

 **Christ Episcopal Church**

 **409 East High Street**

 **Springfield, Ohio 45505**

 **937-323-8651**

 **www.christspringfield.org**

Annual Report for 2020

**The Reverend Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat, Priest-in-Charge**

**The Reverend Dr. Rick Incorvati, Deacon**

**Dawn Ivy . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Senior Warden**

 **Jim Whipp . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .Junior Warden**

 **Ken Bladh . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Treasurer**

 **Kelly Zeller . . . . . . . . . . . . . Parish Administrator and Program Coordinator**

 **Tina Knox . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Bookkeeper**

 **Paul McAfee. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .Facility Manager**

**Dr. Christopher Durrenberger. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Director of Music**

**Jerushia Knox . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Nursery Attendant**

**2020 Vestry At Large Members**

**Bonnie Bingman Chris Oldstone-Moore Cathy Hasecke**

**Brian Shelburne Joyce Spangler Denise Sharp Keith Doubt**

**Youth Representative-Sarah Schubert**

**187th Annual Meeting Agenda**

**Christ Episcopal Church**

**Springfield, Ohio**

**(A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio)**

**March 7th, 2021~Via Zoom**

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary (Kelly Zeller)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting

Treasurer’s Report

Approval of Change to Constitution of Christ Episcopal Church

INTRODUCTION/ ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF VESTRY

 Senior Warden (1-year term): Dawn Ivy

 Junior Warden (1-year term): Scott Yeazell

 At-Large Member (3-year term): Kay Koeninger, Jimmy Ryan, and Linda Mortensen

 Youth Representative (1-year term): Leeza Wheeler

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Lay Delegates (4) ~ Ron Dowling, John Richardson, Linda Mortensen, Jimmy Ryan, and Amanda Hayden

Alternates (2) ~ Brian Shelburne and Dawn Ivy

RECOGNITION OF VESTRY & OTHER MINISTRY "RETIREES"

 Jim Whipp (Junior Warden), Chris Oldstone-Moore (Vestry at Large),

 Brian Shelburne (Vestry at Large), Cathy Hasecke (Vestry at Large)

 Sarah Schubert (Youth Representative)

REPORTS & REMARKS

 Priest-in-Charge

 Deacon

 Senior Warden

 Junior Warden

Closing Prayer & Necrology

Adjournment

**186th Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Christ Episcopal Church**

**Springfield, Ohio**

**(A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio)**

**February 23rd, 2020**

**CEC Parish Hall**

**Call to Order:** The 186th Annual Meeting of Christ Episcopal Church was called to order at 10:37 am, followed by the opening prayer led by the Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard.

Rev. Maggie Leidheiser- Stoddard conducted the meeting.

Kelly Zeller was appointed to serve as Secretary for the 186th Annual Meeting.

Dana Waggoner moved to approve the agenda of the 186th Annual Meeting. Fred Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cathy Yeazell moved to approve the minutes of the 185th Annual Meeting. Marj Vasileff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**INTRODUCTION OF NOMINEES FOR VESTRY**

 Senior Warden (1-year term): Dawn Ivy

 Junior Warden (1-year term): Jim Whipp

 At-Large Member (3-year term): Keith Doubt

 Youth Representative (1-year term): Sarah Schubert

**ELECTION OF NOMINEES**

Bonnie Shelburne moved that we elect the slate of nominees unanimously. Chris Wells seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF VESTRY & OTHER MINISTRY "RETIREES"**

John Richardson (Junior Warden), Chris Wells (At-Large Vestry) were acknowledged and thanked as retiring Vestry Members.

Marj Vasileff (Birthday & Anniversary Cards), Gretchen Hicks (Altar Flowers), Judy Johnson (High School Sunday School), and Chris Oldstone-Moore (Middle School Sunday School) were acknowledged and thanked for their service and dedication.

**REPORTS & REMARKS**

**Rector:** Rev. Maggie asked the congregation to reflect on the poem that she put in her Annual Meeting Report. Rev. Maggie is excited about the future and forming committees to continue to move the church forward.

**Deacon:** Deacon Rick is excited about the growth that he is witnessing within the church. The Taize cycle is forming a community within themselves. They will try to expand the cycle and have ten churches with two months off for Easter and Christmas. Becoming Beloved Community was such a powerful event; expect more from this community.

**Senior Warden:** Dawn Ivy thanked the Vestry for feeding us today! Dawn had a couple of things to address today: First, she is not in the military, and she works in The Department of Defense. Second, Rev. Maggie has four weeks of vacation time, two weeks to use for continuing education, and her days off are Friday and Saturday. Finally, we need more open communication; please ask Rev. Maggie or me if you have questions.

**Junior Warden:** John thanked everyone. Please consider volunteering! We need more volunteers it’s a blessing and a lot of fun!

**Treasurer:** Scott Yeazell thanked Ken and stated he does an amazing job! The Treasurer does more than crunch numbers; it's a very time-consuming job.

Classified note on the tables please consider serving or volunteering for these ministries!

**Angus Randolph** asked that we thank Ann Chitkara for her work in the Food Pantry!

**Deb Southward** asked that we save pop tops.

**Fred Bartenstein** made an announcement requesting talent for Shrove Tuesday.

**Chris Oldstone-Moore** needs a few good men in the kitchen for Shove Tuesday

Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard read the Necrology and asked all in attendance to pray together the Collect for All Saint’s Day.

The 186th Annual Meeting adjourned at 11:08 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Zeller

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**FINANCIAL RESULTS – Feb 2021**

**Actual Dollars for 2013-2020; *Budget for 2021***

**Ken Bladh, Treasurer**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | ***2021*** |
| **EXPENSES** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Worship** | **4,202** | **6,883** | **4,537** | **6,913** | **4,561** | **6,112** | **4,940** | **6,657** | ***14,810*** |
| **Education** | **3,429** | **5,439** | **4,587** | **3,087** | **2,923** | **3,271** | **4,424** | **871** | ***2,370*** |
| **Pastoral Care** | **18** | **51** | **268** | **633** | **87** | **681** | **109** | **406** | ***250*** |
| **Fellowship** | **283** | **704** | **430** | **375** | **795** | **493** | **746** | **335** | ***1,250*** |
| **Stewardship (utilities)** | **59,978** | **59,106** | **58,642** | **63,445** | **67,429** | **65,809** | **75,686** | **69,126** | ***85,826*** |
| **New Member Ministry** | **932** | **1,375** | **573** | **424** | **156** | **323** | **193** | **0** | ***300*** |
| **Administration** | **12,884** | **12,666** | **14,504** | **16,551** | **15,825** | **15,983** | **17,372** | **16,229** | ***17,570*** |
| **Vestry (Mission Share)** | **34,350** | **34,762** | **35,665** | **39,803** | **29,907** | **30,629** | **41,569** | **35,542** | ***41,736*** |
| **Communication** | **555** | **1,134** | **557** | **551** | **1,624** | **1,419** | **1,388** | **1,083** | ***1,500*** |
| **Clergy** | **89,410** | **88,803** | **91,679** | **46,594** | **43,470** | **100,260** | **105,857** | **85,596** | ***55,806*** |
| **Staff** | **69,646** | **67,729** | **75,169** | **90,942** | **88,942** | **91,790** | **91,753** | **95,767** | ***101,550*** |
| **TOTAL SPENDING** | **276,041** | **278,652** | **286,612** | **270,991** | **255,719** | **320,772** | **344,037** | **311,658** | ***322,968*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **REVENUE** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Pledges**  | **213,688** | **203,530** | **211,538** | **192,703** | **180,234** | **188,562** | **199,171** | **173,945** | ***163,324*** |
| **Special Offerings** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | ***0*** |
| **Plate Offerings** | **4,049** | **3,812** | **9,677** | **2,604** | **2,397** | **2,404** | **2,767** | **349** | ***1,400*** |
| **Episc. Retire. Homes** | **5,000** | **5,000** | **5,000** | **5,000** | **5,000** | **1,250** | **0** | **0** | ***0*** |
| **Endowment Transfer Restricted (Cat. I)**  | **2,144** | **1,946** | **2,314** | **2,356** | **2,246** | **2,740** | **2,735** | **3,450** | ***2,820*** |
| **Endowment Transfer by Vestry for Ops**  | **24,500** | **45,095** | **37,455** | **27,059** | **23,714** | **79,493** | **93,534** | **87,038** | ***112,745*** |
| **Endowment Transfer by Vestry for Staff**  | **11,004** | **9,170** | **13,500** | **31,500** | **31,499** | **31,500** | **31,500** | **31,499** | ***33,679*** |
| **Miscellaneous Income** | **15,800** | **9,769** | **9,813** | **9,769** | **10,630** | **17,824** | **14,330** | **15,377** | ***9,000*** |
| **Restricted Income** | **195** | **330** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | ***0*** |
| **TOTAL REVENUE** | **276,379** | **278,652** | **289,604** | **270,991** | **255,719** | **320,773** | **344,037** | **311,658** | ***322,968*** |
| **Net Income (Loss)** | **338** | **0** | **2,992** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** | ***0*** |
|  |  |  | **Full-time Priest****Part-time PA** | **Part-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** | **Part-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** | **Full-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** | **Full-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** | **Part-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** | **Part-time Priest****Full-time PAPC** |

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO CONSTITUTION**

**These changes bring the Christ Church Constitution in line with Diocesan Canons**

*Current language is printed here. Changes indicated by crossing out current language and substituting new language in red. Additions to the current text are in red.*

**Article II.A.**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish shall be held within the first three months of each calendar, ***prior to the end of Lent,*** at such time as the Vestry shall determine, in the Church or other place appointed by the Vestry. Notice of such meeting shall be given to members of the Parish at least ~~ten (10)~~ ***twenty (20)*** days in advance. At such meetings:

* Two (2) Wardens; sufficient At-Large Vestry Members as needed to complete the Vestry (see IIIA); and one (1) or two (2) Youth Vestry Members, shall be elected.
* ***The Vestry will announce to the Annual Meeting four (4) Lay Delegates and two (2) Alternates to Diocesan Convention to serve one (1) year terms.***
* ***The Annual Meeting of the Parish conducts*** ~~and~~ such other business as may be necessary and appropriate. ***~~shall be transacted~~***

***Vestry Members, Lay Delegates and Alternates to Convention must be confirmed or received and be members in good standing of the Parish.***

**CONSTITUTION OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO**

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

This Parish shall be known as "Christ Episcopal Church of Springfield, Ohio."

The legal body corporate of the Parish was created by Act of the Ohio Legislature March 14, 1836 under the name "Wardens and Vestrymen of the Parish of All Souls."

This name was changed to "Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church, Springfield" by another Act of the Ohio Legislature February 12, 1842. (Ohio Laws, Vol. 40, Page 29).

This congregation is a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (otherwise known as The Episcopal Church), and of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

**ARTICLE II: MEETINGS OF THE PARISH**

A. ANNUAL MEETING: The Annual Meeting of the Parish shall be held within the first three months of each calendar year at such date and time as the Vestry shall determine, in the Church or other place appointed by the Vestry. Notice of such meeting shall be given to members of the Parish at least ten (10) days in advance. At such meeting two (2) Wardens; sufficientAt-Large Vestry Members, as needed to complete the Vestry (see IIIA);and one (1) or two **(2)** Youth Vestry Members, shall be elected; and such other business as may be necessary and appropriate shall be transacted.

B. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings may be called by the Rector or by the Vestry or, upon request in writing to the Vestry, by fifteen (15) qualified voters of the parish. Notice of all special meetings shall be given in writing to members of the parish not more than thirty (30) days or less than ten (10) days before the date of such meeting. The purpose for which special meetings are called shall be set forth in the written notice and no business shall be transacted at such meeting except that for which the meeting was called.

C. PRESIDING OFFICER: The Rector of the parish shall preside at corporate meetings of the parish except that he or she may choose to designate a lay person to preside, or may request the Vestry to elect a lay person to preside. In absence of the Rector, or of the lay person designated, the order of priority for the presiding officer shall be ex officio 1) the Senior Warden, 2) the Junior Warden, 3) the Secretary of the Vestry. In the event none of the forgoing is present, the parish may elect one of its members to preside.

D.ELIGIBLE VOTERS: All members of the Parish in good standing aged 16 or older shall be eligible to vote for the election of the Vestry and on other Parish matters if at the time of voting such members shall have contributed, financially or otherwise, to the support of the Parish and shall be entitled to enrollment on the list of members in good standing of the Parish.

E. QUORUM: At parish meetings, annual or special, forty (40)eligible voting members of the parish shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

F. ABSENTEE BALLOT: Three (3) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting the Secretary shall make available an absentee ballot for the election of Wardens and Vestry Members. Any eligible voter of the parish, who will be out of town on the date of the Annual Meeting or is physically impaired from attending, may request an absentee ballot, complete it and return it to the Secretary no later than four (4) days prior to the Meeting.

**ARTICLE III: VESTRY**

A. MEMBERSHIP: The Vestry shall consist of a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, nine (9) At- Large Members and one (1) Youth Member. The Vestry shall consist of nine (9) Members, including a Senior Warden, and Junior Warden. In addition, there will be one (1) or two (2) Youth Members. The Treasurer may also, when desired, be an elected Vestry Member.All Members of the Vestry shall have equal voice, vote and shall continue in office until successors are chosen.

B. QUALIFICATIONS: Any baptized person who is a member of the parish in good standing may be elected to and may serve on the Vestry, provided the following minimum ages have been attained: Warden - 21 years, At-Large Vestry Member - 18 years, Youth Vestry Member - 16 years. A majority of the Members of the Vestry must be at least 21 years of age.

C. TENURE

1. Senior and Junior Wardens shall each be elected annually at the Annual Meeting to serve one (1) year. A person is eligible to be serving in either Warden position (in any sequential combination) a maximum of three (3) consecutive years. A person having served three (3) years as a Warden may be elected again as a Warden or as an At-Large a Vestry Member, after at least one (1) year has passed. During a transition between Rectors, a Warden may be elected to a fourth (4th) year.

2. At-Large Vestry Members shall be elected to serve a 3-year term. Sufficient At-Large Vestry Members, as needed to complete the Vestry (see IIIA)shall be elected at each Annual Meeting. After serving a full 3- year term, an At- Large a Vestry Member is eligible to be elected to another 3-year term, or appointed by the Vestry to fill an unexpired term, after at least one (1) year has passed.

4. An At-Large Vestry Member may be elected to the office of Senior Warden or Junior Warden at the end of his or her At-Large term, or during the At-Large term may be appointed by the Vestry to fill an unexpired term of either Warden.

5. One (1) or two (2) Youth Member(s) shall be nominated and elected at the Annual Meeting to serve (a) 1-year term(s).

6. If a Warden or other Vestry Member should be absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without an excuse approved by the Vestry, the Vestry may declare the office of such person to be vacant. The Vestry shall then request the resignation of said Vestry Member and appoint someone to fill that unexpired term.

D. DUTIES

1. It shall be the duty of the Vestry to take charge of the property of the Parish and to regulate all its temporal concerns, but the Vestry may not convey title, mortgage, or encumber the real property of the parish, divert any of its endowments or in any way alienate any of its property from the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Southern Ohio without the previous consent of the Bishop and Standing Committee. The Vestry shall delegate signature authority for all contractual agreements.

2. It shall be the duty of the Vestry to elect and call a Rector and to provide for his or her compensation.

3. It shall be the duty of the Vestry to provide for paying all lawful assessments on the parish, to keep order in the Parish during Divine Services and, in general, to support the Rector in whatever way is appropriate to lay persons for the furtherance of the Gospel. It is understood that the spiritual concerns of the Church are always under the exclusive direction of the Rector, in subordination to the ecclesiastical authority and laws of the Diocese.

4.When the Rector's position becomes vacant, or is about to become vacant, the Wardens shall notify the Bishop. During any time that the Rector's position is vacant, the Wardens shall 1) provide for the celebration of public worship and the instruction of the parish by occasional clerical services or by lay reading, as the circumstances may permit, 2) provide the elements for the Lord's Supper, and 3) collect, keep and disburse moneys designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

E. MEETINGS: The Vestry shall hold at least six (6) meetings each year, and as many more as the Vestry shall determine. The time of said meetings shall be fixed by the Vestry and at all meetings six (6) Members of the Vestry shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the Vestry may be called by the Rector or by the Senior Warden. In the absence of the Rector and Senior Warden, meetings may be called by the Junior Warden or at the request of two (2) Members of the Vestry. Any member of the Parish in good standing may attend Vestry meetings and have a

voice.

F. PRESIDING OFFICER: The Rector of the Parish, if present, shall preside at meetings of the Vestry. The Rector may designate a lay person to preside or may request the Vestry to elect a lay person to preside. In the event of the absence of the Rector or the designated person, the order of priority for the presiding officer shall be ex officio (1) the Senior Warden, (2) the Junior Warden, and (3) the Secretary of the Vestry. Should none of the foregoing be present, the Vestry may elect one of its Members to preside.

G. OTHER OFFICERS: At the first meeting of the Vestry after the Annual Meeting, the Members thereof shall elect a Treasurer of the Parish and a Secretary of the Vestry.

H. SECRETARY: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to take, record and publish the minutes of the Vestry meetings, attest the public acts of the Vestry, preserve all records and papers belonging to the Parish not otherwise provided for, perform such other duties as shall be legally assigned, and faithfully deliver to the Secretary's successor all books and documents belonging to the Parish and in possession of the Secretary. The Secretary shall have voice at Vestry meetings.

I. TREASURER: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive, disburse, and account for the funds of the Parish, and to comply with the audit requirements of the National Canons. The Treasurer shall have voice and vote at Vestry meetings. The Treasurer and the Secretary, if necessary, and such other officers, who are charged with the handling or custody of funds, shall be bonded according to the requirements of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

J. VACANCIES: Vacancies occurring in the Vestry between elections shall be filled by vote of the remaining Members. The person designated to fill a vacancy shall serve for the balance of the term of the vacant position.

K. EMERITI: The Vestry may elect a Warden or Member of the Vestry Emeritus. A Warden or Vestry Member Emeritus shall not be subject to any of the limitations imposed on the tenure of regular Wardens or other Members of the Vestry but shall have no vote at Vestry meetings.

L. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: At least sixty (60) days before each Annual Meeting, the Vestry shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of at least five (5) members of the Parish in good standing and the Rector who shall be chairperson ex officio. Prompt notice of the names of this committee shall be given to members of the Parish through posting or in the Parish letter. The committee shall prepare for a slate of candidates for election at the Annual Meeting with at least one (1) nominee for each office to be filled. The slate of candidates shall represent both services.During the period of sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting, any ten (10) eligible voters of the Parish may, by petition, nominate any qualified person for a Vestry office. Nominations so made must be sent to the Secretary of the Vestry not later than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Parish shall be given written notice of all nominees at least three (3) weeks before the Annual Meeting. The Vestry Secretary shall prepare a sufficient number of ballots containing the names of all those who have been duly nominated.

**ARTICLE IV**

This Constitution may be amended, supplemented, or repealed at any Annual or Special Meeting of the Parish by a two-thirds vote of eligible voters in attendance, provided the requirements for a quorum have been met.

**ARTICLE V**

This Constitution and Canons shall supersede and repeal all former regulations and constitutions adopted by the Parish at its prior meetings.

**ARTICLE VI**

In the event any provision hereof shall be inconsistent with the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Southern Ohio, said Canons shall prevail and this Constitution shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

*This text prepared by the Rector, The Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard, based on the previously existing Constitution, combined with the Minutes recording actions taken to revise said Constitution at the Parish Annual Meeting on February 12, 2017 (before said Rector’s tenure began). ML-S 3-14-19*

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE’S REPORT FOR 2020**

What a year this has been! First the pandemic and social isolation. At the same time, police shootings of Black men led to renewed and intensified calls for racial justice. And then, in August, Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard left her position as Rector. The Diocese assigned me as your Priest-in-Charge and asked that you take some time to reflect before embarking on a search process for a new Rector. Feelings of loss, fear, and uncertainty gripped each of us, taking different forms and eliciting different responses.

But we are people of faith. We are assured, through our faith, that fear will not have the upper hand. In Isaiah 41:10 we read, “fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.” And in Isaiah 43:19 we read, “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” God is with us as we journey through whatever this life throws our way and God will always provide a “way out of no way” for us if we listen prayerfully.

We have a new way of worshipping using the internet. It has limitations, but it does provide us a way to gather to give God communal thanks and praise each week. Online worship allowed for the excellent “Seek Justice, Correct Oppression” preaching series because preachers from other congregations who would usually be in their own pulpits on Sunday morning could pre-record their sermons and share them with us. This new way of worship allows flexible viewing and reaches a far larger “audience” than traditional worship. As a church we have learned that this new way will, in all likelihood, become part of our weekly practice, even after we return to in-person worship.

We have new ways of accessing a vast array of on-line Christian Formation materials and are becoming more comfortable with holding group conversation online. The world is bigger and more diverse because of our ability to participate in wider circles of relationship.

All that said, this has been a difficult transition for us. Without the ability to meet each other face-to-face, we have not gotten to know each other as I would have hoped. Participation in the meet and greet opportunities held in the fall was quite low and attendance at coffee hour each week is also very small. Trusting relationships with parish leaders have been slow to develop, making the transition period more difficult and has postponed the movement toward a search process. Hopefully the next several months will be fruitful, with movement toward a climate of openness and honesty that will result in the selection of the right priest to lead Christ Church into the future that God intends for you.

God is doing a new thing, a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Do we perceive it?

The Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat

**DEACON’S REPORT**

As was the case with a lot of ministries, Deacon Rick’s service to Christ Church bore the marks of the pandemic. Annual efforts like the Freedom School, the Neighborhood Fair, the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, the Promise Neighborhood festivals, and the Springfield Taize collaboration all either took a hiatus this year or, as was the case for Freedom School, continued in some dramatically curtailed fashion. The LGBTQ+ advocacy work of Equality Springfield managed to find new outlets under socially distanced conditions. There was no Pride celebration at City Hall Plaza in 2020, but, in an effort to promote a climate of racial awareness in 2020, the group organized a public education campaign around the contributions of Black LGBTQ+ people. Deacon Rick was also grateful to be able to participate in the Black Lives Matter march in Springfield this summer.

Deacon Rick served the Diocese in 2020 as part of the Commission on Ministry, the Examining Chaplains (two groups that assist Episcopalians in this diocese who are discerning their call to ministry), the Faith in Life Committee (oversees grants supporting spiritual formation), and the Becoming Beloved Community Leadership Team (that’s the movement that addresses Presiding Bishop Curry's charge to promote healing around racial division in our church and in our communities). At the end of the year, he also began serving as the Convener of Deacons. In that role, he’ll be involved in promoting fellowship and formation among the community of deacons in Southern Ohio.

**THE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS STORE**

While many of the activities organized by the Promise Neighborhood were not held in 2020, the Christmas Store continued its work of providing affordable gifts to families in a high-needs community. Once again, Christ Church provided Clifton Ave. Church of God (1408 Clifton Ave.) with a very generous stash of new toys which were made available at reduced cost to residents of the Promise Neighborhood in the weeks leading up to the holiday. There was no banquet to cap off the Christmas Store this year, but the proceeds from the sale of the toys went to the purchase of food that was made available to individuals and families in the community.

**HOMELESS OUTREACH AND AN INGATHERING EVENT**

Several circumstances in 2020 conspired to create a homeless crisis in our community: the economic impact of the pandemic led to increased unemployment, social distancing requirements took the congregant living facility at IHN offline, and dearth of affordable housing made it difficult to find good places for everyone who needed shelter. At its peak, IHN had a waiting list with over 250 people on it, and Christ Church was part of a coordinated community response to make sure that people in a tough spot would have what they needed to make a bad situation a little less bad.

Donations came together at a communal event in the Christ Church parking lot on Sunday, December 18th, shortly after the live-streamed service. Ed Hasecke dreamed up the logistics; Rick Incorvati brought a p.a. system and a couple canopies; Diane Rode, Deb Southward, and Lori Swafford collected the donations at the East Entrance; Linda Mortensen baked and bagged heaps of cookies; Fred Bartenstein, Joy Carter, Ed Hasecke, Chris Oldstone-Moore, and Liz Wheeler sang Advent hymns; Bodi and Hannah Hayden sang spirited renditions of “Go Tell It on the Mountain” and “Jingle Bells”; Kent Brooks brought his keyboard; Rev. Lee Anne Reat contributed commemorative ornaments and led the community in grateful prayer; and the whole event was kicked off with Bill Yeazell ringing the bell at Christ Church for the first time in months.

In the course of these celebrations, members of Christ Church participated in IHN’s sock and underwear drive, they contributed enough money to purchase ten cooler packs (which provided homeless people with a place to store their food as well as items to keep them warm), they brought toilet paper and pet food for the Food Pantry, and they contributed baby food to the Baby Jesus effort.

**BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY, PART I:**

**THE YWCA 21-DAY CHALLENGE**

In the period following the murder of George Floyd and the social unrest that followed, members of Christ Church looked for an opportunity to develop their understanding of the history of racism and the present conditions that perpetuate injustice. Kay Koeninger recommended a program organized by the Dayton YWCA that sent out daily readings via email over a three-week period. Christ Church members including Fred Bartenstein, Cathy Hasecke, Ed Hasecke, Rick Incorvati, Diane Rode, Deb Southward, Richard Spangler, Lori Swafford, and Cathy Waggoner, kept up with the readings and then weekly on Zoom to discuss what they’d learned. In the course of this experience, the group discerned the need to make a public statement about the church’s commitment to addressing the wrongs of racial oppression. Subsequent planning and conversations with the Vestry led to the banner that currently hangs in front of the church, a banner bearing Isaiah’s admonition to “Seek Justice, Correct Oppression” (1:17b).

**BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY, PART II:**

**THE SEEK JUSTICE, CORRECT OPPRESSION GUEST PREACHER SERIES**

Inspired to continue learning after the 21-Day Challenge and interested in opportunities to build community with other congregations, the Christ Church members who participated in the 21-Day Challenge decided to take advantage of the interim period as well as the virtual worship arrangements by extending invitations to guest preachers from our own community (or at least nearby), preachers who had been actively involved in social justice ministries in various ways. With the support of the Vestry, these members of Christ Church invited ten preachers to speak on Isaiah’s guidance to “seek justice and correct oppression,” and between August 9th and November 22nd, Christ Church’s Sunday morning worship included sermons by Pastor Eli Williams (Urban Light Ministries), Pastor Adam Banks (First Baptist Church), Pastor Heather Husted (Covenant United Methodist Church), Warren Copeland (Springfield Mayor), Rev. Dr. Peggy Turner (Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church), Pastor Cynthia Atwater (High St. United Methodist Church), Pastor Ernest Brown (St. John Missionary Baptist Church), Rob Rue (Springfield City Commissioner), Dr. Elfred Pinkard (Wilberforce University President), and Pastor Carl Ruby (Central Christian Church).

**BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY, PART III:**

**THE SPRINGFIELD CULTUREREAD PROJECT AND *HOW TO BE AN ANTI-RACIST***

After the pandemic put an end to the City of Springfield’s CultureFest, the largest outdoor festival of the year, organizers at City Hall organized CultureRead, which was an effort to promote community-wide learning on the problem of racism. Groups throughout Springfield were encouraged to adopt one of three recommended books, and members at Christ Church agreed to read Ibram X. Kendi’s *How to Be an Anti-Racist*. The group met bi-weekly between October 18th and December 13th to discuss the ideas that had left an impression on them. Fred Bartenstein and Ed Hasecke co-facilitated discussions by a group that included Rick Incorvati, Kay Koeninger, Linda Mortensen, Diane Rode, Lori Swafford, and Cathy Waggoner. These Christ Church members also participated in a city-wide discussion in January that covered various initiatives that could provide opportunities to put the ideas from the reading into practice.

**THE CHRIST CHURCH OUTREACH TEAM**

The Outreach Team, led by co-chairs Linda Mortensen and Chris Oldstone-Moore, met initially on February 9th to do the annual work of designating the ministries that should be supported by Christ Church in the coming year. At that point, the chairs along with Ken Bladh, Rick Incorvati, Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard, Dan McGregor, Bonnie Shelburne, Diane Rode, and Deb Southward were aware that the world was changing quickly in the early stages of the pandemic, and they decided to let two principles guide their decisions: first, they would prioritize the kinds of ministries that were likely to become crucial in the coming months (e.g., food ministries and shelter), and, second, they would hold more funds than usual in reserve for later in the year when new needs were likely to become more apparent. The group convened again on September 30th to distribute the remaining funds. Included in the approved purchases at this meeting were water bottles for students at Hayward Middle School; bottles were much needed since the fountains were off limits due to the risk of virus transmission. By the end of the year, the Outreach Team directed $13,000 to the ministries and initiatives that would help address some of the quickly evolving needs in our community.

**OUTREACH FINANCIALS**

Christ Church's 2020 operational budget (accounts 5030 and 5040) gave $13,000 in financial support to outside organizations. Two general priorities for these moneys established by the Outreach Committee this year were to address homelessness and hunger in the local community. The committee also used the long-standing guidelines of supporting organizations where the amount of our donation makes a real difference and where Christ Church people are applying their own time, talent and/or treasure.

This year the Outreach Committee directed support to The Peace Center, Children's Rescue Center (The Ark), The Fuller Center for Housing, Rainbow Table, Second Harvest Food Bank, Project Woman, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Hayward School Student Fund, Greater Springfield Association of Fundraising Professionals, Episcopal Community Ministries (formerly the Episcopal Community Services Foundation), Safe Harbor House, Jefferson Street Oasis Garden, and Partners in Ministry in Liberia.

Episcopal Community Ministries operates under our diocese's umbrella but is supported financially by individual parishes. They receive grant requests and distribute the parishes' contributions according to their own criteria. In 2020, Christ Church contributed $500 and received $3250 in grants that were passed on to the Peace Center and the Freedom School.

Personal contributions of time and talent by members of our congregation have benefited IHN, the Christ Church Food Pantry, Rainbow Table, The Literacy Center, Promise Neighborhood, Freedom School, YMCA, Safe Harbor House and the Children's Rescue Center, Jefferson Street Oasis Garden.

Ken Bladh, Treasurer

**STEWARDSHIP 2020**

 **“FAITH-FILLED GENEROSITY”**

The 2121 stewardship campaign looked and felt different in this year of Covid. This year's committee, made up of Joyce Spangler and Keith Doubt and supported by the rest of the vestry, took advantage of the campaign offered through the diocese-provided TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) online site. Utilizing these resources, we provided two opportunities for parishioners to meet weekly to reflect on the theme and consider their 2021 giving:

* reflections during coffee hour, which focused on the lectionary offerings, and
* African Bible Studies led by Keith Doubt, which focused on passages that reflect different instances of generosity in the Bible.

We also employed the TENS resources as we developed mailers, brochures, and pledge cards. This gave the campaign a unified look and helped keep the theme in front of parishioners. While the stewardship goal for 2021 was the same as that for 2020, we continue to address the need to balance the church's financial support from endowment and active members as well as to pivot our resources to address the church’s unique needs and ministries during the pandemic and in the absence of a full-time rector.

Joyce Spangler

**FINANCE COMMITTEE ENDOWMENT FUND ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020**

I am honored to report to you as Chairman of our Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee has the responsibility to safeguard the donations and contributions of parishioners and previous generations of our Christ Church family. We are charged with faithfully following the original wishes of the donors and overseeing that their directions and intentions are followed by us and future generations. We provide advice to the Vestry concerning the financing of capital improvement projects, and provide support for the annual operating budget. I am proud to report that we have been faithful in performing this task. I would like to thank the other members of the committee, Dan McGregor, Ted Delong, Ken Bladh, and Dawn Ivy.

The Finance Committee would like to thank Jim Kreckman and the Trust Department at Security National Bank for their assistance in successfully navigating another good investment year.

During 2020, we earned a return of 7% while using a safe, income focused portfolio. For those of you who are not familiar with our Endowment Fund, we have (5) categories. Categories 1, 2 & 5 are restricted to using the income only and the principle may not be used. Categories 3 & 4 are unrestricted as to the use of principle and earnings. We have two named funds, Categories 3 & 5. Category 3 is named the Hollenbeck-Bayley Fund in memory of Jane Hollenbeck and Beatrice Bayley. Category 5 is our newest named fund, the “Rosie” Fund, given in memory of Rosie Anderson.

I would like to bring your attention to the Bushnell Society of Christ Church. The Bushnell Society recognizes those of all generations who make a financial provision for Christ Church through a planned gift. We honor and thank those who have chosen to become members of the Bushnell Society. Please view the Bushnell Society plaque in the Parish Hall to honor those who have remembered & supported Christ Church Endowment fund with financial gifts. If you would like additional information, please contact me or any member of the Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Yeazell, Chairman

scott@triec.com

**SENIOR WARDEN**

Dear Parish family,

Thank you for your dedication to our faith.

You have endured and overcome so much in this last year, and for that, I’m thankful.

Our dear Rev. Maggie found a new calling working with youth in her home state.

A worldwide pandemic swept our world and closed all our churches, making us self-isolate and not be able to worship in person, let alone be able to be together with our extended families.

We weren’t even able to properly grieve when we lost loved ones from our Parish.

We pulled outliving this last year by pure faith. Faith in our God, Faith in our family, and Faith in knowing that we will endure and move forward.

I would be amiss if I didn’t thank the Diocese for sending us a Transition priest so fast. Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat is helping us move forward to assist us in preparing for a new rector.

In closing, I want to thank all our volunteers, staff, and Vestry for keeping us moving forward. I especially want to thank our Food Pantry volunteers who make sure we continue to feed the hungry in our community during this pandemic.

Many blessings, we’ll be back together soon.

 Dawn Ivy

Senior Warden

**STAFF REPORTS**

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR/PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

My position at Christ Church is ever-changing, and that makes for interesting days! 2020 had unique challenges as I adapted to virtual Church with new and different responsibilities and dividing my workspace between my home office and the Parish office. I'm incredibly grateful to work with the wonderful Christ Church staff, Vestry, and for the Church!

Kelly Zeller

**PARISH BOOKEEPER**

As bookkeeper, I manage the day to day financial activities for the Church. This includes tracking income and expenses, reconciling bank statements, paying bills, processing payroll, generating financial reports, assisting in the annual audit and filing required city, state and federal payroll tax returns.

It is a blessing to be a part of the staff and to apply my experience and expertise in the day to day financial operations.

Tina Knox

**FACILITY MANAGER**

2020 was a strange year! I worked with electricians to resolve and replace the dimmer unit for the Sanctuary. I had the Fire Alarm system tested and inspected by Springfield Fire Dept. I ensured the HVAC units were serviced along with water Back-flows, painted in various areas, the carpets cleaned, and washed down furniture.

In getting ready for in person worship services, I removed and then repositioned cushions and marked seats. I removed books from pews, wiped down door frames, handles, etc.

Paul McAfee

**SECURITY DIRECTOR**

Thank you for your diligence in keeping the church secure during this national pandemic.

Please continue to be safe and be aware of your surroundings.

See you all soon,

 Jack Ivy

Security Director

**MUSIC DIRECTOR/MUSIC PROGRAM**

Having completed 20 seasons as music director at Christ Episcopal Church, Dr. Christopher Durrenberger continues to provide musical leadership and musical offerings at regular scheduled worship services, albeit virtually via Acapella and YouTube for most of this year.

Special and regular worship services were enhanced with guest musicians. An extended musical prelude was provided by classical guitarist Christina Darding at the Christmas Eve service. Joy and Jeff Carter also provided special music for a post-Christmas service. Cathy and Emily Hasecke once again joined the choir for the Advent and Christmas season.  Other special musicians included pianist/vocalist Kent Brooks filling in virtually for the music director as needed and providing special soulful preludes for the “Seek Justice, Correct Oppression” speaker series.

The Christ Church Choir has tirelessly recorded weekly hymns and collaborated on anthems for regular and special worship services.  Please contact Chris or Canon Lee Anne if interested in joining this dedicated group in the Fall!

**2020 Christ Church Choir**

*Sopranos                     Altos                            Tenors                              Bass/Baritone*

Marilyn Howat            Liz Wheeler              Chris Oldstone-Moore    Ed Hasecke

Joy Carter                                                        Amil Anderson (retired) Fred Bartenstein

Joan Hurley                                                     Jake Studebaker

**WEDNESDAY CHAPEL SERVICE**

During the first two months of 2020, chapel was held as usual on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 in the Chapel of Heavenly Rest, with Rev. Maggie offering Morning Prayer, which included both a participatory Bible study and Eucharist. Those who desired anointing for healing, for themselves or another, could come forward for anointing and prayer.

When the pandemic closed the church, Rev. Maggie continued with the service and Bible study on Facebook until she left in the summer.

Rev. Dr. Canon Lee Anne Reat and Judy Johnson began in the fall to alternate offering Wednesday Noonday Prayer on Facebook. Kelly Zeller, who provided technical expertise, later uploaded the service to a YouTube account.

Judy Johnson

**BIBLE STUDY**

During the pandemic, an unexpected innovation and welcome opportunity arose. We started online bible study using the structured group format known as African Bible Study. The format and the online platform were mutually advantageous. There was a balanced structure involving turn taking that discourages crosstalk. During the Bible Study, participants read collectively and reflected together on scripture passages connected with stewardship and giving recommended by the Diocese. Now the group continues and reads Old and New Testament readings from the Daily Office Lectionary. Participants find the Bible Study spiritually uplifting, bringing them closer to God with a better understanding of what it means to believe in Jesus Christ and a clearer grasp of what Christianity is in our everyday lives.

Keith Doubt

**SUNDAY ADULT FORUM**

The adult forum team (Fred Bartenstein, Judy Johnson, Brian Shelburne, and Liz Wheeler) had planned programs until the end of the church’s education year in May. However, because of covid-19 only a few of those plans came to pass.

• January began with an exploratory conversation about the possibility of a retreat at the Convent of the Transfiguration.

• Fred Bartenstein led a roundtable discussion of our stories of being part of the Episcopal Church. Why did we come? Why do we stay? What are the challenges and blessings?

• Amanda Hayden presented a session on the questions *How do Buddhism and Christianity fit together? How does each view enlightenment?.*

• Rev. Maggie re-examined the Genesis story of Sodom and Gomorrah. What did it *really* say,

and how has it been mis-interpreted?

• As Lent began in February, Jon Leidheiser-Stoddard presented a study on the significance of 40 days/nights in the wilderness.

• Joyce Morrissey of Yellow Springs spoke of her experiences helping the elderly with issues related to health, downsizing, and dealing with familyina session entitled “Navigating changing roles (our own and others) with grace and humor: Lessons from 80- and 90-year-olds and their families.”

• Kay Koeninger led an interactive discussion on the architecture of our church, including its tie to the Gothic Revival of the 19th century in Britain and the United States.

Further plans had to be cancelled.

In Advent, three Monday evenings were devoted to music and art of the season.

• Basil Fett illuminated the Advent/Christmas sections of Handel’s *Messiah*, with his own insights of three decades of working with the text and sample recordings of selections for two sessions.

• Kay Koeninger offered a PowerPoint slide show on the art of the Apocalypse, particularly focused on Durer’s *Four Horseman of the Apocalypse* and a painting by Vermeer.

Judy Johnson for the adult forum

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Members of the 2020-2021 Vestry Nominating Committee are Christopher Oldstone-Moore,  Cathy Hasecke, Brian Shelburne, Jack Ivy, and Ron Dowling assisted by Rev. Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat, Priest-in-Charge. Dawn Ivy was nominated to serve another term as Senior Warden. Scott Yeazell was nominated as Junior Warden replacing Jim Whipp whose term is ending. Jimmy Ryan, Linda Mortensen, and Kay Koeninger were nominated as members of Vestry at Large replacing Christopher Oldstone-Moore, Cathy Hasecke, and Brian Shelburne whose 3-years terms are ending. Our youth representative will be Leeza Wheeler who is replacing Sarah Schubert.

Thanks to everyone who have agreed to serve on the Vestry of Christ Church.

Brian Shelburne

**ALTAR GUILD**

The Altar Guild is made up of four (4) teams of ladies (men are welcome, too) who each work one Saturday/Sunday morning each month to clean and set up the Chancel area for Sunday worship. We also work weddings, baptisms, and funerals. Members Anita Beardsell, Gretchen Hicks, Joan Hurley, Susie Peterson, Sally Schwartz, and Cathy Yeazell, are very devoted to their work. New members are welcome. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact me at jahurley500@gmail.com. No experience is necessary.

Joan Hurley

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Prayer Shawls are available on the Worship level each Sunday and can be given to anyone in need of comfort in difficult times, such as surgery, bereavement, or illness. New members are welcome. If you would like to be a part of this ministry to knit or crochet shawls or if you would like to learn to knit or crochet, please contact me at jahurley500@gmail.com.

Joan Hurley

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Christ Church has a Prayer Chain where you can submit your prayer requests.  Your request will be forwarded to members of the congregation who have offered to pray for your concerns.  New members of the Chain are always welcome.  Please contact Anita Beardsell if you are interested.

Anita Beardsell

**FOOD PANTRY**

Pantry includes volunteers of all ages from Christ Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, and our food pantry friends. Anne Randolph was able to successfully recruit volunteers for each pantry day. Thankfully Kelly Zeller is always at the pulse of the pantry.

In 2020 the pantry provided food the third Wednesday of the following months to clients who qualified under federal income guidelines: January, February, March, July (served extra date Monday 7/20/20), November, and December. Due to Covid 19 infection’s impact on Clark County pantry did not serve in April, May, June, August, September, or October.

The pantry was a drive-through for every pantry distribution after February 2020. The food was delivered to the basement area of the Church by ROTC members working on behalf of Second Harvest Food headquarters at least two times each month. Bags were packed for distribution prior to the distribution date.

 Clients depend on this pantry being open the 3rd Wednesday of each month regardless of weather or other circumstances. We will strive to consistently meet their expectations with a spirit of kindness toward our clients and one another. The entire congregation supports the pantry. Helpers include bags, recyclers, packers, cookie bakers, hostesses, bag makers, volunteer recruiters, loaders, haulers, donators, not to mention financial and prayer support; all make the pantry possible (and toilet paper, of course). Twice each month, volunteers from Covenant Presbyterian Church and Christ Church unload pallets delivered to the church loaded with thousands of pounds of groceries. The value of this work is priceless.

What is in store for 2021 remains to be seen. The shutdowns due to the spread of Covid 19 infection may continue. Second Harvest has increased distribution directly from Second Harvest headquarters, sometimes serving clients at the same time Christ Church Pantry is open. Clients may go to Second Harvest rather than our pantry. How our pantry will respond remains to be seen. The Kroger grocery store on South Limestone Street is closed. Clients may be getting increased SNAP payments, government payments, among other things. The pantry will have to be monitored monthly. Our volunteer pool is wonderful, yet due to various issues, the number required to run the pantry may be insufficient. The pantry will need financial support as well as the continued current support of this congregation in 2021.

Respectfully submitted - Ann Chitkara

**BABY FOOD FOR BABY JESUS**

Thanks to *everyone* who participated this past Advent~Christmas~Epiphany Season, 331 x 4oz. jars, tubs & pouches were blessed and donated. This was a 48% INCREASE from last year (223/2020) 208 were given to Help Me Grow (HMG)1 for emergency use with their clients through distribution by their home visitation consultants. The remaining 123 were given to the Family Youth Initiative – Parenting Network (FYI-PN)/The Ark-Children's Rescue Center.  HMG is open 5 days (M-F) per week and FYI-PN is open 3 *afternoons* (M,T & Th) per week. Geographically, HMG is on the east side and FYI-PN is on the west side. Both organizations receive referrals from each other and other agencies and both are on the bus line.  Additionally, both programs establish a relationship with their moms & babies and are proactive with them. Therefore, our donations are benefiting little ones in more ways than one as well as in more locations than one.

Deb Southward

**Dayton Ronald McDonald House (DRMH) / PULL-Tab FUNdraising Recycling Program**

5 POUNDS of Aluminum PULL-Tabs in 2020 which has donated $1.60towards one nights stay ($150). This is down from 2019 due to COVID.  It may not sound like much but combined with other churches/organizations approximately $16 THOUSAND is generated annually. If each CAN that is represented by each PULL-tab is RECYCLED then 7,760 CANS have been kept from the landfill & 95% of the energy needed to make a new can from scratch has been conserved helping to care for “this fragile earth, our island HOME.” *Once again a special thanks to Sue Allender whose source has contributed immensely to our total.*J

Continue to PULL for the DAYTON RMH by continuing to save Aluminum (won't stick to a magnet) PULL-TABS. We will be collecting them again at some point ...time & date to be determined due to our limited In-Gatherings.

 Deb Southward

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH NECROLOGY FOR 2020**

Jack Seipel January 3rd, 2020

Pat Silliman January 8th, 2020

George Anderson March 25th, 2020

Vicki Lindsay   April 1st, 2020

Jill Doan April 16th, 2020

Ruth Bayley December 25th, 2020

*May they rest in peace, and rise in glory!*

**The Collect for All Saint's Day**

"Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one
communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son
Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those
ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love
you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy
Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen."*

(The *Book of Common Prayer*, page 245)