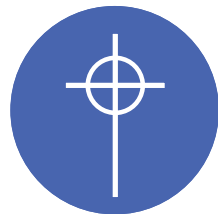
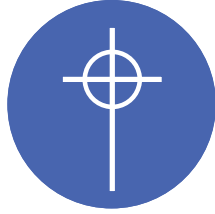




2019 Annual Reports



Christ Church Charlotte
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Christ Church Charlotte
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Our Mission

To engage, equip, and empower people to love God, care for each other and serve the world in the name of Christ.

Our Vision

We aspire to be Christ's Church in the world.

Our Core Values

We are a Christ-centered Episcopal Church rooted in scripture, tradition and reason; respectful of and strengthened by our differences. We are committed to being a loving community of support and spiritual growth; being faithful stewards of God's many blessings; and using God's gifts to serve the needs of our community and world.

We are inspired by the belief that with God's help we will accomplish whatever God calls us to do.

(Adopted by the Vestry, 2007)

2019 VESTRY

Bird Anderson
Nikki DeVillers
Bob Dooley
Doug Ey
Susan Hamilton
Hooper Hardison
Alex Kelly
David Kern
Carol Lorenz
Julie Marr
Sally Mitchener
Randall Mountcastle
Jane Showalter
Melissa Tolmie
Betsy Zarzour
Dick Parkhurst

RECTOR'S REPORT

By The Reverend Chip Edens

It has been remarkable year at Christ Church! We have seen many lives transformed through the tremendous numbers of ways and I am profoundly grateful to everyone for their commitment and generosity.

Last year we launched our Faith and Courage Initiative. We are aware the role that fear plays in our lives. How do we address fear? With faith and courage! To that end, the Faith and Courage Initiative has been to help our congregation refocus our mission on 6 priorities:

- Enriching the Worship Experience
- Cultivating Christian Formation
- Practicing Wellness and Support
- Nurturing a Connected Parish Community
- Building Diverse Relationships
- Working for A Just Community

We have taken steps throughout the year to invest and take action in each of these key areas. In the pages to follow you will hear from each our areas of ministry that will address our progress as a congregation. We are blessed to have an extraordinarily gifted staff and we are indebted to them for their courageous work.

Thank for your extraordinary commitment to Christ Church. We are in a strong position to carry out God's mission here in Charlotte and beyond, and we look forward to the opportunities to serve and make a difference in 2020.

With love and prayers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chip".

ASSOCIATE RECTORS

The Reverend Matt Holcombe

What an amazingly spirit-filled and memorable year it has been serving God and the people of Christ Church. As I look back over the past five years of ministry, I stand in awe of the dedication and giftedness of my fellow colleagues, the wonderful staff, and devoted parishioners that call Christ Church their spiritual home.

In the time I've had the privilege of working at Christ Church I've traveled the world on 10 pilgrimages, helped launch nearly 20 new ministries, supported 80 Faith Forum Speakers, and seen God in more people and places than I can remember. As the clergy support for the Spiritual Growth Commission, Adult Spiritual Formation Commission, Christ Church Kindergarten and Preschool (CCK), I've also had the honor over the years of supporting clergy transitions with our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries as well as the Outreach and Mission Ministries.

With five years of ministry under my belt, I enjoyed an unforgettable sabbatical with my family during the summer months. The time was used for rest, reflection, and renewal. It was a true gift and I'm extremely appreciative of my colleagues who filled in for me and supported me during this time away. I'm particularly grateful for Jenny Beaumont, Director of Adult Spiritual Formation, and Patricia Hamilton, Administrative Assistant for Adult Formation, for whom all things are made possible through their hard work and dedication. I'm also grateful for the leadership of Kelly Coley, Head of School for CCK and the tremendous work she has done over the past five years.

In November I announced that I was called to serve as the Rector of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It was a bittersweet moment followed by many precious moments and opportunities to give thanks to God for so many special people who have impacted by journey at Christ Church over the years, especially Chip, Lisa, Marty, Patty, Fred, John, Joshua, and Joan. I will forever be grateful for the many ways I was inspired, challenged, and encouraged to faithfully live out my call to be a priest in The Episcopal Church.

The Reverend Lisa Saunders

This year at Christ Church was outstanding in numerous ways.

- The pilgrimage to Montgomery, Alabama was powerful and enlightening, and I highly recommend everyone to participate.
- Along with Julie Marr, Ginny Cobb and Joyce Cmiel, I attended the Living Compass training conference in Chicago where we learned about the Living Compass tool for understanding and encouraging a holistic approach to wellness.
- The Wellness Commission developed a job description for a Wellness Director, and we began our search in April. We found Mollee Reitz in mid-summer, and she began her ministry in mid-August. Mollee has hit the ground running and exceeded our expectations for increasing awareness and educating about wellness. She also has helped parishioners connect with professional counselors and agencies for mental wellness as well as offered one-on-one counseling for parishioners.
- I was blessed with another trip to the Holy Land with Matt Holcombe and 35 others from Christ Church.
- A new support group was initiated in the spring for those who have a loved one who died by suicide. This group has met twice a month and become a strong and caring group.
- A new ministry was started at Southminster. Volunteers from Christ Church set up the livestream worship at a room at Southminster, and residents come to worship together. One Sunday in the fall, we offered "live" worship instead of livestream, and staff member Margaret Haigh came and played the piano and sang to the delight of all.
- A new colleague joined our clergy team this year. Joan Kilian is a warm, dedicated and talented priest, and we are all fortunate to have her at Christ Church.
- The year's only sad note is having to say goodbye to Matt Holcombe as he accepts a call to St. Michael's in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Matt has been a joy to work with, and I have learned so much from his gifts to collaborate, imagine, innovate, and inject a lively spirit of both fun and faith in all he does.

Serving at Christ Church continues to be a blessing for me. I am especially lucky to work with Jennifer Hamm who helps keep me organized as well as share with me in the ministry of pastoral care to the members of our spiritual home.

The Reverend Patty Rhyne

Together with Kathryn Saunders, Ainslie Wall, the Parish Life Commission, chaired by Alison Guggenheim, and the Hospitality Committee, chaired by Lauren McGuire, I am privileged to do ministry at Christ Church. I am called to create an intentionally welcoming and warm environment for all who enter our doors. This is possible because of the incredible leadership by which I'm surrounded and our loving and hospitable congregation.

The Young Adult group has grown steadily this year. We currently have over 600 young adults on our email and newsletter lists. We continued our Young Adult Sunday school class and the Young Adult Women's group chose Christian Essentials as their study for the year. Currently, sixteen women are enrolled. This course is also a path to Confirmation. We also offered two classes for young moms and young working women with our new Director of Wellness, Mollee Reitz, who talked about identity, stress and anxiety. We rounded out our program year with several social events and outreach opportunities such as Room in the Inn, the Habitat Build and Serve-a-bration.

Our Young Adult Leadership Initiative continued with quarterly and now monthly dinners led by the clergy highlighting one of the Christ Church priorities. This initiative encourages young adults to deepen their faith and learn more about Christ Church through fellowship, exploration and education. Our young adults continue to inspire and encourage me.

The Sages enjoyed another year of educational and fellowship opportunities. We continued the monthly Coffee and Conversation offerings which meet the second Wednesday of each month at 10am. With the help of volunteer Lynne McAdams, the Sages have a monthly program along with the now annual and popular Christmas Luncheon. The ECW hosted a tea for the Sages women in memory of Winston Paschall in May. It was a tremendous success. The women told stories of our much-loved friend and it was very meaningful for everyone who attended. The Sages opened their program year with an event that featured Mollee Reitz, our new Wellness Director, and it was well received. In September, I handed over the reins of the Sages ministry to Matt Holcombe who is already doing tremendous work with our Sages.

Christ Church is an incredible place to do ministry. I am beyond blessed to be a part of this clergy staff and to work alongside a generous, gifted, fun, and caring staff and parish.

Thank you for the privilege of serving in this place!

The Reverend Joan Kilian

Thank you for welcoming me into the Christ Church family in mid-February of this year. It has been a big transition from the Church and community of which I was a part before, and so many of you have gone out of your way to help me get acclimated and oriented. Thank you for your gracious hospitality – including repeating your names for me!

I have spent much of this year out and about in the community, visiting community partners, learning about Charlotte and its strengths and opportunities, and making connections with other Churches and agencies that try to address some of the same needs that we do. It has been very interesting and provoked a lot of thought about how we, as Christ Church, address those needs and opportunities. In what ways has God gifted Christ Church members that can be put to work in this community to make changes and make it a more just and equitable community? What neighbors in need is God showing us? What can we do as individuals and a community to more fully serve the world?

During the last nine months, I have taken advantage of some learning opportunities through Christ Church. Early on, I was part of our second pilgrimage to Montgomery and Selma. It was a deeply moving (and disturbing, but in a

good way) event. Likewise, I attended a Poverty Simulation hosted by the Park Church. It, too, had a very profound impact on me. I can still feel the anxiety that it created in me, trying to live into the role-play scenario I had been handed. If you haven't done either of these, I sincerely encourage you to sign up for the third pilgrimage, February 27 – March 1, and to participate in the Poverty Simulation that we will host on January 22. Come and be changed. I've also taken the Space Between Us class and am in the midst of Sacred Ground. Both are time really well spent, and I am enjoying getting to know some of you more deeply through these various programs and classes.

It has also been important to me to broaden the communication stream from Outreach and Mission so that more people know what opportunities and needs there are. To that extent, we have created a monthly (around the 15th of each month) e-newsletter, which you can subscribe to via the home page for Outreach and Mission on the Church's website (www.christChurchcharlotte/outreach). Additionally, we have an Instagram account at #christ-Churchcltoutreach.

My colleagues, lay and clergy, on the staff are amazing. I am grateful to all of them for their wisdom, humor and support, most especially Laura Konitzer, who is now our Director of Outreach and Mission, having served for about a year and a half as the Administrative Assistant for this area. Thank you for calling me to share in this part of God's vineyard!

SENIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Hooper Hardison

As we moved into our 76th year at Christ Church, your Vestry sought to capture and build upon the momentum generated from our 75th Anniversary celebration and the priorities that emerged as the basis for our Faith and Courage initiative. Your Vestry, at its annual retreat in January, established goals to support our six priorities and to further Christ Church's mission: to engage, equip, and empower people to love God, care for each other, and serve the world in the name of Christ. These goals were:

- **Wellness** – During 2019, empower the clergy and Wellness Commission to develop and launch a wellness center or presence at Christ Church which will educate, provide resources and coordinate support for wellness initiatives across the parish that equip parishioners to practice and model wellness in all things.
- **Worship** – During 2019, empower the clergy and Liturgical Commission to enhance and expand the worship experience at Christ Church, with specific emphasis on music, education/instruction, and broader, multi-generational participation.
- **Justice** – During 2019, develop offerings that build an understanding of the Biblical concept of justice among all generations as a foundation for ministries and projects that advance the priority of working for a just community, with specific emphasis on building diverse partnerships and relationships.
- **Generosity** – During 2019, engage all members of the Church as we continue to teach, preach, celebrate and model generosity in all things, including personal financial stewardship.
- **Digital Campus** – By the end of 2019, develop a comprehensive digital strategy for Christ Church that enhances spiritual growth and better connects the Church community, both internally and externally.
- **Physical Campus** – By the end of 2019, develop a master plan for the Christ Church campus, built on the Reserve Study, which prioritizes short-term and long-term physical plant and campus needs and presents funding options.

As we bring 2019 to a close, your Vestry is pleased to report progress on all fronts. Let me share just a few highlights.

Our overall wellness initiative took a huge leap forward when Mollee Reitz joined us as Director of Wellness. Mollee and the Wellness Commission, supported by several Faith Forum guests, are increasing awareness of holistic health, physical and mental wellness, and preventive wellness practices through conversations, educational classes, and workshops. Numerous parishioners are benefiting from the counseling and referral services we now offer.

Generosity, as in years past, continues to be a major focus. The success of so many of Christ Church's initiatives is dependent upon the time, talents, and treasures of our parishioners. Sarah Eyssen, Director of Development, and the Stewardship Commission are working hand in hand with Margaret and Chris Ulrich, the year's Stewardship Campaign chairs, to tap into our generosity so that we may continue to answer God's call.

With regards to our physical campus, we have used the reserve study that was completed in 2018 as the road map for our maintenance and capital improvement efforts. We also are using this study to assist us as we think about our buildings and grounds and how they might be effectively used to support our future programming needs.

On the topic of justice, conversations are occurring in Faith Forums and in classrooms. Ministries are expanding and awareness is growing.

All of our goals and initiatives are based upon our love of God, and worship provides a foundation for enhancing and expanding our relationship with God. Through our many services filled with beautiful music and our broad educational and outreach offerings, parishioners have the opportunity to meet God anywhere and everywhere. Christ Church is my spiritual home. As such, it has been a real privilege and joy for me to serve as your Senior Warden and to work with an extremely talented and amazing Vestry, clergy, and staff this year. To be a part of this parish is a gift that I cherish. Thanks be to God!

JUNIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Bob Dooley

“Home is where your heart is” was never more evident than this year at Christ Church. Under the leadership of Wendy Mauney and Jason Scofield and the incredible support of our sextons Clayton Pride, Nikki Rushing, and Greg Young, our Church campus and facilities shone brightly in supporting our many services, ministries, programs, and parishioners.

Their tireless efforts, splashed with daily joy, helped ensure that Christ Church continued to be our Spiritual Home. We thank you all for a job well done this year.

In addition to their daily, weekly and monthly tasks, Jason and his team successfully provided oversight to the following projects while maintaining minimal disruption to our normal operations:

- Green Room Roof Replacement
- Kitchen HVAC Replacement
- Kitchen Hood Repairs
- Chapel/Bell Tower Leak
- Multiple Window Replacements
- CCK Access Controls
- CCK Playground Renovations
- Eagle Scout Projects
- Multiple Staff Office Moves
- Affordable Housing Repairs
- Tree Removal
- Multiple Technology Upgrades

It has been a privilege this year to work beside Jason & Wendy as your Junior Warden.

TREASURER

Submitted by Dick Parkhurst

Summarized below are the financial results for the past three years along with the budget for 2019. or 2019, our budget calls for an 8% increase in receipts reflecting an 10% increase in annual pledges and a slightly more conservative expectation for non-pledged gifts. The budgeted increase in receipts will support normal inflation, increased allocations to outreach and property maintenance, growth in program funding, as well as continued transition among our staff.

	2016 Actual		2017 Actual		2018 Actual		2019 Budget	
Operating Receipts	4,424,942		4,725,890		4,956,368		5,372,510	
Personnel & Admin	2,879,760	66.8%	3,006,107	66.5%	3,177,912	67.8%	3,563,990	66.3%
Diocese of NC	486,282	11.3%	497,402	11.0%	490,251	10.5%	518,020	9.6%
Buildings and Grounds	301,031	7.0%	316,247	7.0%	344,083	7.3%	375,000	7.0%
Outreach	346,027	8.0%	370,000	8.2%	397,090	8.5%	450,000	8.4%
Programs	297,978	6.9%	332,416	7.4%	281,097	6.0%	465,500	8.7%
Operating Expenses	4,311,078		4,522,172		4,690,433		5,372,510	
Annual Surplus	113,864		203,717		265,935		-	
Use of Surplus	(151,954)		(106,227)		(84,292)		-	
Accumulated Surplus	248,585		346,076		527,719		527,719	

Annual receipts increased nearly 5% in 2018, exceeding budget by \$115,000, driven largely by increases in unpledged gifts totaling \$279,000 for the year. Total expenses were held 3% below budget due primarily to positive variances in personnel expenses and solid expense management throughout all program activities. As a result, we recorded an operating surplus of more than \$265,000. During the year, the Vestry approved the use of approximately \$85,000 of surplus to replenish our property reserve and support areas of need outside of the operating budget. The remainder of the annual surplus contributed to an unrestricted surplus balance of \$527,000 at year end 2018. This amount remains available to meet unbudgeted funding requirements as approved by the vestry.

Based on our results through October, I expect expenses will finish 2019 in line with our budget while overall results will depend on December receipts that typically account for approximately 25% of full year revenues. If pledges are fulfilled by year-end, I anticipate we will meet our balanced budget objective with the possibility of another surplus.

With an ongoing commitment to stewardship and the dedication of our staff and volunteers, Christ Church remains in solid financial shape. Our continuing challenge is the growth in our parish and the demand it places on our staff and facilities. With a continued and growing commitment to stewardship, I remain confident that our parish will meet the call as we live into our mission to Love God, Care for Each Other and Serve the World.

It is an honor to serve as your treasurer. Special thanks go to Wendy Mauney, Jo Ann Linker, and Jennifer Stewart for their daily efforts in tending to the financial matters of our parish.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Submitted by The Reverend Matt Holcombe and Jenny Beaumont

Throughout 2019, Adult Spiritual Formation invited people to explore, grow and deepen their faith and their spiritual life as they grew closer to God and one another. We sought to meet people where they are in their spiritual lives and to offer a variety of transformational learning opportunities.

On Sunday mornings and through weekly classes: We explored some topics at the heart of our faith with several short series and offerings:

Living the Big Questions: In October, The Reverend Matt Holcombe led a discussion on the questions of a living faith.

Christian Essentials: To broaden the reach of this resource, Explore Christian Essentials debuted on Sunday mornings in November.

Faith Forum: In January, the theme was Wellness with guests Dawn Huebner, Ned Hallowell, Anna Dulaney and Christopher Griggs, and District Attorney Spencer Merriweather. Spring guests included Mayor Vi Lyles, Willie Jennings, Tasha Morrison, Gary Mason, and Nadim Nassar.

Fall Theme, Faith and Courage: We welcomed David Zahl; Hannah and Charlie Lucas, creators of the NotOKAY app; Becca Stevens, author, speaker, and Episcopal priest; Rob Mendez, football coach; Mary Celeste Beall, proprietor of Blackberry Farm; Jordan Kassalow; and Anthony Ray Hinton, who spoke to his experience of Living Faith on Death Row.

Adult Pilgrimages have continued to be a part of the spiritual growth of many people at Christ Church.

Holy Land Pilgrimage, The Best of Israel, May 2 - 11, 2019: Thirty-seven pilgrims, led by the Reverend Matt Holcombe and the Reverend Lisa Saunders, traveled to the Holy Land to walk where Jesus walked and experience the places where he worshiped, prayed, taught, healed, and served.

Legacy and Justice Pilgrimage, March 6-9, 2019: The Reverend Joan Kilian and The Reverend Matt Holcombe led 13 parishioners on the second Legacy and Justice Pilgrimage. Racism is a present reality that plagues our city and country. Our faith calls us to confront and confess our failures and fears in order that we may be reconciled one with another.

Through the week we offered short term and long term classes. A selection of those classes, resources, and series:

- Slavery, Justice, Freedom and the Civil Rights Movement – Four-week series led by Kathleen Clark, PhD, explored the ideology of race that developed in the context of slavery, the struggles over what “freedom” would look like after slavery, and the resistance to achieving equality through the ongoing Civil Rights Movement.
- Reading Between the Lines New Group – We launched a third group on Monday mornings in the fall. We used the “Reading Between the Lines” curriculum (previously titled “Bible Workbench”) to add to our understanding of scripture and to practice reflecting theologically on topics that arise from cultural and literary inspirations. The group dived into the place where the Bible’s story and our stories intersect. Amanda Anders, Charles Connor, and Caroline Stoneman lead the groups.

- Sacred Ground Launch – Sacred Ground is a film and readings based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America’s history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The pilot group began in May and two more groups launched in October with a total of 30 participants. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love. Makeda Pennycooke, Virginia Anderson, and Caroline Stoneman were small group facilitators for the program.
- The Space Between Us launch: This program, produced by the Adult Formation team at Christ church, launched in the spring with 6 classes in 2019 and 85 participants. Facilitators Mary Davis Smart, Alice deVries, Makeda Pennycooke, and Jenny Beaumont continue to lead and refine the program. The program is based on Ignatian Spiritual principles to help parishioners and the Church Community to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. The course is free to all participants and we welcomed staff from many of our partners, including Safe Alliance, Habitat for Humanity, Trinity Episcopal School, Charlotte Family Housing, and HopeWay.
- Christian Essentials: The Christian Essentials program, designed and written by Christ Church parishioners along with the Reverend Matt Holcombe, continued into the spring and fall with a total of 11 groups that met at various times, including two online sessions. As an acknowledgment of the dedication and spiritual growth journey, parishioners who completed the three modules were invited to be confirmed, received or re-affirmed at the Confirmation service. 7 Christian Essential graduates participated in the sacrament of confirmation to affirm their commitment to their faith.
- Education for Ministry: As we grow in our spiritual formation, questions about meaning, purpose, and how to integrate faith into our lives arise. EfM is a four-year course that gives participants a framework to see their lives through the lens of faith and offers a community of people with whom to learn and grow. At Christ Church, we offer four EfM groups, with over 40 people, that are mentored by Tere Ey, Jenny Beaumont and Jennifer Bennett.
- Adult Confirmation and Inquirer’s class: Whether to learn more about our faith, to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation or to recommit to the spiritual life, Adult Confirmation and Inquirers class gives participants the opportunity to learn about the major aspects of our faith tradition. In 2019, thirty adults were confirmed, reaffirmed or received during the confirmation service on May 19, 2019.
- Christ Church Women’s Bible Study: Each Thursday morning over 100 women of all ages gathered to learn about the Bible and to grow closer to God and each other. The group studied the letter to the Ephesians in the winter and spring and the books of Joshua and Judges in the fall. Grace Fogg, the leader of CCWBS, along with fourteen small group leaders, provided leadership, direction and inspiration to the group each week. One of the highlights of year included the presentation on the spirituality of icons by parishioner and small group leader Debbie McCarthy.
- Spiritual Growth and the Enneagram: The Enneagram helps people develop more authentic relationships with themselves and others and discover a deeper relationship with God. Classes were taught by The Reverend Paul Hanneman in the spring and Jenny Beaumont in the fall. We are grateful to The Reverend Paul Hanneman for his leadership and wisdom. As a frequent teacher and presenter, Christ Church was able to offer a variety of programs through his leadership. Paul and his wife Evelyn moved to Arizona this summer. We will miss him.
- Men’s Ministries: Designed by a team of parishioners, Men’s Ministry launched several new initiatives aimed to help men engage more deeply in their Christian faith through fellowship, spiritual learning, and community outreach. This included the Men’s Midweek Bible Study, Men’s Big Breakfast, and the annual Men’s retreat to Valle Crucis.
- Lenten Devotion Book: Reaching over 1,000 people, the 50 writers from our parish contributed to the Lenten Devotion Book organized and published by the Adult Formation Commission. Over 600 copies were distributed and over 150 copies were downloaded via the website. The book included writings from new members, youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, commission and vestry members, lay readers, and ushers. Writers were also

young adults, band and choir members, Habitat builders, Bible study participants, care team members, Sages, EfMers and adult confirmands.

Adult Formation Commission Members: Linda Bomar, Craig Cmiel, Joyce Cmiel, Shawn King, Makeda Pennycooke, Grace Fogg, Doug Mays, Patricia Hamilton (Staff), Carol Lorenz (Vestry), The Reverend Matt Holcombe (Clergy), Jenny Beaumont (Staff).

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Submitted by Maggie Baker, Stephanie Brimigion, The Reverend Joshua Case, Alice deVries, Sarah Ford, Emily Kalmbach, Lindsay Masi, Betsy Parkhurst

This year our Children, Youth and Family Ministry team has worked to form deep relationships and to provide a deep foundation for faith to develop and grow for children (birth through college age) and their families. Together, we have recruited, encouraged, trained, and prayed for 160+ volunteers who work with Children and Youth ministry in some capacity. We have hosted leader trainings and family events. What is more, thanks to the faithful leadership of Laura Copps, we have regularly equipped and encouraged parents on Sunday mornings with the continuation of our Parenting with Faith and Courage group.

In Children's Ministry, our weekly and annual programs like Sunday School, Navigators, Vacation Bible School, and the Christmas Pageant (to name a few) continued to engage and equip people with our faith narratives and practices. Our curriculum subcommittee from the Children and Family Ministry Commission, comprised of Cindy Costa, Whitney Smith, and Zach Manis, helped us extensively review children's Sunday School curriculum options for our children two years old to fifth grade and settled on a curriculum that is both engaging and teacher friendly. In January, our commission set a goal to engage our tweens to grow in faith and community at Christ Church. We polled our fourth and fifth grade students during Vacation Bible School this summer on the ways in which they wanted to become more engaged, and since then, have implemented a practice that allows them to be mentors to some of our younger students one Sunday a month. We have enjoyed watching these young men and women navigate how to share their faith and begin to set a foundation for their younger peers. Sarah Ford, Assistant Director for Children and Family ministry, continues to keep our Navigators engaged by ensuring the group is learning about the vestry's six priorities each time they gather.

We have also made some significant changes to our nursery suites this year. Stephanie Brimigion, our Nursery Suites Coordinator, directed staff and volunteers in removal of old toys and purchase of new ones, and the Nursery Committee worked to create a Nursing Mothers' Suite which will provide a quiet and private space for nursing mothers when needed. We have also had some wonderful new additions to our nursery caregiver staff this year.

In Youth Ministry, we continued our weekly and annual programs and ministries like Life Group, EYC, Sunday School, the Chili Challenge, Pilgrimage, and so much more. But we also focused on engaging our middle school families to grow in faith and community at Christ Church. We recruited a special committee to help with discussions and brainstorming the ways in which we can make our middle school relevant, and we were excited to welcome Maggie Baker to the team as Assistant Director of Youth and Family Ministry last July. Maggie has brought a wealth of experience and incredible energy to our programming for middle and high school students. We revamped the Confirmation program for eighth graders to focus more on relationship building and education around some of the core Episcopalian traditions, and we have seen a steady number in attendance at Wednesday night middle school EYC. We are excited to continue focusing on high energy and deep faith programming for our middle school students.

Alice deVries continues to inspire and empower our high school students through youth council to be leaders in the Church and among their peers. These high school students have leaned into deep practices of faith through prayer, service, and retreat. Many of these 60+ youth council members have leadership roles around the Church and continue to add their voices to who we as a parish are becoming.

Of course none of these programs would be possible without the visionary leadership and stewardship of Lindsay Masi. Lindsay's commitment to the faith of our children and families continues to root our team in our work. We also owe a special thanks for the attention to detail and careful planning of Emily Kalmbach and Betsy Parkhurst who keep our ministry team in sync.

We are grateful to learn and growth with God with you and your families and we look forward to continuing in faith and courage!

CHRIST CHURCH KINDERGARTEN

Submitted by Kelly Coley

Christ Church Preschool and Kindergarten (CCK) is the largest daily mission of Christ Church. The 235 children that attend our program this year are participating in an exemplary early education program. We are very fortunate to share in community and relationships with the children and families of CCK. Our mission is to cultivate our children's unique gifts and talents to inspire lives of learning, serving others and loving God. We seek to inspire the children of CCK to become life-long learners in a faith-based environment.

CCK has a long and rich history of successfully preparing children for their elementary education. The journey starts in our Toddler classrooms, learning to separate from parents and moves through our Four-year-old and Kindergarten hallways, where our children are learning to read and write with confidence. Our dedicated staff of teachers are at the core of what we do each day. These amazing, experienced teachers give countless hours of planning, implementing, and nurturing the children and families of CCK. Our Special teachers are on our staff and available to enrich the daily experience at CCK. The Learning Center, Music, Science Lab, Godly Play, My Gym and Creative Movement classes bring numerous opportunities for learning and growth.

The clergy, teachers, and children continue to participate in one of CCK's newest traditions, All School Chapel. All School Chapel is held monthly and is an opportunity for the clergy and school to participate in a school-wide service in All Saints Hall. Our Four-year-old and Kindergarten classes also participate in weekly Chapel with clergy in the Chapel, located in the sanctuary. CCK continues to participate in two service projects each year. The projects are designed to help our children begin to understand and participate in helping others in their community. The local organizations that we collect items for during the year benefit children and families in the Charlotte area. CCK continues to employ the services of off-duty CMPD police officers to be on campus during the CCK school day. The police officers and several newly installed interior doors and card-key access provide additional security for school during CCK hours.

The newly renovated Two/Three-year-old playground was opened in late August and continues to be a main attraction for the children and families of CCK. The updated outdoor playground provides wonderful opportunities for outside play.

CCK is governed by a Board of Directors, which meets monthly.

Board of Directors: Allison Popp (Chair), Campbell Walker (Chair-Elect), Matt Holcombe (Clergy Representative), Alex Kelly (Vestry Representative) Graham Hunt (Treasurer), Allison Neilsen (Teacher Representative), Sarah Kain (Parent Representative), Haley Cheek, Courtney Gentzel, Lauren Gilbert, Stafford Kelly, Corrie Manis, Brian Purcell, Whitaker Rose, Laura Viccellio, Chris Withers, Meredith Sorrell (Assistant Head of School), Kelly Coley (Head of School)

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Submitted by Leesa Clardy

2019 has been a wonderful year for the ECW. Some of the highlights include:

- **Mission Funding Meeting** (January) – We were delighted to grant over \$95,000 to approximately forty local and international charities serving women and children.
- **Women's Retreat at Kanuga** (March) – Lisa Cashion and Joyce Cmiel presented a program on spiritual, physical and mental wellness to forty participants.
- **Friendship Feast** (April) – Our speaker was Lady Kim Alexander of The Park Church. Over 130 women attended, including several members from The Park.
- **Sages Tea** (May) – We celebrated the life of Winston Paschall with stories and pictures.
- **Staff Appreciation Lunch** (October) – Catered by Zio's, we honored our staff and clergy.

Upcoming events include:

- **Birthday Party Celebration for the residents of McCreesh Place** (Supportive Housing Communities) (November) – during Serve-a-bration week
- **Advent Luncheon** (December) – We featured Sandra Adams, mother of the late Cherica Adams and grandmother/caregiver to Chancellor Adams. She shared her story about the power of love and forgiveness.
- **Feast and Flora Pop-up Shop** – We offered greenery and prepared frozen foods and had various food vendors on site.

It has been an honor to serve as ECW President. I am grateful for the support I have received, the connections I've made with other parishioners, and most of all, for the opportunity to serve the Church that means so much to me and my family.

NEWCOMERS AND PARISH LIFE

Submitted by The Reverend Patty Rhyne, Kathryn Saunders, and Alison Gugenheim

NEWCOMERS:

We continue to welcome each visitor that we are made aware of with a personal welcome email, entry into the ACS system so that they receive communications, a tour (if desired), invitations to newcomer activities, and follow-up email(s) – all with the focus and hope that they feel connected and become engaged members of Christ Church. The addition of a three-week follow up email has been successful, as has compiling a monthly list of newcomer families for the Children and Youth Commission members to reach out to separately. This year we created new procedures for reaching out to new registrants for classes, music club, etc., so that they are welcomed beyond the individual class they are signed up for. (This applies to people who were not in our database.)

Welcome Center/Greeter Program: We continue to enlist parishioners to be greeters before and after our 8:45 and 11:15 AM services, as well as our 5:00 PM service. The greeters are very helpful to visitors, particularly with requests to locate the nursery or Sunday school classrooms. We continue to identify many newcomers this way and feel the greeter impact is significant. In addition, we encourage newcomers to become greeters so they can feel connected on Sundays.

Vespers in the Garden: On April 24, we welcomed newcomers to a Vespers service in the lovely Funderburg garden. It was a beautiful evening and the feeling of hospitality was abundant, as we were joined by members of the Clergy, Staff, Choir, Vestry and Hospitality Committee. The newcomer attendance was excellent, with approximately 40 newcomers plus staff and parishioners. The dinner was catered by Chef Mary and we concluded with a candlelight service in the garden.

Connect Classes: In 2019, we hosted Connect Classes on February 24 (15 attendees) and August 18 (12 attendees). This class is designed to make newcomers feel welcomed, allow them to get to know other parishioners and clergy on a more personal level, and provide information about the Church and our offerings for them to take home for reference. We continue to receive excellent feedback from attendees and notice the impact not only from their comments, but also from their future involvement in Church activities.

Newcomer Dinners: We continue to host family-style dinners to specifically welcome newcomers. These dinners occur the first Wednesday of the month from October through April. We include a personal element by having a Clergy or Staff member come talk about their own spiritual journey, along with what they do at Christ Church. Our first dinner in October had 21 newcomers (plus 8 clergy, staff and volunteers) – by far the largest attendance to date.

Hospitality Committee: The Hospitality Committee, chaired by Lauren McGuire, meets monthly throughout the year and plays the greatest role in the success of the Shrove Tuesday Supper and the Vespers in the Garden event. In addition, the Committee participates in welcoming newcomers as Greeters and at brunch, as well as assisting with Connect Classes and Newcomer Dinners. They also reach out personally to all newcomers who wish to be engaged. We are grateful for their hospitality. The 2019 Hospitality Committee consisted of Lauren McGuire (Chair), Natalie Akin, Carol Andrews, Caroline Austin, John Crehore, Carr Doerre, Page Gatewood, Shirley Greer, Mary Gregory, Meg Holt, Catherine Ruth Kelly, Carol Lorenz, Molly Nielsen, Liz Willett, and Lindsey Williams.

PARISH LIFE:

Parish Life Commission: The commission consists primarily of event chairs, along with representatives of the Hospitality Committee. We hold monthly meetings to discuss how to best connect and engage parishioners through parish-wide events. Alison Gugenheim continues her two-year role as chair of the committee and has done an outstanding job.

Shrove Tuesday Supper: The Hospitality Committee planned a fun evening with jazz music, crafts, and supper on Tuesday, March 5. Approximately 300 people enjoyed jazz music and wonderful New Orleans-style food, as well as a pancake supper. We were grateful for Chef Mary, who prepared an outstanding meal. We reserved a newcomer table and volunteers were assigned to welcome them and make them feel at home. Approximately 25 newcomers attended as our guests. There were also crafts for the children and a festive time was had by all. Caroline Austin and Carr Doerre chaired the event.

Easter Egg Hunt: This annual event was very well attended. We hosted two hunts following the 11:15 AM services – one following the Discovery Service and the other following the Church Service. We separated each hunt based on children’s ages. Grace Bailey did a nice job of overseeing the event.

RED HOT Hot Dog Sunday (in lieu of Spring Parish Day): The Spring Parish Day was canceled due to a conflict in dates (Confirmation/Mothers’ Day). Instead, we elevated the food and entertainment for our first Hot Dog Sunday on June 9, which coincided with Pentecost Sunday. Chef Mary provided hot dogs and extra fixings and, along with fun activities (bounce houses, face painting, etc.), we had a fantastic event. The volunteers were particularly helpful, especially since it rained and we had to move inside. We are grateful for our Hot Dog Sunday chairs who oversaw this event.

Hot Dog Sundays: We resumed the tradition of hosting Hot Dog Sundays following the 10:30 AM service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the summer months. Caroline Davis, Sarah Howie, and Brittney Ingersoll did a fabulous job organizing and making sure all were fed as they communed together after worship. These events are a great attraction for newcomers and a wonderful opportunity to connect them with others at Christ Church.

iGroups: This year we continued to invite parishioners, newcomers, and others from the community through iGroups: An Invitation to Fellowship! These events were intended to be strictly social and appeal to various ages and stages throughout the year. After we experienced no attendance at an ice skating event in early January and very low attendance at a Food Truck in July, the decision was made to shelve iGroups. Genie Hufham and Virginia Shaw did a fabulous job as chairs and remain on the Parish Life Commission as at large members. They will help assist other groups (such as Sages) with iGroup-type events on an as-needed basis.

Fall Parish Day: This annual event welcoming the parish back from summer was very well attended. Chef Mary provided BBQ and other delicious sides. Kara Hunt and Eleanor Fairey planned a fabulous day with entertainment by DJ Thomas Campbell, bounce houses, face painting, and a cake walk, all supervised by parishioners and youth. It was a beautiful and fun day and we welcomed many parishioners, as well as a number of newcomers.

Trunk or Treat: This sixth annual event was a booming success – we were delighted to have great weather so we could be outside! Approximately 20 families/groups set up their “trunks” in the upper parking lot, while children enjoyed hot dogs and bag decorating. After a parade around the circle, kids were excited to trick or treat amongst the trunks. Mary Catherine Zito and Jannell Dunaway were the chairpersons for this event. We estimate there were 400+ people in attendance – our highest attendance to date.

Parish Life Commission members include: Alison Gugenheim (Chair), Grace Bailey (Easter Egg Hunt), Alex Mann and Sara Yorke (Spring Parish Day), Caroline Davis, Sarah Howie, and Brittany Ingersoll (Hot Dog Sundays), Eleanor Fairey and Kara Hunt (Fall Parish Day), Mary Catherine Zito and Jannell Dunaway (Trunk or Treat), Genie Hufham and Virginia Shaw (iGroups/At Large), Natalie Akin and Lauren McGuire (Hospitality Representatives), and Sally Mitchener (Vestry Rep).

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Submitted by The Reverend Matt Holcombe and Derek Luther

The Spiritual Growth Commission was established and approved by the vestry of Christ Church in 2015. Over the past five years, the Spiritual Growth Commission has designed and created initiatives to help all parishioners explore, grow, and deepen their faith lives. From helping to clarify the vision/mission of Christ Church, to developing Christian Essentials, to providing lunch and learns for the vestry and staff of Christ Church, the Spiritual Growth Commission has had a fruitful ministry. The primary purpose of the commission is to serve as a catalyst for transformation in every ministry area at Christ Church.

The Christian Essentials curriculum, developed by the Spiritual Growth Commission in 2018, offers a holistic approach to living a Christ-centered life. It continues to be a tremendous asset to Christ Church and other churches around the country. Christ Church has launched twelve Christian Essentials small groups since 2018, providing valuable growth and establishing deep relationships. Over the past year, Christ Church has offered the entire curriculum, free of charge, to over fifteen parishes around the country that are using it in various ways to help their parish grow spiritually.

The Spiritual Growth Commission continues to support “The Good Book,” which is now in its third year of development. “The Daily,” with over 350 subscribers, sends out a daily scripture verse and spiritual growth nugget of wisdom. “The Beginning to End” Bible reading small group is also in its third year of ministry and going strong.

As the new year approaches, the Spiritual Growth Commission is researching models for spiritual growth which can be applied at Christ Church. In addition, efforts are underway to provide Spiritual Growth ministry meetings with each area of ministry in an effort to help promote the explore, grow, deepen model for ministry, as well as best practices for thriving and growing Churches.

Spiritual Growth Commission Members: Chair- Derek Luther, Amanda Anders, Jenny Holofchak, the Reverend Matt Holcombe, Celia Sinclair, Kyle Woodruff, George Rudisill, Tasse Little, Chris Martin, Alison Gugenheim, Amelia Abbott, Jane Showalter, Patricia Hamilton, and Jenny Beaumont.

OUTREACH AND MISSION

Submitted by Laura Copps

The Outreach and Mission Commission is focused on reaching out to our neighbors in need on a local, diocesan, and international level. Our commitment is to deliver God's message to those in need and to offer them support through difficult circumstances. This support comes in the form of financial and volunteer assistance. Additionally, the Outreach and Mission Commission offers programming and learning opportunities for Christ Church members in all areas of our work.

The Commission is currently comprised of 13 parishioners who each serve a three-year term. In a typical year, five members roll off while five new members join the Commission. Each member of the Commission serves as a liaison to one of the local organizations which our Church supports. Leadership is provided by Laura Konitzer, the Director of Outreach and Mission, The Reverend Joan Kilian, our Clergy member, as well as Doug Ey from the Vestry. In the absence of an Administrative Assistant for Outreach and Mission, the Commission has continued to rely on this support from Laura Konitzer as well. The Reverend Matt Holcombe served as interim Clergy support until February 2019, when Joan arrived.

The 2019 budget for the Outreach and Mission Commission included \$450,000 for Outreach work and \$31,000 for Mission. The combined total of \$481,000 represents 8.95% of the Christ Church Operating Budget. This represents a \$50,000 increase from 2018. Under Outreach, there are four areas of focus known as "pillars" that aim to address challenges related to: Housing and Homelessness (29.4% allocation), Poverty Prevention (16.7% allocation), Children and Education (39.4% allocation), and Reconciliation and Social Justice (10% allocation). An additional 5% of the Outreach budget provides for administrative costs in organizing and supporting this work. Our Mission component includes volunteer and financial support to our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica, Thistle Farms, and Episcopal Relief and Development.

In 2019, the Commission increased support for Social Justice and Reconciliation by adding new community partners and increasing funding from 5% to 10% of the total Outreach budget. The new community partners receiving grants are: the Eliminating Racism program at the YWCA, Center for Community Transitions, Changed Choices, and Galilee Ministries. In support of our continued mission to educate and to transform opinions regarding Social Justice, we offered a second pilgrimage to Montgomery and Selma, Alabama. Two four-week courses of "Slavery, Freedom and Civil Rights" were offered to the community and presented by commission member Kathleen Dean. Outreach and Mission also provided funding to Adult Formation for the creation of the ten-week "Sacred Ground" racial equity training. The Reverend Joan Kilian also provided a program on Biblical Justice as a Sunday clergy class and for other Church groups. In October, Christ Church also hosted a dinner as part of the #OnTheTableCLT city-wide discussions.

In continuation of the 2018 initiative to establish the ROC (Rebuilding Opportunities in Construction), we have continued to develop relationships with the students and staff by supporting them with equipment for their summer internships, an end-of-year celebration, and by providing nutritious snacks and food throughout the year.

Some of our most significant Outreach projects during the year included construction of Habitat House #31, the "Winston Paschall" house, from February through April. On December 1, 2019, we began our twenty-second Room in the Inn (RITI) season. Through this ministry, we will provide over 540 volunteer opportunities, while welcoming over 250 neighbors from the community. In October, the Outreach and Mission Commission partnered with the Stewardship Commission, and hosted a second Night of Hope. It was an inspiring evening that gave 160 parishioners a deeper sense of the incredible impact that Christ Church has made in Charlotte.

In July, Laura Konitzer and The Reverend Joan Kilian traveled to Costa Rica to meet the new bishop of our companion diocese. The Right Reverend Orlando Gomez shared his hopes and dreams for the diocese. This will help redefine our mission opportunities in terms of mutuality and relationship.

Each organization supported by our Church through financial assistance must complete a grant proposal. These proposals are reviewed by the members of the Commission to ensure they are consistent with our objectives as a Church and our available funds. In addition, each outreach gift to an organization must adhere to specific guidelines:

- The organization must provide an opportunity for members of our Church.
- The gift should not exceed 10% of the organization's overall budget.
- The gift should not exceed 10% of the Commission's total budget, unless it is a primary initiative for our Church with strong parishioner support.
- The gift should be at least 1% of the Commission's total budget.
- The organization should allocate at least 80% of its total budget to programming.

The organizations supported by our Church community through the efforts of the Commission include:

Charlotte Family Housing	Changed Choices
Habitat for Humanity	The YWCA (two programs)
Urban Ministry Center/Men's Shelter	Crisis Assistance Ministry
Loaves and Fishes	A Child's Place
The Learning Collaborative	Thompson Child and Family Focus
Communities in Schools (Rama Road)	Freedom School (Rama Road)
Rama Road (Budget and Programming)	Charlotte Bilingual Preschool
Center for Community Transitions	Galilee Ministries
The Relatives	

One of the major initiatives for our Church, which is coordinated by the Commission, is "Serve-a-bration." This event occurs during the first full week in November each year. Opportunities to support our partner organizations through service activities are shared with parishioners. Commission members orchestrate the volunteer signup process as well as facilitate each event. In 2019, at least 646 Christ Church parishioners volunteered time and supplies to create 42 Happy Home Buckets for Charlotte Family Housing, 40 Thanksgiving boxes for A Child's Place, countless healthy snacks for The ROC, books for Habitat, gift wrap for teachers at Rama Road, and toys for the Jubilee Store as just a sampling of the week's activities.

The Commission is also responsible for selecting the recipients of our Church's Easter and Christmas offerings each year. The Director and Chair for the Commission also maintain a close relationship with the Christ Church Foundation Committee as they make decisions on funding organizations and initiatives.

The 2019 Commission membership includes the following individuals:

Director:	Laura Konitzer		
Clergy:	Matt Holcombe and Joan Kilian		
Vestry:	Doug Ey		
	Stuart Bonner	Roger Cobb	Laura Copps
	Gigi Harris	Chris Martin	Arrington Mixon
	Barbara Pooley	Anne Stolz	Ann Crehore
	Michael Mazhari	Jose Costa	Lauren Cmiel
	Thurman Brooks	Mark Landers	Kathleen Dean

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Submitted by Ben Outen

2019 has been an important year for the Music Ministry of Christ Church. Along with continuing to offer musical and liturgical excellence in worship, community building within the program, and intentional music and liturgy education opportunities, we have strengthened our staff and infrastructure.

In February we hired a new Administrator for Worship and the Arts, Margaret Haigh; in July, we hired a full time Director of Music for All Saints Hall, Shea Watts; and, in August, we hired Lauren Tomme, Director of Preschool and Elementary Music Programs (Lisa Lashley's former position). Each of these roles came with increased financial commitment on the part of Christ Church demonstrating enthusiastic support for the music program.

The children's choir program has grown in numbers in the early grades. This is very positive for the future of the program. The families currently involved with the choirs are working together as an auxiliary support group lead by Brantley Alvey and Brittany Luther. The parents are hosting a pizza night once a month to reinvigorate a Christ Church tradition and give the children a time for team building beyond rehearsals with staff and each other. In February, our choristers traveled to All Souls' Cathedral in Asheville, NC, where they participated in an RSCM Festival with the All Souls Choir and the choir of St. John's Cathedral in Knoxville, TN. In 2020, Christ Church will take its turn to host these groups in a second annual winter choral festival. In August, we offered a weekend retreat for our choristers to begin their choir year. Along with music learning and liturgical practices, we went rock climbing. This has unintentionally become a metaphor for our 2019 – 2020 season as our young choristers are truly reaching new heights.

A group including Nikki DeVillers, Theresa Gibson, Brantley Alvey, Brittany Luther, and our music staff are working to build a support system for children from Rama Road School to be able to participate in choir at Christ Church. We are enthusiastic about offering our program to those who may not have access to music education within the Church context.

The Christ Church Choir and Schola Cantorum prepare and offer music for services all year long. These groups navigate a breadth of musical styles and complexities ranging from Renaissance motets and Cathedral anthems along with folksong and contemporary-styled arrangements. The members of the Schola also serve as cantors for the 5:00 PM service weekly and for the 8:45 AM service throughout the summer.

The Christ Church Choir is also preparing music for the 2020 Anglican Spirituality Pilgrimage to Wells Cathedral for choristers and parishioners. This trip will be led by The Reverend Joshua Case and Ben Outen, and will include lectures about liturgy, personal devotion, and music as well as excursions to other holy sites. The music for this pilgrimage will also be presented as part of the 2019 – 2020 Evensong Series at Christ Church. Evensong is sung on the first Sunday of each month at 3:30 PM. The change in time from 4:00 PM during the 2018 – 2019 season to 3:30 represents an accommodation for the 5:00 PM service to have more quiet space immediately prior to its beginning. The number of people attending the Evensong service has grown over the fall. We continue to be part of a citywide Episcopal Church effort to offer Evensong somewhere in Charlotte on each Sunday of the month, September through May.

Although there have been some changes in personnel among the Schola Cantorum, all seats continue to be filled with fine singers who bring a strong sense of community leadership to their roles. This ensemble has been part of growing the Friends of Music organization in our parish by presenting week night programs in parishioners' homes. Margaret and Nicolas Haigh have offered a program by their ensemble L'Académie du Roi Soleil, and Shea Watts performed some of his original music at our last meeting.

Throughout the 2018 – 2019 choir season and continuing into the 2019 – 2020 season, Nicolas Haigh has worked with Morris Spearman, Organ Technician, to get the Gabriel Kney organ in the Church in good running order.

This has been a complicated task due to the age of the technology on our 1979 organ, but should culminate in the early part of 2020.

In February, Christ Church presented in concert The Choir of Clare College, Cambridge from Cambridge University, England, under the direction of Graham Ross. There was a full audience for this concert and the adventurous programming was well received. This event was intended to create a growing relationship between the Clare Choir and Christ Church and it has been successful. There are conversations about the Clare Choir returning in December of 2020 to perform J.S. Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" along with The Charlotte Bach Akademie at Christ Church. Because of the scope of this piece, it is not often performed in its entirety, making it a rare gift from Christ Church to our city's cultural life.

Christ Church's Music Department has continued to support Community Partners through the use of our space as a performance venue and as a venue for music lessons during the week. Our current list of partners includes: Bach Akademie Charlotte, Caritas [*a cappella* Choral Ensemble], Charlotte Master Chorale [formerly Oratorio Singers/Symphony Chorus], L'Académie du Roi Soleil, Nova Voce, and Arts+ [formerly Community School of the Arts].

Since Shea Watts' arrival at Christ Church, many issues with sound equipment and electronic instruments in All Saints Hall have been addressed. Shea has taken a lead in improving the skills of our volunteer band members and providing them with opportunities for community. His leadership is inspiring and systematic. He has also been very intentional in the ongoing development of the Discovery Service.

The Music Department provides music for weddings and funerals with many of the Schola Cantorum members serving as soloist and cantors as part of these celebrations of life.

The mission of the Music Department at Christ Church – to enrich worship with beauty and understanding, to educate and support each other in this worshiping community, and to offer our unique gifts and resources – is flourishing. There are many ways everyone can participate. If you or someone you know would like to be a part of this program of Christ Church, please don't hesitate to call Ben Outen, Margaret Haigh, Nicolas Haigh, Shea Watts, or Lauren Tomme to find your place in our ministry of beauty and inspiration!

WELLNESS

Submitted by The Reverend Lisa Saunders

Mollee Reitz joined Christ Church on August, 26, 2019. Therefore, her data only captures the final third of 2019. The Wellness Program is new and a lot of intentionality has gone into the creation and development of Wellness programming. Mollee, Jennifer Hamm, and myself have worked together to collect, create, and disseminate information on all things Wellness in order to increase wellness and mental health education, navigation, and advocacy.

In 2019:

- There was a substantial increase in counseling sessions. In August there was a single counseling session provided, four sessions were provided in September, 15 in October, and 28 sessions in November.
- There was a small increase in referrals to help parishioners and their loved ones navigate mental health providers. In August, I made three referrals, in September I made seven referrals, in October I made seven referrals, in November I made seven referrals. These numbers will likely increase as the number of counseling sessions provided levels out.
- In late September, we launched a Wellness webpage with information about contacting Mollee for counseling services and counseling referrals. We also utilize the website to advertise upcoming events and activities.
- In October, we created a Mental Health Resource Page to add to our web page. This provides information on local crisis lines, walk-in counseling sessions, and how to provide a provider. This document provides resource education, information on navigating resources, and plays a key role in mental health advocacy.

In order to provide holistic wellness and mental health education, there have been a variety of presentations and workshops in 2019, including:

- Parenting with Faith & Courage workshop on the Living Compass Model
- Small Group conversation for teens following the NOT OK Faith Forum
- Presentation on fostering social and emotional development in preparation for Kindergarten
- Brief Celebration Sunday presentation on Wellness Programming at Christ Church
- Brief talk on Wellness Programming with the Christ Church Core group
- Breakfast discussion on suicide in adolescent and adult males at the November Men's breakfast
- Workshop on Finding your Identity in Motherhood
- Well Doing: An All-day wellness retreat based on the Living Compass Model
- Mental Health First Aid Training, led by an instructor from Atrium Health
- Community presentation on wellness programming with a Faith Communicator group at the Cornwell Center
- Young Adult women's workshop on work-life balance
- Discussion group with EPEC

There are monthly Wellness Commission meetings to help determine future programming opportunities and direction.

In November, a Wellness Conference Planning Committee was formed in preparation for the Fall 2020 Wellness Conference.

STEWARDSHIP

Submitted by Sarah Eyssen

The 2019 Annual Stewardship Campaign, chaired by Jane and Carrington Coulter, began on October 21, 2018. On February 25, 2019, the Vestry approved a \$5,266,468 budget based on pledges received by that date, representing 1,179 parish households.

The 2019 campaign was launched as a part of the Faith and Courage initiative and focused on God's invitation to create stories rooted in hope. The theme of the 2019 campaign was "It's More than a Pledge, It's an Act of Courage," with materials designed by Stewart Marr.

With experienced and thoughtful leadership by Senior Warden Frank Horne, Junior Warden, Burch Mixon, and the entire Vestry, dedicated efforts were made to communicate impact and gratitude and reach parishioners through small gatherings, large gatherings, letters, and reports. Since more than 98% of Christ Church's yearly budget is funded by the ASC, the Annual Stewardship chairs, Vestry, and many others used every opportunity to promote the importance of making a yearly pledge.

The Connectors program, launched by Norfleet Pruden during the 2018 ASC, continues. In an effort to make stewardship more relational and with Vestry leadership, over 80 parishioners volunteered to write, call, and email active families in the parish.

Our first annual Night of Hope was held on October 18, 2018. This event was an evening made possible by the combined efforts of the Outreach and Stewardship Commissions. Over 140 guests attended a dinner and conversation highlighting the impact of three community partnerships: Rama Road Elementary School, Charlotte Family Housing, and The ROC (Rebuilding Opportunities in Construction).

Following last year's effort to communicate thanks, the "MORE HOPE" Faith & Courage 2018 Gratitude Report was produced highlighting key efforts, numbers, and impact.

The 2020 Stewardship season commenced on Celebration Sunday, October 27, 2019. During a special Rector's class, highlights from music and worship, adult formation and children, family, and youth formation, mental wellness and congregational care, and mission and outreach were shared with the parish.

As of November 25, 2019, \$3,761,555.65 in pledges had been received. The Vestry will vote on the 2020 budget in February.

2019 – 2020 Stewardship Commission:

Natalie Akin	Alex Kelly
Bob Anders	Al Lindemann
Michael Baker	Wendy Mauney
John Chanon	Randall Mountcastle
Cindy Costa	Bailey Patrick
Carrington Coulter	Anne Poole
Jane Coulter	Harry Shaw
Sarah Eyssen	Melissa Tolmie
Laura Fahrney	Chris Ullrich
Beth Hobbs	John Wickham

CHRIST CHURCH FOUNDATION

Submitted by Sarah Eyssen

The Christ Church Foundation was founded November 21, 1962 by the Vestry as a separate trust within the parish to receive, manage, and distribute funds for "religious purposes," a term defined to include "education, charitable, missionary, and other purposes." The trust was incorporated as a non-profit North Carolina corporation on November 14, 1969.

The trust administered by the Foundation now consists of the following distinct funds: a general "Outreach Fund," a "Property, Plant and Equipment Fund," a "Clergy Housing Fund," two "Scholarship Funds," a fund dedicated to support Habitat for Humanity, and an "Unrestricted Fund."

The management and administration of Foundation assets are directed by nine Trustees appointed by the Vestry, each eligible to serve two, three-year terms. In addition, the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and the Chair of the Outreach Commission serve as ex-officio Trustees, and the Rector, Parish Administrator, and a representative of planned giving are welcome participants at all Trustee meetings.

To improve coordination with monies given to outreach efforts by the Church, the Trustees of the Foundation consider recommendations from the Outreach Commission for distribution from the Foundation's Outreach Fund. The Foundation encourages parties seeking grants from the Foundation's Outreach Fund to submit their requests to the Outreach Commission.

As of October 31, 2019, the Foundation's total investments with US Trust stand at \$3.35 million, up 8% for the year.

The CCF Board met three times in 2019:

- February 28, with elections, investment report presented by Rhondale Haywood, SVP and Portfolio Manager at U.S. Trust, proposed amendment vote and approval
- May 23, with recommendations from the Outreach Commission and Scholarship Committee, and approval vote
- November 21, with elections, proposed amendment vote, scholarship report

In May 2019, sixteen (16) scholarships were awarded to 12 students who are members of Christ Church or are children of Christ Church staff for a total of \$12,900.

At the recommendation of the Outreach Commission, the following gifts were approved in May 2019:

Southminster	\$10,000
Society of St. Andrew	\$ 3,000
Care Ring	\$ 9,000
Safe Alliance	\$10,000
Foster Village	\$10,000
Supportive Housing Communities	\$10,000
HopeWay	\$20,000*
Total	\$72,000

*Because of the increased funds from the Foundation's solid investment practices, beginning in 2018, one organization will be awarded a 3-year grant, based on a 3-year cycle. The inaugural grantee, HopeWay, continues to automatically be included for a \$20,000 grant in 2019 and 2020 (for a total grant of \$60,000 over three years). In 2021, a different organization will be awarded a 3-year grant.

2019 Foundation Members: Arrington Mixon, President; Carrington Coulter, Vice President and Treasurer; Marks Arnold, Secretary; Mark Mealy, Investment Chair; Mary Kluttz, Scholarship Chair; Suzanne Bledsoe, Ned Hardison, Emily Smith, and Paul Tolmie.

In addition, the following also served the CCF in 2019: The Reverend Chip Edens, Rector; Laura Copps, Outreach Liaison; Hooper Hardison, Senior Warden; Bob Dooley, Junior Warden; Wendy Mauney, Parish Administrator.

Three new members were elected and approved by the Vestry prior to November 30, 2019, for a three year term, 2020-2022.

The Foundation continues to work with the Oak Circle Committee to encourage the congregation to make gifts and take advantage of planned giving techniques, thereby becoming "Oak Circle" members and helping enlarge the corpus of the Foundation.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND MEMORIALS

Submitted by David Kern

This group provides general oversight and assistance to the Junior Warden and the Facilities Director with regard to matters involving the church buildings and campus. In addition, the Committee directs the use of undesignated gifts and memorials made to Christ Church. In this regard, the group attempts to match specific Church needs with the personality and particular interests/activities of the person in whose name a gift or memorial is given.

The work of the Committee during 2019 has included the following:

- Expanding and implementing a plan for adding memorial plaques in the Memorial Garden
- Assisting with the installation of a railing and other renovations for the choir loft
- Assisting generally with the comprehensive study conducted concerning present and future needs of the Sanctuary, All Saints Hall and the Campus, including an assessment of multiple maintenance needs, both present and deferred
- Overseeing and assisting generally with significant enhancements and renovations to the Christ Church Kindergarten playground
- Purchasing a piano dollie
- Purchasing a new ciborium (sterling silver communion wafer box with top) and paten plate
- Purchasing new benches for the Memorial Garden
- Coordinating and overseeing various new plantings in the Ruth Garden
- Assisting generally with repair, maintenance, and improvement needs concerning the duplexes on the Church property
- Coordinating and overseeing an Eagle Scout project to create an area for the burial of pet ashes
- Assisting with the assessment of audio/video needs for the Sanctuary
- Coordinating with the Facilities Director in providing landscaping services for the Campus
- Purchasing acolyte and chalice bearer robes
- Providing funds for the repair and purchase of hymnals and prayer books
- Providing funds for audio/video needs
- Assisting with numerous repairs and improvements to the Sanctuary roof and the interior of the Sanctuary and Bell Tower
- Coordinating with the Facilities Director in reviewing and assessing present needs with regard to all of the buildings and facilities throughout the Campus

- Overseeing and funding numerous plantings and landscaping throughout the Campus, including trees and shrubbery beside the Sanctuary, multiple planting and improvements to the Memorial Garden, and the completion of a variety of landscape improvements throughout the campus

Commission members: David Kern (Chair), The Reverend Fred Paschall, Jr., Wendy Mauney (Parish Administrator), Jason Scofield (Facilities Director), Bob Dooley (Junior Warden – ex officio) Catherine Browning, Eric Locher, Bill Lowry, Lulie Mallard, Burch Mixon, William Nichols, Jr., and Barbara Plumlee.



Christ Church Charlotte

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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