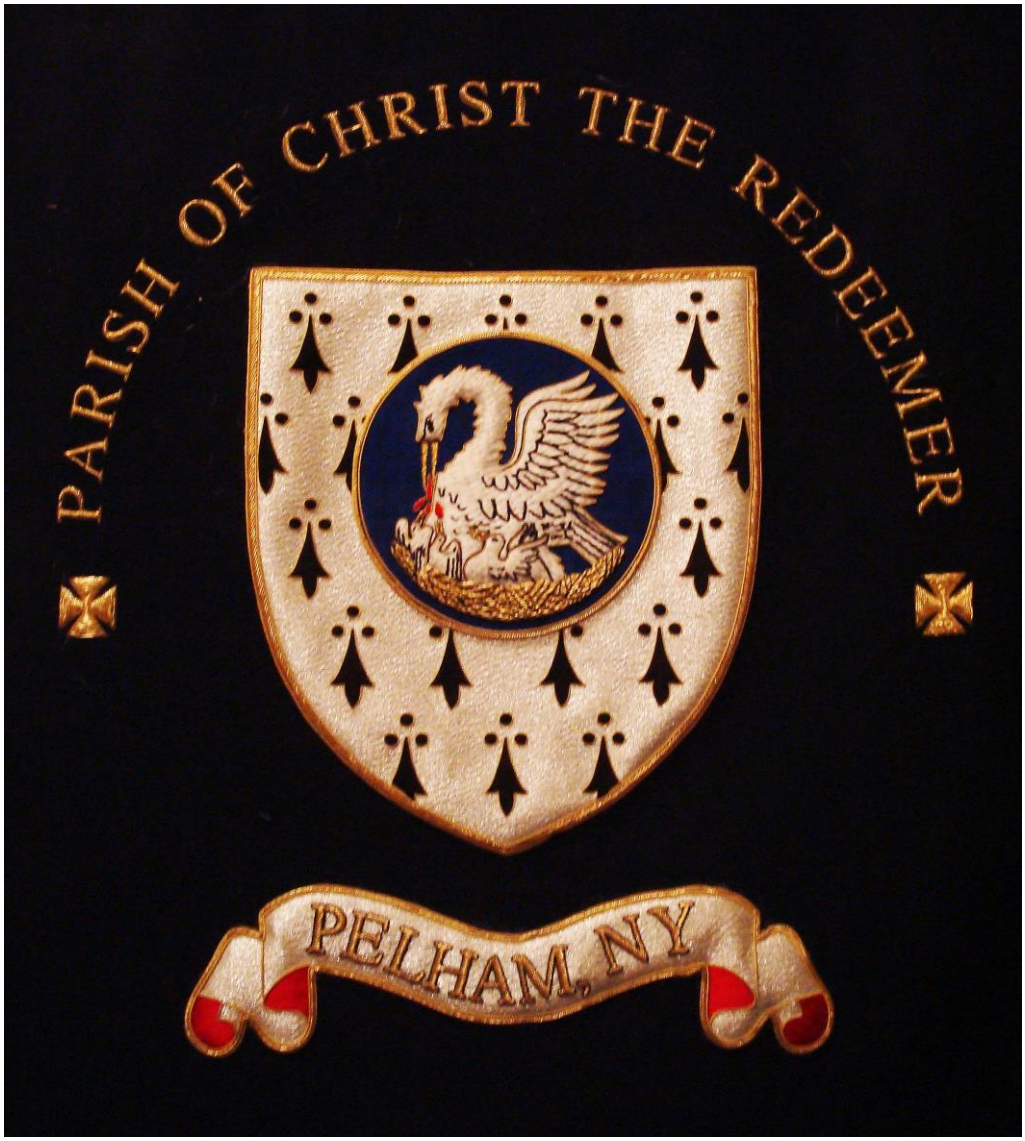
THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE
REDEEMER | PELHAM MANOR, NEW YORK



Annual Report | 2018

Annual Meeting of the Parish- January 27, 2019

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ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

January 27, 2019

- 11:20 – Opening Prayer (Fr. Matt)
    - Meeting Called to Order
    - Nominating Committee Report (Jeff Bodenmann)
    - Polls Open (open 1 hour) & 10 Minute Break to Get Ballots / Food
- 11:35 – Rector's State of the Parish Address (Father Matt)
- 11:55 – Budget/Finance Update (Jeff Bodenmann)
- 12:05 – Capital Campaign / Buildings (Anne & JD Calder)
- 12:15 – Stewardship / Volunteer Thanks (John Fox)
- 12:20 – Polls Closed (Father Matt)
    - Nominating Committee receives ballots
- 12:25 – Questions from the floor for the Rector, Treasurer, Wardens
- 12:30 – Election Results Shared (Father Matt)
- 12:31 – Closing Prayer & Dismissal (Father Matt)

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from January 28, 2018 Annual Meeting, approved by Vestry, March 14, 2018

11:25am
Call to order by Fr. Matthew Mead

In attendance
Sign-in sheets of all parishioners and guests at the meeting are attached to these minutes. Ballots were distributed as parishioners signed in to the meeting.

Opening Prayer – *Father Matthew Mead*

Nominating Committee – *Carol Ipsen*
Carol Ipsen, Junior Warden and Chair of the Nominating Committee, shared the candidates for election to positions as warden and vestry members:

- Jeff Bodenmann-Senior Warden
- Angela Barone-Vestry member, one-year term
- Curtis Chase-Vestry member, three-year term
- John Fox-Vestry member, three-year term
- Amy Heese-Vestry member, three-year term
- Tom Salvatore, three-year term (write-in candidate)

Rector's Report – *Father Matthew Mead*

- In addition to an overview of the year in the life of the Parish and a review of the budget, Father Matt announced the donation of $1M to fund replacement of our organ. This generous gift is being given by parishioner Martin Nash in memory of his partner, Jack Hennigan, a former parishioner and organist in our Parish. An overview pamphlet with further details of the organ project was distributed.
- Annual Meeting booklets were distributed, and all were encouraged to read the summaries prepared by the various committee chairs.

Capital Campaign – *Anne Calder*

- Anne Calder spoke to the parish about the upcoming capital campaign which will be focused on substantial roof work which has been identified by our roofing consultants.
- The funds raised would cover repairs and replacement in certain areas, as well as other long-term maintenance needs if sufficient funds are raised.
- All Vestry members have made an initial commitment towards the campaign.
- A Capital Campaign brochure was distributed.

Warden Remarks – *Kari Black*
Recognition was made of outgoing Vestry member, Marie Dumas, and of outgoing Senior Warden, Kari Black, who was given a sustained standing ovation and many accolades for her outstanding years of service to the Parish.

- A parishioner took this opportunity to express his deep gratitude for Kari's ministry and for the support he receives from the Parish.

12:25pm: Polls were closed. Ballots were collected and counted in the Parish Office by Jackie Vigil, Clerk, Carol Ipsen, Nominating Committee Chair, and Marilyn Leone, Nominating Committee member.

Election Results – *Father Matthew Mead*

- Senior Warden – Jeff Bodenmann
- Vestry Members:
    - Angela Barone-one-year term
    - Curtis Chase-three-year term
    - John Fox-three-year term
    - Amy Heese-three-year term

Motion to Adjourn
12:30 pm – Adjournment

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 27, 2019.

- **For Junior Warden (2-year term): Carol Ipsen**
- **For the Vestry (3 seats for 3-year terms): Etta Gumbs, Gavin Leckie, Angela Barone**
- **1 Seat for each Delegate to 2019 Diocesan Convention: Richard Lawson, Denise Peroune, and Sandra Rivera (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 three open vestry positions this year, all are for the full 3-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?

Carol Ipsen

Junior Warden/Two-year term

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

- Members for twenty-one (21) years
- My husband, Erik, attends regularly. Our son, Gus, grew up attending the church.

Please describe the activities and ministries you have been involved in at Christ Church.

- -Taught church school for several years, before becoming superintendent
- -Organized Last Supper/Seder re-enactments for children
- - A member of the most recent Search Committee
- - A member of the Pastoral Care Committee
- - A leader of Morning Prayer on Tuesdays for several years
- - Junior Warden since 2017
- - Co-creator of the parish photo directory, along with Lily Solmssen Moureaux.
- -Put all those 'Back in 1843' items into the bulletin in 2018
- -Sing in the summer choir
- -Work the tag sale
- -Will be head of the Church Green Team, to help us worship more sustainably

How would you view serving as Junior Warden as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?

- It is a privilege, and a pleasure, to be a junior warden. My top job is to spend as much time with parishioners, in a variety of ways, as I can. To me, a large part of Christianity's message is about being together – being productive together and being supportive of one another.

Please name something you find valuable, something you love about Christ Church.

- With the variety of roles I've assumed in the past 21 years, this church has helped me to grow as a person. I never expected that to be part of the deal, and I am grateful.

What skills and experience would you bring to the warden's position?

- My work as a journalist, mother and dog-walker helped me develop research and writing skills, patience and imagination, flexibility and an enjoyment of hard work. Much of that experience helps me in my work at our church.

Etta Gumbs

Vestry Member/Three-year term

How long have you been at Christ Church?
I joined Christ Church in 2016 after Trinity Mount Vernon closed. I was a member of Trinity since the age of five.

Please describe the activities/ministries in which you have been involved at Christ Church.

- Bible Study Group Participant
- Deputy Editor of Soundings
- Lector/Lay Reader
- Member of the Flower Guild
- Member of the Outreach Committee
- Vestry Liaison for the Women's Connections

How would you view serving on the Vestry as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?

Serving on the vestry is a commitment to the congregation and the church. Through my vestry service I am able to support Christ Church, its ministries as well as the surrounding communities our church supports.

Please name something you find valuable or something you love about Christ Church?

The parishioners and their joy of fellowship is the heart of Christ Church. I enjoy talking with the parishioners, sharing their stories and laughter. I value the lessons we are taught about the Bible and Biblical history. I respect Christ Church's involvement in the communities surrounding it.

What skills and experience would you bring to the Vestry?

I have experienced the Episcopal Church from many perspectives. I served as one of the first female acolytes in the Episcopal Diocese of New York, was a member of my former church's altar guild and, following in the footsteps of my father, served eight years on my former church vestry. As an active member of Christ Church, I have good understanding of Christ Church and its ministries. As an attorney, I am detail oriented with a strong background in conflict resolution and negotiation. I believe in being open to new ideas and finding common ground. I will use my past experience and knowledge to support Christ Church and its efforts.

Gavin Leckie

Vestry Member/Three-year term

How long have you been at Christ Church?
23 years – all four of our children were baptized and confirmed here.

Other family members attending Christ Church.
Elizabeth (wife) and our four children, Hamish, Catriona, Angus and Elspeth.

Please describe the activities you have been involved with at Christ Church.
Chair, Rector Search Committee 2014-15
Vestry, 2001-2004, 2016-date
Chair, Evangelism Committee 2001-2006
Men's Group
Outreach Committee; Trinity-St Paul's lunch program
Trustee, Diocesan Investment Trust 2016-date
Board Member, Incarnation Center 2007-2018

How would you view serving on the Vestry as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?
It is an opportunity to engage with some of the practical and spiritual issues that trouble all of us as people of faith and an act of service to our church community.

Please name something you find valuable or something you love about Christ Church.
I value and enjoy the sense of community I feel with my parishioners and the many good friendships that have come from that membership in our parish family. The Anglican liturgy has always been important to me – the poetry of our form of worship is very special and unique combined with the intellectual rigor the Anglican tradition applies to Scripture.

What skills and experience would you bring to the Vestry?
A lawyer's problem-solving skills, experience in navigating difficult and complex personal situations, institutional knowledge, a good listener.

Angela Lore-Barone
Vestry Member /3-year term

I have been a member of Christ Church for over 27 years.

I belong to numerous organizations within Christ Church namely: Fellowship, Adult Acolyte, Altar Guild, Eucharist Minister, Build Study, and wherever needed.

I view serving on the Vestry as part of my minister. This allows me to participate in decision making that
affects Christ Church in a positive way.

What I love mostly about Christ Church is the fellowship and the way we welcome new members or visitors to our Church. Coffee hour is the epic center of vivacity. Our Rector Matt is an excellent teacher of the gospel and extremely well informed. We love him and his young family.

I consider myself a good decision maker which is a quality to, bring to the Vestry. Besides this I am a team player.

Thank you as a member of Christ Church.

Richard Lawson
Delegate to Diocesan Convention

Denise Peroune
Delegate to Diocesan Convention

Sandra Rivera
Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention

State of the Parish Address

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

Today I want to offer a State of the Parish address. This address and other reports are in your Annual Report. Please take it home and read it. My General Rector's Report thanks numerous people, and in the interests of time I will not repeat what is there, but I need to thank our Staff, Committee Chairs and Ministry Leaders, Vestry, Officers, particularly Jeff and Carol our Wardens; we have an excellent team. There are some exciting things going on at Christ Church. The news is very good, even if we do face some challenges as we move into 2019, and I have the privilege and responsibility to tell you about it all.

2018 was the 175th Anniversary of Christ Church, and we had a number of wonderful celebrations. Our Anniversary Committee was led by Cherrie Greenhalgh and Claire Allen. They offered a Progressive Dinner in April and a fantastic Celebratory Dinner and Auction at the Athletic Club on Columbus Day weekend. That Sunday we celebrated the 175th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church at our worship services. That weekend brought a number of former clergy and friends back to Christ Church, most notably our Rector Emeritus David Hoag and my predecessor Randy Alexander and his family. Thank you to Cherrie and Claire and the entire 175th Committee for a fantastic celebration.

Linked to the 175th Anniversary was a Capital Campaign to replace and repair the Church Roof, Ranck Building Roof, and numerous other major projects that had been deferred over the past few decades. We received a total of $175,000 in grants from our diocese and the Bedell Fund of Saint Matthew's Church in Bedford. We received a matching donation of $50,000 from an anonymous parishioner which was quickly matched by other donations. And we received donations and pledged gifts of various amounts up to $50,000. All in all, we raised over half a million dollars which has enabled us to do the first level of our project list and plan to do levels two and three in 2019. I am eternally grateful to Anne and JD Calder who chaired this Campaign and did more behind the scenes work that any of you know.

I am also grateful to Kari Black our Building Committee co-chair with whom I worked overseeing capital projects funded by the campaign. The Capital Campaign Update which is available in this Report and also online, has the details. In short, we replaced and repaired many of the Church roofs in 2018, and we will be doing the Ranck Building Roof and many other projects in 2019. I am grateful for all of your generosity that has allowed us to do what we have done and what we will do in the coming year.

August of 2018 featured a personal highlight of my life – a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. I co-led a group of forty-one people from Christ Church and Immanuel-on-the-Hill Church in Alexandria where Father Randy is Rector, to visit many sights in Israel and the Palestinian Territories. It was lifechanging, and I know that the group members had great experiences. I want to thank Marie Main our Administrator for helping our group prepare for the trip.

In September of 2018 two significant clergy transitions happened in the life of our parish. Michael Kurth, who had served here as Seminarian from 2016 was ordained to the Priesthood on September 15. Michael is now the full-time curate at Christ's Church Rye, and he and fiancé Sarah are doing well.

Also, in September Canon Susan Harriss joined our staff as a part-time Senior Associate Priest. Susan is the Rector Emeritus of Christ's Church Rye, and she is one of the most gifted priests that I know. I am thrilled that she is part of our staff. Susan's presence has been a blessing for the parish. She has made a huge difference in many areas, but I want to highlight three of them.

First, she preaches and celebrates about every third or fourth Sunday. This gives us another perspective from the pulpit, another priest at the altar, and an additional pastoral presence that compliments my own. It also allows us Sunday morning continuity without having to hire supply clergy to cover when I am away.

Second, Susan has integrated herself into the daily life of the parish. She offers guidance and pastoral care to countless parishioners, has gotten involved with our Women's Connection and Adult Learning Committee, and she is offering sessions in yoga. Having a third clergy person has allowed us to make more regular visits to parishioners who are homebound or in the hospital. It has also enabled us to offer healing prayers after worship every Sunday – something that simply isn't possible with one priest and one deacon.

Third, Susan's presence on Sundays and during the week has made it possible for me to focus on children's and family ministries in a way that I was not able to before. I am now programming and co-chairing the Church School, helping with the Pageant and Vacation Bible School, planning and teaching Confirmation Class, planning and leading Youth Group trips and outreach opportunities, chairing our Children's Ministry Committee, and overseeing all calendars for children and youth ministries.

Healthy children's ministries and coordinated leadership in 2018 has borne great fruit. Under co-chair Eileen Peluso's direct leadership, our Church School is growing, and we are recruiting more teachers and families. Under the leadership of Jeffrey Hoffman, our Children's Choir has grown to nine singers. Carla Carroll decided we needed a Vacation Bible School, and last year she created and ran a very successful VSB with the help of Margo Hastings and numerous volunteers, young and old. It was so successful we have added an additional day for 2019. Just last month Michael Fawcett, with the help of Shanon Corley and Jeffrey Hoffman, directed one of the best attended and most children-filled pageants in memory. We have a lively and fun Confirmation Class every year taught by the clergy. Most importantly there are children playing and making friends everywhere in our church on Sundays and Wednesdays. Having Susan on staff allows me to be present with and coordinate these ministries without other essential ministries and pastoral duties falling through the cracks.

Canon Harriss is currently funded by a grant from our diocese. We received a one-time $30,000 Next Step Grant from the diocese which is allocated to helping one parish each year independently make the transition from one priest to two. Beginning in September of this year, we must fund Susan's stipend if we wish for her to continue at Christ Church.

2018 was a great year. We had a very successful Capital Campaign and have begun necessary building projects with the funds that the campaign raised. We celebrated a major milestone in the life and history of the parish and brought back many old friends and memories. We went to the Holy Land. We added back a second priest bringing us closer to the staffing we had before 2009. We grew our children's ministries to sustainable levels that should facilitate more growth. Our Adult Christian Learning, Seniors, and Outreach Ministries are thriving and consistently organizing events and programs that benefit our congregation and the wider community. The church is active and full of people each week.

2019 will also be a great year. A new organ will arrive in the fall thanks to the generosity of Martin Nash and the guidance of Margaret Young and the Organ Committee. We are replacing the roof over the Ranck Building and continuing to update, renew, and restore our beautiful buildings. We are offering an expanded Vacation Bible School this summer. I strongly believe that our Children's ministries will continue to grow. On a personal note, my son will be in the Confirmation Class in 2019-2010. I am confident that Canon Susan's presence will be an engine of growth for the entire parish. We had a great year, we are going in the right direction, and I think 2019 will be a fantastic year, though it will include a particular challenge.

We are looking at a deficit – and one that is not insignificant – of between $40,000 and $50,000 for 2019. The deficit is not from over-spending, but rather from increased core costs and lower income. We have lost a major renter; the Assemblies of God Church that used to rock out in the Undercroft on Sunday afternoons has left. We hope to replace that renter in the near future, and if you have any ideas on that, please speak to Marie Main or Etta Gumbs (our Vesty liason for leases and renters). Our pledges are down slightly from last year. This is primarily the result of the loss or decrease of several significant pledges due to the realities of life – transitioning to fixed incomes, moving away, changes in liquidity and capital, etc. It is also likely the result of a successful Capital Campaign.

A deficit is a challenge and when everything else is going well its important to remember that the roof isn't caving in – literally, we just replaced the roof and we are replacing another one this year. We are in a really great place, but we have a deficit, and we need to address that. The Vestry, Finance Committee, and I have decided that the best course of action is as outlined below.

First, Transparency. We have a deficit and we are not hiding it by papering it over with unrealistic cuts, hopeful income sources, or planned but not publicized endowment draws.

Second, Stability. We are not pulling the rug out from underneath any ministry, especially since nearly all of ours are thriving. The Vestry budgeted ministries at 2018 levels or less. We cut where we could, and there will be a pinch – particularly in music since Easter is later than ever this year and we have more choir Sundays – but no ministry is cut off at the knees. The Vestry budgeted the standard cost of living increase to the staff because is is counterproductive to trim a deficit on the backs of the people who are the backbones of everything we do.

Third, Discernment as a Parish. I have scheduled an all Parish Meeting for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31, at 11:00 a.m. To save a little bit of time and a little bit of money, and to make sure that all of our members who sing in the choir can attend this meeting, we will not have a choir that Sunday. The meeting on March 31 will be an opportunity for everyone in the parish to ask any question about where our money comes from and where it goes. Our finance committee members will be there with presentations, and they are ready, willing, and able to hear your questions and concerns.

Fourth, Decision. At some point in 2019, the Vestry will decide what we need to do. We may discover that a new renter and increased annual pledging have tipped the scales in another direction. We may decide that we need to cut spending, and if we do, we will do it knowing that the entire Parish is aware that cutting will change our ministries and may alienate people who like them as they are. We may decide to take an emergency draw from the endowment and literally buy time. We may decide to embark on a strategic plan and rethink who we are as a parish. Whatever we do, we will do it together.

I want you all to be here on Sunday, March 31, at 11:00 a.m. Christ Church is your church. You need to know more about your church, and the Vestry needs your support and encouragement as we navigate this deficit.

I hope that one year from now we will look back at 2019 as one of the best years in our parish's history. A new organ, building projects galore, growing ministries, children running and playing, and a time when we took a golden opportunity to discern our shared stewardship, finances, and resources will be the things we celebrate.

I want to close by thanking you all for your love and commitment to Christ Church. Most of all, I want to recognize my wife Nicole and my boys Liam and Nicholas who have supported my call as a priest and rector. They are the lights of my life, and we are overjoyed to be a part of this wonderful parish. I love Pelham, I love Christ Church, and I love you all too. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

Rector's General Report

It is a privilege and honor to be rector of the Parish of Christ the Redeemer. I am in my fourth year as Rector, and I am happy to write that 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 2018. 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 2018. 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 spiritual counsel, to make your confession, to chat, or anything in between, please schedule some time with me. 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 oversee our staff. As Rector 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, Secretary and Member of the Task Force for Prayer Book and Liturgical Revision of the Episcopal Church, Chair of the Budget Committee of our diocese, and member of the Finance Committee, the Council, and the Commission on Ministry of our diocese. 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 Jeff Bodenmann 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 Angela Barone and Alice Dean who served this past year 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 – Canon Susan, Deacon Katie, Jeffrey Hoffman, Marie Main, Walter Roberts, Ed Blue, and Terry Crowley 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

175TH ANNIVERARY CELEBRATION

FINAL REPORT

The 175th Anniversary Celebration of The Parish of Christ the Redeemer was held on Saturday, October 6, 2018 at the New York Athletic Club in Pelham Manor, NY. By every account, it was a huge success and fabulous occasion!

Upon arrival, one hundred sixty-six guests were greeted by the wonderful harmonies and hymn tunes of the Boltonaires, with an opportunity to review the many beautiful silent auction items, and a magnificent powerpoint presentation depicting the history of Christ Church, its leaders, its buildings, its ministries, and its people.

During the cocktail hour, past and present parishioners were able to mix and mingle with former clergy including our 13th Rector, Father David Hoag, our 14th Rector, Father Randy Alexander, Mother Patricia Alexander, Father Ralph Peterson, Father Jack Zacker, Father Michael Kurth, and Deacon Chisara Alimole. In addition, Father John Covington and parishioners from Grace Church on City Island generously filled a table. Once in the beautifully decorated ballroom, Father Matt received proclamations from Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, County Legislator Terry Clements, and Pelham Town Supervisor Pete DiPaola. With the formalities complete, a delicious dinner was served and the party truly began! It was wonderful to see so many of our congregation laughing, dancing to the lively music of the Center Stage Orchestra, and genuinely enjoying each other's company!

Financially, the event was also a huge success, and all net proceeds were allocated to the Christ Church Capital Campaign!

Ticket Sales	$27,450.00
Sponsorships and Donations	$ 6,330.00
Journal Ads	$10,350.00
Auctions	$19,070.00
TOTAL REVENUES	**$63,200.00**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$25,282.50**
NET REVENUES	**$37,917.50**

This celebration could not have been so successful without the hard work and generosity of so many. Many thanks to our 175th Anniversary Celebration Committee (Jennifer Alleyne, Cathie Arquilla, Angela Barone, Kari Black, Allison Bodenmann, Jeff Bodenmann, Rosemarie Carver, Ellen Dierking, Marie Dumas, Michael Fawcett, John Felicetti, Charlette Finch, Patrice Fitzpatrick, John Fox, Etta Gumbs, John Hastings, Margo Hastings, Jeffrey Hoffman, Carol Ipsen, Erik Ipsen, Missy Kisob, Jackie Kraft Courtney McGrory, Michael Moynihan, Sandra Rivera, Melissa Roddy, Janet Salvatore, Tom Salvatore, Art Scinta, Siggy Sessa, Lily Moureaux Solmssen, Am Swanson, Kristin Van Ogrop, Eileen Wolfe, Margaret Young, and Barbara

Zambelli) who rolled up their sleeves and tackled whatever was asked of them. All of the tasks were important, even if some were tedious or mundane, and all were executed with willingness and good cheer.

Special thanks to our project leaders:

Erik Ipsen, and his editors, Art Scinta and Kari Black, who wrote a historically informative and visually interesting article "Christ Church and The Secret of Longevity" for our 175th Anniversary Journal;

Melissa Roddy, Ann Swanson, Allison Bodenmann and Jeff Bodenmann who generated ads from our local merchants;

Missy Kisob who coordinated and ensured print readiness of the dignitary letters and ads appearing in the 175th Anniversary Journal;

Charlette Finch, Angela Barone, Missy Kisob and Leilani Lockett who researched and gathered photographs and created a comprehensive and dramatic professional slide presentation of the history of Christ Church;

Cathie Arquilla, Michael Fawcett, Courtney McGrory, Kristin Van Ogtrop, and Ellen Dierking who ensured that our venue looked beautiful, coordinating the floral arrangements and table tops with the blue and gold of the Journal and providing elegant placecards at each seat;

Michael Fawcett who recruited and organized the Boltonaires (Margaret Young, Donna Randles, Michael Fawcett and John Hastings) whose exquisite period costumes were only exceeded in beauty by the melodic harmonies of hymns from the 1840's;

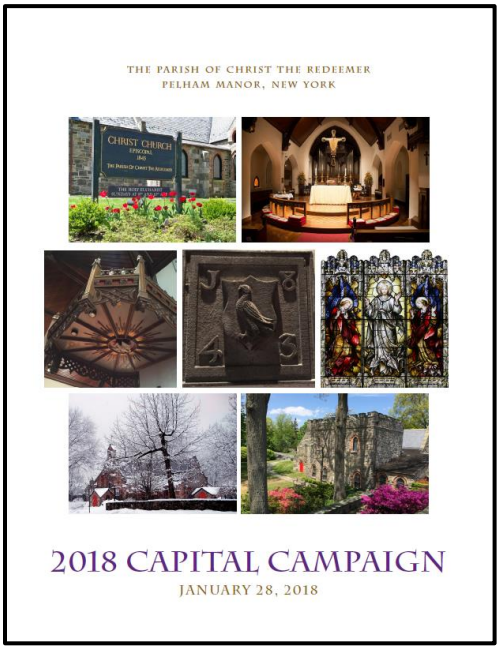
Marie Dumas and the Auction Committee of Etta Gumbs, Michael Moynihan, and Eileen Wolfe, whose hard work soliciting donors, packaging and displaying the many unique auction items enabled our incomparable auctioneer, Michael Moynihan, to entertain the audience and generate over $19,000 in auction revenues.

Anne Calder for tallying up and closing out our Auction revenues, and to Walter Roberts and J.D. Calder for helping us to vacate the NYAC and transport items back to the church at the end of an exhilarating night!

Finally, we could not have achieved all that we did without Marie Main who provided her administrative expertise and encouragement throughout our lengthy planning process, and Father Matt who supported our recommendations, gave us free reign to implement them, and cheered us on throughout the process!

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Allen and Cherrie Greenhalgh, Co-Chairs, 175th Anniversary Committee

Capital Campaign Update



As part of our 175th Anniversary Celebration, we committed ourselves to honoring the past, celebrating the present, and we also identified a very firm goal of planning for the future. Entering in to our 175th year, Christ Church had so very many blessings to count, but like many churches, we also had a long list of significant and expensive projects that had been deferred due to lack of funding. Our 175th year brought the opportunity to address some of those deferred projects and the first phase was to renovate the roof over the church. The project in short was to replace slate from areas on the roof originally dating back to 1910-1939, to replace the 20+ year flat roof down to the wooden planking and to rebuild and restore the buttresses and the crenelated stone parapet (the castle bits). This last part involved removing all of the parapet and completely rebuilding it. It is with full and grateful hearts that we celebrate the completion of this project.

First and foremost, we thank the parishioners of Christ Church for their generosity! This project was fully funded by everyone who contributed to the Capital Campaign.

This project was necessary due to the aging nature of the roof components that ultimately began to impact the inside of the church. As you will recall, in 2017 we had to jump start and complete a smaller portion of the roof due to pervasive inside leaking that had caused one of our sanctuary walls to crumble. The newer project of roof work addressed key locations of water infiltration as well as addressed the replacement of our lightning protection system, new leader heads, new leaders and new roof drains. By addressing the "envelope" we have now secured the inside of the church.

Your generosity also had a significant ripple effect beyond completion of this tremendous first phase. By fully funding this project, Christ Church parishioners signaled to potential granting sources that we were invested in our parish and were willing to dig deep and take the first steps on our own. As a result, Phase 3 – the roof over the Ranck Building, is being fully funded through grants from the Diocese of New York and the Bedell Fund of Bedford.

Our Goals… We divided our projects into five levels, each one with a specific dollar amount that would allow us to complete the project. **We have raised/pledged over $550,000 which means that we have FUNDED Levels 1, 2, and 3. And COMPLETED Level 1.**

Level 1 was the Roof over the Church

- **FUNDED BY DONATIONS FROM CHRIST CHURCH PARISHIONERS**
- **COMPLETED FALL 2018**

BEFORE it was fixed… The roof required a climb up a free-standing ladder and was accessible by a loose hatch. You can see in the top photo that the hatch is NOT attached to anything? What you do not see is that the fully extended ladder he is on, is also not attached. This was NOT SAFE.

Also, note the pooling water in these photos. The drains on the roof were inadequate in their size and placement.

The stonework was literally crumbling before our eyes. After wind storms it was not unusual to find large and small bits of masonry or slate that had fallen from the roof. The second photo gives a great example of the state of the crenelated parapet on the church tower. Our concern was that as the parapet crumbled, a stone might fall off the tower into the roof below or onto the Garden of Resurrection.

The second and third photos show some of the many places where tar was used rather than masonry or flashing to try to stop leaks. The third photo shows capping stones, worn out copper flashing, and more tar used to try to seal a leak. This was the source of the leak in the hallway outside the choir room.

The bottom photo shows our two air conditioner units for the church. They were placed on wooden beams. The wood was rotting (it should have been encased in tar or some sort of flashing) and the wood supporting one unit (the nearer one in the photo) was placed perpendicular to the slope of the roof, which meant that water routinely collected in this location

.

The top photo shows the downspouts which were mismatched to the downspouts around the rest of our facility and also inadequate and sized only for residential.

The three bottom photos of this page show the slate that was falling off, worn out, and mismatched.

All of these issues were corrected and many more.

We worked with Russ Watsky who is the roof consultant for the Diocese of New York. Russ has overseen the repair and replacement of hundreds of church roofs over his decades of service for the Diocese,

We received three bids and ultimately chose Mariani Roofing. Our estimated budget was $200,000. The accepted bid was well under that and allowed us to ensure we had adequate money for contingency and surprises. We did have surpriseds… the roof was in worse condition than we knew, and we had to deal with asbestos. The work is now 99% complete and we have spent $169,000. The remaining money will go towards other capital repairs in Level 2, 3, or 4.

These photos show the progression of work…

After years of patching and tarring to repair leaks, the supporting wood under the roof had completely rotted out. The top, right photo shows the rotten wood. The top, left photo (below this text) shows new decking and first protective layer.

The stonework was completely dismantled and rebuilt. The bottom, right three photos show this process.

The above photo shows a good example of how the roof slate, slate siding, and copper flashing had deteriorated or fallen away. It was removed and replaced.

The roofers installed proper, copper show guards. You can see them in the top, right photo.

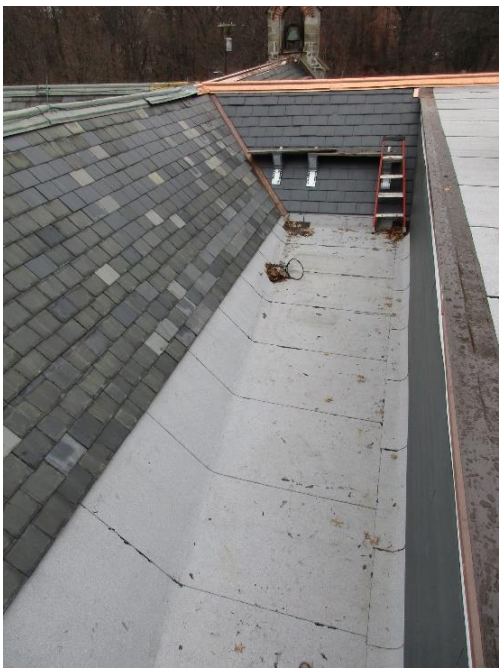
The second, right photo shows through - flashing in the crenelated parapet.

The third, right photo shows one of the newly installed drains which is connected to a downspout. The drain and downspout are now copper (the photo shows an old funnel that was changed out to copper).

The bottom, left photo shows the extrerior masonry.

All of these improvements and repairs were done to ensure that the new roof lasts for generations, drains and seals the building properly, and is artistically and architecturally in line with our 175 year old buildings.

The Cricket above the Bolton Altar needed to be completely replaced. Most of the slate had deteriorated and fallen away, and the decking was rotten. It was completely replaced. Since it is it out of sight, the roofers used mostly mismatched slate in this area. That saved money and allowed us to ensure that visible slate areas were more uniform.



We also replaced the broken sections of the roof ridge roll.
The Roof is 99% finished – final touches will be completed when the weather warms up.

The loose and leaky hatch has been replaced with an effective and safe industrial grade hatch.

The AC unit beams were replaced, correctly aligned, and flashed.

Stonework has been flashed and rebuilt.

Slate has been replaced and rebuilt.

New siding has replaced exposed walls.

New copper flashing, snow guards, ridge rolls, and downspouts have been installed.

Drainage was expanded and puddling is gone.

The flat roof and cricket were completely rebuilt and replaced.

The ladder (not pictured) is now locked in place and safe to ascend and descend.

What's Next?

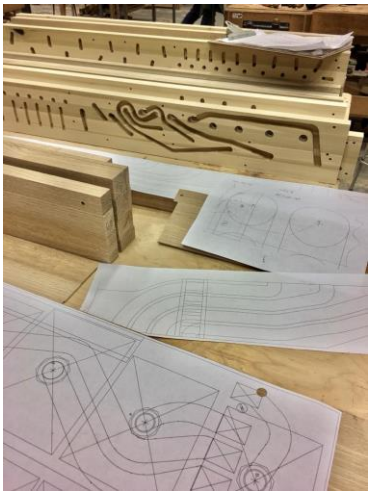
The Roof of the Ranck Building will be replaced in 2019. This project will be funded entirely by grants ($175,000.

We are beginning to receive bids for the Ranck Building Roof and we are again working with Russ Watsky.

Thanks so much to ANNE CALDER, JD CALDER, and AMY HEESE for managing the fundraising and bookkeeping for our Capital Campaign!

Thanks so much to KARI BLACK and RUSS WATSKY for managing the Roof work!

MOST OF ALL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN!



Report from the Organ Committee

After a flurry of activity in early 2018, when we signed a contract with Juget-Sinclair Organbuilders and made the first payment, the rest of the year was fairly quiet. Juget-Sinclair has finished the other projects that were in the queue ahead of ours, and is now working full-time building 'our' organ, their Opus 51, the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ.
Specifications are available on the Juget-Sinclair website:
www.juget-sinclair.com/worksinprogress.html

Some recent pictures from their workshop are available on the Juget-Sinclair Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/organbuilders

The Organ Committee will be significantly busier in 2019, as we travel to Montreal, arrange for the disposal of the current organ, prepare the space for the new organ (including significantly different weight distributions that will require some engineering assistance), and install the new organ. There could potentially be two trips to Montreal, to see the organ being built, and then to hear it before it is disassembled and shipped to Pelham. Juget-Sinclair believes the original time table is still valid, with installation expected in the late fall of 2019. We will keep the congregation apprised of the progress, as we will definitely need some help housing and feeding the J-S employees while they are here (for eight weeks) installing and voicing the organ; this will save the church the cost of hosting our guests in hotel rooms and could be a nice opportunity to get to know these interesting people.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Young

CHRIST CHURCH MINISTRIES

Vestry & Parish Officers

The Rev. Matthew Hoxsie Mead, Rector
Jeff Bodenmann (2018) 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 (2020); Amy Heese (2020); Etta Gumbs (2017**); Gavin Leckie (2016,2017-2018*);
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	Patrice Fitzpatrick
Worship	Ushers	Fr. Matt	Marilyn Leone, Tom Salvatore
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	Children's Ministries Committee	Fr. Matt	Fr. Matt
Service	Church School	Curtis Chase	Eileen Peluso
Service	Concerts at Christ Church	Curtis Chase	Alice Dean
Service	Evangelism	Gavin Leckie, Colette Phipps	Open Position
Service	Outreach	Gavin Leckie	Marie Dumas, Ed McGann
Service	Pastoral Care	Fr. Matt	Deacon Katie
Service	Discernment	Fr. Matt	Fr. Matt
Community	Fellowship Events	Angela Barone	Jackie Kraft, Janet Salvatore
Community	Coffee Hour	Angela Barone	Jackie Kraft, Janet Salvatore
Community	Youth Group	Fr. Matt, Curtis Chase	Open Position
Community	Men's Ministry	Fr. Matt	John Fox
Community	Seniors	Colette Phipps	Deacon Katie
Community	Women's Connection	Etta Gumbs	Open Position
Foundation	Communications	Fr. Matt	Erik Ipsen, Missy Kisob
Foundation	Buildings	Amy Heese	Fr. Matt, Kari Black
Foundation	Tenant and Rentals	Etta Gumbs	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	Jeff Bodenmann	Jack Kaufmann
Foundation	Stewardship / Planned Giving	Jeff Bodenmann	John Fox
Foundation	Tag Sale	Angela Barone	Jackie Kraft, Janet Salvatore, Eileen Wolfe
Foundation	General Fundraising	Father Matt	Marie Dumas

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/ministries 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 Children's Ministries (Confirmation Class, Church School, Christmas Pageant, Vacation Bible School), Adult Christian Learning (including Bible Study), Discernment Committee, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Deacon Katie's Report, and Canon Susan's Report.

Community –This includes our parish as a whole, represented by the Fellowship committee, as well as the various other groups of our parish: Youth Group, Fellowship Committee/Events, Men's Group, Women's Connection, and Senior's 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 Communications, Buildings, Rentals & Tenants, Grounds, Investments, Stewardship, Finance & Budget, and Vestry 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.

WORSHIP
THE FIRST PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

RECTOR'S LITURGY REPORT

Total Services for 2018

Sunday Eucharist: 111
Weekday Eucharist: 34
Private Home/Hospital Communion: 51
Sunday Daily Office: 1
Weekday Daily Office: 128
Marriage: 1
Burial: 5
Baptisms: 6
Confirmations: 9
Receptions: 0

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 110-160 people in attendance when there is a choir. The attendance drops enormously to about 40-60 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 Sunday afternoon/evening worship service of special event about once a month. Usually this service is the 5:00 p.m. *Come As You Are* Eucharist, a brief Rite 3 Said Eucharist with four short, well-known hymns, which lasts about 40 minutes in total. *Come As You Are* is offered in the Garden of Resurrection when whether permits. In 2016 we tried offering more services, and it produced diminishing returns in terms of attendance. In 2017 and 2018 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. In 2018 the following services were offered in months that *Come As You Are* was not offered: the Easter Vigil (Saturday), Sunday Evening Prayer, the Bishop's afternoon visit, Advent Lessons & Carols,

the Christmas Pageant, a Hymn Sing. General Convention and the Holy Land Pilgrimage both happened in 2018 during the summer, and that meant that no service was offered in July or August as it normally would have been. We will continue offering *Come As You Are* in 2019 and having a second priest on staff means we can ensure it is offered every month (except December when the Pageant and a music event are offered on Sunday evenings). My hope is that offering it every month will stabilize the congregation somewhere between 20-35 people.

In 2019 with the arrival of Canon Susan, we began offering Healing Prayers after every Sunday Eucharist (prior to that we offered them once a month). A third clergy person makes it possible to do this weekly. This expansion has allowed the clergy to connect pastorally with many more people and there are numerous people lined up for healing prayers each week.

Beginnning in 2019 we will offer a quartlerly, Sunday afternoon Healing Eucharist. The first one will be offered Sunday, Febraury 24, at 5:00 p.m. This will be in addition to the *Come As You Are* service, and the readings and prayers will not be those used on Sunday morning. The service will be said without music and provide time for silence and meditation.

Beginning in 2019 Canon Susan will be expanding her yoga/mediation sessions and offering them regularly for the entire parish and community.

Sunday Attendance

Sunday attendance (all services) for 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015 was as follows:

Average Sunday attendance in 2018: 165
Average Sunday attendance in 2017: 168 (53 Sundays)
Average Sunday attendance in 2016: 173 (Christmas Eve & Day counted as Sunday)
Average Sunday attendance in 2015: 164

Total Sunday attendance in 2018: 8597
Total Sunday attendance in 2017: 8917 (53 Sundays)
Total Sunday attendance in 2016: 9020 (Note: Christmas Eve & Day count as Sunday)
Total Sunday attendance in 2015: 8513

The numbers look exact, but on any given Sunday three people will often get three similar but slightly different counts – the counts are usually within 5-10 of each other but people come late, leave early, have children that can't be easily seen, and come and go during the service. Sometimes we take the low count, sometimes we take the high count, sometimes we take the one in between – it depends on the eye test. Over all, an attendance increases and decreases are only noticiable when the average is up or down more than 10 people per Sunday.

As you can see above both 2016 and 2017 included attendance padding (Christmas on Sunday in 2016 and an extra Sunday in 2017). In 2018 our summer attendance was unusually low for two reasons. The first was that General Convention and the Holy Land Pilgrimage took me away from the Parish for two additional Sundays in 2018 (attendance tends to be lower when there is supply clergy), and the Holy Land Pilgrimage took nearly 20 parishioners away from

the Parish for at least once week. The second difference was that we did not offer any *Come As You Are* services in July or August as we normally do. All in all, attendance for 2018 was basically flat, though we appeaed

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

We celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Holy Days that fall on weekdays, Saturdays, and holidays. Holy Day Eucharist is offered at 10:00 a.m. (it replaces morning prayer on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday). Certain major Holy Days (i.e. Christmas, Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, etc.) have more complicated schedules that are announced well in advance. In 2018 we stopped offering the weekly Thursday Eucharist at 12:15 (we had begun it in 2017) due to lack of interest (too many weeks with just the priest and no congregation).

Attendance at Morning Prayer is usually 2-8 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.

Weekday attendance (all services) for 2018: 2009

2018 attendance at Christmas, Easter & major non-Sunday Holy Days (all services on the day):

Epiphany, Wednesday, January 6: 12
Candlemas, Tuesday, February 2: 45
Ash Wednesday: 75
Annunciation., March 25: NA
Palm Sunday: 204
Maundy Thursday: 105
Good Friday: 95
Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday: 411
Ascension Day, Thursday, May 5: 55
Michaelmas, September 29: NA
All Saints' Day, November 1: 44
Thanksgiving Day: 20
Christmas Eve & Day: 398

Other Worship Services
In 2018 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 offered in 2018. The Christmas Pageant was offered at 4:00 p.m. on the Third Sunday of Advent.

Summary
2018 was another great year. We offered many wonderful services and our overall attendance was in line with the past few years. 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

"…but be filled with the spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father."

– Ephesians 5: 18b-20 (RSV)

OVERVIEW OF OUR MUSIC MINISTRY
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, as a soloist, small ensemble, or as one of our choirs – 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 iniquity and 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, as the Royal School of Church Music prayer that our children's choir regularly recites puts it.

PARISH CHOIR PROGRAM

In addition to the weekly participation of our singing congregation throughout 2018, the Music for Liturgy and Choral Music Ministry of Christ Church involved 32 people in choral music ministry, including 19 parish volunteers, 9 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. Most of our choir members live in Pelham, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, or the Bronx, but some of our volunteers regularly travel from Poughkeepsie and Jersey City to sing with us on Sunday mornings, and occasionally we are delighted to welcome choir members who travel from Florida and the United Kingdom.

In September, our parish choir traveled to the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City, joined by the choir of Christ's Church in Rye and my marvelous colleague, Ruraidh Sutherland, to sing at the ordination of Michael Kurth, our former seminarian and now curate at Christ's Church. Our service of Advent Lessons and Carols was also a choral highlight of the season and very well attended.

Our parish choir rehearses each Sunday throughout the program year (September through June) at 9 am to prepare for that morning's liturgy and again from 11:30 until 1:00 pm to prepare for the coming weeks' liturgies and other special occasions. If you're interested in joining our parish choir, we'd love to have you. Please email or call me to let me know of your interest and to discuss the particulars.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Over the past year and a half, I've devoted a lot of time to building and growing our children's choir program. In 2018, nine children participated in this special ministry, rehearsing on Wednesday afternoons throughout the school year, and singing children's anthems throughout the season, particularly on Family Sundays and at Easter and Christmas Eve. The children are also invited to vest and participate in the processions each week of the program year by leading the children's entrance hymn and singing hymns and service music, as well as joining our parish choir from time to time in singing intergenerational anthems, carols, and motets. We currently have 9 children in our parish choir and we would love to have 9 more. Please let me know if you're interested in enrolling your child in our program. We rehearse each Wednesday of the school year from 4:00 pm until 4:45 (occasionally until 5:00 pm) and sing on Sunday mornings.

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS

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. Christ Church also employed 3 or 4 substitute professional choristers to cover absences by

our staff singers and several substitute organists to cover for my vacation weekends and other times when I was unavailable.

OUR INSTRUMENTS AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

The 1968 Lillis Memorial Casavant organ, our parish's principal instrument for worship, has served our parish now for fifty years and has come to the end of its useful life, soon to be replaced by our new 2019 Jack P. Hennigan Memorial Juget-Sinclair pipe organ, currently under construction in Montreal. Thus, 2019 will be a year of a very welcome and long-awaited transformation for our music ministry made possible by the generous gift by Dr. Martin Nash. 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 Kawaii 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 more 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 an array of instruments to play from time to time, including guitars, violins, cellos, and drums. A borrowed set of handbells also made a brief appearance during our Advent Lessons & Carols service.

At Easter, our liturgies were enhanced by the addition of the Clarity Brass Quintet, a New Jersey-based ensemble of professional brass players. For our Remembrance Sunday (All Souls, transferred to the second Sunday of November), our choir sang selections from Gabriel Fauré's beloved *Requiem,* accompanied by a guest professional violinist. And on Christmas Eve, our professional woodwind quintet returned once more to provide the accompaniment for our two principal Christmas liturgies.

CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Concerts at Christ Church is a musical outreach of Christ Church, Pelham, supported entirely from contributions to the concerts fund and by ticket sales. As we await the installation of our new pipe organ, Concerts at Christ Church did not present any concerts in 2018. I envision a revitalized concert series in 2019-2020, anchored by and showcasing the Jack P. Hennigan Memorial Pipe Organ. I'd be pleased to speak with anyone who is interested in serving on our Concerts at Christ Church Steering Committee.

IN SUMMARY

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. 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 2019, let us continue to "speak to one another in songs, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in our hearts" and with our voices "to the Lord."

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 17 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.

This year 10 Acolytes represented Christ Church at The Diocesan Acolyte Festival at the Catherdral. 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 particpate 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 25 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

Lay Eucharistic Ministers 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 o administer communion as part of the Sunday and weekday liturgies.
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 Lay Eucharistic Ministers must be baptized and appointed to that function by the Rector or priest in charge. Upon application, Lay Eucharistic Ministers are then licensed by the Bishop for this ministry. We currently have 12 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.

As Verger of this Parish, it is my pleasure to work with the Acolytes, Lectors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers …

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.

This past year three members of the Altar Guild attended an Altar Guild workshop sponsored by the diocese. The workshop was very informative in addition to providing a valuable opportunity for sharing ideas and learning about other Altar Guilds in the diocese.

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, and are in addition to collections made during Christmas and Easter. The donations help to make the Flower Guild a self-sustaining ministry, and we thank everyone who has made donations throughout the year.

The guild currently has 13 members, listed below. In 2019 we hope to increase our membership and perspective new members are encouraged to contact one of the co-chairs with interest. We invite any parishioners interested in this ministry to join us.

Members of the Flower Guild:
Angela Barone
Allison Bodenmann
Alice Dean
Margaret DeLillo
Marie Dumas
Patrice Fitzpatrick - Chair
Etta Gumbs
Mildred Johnson
Emily Kane
Colette Phipps
Janet Salvatore
Catherine Scinta
Cherie Sigward

SERVICE
THE SECOND PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE

This is a new Committee formed by Father Matt to oversee and coordinate all of our Children's Ministries. The Committee brings together Church School, Children's Choir, Confirmation Class, Christmas Pageant, Vacation Bible School, and Youth Group Chairs and leaders into one room for calendar and event planning, leadership development, and new initiatives and ideas. We meet quarterly. We are planning an-as-yet-to-be-determined event for all families in the Spring or early summer which will bring together all of our different Children's Ministries and families.

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 2017-2018 was led by Father Matt, Deacon Katie, and Michael Kurth. We had eight youth confirmands. Our 2018-2019 is led by Father Matt, Deacon Katie, and Michael Moynihan. We have seven youth confirmands.

Following that day's *Come As You Are* service we are planning a Youth/ Confirmation Cookout on 5:30 p.m. Sunday, May 19, 2019, for next year's, this year's, and past year's Confirmation Class Youth (in other words 7th grade through 12th grade). Please put this date in your calendar.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

CHURCH SCHOOL

Our 2017-2018 Church School was co-chaired by Father Matt, Eileen Peluso, and Michael Kurth. Father Matt programmed the year and organized the calendar. Eileen ran the Church School each week, organized and recruited teachers, planned special events, and oversaw all supplies. Michael assisted Father Matt and Eileen, and made regular visits to the Church School each Sunday to establish a bond between the clergy and the children. We began several events that have proven very popular including our annual Halloween Costume Party, Christmas Tree Decorating, Ornament Making, and Instructed Eucharist for Children led by the Rector. We also built upon long-standing events like the Last Supper Reenactment before Holy Week and end of year Scavenger Hunt.

The Church School also worked with the Christmas Pageant organizers ensuring that the calendar and volunteers could benefit both ministries. In the summer Vacation Bible School was offered for the first time which helped serve as a summer anchor for our Children's Ministries, and all of the children who participated in it have been active in Church School in 2018-2019.

Our 2018-2019 year began with a few changes. Michael Kurth was ordained priest and called to Christ's Church Rye as Curate. Canon Susan was called to Christ Church as part-time Associate. This transition left the core of our leadership team intact and the addition of Susan has allowed all of the clergy to make regular visits (as Michael did) to the Church School on Sundays. This has proven to be a wonderful way to build up the relationship between the children and the clergy.

Each week, we welcome somewhere between fifteen to thirty children and 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: Curtis Chase, Shannon Corley, Janet Kornfeld, Sarah McKee, Pat O'Byrne, Kristine Valerio, and our many volunteers throughout the year. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead and Mrs. Eileen Peluso

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The 2018 Christ Church Christmas Pageant, "Come to the Stable," played to a full house of parishioners, parents, grandparents and neighbors in Hoag Hall on Sunday, December 16th, at 4:00pm. The new script by director Michael Fawcett explained how St. Francis of Assisi

influenced the way we celebrate the Nativity. He created the first living Nativity Scene on Christmas Eve of 1220, inspiring every Living Nativity and creche since.

The heart-warming program featured Fawcett's portrayal of St. Francis, including his original setting of the Prayer of St. Francis; traditional carols by the audience; three songs by the entire cast of 23 children, including two Fawcett originals; two songs by our Children's Choir; and the highlight for many, Aeden Pearl, as Joseph, singing Michael Card's "Joseph's Song."

This year we held 3 Wednesday evening rehearsals, followed by pizza, and a Saturday morning rehearsal on the 15th. Michael also held 2 other voluntary Saturday morning rehearsals, which were attended by half the cast. We could always use more rehearsal, in particular a tech run-through with sound. Ably assisting Mr. Fawcett were Shannon Corley and former star pageanter, Scarlett Carroll. The performance was enhanced by lights loaned by Bob Rendon of PRG through John Hasting, and sound system loaned by Lois Colombo, through and operated by Walter Roberts. Many thanks to the above contributors and assistants; to Jeffrey Hoffman for Musical Accompaniment; to Michael Moynihan and the Thursday Morning Bible Study Group for hosting the reception; and to the cast listed below, and their parents.

Narrator:	Liam Mead
Mary:	Madison Salvatore
The Angel Gabriel:	Kamryn Randall, *soloist*
Census Taker:	Christopher Ganpat
Innkeeper:	Arianna Salvatore
Joseph:	Aedan Pearl
Donkey:	Riley McGrory, *soloist*
Cow:	Charlie McKee, *soloist*
Dove:	Sofia Ironside, *soloist*
Shepherds:	Harris Brand, Jason Ganpat, Adeline McKee, Aiden Munroe, Riley Salvatore, Xavier Valade
Sheep:	Nils Agerberg, Noah Agerberg, *soloist*, Kenzie Munroe
Angels:	Amelia Aslani-Far, Amelie Valade
Wise Men:	Bates Bland, Courtland Jones, Nicholas Mead

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Fawcett

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2018 saw our first ever summer Vacation Bible School. It was offered on August 21-23. Twelve campers, aged 3 to 12 years, enjoyed three mornings of bible lessons, daily music and singing supervised by Jeffrey Hoffman, and a scavenger hunt to find interesting features of the church - both inside and outdoors.

Each camper made a tie-dyed t-shirt with the parish logo on the front; all the campers joined together to make a banner featuring a photo of each, which was presented to Father Matt and the entire parish on the first Sunday of Church School in September. It now hangs in Hoag Hall.

Eight adult counselors and six teen counselors supervised lots of outdoor play, including daily water fun on the "Slip and Slide", a kickball tournament, and pony rides led by Michael Moynihan.

Snacks based on each day's Bible lesson were a huge hit, as was the ice cream social which campers and counselors shared on the last day of camp. Each camper received a Certificate of Recognition from camp leaders Carla Carroll and Margo Hastings, signed by Father Matt.

Dates for this summer's VBS have already been scheduled, from August 19-22. An extra day has been added, based on the success of last year's camp.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Carol

ADULT CHRISTIAN LEARNING

Our ministry is in its fourth 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.

For the past few years we have been working without any budget. Fortunately, this did not hinder our ability to offer excellent and meaningful programs. We have relied on the depth and breadth of the talent we have in our own parish. Everyone has been very willing to share their knowledge, skills and insights with those who attend. Depending on the program we have anywhere from 15 to 40 people attending. We serve refreshments at every program and have been told that this is an important part of our ministry. This is supported by anonymous donations.

Some of this year's programs were:

"Notes from the Holy Land" – Photos and stories of the combined Christ Church and Immanual Church-On-The-Hill Pilgrimage, given by Father Matt.

"Approaching the Faith of Mohammed: What a Christian Should Know" given by Canon Susan.

"Christian Witness in the Middle East" given by John Lent.

The members of this ministry meet with some frequency. It is a hardworking, committed, and collegial group. When we meet it is a fellowship of ideas and interests. The ministry is grateful for the advice and guidance of Father Matt.

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 two Thursdays…Thanksgiving Day, and the Thursday between Christmas and New Year's 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 and particular books of the Bible, 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. We also celebrate milestones together, like birthdays, as well as share and prayer for personal burdens and concern. This year we even celebrated a 90th birthday. When one of our member's daughter inquired as to her mother's wishes for her birthday, this is where and with whom she wanted to spend it. 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

OUTREACH

"Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me." – Matthew 25:40.

In 2018, 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. The Outreach Committee wishes to thank all our parishioners who so generously participated in one form or another in our 2018 Outreach efforts.

Summary of 2018 Parishioner Engagement Activities

- Brown Bag Lunch Program - In 2018, Christ Church completed its second 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 supplies and gathering a group of parishioners to prepare sandwiches, pack bags and distribute lunches to 70-80 people in New Rochelle. In 2018, Father Matt and members of the Youth Group provided an additional day of lunches on President's Day. In 2018, program expenses were approximately $1,967 which were funded exclusively from the sales of holiday and Mother's Day cards. These costs would have been even higher had it not been for the generous monthly donations of cookies and juice boxes from parishioners. Our special thanks to the Men's Group for making the sandwiches each month and to the volunteers who distribute the lunches on Thursday mornings.
- Cereal Drive - In conjunction with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper parishioners donated cereal and other food items which were delivered to WestHELP in Mount Vernon which provides transitional housing for families with children.
- Easter Appeal - Parishioners donated $3,335 for the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem which supports the marginalized people served by Episcopal schools and hospitals in the Holy land.

- Clothing Drive - As part of Christ Church's Tag Sale held in June, parishioners donated 26 bags of clothing which were given to St. Vincent's Hospital in Harrison for participants in their inpatient substance abuse and psychiatric treatment programs. Remaining household items from the Tag Sale were also given to St. Vincent's for use in their residency program.
- Episcopal Charities Sunday – A total of $1,065 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.
- Mount Vernon Animal Shelter – In connection with the Blessing of the Animals in October, members of Christ Church donated dog food, cat food, kitty litter and cleaning supplies for the shelter.
- Winter Clothing Drive for Hearts to Homes for Refugees (HHR) - In November, parishioners donated winter clothing/boots to HHR as well as volunteered to collect and sort the clothing which benefitted recently resettled refugee families in Westchester county.
- Thanksgiving-in-a-Box - Christ Church families once again participated in the annual Thanksgiving dinner drive with other houses of worship in Pelham. As a result, a record-breaking number of 880 dinners were delivered to needy families in Westchester county. Special thanks to Beth Conway, who has faithfully coordinated this effort for Christ Church for many years.
- MAC Angels Foundation - MAC Angels is an ALS support group located in Port Chester whose mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals, families and caregivers affected by ALS ("Lou Gehrig's Disease"). In 2018, members of Christ Church were invited to volunteer to support their "Hot Cocoa Run" Fundraiser. Additionally, an anonymous parishioner organized the private donation of 25 Christmas toys and gifts to a family that had recently lost their mother to ALS.
- Winter Clothing Donations to Trinity St. Paul's in New Rochelle – In December, with the assistance of Sts. Peter and Paul and St. Ursula Catholic Church in Mount Vernon, the Outreach Committee was able to deliver 15 bags of winter clothing to Trinity St. Paul's in New Rochelle for distribution to working poor and homeless families.
- Glove Tree – For the second year in a row, members of Christ Church generously donated gloves, socks and scarves for men, women and children on the Glove Tree in the Parish Hall during Advent and Christmas time. More than 290 individual items were collected and distributed to those in need through the Trinity St. Paul's Brown Bag Lunch Program in New Rochelle.

Summary of 2018 Outreach Grants

In addition to the parishioner engagement activities noted above, the Vestry approved the Outreach Committee's recommendation to provide $6500 in financial support to the following organizations:

- $2000 to Community Service Associates in Mount Vernon which serves a full nutritious dinner four nights a week to anyone in need.

- $1500 to Hope Community Soup Kitchen which runs both a food pantry and a soup kitchen in New Rochelle.
- $1500 to Kairos Outside which helps provide a support network for women with incarcerated family members.
- $1500 to St. Christopher's Inn which is a recovery house helping addicts of all types, especially opioid addiction in young men.

We believe that helping those in need is a fundamental tenet of our Christian faith and our Episcopal heritage. As budgetary constraints have reduced the amount of financial support available for Outreach efforts at Christ Church, the Committee wishes to once again thank parishioners for their in-kind donations and their cash contributions. Your generosity makes our community a kinder and better place for all who live here.

The Outreach Committee welcomes suggestions and new ideas from all parishioners. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Outreach Committee, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Dumas (Co-chair), Patrice Fitzpatrick, Etta Gumbs (Vestry Liaison), Melo Jones, Jackie Kraft 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 and outside the parish office. Following the Eucharist every Sunday, Prayers for Healing with the anointing of Holy Oil are offered by Father Matt, Canon Susan, or Deacon Katie. Come to the altar and tell the priest or deacon what you want to pray for. There are a group of people who are willing to give rides to parishioners who are in need of transportation, and many parishioners have taken advantage of this ministry – thank you to all who offer rides. 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

DEACON KATIE'S REPORT

It has been a year of great times and not such great times for many in our parish.

The expression "fall on your knees" has a new meaning for several of our parishioners. One fell last year and crushed her knee. She has just recently been back to church and walking much better. At the time of writing this report two are still hospitalized from falling and both with serious knee injuries.

That said, there have been many good times for us all. The 175th Anniversary was a stunning success.

Michael Kurth's ordination was beautiful. He remains in our Clericus since he is now the curate at Christ's Church in Rye.

And now we have Canon Susan with us. What a great addition to the church.

We have prayers for healing every Sunday and the pastoral visits are shared now.
Helping Matt with the confirmation class is, as always, a pleasure and privilege. I am amazed by some of them in their knowledge of the bible.

The senior lunches have been successful and growing in number. And thanks again to Didi Hayduk for the use of the Shenorock Club for our end of year lunch. Due to the 175th anniversary party and all the other events we didn't have a fall lunch, but we did have our Christmas lunch. We most certainly have grown in size and this year moved to the parish hall which turned out to be a great luncheon.

I continue to serve on the board of Meals on Wheels for the Rye/Port Chester area, and deliver meals.
Once a month I work at the soup kitchen in Port Chester, helping to prepare the meal and then serving.

I have a bible study group that meets weekly at my home. We have been meeting for close to 20 years. We bring our prayer needs each week and then pray together, naming those needs. It is a grounding and very pivotal point in my week. We often follow the prayer with meditation.

I feel as joyful in being your Deacon as I did when I first came to Christ Church 10 years ago.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Katie Lawrence

CANON SUSAN'S REPORT

Having begun my work among you in September of 2018, I have been privileged to exercise a new ministry in my retirement from full-time work. While serving part-time, I have been able to preach and celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays as needed, but also to provide pastoral care: anointing after services, pastoral counseling, hearing confessions, and bringing the Eucharist to parishioners in hospitals or at home as needed. Along with Fr. Matt and Deacon Katie I have participated in the Sound Shore Clericus meetings and attended Diocesan Convention. At the invitation of the Adult Christian Education Committee I have spoken in an evening forum about Muslim-Christian relations and will be involved in further programs this spring. Working with the Women's Connection I have served as a speaker at their opening luncheon in the fall and am engaged in the coordination of two more programs between now and the summer. Although I was unable to attend the anniversary festivities in October I did participate in the Silent Auction by offering a series of four Chair Yoga classes, which have just been completed. With some tweaking of the schedule and consultation with parishioners I hope to offer those classes again, with a more explicit focus on meditation and preparation for prayer.

All in all it has been a pleasure to work in the mission fields of Christ Church, Pelham and I look forward to more in the months ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Susan Harriss

COMMUNITY
THE THIRD PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

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. More than anything we need parents who want to co-chair the Youth Group with me. Ideally, we'd have three co-chairs from three different families. That would give us an anchor of three families when planning any event.

In the 2017-2018 program year we made and served sandwiches at Trinity Saint Paul's in August and again on Presidents' Day, 2018. We planned several trips in 2017-2018, but we did not have enough interest to move beyond the planning stage.

Our monthly *Come As You Are* service was originally designed to appeal to teens and families who had other commitments on Sunday mornings. Confirmation Classes are now offered in conjunction with *Come As You Are* and this has proven to be a good way to ensure that we always have a sizable congregation at that service. The service is about 40 minutes long, includes very well-known hymns, takes place in candlelight, and teens always read the lessons.

In 2018 teens assisted as Counselors at our Vacation Bible School and at the Pageant and we plan for that again in 2019. We are planning to make and serve sandwiches at Trinity Saint Paul's on Presidents' Day, 2019 and also once over the summer. In Mud Week we are planning a trip to NYC to visit the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine on Thursday, February 21, 2019 (during Mud Week).

Following that day's *Come As You Are* service we are planning a Youth/ Confirmation Cookout on 5:30 p.m. Sunday, May 19, 2019, for next year's, this year's, and past year's Confirmation Class Youth (in other words 7th grade through 12th grade). Please put this date in your calendar.

We need volunteer, lay leadership and involvement from parents if our youth programs are going to grow. I think that it will be vital for our parents with teens to help. If you are interested in co-chairing the Youth Group with me, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

Fellowship Committee

Bringing about Fellowship in the church is one of the most important aspects of togetherness. Striving to bring about this togetherness, the Fellowship Committee works diligently to plan events and to engage parishioners.

As of September 1, 2018 - Jackie Kraft and Janet Salvatore have led this Committee and look forward to many events, adventures and "Fellowship" with all members of Christ Church. Along with overseeing both our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. weekly coffee hours, so far we have helped in coordinating receptions for two funerals, a "Welcome Back" in September, the 175th Anniversary Coffee Hour, a Salad Fest for All Saints Day, hosted not one, but TWO Thanksgiving Dinners, The Greening of the Church and this year's Annual Meeting Brunch.

The 2019 upcoming Fellowship Events include: a Candlemas Dinner, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Easter Eve Reception, Bishop's Visit for Confirmation, Ascension Day Steak Dinner, Parish Picnic, Oktoberfest Dinner, Stewardship Meeting Brunch and Christmas Day "Brunch" - along with whatever reception pops up along the way . . . and as always looking forward to A Parish Tag Sale either this spring or next fall.

We look forward to welcoming more people to the Committee, we can always use help and new ideas!!! Please join us at our next Fellowship Committee meeting on Sunday, February 10, at 11:15 a.m. after the 10:00 a.m. Service in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Kraft and Janet Salvatore, Co-Chairs

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.

Charles Phipps and the Men's Group sponsored a Jazz concert in September that packed the house and blew the roof off the joint (figuratively… the roof is fine). We are planning more concerts in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Women's Connection hosted two events in 2018.

Angela Barone and Charlette Finch co-chaired a potluck luncheon on October 28. Approximately fifty parishioners attended and provided an array of dishes. During lunch the attendees had time to catch up with one another and make new friends. The featured speaker was Canon Susan Harriss who shared her path to the priesthood and spoke about her family history in the Salvation Army.

Laura and Andrew Hibbler warmly opened their home to host the Christmas Cookie Exchange on December 7. Everyone enjoyed talking and sampling the various holiday treats and had the added bonus of being able to take home a few treats.

The Women's Connection is grateful to Canon Harriss, Angela Barone, Charlette Finch and Laura and Andrew Hibbler for volunteering their time and talent. Presently, The Women's Connection is without a permanent chairperson. If you would like to serve as the Women's Connection chairperson for 2019 please contact Father Matt or our Senior Warden, Jeff Bodenmann.

Etta Gumbs is the vestry liaison for the Women's Connection. Please reach out to Etta if you have an idea for a future Women's Connection event or would like to host an event.

Respectfully submitted,
Etta Gumbs

FOUNDATION
THE FOURTH PILLAR OF CHRIST CHURCH

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

In a year that brought an unprecedented number of major events, from completion of the Church's new roof to celebrations of its 175th Anniversary, the Communications Committee had plenty of work to do. In addition to following these and other stories in Parish Notes each week, we carried longer pieces and plenty of photos in Sounding's, the church's (hopefully) quarterly newsletter. Among those was a series of articles in the most recent, 31-page issue about August's Holy Land Pilgrimage made by Father Matt and over a dozen parishioners.

And then there were 2018's special projects. Those included production of a handsome 10-page history of Christ Church published on the eve of the eve of the celebratory party/dinner in October, and a brochure late last winter on the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ scheduled for installation late this year.

As always, our goal is to spread the news of all the parish does and in the process draw everyone closer together inspiring us to do even more--and to have a grand time in the process.

To do this we rely on contributions of time, talent and love from a growing corps of committee members who submit stories and photos and help us share the joys of Summer Bible Camp, sausage making and more. Under Editor Missy Kisob Soundings has become a self-sustaining success drawing in ever more volunteers and happy comments from readers.

We welcome new members as well as parishioners' poems, drawings, story suggestions, recipes, or whatever. Please contact committee chair Erik Ipsen at erikipsen@me.com, or Soundings Editor Missy Kisob at kisob@msn.com.

Our website http.//Christchurchpelham.org/ and our Facebook page also play vital roles in keeping parishioners, as well as the broader community aware of the church and all it does in case they ever want to join us.

We thank our committee members, most of whom play active roles on Team Soundings. They are Missy Kisob, Etta Gumbs, Carla and Scarlet (youth correspondent) Carroll, Lily Solmssen Moureaux, Barbara Nelson, and Marion Altieri. We also thank our advisors, Father Matt and Kari Black, as well as Marie Main for helping us do what we do. Thanks also to parish staff and lay-committee leaders who work hard to keep the church calendar up to date

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Ipsen and Missy Kisob

BUILDINGS MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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 2018, Christ Church adjusted its relationship with Parish Property Management (PPM). We continue to utilize the services of their regional manager who regularly reviews the status of the plant, advises on annual service agreements, arranges for the securing of, and the review of bids when necessary, advises on rental rates for our tenants, and arranges for repairs and improvements to be completed as needed. We no longer utilize PPM's handyman services at our facility. As a result, our annual financial commitment has been renegotiated and is lower than it was in 2016 and 2017.

In 2018 the Buildings Committee was kept very busy with roofs! After many years of planning and review, the success of the capital campaign allowed the parish to begin work on the roof immediately over the church (the "castle bits"). The flat roof was removed and replaced, as was the crenelated stone parapet which was rebuilt with the inclusion of copper through wall flashing.

Another exciting Buildings Committee project included grant writing with great hopes of paying for the 1960's roof and gutters over the Ranck Building. In October 2018 the parish was notified that joint grants from the Diocese Property Support Committee ($60,000) and from the Bedell Fund in Bedford ($115,000) were being awarded to Christ Church. These funds will pay for the full replacement cost of the Ranck Building roof needs. We are grateful to the people on the Property Support Committee (especially the chair Michael Rebic), to the volunteers on the Bedell Fund Committee (especially our liaison Joe Maybank) and to Russ Watsky (our roof consultant) for all of their assistance during this 11-month grant proposal process.

In addition to roof projects, here is a partial list of 2018 Buildings projects beyond roofs:

- Exterminator, alarm system, fire extinguisher, and other regular maintenance visits to the parish
- Air Conditioning repairs
- Re-installing the Roosevelt Plaque (with gratitude to the anonymous parishioner/donor who helped to pay for this project)

- Plumbing improvements in the Rectory
- New drop down stair case for access to the attic
- Replacement of rotted out bilco door access to the crypt area
- Repair over-filling issue with church building boiler
- Miscellaneous buildings and locksmith repairs

Plans for 2019 Buildings Budget pending budget approval include:

- Glass window inserts for administrative offices to comply with Safe Church Policies
- Automatic closer for parish hall double doors
- Catch basin and parking lot drainage repairs (holdover from the Big Dig)
- Painting and repair of the garage door at the Rectory
- Oil space heater for the narthex
- Additional projects as funding allows

Plans for Capital Campaign Projects include:

- Bolton altar area plaster work
- Address electrical needs in the Undercroft
- Repair/replace lintels and windows in the Undercroft
- Handicap ramp compliance coming out of the Parish Hall
- Protective covering and repair of back church windows (south elevation)
- Repair steps from driveway to front entrance of the Rectory
- Slate Roof replacement over the Ranck Building (to be paid for by grants)
- Additional projects as funding allows

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

Respectfully submitted,
Kari Black and Father Matt
Members of the 2018 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 2018 tenant and rental year. Our Undercroft is busy with AA groups, Gym Dandy, and various scheduled rentals. However, we have seen two tenants move on this year: The New Freedom Church/Assemblies of God pastor was too ill to continue in his ministry. We wish him well on his long path to healing. And our long-term tenant, Alex Abend (Fencing Coach), has secured his own fencing studio in Queens.

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.

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, 27 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**.**

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 and Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., with additional Gym Dandy birthday parties on several Saturday and Sunday 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. If you have a preschooler and are interested, check out the Gym Dandy website for more information: http://www.gymdandyonline.com/.

Pelham Promenaders
This is a square-dancing group that meets in the Parish Hall alternate Sunday afternoons from September – June. The Pelham Promenaders have been renting from us since 2008.

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.

In addition to these ongoing tenant relationships, 2018 has been a busy year in renting our beautiful Parish Hall for private parties, wedding receptions, meetings, etc. (the Bouncy Castle has returned yet another year, celebrating our young parishioner's birthday. We have rented out the Library and the Undercroft for kid (and grown-up) birthday parties, scout troop leader dinners. Meeting space is provided as outreach to non-profit organizations such as the Girl Scouts Leaders, Pelham Cub Scouts and the Pelham Rowing Association.
Contact marie@christchurchpelham.org if you would like to have your next event in one of our great locations.

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. Moreover, he undertakes other tasks that we require such as removing the Rectory fence promptly and in a cost effective manner.

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. As a result, with his help and advice our on-going tree program of regular pruning and removal of unhealthy trees we have had no damage to our buildings and hardscape.

As we use our outdoor space more for worship and gatherings there will be more wear and tear especially on the grassy area. This area continues to resist growing grass for our activities so more attention will have to be given there.

In the past few years the invasive vines such a porcelain berry and kudzu have begun to expand their territory. There has been a noticeable increase in these vines near the Rectory and along the fence line between the field and Priory Lane. I recommend strongly that we start a program of removal before the situation gets out of hand.

We continue our annual program of poison ivy removal around the children's playground and other areas where people congregate.

In addition, as Grounds chair strongly I recommend that we investigate the replacement or refurbishment of the front sign. I will undertake this task and report to the Vestry. My thanks

go to Eric Ipsen for his help in weeding the succulent garden in the front. Walter Roberts is also a greet help to this ministry.

In addition, my thanks also go to Ed Blue and his family crew who decorate the outside tree. This never fails to make for a joyful beginning of the Advent season.

If any one is interested in joining this ministry, please let me know. It would be wonderful to have fresh eyes and free hands.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Dean, Grounds Chairperson

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

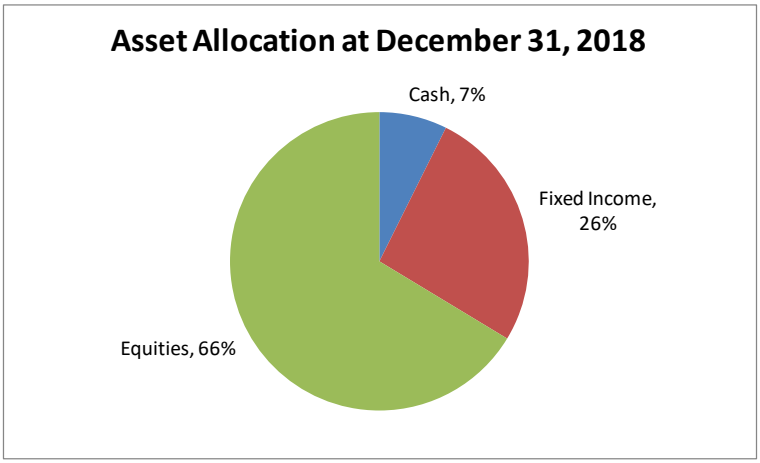
2018 Investment Committee Activity
The Investment Committee is responsible for overseeing the investment of the endowment, currently approximately $3.1 million. The committee of seven people meets regularly and as needed, in person or via conference call; in 2018, the committee met twice. Members of the committee are: David Jeffries and Margaret Young (co-chairs), Brandon Bethea, Pamela Lent, Iain MacInnis, Michael Micciche, and Melissa Roddy. Iain MacInnis has resigned from the committee, which is now actively seeking one or more new members.

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. For their service, we pay Granite Group a fee of 50 basis points annually, or .5%; in addition, there are reporting fees and fees paid to outside managers. These fees totaled approximately $22,000 for 2018. 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 2018:

Balance at December 31, 2017	$3,494,173
Contributions (other than pledge payments)	$4,529
Withdrawals in 2018:	
For ongoing church operations	($154,372)
Investment Fees:	(22,009)
Total Withdrawals:	(176,381)
Investment Returns:	(159,166)
Balance at December 31, 2018	$3,163,155

The asset allocation as of December 31, 2018 was as follows:



The turmoil in the markets in 2018, particularly at year end, has been widely reported in the general media. For the calendar year, the S&P 500 fell 6.2%, the Dow dropped 5.6% and the Nasdaq Composite shed 3.9%, marking the worst annual performance for all three major market indices since 2008. Despite record highs reached in September, there were sharp falls in both February and December, with the S&P 500 down 14.5% from its highpoint. The underlying causes of the late slump in stocks were a less robust economic performance, the prospect of a trade war with China, slowing growth in China, and political pressure on the Federal Reserve. Uncharacteristically, bond prices also dropped as the Federal Reserve, looking at strong job growth and solid corporate earnings, raised interest rates and suggested further increases into 2019.

Against this backdrop, the endowment fell 5.1% as measured before withdrawal activity, to close the year at $3.1 million. The endowment remains below the highpoint $3.8 million reached at 12/31/2007, but still above the recent low of $2.6 million at 12/31/2008. The investment strategy, with a goal of reducing the church's exposure to losses, recognizing that this involves giving up some appreciation, appears to be sound; the decline in a comparable

weighted average benchmark shows that the portfolio might have declined 6.3%. We remain pleased with the committee's decision, in 2017, to hold a higher balance in cash, and also in our decision earlier in 2018 to shorten the duration in the bond portfolio.

For 2019, the outlook remains unsettled. Potential negative influences include rising rates, slowing global growth (complicated by the March deadline for Brexit), the disproportionate role played by tech stocks, and the markets' reactions to political proclamations. However, if the Fed can thread a middle ground on rates and if trade war fears are allayed, many analysts still see the possibility of a reasonably good stock market performance in 2019.

Withdrawals

Over the last 10 years, a total of $1.5 million has been withdrawn to fund church operations and capital needs. In January 2018 the Vestry approved a 5.0% draw from the main endowment to supplement the annual operating budget; this equated to a 4.8% draw from the total endowment, keeping within the strict guidelines it set in prior years (with a targeted draw of ≤ 5%). The draw is calculated as a percentage of the 3-year rolling average of the endowment's value. Endowment draws of 4.5% - 5% are consistent with standard practices and guidance for endowments held by many not-for-profit institutions, although the Investment Committee has regularly suggested to the Vestry that it try to reduce the endowment draw, in order to ensure the long-term viability of the endowment. A lower endowment draw is, of course, difficult without commensurate increases in pledges or cuts in programming.

FUNDRAISING 2018

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

Fundraising in 2018 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 this year without the vision, time and talent of our dynamic Tag Sale Committee of Jackie Kraft, Eileen Wolfe, Jennifer Alleyne and an army of volunteers, and boundless donations.

How Funds Were Raised

	Total
Tag Sales, May 6	$ 7,050.00
TOTAL	**$ 7,050.00**

Respectfully submitted, Marie Dumas

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Christ Church Stewardship Committee in 2018 decided to take a different approach to the Pledging campaign for 2019. This year we produced a series of reports that highlighted various financial related activities of the Church. In a series of three mailings to all parishioners we covered:

- Where Our Money Comes From & How We Spend It
- Endowment, Buildings & Grounds
- Stewardship & Pledging

On Sunday November 4 parishioners presented their pledge cards at the Bolton Altar and a celebration with donuts, coffee, and mimosas was held after both the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services.

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 among the highest total in more than 10 years.

Stewardship is not only about money, but also the time and talent of the many parishioners who help make us a thriving parish. In that we regard, during the annual meeting this year we intend to call attention to those who have been so generous of both.

Christ Church Preliminary Pledging Summary (as of 1/17/19)

	Number of Pledges	# Chg. From Last Yr.	Total $ Pledged	$ Chg From Last Yr.	Average Pledge
Increased	38	1	$ 147,764	$ 19,589	$ 3,889
Decreased.	13	-11	$ 40,100	$ -20,700	$ 3,085
Same	53	4	$ 173,880	$ -	$ 3,281
New	13	-5	$ 8,154	$ 7,314	$ 627
Hoped For*	21	14	$ 15,950		$ 760
Total	138	8	$ 385,848	$ 6,203	$ 2,796
Moved/Left			-	-$12,560	
	Total		$ 385,848	-$6,357	

If you have not submitted an Estimate of Giving Card for 2019, 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, John Fox (Chair), Monica King, Gavin Leckie, Father Matthew Mead, Colette Phipps, Melo Jones.

TREASURER'S REPORT 2018

Overview of the 2018 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 2018, total contributions increased by $5,500, or 1.4% over 2017; this was $1,400 below the budgeted amount. Rental income decreased by $3,500, ($2,800 below budget), principally due to the loss of one of our largest tenants in the latter part of the year. Fundraising exceeded the budget by $2,300, due to a very successful tag sale, but was below 2017 levels, as most of our fundraising efforts were rolled into the 175th Anniversary celebration and Capital Campaign. The endowment draw was on budget, and equated to 5.0% of the main endowment.

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

- Personnel expenses accounted for 48% of total expenses in 2018; this includes the salaries, benefits and related costs of the rector and staff. The 2018 expenditures reflect a 5.0% increase over 2017, principally due to the addition of Canon Susan Harriss, and were 0.5% over budget.
- The Diocesan Assessment represents our Parish's contribution to the Diocese of New York, to fund the operations of the Diocese. The 2018 expense of $77,370 was on budget.
- Worship expenses include music, childcare, pastoral care, and supplies for our services. Worship comprises 5% of the total budget; the 2018 expense was slightly below budget and 2.5% lower than 2017 levels.
- Service Expenses include those ministries that conduct and support the services that we provide to our parishioners, our community and our world. In 2018 service expenses were 1.9% below both the budget and the 2017 expenses. 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 2018 expenditures (net of the contributions made at the various fellowship events that offset the cost of these events) were 27% below budget and 15% below 2017 levels.
- 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 one-third of our total costs, and in 2018 were 6.5% lower than budget and 2.2% lower than 2017 levels. Expenses related to maintenance and repairs comprise the largest category, and also a source of the lower than anticipated costs, as a number of projects originally planned for 2018 were deferred. Note that this line item includes the costs of the contract with PPM, the company retained by the vestry in March of 2016 to manage our physical plant. Utility expense also came in lower than anticipated, due to a

$6,000 credit in the December gas bill. Con Edison has not yet confirmed this credit, so the 2018 expense may be artificially low.

The total 2018 operating expenses were 2.1% or $13,900 below budget, and 1.5% or $9,800 above 2017 expense levels.

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 2018. The donations that were not earmarked for a specific use were transferred to the endowment; a total of $4,530 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 2018, total GOR costs were $8,800.
- In 2018, we received a Next Steps Grant of $30,000 from the diocese; this one-time grant is allocated to help a congregation make the transition to self-supporting an additional priest. It funds Canon Susan from September 2018 until September 2019. After that we are required to fund her stipend if she is to stay.

Overall, the church ended the year with a surplus of $9,700, 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, and the utility expense/credit clarified.

In 2018 a total of $169,000 was spent on repairs to the church roof and related projects. These repairs were part of the 175th Anniversary projects, and were funded by proceeds from the capital campaign. These capital items are not reflected on the parish's operating statement.

The 2018 financial statement is presented on the following page. This statement includes the 2019 budget and actual figures for 2016 and 2017.

2019 Operating Budget

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer Financial Report Year Ended Dec. 31, 2018						
	2019	Year Ended Dec. 31, 2018				
	Annual	Prelim Actual	Budget	Variance		
	Budget	Thru Dec.	Thru Dec.	Over (Under)	2017	2016
INCOME						
Pledge Income	368,935	375,303	371,985	3,318	363,256	344,037
Plate	37,000	35,743	40,500	(4,757)	42,246	43,094
Fundraising	8,750	7,812	5,500	2,312	8,802	7,860
Rental Contribution	74,870	87,537	90,372	(2,835)	90,998	84,656
Income-Subtotal	489,555	506,395	508,357	(1,962)	505,302	479,647
Endowment Contrib.-Planned	152,713	154,373	154,373	-	155,799	160,726
Endowment Contrib.-Add'l		-		-	-	-
Leale Harper Contribution	1,910	1,910	1,850	60	1,847	1,835
TOTAL INCOME	**644,178**	**662,678**	**664,580**	**(1,902)**	**662,948**	**642,208**
EXPENSE						
Personnel						
Personnel Expenses	350,016	314,278	312,792	1,486	299,695	294,555
Dioscesan Assessment						
Diocesan Assessment	83,181	77,370	77,370	-	75,750	76,069
Worship						
Worship	1,925	1,720	1,825	(105)	1,728	1,838
Music	26,305	26,478	26,510	(32)	27,168	29,413
Childcare	2,600	2,500	2,600	(100)	2,600	2,600
Total Worship	30,830	30,698	30,935	(237)	31,496	33,851
Service						
Christian Education	1,400	1,392	1,600	(208)	1,386	2,819
Budgeted Clergy Discretionary	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Evangelism	250	100	250	(150)	714	485
Diaconate Support	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
Conventions & Seminars	1,700	2,053	1,900	153	1,660	3,013
Outreach	6,500	6,500	6,500	-	6,500	11,008
Total Service	10,850	11,045	11,250	(205)	11,260	20,325
Community						
Fellowship	4,150	3,346	4,235	(889)	3,946	3,061
Foundation						
Office Expense	33,801	36,054	35,452	602	30,983	31,510
Professional Services	13,100	12,140	12,140	-	12,140	11,540
Insurance	31,950	30,209	31,950	(1,741)	27,950	25,387
Utilities	63,400	51,248	57,910	(6,662)	54,287	52,761
Maintenance & Repairs	69,010	66,511	70,975	(4,464)	78,419	64,836
Grounds	19,825	19,128	18,768	360	14,971	21,043
Snow Plowing	3,500	2,325	4,500	(2,175)	3,700	1,050
Total Foundation	234,586	217,615	231,695	(14,080)	222,450	208,127
Total Expense	**713,613**	**654,352**	**668,277**	**(13,925)**	**644,597**	**635,988**
NET OPERATING INC. (EXP)	**(69,435)**	**8,326**	**(3,697)**	**12,023**	**18,351**	**6,220**
BELOW THE LINE EXP (INC)						
Recurring Items	7,958	7,437	8,934	(1,497)	8,134	6,067
One Time Activities, net	(21,185)	(8,815)	-	(8,815)	-	(1,225)
Garden of the Resurrection, net	21,124	8,800	9,827	(1,027)	10,186	(4,958)
Garden of the Res. Draw	(21,124)	(8,800)	(9,827)	1,027	(10,186)	4,958
Contributions	(2,000)	(4,530)	(2,000)	(2,530)	(1,650)	(19,185)
Transfer of Contrib. to Endow	2,000	4,530	2,000	2,530	1,650	18,895
Total Below the Line Exp (Inc)	(13,227)	(1,378)	8,934	(10,312)	8,134	4,552
NET INCOME (EXPENSE)	**(56,208)**	**9,704**	**(12,631)**	**22,335**	**10,217**	**1,668**

Each year, the Finance Committee is charged with developing an operating budget for the parish. The budget is submitted to the Vestry to review, amend and ultimately approve. The principal steps in developing the budget are as follows:

1. Develop revenue estimates, based on the stewardship campaign, tenant leases and historical trends for other sources of revenue
2. Gather information pertaining to 2019 expenses, including third party costs
3. Gather and review ministry planning forms submitted by committee heads
4. Review 2018 (and prior) operating expenses

The Church expenses fall into three general categories:

1. Items that are determined by third parties and are not optional. These include known amounts (i.e. Diocesan assessment, insurance premiums, copier leases) and amounts that can reasonably be estimated based on historical expenses, i.e. utilities
2. Items that are necessary on-going expenses, with limited opportunity for adjustment or reduction, i.e. postage, office expense.
3. Items about which the vestry has some discretion. These include personnel expenses (staffing and raises), as well as expenditures that could be considered discretionary. The largest of these are music, outreach and various buildings and/or grounds projects.

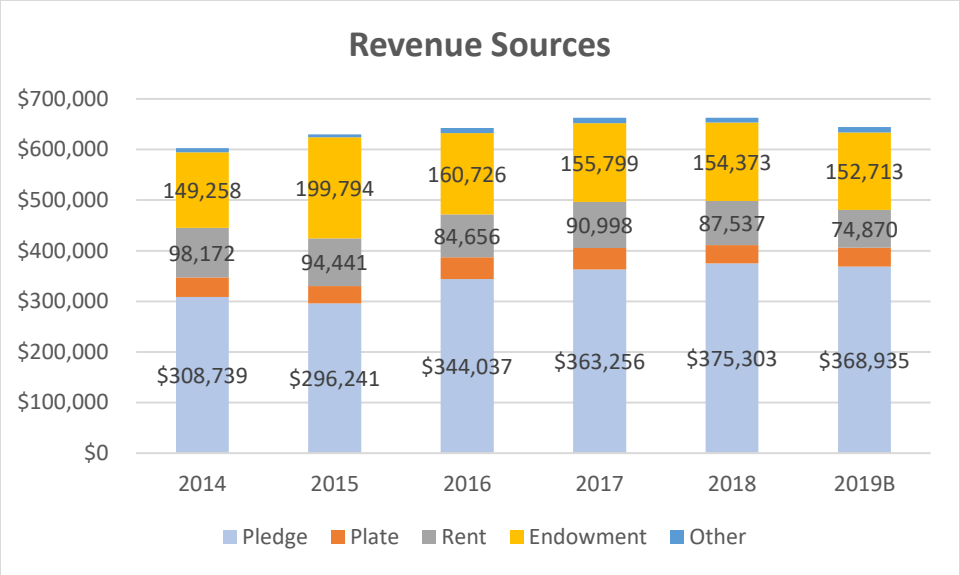
The 2019 budget presented on the preceding page reflects the results of these efforts, and is summarized below:

2019 Budget Summary

	2019B	2018 Actual
Revenues	$644,178	$662,678
Operating Expenses	713,163	654,352
Operating Income	($68,985)	$8,326
Below the Line Income (Expense)	13,227	1,378
	($55,758)	$9,704
Carryover from 2018	$9,704	
Net Income (Deficit)	($46,054)	

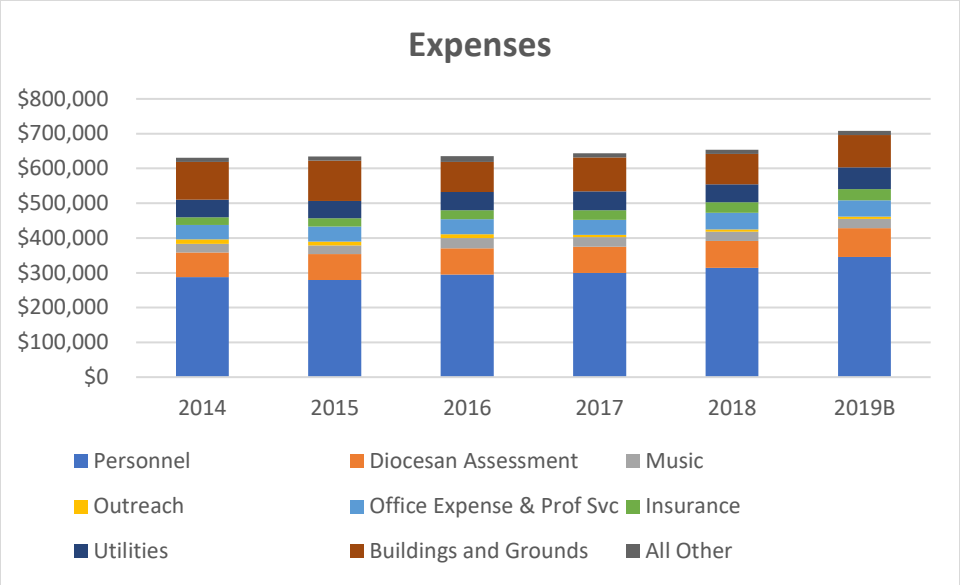
The shortfall reflected in the 2019 budget is a result of both lower revenues and increased expenses. While a contrast to the $9,700 surplus recorded in 2018, it must be noted that the 2018 expenses were artificially low. Absent the $6,000 utility credit and the deferred maintenance projects, 2018 would have recorded a deficit as well.

A more detailed discussion is presented on the following pages. The revenue and expense information for 2014 to 2018 are included to provide additional context for the 2019 budget.



Revenue Sources	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019B
Pledge	$308,739	$296,241	$344,037	$363,256	$375,303	$368,935
Plate	38,300	33,884	43,094	42,246	35,743	37,000
Rent	98,172	94,441	84,656	90,998	87,537	74,870
Endowment	149,258	199,794	160,726	155,799	154,373	152,713
Other	8,208	5,480	9,695	10,649	9,722	10,660
Total	$602,677	$629,840	$642,208	$662,948	$662,678	$644,178

- After three years of strong increases, Pledge revenue is forecast to decrease by $6,400. Our stewardship results were generally good but for a number of reasons, it falls short of where we need to be for 2019. The decline is attributed to shifts in the pledge base, and people who have moved away or died. The capital campaign may also have influenced pledging levels this year.
- Rent is forecast to be down by $12,700, primarily due to the loss of the New Freedom Church, which historically paid $10,000 to $12,000 per year. Also contributing to the decline is the fencing program, which no longer uses our facilities, and a reduction in the number of classes at Gym Dandy, resulting in lower rent.
- Note the 2015 endowment draw reflects the additional draw to fund the repairs to the rectory. Otherwise, the endowment draw was 5.0% in every year.



Expenses	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019B
Personnel	$287,762	$279,658	$294,555	$299,695	$314,278	$350,016
Diocesan Assessment	71,019	73,829	76,069	75,750	77,370	83,181
Music	24,667	25,570	29,413	27,168	26,478	26,305
Outreach	13,000	11,000	11,008	6,500	6,500	6,500
Office & Prof Svc Exp	40,984	43,024	43,050	43,123	48,194	46,901
Insurance	21,792	23,607	25,387	27,950	30,209	31,950
Utilities	51,010	50,273	52,761	54,287	51,248	62,950
Buildings and Grounds	108,936	115,351	86,929	97,090	87,964	92,335
Maintenance	8,255	8,492	40,440	47,505	42,828	40,010
Repairs	37,509	34,182	25,933	30,914	23,683	29,000
Special Projects	41,520	50,792	(1,537)	0	0	0
Snow Plowing	4,665	4,526	1,050	3,700	2,325	3,500
Grounds	16,987	17,359	21,043	14,971	19,128	19,825
All Other	12,289	13,306	16,816	13,034	12,111	13,025
Total Expenses	$631,459	$635,618	$635,988	$644,597	$654,352	$713,163

- All other expenses include Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism and Fellowship.
- Our 2018 Diocesan Assessment increased due to the growth in our revenues in recent years
- The increases in Personnel in 2018 and 2019 include the addition of Canon Susan. Her compensation is covered by the Next Steps Grant, which is not reflected in the above.
- The personnel line item includes Cost of Living increases for the staff, based on the Social Security Administration COLA of 2.8%.

- The 2018 utility expense incorporates a $6,000 credit which has not been confirmed and is not expected to recur. The 2019 budget is based on 2018 expense levels, excluding the credit.
- Buildings and Grounds:
  - The PPM contract began in 2016, and is reflected in the maintenance expense
  - 2016 special project expenses are net of $57,000 raised to cover costs
  - Special projects in 2014, 20115 and 2016 included repairs to the rectory, and the "pit"
  - In 2018 and 2019, the grounds budget reflects the addition of tree and shrub pruning
- 2018 and 2019 roofing and other repair expenses paid for by funds raised in the capital campaign are reflected "below the line" and are not part of the ordinary repair expenses in the operating budget.

Operating Expenses as a Percent of Total Expenses

Expenses (Percent of Total)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019B
Personnel	45.6%	44.0%	46.3%	46.5%	48.0%	49.1%
Diocesan Assessment	11.2%	11.6%	12.0%	11.8%	11.8%	11.7%
Music	3.9%	4.0%	4.6%	4.2%	4.0%	3.7%
Outreach	2.1%	1.7%	1.7%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%
Office & Prof Svc Exp	6.5%	6.8%	6.8%	6.7%	7.4%	6.6%
Insurance	3.5%	3.7%	4.0%	4.3%	4.6%	4.5%
Utilities	8.1%	7.9%	8.3%	8.4%	7.8%	8.8%
Buildings and Grounds	17.3%	18.1%	13.7%	15.1%	13.4%	12.9%
All Other	1.9%	2.1%	2.6%	2.0%	1.9%	1.8%

Our expenses have been increasing over time. Overall, our total expenses have increased by 12.5% between 2014 and the 2019 budget; this equates to an average annual compound increase of 2.5%. But the increases have not been evenly distributed; notably, personnel, insurance and utilities have increased by significantly more than the average, and now comprise a greater proportion of our total costs. Most of the expenses in these categories are items over which we have no control. At the same time, our revenues have increased by only 7%, or at an average annual rate of 1.3%. While some aspects of our revenue are beyond our control, most are not. We need to do a better job of insuring that our revenues keep pace with our costs.

A budget is a plan not a mandate. Things will change over the course of the year, but as things stand now, the prospect of a shortfall is very real. We are planning a Parish Meeting for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31, at 11:00 a.m. which will serve as an opportunity for everyone to ask questions about where our money comes from and where it goes. After that the Vestry will begin discerning how best to address any shortfall.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Calder, Treasurer

VESTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2018

When we come and worship every week it's easy to imagine that "church just happens". But there is considerable work involved in trying to live out our mission and to run and maintain a 6-building campus that sprawls over several acres with daily activity of about a dozen groups throughout the year. Church certainly is worship every Sunday but importantly, church is all the programs, ministries, presence, influence here at Christ Church and out in our community and the world.

The work of making church happen is directed by your vestry. I want to thank them all for their volunteer service this past year.

- Carol Ipsen - Warden
- Angela Barone
- Curtis Chase
- Alice K Dean
- Etta Gumbs
- Amy Heese
- Jack Kaufmann
- Gavin Leckie
- Colette Phipps
- Anne Calder – Treasurer
- Jackie Vigil – Clerk of the Vestry

It has been an extraordinary year for our church. We celebrated our 175th anniversary and took our place in a remarkable history that started before the Civil War. We laid the ground work for the next 175 years and sit in a good place for the future.

Your Vestry meets monthly to do the work required by NY State Law and NY Diocese Canon Law (listed below). This encompasses reviewing finances, buildings and committee activity status, upcoming events and specific needs and petitions of all of you.

The monthly meetings are announced and open to all parishioners. Some items discussed are confidential and visitors may be asked to step out for a time. But we want transparency in our discussions and decision making because while the vestry make church happen Christ Church belongs to all of us.

Much of what the vestry does involves being in relationship with both the Rector and with Committee Chairs outside of the vestry. 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 – all of us. The ministry work that happens on campus and beyond in the community is an ongoing culmination of prayer and actions with many hearts and hands addressing the concerns of the parish and the world. This happens 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.

Vestry Official & Legal 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.

I welcome your comments and concerns as does every member of the vestry. We need to know what you value and question about what is happening at our church.

You are also allowed to thank members of the vestry for their volunteer service on your behalf.

Here's to the next 175 years at Christ Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Bodenmann
Senior Warden

CHRIST CHURCH

Episcopal/Anglican

Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead*, Rector*
The Reverend Canon Susan C. Harriss, *Priest Associate*
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*

Wardens & Vestry

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

Ms. Angela Lore-Barone
Mr. Curtis Chase
Ms. Etta Gumbs
Ms. Alice Dean
Mr. John Fox
Ms. Amy Heese
Mr. Gavin Leckie
Mr. Jack Kaufmann
Ms. Colette Phipps

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated on Sundays at 8 and 10 a.m.
Prayers for healing *are offered at the Bolton Altar every Sunday following both the 8 and 10 o'clock liturgies.*
Morning Prayer *is read on Monday's, Tuesday's, & Wednesday's at 10:00 a.m. in the Library.*

† A Parish of the Diocese of New York †

Christ Church
The Parish of Christ the Redeemer
1415 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, New York 10803
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914.712.0526, *fax*
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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.