

Christ Episcopal Church Annual Parish Meeting 2024



Annual meeting will be held immediately following the 10:00 worship service on **Sunday, January 19st**.

Vestry Elections will be held during the annual meeting.

Reports that were submitted electronically to the church office can be found below.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

AGENDA

Call To Order – Fr. Hal Weidman

Devotion/Prayer

Rector Address

Appointment of Clerk & Tellers - Fr Hal Weidman

Vestry Election – Fr. Hal Weidman

A. Candidate Introductions

Louisa Beckett

Lauren Darby

Tim Hood

Kelly Provost

B. Voting Guidance – Fr. Hal

C. Ballot Distribution – Tellers, if necessary.

2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

Leadership & Ministries Reports (Alphabetical Order)

A. Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers & Readers Nancy Lutsko, Chairperson

B. Adult Formation, Daughters of the King, Molly Stevenson, Chairperson

C. Altar Guild Lucy Tomberlin, Chairperson

D. Choir Issa Young, Director

E. Christian Education: Nursery, Children, Episcopal Youth Community & Formation
Michell Weidman, Director

F. College Ministry Jeri Lyn Flowers, Director

G. Deacon Nancy Sartin

H. Finance/Bookkeeper Stefani Carroll, Treasurer and Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

I. Greeters Head, Martin Holland

J. Outreach & Parish Life Mike Tanner, Liaison

K. Hospitality Pat Denmark

L. Jammin for Jesus Stella Clark

M. Lunch Bunch David Sandbach

N. Media & Communication Larry Wisenbaker, Liaison

O. Newcomers Martin Holland

P. Parish Life, Foyer Groups, Stewardship & Endowment Jeani Synyard, Liaison

Q. Pastoral Care Phyllis Holland, Liaison

R. Pre-School & Parents' Morning Out Elise Sandbach, Director

S. Rector Fr. Hal Weidman

T. Agenda Ushers Head, Bobby Yarbrough

U. Vespers Phyllis Heirs

V. Wardens

1. Sr Warden Molly Stevenson

2. Jr Warden-Steve Honeycutt

Old Business--None

New Business

Election Results

Wardens [Sr-One 1-year term; Jr- One 1-year term] (Fr Hal)

Treasurer [One 1-year term] (Fr Hal)

Vestry [Four 3-year terms] (Tellers, John Heirs, Jeani Synyard, Patricia Tyson, Larry Wisenbaker)

Budgets

A. 2024 Budget Report Stefani Carroll, Treasurer

B. 2025 Budget Sr Warden: Molly Stevenson | Treasurer: Stefani Carroll | Finance:
Becky Meadors

2025 Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 18, 2026

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Annual Meeting
Christ Episcopal Church
January 21, 2024

Ballots for Vestry were distributed as the congregation went to the Parish Hall for lunch and returned to the tellers to tally. When lunch had been served, Fr. Hal Weidman called the meeting to order.

Deacon Nancy Sartin opened the meeting with prayer.

Announcements included recognition of the Vestry candidates: Cliff Baker, Krystle Black, Merrill Guice, Becky Meadors, Ed Mistick, Sally Nunn, Kathleen Parsons, Don Thieme, and Bobby Yarbrough.

The outgoing members of the Vestry served as tellers to count the votes: Brad Burnette, Sandra Fletcher, Dottie Pitts and Al Turner.

The individuals responsible for the many ministries of Christ Church were listed and the Rector made remarks concerning the new beginnings that have been made in the past year. Attendance averaged 140 which is a return to pre-Covid numbers. Pledges for the coming year totaled \$509,000. More pledges can be expected. For the coming year, it will be important to build relationships, prepare for healing, experiment, explore, grow, and develop ministries.

Election results were announced. The incoming Vestry members are: Cliff Baker, Becky Meadors, Ed Mistick, and Bobby Yarbrough.

The congregation was reminded to read *The Good Life*, the book the diocese as a whole is reading.

Stefani Carroll, Treasurer, reported that we ended 2023 with a slight surplus and that the 2024 budget had been adopted by the Vestry.

The annual meeting in 2025 will be held on January 19.

Incoming Executive committee members are: Molly Stevenson, Senior Warden; Steve Honeycutt, Junior Warden, Phyllis Holland, Secretary, and Stefani Carroll, Treasurer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11.

Phyllis Holland

Clerk

Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers & Readers

Nancy Lutsko – Chairperson

Report Not Available

Nancy is always looking for new members to join and become involved her ministry

Report from Altar Guild

Lucy Tomberlin – Chairperson

Report Not Available

Feel free to ask Lucy about joining the Altar Guild and what the plans are ahead for 2025.

Report from Children, Youth and Families

Bobby Yarbrough – Chairperson

Children, Youth, and Families:

2024 was a wonderful year. Our pre-school continues to thrive and grow. This past year, the pre-school added one more teacher and 2 additional aides. In keeping with the times, aide salaries were raised from \$7.25 to \$8.25

All pre-school staff completed the safe church and communities courses. As we head into 2025, the pre-school teachers and staff are working toward getting their CPR certifications along with AED training.

Katie Wisenbaker and Ellie Copeland were asked to take over EYC in 2024. They are working hard and diligently to keep the youth involved and active. EYC is slowly making a comeback. The current challenge is the busy schedule of all the kids and trying to make it work for everyone. Whether two or ten show up, Katie and Ellie are doing a fantastic job.

Report from Christian Education

Michelle Weidman – Chairperson

Summary of 2024

Christ Church has several programs that support adult learning and faith formation. Two of these opportunities are off the church campus. Both were held at Tammy and Ron Borders' home. On Bible Study was led by Willa Valencia and the other was led by

Tammy. Chris Roan leads a study of the readings for the day on Sundays in the Parish Hall between the 8AM and 10AM services. Fr Hal mentors an Education for Ministry group on Monday evenings. This group consists of seven individuals studying on the seminary level.

Youth ministries are being led by Katie Wisenbaker and Ellie Copeland. Children's ministries have grown quite a bit this year. There have been a few changes. The nursery and chapel functions as a learning center for babies, toddlers and older elementary school aged children. The former nursery has been divided so babies and toddlers may play and explore safely. Older children may go on to the chapel area and work with the materials that give them a hands-on experience. Some of the presentations or stories cover foundational stories of the old and new testaments. Other presentations explore liturgy, prophecy, geography of Israel and Jerusalem, biblical genealogy and the life of Jesus.

The old nursery has been painted, thanks to Steve Honeycutt and Stefani Carroll. Sunday morning teachers include Madison Edmondson, Cassidy Bradley, and Tobey Ellis (interns) and Kylee Creasy, Anne Turner, and Phyllis Heirs. In the next year I hope to enhance the program for 4th and 5th graders. I would like to establish an art room and create a children's garden.

Faithfully submitted,
Michelle Weidma

Report from Christian Formation

Molly Stevenson – Chairperson

FORMATION:

Children –

Godly Play is presented each Sunday beginning at 9:45 for toddlers through elementary school-aged children, with an average of 8-10 children participating each week

Vacation Bible School was held June 3-6 with ~20 children participating each day

The 4:30 Christmas Eve service was well attended and some sweet traditions were continued – bells, candles, & children's sermon to name a few

The Nativity/Epiphany pageant was presented during the December 29th 10am service

Youth –

Katie Wisenbaker and Ellie Copeland have taken the reigns to provide a welcoming space and activities for our youth

Maddie Yarbrough was the Rector for Happening #109 at Honey Creek, April 5-7. 5

Christ Church high schoolers attended as candidates and 9 Christ Church members served on the team with Maddie.

Families –

The combined Trunks of Treats/Parish Picnic event was well received – a good time was had by all!

Participation was good for the Advent wreath-making event with 20 wreaths made

Adults –

Chis Roan led a weekly Lectionary of the Day discussion each Sunday morning

The Lenten program with dinner was enjoyed by participants

DOK Brunch was held in the fall

The Tammy Borders and Willa Valencia Bible Studies are ongoing and well attended – incredibly grateful for their faithfulness!

Cursillo Reunion Groups continue to meet regularly

An EFM group began in September with participants from Christ Church and St. Barnabas

One Book/One Diocese book discussion during Lent

Goals for 2025 will include –

Plugging into and taking advantage of diocesan staff job responsibility changes with regard to formation

Increased participation in formation opportunities - not for statistical purposes but for strengthening the Kingdom of God.

Mid-morning/Mid-week Bible Study

Potential Men's Bible Study

Potential Book Studies

Determining what people want and what are they willing to commit to and make a priority.

Exploring additional/different opportunities for "older elementary" aged children

Report from College Ministry

Jeri-Lyn Flowers – Chairperson

The college ministry serves college students including students attending Valdosta State University, Wiregrass Technical College, and Georgia Military College. Grace Cafe is open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 10 PM and Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM. Students have access to free coffee and snacks, a copier and printer, free wifi, a food pantry and two of the prettiest cats you've ever seen. Students are invited to a free dinner every other Thursday night at 7 PM. There is fun programming on the alternate Thursday nights as well. The college ministry is guided by a team of 9 parishioners who meet monthly to work with the director to interview prospective interns, provide insight and guidance.

This year we had a total of 12 interns throughout the year. We provide housing to our interns in exchange for 20 hours of work per week at the church and/or at Grace Cafe. One of our interns provided assistance to the preschool teachers several nights a week. Two of our interns helped Peggy Baer in the church office last semester. One intern helped the senior warden with buildings and grounds projects last semester. Two interns assisted the director in the weekly shopping trip to Second Harvest. One of our interns provided technical website and internet assistance on a weekly basis to the church.

Grace Cafe served a total of 5,361 students which is a 5% increase over last year.

Grace Cafe hosted 16 dinners for students. There were also several events mostly held

on Thursday evenings. The Cafe hosted a Super Bowl party, art night, two knitting nights, a watermelon social, ice cream social, a few game nights, a pumpkin carving night, trivia night, karaoke, and a few football Saturdays.

The interns at Grace Cafe diligently serve students who experience significant food insecurity. The interns heavily rely on Second Harvest to provide fresh fruits and vegetables and nonperishable items to students as needed. The food pantry has been well used. The National Center for Education Statistics reports 35% of college students nationwide experience food insecurity. Another 13% experience homelessness.

Compline was held several times throughout the fall semester on Wednesdays at 7 PM at Grace Cafe.

During the summer months, interns who resided in Louttit Hall and Tomberlin House paid a \$200 per month fee to help offset the utilities. The interns who resided on our church campus were provided some fun opportunities such as cookouts, swim parties, blueberry picking, a visit to the Peach Shed, kayaking at Banks Lake, hiking at Reed Bingham State Park, fireworks at the mall, tubing at Ichetucknee Springs, and a day trip to Fernandina Beach. And thanks to the Yarbrough family, the interns had a retreat and training at Lake Blackshear where they enjoyed jet skis, swimming, boating and team building. The interns also worked for several parishioners during their time off this summer.

Our parish was quite generous to Grace Cafe through their donations of furniture, food, baked goods, household items, money, opportunities, and lots of encouragement.

Report from Communications and Media

Larry Wisenbaker – Chairperson

Communication & Media Report, Annual

Report for 2024 Members: Larry Wisenbaker, Julius Ariail, Julia Ariail, Elizabeth Wisenbaker, Anne Shenton.

Activities this year

- Logo – we designed and launched our new “little red church” Logo. Variations of the logo can be created for various applications (like the logo on this report). Let us know if you need a logo for your committee or event.
- Facebook/Instagram – we maintained a presence on Facebook and Instagram. These posts are mostly after-the-event photos and are intended to help build our church community and enthusiasm.
- Friday Vineyard – this is an important part of our overall communication plan. If you are not receiving the Friday Vineyard (via email), please contact the church office to sign-up for it. This year, we have worked on improving the Friday Vineyard to make it more relevant.

- Website – we (i.e. Julius Ariail) worked hard to revisit/revise/update/improve our website. One of the interns, Solé Meighan, has helped us with posting items to our website and creating links for publishing in the Friday Vineyard.
- Church Calendar – we researched and experimented with an online calendar. Although we made the decision to hold off on implementing this for now, we can use the knowledge we gained later if we decide to revisit it.

Audio Control & Livestreaming *This is a sub-group of Media & Communications that manages audio and livestreaming for most worship services. Participants this year include Ken Rumstay, Tom Carroll, Glenn Flowers, Julius Arial and Larry Wisenbaker. We need more helpers - let us know if you are interested in joining our team.*

- Audio management is as important for those attending in person as it is for those watching via livestream. We also have a hearing-assist system that automatically launches during system power up. Audio management involves setup/testing, muting/unmuting, volume adjustment and pack-up & shutdown after the service.
- We have successfully livestreamed every Sunday service during 2024 (all Sundays except for the Sunday after Helene), plus a few funerals and a few special services. We typically have 10-15 viewers on a given Sunday. We have parishioners who find this service to be extremely valuable to them.
- Viewership of the posted livestreams continues to increase after the event is over. Some of those are first time views, while others represent members re-watching announcements, sermons and/or special performances/events. Some use this as a method to “shop” for a church.
- We use a paid software/service (i.e. Streamyard) to produce the livestream feed and link the feed to Facebook and Youtube. Events are typically planned/scheduled several days before the event via Streamyard; Streamyard is web based so some of the work is completed from home by logging in over the internet.
- The primary ongoing cost for all the above is the annual subscription to Streamyard, which is about \$400/year. There is always the possibility of having to replace failed equipment - the biggest risk being the lapel microphones which run \$100-200 each. We also use the church’s network system and WiFi.

Larry Wisenbaker

Report from Music & Worship

Patricia Tyson – Chairperson

We introduced Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services for several months. Every Thursday morning at 7 a.m. there is a Eucharist. On Sundays there are two weekly Eucharistic Celebrations (8 a.m. and 10 a.m.) The choir is a large part of all Sunday

services. Vespers meets each Sunday evening at 6 p.m. (1st and 3rd Sundays in the church and all others via Zoom)

January: Epiphany pageant with Brunswick stew, Jan. 6

Annual meeting, Jan. 21; new vestry installed Jan. 28

February: Vestry retreat @Christ the King facilitated by Carrie Wooten, Feb 3

Shrove Tuesday and pancake supper, Feb 13

Wednesday Eucharist (Lent), Feb 14; Feb 21 (with meal and program);

Feb 28 (program)

March: Patricia Marks gave talk on Labyrinth (Sunday) Mar. 3

Meal, program, Mar. 6 (Wednesday)

Quiet Day, Labyrinth walk, Mar. 9

Eucharist, meal, Taize, Mar. 20

Palm Sunday, Mar. 24

Stations of the Cross, Mar. 27

Maundy Thursday service and Night Watch 7 p.m.-7 a.m., Mar. 28

Good Friday services, 12 Noon and 6 p.m., Mar. 29

Holy Saturday 10 a.m., Mar. 30; Vigil Saturday Evening

Easter Day Celebration, Mar. 31

April: Bishop Logue visit, Apr. 22

May: Youth Sunday, May 12

July: Independence Day, Eucharist, Lunch (July 4)

August: Compline at Grace Café, Aug. 21

September: Elise Sandbach Day (Sept. 29)

December: Eucharist with covered dish (Dec. 4)

Organ recital/Christmas celebration(Dec 15)

Lessons and Carols (Dec. 22)

Report from Finance/Bookkeeping

Stefani Carroll – Chairperson

Amy Creasy - Bookkeeper

Financial Report at the end of Annual Report

Greeters

Martin Holland

Report Not Available

Martin is always looking for members to assist with greeting old and new members on Sunday Mornings.

Report from Outreach Program

Mike Tanner – Chairperson

2024 accomplishments

- Christ Church has established relationships with Christ the King and St. Barnabas creating ways to be the Episcopal Church presence in Valdosta and Lowndes County. All three vestries recently met at St. Barnabas to collaborate how we can use the strengths of each congregation to better serve our community. Christ Church brought the Men in Blue grill and cooked hamburgers. This was a very productive morning, and great ideas were shared between the congregations.
- The Faith in Blue outreach was postponed due to our last hurricane. We will be notified by the Valdosta Police Department when it is rescheduled and make all aware. This great outreach puts local law enforcement and area faith organizations together to create a day of family activities for local citizens in a positive and fun environment.

2025 Outreach goals and update on new opportunities for us

- I am your outreach voice to the vestry for ideas and possibilities CEC can pursue utilizing your knowledge and thoughts on outreach to the community. Please come to me with your ideas and how we all can help make it happen. I will bring your ideas to the vestry so we can better support and facilitate the mission. We need everyone's help in making these outreach efforts succeed.
- We have a wonderful new outreach that has already gotten underway in just the last few days. Pepi Nelson has introduced us to the soup kitchen downtown operated by a group called Quola. They have been here since 1993 providing outreach for those in need of meals and other services including clothing. Currently, there is a huge need for men's clothing, especially coats and shoes.

Respectfully,

Mike Tanner / vestry liaison for outreach

Report for Hospitality

Pat Denmark

Pat's hospitality team are always looking for members to join in serving during the Sunday Coffee Hour. They have also provided wait service for many of the special events that were held this past year in the parish hall.

Report from Newcomer Team

Martin Holland

Contact Marting Holland and see how you can assist the Newcomer team and ask about what the Newcomer team has planned for 2025.

Report from Parish Life, Foyer Groups

Jeani Synyard – Chairperson

The Parish Life committee, composed of Michael Black, Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Jennifer Hood, Sandy Sandbach, Paul Stevenson and Mike Tanner and Jeani Synyard as co-chairs, held many festivities in 2024.

We had gatherings for different age groups, hosted in the home of a parishioner. We formed 4 new Foyer Groups, and Ocktoberfest was held in the parish hall.

There were 3 HEP parties and a fun parish picnic, where we celebrated Elise Sandbach's 30+ years at our pre-school.

I hope that all of these functions, as well as others, will be continued in 2025.

Report from Pastoral Care

Phyllis Holland – Chairperson

Lay Eucharistic Visitors supplement the pastoral care of the clergy by bringing communion to shut-ins. More individuals are welcome to join this ministry. You should contact Deacon Nancy Sartin to begin the process.

In 2025, 46 visits were made by the LEVs. If you are aware of anyone who should be on the list to be visited, please contact Phyllis Holland. Pastoral Care seeks to minister to all parishioners, whether or not they are able to attend services.

Report from Preschool

Elise Sandbach – Chairperson

Report Not Available

This has been a good year for the Pre-school.
Classes have been filled and new classes have been added.

Report from the Rector

Father Hal Weidman

Fr Hal's Annual Report to the Parish January 7, 2025

This year's report summarizes events during 2024. Unfortunately, it overlooks some events and people. This does not mean they were unimportant or unappreciated; it just means I wanted to keep my report to a reasonable length this year after the lengthy one in 2023.

The year began with 40 attending the Epiphany Pageant on January 6th. Especially entertaining were the three Kings played by dads.

During the Annual Meeting Cliff Baker, Becky Meadors, Ed Mistick and Bobby Yarbrough were elected to the Vestry Meeting.

The Vestry went on Retreat to Christ The King Episcopal Church in Valdosta for teambuilding and discussions about the upcoming year. Carey Wooten from Calvary, Americas facilitated the gathering. It was decided that Eric Laws' Respectful Communication Guidelines and Vestry Norms were created and agreed upon for our meetings. The concept of a Consent Agenda was also adopted. There was a lot of energy in planning for the year. It was agreed that each Vestry member would create 2-3 S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Oriented) goals for the year. The Vestry as a whole would also create 2-3 goals for the year. It was also decided that the Vestry Member of the Day programs would return. All were encouraged to pray for each other and our ministries. The following ministry liaison assignments were made:

Administration: John Hiers Building & Grounds: Steve Honeycutt
Christian Formation: Molly Stevenson College Ministry: Steve Honeycutt
Communications & Media: Cliff Baker & Larry Wisenbaker
Discipleship & Evangelism: Ed Mistick Finance: Becky Meadors
Music & Worship: Patricia Tyson Outreach:
Mike Tanner: Outreach
Parish Life: Jeani Synyard

In preparation for Lent a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper was held. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, evening Eucharists were celebrated along with talks given by me.

The Communications Committee rolled out a new logo for the Parish for the "Friday Vineyard" and church stationary. The website also underwent a substantial upgrade. Jeri-Lyn Flowers was hired as our new Director of the College Ministry and Frances Guice decided to step down as our Altar Guild Chair. I'm grateful for Frances' service and for Lucy Tomberlin for assuming this position last Spring.

Our full-time Administrator position was changed to a part-time Administrative Assistant position and after months of Merrill Guice and Rachel Rumstay volunteering in the office, Peggy Baer was hired for the staff position. I am grateful for Merrill and Rachel's service to this parish and I'm pleased to say that Peggy has been the right hire for Christ Church.

In preparation for Bp Frank's visit in April I led a "Welcome to the Episcopal Church" class. During Frank's visit, ten were confirmed, nine were received and one reaffirmed their faith.

In addition to special Holy Week services a Taizé service was held and well received. We joined Christ The King in the Easter Vigil at their place.

The Vestry reviewed the Privacy Policy and Conflict of Interest Forms to be signed by those requiring them. After hosting parish meetings to talk about security issues, it was decided that radios would be ordered for our ushers to use during the 10AM Sunday service. Endowment and Investment Fund Policies and Guidelines were approved. Two new office computers were approved for purchase.

During the summer, we assisted other area Episcopal churches in feeding healthcare workers who see migrant farm workers in our area. This event was held at Christ The King.

Molly Stevenson was one of Georgia's Deputies for General Convention in Louisville.

We also hosted a July 4th service where I preached, and Jim Elliott celebrated; 85 attended (68 in 2023).

Molly Stevenson was recommended to Bishop Frank to continue in the Ordination Process towards priesthood.

Our Preschool and PMO aides' pay was increased. \$251 was collected for ERD and \$275 was collected for UTO.

The bylaws were amended so business could be conducted via email if an important issue surfaced between meetings.

Ed Mistick, Sandy Sandbach, and Molly Stevenson were elected as our Delegates and Elise Sandbach, Paul Stevenson and Michelle Weidman were elected as our Alternates for Diocesan Convention in Tifton.

Safe Churches. Safe Communities training was emphasized throughout the year. The PMO/Preschool students and staff were welcomed back to school and the college students' electronic devices. Were blessed; devotions were given during both terms.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and with the help of Julius Ariail, Peggy Baer, Larry Wisenbaker, and Bobby Yarbrough I sent messages to the parish encouraging prayer and offering support for those in need. Due to the hurricane, our stewardship campaign was delayed for two weeks. A need for a Disaster Relief Plan surfaced. Work continues on this led by Mike Tanner.

Hours for individuals to "drop in" my office to chat were published (Tuesday and Thursday, 10-12). Appointments are encouraged.

We hosted a listening session for our Convocation for discussions about diocesan Strategic Planning.

Talks on Henry Nouwen's Spirituality of Fundraising and Celtic Spirituality were given. We celebrated Elise Sandbach's 30+ years of service to our Preschool and enjoyed a parish picnic and Trunk and Treats.

In October, the Vestries of the Valdosta area Episcopal Churches met to talk about where we might join together on various ministries. We will meet again during Lent.

Towards the end of the year a Mutual Ministry Review was conducted with the results sent to Canon Lasch.

Holy Eucharist was celebrated at Holy Trinity in Blakely by me since they haven't had a priest visit them in two years.

During November we hosted a party to watch the Investiture of Bp Sean Rowe to Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, a group of men attended a VSU football game, and a Thanksgiving Eucharist with area Episcopal Churches was hosted by St Barnabas.

On Christmas Eve 159 attended our Children's Service with 109 being here for the late service.

Our average Sunday attendance for 2024 was 152, a 7.8% increase from 2023.

It was a pleasure and honor to serve Christ with our families and friends this year. I believe we are doing God's will in continuing to be more efficient in how we do business, more spirit-filled in how we worship, more joyful in how we lead our children and youth, and more pastoral in how we treat each other, both members of this parish and beyond. I look forward to another outstanding year at Christ Church during 2025.

Grace and peace,
Fr Hal+

Report for Ushers

Bobby Yarbrough, Chairperson

Talk with Bobby about being Usher with Christ Church he has a couple of openings at this time. Check and see what he has planned for 2025.

Report for Vespers

Phyllis Heirs

Check with Phyllis and find out what her ministry provides for Christ Church and see what her plan is for 2025.

Report from Sr. Warden

Molly Steven

WARDENS:

Following are some of the accomplishments of your Vestry as a whole during 2024 –

- Goals were established during the Vestry Retreat in February
- A new Financial Policies and Procedures manual was adopted in March
- By-laws were amended to add a provision for meeting and taking votes electronically when deemed necessary
- Vestry Member of the Day was reinstated
- There has been further relationship-building between the local Episcopal churches
- Security was discussed at parish-wide forums
- Monthly Birthday/Anniversary recognition and prayers was reinstated the first Sundays of the month
- Our communications team created and implemented the use of a new logo
- Hosted one of the Diocesan Strategic Planning sessions
- Hosted a “watch party” for the Presiding Bishop Consecration
- Goals for 2025 will include –
- Continued steps toward better communication – accurate and timely
- 100% compliance with the new Safe Churches/Safe Communities requirements

**Individual vestry members will provide information on accomplishments with regard to their specific ministries to which they are the liaison.

Report from Jr. Warden Steve Honeycutt

Recap of 2024/Goals for 2025

- The safety of our staff and Parishioners was our number one goal in 2024. These are some of the accomplishments in 2024 that have improved our safety program.
- Installed three AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillator). One is in the Parish Hall, hallway of the office and in the hallway of the Gabbard Building.
- Purchased four, two-way radios to increase response time in the event of an emergency. Ushers carry the radios, and one is used by the nursery personnel on Sundays and is very helpful to our preschool as well. All provide constant communication.
- The door to the kitchen and the Gabbard Building are locked during services on Sundays.
- Installed Ring doorbells at The Tomberlin House and Grace Café.
- Installed Ring solar camera to observe entry into the office area, back door of the kitchen and the parking lot behind the church.
- Installed safety railings in the Nave to reduce the risk of trips and falls and prevent chairs from flipping over.
- Repaired lighting throughout the property.
- Reduce utility costs and be more energy efficient:
- Installed new roof and the furnace downstairs at Grace Café.
- Installed energy efficiency programmable thermostats at the Tomberlin House, Grace Café and the Parish Hall.
- Repaired old cast iron sewage line in Grace Cafe, reducing plumbing issues.
- Installed vapor barriers, air vents and fans to improve ventilation under all buildings, decreasing condensation reducing the chance of termites.
- Repaired numerous leaks in the roofs
- Repaired breaks in the irrigation system resulting in a decrease in water cost.
- Throughout the year we experienced mostly plumbing issues, leaky faucets, clogged toilets and sewage backups.
- We experienced constant leaks in our roofs throughout the property.
- Heating and air conditioning issues was our major challenge during 2024.
- Goals we need to accomplish in 2025:
- Repair or replace roofs on the Parish Hall, behind the church, breezeway and the office. Keep roofs free of debris.
- We are in the process of ordering pew cushions for the church. The order will be placed prior to the end of January and should arrive at the end of March.
- Continue to pursue a local architect to provide the cost for constructing a structure over the playground at the school and out to the load/unloading of the children. This will replace the damaged canopies currently used. This application is not sustainable and will continue to be very expensive with constant repairs.

- Order more outdoor surveillance cameras to continue to improve the safety of everyone on campus. Consider other means that will ensure the safety of all.
- Continue to research installing a Generac generator at the Rectory. The main concern is, if power is lost, the sump pump in the basement will not work and water will fill the basement. The current estimate is \$15,000.
- Continue to replace outdated lightening with LED efficient lights.
- Sign service contract with air condition company to provide preventive maintenance and replace a/c filters throughout the campus. This will reduce wear and tear on the units and will reduce utility costs. We currently have received an estimate from Bone Heating and Air, the cost is \$2,700.
- Utilizes is one of our most expensive ongoing expenses. We need to continue to pursue all available means to be more efficient and save.
- As you know, in 2023 and again in 2024 we experienced a hurricane each year resulting in damage to our campus. Fortunately for us, we received substantial dollars from the insurance company to make necessary repairs, which we did as needed. However, after making the repairs we had dollars remaining that has helped positioned us financially, in a big way. However, this is something that will not, and thank God, occur every year and is something we can not count on. We have to all work together to reduce utility and become as energy efficient as possible.

Steve Honeycutt 1/11/2025

2025 Vestry Candidates

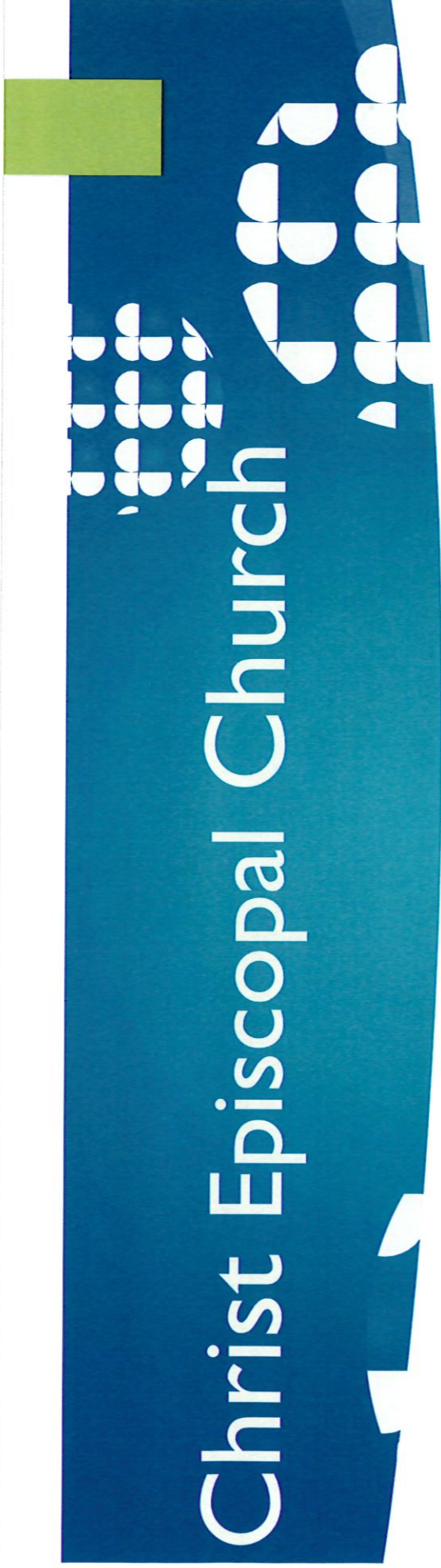
Louisa Beckett

A cradle Episcopalian, Louisa was born in New York City but baptized at St. John's Episcopal Church in Great Bend, Kansas, where her grandfather helped to build the original altar. Louisa has pursued a long career as a boating writer, editor and marketing professional, and owns and operates Turnkey Communications & Public Relations, Inc., with her husband, Gary. The Becketts moved to Hahira in December 2023 after living for about 20 years in Florida. Prior to moving, they worshipped at All Saints' Church in Jensen Beach, Florida, where Louisa served on the Vestry twice and also chaired the Public Relations and Fundraising Committees. Louisa loves the Episcopal liturgy and hymns, and was thrilled to find in Christ Church such a beautiful traditional Episcopal church near her new home.

Lauren Sandbach

I was born in Valdosta, and I am a lifetime member of Christ Church. I left briefly during my study with University of Georgia. I now work as a therapist at EnSpire Counseling & Wellness. I am married to Tanner, and we have two daughters: Anna Crawford and Catherine. We live in Hahira on a family farm.

Throughout my life, I have participated in the church in different capacities, including chalice administrator, lay reader, acolyte, youth programs, preschool committee, Lunch Bunch and other outreach. I hope to continue giving back to Christ Church as you all have given so much to me throughout the years.

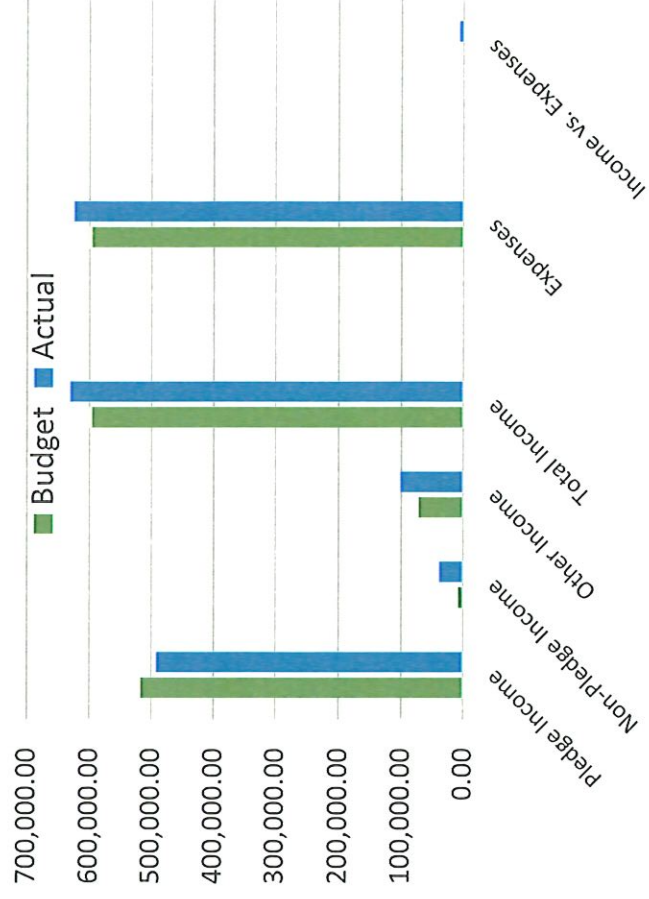


2024

Treasurer's Report

2024 At-a-Glance

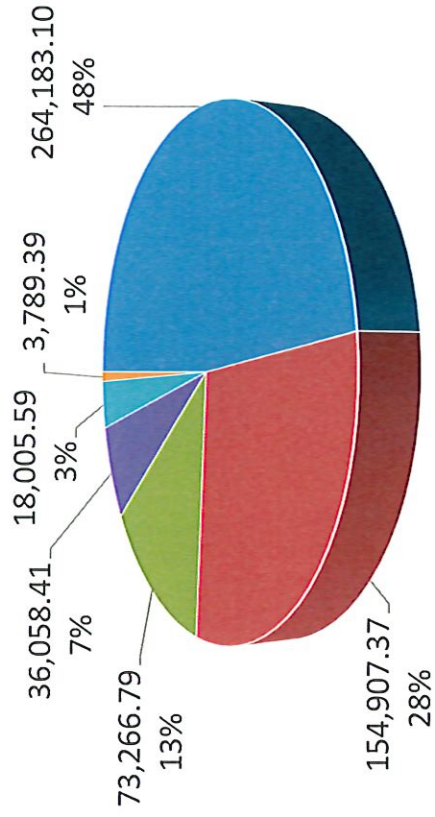
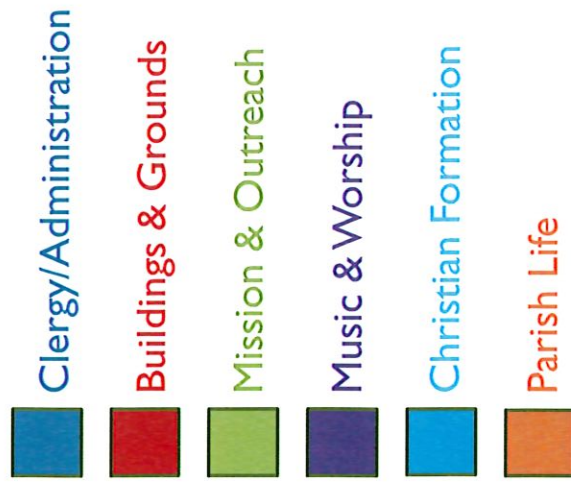
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Pledge Income	516,764.00	491,747.80	-25,016.20
Non-Pledge Income	7,468.00	37,904.19	30,436.19
Other Income	71,413.00	101,098.82	29,685.82
Total Income	595,645.00	630,750.81	35,105.81
Expenses	595,645.00	624,959.36	-29,314.36
Income vs. Expenses	0.00	5,791.45	5,791.45



2024 Income

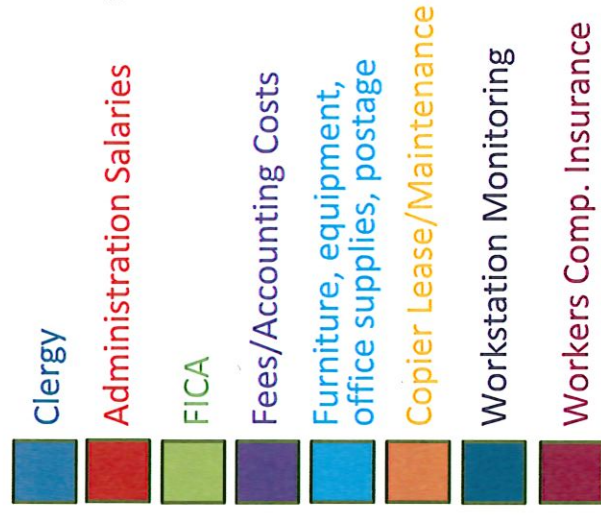


2024 End-of-Year Totals by Category



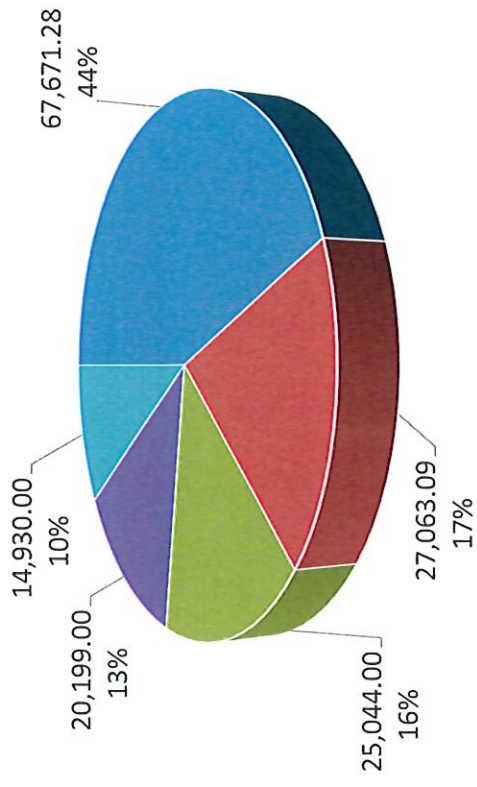
Clergy & Administration- 48% of budget

- ▲ Clergy salary, insurance, pension, utilities, professional and discretionary costs
- ▲ Administrative salaries, insurance and pension costs
- ▲ FICA
- ▲ Business fees, accounting costs, online giving fees
- ▲ Furniture, equipment, office supplies, postage
- ▲ Copier lease & maintenance
- ▲ Workstation monitoring
- ▲ Worker's Comp. Insurance



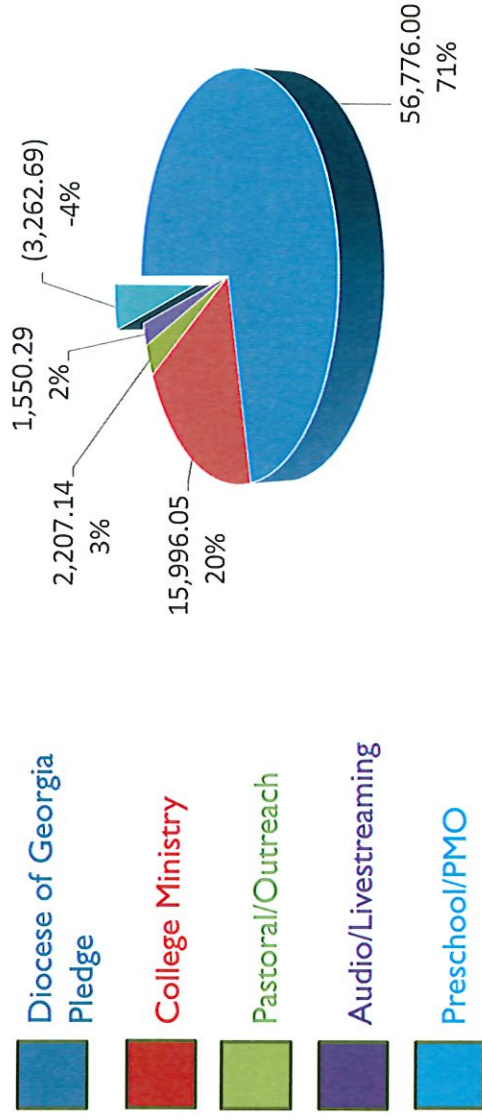
Buildings and Grounds - 28% of budget

- ▲ Church
- ▲ Parish Hall
- ▲ Office
- ▲ Education Building
- ▲ Loutitt Hall
- ▲ Tomberlin House
- ▲ 4.61 acres
- ▲ 18 HVAC units
- ▲ Age range of buildings: 1945 - 2012



Mission and Outreach - 13% of budget

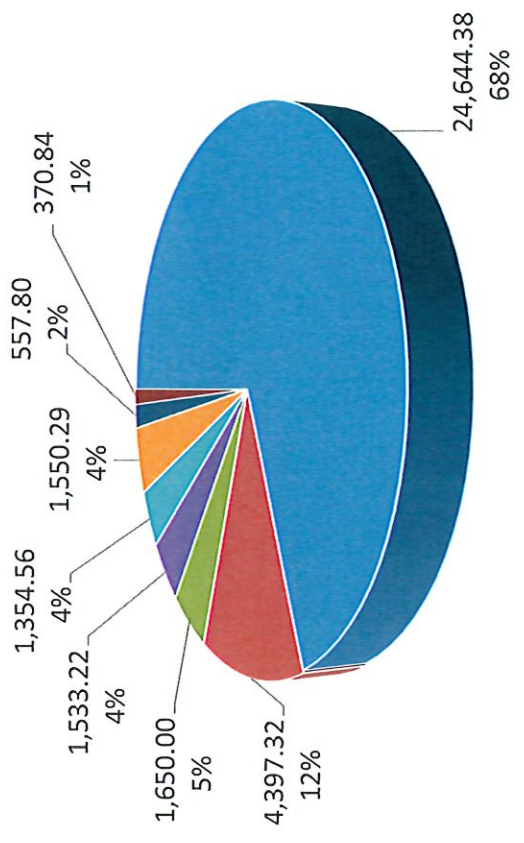
- ▲ Diocese of Georgia Pledge
- ▲ College Ministry/Grace Café
- ▲ Pastoral/Outreach
- ▲ Preschool
- ▲ Livestreaming
 - ▲ Habitat for Humanity
 - ▲ The Haven
 - ▲ Jamming for Jesus
 - ▲ Lunch Bunch
 - ▲ Men in Blue
 - ▲ Stitchers of Love
- ▲ Episcopal Relief & Development
- ▲ United Thank Offering



Music and Worship - 7% of budget

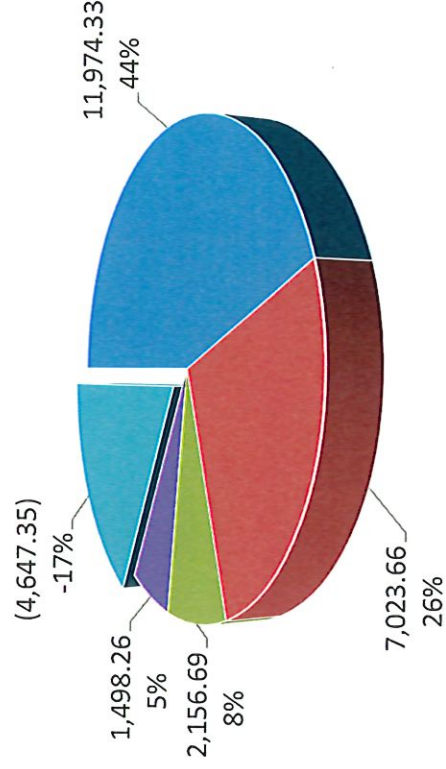
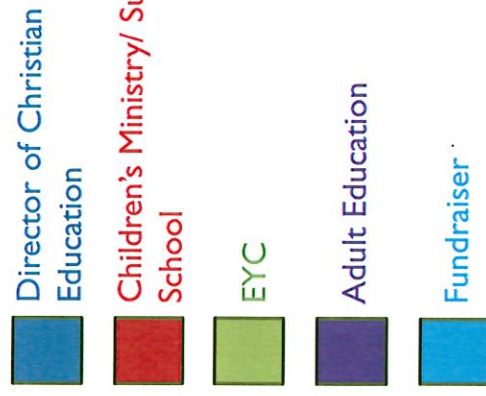
- ▶ Music salaries
- ▶ Supply Priest
- ▶ Nursery workers
- ▶ Music licenses, supply organist, musicians, tunings, organ maintenance
- ▶ Altar Guild
- ▶ Live Streaming
- ▶ Newcomers Committee
 - ▶ Acolytes, Usher, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers
 - ▶ Flowers

	Music Salaries
	Music Supplies
	Supply Priest
	Altar Guild
	Nursery
	Audio/Livestreaming
	Newcomers



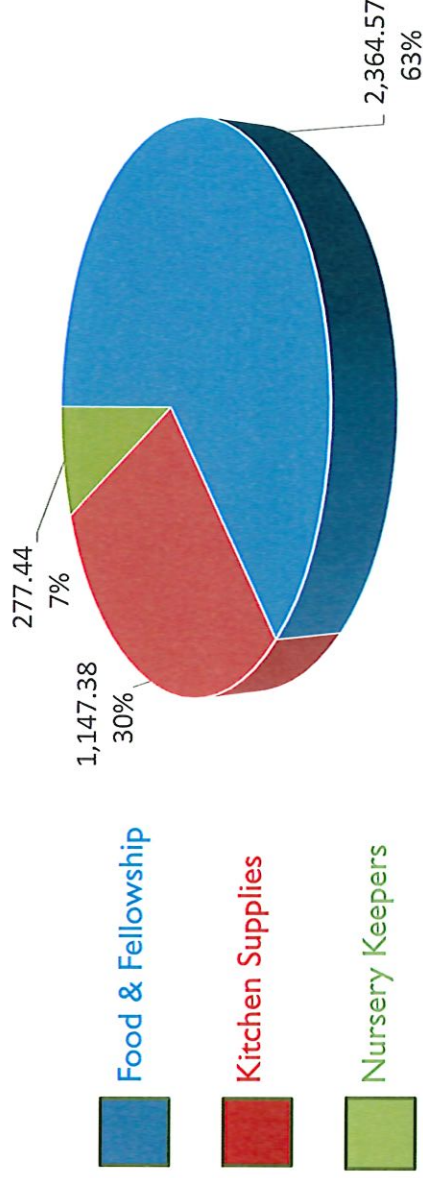
Christian Formation - 3% of budget

- ▲ Sunday School
- ▲ Vacation Bible School
- ▲ EYC – Middle School
- ▲ EYC – High School
- ▲ Adult Education
- ▲ Education for Ministry
- ▲ Cursillo
- ▲ Happening



Parish Life - 1% of budget

- ▲ Foyer Groups
- ▲ Happy Episcopal People
- ▲ Hospitality
- ▲ Picnics
- ▲ Parish Retreat



Fund Balances as of December 31, 2024

Account	Balance
General Operating	315,460.54
Stifel Savings	52,786.67
Bell Tower Fund	40,520.68
Gabard Music Endowment	13,214.41
Gabard/Harris CD	25,000.00
Michael Clark Youth Assistance	7,455.15
Gabard Trust (CCB & Stifel)	127,633.20
Special Funds (CCB & Stifel)	195,057.59
Building Repair Reserve (Stifel)	187,651.71
Rector's Discretionary Beginning Balance	908.29
Rector's Discretionary Income	3,002.00
Rector's Discretionary Expense	-2,576.82
Rector's Discretionary Ending Balance	1,333.47

Christ Episcopal

Church

2025 BUDGET

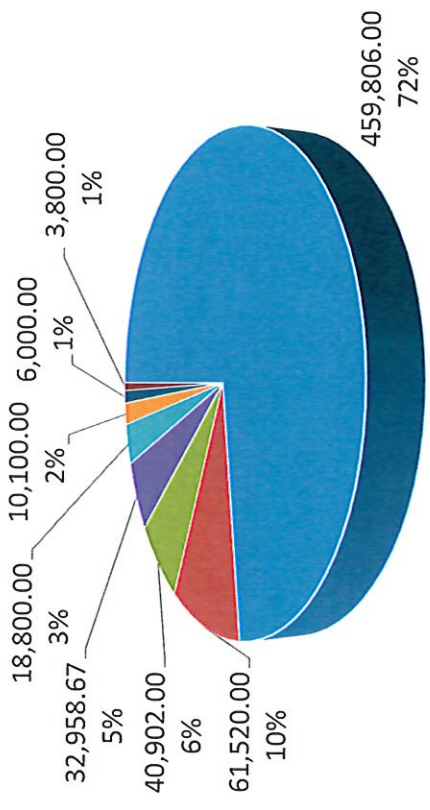
*Our vision is to receive God's
grace in Jesus Christ and
share this grace with
one another and the world.*



Income 2025

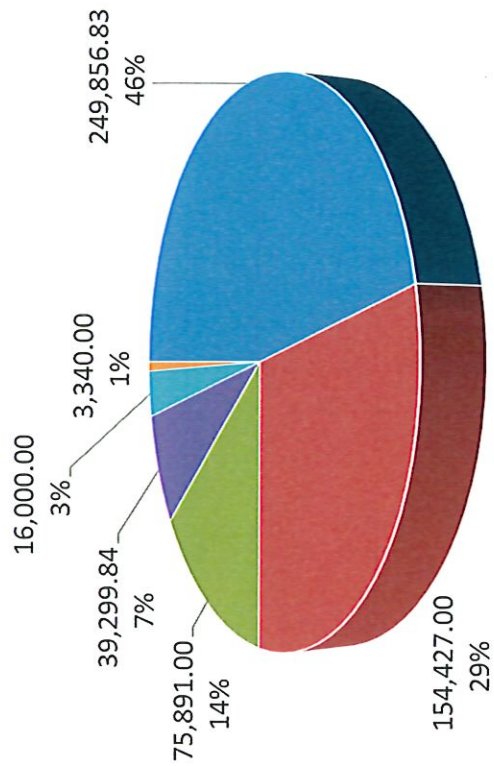


- Pledged Income
- PMO/Preschool
- Offsets from Stifel Funds
- Non-Pledged and Loose Offering
- College/Diocesan
- Reimbursement/Utility Offset
- Interest/Stifel Interest Transfer
- Flowers/Food & Fellowship Income
- Donations/Fundraisers



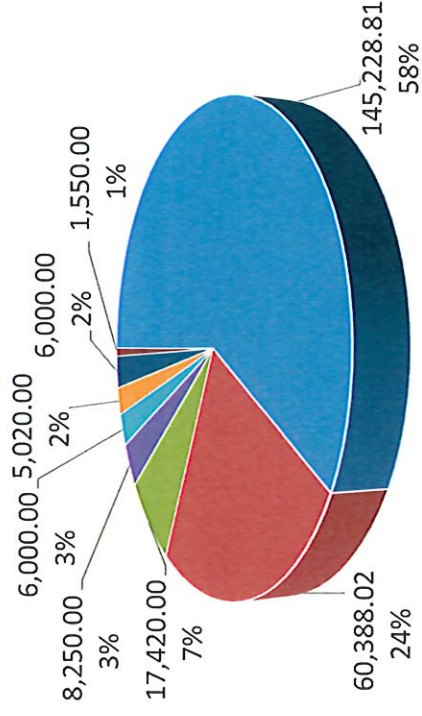
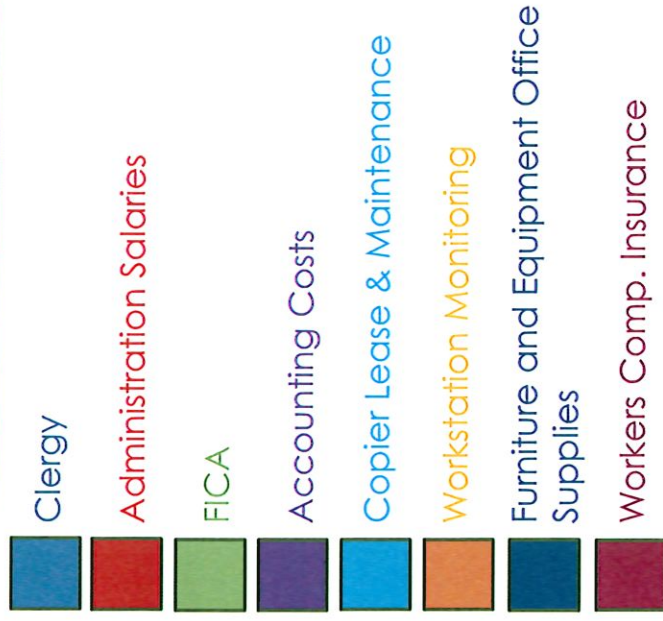
2025 Budget by Category

- Clergy/Administration
- Building & Grounds
- Mission & Outreach
- Music & Worship
- Christian Formation
- Parish Life



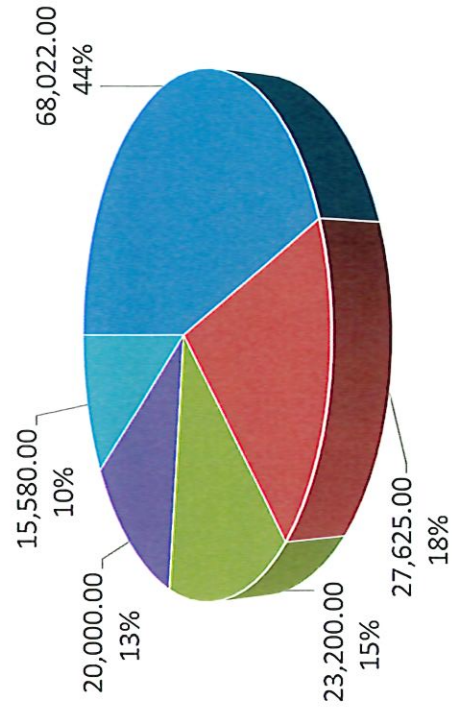
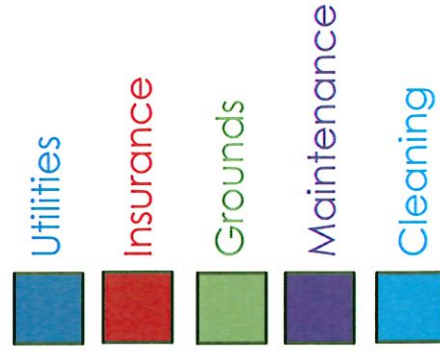
Clergy/Administration - 46% of overall budget

- ▲ Clergy salary, insurance, pension, professional and discretionary costs
- ▲ Administrative salaries, insurance and pension costs
- ▲ FICA
- ▲ Business fees, accounting costs, online giving fees
- ▲ Copier lease & maintenance
- ▲ Furniture, equipment, office supplies, postage
- ▲ Worker's Comp. Insurance



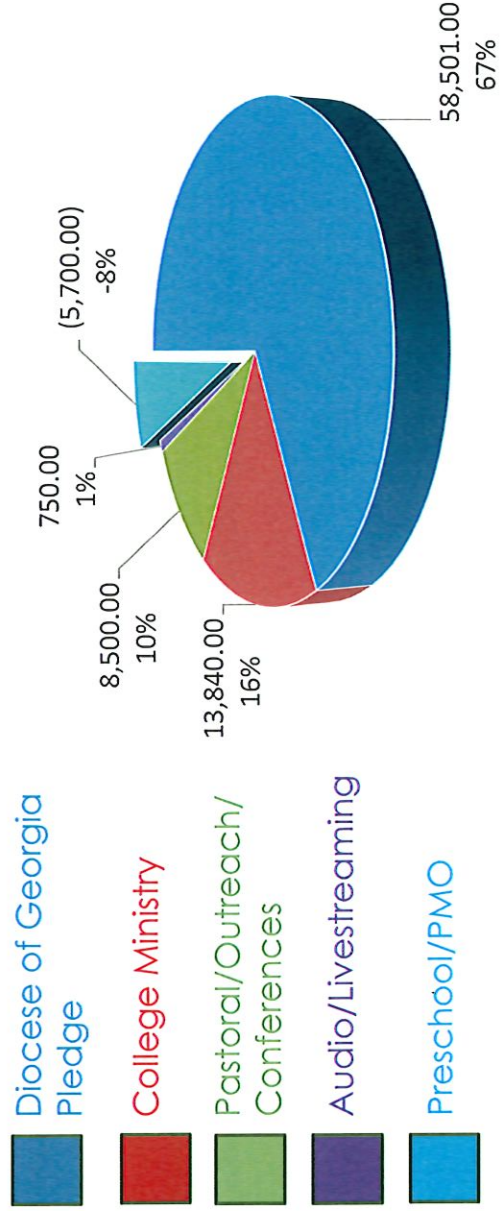
Building and Grounds - 29% of overall budget

- ▲ Church
- ▲ Parish Hall
- ▲ Office
- ▲ Education Building
- ▲ Loufitt Hall
- ▲ Tomberlin House
- ▲ 4.61 acres
- ▲ 18 HVAC units
- ▲ Age range of buildings:
1945 - 2012



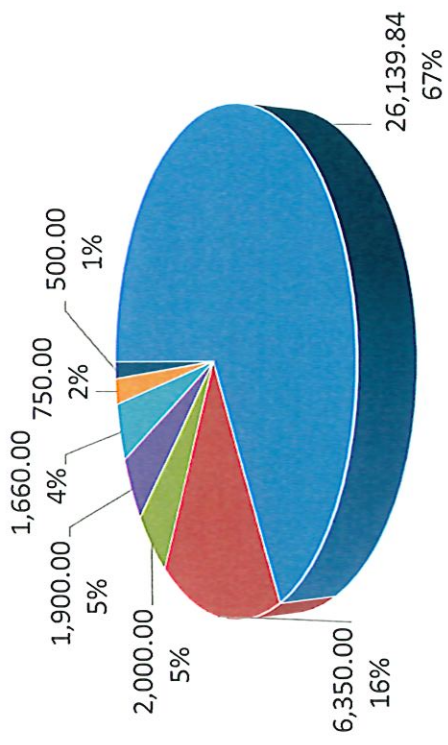
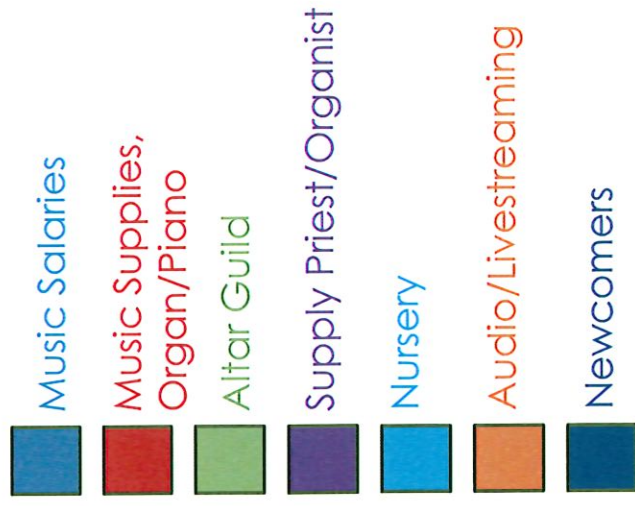
Mission and Outreach - 14% of overall budget

- ▶ Diocese of Georgia Pledge
- ▶ College Ministry
- ▶ Grace Café
- ▶ Preschool
 - ▶ Habitat for Humanity
 - ▶ The Haven
 - ▶ Jamming for Jesus
 - ▶ Lunch Bunch
 - ▶ Men in Blue
 - ▶ Stitchers of Love
 - ▶ Episcopal Relief & Development
 - ▶ United Thank Offering



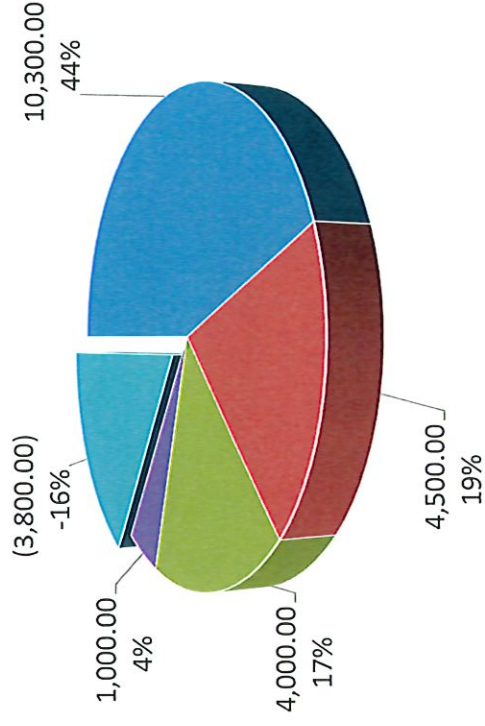
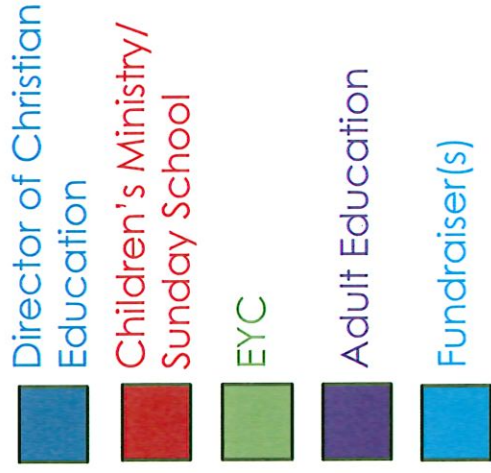
Music and Worship - 7% of overall budget

- ▶ Music salaries
- ▶ Choir
- ▶ Music licenses, supply organist, musicians, tunings, organ maintenance
- ▶ Altar Guild
- ▶ Nursery workers
- ▶ Live Streaming
- ▶ Supply Priest
- ▶ Newcomers Committee
- ▶ Acolytes, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers
- ▶ Flowers
- ▶ Daily Office



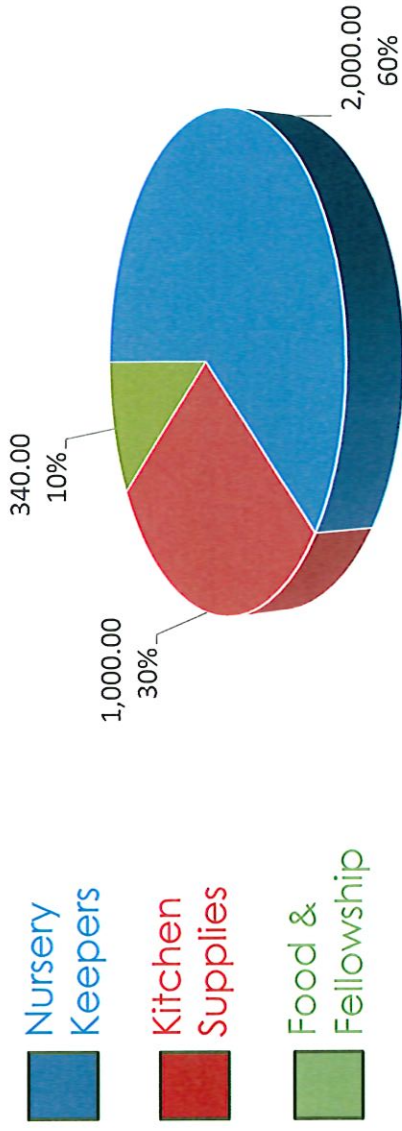
Christian Formation - 5% of overall budget

- ▲ Sunday School
- ▲ Vacation Bible School
- ▲ EYC – Middle School
- ▲ EYC – High School
- ▲ Adult Education
 - ▲ Education for Ministry
 - ▲ Cursillo
 - ▲ Happening



Parish Life - 1% of overall budget

- ▲ Foyer Groups
- ▲ Happy Episcopal People
- ▲ Hospitality
- ▲ Special Events
- ▲ Picnics
- ▲ Parish Retreat





Prayer for the Right Use of God's Gifts

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor *thee* with our substance, and remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of *thy* bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, p. 827