



# Christ Episcopal Church

*A Welcoming Faith Community  
on the Guilford Green Since 1744*



**Reports to the 279<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting of  
Christ Episcopal Church, Guilford, Connecticut  
February 26, 2023**

# AGENDA

## 279<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT

First Sunday of Lent  
26 February 2023

Invocation

Presentation and adoption of the Voting Membership List

- Quorum declaration

Approval of the Minutes of the 278<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting (May 2022)

Nominations - none

Recognitions

Reception of other Committee and Officer Reports

- Acceptance of reports contained in printed Report to the 279<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting

New Business:

- Acceptance of the 2023 Budget
- Seeking a Priest-in-Charge
  - Status and Vestry Recommendation
  - Discussion and Consensus
  - Next Steps

Set the date for the 280<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting:

Adjournment

Benediction

**Christ Episcopal Church  
Guilford, Connecticut  
278<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting Minutes  
May 1, 2022 (Postponed from February 6, 2022)**

**Invocation:** The meeting began with a prayer led by Rector Harrison West.

**Presentation and adoption of the Voting Membership List:** The voting Membership List was presented and approved.

**Quorum declaration:** A quorum being present, the 278<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes of the 277<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting:**

Rector Harrison West+ asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 277<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Christ Episcopal Church, as written and printed in the packet distributed to every attendee. The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

**Report of the Nominating Committee:**

The nominating committee for the slate of Vestry members and delegates, William H. Cuddy, Sudie Danaher, Julie Harris and Susan Shackford, presented the following slate for election:

Senior Warden: Susan Leonard for the third one-year term of possible three terms.

Junior Warden: Michael Haggans for the second one-year term year of three possible.

Clerk: Janice Novak for a third one-year term of a possible three terms.

Class of 2025- Sandy Beatty, Caroline Herrick and Virginia Syombathy

Continuing members of the Vestry: Beth Brause, Cindy McNamara, Lisa Ste. Marie.

Delegates to Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut: (3-year term)  
Robert Donahue, Susan Pogue, and Gabrielle Johnson, alternate.

The Rector asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, Tony Leonard moved and Laura Raymond seconded the motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee. The motion carried without objection.

Thank you to retiring Vestry members Mardee Moore and Gabriela de la Torre Cabrejo for their service. Thank you to Gabriela for continuing to serve long-distance from New Hampshire.

The Nominating Committee for the 279th Annual Parish Meeting will be Pat Daunic, Gabrielle Johnson, Melissa Lamoreaux and Tony Leonard.

**Reception of other Committee and Officer Reports:**

The proposed budget presented by the Vestry was passed unanimously.

Acceptance of reports contained in the Report to the 278<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting  
*--available via <http://www.christchurchguilford.org/parish-archive.html>*

The date of the 279<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting was set as Sunday, February 5, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with a benediction by Rector Harrison West.

**Faithful Departed January 10, 2022 – February 26, 2023**  
**“Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.**

**May light perpetual shine upon them.”**

Joseph Marro Cricchi	-	February 9, 2022
Suzanne Rogers	-	February 13, 2022
Patricia Chapman	-	February 21, 2022
David G. Baillie, III	-	March 31, 2022
Peter Marks	-	April 12, 2022
Barbara deBruyan	-	May 11, 2022
Glenn Remmers	-	May 22, 2022
Wendy Gifford	-	
Thomas Lilburn	-	January 15, 2023
William Cuddy	-	February 6, 2023

## Senior Warden's Annual Report 2022

The church began to return to normal from Covid in 2022. Services were offered in person at 9 a.m., Morning Prayer in the Parish Hall and Rite II Eucharist at 10 a.m. both online and in person. The Worship Committee decided that wearing masks was optional, always considering love for one's neighbor. A well-attended backyard picnic in June ended the Sunday School year and marked the move from coffee hour to Lemonade in the Shade, outdoors.

In July, we donated a purse and sent Diane Kyle off to Virginia Theological Seminary. In addition, that month, Harrison West+ announced his intention to retire as our rector.

On September 11, 2022, upon the retirement of Rev. Harrison West, I received the books and the keys to Christ Church. Harrison+ gave an uplifting final sermon. A committee of Beth Brause, Lisa Ste. Marie, Bob McNamara, Bet Cummiskey, Susan Tillier and Donna LaFata planned a terrific Fare Forward luncheon in the back yard. Tears flowed, hugs abounded, and thus began a new stage in the life of the church.

### WORSHIP:

Ten different supply priests, including Mary Anne Osborn, retired priest and an active member of the Parish, have conducted services every week of the year from September 18 to date. (See list attached.) Each has been well-received. Parish members are willing and able to conduct Morning Prayer when no priest is available. To date, we have not relied on this option. The **worship committee** consists of Mark Sullivan, Mary Anne Osborn+, and Gabrielle Johnson.

Laura Raymond provides the monthly rota of **chalice bearers**, including Pat Daunic, David Kish, David Jones, Ann Rae, Page Pelphrey, Bob Donahue, Diane Kyle and Ed Seibert, and **readers** including Bill Cuddy, Pat Daunic, Kate Haggans, Julie Harris, Caroline Herrick, Rob Hutchison, Patti Kron, Tony Leonard, Susan Leonard, Gabrielle Johnson, Chris Robinson Ed Seibert and Jean Valentine. Mardee Moore organizes ushers, including Diana Stovall, Kay Claiborn, Marsha Brown, and Carol Iovanna. Katherine Frydenborg heads Altar Guild, with Pat Daunic, Diane Pierpont, Jennifer Huebner, Virginia Syombathy, and Kay Claiborn.

### MEETINGS:

**Vestry meetings.** Our Vestry meets faithfully every month of the year, either in person or on Zoom. Members are Susan Leonard, Senior Warden; Michael Haggans, Junior Warden; Tony Leonard, treasurer; Virginia Syombathy, clerk; Sandy Beatty, Beth Brause, Sheward Hagerty, Caroline Herrick, Rob Hutchison, Lisa Ste. Marie, Chris

Robinson. Two former members resigned this year due to health issues: Bet Cummiskey and Janice Novak. Minutes are on file in the Parish Office. The Junior Warden Michael Haggans and I meet independently for 1½ hours at least once a week to discuss and plan. We also meet weekly with the church music director and administrator. The Vestry conducted several meetings with ECCT staff and held **Transition forums in December 2022 and January 2023** to inform the parish about our transition process to a Priest-in-Charge. On January 22, 2023, Bishop Jeffrey Mello traveled to Christ Church to celebrate the Eucharist and to meet with the Parish and the Vestry.

**Staff meetings** are held once a month in person or on Zoom with Jr. Warden Michael Haggans in charge. Members: Donna Tafel, Administrator; Mark Sullivan, Music Director; Kate Haggans, Newsletter Editor, Dorota Xeller, Sunday School, and me. Donna LaFata stepped down as Communications Director in January and Lisa Ste. Marie is helping out in many areas of Communications. I attended an in-person leadership workshop at St. Andrew's Church, Madison, CT, with clergy and Bishop Jeffrey Mello and several such on-line meetings from ECCT.

I also attend these meetings ex officio: **Finance Committee:** Ted Sands, Chair; Tony Leonard, treasurer; Michael Haggans, Julie Gibson, Diane Pierpont, Ed Seibert.

**Sunday School:** Dorota Xeller, director; Lisa Ste. Marie; Donna LaFata; Page Pelphrey.

#### STUDY GROUPS:

**Racial Healing and Reconciliation** – In the past year, Mary Anne Osborn+ has led book groups (*Caste, White Fragility*) studying and discussing the implications for racial healing and reconciliation and *Beating Guns* against gun violence.. On December 28, four members of Christ Church attended Kwanzaa Celebration at St. Luke's, New Haven CT (fourth-oldest African-American Church in the USA). I have established communication with the senior warden of St. Luke's. We need to do more along these lines.

**Bible Study** is led by Cecelia Bellomy-Parker on Zoom, every Monday evening.

#### STEWARDSHIP:

The annual stewardship campaign began in October, 2022. Committee members are Chris Robinson, Julie Gibson, Michael Haggans and me. The outcome of this campaign will decide in large part whether or not we can afford a full-time rector.

Susan Leonard

## Junior Warden Report - 2022

**Building improvements in 2022** – The Parish Hall was re-roofed and painted. Some limited damage to the walls and roof was uncovered and repaired.

Lighting fixtures throughout the Church and Parish Hall were changed to LED's through an Eversource energy conservation program. The new fixtures produce the equivalent light as the previous incandescent and florescent fixtures but use significantly less electricity.

**Rectory** – Plans for the use of the rectory are part of the search for a new priest-in-charge. In the meantime, we need to plan for re-roofing and repainting.

**Long-term Building and Grounds Concerns** – There are several things we should do to maintain our facilities over the next several years. These include:

- Bell Tower louvers - Repair and painting
- Parish Hall - Refinishing and sealing the floors
- Chancel – Recarpeting
- Sacristy and Nave - Reroofing

In addition, there are other projects that would improve our facilities and make them more useable in the years to come. These include:

- Sunday school area – Perimeter drains and sump pumps to keep the basement dry
- Chancel and Nave – Improved ventilation
- Parish Hall – Add air-conditioning
- Garden – regrade area to improve drainage
- Improve exterior lighting

Accomplishing any of these projects will require funding that is not included in our operating budget. I am working with an *ad hoc* building committee to review priorities and develop an implementation proposal for discussion during the coming year. Comments and questions are welcomed.

– Michael Haggans, Junior Warden, [jmhaggans@gmail.com](mailto:jmhaggans@gmail.com).



## ECCT Convention 2022

The Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut was reassuring, with moments of both exhilaration and painstaking recital of budget numbers. The church leadership is in good hands, as far as I could tell! Highlights for me were sitting with clergy well known to Christ Church, Harrison West, Scott Lee, and Kent Smith, as well as meeting plenty of new people, including Bishop Jeff.

First, were welcomes, introductions of new clergy and the new treasurer, Gordon Ross.

Then we went through some vital resolutions: Resolution 1 approved the budget of the convention itself. It was explained, along with many items in the annual budget for the diocese. There was considerable discussion of the cost of new employee training, with the consensus being that the rise in cost was justified and necessary. Resolution 2 concerned Clergy Compensation. Some pointed out that the raise in COLA was larger than many in the private sector were receiving in this time of inflation. But the consensus agreed that the suggested minimum of a 7.1% increase was comparable with the Social Security increase.

The Bishop's address was one of the highlights of the convention. We are blessed with our new Bishop, Jeffrey Mello. Thanks to Bob Donahue and Harrison, of course, who attended the election convention. His theology obviously emphasizes God as Love. He began with the litany, God is good. All the time. All the time, God is good. He encouraged us to be good to ourselves, and others, and that God loves us and so does Bishop Jeff. I believe him! Throughout his address the idea that love is an act of will was implicit. He exhorted us to listen to one another as an act of love. His smile is genuine and infectious. I found his address nourishing and encouraging.

Next, we finished Friday with a beautiful song in the newly refurbished beautiful Cathedral. We sang Taizé chants, while the wonderful dance troupe Ekklesia interpreted the readings. We know Ekklesia, of course, through their theologian, Morley vanYperen, Jennifer Huebner's daughter. Bishop Laura Ahrens gave the most beautiful sermon. She described a stained-glass window she knew in her childhood, with a man walking into the sunset, and incorporated it into the image of the yoke from

the lesson. She explained how the yoke could be seen as connecting us to Jesus, and each other as the church, and should be an image of reassurance.

Saturday, we heard about and approved two church mergers: Grace & St. Peter's, Hamden, and St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville into Grace and St. John's in Hamden, and St. Peter's Monroe and Grace Trumbull into St. Peter's Grace in Monroe.

We watched a video of Ekklesia's presentation of Body and Land, with footage from several different churches and the performance on the Guilford Green sponsored by Christ Church.

We spent considerable time on the Joint Report from the task force on Reparations Racial Healing Justice Reconciliation Ministry, and the Office for Mission Advocacy Racial Justice & Reconciliation. We started discussing the idea of listening, and continued with our Baptismal Covenant, and the Litany "For those who aren't ready for racial healing." A few at my table found the litany a little heavy-handed, and some found it raw and truthful. We then did a listening exercise about our personal hurt responding to incidents of racism, in pairs, with someone we didn't know. The segment concluded with the idea that the church must confront institutional racism.

Resolution 7 was adopted that included plans for several fascinating-sounding events for racial reconciliation, training for clergy and laypeople, and that parishes should discover and document historic racism in their own congregations. The training expected was not described in detail.

Next we attended Breakout sessions. There were so many I chose fairly randomly and attended sessions reporting on the application of racial awareness in the process for Title IV, the discipline of priests, and, second, discussion of the requirements for Safe Church Training. I learned a lot!!! The diocese has put a lot of thought and effort into the fairness and thoroughness of the bureaucratic processes to keep every member of the church safe.

The last Resolution concerned disavowing as a diocese the personal comments of a former bishop which were interpreted as injurious to Indigenous Peoples in our state. It

was agreed after much discussion that the diocese's position on gaming should not be addressed at present, and was NOT a part of this resolution. The resolution was specific to the incident in question.

All resolutions were passed, after discussion. There were no really contentious disagreements, and the consensus of the convention was always clear. Our bishops and diocesan staff are trustworthy and competent and the convention ran smoothly and ahead of schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabrielle Johnson  
Convention delegate

## Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Annual Report

The E.C.W. of Christ Episcopal Church, on the green, Guilford, meets on the second Thursday of each month at 12 noon. Due to Covid we suspended our January and February meetings and met on March 10, 2022, to start our in-person meetings. A newsletter was sent to members in January and February to keep them informed of our pending activities and requests for programs or projects for the coming year.

Our funds were decreased during the pandemic, and at our March meeting it was decided to hold our previous annual Palm Sunday bake sale, with a new addition, Crafts. We had raised some scholarship money at the 2021 "Chili to Go" Supper by offering our decorated "Cookie-less Decorated Cookie Boxes" for a free will donation. Funds raised were for our 2022 Scholarship program, but we felt we needed to hold the bake & Craft sale to ensure we had enough to support the scholarship fund for all who might apply. This project was very successful and will continue in 2023.

We continued to sell our gift card holders and other craft, sweet treats, and continue to display our "New Sox and Underwear" basket on the table under the window in the parish hall. "Honor System Boxes" for items purchased were made available. We raised a considerable amount from the sale of these items. The funds generated are used to support our charitable donations within the parish, Sunday School activities (Halloween & Easter Egg Hunt), and other requests. We gathered several filled bags of toiletries that were distributed by Chapel on the Green in New Haven and sent several huge bags, filled to the brim, with New Sox and Underwear. Our parish has been very generous with their support of all our projects and we, a small group of faithful women, are most grateful.

All Christ Church women are members of E.C.W. and are invited to join us. We celebrate our faith by sharing with each other and the world around us the lessons taught each Sunday and by "Loving Our Neighbors As Ourselves" with joy, laughter, and lunch. For further information call Diane W. Link at (203) 458-1806 or email: [dwlink118@gmail.com](mailto:dwlink118@gmail.com). We invite you to join us.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane W. Link, President

## ECW FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

Checking Account Beginning Balance 01/01/2022 \$397.60

### Income

Donations	\$619.00
Fundraisers	\$1,758.13

Total income \$2,377.13

### Expenses

Supplies/fundraiser expenses	\$639.21
In Parish	\$559.00
Outreach.	\$250.00

Total expenses \$1,448.21

Checking Account Ending Balance 12/31/22 \$1,326.53

Savings Account Beginning Balance 01/01/2022 \$861.18

### Income

Fundraisers	\$53.00
Interest	.18
Total income	\$53.18

Savings account ending balance 12/31/2022 \$914.36

Total in Checking and Savings combined \$2,240.89

## Altar Guild Report

This has been a growth year for the Altar Guild. Thanks go to Diane Pierpont, Pat Daunic, Jennifer Huebner, Virginia Syombathy, and Kate Haggans for their help each week. Christmas found Susan Shackford, Hailey Hutchison, Tony and Susan Leonard and Michael Haggans lending a hand to prepare the church for our celebrations.

Having more participants would be wonderful. Spreading weekly duties among many would be ideal:

- Preparing the altar for communion
- Washing vessels and linens after the service
- Maintaining and replacing candles as needed

If you are able to help, even just occasionally, please contact Susan Leonard, Donna Tafel, or Katherine Frydenborg for more information.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine Frydenborg

## Pastoral Care 2022

We continue to reach out and connect with those in our Christ Church family. Pastoral Care became alive in me when my mentor Mother Anne Richards at my previous Parish spearheaded a strong core and committed group to seek out those who could use an extra meal, an extra visit or just someone to listen and pray together.

We at Christ Church are all in one in Pastoral Care. I want to thank Susan Leonard and Sheward Haggerty for bringing me a meal or two or three whilst I went down with Covid and Sarah O'Shana for meals and visits when I went down with an appendectomy.

We are one in the body of Christ+ We will keep our ministry strong but please keep us aware of anyone who would like a "call".

Annie Rae, Lay, Eucharist Minister

## Lay Liturgical Assistants – 10 AM Service – 2023 Report

This report is to thank each and every member of our lay liturgical assistants for your enthusiastic and capable service throughout the past year at our 10 AM and combined services. You are the much-needed extra pieces integral to all our worship services, whether it be in the form of readings, prayers of the people or serving the chalice at Holy Eucharist.

Due to the ongoing pandemic of Covid-19, many of us have not been able to attend inhouse services, so I want to most especially thank those of you who have done double, triple and even ad infinitum service during this trying time in our history of worship at CEC.

I am most grateful for the many blessings each of you bestows with your unique talent to the finely woven tapestry of our services. Please continue to add your excellent works to our family of worship throughout the coming year.

If you would like to join our lay liturgical group to read or serve the Eucharist, please let me know. We welcome new members throughout the year.

With many thanks to you all,

Laura Raymond



## Parish Life – Annual Report 2022

The Year 2022 presented many challenges to our common life, including economic ones. Despite careful and creative management by our Finance team, we ended the year with a modest loss in our operating budget.

The Vestry and I are most grateful for your steadfast financial support of Christ Church. It is what sustains our common life. We also appreciate special gifts for the Food Bank and the Town's Heating Assistance Program. Your special offerings at Easter and Christmas, and memorial gifts in thanksgiving for lives well-lived, enhanced our worship of Almighty God.

Of course, we are also aware of, and grateful for, your gifts of time and goods in support of our common life. Among the great memories of 2022 are the successful Tag Sale in September and the Tree-Lighting/Chili-to-Go/Wreath and Cookie Box Sale/Christmas Market. You also decorated the Mitten Tree, returned Angels under the Balcony gifts, and completed store cards and food bank donations. In all these ways, you have sustained not only our parish's common life, but have reached out in steadfast concern to our neighbors. Because of you, we continued to be an outward and visible sign of Christ's abiding presence with, and steadfast concern for, each other and for the world around us.

In addition to your financial gifts, we thank you for your support in offering prayers, hands-on work, and imaginative ideas to make our work more meaningful, spiritual, and careful. This work may have seemed to you slow and lacking transparency, at times. The Vestry has not rushed to make decisions, always bearing in mind our responsibility to our current parish members and to those yet to come. We have worked with a diocese that is also in transition, doing our best to meet their requirements but depending on our own understanding of what is best for our parish. Especially in such a stressful time, our shared witness to Jesus is important to sustaining hope among us and within our town. We look forward to where the love of God will lead all of us in 2023.

Susan Leonard, *Senior Warden*

The Vestry currently consists of these dedicated people: Michael Haggans, Jr. Warden; Ed Seibert, Treasurer; Virginia Syombathy, Clerk; Beth Brause, Caroline Herrick, Rob Hutchison, Cindy McNamara, Chris Robinson, Lisa Ste. Marie, and me. Other members during the past year were Sandy Beatty, Bet Cummiskey, Sheward Hagerty, Tony Leonard and Janice Novak. We thank them as well for all that they contributed to our work together.

## OUTREACH REPORT FOR 2022

*"My dear friends, our love must not be simply words or mere talk. It must be true love, which shows itself in action and truth. This is how we know what love is." (1 John 3:18-19)*

First, let me begin by saying that the mission of the Outreach Committee, to love and to serve our neighbors, goes on all year *because of you*, the people of Christ Church. As the above Bible verse says, it's about putting the love of God into action, and you all do this in a multitude of ways beyond and within our parish.

Sure, in this Annual Report we can distill our mission into several special occasions throughout the year, but the ministry of love in action never stops. Anytime you purchase a grocery gift card for the Food Bank, anytime you volunteer to tutor a young person, anytime you help out in a Diaper Drive, anytime you stand up for the rights of those who are oppressed, and anytime you dedicate your time to the care of one of our neighbors in need, then you are putting God's love in action.

The Outreach Committee offers a variety of opportunities for each parishioner to be part of putting God's love into action. Caroline Herrick, Jennifer Heubner, Rose Robinson, Kate Haggans, Cindy McNamara, Winnie Seibert, Bobbi Stuart, Susan Tillier, and our beloved departed Bill Cuddy served in 2021 as God's feet on the ground, as did Harrison until his retirement when I began convening the meetings. And they have done a stupendous ministry in bringing us so many different possibilities for how we can get involved.

Here are the highlights of 2022. This list is not exhaustive!

- Through the Shoreline Interfaith Resettlement group, CEC sponsored an Afghan family of eleven. CEC members chaired Transportation and Education Committees with additional members volunteering in those committees and in Finance.
- We hosted an Episcopal Church Creation Care event on the Green in April, with community involvement and invitation. The focus was a performance of Ekklesia's BODY AND LAND.
- In June, we hosted Swords to Plowshares, a ministry of ECCT which transforms guns into garden tools. It was open to all our neighbors, and Outreach members provided food.
- We did Chapel on the Green and made sandwiches the day before. We took socks and underwear from the ECW.
- Outreach sponsored a book study on Shane Claiborne's book: Beating Guns: Hope for People who are Weary of Violence.
- Kate Haggans single-handedly created a Food Bank fundraiser at Halloween for us to put donations inside her pumpkins.
- The Chili Supper this year was chaired by Susan Tillier after many years of Jennifer Heubner having that huge job. Both are on Outreach, and in the publicity about the

event, we made it clear that this is a fundraiser for Meals on Wheels, another way of caring for our neighbors.

- During Advent, we had our Mitten Tree and Angels Under the Balcony. The mittens went to Chapel on the Green. The Angels (\$540.) went to the Fuel Fund.
- We invited the former Director of Guilford Social Services, Tammy DeFancesco, to speak to us at Coffee Hour. What we learned is that The Food Bank prefers grocery gift cards rather than donations of actual food. This resulted in our committee changing its focus away from collecting food to collecting gift cards. This is an ongoing opportunity. For 2022 our total of gift cards was \$440.
- We donated \$1000.00 to The New York Haiti Project to help build a school through St. Luke's Episcopal School and Church in the village of Martel.
- And please forgive me for everything I forgot to mention!

Thank you to all the big hearted, hardworking people on the Outreach Committee, and to all of you for your willingness to put your faith into action. Our Committee is open to ideas, so please let us know how you think we can continue to love our neighbors in word and in deed.

Faithfully yours in Christ,  
Mary Anne Osborn+

## Annual Report – Tag Sale

The tag sale was very successful in 2022. It netted \$6,000. The Christmas Market made about \$700.00, bringing our current checking account total to \$7,100.00.

We have acquired some extra storage space in the downstairs level of the church and this will allow us to start collecting now for our next sale. We will not accept large pieces of furniture until the summer but small pieces can be brought in. As always, we will not accept books, CD's, DVD's, or any type of Electronics.

We are in need of someone to help with the Marketing and Advertising of the sale. We plan to watch for Estate Sales and offer to take leftover items. We will also be contacting local Realtors so that they can let people who are downsizing know that we accept donations. We are happy to listen to other ideas that people may have about how to get the word out and make our 2023 Sale bigger and better than ever.

Thanks to everyone who gave their time and effort to this year's sale. We could not have done it without you.

Sincerely,  
Rose Robinson

## Communications Annual Report 2022

The position of Communications Director had a successful fourth year of activity. Donna gave her notice of resignation in September and started to transition her responsibilities to other people. Newsletters continued monthly thanks to Newsletter Editor Kate Haggans. Harrison continued once or twice weekly emails until his retirement in September. Newsletters and emails kept the parish up to date on upcoming events, schedules for services, photos, parish happenings, events beyond the parish, and access to a monthly calendar. Occasionally I sent an all-parish email if necessary.

Weekly communications shifted in October to a Friday email that Donna Tafel organized and sent. Lisa St Marie made many updates to the website by refreshing the photos and adding a stewardship/giving page.

We had a fantastic year for local newspaper coverage. Body and Land, a dance and dialogue for eco-justice featured Morley van Yperen from Ekklesia as the Person of the Week. We also had a press release with photo in the Guilford Courier for this event as well as a front page photo and write up after the event. In June Mary Anne Osborn was POW for Swords to Plowshares, WTNH did a short segment, New Haven Register did a front page feature, and NPR's Davis Dunavin did a piece. VBS made it into the Courier as a press release with photo. Susan Tillier was POW for the Chili Supper in late November.

Facebook continued to be a point of connection for many in the parish. Items of interest from the diocese and beyond were shared on a weekly basis. The Instagram page was not utilized. A-Frames in the front of the church changed with the seasons and for different events(VBS, Sunday schedule, Tag Sale). The website and Facebook page were used for Livestreaming services and keeping parish current with information.

I have enjoyed my role as Communications Director and look forward to helping on a smaller scale as a volunteer.

Donna LaFata

## **Director of Youth Ministries**

2022 - 2023 was my first full year with Christ Episcopal Church.

I have a new youth group leader – Page Pelphrey, who is very familiar with the Parish and very flexible to work with. As the pandemic has been slowly coming to the end, I have welcomed a few new families into the Sunday School. Children are now more comfortable to socialize and eager to mingle and learn.

Accomplishments were:

1. Fully enrolled summer program (VBS) with children thriving and budget not exceeded.
2. Christmas Pageant - very well executed and received with children fully engaged and reciting parts from memory.
3. Growing program without THE BOSS - retirement of Father Harrison - without the priest there is still strong communication with the Wardens and the rest of the staff.

My goals for this new coming year are to keep growing the program without exceeding the budget and to create more Parish-wide events that will bridge all generations and open some programs to the public.

Another goal and idea for this new year is to partner with Habitat For Humanity and create a group that will be helping build houses for low income families in New Haven. Giving back to the community and helping out is one of the strongest doctrines of the church.

There is always room for improvement. As the Director, I am still in the search for a nursery teacher. My responsibility and priority are the children in Sunday School. In order to provide a safe and right environment, I need to hire another teacher to be present with children, especially the youngest ones at all times.

Dorota Xeller

## **Middle School Report 2022**

The Sunday school program is now 5th-8th grade for middle school with one Sunday off a month to acolyte and attend the church service. The high school students are focused on being “adults in church.” They created an Advent program, have been singing during the offertory, and put together care packages for our college students. They will continue to participate in the church services and community service.

Page Pelphrey

## **Annual Report – Newsletter**

After two years on the job, I am still learning how to do it. The February 2023 issue has just been released, the March issue is in the works, but it's important to remember that the CEC Newsletter only happens because of the people of this community!

A year ago, I wrote a tentative mission description for the Newsletter, to be a bit of visual and verbal glue to compensate for our enforced distance from one another. Today we gather more easily than before, but we face new challenges, and so the Newsletter continues to evolve:

The mission of the Newsletter is to celebrate the accomplishments of this community in challenging times. We evolve and we persevere, as we celebrate our faith and our community.

Kate Haggans, editor

## Parish Administrator, 2022

I will be starting my 3<sup>rd</sup> year with Christ Church on March 17<sup>th</sup>. While reading over what I wrote in last year's report I had to snicker somewhat ... "it's a peaceful, very kind environment with perfect hours and an amazing, patient "supervisor". All that is still true but times have changed in my office. Since Father Harrison retired the door is forever swinging and the phone is forever ringing. All good!

Weekly bulletins (normally 3), each with their own format, take a full day. This leaves payment sheets to The Hartmann Group so that our bills get paid, special reports or bulletins, mailings to the parishioners that all keep me busy. I continue to learn more and more each and every week because something new always seems to come up.

The most wonderful thing that has occurred since COVID has calmed down is that I am now getting to know the parishioners of Christ Church. The removal of masks from many faces has allowed me to put a face to a name.

Michael Haggans and Susan Leonard have been very helpful and patient during the transition since Harrison left in September. Our Supply Clergy have all been delightful to work with. Mark, Dorota, Donna L, Kate and Marsha have all helped in one way or another to keep me grounded and focused on the tasks at hand.

Many thanks to all for continuing to welcome me to Christ Church.

Donna Tafel



## **Finance & Treasurer Committee Annual Report 2022**

2022 presented the Parish with several unexpected challenges. The 2022 Income Statement showed a loss for the year of \$12,779 primarily due to unexpected expenses including make up payments for the pension account and increased Maintenance Expenses.

Our Endowment is invested along with other parishes by the Diocese in a pooled fund managed by Bank of America. Due to the weak stock and bond markets, the pooled fund had a 16% loss of value for 2022. Our Endowment however, benefited from several large gifts during 2022. The Endowment ended the year with a value of \$688,400. During 2022, our Endowment contributed \$30,954 to our parish income.

Ted Sands  
Finance Committee Chair

Ed Seibert  
Acting Treasurer

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - GUILFORD  
2023 BUDGET

				Unaudited Actual	Proposed Budget
				2022	2023
			<b>Income</b>		
			General Purpose		
			Net Pledge Income	208,864.73	200,000
			Non-pledge Offering	12,726.26	13,000
			Donations	2,280.00	3,000
			Easter & Christmas	5,860.75	6,000
			Fund Raisers - Church	0.00	0
			Memorial Gifts	0.00	0
			Music Program Support	415.00	
			Flowers & Specials	520.00	600
			Plate Offering	3,106.05	3,500
			Sunday School Offerings	0.00	0
			Use of Church Properties	9,456.00	11,500
			<b>Fund for the Future</b>		<b>10,000</b>
			Income from Investments	30,953.72	27,400
			<b>Total General Purpose Revenue</b>	<b>274,182.51</b>	<b>275,000</b>
			<b>Expenses</b>		
			Diocesan Pledge	25,668.96	28,238
			Salaries & Related Expenses		
			<b>Total Salaries &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>172,428.42</b>	<b>141,030</b>
			Church Programs		
			Adult Christian Ed.	1,583.57	1,000
			Auditing Services	0.00	1,500
			Choir / Special Music	4,829.00	4,000
			Sunday School & VBS Supplies	387.04	275
			Administration		
			Other Expense	582.71	300
			Postage	2,155.75	1,000
			Publicity/Ads	124.68	300
			Telephone/Internet	3,970.10	4,129
			Office Supplies	4,826.11	5,011
			Bookkeeping Service	3,800.00	3,952
			General & Finance	856.92	891
			<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>17,455.16</b>	<b>15,583</b>
			Hospitality	1,646.45	3,000

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - GUILFORD  
2023 BUDGET

		Newcomers Ministry	0.00	300
		Stewardship	250.84	800
		Outreach & Pastoral Care	0.00	500
		Altar Flowers / Special Services	491.43	750
		Altar Supplies-other	840.37	1,000
		Youth Program	2,279.77	2,525
		Bible Study Coordinator		2,000
		Program Growth		0
		Transition Expenses		10,000
		<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<b>29,860.23</b>	<b>43,233</b>
		<b>Plant Expenses</b>		
		Insurance	16,403.96	17,060
		Interest Expense	0.00	0
		Maintenance Supplies	261.32	750
		Organ & Piano Maintenance	1,361.39	1,560
		Church Repair & Maintenance	6,883.65	7,159
		Rectory Repair & Maintenance	1,930.50	2,080
		Grounds Maintenance	7,191.49	520
		Other Repairs & Improvements	8,263.75	3,120
		Maintenance Fund Reserve		1,200
		Outside Cleaning	3,370.00	3,505
		Utilities - Church	13,338.22	17,634
		<b>Total Plant Expenses</b>	<b>59,004.28</b>	<b>54,588</b>
		<b>Total Parish Expenses</b>	<b>286,961.89</b>	<b>267,088</b>
		<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>-12,779.38</b>	<b>7,912</b>

**Christ Church**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through December 2022

	Jan - Dec 22
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE</b>	
<b>GENERAL PURPOSE</b>	
Pledge Payments & Prior Cash	208,914.73
Non-pledge offerings	12,726.26
Donations	2,280.00
Easter & Christmas	5,607.75
Fund Raisers-Church	203.00
Income from Investments, etc.	30,953.72
Flowers & Specials	520.00
Plate Offerings	3,106.05
Use of Church Properties	9,456.00
<b>Total GENERAL PURPOSE</b>	273,767.51
<b>Total TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE</b>	273,767.51
<b>SPECIAL PURPOSE</b>	
Music Program Support	415.00
<b>Total SPECIAL PURPOSE</b>	415.00
<b>Total Income</b>	274,182.51
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>TOTAL PARISH OPERATIONS</b>	
<b>DISBURSEMENTS-Outside</b>	
Diocesan Pledge - Parish	25,668.96
<b>Total DISBURSEMENTS-Outside</b>	25,668.96
<b>SALARIES &amp; RELATED EXP.</b>	
Payroll Processing Fee	1,938.81
Clerical Education	50.00
Housing Equity Allowance	242.69
Med., Dental, Gp Life Ins.	10,881.00
Payroll Taxes inc SS & Medicare	18,660.93
Pension Premiums	21,732.88
Prof. Exp. - Rector	211.14
Rectory Utilities	5,455.74
Salaries	
Supply Clergy	4,901.70
Salaries - Other	107,487.29
<b>Total Salaries</b>	112,388.99
Social Security Allowance	866.24
<b>Total SALARIES &amp; RELATED EXP.</b>	172,428.42
<b>CHURCH PROGRAMS</b>	
Adult Christian Ed.	1,583.57
Choir/ Music	
Music-Special Service	4,670.00
Choir/ Music - Other	159.00
<b>Total Choir/ Music</b>	4,829.00
Christian Ed. Youth/Sunday Sch	387.04
Fund Raising - Church	96.60
General Administration	
Bookkeeping Services	3,800.00
Finance Chg & Bank Fee	856.92
Professional Services	945.58
Other Expenses	582.71
Outside Printing	193.31

**Christ Church**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through December 2022

	Jan - Dec 22
Postage	2,155.75
Publicity, Advertising, Communic	124.68
Telephone, FAX, Internet	3,970.10
Supplies/office expense	4,826.11
<b>Total General Administration</b>	<b>17,455.16</b>
Hospitality	1,646.45
Stewardship	250.84
Worship & Altar Supplies	
Worship Alter Supplies Other	840.37
Altar Flowers/Special Services	491.43
<b>Total Worship &amp; Altar Supplies</b>	<b>1,331.80</b>
Youth Program/J2A, Rite13	2,279.77
<b>Total CHURCH PROGRAMS</b>	<b>29,860.23</b>
<b>PLANT EXPENSES</b>	
Contract Cleaning	3,370.00
Insurance on Prop. & Ops.	16,403.96
Maintenance Supplies	261.32
Repair & Improvements	
Organ & Piano Maintenance	1,361.39
Repairs & Maintenance	6,883.65
Rectory Repairs & Maintenance	1,930.50
Grounds Maintenance	7,191.49
Repair & Improvements - Other	8,263.75
<b>Total Repair &amp; Improvements</b>	<b>25,630.78</b>
Utilities - Church	13,338.22
<b>Total PLANT EXPENSES</b>	<b>59,004.28</b>
<b>Total TOTAL PARISH OPERATIONS</b>	<b>286,961.89</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>286,961.89</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>(12,779.38)</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
Maintenance Reserve Fund	22,205.08
Discretionary Fund - Rector	6,084.14
Gifts/Other	
Flowers/Music	807.00
Gifts/Other-Youth Program	430.00
Gifts/Other - Other	15,223.65
<b>Total Gifts/Other</b>	<b>16,460.65</b>
Gifts to Endowment Fund	160,000.00
Fund Raisers	6,424.66
Outreach Income	
Fuel Fund	505.00
Refugee Ministry Income	300.00
Food Bank, Baskets, Card	150.00
Outreach Income - Other	2,301.00
<b>Total Outreach Income</b>	<b>3,256.00</b>
ECW - Income	2,896.18
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>217,326.71</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>	
Capital Improvement Expense	18,903.00
Dom. Rep. Mission Trip Expense	650.00

**Christ Church**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through December 2022

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	<u>Jan - Dec 22</u>
Food Banks, Baskets	605.00
Fuel Fund Expense	520.00
Gift/Other	12,810.81
Fund Raising Exp-other	100.00
Rite 13 Fund Raiser/Expenses	522.50
Memorials	700.00
Spl. Outreach	1,751.00
Refugee Ministry Expense	2,911.15
Discretionary Fund-Rector	2,685.44
ECW - Expense	2,512.53
Major Improvement	33,950.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>78,621.43</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>138,705.28</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>125,925.90</u></u>