letter each month from someone on the Bereavement Ministry Team.
- A bright bouquet of flowers is hand delivered by a parishioner to someone who could use a little sunshine in their life.
- Two parishioners with similar difficult experiences are connected for mutual support or mentoring.
- Someone who can't get to church anymore gets a knock on the door and a friendly visit from a fellow parishioner.

The commission also oversees ministries that affect large numbers of people all at once. For example:

- Supporting families by providing receptions after funerals.
- The warm and uplifting All Saints' Day luncheon for parishioners who had a family member die in the previous year.
- The Noted Care articles, Help for the Hurt brochure, and Prayers and Scripture for Strength and Healing that offer information and inspiration to take good care of one's mind, body and spirit.

There have been some new areas of interest to our congregation. The commission also supports groups and gatherings for those dealing with grief and illness. A new group began this year for parishioners who have family members with dementia. Another area of interest is in starting a relationship with a congregation of another faith. Lisa has reached out to the Imam in Charlotte and asked if Christ Church could partner with a group from the mosque. He is the only employee at the mosque so he said he would try to find someone who was interested enough to help. We will be in touch with any progress made on this relationship.

Theo the therapy dog continued his work three days a week at HopeWay until August, when he began showing aggressive tendencies outside of HopeWay. Unfortunately, this meant Theo has had to discontinue his professional career as a therapy dog. Yet his tenure at HopeWay, and visiting parishioners at retirement communities, was received with enormous affection and success, and we are looking into other ways to continue pet therapy at Christ Church.

Wellness Commission:

Paul Tolmie
Sally Mitchener
Tom James
Preeti Matkins
Al Dasher
Bill Blue
Ginny Cobb
Brooks Whiteside
Joyce Cmiel
Stirling McDavid
Jordan Collier
Mary Margaret Jordan
Lowell Rayburn Combs
Jamie Doyle
Jennifer Hamm
Julie Marr, Vestry Representative
Lisa Saunders, Clergy Representative

Congregational Care Commission:

Sandy Akers
Virginia Anderson
Jan Cates
Leesa Clardy
Jane Coulter
Lydia Hanna
Liza McMahan
David Anderson
Jennifer Hamm
Sally Mitchener, Vestry Rep
Rev Lisa Saunders, Clergy Rep

STEWARDSHIP

Submitted by Sarah Eyssen

2018 Annual Stewardship Campaign

The 2018 Annual Stewardship Campaign, chaired by Perry and Bob Lucas, launched on October 29, 2017. On February 12, 2018, the Vestry approved a \$4.84 million budget based on pledges received by that date, representing 1,166 parish households.

The 2018 campaign continued to focus on prayer and God's calling for each person to be generous. The theme of the 2018 campaign was "Living Generously" with materials and accompanying Generosity Guide designed by Stewart Marr.

With incredible leadership by 2017 Senior Warden Norfleet Pruden and the entire Vestry, focused efforts were made to communicate impact and reach parishioners through small gatherings, letters, and reports. For the first time in many years, an impact report was produced to highlight key statistics and thank parishioners for their generosity. Since more than 98% of Christ Church's yearly budget is funded by the ASC, the Annual Stewardship chairs, Vestry, and many others used every opportunity to promote the importance of making a yearly pledge.

On September 23, 2018 during a special Rector's Class, the Reverend Chip Edens launched the Faith and Courage Initiative. Through a multi-faceted approach, this initiative challenges Christ Church to fear less and hope more. Sharing their amazing journeys of faith and courage, the Coulter and Anderson families commenced the 2019 Stewardship Season on Celebration Sunday, October 21, 2018.

The Connectors program, launched by Norfleet Pruden during the 2017 ASC, continues under the direction of Frank Horne, the 2018-2019 Senior Warden. In an effort to make stewardship more relational and with Vestry leadership, over 100 parishioners volunteered to write, call, and email active families in the parish.

Stewardship Commission:

Natalie Akin
Cindy Costa
Elizabeth Fernandez
Alex Kelly
Harry Shaw
Al Lindemann
Melissa Tolmie
Chris Ullrich
Bob Anders
John Chanon
Dick Thigpen
Holly Welch-Stubbings
Wendy Mauney
Sarah Eyssen

CHRIST CHURCH FOUNDATION

Submitted by Kimberly Mize

The Christ Church Foundation was founded November 21, 1962, by the Vestry as a separate trust within the parish to receive, manage and distribute funds for "religious purposes," a term defined to include "education, charitable, missionary and other purposes." The trust was incorporated as a non-profit North Carolina corporation on November 14, 1969. The trust administered by the Foundation now consists of the following distinct funds: a general "Outreach Fund," a "Property, Plant and Equipment Fund," a "Clergy Housing Fund," two "Scholarship Funds," a fund dedicated to support Habitat for Humanity, and an "Unrestricted Fund."

The management and administration of Foundation assets are directed by nine Trustees appointed by the Vestry, each eligible to serve two, three-year terms. In addition, the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and the Chair of the Outreach Commission serve as ex-officio Trustees, and the Rector and a representative of planned giving are welcome participants at all Trustee meetings.

To improve coordination with monies given to outreach efforts by the Church, the Trustees of the Foundation consider recommendations from the Outreach Commission for distribution from the Foundation's Outreach Fund. The Foundation encourages parties seeking grants from the Foundation's Outreach Fund to submit their requests to the Outreach Commission.

As of October 31, 2018, the Foundation's total investments with US Trust stand at \$3.2 million, after a tough month for financial markets. For perspective, US Trust reported total investments of \$3.418 million in October 2017. With additional investments combined, the Christ Church Foundation manages more than \$4 million.

The CCF Board met three times in 2018:

- March 7, with a presentation from US Trust, its outside financial advisor
- May 24, with recommendations from the Outreach Commission and Scholarship Committee, and approval vote
- November 29, with elections, 2018 allocations vote, scholarship report

In May 2018, seventeen (17) scholarships were awarded to 13 students who are members of Christ Church and 4 who are children of Christ Church/CCK staff, for a total of \$14,500.

At the recommendation of the Outreach Commission, the following gifts were approved in May 2018:

• Southminster	\$10,000
• Penick Village	\$ 3,500
• Society of St. Andrew	\$ 6,000
• Care Ring	\$ 7,000
• Safe Alliance	\$10,000
• Galilee Center	\$10,000
• HopeWay	\$20,000*
• Total	\$66,500

*Because of the increased funds from the Foundation's solid investment practices, beginning in 2018 one organization will be awarded a 3-year grant, based on a 3-year cycle. The inaugural grantee, HopeWay, will automatically be included for a \$20,000 grant in 2019 and 2020 (for a total grant of \$60,000 over three years). In 2021, a

different organization will be awarded a 3-year grant.

On November 29, 2018, the Foundation trustees confirmed that, based on the Foundation's disbursement policy the following amounts are available from the respective funds for expenditure in 2019:

- Unrestricted, \$19,146 (in addition to \$81,334 prior expendable)
- Habitat, \$13,841
- Outreach, \$71,553
- PP&E, \$61,664 (in addition to \$4,379 prior expendable)
- Scholarships, \$10,082

2018 Foundation Members: Skip Smart, President; Carrington Coulter, Treasurer; Mary Klutz, Secretary; Arrington Mixon, Investment Chair; Parkie Thomas, Scholarship Chair; Ned Hardison; Frank Horne; Mark Mealy; Paul Tolmie.

In addition, the following also served the CCF in 2018: Chip Edens, Rector; AT Castillo, Outreach Liaison; Frank Horne, Senior Warden; Burch Mixon, Junior Warden; Wendy Mauney, Parish Administrator; Kimberly Mize, Director of Planned Giving.

On November 29, 2018, Frank Horne, Skip Smart and Parkie Thomas were thanked for their six years of service. Three new members will be elected and approved by the Vestry prior to December 31, 2018, for a three year term, 2019-2021.

The Foundation continues to work with the Oak Circle Committee to encourage the congregation to make gifts and take advantage of planned giving techniques, thereby becoming "Oak Circle" members and helping enlarge the corpus of the Foundation.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND MEMORIALS

Submitted by David M. Kern

This group provides general oversight and assistance to the Junior Warden and the Director of Facilities with regard to matters involving the church buildings and campus. In addition, the committee directs the use of undesignated gifts and memorials made to Christ Church. In this regard, the group attempts to match specific church needs with the personality and particular interests/activities of the person in whose name a gift or memorial is given.

The work of the committee during 2018 has included the following:

- Developing and implementing a plan for adding memorial plaques in the Memorial Garden
- Developing a plan for the installation of a railing and other renovations for the choir loft
- Assisting generally with the comprehensive study conducted concerning present and future needs of the sanctuary and the campus, including an assessment of multiple maintenance needs, both present and deferred
- Assisting generally with repair, maintenance, and improvement needs concerning the duplexes on the Church property
- Coordinating volunteers for the tending of the Rose Garden
- Coordinating and overseeing an Eagle Scout project to create an area for the burial of pet ashes
- Assisting with the assessment of audio/video needs for the sanctuary
- Coordinating with the Facilities Director in providing landscaping services for the campus
- Purchasing acolyte and chalice bearer robes
- Providing funds for the repair and purchase of hymnals and prayer books
- Purchasing multiple tablecloths to be used for funerals and receptions
- Providing funds for audio/video needs
- Assisting with numerous repairs and improvements to the sanctuary roof and the interior of the sanctuary and bell tower
- Coordinating with the Director of Facilities in reviewing and assessing present needs with regard to all of the buildings and facilities throughout the campus
- Overseeing and funding numerous plantings and landscaping throughout the campus, including trees and shrubbery beside the sanctuary, multiple planting and improvements to the Memorial Garden, the refurbishment of the Margaret Harris Memorial Garden (cost shared with Christ Church Kindergarten), and the completion of a variety of landscape improvements to the hillside along Hampton Avenue

Commission members: David Kern (Chair), The Reverend Fred Paschall, Jr., Wendy Mauney (Parish Administrator), Jason Scofield (Director of Facilities), Catherine Browning, Eric Locher, Bill Lowry, Lulie Mallard, Burch Mixon, William Nichols, Jr. and Barbara Plumlee.



Christ Church Charlotte

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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