

THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER | PELHAM
MANOR, NEW YORK



ANNUAL REPORT | 2017

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH - JANUARY 28, 2018

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RECTOR'S REPORT

It is a privilege and honor to be rector of Christ Church. Together, we are growing and deepening our faith, having fun, and being challenged as we live out our calling as Christians at Christ Church and in the world. Our common life together begins with Baptism when we became part of the Body of Christ, and that common life is renewed and deepened every time we partake in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion at our Lord's Table. Saint Paul articulated the imagery of the Body of Christ, and he made it clear that you and I are individual members of that one Body. The ways that we each live out our individual callings as Christians will be as different, one from another, as the spiritual gifts that God has given each of us are different. Paul wrote that we use those different gifts for the common good and to build up the Body.

This annual report serves as a record of the many ways that our spiritual gifts built up the Body of Christ and contributed to the common good at Christ Church and in our wider communities in 2016. This report contains numerous ministry reports, which are organized into four pillars of Worship, Service, Community, and Foundation and which articulate the details of life at Christ Church in 2017. I hope you take the time to read each report. We are a vibrant and vital parish, and there is much to be proud of and build upon, in our many ministries. More than that, we are blessed that the Holy Spirit is so active in this place.

I play a specific role in our Parish. I am ordained as a priest and pastor by the Church to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, preach and teach the Gospel, pronounce blessing and absolution, and officiate at baptisms, weddings, and funerals. As your priest and pastor I am on call when you need me and my office is open to you. If you want me to pray for something or if you wish to pray together, please let me know. If you want me to visit you or put an important date in my calendar, I'm happy to do that. If you want to talk, whether it is for guidance or counsel, to chat or anything in between, please schedule some time with me – we can meet in my office, get coffee, or talk over lunch. If you are feeling called to ministry at Christ Church, but need assistance finding a way to use your talents, let's brainstorm together. If you need me urgently, please call my cell phone – 914-471-0260 – if I can't take the call, leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as I can.

As your rector, I oversee and plan all worship services, chair our Vestry Meetings, appoint (in conversation with the Vestry) chairs of our ministries and committees, and I must consent in advance to any activities that take place in, or any the groups who use, our facilities. If you ever have any questions about how things are run, why we do something the way we do, or whether something can be changed or updated, please ask. The Prayer Book, Constitution, and Canons of the Episcopal Church, the laws of the State of New York, and our parish by-laws guide and govern how we do certain things. That said, an individual parish has a great deal of flexibility, and if you see something that isn't working or might be done another way, please speak to me. I am very happy to explain why we do what we do or learn when I don't

know. When you have a concern and you share it directly with me, that concern may lead to increased engagement in and growth for our common life together.

Priests vow at ordination to take part in the councils of the wider church, and I serve as a Deputy to General Convention, as Chair of the Budget Committee of the diocese, and on the Commission on Ministry. Ministry in the wider church strengthens the bonds that bind us to the churches in our Diocese and the Episcopal Church and gives Christ Church a voice and vote in the larger Church. These connections also benefit our parish by expanding our outreach and evangelism opportunities, opening our pulpit and classrooms to guest speakers, and giving us access to financial and administrative support from the diocese.

A priest is only one member of the Body of Christ that makes up a parish, and I am grateful for the contributions and presence of every single person who has been involved in or prayed at Christ Church this past year. Thank you all for your support of and commitment to Christ Church. Thank you to my wife Nicole and my children, Liam and Nicholas, for their support and love. Thank you to Kari Black and Carol Ipsen, our wardens. They are excellent wardens, and they have been invaluable to me, to the staff, and to the many ministries and committees of the congregation. Thank you to our parish officers: Jackie Vigil our clerk, Amy Heese our bookkeeper, Anne Calder our treasurer, and to Amy Heese and Alice Dean who serve as the vestry elected members of the Executive Committee. Thank you to our Vestry members, committee chairs and to all committee members and volunteers. Thank you to the members of our exceptional staff – Deacon Katie, Jeffrey Hoffman, Marie Main, Walter Roberts, Ed Blue, Michael Kurth our Seminarian, and Joe and John from Parish Property Management – who all bring devotion and expertise to their roles at Christ Church. Coming to the church each day is a joy, and our talented, dedicated, and hard-working staff is a big part of that. To all of you, please know that the time, love, and energy that you give to Christ Church is very much appreciated, and I am personally grateful for being a partner in ministry with you all. Your love of Jesus and this parish is obvious, and the time, energy, thoughtfulness, and devotion that you give to Christ Church is amazing.

Lastly, I want to thank our Lord Jesus Christ who has called me as a priest in the Episcopal Church and blessed me by directing me to the Parish of Christ the Redeemer in Pelham. I love being a pastor, priest, and rector in the Episcopal Church, and I am blessed to serve at Christ Church. My family and I love living in Pelham, and we are very happy to be a part of this wonderful community and this great parish. May God bless you all.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead
Priest & Rector

STATE OF THE PARISH ADDRESS

This address was delivered by the Rector at the Annual Meeting.

Lord Jesus Christ, our great shepherd and high priest: be always near us when we seek you in this place; draw us to you when we come here to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, to rejoice and give thanks; may it be here, Lord Christ, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service. We give you thanks, for the gifts of your people and for the work of many hands. Accept and bless what we do here, and grant that in these earthly things we may behold the order and beauty of things heavenly. Be present with us today at our Annual Meeting as we discuss the ordering, renewal, and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I want to begin by thanking the members of our Nominating Committee: Jeff Bodenmann, Alice Dean, Carol Ipsen, Gavin Leckie, and Marilyn Leone. Thank you also for all who agreed to stand as candidates for election – I won't name them all again because Carol just did. Thank you to our Vestry Members: Angela Barone, Jeff Bodenmann, Curtis Chase, Alice Dean, Marie Dumas, Amy Heese, Jack Kaufmann, Gavin Leckie, Colette Phipps. Thank you to our Clerk, Treasurer, and our Bookkeeper, respectively: Jackie Vigil, Anne Calder, and Amy Heese. Thank you to our Wardens Kari Black and Carol Ipsen. Thank you to all of our Committee Chairs – there are too many to name.

Thank you to our staff and property management team: Jeffrey Hoffman our Organist and Choir Director; Marie Main our Administrator; Ed Blue our Sexton; Walter Roberts our Assistant Sexton; Joe and John from Parish Property Management. Thank you to Deacon Katie and Michael Kurth our Seminarian.

And thank you all for taking the time to be here today for this important business. It is an honor to be priest and rector of this wonderful parish. I am grateful to you all for all you do here to build up this church and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ from Christ Church Pelham into our communities and the world around us.

Today I want to offer a State of the Parish address. Most of what I mention or announce will be followed up in more detail by others or in the annual report, but there are some really exciting things going on at Christ Church and since I am the Rector, I have the privilege to announce them.

2017 saw the installation of the first new stained-glass window in many years at Christ Church. The Bolton family and the windows they designed and made, play an important

role in the history of stained-glass in the United States. There are Bolton Windows in churches all over the NYC area, but we have the original ones, including the Adoration of the Magi which is the first figured stained-glass window made in this country. The Robert Doughty Weeks, Jr. memorial window was installed in the Narthex in late 2017, and it is an excellent and beautiful addition to our historic church. Thank you to Bob Weeks' family and friends who made his vision a reality.

Today I have the pleasure of announcing another special gift. As many of you may recall, the parish determined about ten years ago that our organ – which has served the church for over fifty years – was in need of complete refurbishment or replacement. An organ committee was formed and came to the conclusion that replacing the organ was the only viable option. They sought out organ builders, they took bids from five different companies, and they settled on a design by Juget-Sinclair, a respected organ builder in Montreal. Then the economy collapsed in 2008, and their work was shelved but not forgotten.

In late October last year, Martin Nash came into my office and told me that he would like to complete the work that that organ committee had begun, and he planned to make a donation to Christ Church with the specific instructions that the money be used to build and fully install a new organ from Juget-Sinclair. Over the past months the vestry and a smaller organ committee chaired by Margaret Young have been dotting I's and crossing T's – everything from speaking to Father Hoag and Father Alexander my predecessors, and Mrs. Lillis Dillon who donated our current organ, to calculating costs and currency exchange rates, to projecting that the gift includes adequate contingency money – and today I am pleased to announce that the Vestry has unanimously accepted Martin's gift and that the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ will be installed in late 2019.

The organ, its installation, the removal of the old organ, and estimated contingency costs have been completely paid for by Martin Nash. This was an unexpected and very generous gift that fully addresses one of the major, long-term needs of the parish. I am grateful to Martin for his generosity, to Margaret Young for her leadership, and to all of the members of the organ committee. Thank you very much.

Our worship attendance in 2017 remained up from two years ago. Our 2017 Sunday attendance numbers look slightly lower than 2016, but that is because Christmas counted as a Sunday in 2016. When that happens as it did in 2016, we get a slightly inflated Sunday count. All in all, I think attendance has been excellent, and I'm looking forward to this year when Christmas and Sunday have absolutely nothing to do with each other.

I'd like to thank our verger Walter Roberts and our choir director Jeffrey Hoffman for all of their work, and for all who serve as acolytes, ushers, altar guild, choir members, and junior choir members. I want to highlight that Jeffrey has grown the children's choir this year to seven children. If your child is interested in singing, please speak to Jeffrey – I'd love for the choir to grow to 10 or 12 children by next year.

Our Church School is also growing slowly but steadily; we have new directors, Eileen Peluso and Michael Kurth, and several new teachers. The weekly attendance and enrollment is up a bit over last year. That said, we need volunteers to help, especially if we want to get our Youth Group off the ground. If you have teens in middle or high school, I really want your help. Sign your kids up for the events we offer or tell me why they can't come so we can plan more effectively. Even better, help me plan and chaperone an event or two this year.

Our pledge campaign built on the sizable increase we made the prior two years, and I am pleased to announce that our 2017-2018 Pledge Campaign has continued that growth. As of this week our total pledge amount was just under \$400,000, which I am told is the second highest amount in the history of the Parish – I believe the highest was 2007. We all know that 2018 and 2007 dollars are not equal, and we still have room to grow. That said, I'm thrilled at the progress we have made, and I want to thank every person who made a pledge for 2018. I'd like to thank John Fox and the members of our Stewardship Committee who have overseen the Pledge Campaign for the past three years. If you haven't yet made a pledge, you are more than welcome to join in.

Pledges make up 55% of our total budget of about \$665,000. About 12% of our budget goes to the diocese to support our bishops and their staff, to maintain a clergy presence in poor communities, mission churches, and college campuses, and to provide programs, resources, and grants which benefit every congregation, including ours. I'd like to highlight two grants that we have received in the last two years to give you an idea of what we get for our assessment. When we had the so-called "Pit of Despair" excavation and plumbing project in 2016 the diocese gave us a Property Support Grant for \$15,000. This past year when we did some emergency dormer, tuck pointing, and roof work, the diocese gave us a Property Support Grant for \$3,600.

Most recently we applied to the diocese for a grant to increase our clergy support. I am pleased to announce that the diocese gave us a one-time Next Step Grant for \$30,000 to be used on a second priest. I can do lots of things – but I can't do everything, and historically Christ Church has had a second priest to assist the Rector. We applied for the grant because we thought we were ready to take that next step, and the diocese agreed. \$30,000 is not enough money to bring on a second full-time or even half-time priest – our pledge number was excellent, but for us to support and house a second full-time priest like we once did, we would have needed to increase annual pledging by another \$80,000. That said, it is enough for us to bring aboard a part-time priest for a year without increasing our budget. Then, we will determine if we can budget to keep that part-time position in the coming years. If we do that, it gives us a reasonable starting point to expand to a half-time priest down the road. I will be discussing the details of this with the Vestry at our February Meeting.

Currently about 45% of our budget goes to paying for clergy and staff. I am grateful to every member of our staff. They work hard, and they are good at what they do. About 5% of our budget goes to worship related expenses like Paschal Candles and professional choristers.

The rest of our budget goes to the necessary costs of running the parish office and keeping our buildings open, insured, safe, heated, and in good shape. I want to thank Anne Calder and Amy Heese for their work managing our finances. I encourage you, if you have any questions about the budget, to speak with Amy Heese or Anne Calder – or ask questions at the end of this meeting during our question/answer period. I want to thank Kari Black who is and will continue to be our Buildings Committee co-Chair. She has reconstituted the Buildings Committee, and they are doing excellent work with the limited funding they have.

2018 is the 175th anniversary of this Parish. To celebrate that anniversary, we are offering three major events that I want you to put in your calendars. On April 28, the actual 175th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the church building, we will have a Progressive Dinner. A Progressive Dinner is a great opportunity for the entire parish community to meet, greet, and eat together. We gather as a large group in one location, then break out for dinner at dozens of other locations, and finally reconvene for dessert. I hope you will all be able to take part in this. It will be offered in place of the Newcomers Party that we have offered the past few Springs. The Progressive Dinner is all about fellowship and fun.

Later in the year, on October 6 and 7 – Columbus Day Weekend – we will have an all parish, sit down, celebratory dinner on Saturday Night and a special worship service on Sunday Morning. I have already invited Father Hoag and Father Alexander. We will also cast a wider net and invite all of the many clergy who have ever served at Christ Church and also any alumni who have moved away. Cherrie Greenhalgh is chairing and organizing both the Progressive Dinner and the October 6 Dinner. I want to thank her for her work thus far and offer a plug for any who might be interested in lending her a hand.

This year we are also organizing a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Father Alexander's Church. Pilgrimage Brochures and Registration Packets are available for anyone who is interested.

Finally, as part of our 175th Anniversary we are conducting a Capital Campaign. Anne and JD Calder are running the campaign. Anne, JD, and Kari Black will have more to say about that and buildings projects that will be highlighted in the campaign.

I want to close by thanking you all for your love and commitment to Christ Church. Most of all, I want to thank my wife Nicole and my boys Liam and Nicholas. They are the lights of my life, and we are overjoyed to be a part of this wonderful parish. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

THE PILLARS OF CHRIST CHURCH

In order to support the various ministries of the parish and coordinate the efforts of our many committees, we continue to rely on a structure that groups our committees into four core ministries. This annual report is organized according to these groupings:

Worship – Committees within the worship ministry include **Liturgy, Music, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Ushers, Acolytes** and **Lectors and Chalice Bearers**.

Service – The committees that organize and encourage the service that we provide to our parishioners, our community and our world. Committees within the service ministry include **Outreach, Pastoral Care, Evangelism, Christian Education, and Concerts At Christ Church, and Christmas Pageant**.

Community –This includes our parish as a whole, represented by the **Fellowship** committee, as well as the various other groups of our parish: the **Women's Connection, Seniors' Group, the Men's Group and Youth Group**.

Foundation –This ministry includes the buildings and grounds of the church (our literal foundation) as well as the financial aspects of the parish. Committees included in the Foundation ministry include the **Investment, Finance, Buildings, Stewardship, Grounds, and Communication** committees **Vestry Report** and the **Tenant & Rental Report**.

Each member of the Vestry is assigned as a vestry liaison to one or more ministries of Christ Church. This includes working with the committee chair(s), attending select committee meetings, and reporting to the vestry as a whole on the activities of the ministries within their area of responsibility.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the preparation of this annual report and to all parishioners who participate, contribute and take on leadership roles in each of our ministries.

CHRIST CHURCH MINISTRIES

Vestry & Parish Officers

The Rev. Matthew Hoxsie Mead, Rector

Kari Black, Senior Warden (2012, 2014, 2016); Carol Ipsen, Junior Warden (2017)

Anne Calder Treasurer (2015, 2016, 2017); Jackie Vigil, Clerk

Alice Dean (2014, 2017); Jack Kaufmann (2014, 2017); Colette Phipps (2014, 2017)

Curtis Chase (2015); Amy Heese (2015); Marie Dumas (2013, 2015 *)

Jeff Bodenmann (2016); Gavin Leckie (2016); Angela Lore-Barone (2017**)

Area	Committee	Liaison	Chair (s)
Worship	Acolytes / Lectors / Chalicists	Fr. Matt	Walter Roberts
Worship	Altar Guild	Fr. Matt	Paige Lavengood & Jackie Kraft
Worship	Flower Guild	Fr. Matt	Amie Carter, Patrice Fitzpatrick
Worship	Ushers	Fr. Matt	Marilyn Leone
Worship	Worship	Fr. Matt	Fr. Matt
Worship	Pageant	Fr. Matt	Michael Fawcett
Worship	Choirs	Curtis Chase	Jeffrey Hoffman
Service	Adult Christian Learning	Fr. Matt	Alice Dean
Service	Church School	Curtis Chase	Michael Kurth, Eileen Peluso
Service	Concerts at Christ Church	Curtis Chase	Alice Dean
Service	Evangelism	Gavin Leckie, Colette Phipps	Open Position
Service	Outreach	Marie Dumas	Marie Dumas, Ed McGann
Service	Pastoral Care	Fr. Matt	Deacon Katie
Service	Discernment	Fr. Matt	Fr. Matt
Community	Fellowship Events	Angela Barone	Jennifer Alleyne
Community	Coffee Hour	Angela Barone	Jennifer Alleyne
Community	Youth Group	Fr. Matt	Open Position
Community	Men's Ministry	Fr. Matt	Open Position
Community	Seniors	Colette Phipps	Deacon Katie
Community	Women's Connection	Marie Dumas	Open Position
Foundation	Communications	Fr. Matt	Erik Ipsen
Foundation	Buildings	Amy Heese	Fr. Matt, Kari Black
Foundation	Tenant and Rentals	Amy Heese	Marie Main
Foundation	Finance	Amy Heese	Anne Calder
Foundation	Garden of the Resurrection	Father Matt	Alice Dean
Foundation	Grounds	Father Matt	Alice Dean
Foundation	Investment	Jack Kaufmann	Margaret Young, David Jefferies
Foundation	Personnel/Legal	Kari Black	Jack Kaufmann
Foundation	Stewardship / Planned Giving	Jeff Bodenmann	John Fox
Foundation	Tag Sale	Angela Barone	Jackie Kraft, Jennifer Alleyne, Eileen Wolfe
Foundation	General Fundraising	Father Matt	Marie Dumas

WORSHIP

THE FIRST PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

RECTOR'S LITURGY REPORT

Total Services for 2017

Sunday Eucharist: 117
Weekday Eucharist: 65
Private Home/Hospital Communion: 40
Sunday Daily Office: 0
Weekday Daily Office: 127
Marriage: 1
Burial: 5
Baptisms: 7
Confirmations: 8
Receptions: 6

Sunday Worship

Each week we offer a Rite 1 Said Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. This service generally has between 30-45 people in attendance.

Each week we offer a Rite 2 Sung Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. Between September and Trinity Sunday this service includes a full choir with four professional singers. On some holiday weekends and in the summer the choir is volunteer only or a soloist. This service generally has between 120-160 people in attendance when there is a choir. The attendance drops to about 50-80 when there is no choir (which usually occurs in the summer and on some holiday weekends). Church School also affects attendance: when church school or some other activity is not offered, attendance is at the lower end of the ranges listed above.

We offer a *Come As You Are* Eucharist at 5:00 p.m. on some Sunday evenings. The service is a short Rite 2 Said Eucharist with four short, well-known hymns, it lasts for about 40 minutes, and it can be offered in the Garden of Resurrection or the church. Throughout 2017 this service was offered once each month. In 2016 we tried offering more services, and it produced diminishing returns in terms of attendance. In 2017 this service averaged between 10-35 people. The attendance increases significantly when there is an activity attached to the *Come As You Are* (a cookout, game night, greening of the church, Confirmation class, etc.). Throughout the 2016-2017 academic year we offered a Family Dinner and Youth Group meeting after the *Come As You Are*. This did not increase attendance, nor did it attract teens and families after the initial offering. We will continue offering *Come As You Are* in 2018, and we will keep trying to find ways to grow the service.

Sunday attendance (all services) for 2017, 2016 and 2015 was as follows:

Average Sunday attendance in 2017: 169

Average Sunday attendance in 2016: 173 (Note: Christmas Eve & Day count as Sunday)

Average Sunday attendance in 2015: 164

Total Sunday attendance in 2017: 8917

Total Sunday attendance in 2016: 9020 (Note: Christmas Eve & Day count as Sunday)

Total Sunday attendance in 2015: 8513

Regular Weekday Worship & Holy Days

Our regular weekday worship schedule is:

Monday at 10 a.m. – Morning Prayer

Tuesday at 10 a.m. – Morning Prayer

Wednesday at 10 a.m. – Morning Prayer

Thursday at 12:15 p.m. – Said Eucharist

We celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Holy Days that fall on weekdays, Saturdays, and holidays. When a Holy Day falls on a holiday, Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the Eucharist is offered (instead of Morning Prayer) at 10:00 a.m. When the Holy Day falls on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday, the Eucharist is offered at 12:15 p.m. Certain major Holy Days (i.e. Christmas, Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, etc.) have more complicated schedules that are announced well in advance.

Attendance at Morning Prayer is usually 2-8 people. Attendance at the Eucharist (Thursdays or Holy Days) is usually 5-10 people. Attendance at major Holy Days varies. These services may be small or large, but they are always important. The church is a house of prayer, and by offering a place and opportunity to pray and worship together we accomplish two things. First, the people who can attend grow spiritually, develop a more robust prayer life, and become more familiar with the Scriptures. Second, those who are in need of communal prayer know that it is offered and know that they can request prayers from those in attendance.

Attendance at Christmas, Easter & major non-Sunday Holy Days (all services on the day) in 2017 was:

Epiphany, Wednesday, January 6: 20

Candlemas, Tuesday, February 2: 47

Ash Wednesday: 103

Annunciation: 6

Palm Sunday: 268

Maundy Thursday: 105

Good Friday: 95

Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday: 511

Ascension Day, Thursday, May 5: 71

Independence Day: 18

Michaelmas, Thurs., September 29: 100

All Saints' Day, Tue., November 1: 20
Thanksgiving Day: 20
Christmas Eve & Day: 441

Weekday attendance (all services) for 2017, 2016, and 2015 was as follows:

Total Weekday attendance in 2017: 2570
Total Weekday attendance in 2016: 2677
Total Weekday attendance in 2015: 2147

Other Worship Services

In 2017 we offered several other worship services. Stations of the Cross was offered at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday in Lent. Advent Lessons & Carols was not offered in 2017. Instead we offered a Christmas Concert. The Christmas Pageant was offered at 4:00 p.m. on the Third Sunday of Advent. Attendance was 180.

Summary

2017 was a great year. We offered many wonderful services and our overall attendance was up! If you have any questions about anything we do or don't do in worship, please speak to me. If you want to volunteer to lead Morning Prayer or Evening Prayer on a weekday, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER'S REPORT

"Bless, O Lord, us thy servants, who minister in thy temple. Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." – the Royal School of Church Music's Chorister's Prayer

The goal of music ministry in the Church is, as the Book of Common Prayer puts it, "to perfect the praises offered by God's people on earth." Every hymn, spiritual song, descant, psalm, chant, motet, and anthem we sing in our liturgies, whether as a congregation together or as a choir, is offered as prayer and praises to the Almighty, to whom all our thanks are due. Likewise, as we are reminded in each of our Eucharistic liturgies, we are joining our voices with the choirs of saints and angels who perpetually sing God's praises around his throne. At Christ Church, the music we offer in prayer and praise draws from the riches of the whole Church – Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox and Evangelical – and from many different cultures around the world. We sing scripture in beautiful choral settings and chants in English and Latin, and occasionally in many other languages. We sing hymns which emphasize and help us to internalize particular themes from the lectionary propers for each Sunday and feast day or which reflect overarching seasonal themes or important, universal theological truths. We sing

jubilant carols – once banned from services of Christian worship – that express our ebullience over the coming of Jesus, the Resurrection, the Annunciation, the Ascension, or the Pentecost; and our lament over our sins and the injustice that still exists in our world. We sing spiritual songs of comfort to those who are in adversity of body or of mind. And we sing together so that we may show forth in our lives what it is we believe.

In addition to the weekly participation of our singing congregation throughout 2017, the Music for Liturgy and Choral Music Ministry of Christ Church involved twenty-eight people in choral music ministry, including 18 parish volunteers, 6 child choristers, and our 4 professional staff section leaders, during the regular choral season from January through June and September through December. An additional 8 adult volunteers participated in our Summer Choir or in our Festival Choir for the Pelham Interfaith Thanksgiving Service and on other special occasions Christ Church also employed three substitute professional choristers to cover absences by our staff singers and a substitute organist to cover for my vacation weekends.

The four staff singers who form the backbone of our parish choir, Laurelyn Watson Chase, Jann Degnan, Michael Imbimbo, and Simon Cram, and who often perform as soloists and cantors during our liturgies, are valued members of the team of professional musicians who help me to maintain a high standard of choral singing here in the parish and to lead and inspire our volunteer musicians in performing the wide scope of music we explore during each choral season. I'm grateful to them for their years of service to this parish and to our parish choir.

The 1968 Lillis Memorial Casavant organ, our parish's principal instrument for worship, has served the parish for nearly fifty years, but it has required additional maintenance over the last year to address its failing electronic and mechanical systems beyond the usual tuning visits made by Emery Brothers, who maintain the instrument. Our two Steinway baby grand pianos, one in the choir room and the other in the church, are used regularly to conduct choir rehearsals and accompany "Come as you are" Sunday evening eucharists. We have them tuned and adjusted annually to keep them in good working order. Our Kimball grand piano in the parish hall and the Kawai baby grand in the parish library also get a fair amount of use throughout the year at parish dinners, seniors' luncheons, Adult Christian Learning classes, and other parish events, so we have them tuned and maintained from time to time, as well. We use our collection of percussion instruments in liturgies throughout the year. Our 1960s Zuckerman harpsichord needs an action upgrade to become usable again in the future. At our "Come as you are" Sunday evening eucharists, and occasionally other services throughout the year, I also employ my own personal collection of synthesizers and computers to accompany portions of the liturgy. Other parishioners and friends of the parish bring their own instruments to play from time to time.

We are blessed to have a fine music ministry here in the parish, and it is my privilege and honor to serve as your Organist and Choirmaster here at Christ Church. 2017 marked a decade in this role for me, and I'm grateful for the ongoing support of the Rector, the Wardens, Vestry, Choir and of the entire Congregation in this endeavor. As we continue to grow

together in quality musical ministry throughout 2018, may we all continue to show forth in our lives what we sing with our lips.

If you would like to become more involved in the music ministry at Christ Church, please let me know by email at jeffrey@christchurchpelham.org or by phoning the parish music office at 914-738-5515, ext. 102.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Hoffman
Organist & Choirmaster

VERGER'S REPORT

The Acolyte Guild

The Ministry of Acolyte is very old, going back to at least the third century. Tarsicus, an acolyte in Rome, was martyred in 258. These early acolytes had functions very similar to those of the modern day.

Acolytes assist in worship by carrying the processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, carrying candles or "torches", and assisting a Deacon, Priest or Bishop in the rites of the Liturgy. Serving as an acolyte gives our young people an opportunity to assume a leadership position in the Parish, to learn our traditions, and to participate actively in its services in a very unique and memorable way.

The Acolyte Guild at Christ Church is quite active. Please take time to view the many photographs of acolytes from years past in the acolyte room. At present we have 18 acolytes.

The Acolyte Guild is open to Children age 10 and above, as well as Adults.

A Big "Thank you" to our acolytes for their participation in our services each Sunday. We count on them to make the services flow, and our worship is enhanced by their presence. The next time you see an acolyte light a candle, remember that you're witnessing a piece of our apostolic tradition that spans at least 17 centuries!

Anyone interested in this ministry should contact Walter Roberts through the Parish Office.

Lectors

Lectors are lay members of the Parish who regularly read the lessons from the Old Testament, the New Testament and, sometimes, the Psalm for the day at the 8:00 and 10:00 service every Sunday as well as the daily office and other services. These volunteers participate in the liturgy by reading God's word to the congregation that is appointed for the lectionary that week. A

sub-set of this group Lectors also serve as lay intercessors and read the Prayers of the People as well.

The existence of the Prayers of the People was first mentioned by Justin Martyr (also known as Saint Justin), about the year 150, and for centuries has formed a vital part of the Daily Office and Eucharistic liturgy. Christ Church is blessed to have 28 dedicated lectors, who take the reading of Scripture very seriously. While not terribly time consuming, this ministry is vitally important to our worship. It requires practicing the readings and conveying the meaning intended in the text. Mr. Walter Roberts, our Verger, marks the passages and schedules the Lectors.

Anyone interested in this ministry should contact Walter through the Parish Office.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)

LEMs are lay people of the diocese who have been approved by clergy to serve in their parishes in the lay licensed ministries. Basically they will assist and administer communion as part of the Sunday and weekday liturgies and some LEMs join deacon Kate and bring the consecrated Communion host and wine to members of the parish who cannot attend church due to illness or infirmity.

The administration of Holy Communion is properly the province of the ordained—bishops, priests, and deacons. Hence, licensed lay ministers are, paradoxically, not really performing lay ministry at all! They are, in fact, deputized, in a restricted sense, to share in these functions of the clergy. All LEMs must be baptized and appointed to that function by the Rector or priest in charge. Upon application, LEMs are then licensed by the Bishop for this ministry.

We currently have 13 Lay Eucharistic Ministers also scheduled by Mr. Roberts. Likewise, anyone interested in serving as a Lay Eucharistic Minister should contact Walter through the Parish Office.

Serving Our Lord Together,
Walter Roberts, Verger

ALTAR GUILD

The primary purpose of the Altar Guild is to prepare for celebrations of the Holy Eucharist and other sacraments of the church. The Altar Guild's work provides both order and beauty for the worship of the church. The members of the Altar Guild have completed another year of service to the Church preparing the sanctuary for all Sunday, midweek and special services. The Altar Guild provides wine, wafers and candles for use during worship services. Prior to Palm Sunday the Altar Guild convenes as a group to make palm crosses and decorate the church with palms. Linens, vessels, vestments and church hangings are cared for by the Altar Guild and replaced as needed.

We are always looking for people who would like to share in this most rewarding ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Kraft and Paige Lavengood

FLOWER GUILD

The mission of the Flower Guild is to ensure that the church and altar are adorned with flowers appropriate to the season and occasion. The principal activity of the guild is to purchase and arrange the flowers displayed in the Church every week. We also work with parishioners who wish to make donations of flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of a special event or person. We are currently requesting for \$100 donations for the flowers on the Main Altar and \$50 for the Bolton Altar for the specific remembrance/celebration requests. These donations will be noted in the weekly email newsletter as well as the Sunday Service bulletins. These donations are in addition to collections made during Christmas and Easter. The donations help to make the Flower Guild a self-sustaining ministry.

The guild currently has 14 members, listed below. In 2018 we hope to increase our membership and perspective new members are encouraged to contact one of the co-chairs with interest. A flower-arranging workshop was given by Emily Kane in 2017 for current and new members. We invite any parishioners interested in this ministry to join us.

Members of the Flower Guild:

Angela Barone
Allison Bodenmann
Amie Carter – Co-Chair
Alice Dean
Margaret Delillo
Marie Dumas
Patrice Fitzpatrick – Co-Chair
Mildred Johnson

Etta Gumbs
Emily Kane
Colette Phipps
Janet Salvatore
Catherine Scinta
Cherie Sigward

SERVICE

THE SECOND PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

ADULT CHRISTIAN LEARNING

Our ministry is in its third year of existence and is continuing to grow. This year we welcomed several new members. They joined a group of men and women who are energetic, creative, and committed to the mission of the ministry. Every year the variety and number of our presentations to the parish increase. It is our hope that we are providing sustenance for our spiritual journeys.

Our Winter 2017 series of programs included movies, books, lectures and discussions. We started the season with the movie, Amazing Grace, which depicted the anti-slavery movement in Britain that was led by Wilberforce. We followed that with our Courageous Conversations book discussion of The New Jim Crow that was led by Missy Kisob and Colette Phipps.

In Lent we concentrated on the study of the Bible. Fr. Matt presented two programs on Paul and the Book of Romans. We used an audio-visual lecture by a noted scholar on the Gospel of Mark that is part of a series from the Yale Divinity School.

For the Fall we have begun another Bible Study group that meets every other week in the evening except when we have another program scheduled that week. The readings from the Sunday before provide the scripture for discussion. In each session the group is led by a volunteer. Everyone chips in for the pizza. The group is small but faithful. It is hoped that it will grow.

To answer a need expressed by members of the Thursday Bible Study group concerning their difficulty in using IT devices, Missy Kisob and Michael Moynihan, with the help of Colette Phipps, found a program designed by Dr. Jean Cuppola of Pace University called Gerentolong. Students from the college worked individually with members in the Bible Study to help them with whatever problems they were having with their phones or computers.

To mark the 500th year of Martin Luther's life we showed the highly acclaimed PBS documentary, Martin Luther. The discussion afterwards was led by Michael Moynihan. This was followed by a musical program, Preparing the Way for the Messiah given by our choirmaster and organist, Jeffrey Hoffman. Janet Kornfeld, a lawyer and parishioner, gave a talk on Last Things during which she outlined the additional documents we need to help our families and ourselves plan for our final days.

We also need to mention the contribution made by Cathie Arquilla. She is responsible for the eye-catching graphics for our flyers that she creates every season.

Our ministry does not have a budget that would allow for outside speakers, however this has not diminished the quality of our presentations. We have a wealth of wonderful talented people in our own parish who have given us their time and expertise. The members of this ministry are very grateful to all of them.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice K Dean, Chairperson

BIBLE STUDY

Our Parish Bible Study Group meets on Thursday mornings from 10:00 until noon. Typically a group of 18-22, we meet year round, and this year only missed one Thursday...Thanksgiving Day. We like fitting around the library table, but will always make room for more. There's a camaraderie that keeps us all wanting to be there. No one need feel unprepared to join the group as we have various backgrounds and gifts, which enables us each to approach the scriptures in a different way, thus enriching our study and conversation each week. We always begin with prayer and an "appreciation" (as opposed to critique) of last Sunday's sermon. Since we study the readings for the following Sunday, it's always interesting and revealing to see how our approach and study match up with the sermon. We then tackle the readings for next Sunday. Our effort is to relate the scriptures to real life – our lives and our world today. As with all good religious experiences, we eat something too. Each week one of our members brings a small snack for us all to share. Please join us – all are welcome, and we do have fun while learning and listening to God's Word. There is an openness on the part of the group in our sharing of experiences as they relate to the word of God. We always respect each other's privacy – therefore what happens, or is said, in Bible Study – stays at Bible Study. Viva Bible Study!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Moynihan, Group Leader

DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE

The Episcopal Church requires that seekers for ordained ministry (Deacon, Priest) undergo a discernment process in the parish as the initial part of and before proceeding on to a much longer diocesan discernment process. This process begins when the seeker speaks to the rector and expresses interest in ordained ministry. After some time of reflection, prayer, and continued conversation with the seeker, the rector may form a parish discernment committee. The parish discernment committee is never a standing committee, and members are newly appointed by the rector every time a new discernment committee is needed. The parish discernment process generally lasts between a year and two years– the discernment committee portion tends to last between 4 and 12 months from start to finish, and it is occasionally longer.

If the discernment committee recommends continued discernment for ordained ministry, the committee makes such a recommendation to the rector and the vestry. The rector must write a recommendation to the Bishop (including all or relevant portions of the discernment committee's report) and 2/3 of the vestry must sign a statement of recommendation to the Bishop for the seeker to proceed to the next stage of discernment with the diocese. If you are interested in ordained ministry, please let me know!

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Prayer Book states about Confirmation: "In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop." Our youth confirmands tend to be in 8th or 9th grade, but we welcome all youth through high school. Confirmation preparation for adults is also required and is handled separately by the rector.

Our 2016-2017 Confirmation Class was led by me (Father Matt) and Deacon Katie. We had eight youth confirmands. Our 2016-2017 class met, on average, once a month. Our 2017-2018 is led by me (Father Matt), Deacon Katie, and Michael Kurth (our Seminarian). We have eight youth confirmands.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

CHURCH SCHOOL

The 2017 Church School year was marked by change, terrific programming and teaching, and the introduction of new faces. Longtime volunteer leader Marcie Wiehagen concluded her leadership duties in 2017, and handed the reigns to two new co-directors: Eileen Peluso and seminarian Michael Kurth. We thank Marcie for her years of dedication to Christian youth education and leading our Church School!

With Father Matt's assistance, Eileen and Michael planned an ambitious and rewarding Church School year calendar. Our goal was to include one large family event per quarter, and so far we have accomplished just that. In October, Courtney McGrory and other adult volunteers led our youth in a fun, spirit-filled Halloween celebration. December saw our focus turn toward the holidays, as Jack Kraft led almost twenty youth in decorating the outside Christmas tree. And the annual Christmas pageant was once again a must-see event – the kids look so cute in those costumes as they sing their little hearts out!

In 2018, we hope to provide more opportunities for Christ Church youth to grow in their faith. We kicked off January with an instructed Eucharist for youth and will have special Mud Week programs in February. March will see our popular re-enactment of the Last Supper, and April we will resurrect Marcie's engaging church Scavenger Hunt.

Each week, we welcome around twenty youth for forty minutes of Christian learning and fellowship with similar-aged children. We hope to keep growing this year, and will continue our outreach to new families and the young children among our parish. All our accomplishments, of course, are possible because of the incredible help and support of our teachers: Elena Avolio, Curtis Chase, Shannon Corley, Janet Kornfeld, Pat O'Byrne, Sara Weeks, Kristine Valerio, and our many volunteers throughout the year. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Kurth

OUTREACH

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me.' – Matthew 25:35-40.

In 2017, the Outreach Committee continued to provide financial and hands-on support to local organizations that focus on feeding, homelessness and recovery assistance while increasing parishioner engagement opportunities in support of these organizations.

Summary of 2017 Parishioner Engagement Activities

Parishioners generously donated their time, talent and treasure to support the following Outreach Activities of Christ Church in 2017:

- *Brown Bag Lunch Program (One Day/Each Month):* In 2017, Christ Church completed its first full year of support for the Brown Bag Lunch Program at Trinity St. Paul's Episcopal Church in New Rochelle. The once-a-month commitment on the first Thursday of each month includes buying a list of supplies and gathering a group of parishioners to prepare sandwiches, pack bags and distribute lunches to 70-80 people in New Rochelle. Funding for the program was provided through this year's Easter Appeal, the sales of holiday and Mother's Day cards, as well as numerous donations of cookies and juice boxes from parishioners. Our thanks to the Men's Group for taking on responsibility for making the

sandwiches each month and to the volunteers who distribute the lunches on Thursday mornings.

- *Cereal Drive (February)*: 27 boxes of cereal were collected in conjunction with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper and were donated to the County Harvest Food Pantry.
- *Easter Appeal (March & April)*: Parishioners donated more than \$1,535 to support various local feeding programs.
- *Clothing Drive (May)*: As part of Christ Church's Tag Sale held in May, parishioners donated 10 bags of clothing which were given to St. Vincent's Hospital in Harrison for participants in their inpatient substance abuse and psychiatric treatment programs. In addition numerous business suits were collected and donated to Hudson Link in Ossining, which provides college, career training and other support to those in prison.
- *Episcopal Charities Sunday (May)*: Parishioners donated \$343 to Episcopal Charities of New York which provides programs and assistance to those in need throughout the Diocese of New York and New York state.
- *Thanksgiving-in-a-Box (November)*: Approximately 50 families at Christ Church donated to the annual Thanksgiving dinner drive with some families contributing more than one box. As a result, parishioners of Christ Church along with members of the Pelham Jewish Center, Huguenot Memorial Church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Catherine's Parish and the Community Church of the Pelhams were able to deliver 800 dinners to needy families in Westchester County. Special thanks to Beth Conway, who has faithfully coordinated this effort for Christ Church for many years.
- *Hurricane Maria Relief for Puerto Rico (December)*: Our appreciation to Carla Carroll and Michael Kurth for leading the Christmas Pageant gift-giving effort to provide basic necessities and Christmas toys to small mountain towns and villages in Puerto Rico that were devastated by Hurricane Maria. Parishioners provided six carloads of donations, which were flown into these areas by Tainas Unidas, a New Jersey based charitable group.
- *Glove Tree (December)*: Throughout Advent and Christmas time, members of Christ Church donated gloves for men, women and children on the Glove Tree in the Parish Hall. More than 100 pairs of gloves were collected and distributed to those in need through the Trinity St. Paul's Brown Bag Lunch Program in New Rochelle.

Summary of 2017 Outreach Grants

In addition to the parishioner engagement activities noted above, the Vestry approved the Outreach Committee's recommendation to provide \$8000, including \$1500 raised from various Outreach fundraising activities, in financial support to the following organizations:

- \$1600 to Community Service Associates in Mount Vernon which serves a full nutritious dinner four nights a week to anyone in need.
- \$1600 to Hope Community Soup Kitchen which runs both a food pantry and a soup kitchen in New Rochelle.

- \$1600 to Hudson Link in Ossining which provides college, career training and other support to those in prison resulting in less than one percent recidivism of men and women upon their release from prison.
- \$1600 to Kairos Outside which helps provide a support network for women with incarcerated family members.
- \$1600 to St. Christopher's Inn, which is a recovery, house helping addicts of all types, especially opioid addiction in young men.

Looking Ahead to 2018...

We are grateful to the many parishioners who participated in one form or another in our 2017 Outreach efforts. We would also like to thank Geoff Allen and Courtney McGrory for their stewardship of our Outreach efforts in recent years. We believe that helping those in need is a fundamental tenet of our Christian faith and our Episcopal heritage. For 2018, we hope to provide parishioners with a new Outreach opportunity each month that will help to make our community a kinder and better place for all who live here.

The Outreach Committee members remain open and look forward to receiving suggestions and new ideas from all parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Dumas (Co-chair and Vestry Liaison), Patrice Fitzpatrick, Etta Gumbs, Melo Jones and Ed McGann (Co-chair)

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Care Committee assists the rector and deacon, and also serves the wider parish in a number of ways. Pastoral Care Committee members make pastoral calls (often but not always including bringing Holy Communion) to homebound parishioners and those who are hospitalized. Our congregation has several licensed Lay Eucharistic Visitors who assist the clergy in this essential ministry.

The Pastoral Care Committee also helps manage the Prayer List. Marie Main is the primary contact point for adding or removing names from the Prayer List, and there are prayer request cards available in the narthex.

Once a month healing prayers by the deacon or priest are offered at the Bolton Altar.

This year the Pastoral Care Committee started something new, and I hope known to all. There are a group of people who are willing to give rides to parishioners who are in need of transportation.

In the coming year we plan to offer regular meetings (three times a year) of the Pastoral Care Committee. This should make it easier for those who are interested to join the committee, and also allow for some brainstorming of other ways the committee can serve the parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Katie

CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Concerts at Christ Church is a musical outreach of Christ Church, Pelham, supported entirely from contributions to the concerts/Friends of Music fund and by ticket sales. In December of 2017, Concerts at Christ Church presented the Huguenot Memorial Choir and Christ Church Choir and soloists from both parishes together with members of the chamber orchestra Sinfonia Celestis in a performance of Handel's *Messiah* with several verse anthems by Henry Purcell and choral carols by Francis Jackson. The performance was very well-attended and very well received by all in attendance. In 2018, Concerts at Christ Church will assist the Huguenot Memorial Church in presenting Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*. Thank you to all who contribute to make these performances possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Hoffman, Organist & Choirmaster

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

In 2017 we debuted a new Pageant, which was very well received. The Pageant was held in Hoag Hall at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 17. In addition to the numerous carols sung by all the children, our Children's Choir offered one song, and two members of the Children's Choir sang a duet.

The Pageant concluded with the presentation of supplies for Puerto Rico which is still recovering from Hurricane Maria: for the show's final act, members of the cast presented bags, boxes, and entire carts brimming with donated items to the event's special guest, Rosemary Colon, queen of this year's Puerto Rican Day Parade in the Bronx. The play including the presentation of gifts lasted about 45 minutes, and played to a full house (about 180 people).

This year we scheduled 5 rehearsals (2 Sunday, 2 Wednesday, and 1 Saturday) and provided pizza for each Wednesday rehearsal. Many thanks to all parents, children, and volunteers for their time and talent. The cast and direction team list is included below.

Saint Nicholas Curtis Chase
Michael the Archangel Scarlett Carroll

Gabriel the Archangel.....	Carla Carroll
Saint Joseph.....	Nicholas Mead
Saint Mary the Virgin.....	Sofia Ironside
Census Taker.....	Daniel Avolio
Three Wise Guys.....	Fr. Mathew Mead
.....	Russel Avolio
.....	Tom Salvatore
King Herod.....	Liam Mead
Star.....	Audrey O’Byrne
Three Magi.....	Will Alexander
.....	Court Jones
.....	Charlie McKee
Sheep.....	Riley Salvatore
.....	Kenzie Munro
.....	Jason Ganpat
.....	Phoenix Ryder
Shepherds.....	Christopher Ganpat
.....	Riley McGrory
.....	Aiden Munro
Angels.....	Amelia Aslani-Far
.....	Adeline McKee
.....	Eden Ryder
.....	Arianna Salvatore
.....	Maddy Salvatore
Music.....	Jeffrey Hoffman
Co-Directors.....	Carla Carroll
.....	Shannon Corley
.....	Michael Kurth
Costumer.....	Michael Fawcett
Writer.....	Matthew Mead
Refreshments.....	Michael Moynihan & Thursday Bible Study Group
Sound.....	Walter Roberts

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

COMMUNITY

THE THIRD PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Fellowship Committee's mission is to develop and implement an organized program of Christian fellowship in the congregation. The committee provides social opportunities for all demographics of parish life.

The Fellowship Committee plans and carries out various fellowship activities throughout the year and upon request coordinates with other committees and groups to provide fellowship support for their programs and activities.

Specifically, the committee maintains a list of volunteers, plans and coordinates regularly scheduled congregational fellowship activities, particularly for major holidays and church receptions, such as the Annual Meeting Brunch, Candlemas Dinner, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Easter Eve Reception, Easter Coffee Hour, Confirmation/Bishop's Visit Reception, Ascension Day Steak Dinner, Parish Picnic, Oktoberfest Dinner, Stewardship Meeting Brunch and Dinner, Thanksgiving Dinner and Greening of the Church Dinner. Other activities include overseeing the weekly coffee hours, monitoring contents of the hospitality closet, as well as periodic kitchen maintenance.

The committee welcomes new members! For those interested in joining, please contact Jennifer Alleyne at jenalleye@aol.com or Jackie Kraft at thekrafts@aol.com.

Committee members include: Jean Gruener, Cathy & David Bean, Mildred Johnson, Sandra Rivera and Amie Carter.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Alleyne & Jackie Kraft

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group meets the first Wednesday of the month to make sandwiches for Trinity Saint Paul's. After making sandwiches we go out to a local restaurant for dinner and conversation.

The Men's Group has a standing meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the hallway outside the Library on the Sunday after the first Wednesday of each month.

The Men's group visited the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in 2017 and is planning a trip in 2018.

What do we need to really build a strong Men's Group?

- I (Father Matt) am the interim Chair of the Men's Group. Ideally this group would have two co-chairs: 1) a convener who ensures the group meets each month and that events are advertised, and 2) a planner who plans and organizes major events and trips. If you are interested in being a co-chair, please let me know or show up to the next meeting and volunteer.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

DEACON'S REPORT

Pastoral care, serving at the altar, confirmation class, and serving the poor all keep me fully engaged with my calling to be a Deacon. I have had a wonderful and yet sad year. Visiting parishioners at home or in the hospital and seeing them return to health and the church has been so joyful. But losing people who I've visited for a long period of time or even for a short period of time is so painful and incredibly sad. The visits for me are an intimate and soul touching time and I've been blessed to be there with some of our own who have left.

Helping Fr. Matt with the confirmation class has been most interesting. The classes are great and I really enjoy being with our youth. They never cease to amaze me. Our senior lunches have grown in numbers. We are up to about 40 at each event, up from about 20 nine years ago. Our lunch at Shenorock in Rye (thanks to Didi Hayduk for arranging it) was beautiful and delicious. Our Christmas lunch (thanks to Missy Putnam for the food and Eileen Wolfe for the decorations) was just as warm and fun as it always is.

A sure highlight of the year was following Fr. Matt into the city to hear him preach at The Church of St. Mary the Virgin (also called Smoky Mary's because of the incense) and at St. Thomas. Our group went to dinner after each event and it was really a very nice time. Serving the poor in Port Chester, Meals on Wheels and Caritas (preparing food and serving) have been ongoing commitments. I feel grateful for the opportunity to do this work and help others.

This year promises to be a great year for our church. The 175th anniversary, Michael Kurth's ordination to the transitional deacon followed by his ordination to the priesthood in the fall, senior lunches and so much more.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Katie

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Christ Church Women's Connection is committed to the spiritual, social and service ministry of the women of our church community.

In 2017 we gathered for the seventh annual Cookies in December event. The cookie exchange was held Friday, December 15, at the home of Stacey and Grant Jones. An intrepid group of women came out on a snowy evening to enjoy a home filled with holiday cheer. While the treats were delicious, the best part of the evening was the cross-generational fellowship enjoyed by all. We are all very grateful for your hospitality.

Our parish community would benefit from a more robust agenda in 2018 and is in search of a new committee chair. Please let Father Matt or our Senior Warden know if you are called to serve on this important ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Dumas

YOUTH GROUP

Our Parish has many teens and children, and there is a great desire from all parts of the Parish to have regular and well attended youth events. Turning that desire into reality has proven difficult. In the summer of 2017 we mapped out the coming academic year so that Church School, Confirmation Class, and Youth Group events could all be scheduled and advertised together. This has been very helpful for Confirmation Class and Church School, less so for Youth Group. Below is a list of 2017 and 2018 events. You will note that some good ideas did not work out.

- In late 2016 and for the first half of the start of the 2017, we offered a Youth Group Meeting & Family Dinner after the 5 p.m. *Come As You Are* Eucharist. The idea for this came from families who attended a brain-storming session in the autumn of 2016. Attendance from teens and families was sporadic, so we did not offer this in the second part of 2017. On a related note, the *Come As You Are* is not drawing many families and teens beyond members of the Confirmation Class (when they are required to be there).
- We planned a visit to Ellis Island for February 11, 2017. Three teens signed up and so we opened the trip to adults and younger children in order to make the event viable. In all about a dozen people made the trip and had an excellent time.
- An event (cookout/BBQ) was scheduled for late August but was cancelled.
- A trip to NYC was scheduled in December, but was postponed until the 2018 due to lack of chaperones.
- We are planning an outreach opportunity to make and serve sandwiches at Trinity Saint Paul's on Presidents' Day, February 19, 2018 (during Mud Week).

- We are planning a trip to NYC to visit the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine on Saturday, February 24, 2018 (during Mud Week).
- We have planned an end of year cook out in June, but the date originally chosen conflicts with Pelham High School graduation.

We need volunteer, lay leadership and involvement from parents if our youth programs are going to grow. In general, the model for a successful ministry program at Christ Church is a standing committee whose members have a vested interest in the ministry. Those members meet regularly, and plan, advertise, and offer regular events. I think it is time that we formed a Youth Group Committee, and I am asking anyone in the parish who has experience working with teens to consider joining. I think that it will be vital for our parents with teens to help.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

FOUNDATION

THE FOURTH PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Over the course of 2017, the Communications Committee focused on two things: contributing items each week on church happenings for the weekly Parish e-blast; and producing Soundings, our quarterly news magazine. Both are designed to increase awareness of all the parish does and how much joy it brings, and in the process to deepen a sense of community.

Today a growing coterie of parishioners regularly submit stories on church events, newcomers, pending projects, the people who keep the parish humming, and those who do God's work in the greater community.

Under Editor Missy Kisob, Soundings has garnered a growing fan base -- a key piece of a virtuous cycle in which more parishioners now volunteer poems, pictures, to potential profile subjects and more. In October, we published our fifth edition of Soundings, weighing in at 24 pages.

As a committee, we also aim to enjoy each other's company. If you would like to join us, or to contribute stories, photographs, poems (yes, Soundings will run them), please contact committee chair Erik Ipsen at erikipsen@me.com or at 914-738-8393, or Soundings Editor Missy Kisob at kisob@msn.com.

Meanwhile, our website <http://Christchurchpelham.org/> and our Facebook page play important ongoing roles in keeping parishioners, as well as people in the broader community, aware of the church and all that it does, should they want to join us.

We thank all our committee members, most of whom play active roles on Team Soundings. They are Missy Kisob, Michael Fawcett, Etta Gumbs, Lily Solmssen Moureaux and Barbara Nelson. Thanks also to our advisors, Father Matt, and Kari Black, and to Marie Main for ably orchestrating so much of what we do, and John Felicetti for transcending all our technological hurdles. Thanks as well to parish staff and lay committee leaders who work hard to keep the calendar up to date.

Respectfully yours,
Erik Ipsen and Missy Kisob

BUILDINGS MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Buildings Ministry, through research, consideration and prayer, recommends to the Rector and Vestry additional uses of buildings that may generate funding to advance the proclamation of the Gospel as well as opportunities to work in outreach to the greater community, consistent with the Gospel message.

With input from Parish Property Management and other knowledgeable professionals, the buildings ministry coordinates the regular upkeep and maintenance of all Christ Church buildings and infrastructure and recommends to the Rector and Vestry short and long-term plans for capital improvements that will enhance the use and preserve the historic character and architectural elements of the buildings.

In 2017, Christ Church continued its relationship with Parish Property Management (PPM). PPM provided us with the services of their regional managers as well as the regular visit of a PPM handyman to our facility in order to regularly review the status of the plant, advise on annual service agreements, arrange for the securing of, and the review of bids when necessary, advise on rental rates for our tenants, and arrange for repairs and improvements to be completed as needed.

The PPM handyman had provided a number of on site improvements in 2016 and continued to do so (including a number of painting projects) into early 2017. During 2017 budget preparation, the finance committee, staff and buildings committee evaluated the work being done by the PPM handyman and determined that the work was of value but the volume of projects was not enough to justify a full day per week expense. As a result, the PPM contract was renegotiated and effective April 2017, our PPM handyman hours were reduced – which reduced the overall expense as well. Going forward in to 2018, we have once again reviewed our ongoing relationship with PPM. Beginning in April of 2018 we will no longer be

employing a regular PPM handyman, choosing instead to address needs as they arise. We are however, thrilled that the 2018 budget reflects the weekly ongoing efforts and relationship with the PPM regional managers. Joe Murray and John Garnsey have continued to be worth their weight in gold. They are responsive and regular visitors to our parish campus, they connect us with professional subcontractors as needed and are a joy to work with. John Garnsey will be our full time contact in 2018, as Joe Murray will be retiring effective the first week in January. Joe has become a dear friend to the staff of Christ Church and we are grateful for the innumerable times that he has responded to requests, concerns and questions. We wish him well as he transitions in to retirement. We welcome John Garnsey who has been working alongside Joe during the last quarter of 2017.

In 2017, the Buildings Committee and vestry continued its review of the Church roofs – we have many roofs! As noted in our 2017 plans, we had been made aware (through a number of roof consultations) that our next priority in addressing the campus roofs was going to be the flat roof that is bordered in part by the crenelated stone parapet (the “castle bits”). Both the flat roof and the parapet are in very bad shape. On a recent trip to review the roof with the diocesan roof specialist the following issues were identified:

- Crenelated parapet must be rebuilt and copper through-wall flashing replaced
- Flat roof to be replaced (may involved asbestos abatement)
- Bilco hatch to replace existing trap cover and install a permanent ladder for access
- Repair of all related flashings, replacement of two ventilators, coping stone repairs
- Relief of excessive ponding in two areas & remounting of AC units on appropriate curbs
- Adjacent cricket repair
- North facing roof slate replacement plus slate repairs in identified areas
- Lightning Protection upgraded

We have explored a number of ways to pay for these extensive repairs: Grants (one has been submitted and is pending review), loans, and fundraising as part of our 175th Parish Anniversary.

In addition to roof concerns, here is a partial list of projects the Buildings Committee, staff and PPM managed in 2017:

- Exterminator, Alarm System, Fire Extinguisher, A/C, Heating and other regular maintenance visits to the parish
- Painting: Outside sashes, inside hallways, narthex, Montessori/Church School classrooms and sanctuary
- Managed the Installation of the Narthex Window through the generous donation of the Weeks family
- Repair of plaster wall in sanctuary on wall adjacent to lectern area as well as the back

of the sanctuary adjacent to the narthex (Bolton Altar plaster repairs pending completion of roof work)

- First Aid Kits (3) Purchased and Installed through a parishioner's donation
- New Boiler Installed in Old Parish House
- Cleaned Parish garage in advance of new tenant occupying one half of the space
- Miscellaneous plumbing and electrical work throughout plant
- Insulation of steam pipes
- New Appliances as needed throughout plant including new venting for one dryer
- Danfoss Valve installed in Thrive studio to control temperature during classes
- New shower unit installed in verger's apartment to address leak
- Removed vinyl siding and original wood siding and installed insulation to prevent freezing of pipes and improve air tightness of rectory kitchen
- Continued evaluation of how heat is working in the north end sanctuary radiators and narthex radiator
- Insulation of steam pipes
- Three sump pumps rerouted – finishing work started in 2016
- Tuckpoint exterior wall on south side of Ranck building above library windows
- Miscellaneous rectory repairs, electrical and plumbing
- Exterior molding, step in Bolton Altar
- Removal and storage of the Roosevelt Plaque plus reinstallation
- Plaster repairs
- Roof work - Extensive repair at lower shingle roof area to address sanctuary water leak issues including: removal and replacement of shingles to apply ice shields, copper flashing, stone buttress repair at east roof area, through wall copper flashing and repair of gutter, dormer restoration, snow guards, and masonry repairs
- Air conditioning improvements in the library
- Dumb waiter repair
- Supplies
- Assist bars in the bathrooms
- Organ/piano tuning and repairs
- Management of parish tenant leases

Beyond roof issues we have a full slate of projects for 2018. One of the first items on the list will be to address the many kneelers that need repair. A partial list of the other projects that the Buildings Committee will be discussing includes:

- Re-installing the Roosevelt Plaque
- Plumbing improvements in the Rectory
- Bolton Altar Plaster Cracks Evaluation and Repair
- Additional Catch Basin Repairs

- Wood Rot on Walls of Bell Tower

Many thanks to the current Buildings Committee for the time they have spent exploring the needs of our buildings.

Faithfully submitted,

Kari Black and Father Matt

Members of the 2017 Buildings Committee: Erik Ipsen, John Fox, Jack Kraft, Amy Heese, Alice Dean, Russell Avolio, and Marie Main.

TENANT AND RENTAL REPORT

It is very rewarding to have our church full of people every evening and afternoon. This has been the case in the 2017 tenant and rental year. Our Undercroft is busy with AA groups, the New Freedom/Assemblies of God Church, and Gym Dandy – every day and evening during the week and weekend.

The following list briefly describes Christ Church’s on-going tenants:

AA Groups

We have three very active AA groups that rent space in the undercroft every afternoon and evening except for Wednesday and Friday. They are the Pelham Women’s Group, the Shore Road Group and the North End Group.

Freedom Church/Assemblies of God

Our major tenants all operate under a lease, and this year, Freedom Church/Assemblies of God has joined the ranks of a formal lease tenant. Pastor David Rivera and his congregation have been renting space in the Undercroft and the Church for 6 years, using the Undercroft Wednesday and Friday evenings and the Church/Undercroft on Sunday afternoon for their Sunday services. Experiencing God, connecting with others, growing the Word, worshipping and serving God freely – that is what Freedom Church is all about. “Leading people of all walks of life to a true relationship with Jesus Christ” is their mission.

Gym Dandy

Gym Dandy has been renting space at Christ Church since 1998 for the “Mommy and Me” playgroup classes for preschoolers. Gym Dandy classes and birthday parties are held in the Undercroft. Classes are held on Thursday & Friday mornings, with additional Gym Dandy birthday parties on several Saturday afternoons. Gym Dandy’s mission is to provide an opportunity for caregivers to spend quality time with their children, and for the opportunity to form new relationships along the way.

Montessori School

The Montessori School has been successfully operating at Christ Church since 1992. At that time, the school was under the supervision of Elizabeth Griffiths. Now, 26 years later, her daughter, Liz Capuano is proud to continue the tradition. The Montessori School provides an educational experience for pre-school children ages 2 to 6. The Montessori classes are for 3-to 6-year-olds, and Toddler classes are for 2- to 3-year-olds. Students can attend either three or five mornings a week. They utilize our Sunday school classrooms and playground on weekdays throughout the school year.

Pelham Promenaders

This is a square dancing group that meets in the Parish Hall alternate Sunday afternoons from September – June.

Pelham Recreation Soccer Referee Training

This group has been renting our Parish Hall in early September since 2012 - their purpose is to get the referees trained for the upcoming soccer season. This is a one-day rental.

Thrive Fitness & Nutrition Studio

Thrive is a health and wellness studio located in our Old Parish House/Nursery since 2008. Thrive Studio is committed to inspiring others and improving lives through healthy living.

Pelham Community Rowing Association

The upstairs apartment of the Old Parish House is occupied by The Pelham Community Rowing Association.

Westchester Blades Fencing

This program provides fencing instruction to children and adults in our Parish Hall Monday and Thursday evenings, with the occasional Saturday afternoon tournament. Alex Abend, the head coach, and his group have been renting the hall since 2009.

In addition to these ongoing tenant relationships, 2017 has been a busy year in renting our beautiful Parish Hall for private parties, wedding receptions, meetings, etc. (the Bouncy Castle has returned for a 7th year for a Halloween/Birthday party). We have rented out the Library for a jewelry making experience, and the Undercroft for kid (and grown-up) birthday parties. Meeting space is provided as outreach to non-profit organizations such as the Girl Scouts Leaders, the PACT Coalition, Pelham Cub Scouts and the Pelham Rowing Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Main, Parish Administrator

GROUNDS

The grounds of the church and the Garden of the Resurrection are in good order. Frank Moretti continues to take care of the routine maintenance of both areas. He remains conscientious about the health and appearance of our campus and is easily accessible if needed. Our tree care is handled by Dan Dalton at Almstead Tree Co. He and I tour the grounds at least once a year to determine what our tree needs are. With his advice and help our on-going tree program of regular pruning and removal has meant that we have not had damage to our buildings and walls.

We planted grass along the Shore Road wall and trimmed or removed a few trees and shrubs increasing the sunlight and improving the appearance and viability of the area. Another place that was improved is the small garden around the church sign in the front.

With an anonymous donation we were able to have Michelle Miller of Rosedale Gardens supplement the boxwoods with Siberian Cypress, Vinca and two taller boxwoods. Spring bulbs were also planted.

The ground behind the church adjacent to the Columbarium continues to resist growing grass. Almstead will reseed the area again in the spring. Invasive vines and poison ivy continue to be a problem especially around the children's playground. Removal of them is part of our annual plan.

Fortunately we had two new members join this committee. Amie Carter was in charge of the rose garden along the driveway and Parish Hall. Erik Ipsen took over the sedum garden that covers the rock face to the right of the narthex. Both did a fine job of weeding and watering. I am grateful for their care and effort. My thanks too to Walter Roberts who is a great help to me in many ways.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice K Dean, Chair

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

2017 Investment Committee Activity

The Investment Committee is responsible for overseeing the investment of the endowment, currently approximately \$3.5 million. The committee of seven people corresponds regularly via email and meets as needed, in person or via conference call; in 2017, the committee met twice. The committee also submits short monthly updates to the vestry. Members of the committee are: David Jeffries and Margaret Young (co-chairs), Brandon Bethea, Pamela Lent, Iain MacInnis, Michael Micciche, and Melissa Roddy.

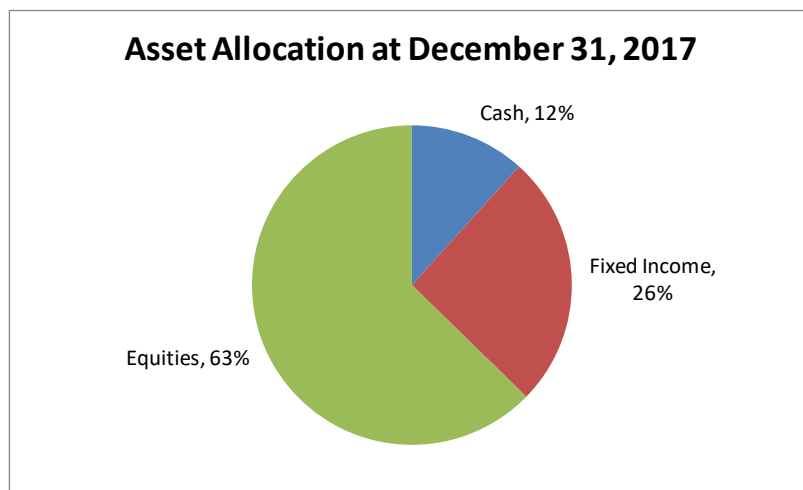
As reported previously, Granite Group Advisors, in Wilton CT, assumed all day-to-day responsibility for managing the assets of the endowment in January, 2015. Royal Bank of Canada is custodian of the assets. Granite Group's management provides the consistency and professional scrutiny we feel the endowment deserves, at a reasonable fee; the protection of principal remains their highest priority. The Investment Committee's role is to oversee Granite Group's performance as outside manager, and to ensure that the endowment continues to be managed according to the asset allocation limits approved by the Vestry.

Endowment Report

The following is an overview of the activity in the Parish's endowment during 2017:

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$3,245,185
Contributions (other than pledge payments)	\$1,650
Withdrawals in 2016:	
For ongoing church operations	(\$165,099)
Investment Fees:	(17,098)
Total Withdrawals:	(182,197)
Investment Returns:	428,909
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$3,493,547

The asset allocation as of December 31, 2017 was as follows:



Before withdrawal activity, the endowment generated a very attractive return of approximately 12.1% in 2017. The endowment remains below the highpoint \$3.8 million reached at 12/31/2007, but well above the recent low of \$2.6 million at 12/31/2008. The markets had a very strong year, as many indices reached record highs. The global economy is experiencing a relatively steady, synchronized expansion amid low inflation, with low risk of recession. The US experienced strong economic growth and corporate profits, coupled with low

unemployment, and buoyed by the passage of the Tax Reform Act in December. Internationally, the European markets were solid, but the Asian and Emerging Markets were exceptionally strong. At nearly nine years old, the bull market is now the second-oldest and second-strongest in history. A shift toward tighter global monetary policy may boost market volatility, underscoring the importance of diversification.

The endowment is conservatively invested, with a goal of reducing the church's exposure to losses, recognizing that this involves giving up some appreciation. This year, the investment committee was more insistent on comparing the performance of the endowment's investments to well known benchmarks (including the Russell 1000 Growth Index and several MSCI indices such as Emerging Markets and European/Australasia/Far East) and remain satisfied that the chosen investment vehicles are performing well compared to benchmarks. Also this year, the investment committee made the decision to hold a greater percentage of the endowment in cash, as a hedge against a potential downturn. The current cash position is slightly higher than our target, as we are awaiting a new investment in Alternative Assets.

Essentially, in 2017, the investment returns of \$428K more than covered the net withdrawals of \$180K, with the significant remainder reinvested in the endowment. The Investment Committee remains comfortable with the selection of Granite Group, and will continue to monitor Granite's performance and the investment performance of the endowment.

Withdrawals

Over the last 10 years, a total of \$1.54 million has been withdrawn to fund church operations and capital needs. In January, 2017 the Vestry approved a 4.8% draw from the endowment to supplement the annual operating budget, keeping within the strict guidelines it set in prior years (with a targeted draw of $\leq 5\%$). The draw is calculated as a percentage of the 3 year rolling average of the endowment's value. As in 2016, the church was able at year end 2017 to repay a small amount to the endowment, as a result of careful cash management. The draw for operations for 2017 equals the average draw over the last 10 years of 4.8%. Endowment draws of 4.5% - 5% are consistent with standard practices and guidance for endowments held by many not-for-profit institutions.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Young (Co-Chair)

FUNDRAISING

Let us give thanks! "For from his fullness we have all received Grace upon Grace." John 1:16

Fundraising in 2017 continues to serve as a living testament to committed fellowship and amazing generosity in celebration of our life as a parish. Fundraising contributes to the life of our parish by allowing us to fund our ministries and maintain the programs and building of our beloved church. These efforts would not have been possible without the vision, time and talent of parishioners including: Jackie Kraft, Eileen Wolfe, Jennifer Alleyne and an army of volunteers, and boundless donations.

How Funds Were Raised

	Total
Tag Sales, May 6 and October 27 (sample sale)	\$ 5,300
Silent Auction, November 16	\$ 3,502
TOTAL	\$ 8,802

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Dumas

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Christ Church stewardship committee in 2017 once again used the basics of a program called New Consecration Sunday as a way to reinforce the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving. New Consecration Sunday is based on Christian theology that focuses on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. The program encourages Christians toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

Highlights of this year's New Consecration Sunday program included: Testimony by parishioner Melo Jones, presentation of the step chart showing parishioners last year's levels of giving, a parish Leadership Dinner where our program Guest Leader, Rev. Canon Wm Blake Rider, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of New York, spoke to parish leaders about Christian stewardship, sermons on stewardship given by Father Matt and Canon Rider, and New Consecration Sunday worship services where parishioners brought their Estimate of Giving Cards to the altar.

On New Consecration Sunday two parish celebrations were held; a Celebration Brunch after the 8 a.m. service and a Celebration Luncheon after the 10 a.m. service.

The Stewardship Committee thanks every parishioner who has pledged financial support of our parish. This year's preliminary results give us all reason to rejoice are the highest total in more than 10 years and the second highest ever.

Christ Church New Consecration Sunday Preliminary Results

	Number	Total \$	\$ Chg. From	Average
	of Pledges	Pledged	Last Yr.	Pledge
Increased	38	\$ 162,965	\$ 27,310	\$ 4,289
Decreased	22	\$ 53,490	\$ -9,432	\$ 2,431
Same	47	\$ 155,060	\$ -	\$ 3,299
New	15	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ 1,040
Hoped For*	7	\$ 6,625	\$ -	\$ 946
Total	129	\$ 393,740	\$ 33,478	\$ 3,052
Moved/Inactive?Deceased		\$ -	\$ 9,020	
	TOTAL	\$ 393,740	\$ 24,458	6.6%
*active parishoners who pledged last year that haven't yet pledged				

If you have not submitted an Estimate of Giving Card for 2018, please consider doing so. Estimate of Giving Cards are available outside the parish office.

Respectfully submitted by the Christ Church Stewardship Committee,
 Claire Allen, Allison Bodenmann, Jeff Bodenmann, Jane S. Cooke, John Fox (Chair), Monica King, Father Matthew Mead, Colette Phipps, Melo Jones.

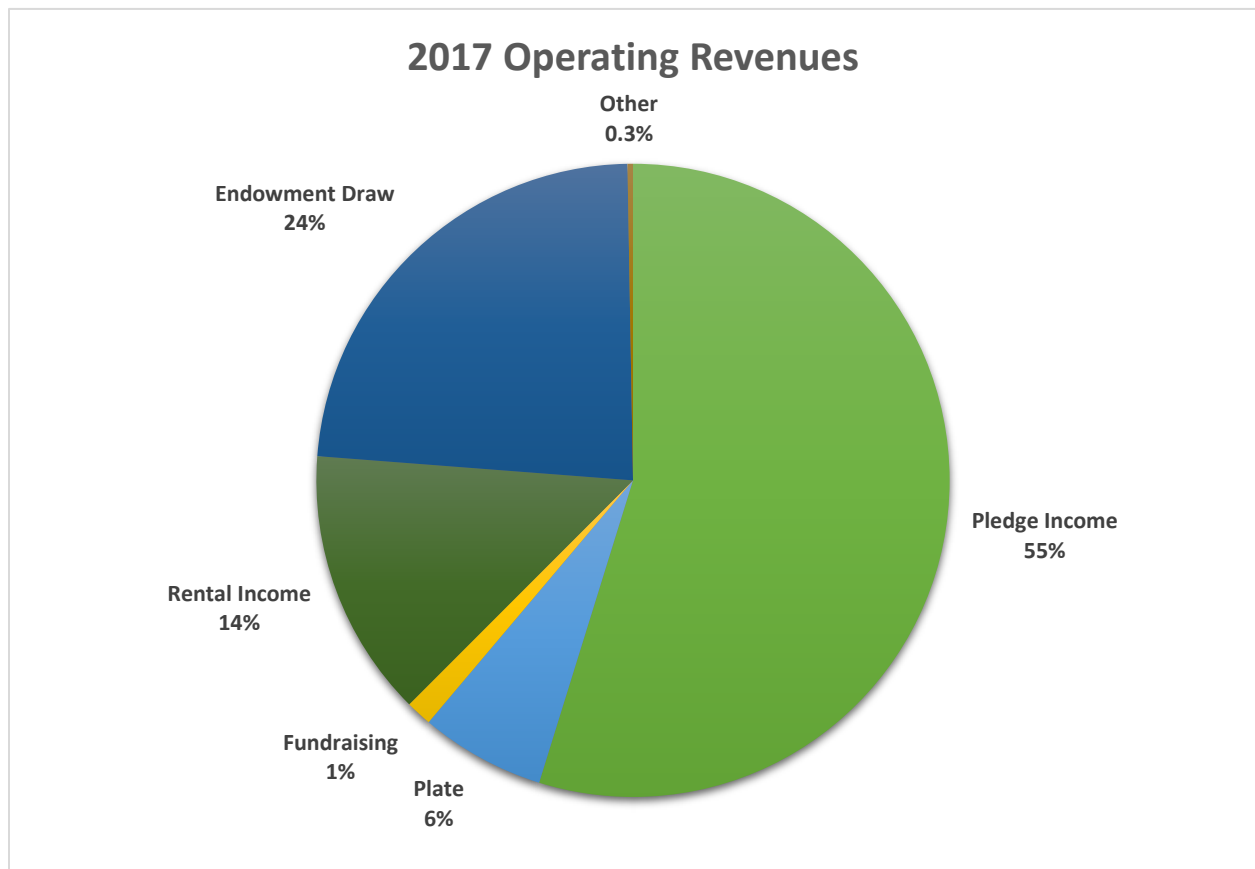
TREASURER'S REPORT 2017

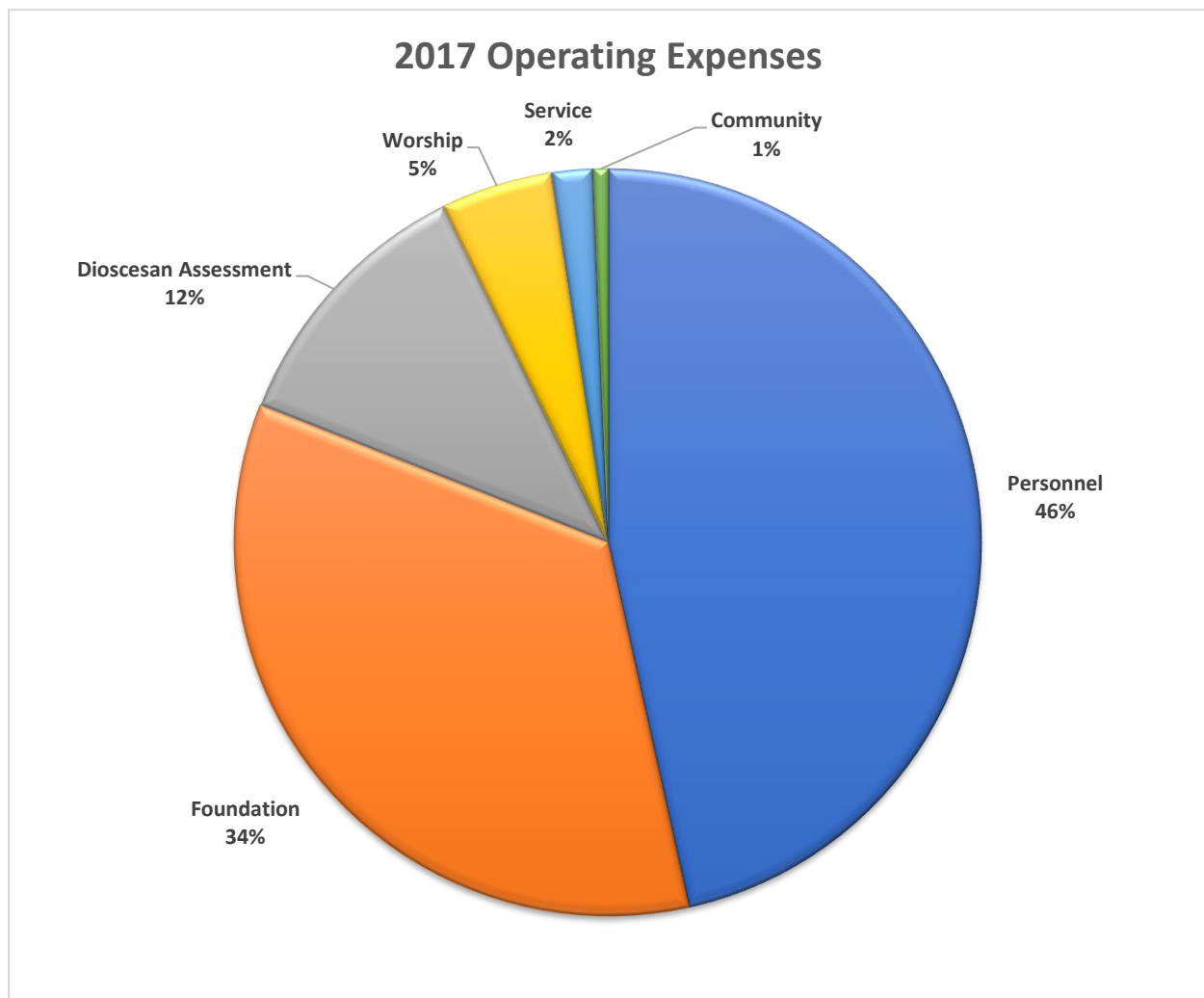
Overview of 2017 Financial Results

Operating Revenues – Christ Church derives revenues from three principal sources: contributions, rental income, and the annual draw from our Endowment. Contributions include Pledge income, plate collections and other donations. Donations for specific events (flowers, or music), gifts in memoriam, and money raised through dedicated fundraisers such as building projects are not considered operating income and are recorded separately.

In 2017, total contributions increased by \$18,400, or 5% over 2016 levels, but fell \$4,000 short of the budgeted amount, due to lower than anticipated pledge payments. Rental income increased by 7.5%, as rental rates for many tenants increased. Fundraising also increased, resulting in an overall increase of 5.3% in operating revenue.

Consistent with the Vestry's established guideline, the 2017 Endowment draw of \$155,799 equated to 5% of the rolling three-year average endowment fund balance.





Operating Expenses – Our operating expenses are divided into six principal categories:

- Personnel expenses accounted for 46.5% of total expenses in 2017; this includes the salaries, benefits and related costs of the rector and staff. The 2017 expenditures of \$299,695 was slightly under the budgeted amount
- The Dioscesan Assessment represents our Parish’s contribution to the Diocese of New York, to fund the operations of the Diocese. The 2017 expense of \$75,750 was consistent with the historical assessment, which has been between \$71,000 and \$77,800 since 2011.
- Worship expenses include music, childcare, altar guild, and supplies for our services. Worship comprises 5% of the total budget; the 2017 amount of \$31,324 was below both the budget and 2016 expense level.
- Service Expenses include those ministries that conduct and support the service that we provide to our parishioners, our community and our world. In 2017 service expenses were in line with the budget, but substantially lower than 2016 levels, principally due to lower

outreach expenditures. Thank you to the Outreach Committee and the dedicated parishioners who self-funded our outreach at Trinity St. Paul's through donations and card sales.

- Community Expenses reflect the costs associated with our communal parish activities, including fellowship. The \$4,152 spent in 2017 is net of the contributions made at the various fellowship events that offset the cost of these events.
- Foundation expenses include the costs of the day-to-day operations of our office and our physical plant, including insurance, utilities, grounds, maintenance and repairs. These expenses comprise 34.5% of our total costs, and at \$222,000 were \$5,000 below budget, but \$14,000 ahead of 2016. Expenses related to maintenance and repairs comprise the largest category; the total actual expenditures of \$78,400 in 2017 reflects both the on-going costs of maintaining our buildings and various projects to deal with deferred maintenance and emergency repairs. This line item also includes the costs associated with PPM, the company retained by the vestry in March of 2016 to manage our physical plant and provide services to address some of the ordinary maintenance and repair needs.

Below the Line Expenses – These comprise expenses that are not related to the day-to-day operations of the parish. The significant below the line items are discussed below.

- The church receives bequests and gifts in memoriam of parishioners who passed away in 2017. The donations that were not earmarked for a specific use were transferred to the endowment; a total of \$1,650 was added to the endowment at the end of the year.
- The operating costs related to the Garden of the Resurrection are reflected as a below the line item. These costs are paid from the GOR endowment. In 2017, total GOR costs were \$10,186.

Overall, the church ended the year with a surplus of \$11,100, primarily due to deferral of some maintenance and grounds expenses to 2018. Note that there may be some minor adjustments to the year-end financial statements as the final December invoices are recorded.

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer						
Financial Report						
Year Ended Dec. 31, 2017						
		2018	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2017			2016
		Annual	Prelim Actual	Budget	Variance	2017 v 2016
		Budget	Thru Dec.	Thru Dec.	Over (Under)	Variance
						Thru Dec. Over (Under)
INCOME						
	Pledge Income	371,985	363,256	368,800	(5,544)	344,037 19,219
	Plate	40,500	42,246	40,666	1,580	43,094 (848)
	Fundraising	5,500	8,802	6,650	2,152	7,860 942
	Rental Contribution	90,372	90,998	89,650	1,348	84,656 6,342
	Income-Subtotal	508,357	505,302	505,766	(464)	479,647 25,655
	Endowment Contribution+D33	154,373	155,799	155,799	-	160,726 (4,927)
	Leale Harper Contribution	1,850	1,847	1,750	97	1,835 12
	TOTAL INCOME	664,580	662,948	663,315	(367)	642,208 20,740
EXPENSE						
Personnel						
	Personnel Expenses	312,792	299,695	306,215	(6,520)	294,555 5,140
Dioscesan Assessment						
	Diocesan Assessment	77,370	75,750	75,750	-	76,069 (319)
Worship						
	Worship	1,825	1,728	3,050	(1,322)	1,838 (110)
	Music	26,510	26,996	28,095	(1,099)	29,413 (2,417)
	Childcare	2,600	2,600	2,600	-	2,600 -
	Total Worship	30,935	31,324	33,745	(2,421)	33,851 (2,527)
Service						
	Christian Education	1,600	1,386	1,800	(414)	2,819 (1,433)
	Budgeted Clergy Discretionary	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000 -
	Evangelism	250	714	825	(111)	485 229
	Diaconate Support	-	-	-	-	2,000 (2,000)
	Conventions & Seminars	1,900	1,660	1,700	(40)	3,013 (1,353)
	Outreach	6,500	6,500	6,500	-	11,008 (4,508)
	Total Service	11,250	11,260	11,825	(565)	20,325 (9,065)
Community						
	Fellowship	4,235	4,152	3,850	302	3,061 1,091
Foundation						
	Office Expense	35,452	30,572	30,191	381	31,510 (938)
	Professional Services	12,140	12,140	12,140	-	11,540 600
	Insurance	31,950	27,950	25,896	2,054	25,387 2,563
	Utilities	57,910	54,287	52,688	1,599	52,761 1,526
	Maintenance & Repairs	70,975	78,419	83,107	(4,688)	64,836 13,583
	Grounds	18,768	14,971	18,768	(3,797)	21,043 (6,072)
	Snow Plowing	4,500	3,700	4,500	(800)	1,050 2,650
	Total Foundation	231,695	222,039	227,290	(5,251)	208,127 13,912
	Total Expense	668,277	644,220	658,675	(14,455)	635,988 8,232
	NET OPERATING INC. (EXP)	(3,697)	18,728	4,640	14,088	6,220 12,508
BELOW THE LINE EXP (INC)						
	Recurring Items	8,934	7,628	7,196	432	6,067 1,561
	One Time Activities, net	-	-	-	-	(1,225) 1,225
	Garden of the Resurrection, net	9,827	10,186	9,879	307	(4,958) 15,144
	Garden of the Res. Draw	(9,827)	(10,186)	(9,879)	(307)	4,958 (15,144)
	Contributions	(2,000)	(1,650)	(2,000)	350	(19,185) 17,535
	Transfer of Contrib. to Endow	2,000	1,650	2,000	(350)	18,895 (17,245)
	Total Below the Line Exp (Inc)	8,934	7,628	7,196	432	4,552 3,076
	NET INCOME (EXPENSE)	(12,631)	11,100	(2,556)	13,656	1,668 9,432

The 2018 Budget

The Vestry approved the 2018 Budget totaling \$664,580 at its January 17, 2018 meeting. Highlights of the major operating revenues and expenditures are noted below.

Operating Revenues – Based on the Stewardship campaign, the budget reflects \$372,000 in Pledge income. This represents a \$3,200 increase over the 2017 budget, and a \$8,800 increase over 2017 Pledge collections. Rental income is forecast to remain essentially flat to 2017 levels. The Vestry has approved an endowment draw of \$154,373 or 5% of the average year-end endowment fund balances for the three years ended December 31, 2017.

Operating Expenses – Operating expenses are forecast to be \$9,600 higher than the 2017 budget. While our recent stewardship campaigns have yielded increases, we continue to re-evaluate the budget on a line-by-line basis each year, as there are some costs that are outside our control. Examples of these are:

- Diocesan Assessment +\$1,620
- Insurance + \$6,000 – we are working with the company to evaluate our policy
- Utilities +\$3,000
- Computer and computer support – a new computer is needed for the parish office

To address some of the additional expenses, we have re-evaluated the buildings budget, recognizing that some projects will be covered by work related to the capital campaign. In addition, the PPM contract has been restructured, effective April 1st, resulting in some savings. We have also re-evaluated expenses in the areas of worship, music, Christian education and evangelism, making every effort to ensure that we are prioritizing our core ministries and values. As always, we are grateful to the efforts of our volunteers, who contribute their time and talent, and in some cases goods, to make many of these savings possible.

Finally, a number of expenses were deferred from 2017, which contributed to the \$11,100 surplus reflected in the 2017 financials. The 2018 budget anticipates applying these surplus funds to cover the budgeted shortfall, resulting in a net shortfall of \$1,531.

Many thanks to the members of the Finance Committee for their dedicated ministry this year: Amy Heese, Kari Black, Carol Ipsen and Father Matt Mead.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Calder, Treasurer

VESTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2017

“What does the vestry do?” It’s a question that is asked from time to time, and it’s a good one.

Much of what the vestry does involves being in relationship with both the Rector and with Committee Chairs outside of the vestry. Each year the Nominating Committee undertakes the responsibility of discussing current vestry staffing and who is completing a term. Their ultimate concern is to ensure that the vestry is a body of parishioners that is equipped to respond to the responsibilities noted below. While much work is done within the vestry each year, the “power” to make a difference at Christ Church remains in the hands of *all* parishioners. The ministry work that happens on campus and beyond in the community, is a weekly culmination of prayer and actions with many hearts and hands addressing the concerns of the parish and the world, by reaching out to those in need, providing opportunities for fellowship, maintaining and improving our buildings and grounds for worship and other community activities, as well as countless other contributions.

While the ministry of vestry can sometimes be far reaching, it does have some very specific responsibilities assigned by the Diocese and Canon Law:

Vestry Roles and Responsibilities

- Responsibility with the Rector in promoting the spiritual welfare of the parish.
- Aid the Rector in the institution, conduct, and development of the program of the Church both within and without the Parish.
- Agent and legal representative in all matters concerning property: maintenance of the buildings and furnishings, maintenance of other property (rectory, parking lot, grounds, etc.), and providing adequate insurance.
- Responsibility for the finances of the parish, raising money, prompt payment of salaries and bills, prudent care of trust funds, endowments and bequests, sale and transfer of securities and other assets, maintenance of records, annual report, and budget (approve expenditures and recommend and approve salaries).
- Represent the parish in its relations with the Rector.
- Serve as “Council of Advice” for the Rector when requested.
- Call a Rector if there is a vacancy.

Some of the “other” work done by the Vestry in 2017 included:

- As noted above, there is significant financial responsibility assigned to the Vestry. Here is a partial list of some of these items:
 - The financial needs of committees and ministries
 - Ordinary expenses pertaining to buildings, grounds, staffing, and office expenses
 - Oversight of stewardship, the endowment, as well as the management of gifts to the parish

- Official reporting to the Diocese through annual external audits and compilation of annual parochial reports
- Management of an Annual Calendar pertaining to 2017 and looking ahead to 2018:
 - Coordinating meetings involving: Worship, Holy Days, Fellowship, Vestry, Finance/Budgets, Annual Meeting/Annual Report, Fellowship, Worship, Music, Church School, Adult Learning Ministry, Fundraising, Upcoming 175th Anniversary, and other events as identified by Committee Chairs
- Website Management
- Grant Requests
 - In 2017 we applied for and received \$33,658.00 in grants from the Diocese of New York. \$30,000 of that amount is a one-time gift called a “Next Steps Grant” which can only be used for funding a second clergy position. Fr. Matt, the Vestry, and the diocesan Transition Ministry Office have discussed three ways this could be used beginning in 2018: 1) bringing on a full-time or half-time priest; 2) sharing a second priest with another parish; or 3) bringing on a part-time priest. The first two options were not financially viable due to budget constraints, and so we are pursuing the third option. The other \$3,658.00 was granted to Christ Church to offset costs of roof work completed in 2017.
 - A second roof grant has been submitted to an independent organization to request assistance in funding the larger flat roof project being conducted in 2018.
- All formal resolutions and guidelines for the parish are subject to review by the Vestry. Some of the guidelines reviewed in 2017 involved: a Parish Alcohol Policy consistent with the policy of the Diocese, Social Media Guidelines, and a Pastoral Committee Policy
- Additional activities of the vestry this year involved work and discussions relating to: raising up new leadership in the parish and staffing committee chair positions, interfacing with the diocese, pastoral needs, bylaw review, special Lenten evening prayer offerings and helping to identify and prioritize buildings and grounds projects.

Please remember that vestry meetings are open to parish members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Black

ANNUAL PARISH ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for election as vestry members at the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Christ the Redeemer on January 22, 2017.

- **For Senior Warden (2-year term): Jeff Bodenmann**
- **For the Vestry (3 seats for 3-year terms): Curtis Chase, John Fox, Amy Heese, Tom Salvatore***
**Tom Salvatore is a write-in candidate.*
- **For the Vestry (1 seat for a 1-year term): Angela Lore-Barone**
- **1 Seat for each Delegate to 2017 Diocesan Convention: Curtis Chase, Sandra Rivera and Andrew Hibbler (as Alternate)**

Vestry candidate statements are found below.

ELECTIONS ACCORDING TO THE BYLAWS

Our parish bylaws provide specific procedures for elections at our annual meeting. All qualified voters present, must sign in to receive a ballot. Regarding voter qualifications our bylaws state the following: “Qualified voters are the Rector and all persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who have been baptized and belong to the Parish, and have been regular communicants at its worship and have financially contributed to its support within the past twelve months.” Our bylaws state that vestry members can run for two consecutive terms and serve a maximum of six years before they have to step down from the vestry for at least a year before they run again. There are four open vestry positions this year. Three are for the full 3-year term and one seat is for a 1-year term.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Here are the questions posed to all Candidates:

- How long have you attended Christ Church? Do other members of your family come to Christ Church?
- Please describe the positions you have held, or activities you participate in at the church.
- Why do you want to serve and work on the Vestry?
- What skills and life experience would you bring to the Vestry’s work?

Jeff Bodenmann

Senior Warden/Two-year term

- Members for twenty-seven (27) years
- Wife, Allison, attends regularly
- Daughter, Grace, grew up in the church and attends when visiting
- Choir member - last 13 years and counting
- Served on the Vestry – eight years (2003 – 2009, 2016-2017)
- Served as Senior Warden – four years (2009 – 2013)
- Served on the Stewardship Committee (2005 – 2017)
- Parish delegate to several Diocese Conventions
- Turkey Carver at annual Thanksgiving dinner



Curtis Chase

Vestry Member/Three-year term

I am running for the privilege of continuing to serve the Parish that has been my family's spiritual home for twenty years. Since 1998, Amy, Kira, Emma and I have been part of the Christ Church community, serving in all different sorts of roles. For my part, my chief concerns have been with Christian Education -- especially among our young people. As a result, I have taught Sunday School for fifteen years. In this capacity, I am the church school liaison to the Vestry. I also serve on the Adult Education committee, helping to lead the newly relaunched Bible Study series (come check us out, by the way!). I also sing in the choir, serve as a Lay Minister, and occasionally play a guitar or two when called upon. Finally, I try to listen to everyone in the Parish and stay tuned to peoples' concerns as our family becomes ever more diverse. In these next few years, I look forward to our Parish growing and changing, yet also remaining an island of sanity and love in an ever angrier and self-centered world.



John Fox

Vestry Member/Three-year term

Why do you want to serve and work on the Vestry?

I view serving on the vestry and warden as an opportunity to live my faith in a tangible way. The acts of discussing, directing and supporting the work of the Christ Church demonstrate the positive influence our Church can have on all of us in the congregation, to our larger community and ideally to the world.



How long have you attended Christ Church? Do other members of your family come to Christ Church?

I have attended since 1978 and was married, by Fr. Hoag, to my late wife Meredith who was also a parishioner at Christ Church 10 years before that. My son Graham, now 37, attended Christ Church and was confirmed here.

Please describe the positions you have held, or activities you participate in at the church.

Chair Stewardship Committee, Usher, Buildings Committee, Men's Group, fill in office for Marie.

As a long time parishioner, I am now in a position to contribute my time and efforts to furthering our community.

What skills and life experience would you bring to the Vestry's work?

I have a strong business and financial background having been a principal in an international CPA firm and an owner of a successful consulting and valuation firm.

Amy Heese

Vestry Member/Three-year term

How long have you attended Christ Church? Do other members of your family come to Christ Church?

I've been attending Christ Church with my family since 2004. My husband Brian and I are regular attendees of the 8am service along with our sons, Zach, 21 and Kieran, 18, who were baptized and confirmed at Christ Church.

Please describe the positions you have held, or activities you participate in at the church.

I have served on the Vestry since 2015, liaising with the buildings committee and the finance committee. As the church bookkeeper since 2016, I am responsible for compiling and monitoring the church annual budget, issuing vendor payments and preparing pledge statements. I served on the search committee which led to the appointment of Father Matt as our Rector. Additionally, I served as Treasurer of Christ Church from 2009 to 2012, working with Father Randy and the Vestry to address the financial shortfalls due to the economic recession.



Why do you want to serve and work on the Vestry?

While serving on the search committee, I learned what our parish defined as our strengths and weaknesses. I would like to continue to support our new rector in revitalizing our parish activities, capitalizing on our strengths while addressing our issues. The upcoming 175th anniversary of our church brings an opportunity to revitalize our buildings through a major capital campaign and I look forward to working with the Vestry in developing a plan that prioritizes our needs.

I love the sense of community that surrounds Christ Church. Our parishioners are very warm, welcoming, and passionate about our parish. I hope to continue representing our members in service to the Vestry.

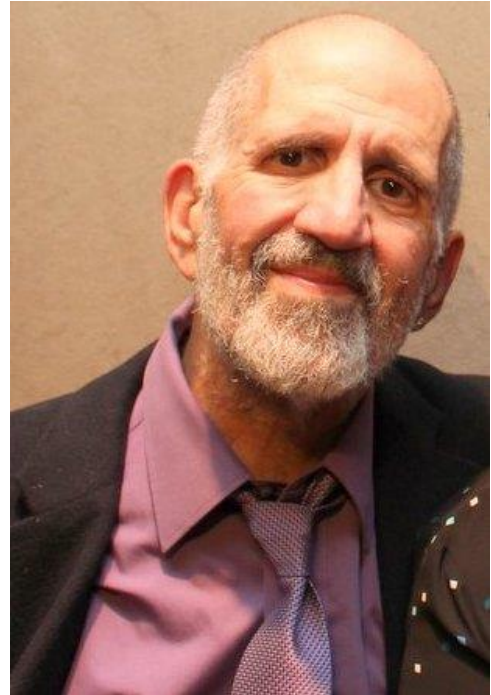
What skills and life experience would you bring to the Vestry's work?

The greatest strengths I bring to the Vestry are my analytical and accounting skills. Our Vestry is balanced with members who have significant legal, human resources, and management talents. I am one of the only Vestry members who possesses a financial background. I feel this is a necessary component of Vestry deliberations and is a vital skill for the prudent management of our Parish buildings and finances.

Tom Salvatore

Vestry Member/3-year Term*

I am Tom Salvatore, and I would like your support to be the Vestry Member of our parish. My wife Janet and I have been members of Christ Church for approximately 30 years; we moved to the area and needed a church to communicate with God in. Our next door neighbors suggested we go to Christ Church, and since then we have chosen to live our faith in the Episcopal Church. We saw how open the people were and the direction the Episcopal Church will bring us to. It is much more embracing of us and our family and a special place to worship God. We have gone through personal joys and sorrows with the Church Community. They were always been at our side as our rock and support. As a member of our parish, I have served on the Vestry, the Fellowship and Hospitalities Committees, as well as being head usher, lector, acolyte and Eucharistic minister. I consider myself a hard worker for the church. I try to be present at most, if not all parish events. I see my role on the Vestry as a motivational person that serves to help the parish. The responsibility is exciting and challenging. As a husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, I see constant challenges for our family. Helping our children and our church school and adult education and worship requires hard work, listening and cooperation. I am very willing to put the effort in. This is an exciting time for the Parish. Father Matt has a wonderful opportunity to grow our parish, to have a great time, as we gather for worship, for social and educational events. Recently, families have joined and we have the chance and invitation to work together, and show that Christ the Redeemer is alive and growing and welcoming to all. As a vestry member, I will work hard to do all that I can do in life.



**Tom Salvatore is a write-in candidate for the Vestry.*

Angela Lore-Barone

Vestry /1-year term

I have been a member of Christ Church for over twenty-five years. My two son's Charles and Christopher were raised Episcopalian. They worship with their families in the community they live.

I belong to numerous organizations within Christ Church namely: Adult Acolyte, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Eucharist Minister, Bible Study, and wherever needed. I am currently serving out the three year term vacated by Laura Toro.



The Vestry is the governing body of the church. Many decisions are made by the vestry for the benefit of the people. This is my main interest for wanting to be part of it.

To begin with I am a good listener, who is eager to learn and quick to participate. I was employed by Sound Shore Medical Center in the Laboratory later the Breast Center as Manager dealing with many people. To emphasize, I consider myself a good decision maker which is a good quality to bring to the vestry. Besides this I am a team player. These qualities fit well with any organization and the vestry is no exception. Thank you as a member of Christ Church.

Curtis Chase

Delegate to Diocesan Convention

Sandra Rivera

Delegate to Diocesan Convention

Andrew Hibbler

Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention







CHRIST CHURCH

Episcopal/Anglican

CLERGY & STAFF

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*
The Reverend Deacon Katie Lawrence
Mr. Jeffrey Hoffman, *Organist and Choirmaster*
Ms. Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*
Mr. Walter Roberts, *Verger and Sexton*
Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*
Michael Kurth, *Seminarian*
The Reverend David S. Hoag, *Rector Emeritus*

WARDENS & VESTRY

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*
Ms. Kari Black, *Senior Warden*
Ms. Carol Ipsen, *Junior Warden*
Ms. Anne Calder, *Treasurer*
Ms. Jackie Vigil, *Clerk*

Mr. Jeff Bodenmann	Ms. Marie Dumas
Ms. Angela Lore-Barone	Ms. Amy Heese
Mr. Curtis Chase	Mr. Gavin Leckie
Ms. Alice Dean	Mr. Jack Kaufmann
Ms. Colette Phipps	

MISSION STATEMENT

*Christ Church Pelham is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition.
As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth
and committed to serving God through worship and service to our community and the world.*

Christ Church

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer

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