



2022 Annual Meeting January 23, 2022





Annual Meeting Agenda Sunday, January 23, 2022

Opening Prayer	Father Mark Delcuze, Rector
Last Meeting's Minutes	Antoinette McDowell, Registrar
Elections	Father Mark Delcuze, Rector
2021 Accomplishments	Molly Cannon, Senior Warden
Property Report	Goldey Vansant, Junior Warden
Financial Report	Pat Spinella, Treasurer
2022 Outlook	Molly Cannon, Senior Warden
New Business	All Parish Members
Adjourn	Father Mark Delcuze, Rector

Next Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 22, 2023



830 Romancoke Road
Stevensville, Maryland 21666
The Rev. Mark S. Delcuze, Rector
ccpki.org
410.643.5921
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Third Sunday after the Epiphany
23 January 2022

Dear Families and Friends of Christ Church Parish,

“Hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.”
Romans 5:5

Christ Church Parish is active and alive, even in the face of a pandemic. This summer, we spent time listening: face-to-face, online, in homes, and in church. We were reminded of just how important our faith community is to members and our community neighbors. While we have remained generally dispersed for an entire year, we have fed school children in the community, attracted new members, and cared for our facilities. We regret the things we have not been able to do; but Hope is the recurring word for this year.

Signs of Hope have emerged as the Parish Day School resumed classes in September. **Lisa Oesterling** and her staff have adapted brilliantly to the challenges. Our music program, led by **Dr. Gary Van Essen**, continues to offer stirring music with choir, Praise Band and other voluntary music offerings. **Brenda Faulkner**, our Parish Administrator has kept us informed through bulletins, newsletters, and dozens of email streams. **Bob Moore** continues his faithful care of our buildings providing cleaning, sanitizing, and repairs. **Jean Travis** keeps an eagle eye on our parish income and expenses.

Along the way in 2021, we have started new ministries including the Garden Club and Digital Outreach Ministries. Working Groups are beginning to address our need to restore efforts with Family Ministry and Pastoral Care. We have completed our third Capital Campaign and are well on our way to finally fulfilling our mortgage obligations.

Please read on in this Annual Report to discover how we responded to the challenges of 2021. Then, take a moment to give thanks for the many parishioners and the gift of the Holy Spirit which continues to kindle our common Hope.

Peace,

Mark +

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2021

We gathered together with the Celebration of Communion under Special Circumstances.

The Annual Meeting was opened by Fr Mark at 10:12am on January 24, 2021 with a Prayer for the Mission of the Church.

The minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were read. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Toinette McDowell and seconded by Caroline Aland. The minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were accepted.

Rector's Report - Father Mark

- We celebrate the life and mourn the loss of John Gilbert. Mark extended his thanks to the membership and thanks to the departing Vestry. Class of 2021; Jeffrey Pike, Dottie Wilson and Colleen Minahan. Gary Van Essen and Emily have made our worship work during the pandemic, for which we give our gratitude. Brenda Faulkner has administered the church administration from a distance and will receive a gift certificate to the upcoming Haven Ministries annual event, as will the Van Essen. Goldey Vansant has excelled in maintaining the physical plant of CCPKI in working order. Lisa Oesterling has stepped up as interim leader of Christian Formation. Jean Travis keeps our finances in excellent shape. And we say goodbye, with our thanks, to Connie Clark for her service as Senior Warden.
- We now introduce the new Vestry Class. Welcome to Dennis Conrad, Lois Vanderbok and Cara Fehrenbacher. All nominees were accepted by acclamation.
- Election of delegates to the 2021 Annual Diocesan Convention are Goldey Vansant and Kaitlyn Horvath who return for a second year and Josh Dorsey is added to this year's delegates. Three alternates are invited to join them. The motion to approve the delegates was made by Bluette Blinoff and seconded by Tara Lightner.

We Gather Together Pledge Campaign – Charlie Mead

- In the *We Gather Together* Campaign, we aimed to collectively pledge **\$175,000** to empower our ministries to please God. Together, we pledged \$175,314 – **100% of our goal** – to do just that! Seventy-two families participated, representing a broad cross section of our congregation. Our leadership has done a fine job of controlling expenses in 2020, and we expect this focus to continue in 2021. Still, we are relying on unpledged gifts of \$50,000 in 2021 to cover all our anticipated expenses.
- In 2020, we reduced the balance of our mortgage loan to **less than \$500,000** – a long way from its 2015 balance of \$1,100,000! Sixty-two families have pledged \$96,929 in 2021 toward the Mortgage Fund, so we will be able to continue our practice of paying our monthly mortgage payment plus \$1,000 toward the principal.
- Every year from 2015 through 2019, we have paid an additional \$50,000 or more to reduce the principal of the loan. In 2020, we paid an additional \$30,000 toward principle. Additional contributions of \$50,000 or more in 2021 will allow us to continue our momentum toward eliminating the mortgage altogether.

Thanks to all who have provided the resources to empower our ministries and to accelerate the elimination of the mortgage!

2020 Events & Activities - Connie Clark, Sr. Warden

Thank you to the members of CCPKI for their courage, faith, creativity and endurance throughout the year.

- CCPKI hosted the 2020 Diocesan Convention to great success, just before COVID arrived.
- Happy & Grateful Hour, celebrating five dedicated leaders in February: Charlie Mead, Molly Cannon, Mike Herold and Lindy Coltharp, and our beloved John Gilbert.
- COVID arrived in March and Fr. Mark has made it possible for all of us to gather together digitally every Sunday, for service, prayers, scripture and readings, feeding our souls with over 200 videos, prayers and events. We prayed and celebrated virtual and socially distanced events and meetings including:
 - A parade of decorated cars around the church Celebrating Marks anniversary;
 - Gary and Emily's music continued every week, and introduced our virtual choir, solos and duets
 - Our learning and awareness grew through participation in Sacred Ground: a study series on Race and Faith, as well as two other book groups.
 - Fr. Mark moved online to continue Ponder, Pause & Pray.
 - Education for Ministry celebrated four new graduates.
 - Two new ministries were formed:
 - Technology Outreach Ministry was formed to help folks get "online," record readers and sermons so Gary could digitally edit all service segments into one online worship posted every week to YouTube and the CCPKI website.
 - COVID Health Taskforce showed us how to reopen safely as health professionals guided us in creating CCPKI cleaning and service protocols for building use and in-person services.
- We cannot change the world, but we have adapted to it.
- Connie was gifted with Wine and Chocolates.

Jr. Warden - Goldey Vansant, Jr. Warden

- Preparations for the 2020 Diocesan Convention included cleaning windows, striping the parking lots, and upgrading Wi-Fi throughout the building.
- Repair of the kitchen floor was a 2-month project that was completed in July.
- Infestation of insects in the trees next to the church was addressed with 3 pesticide treatments.
- Roof issue next to sanctuary was repaired and several gutters were repaired.
- Rectory required a new HVAC that was installed and patched. Trees trimmed away from the roof.
- Dennis & Carol Conrad and Bud and Lynn Shand were thanked for their landscaping work on the circle in front of the church.
- We were able to find a way to connect to the church's network drive remotely allowing Brenda Faulkner to work from home.
- Upcoming Projects:
 - We are requesting quotes for asphalt work to repair the kitchen driveway and fill the potholes in the back circle road.
 - Talks are in progress with Delmarva to rework the lighting in Shand Hall. Due to a change in program terms this month, part of the expense to replace current bulbs in Shand Hall may be covered.
 - One of the CEEP Network Seminar discusses the importance of maintenance of our churches during forced closures.

- Water fountains in the building were shut down and are run periodically to prevent bacteria growth.
- We are in the process of mapping all electrical circuits. Of the 9 breaker boxes in the church several circuits have been found to be incorrectly labeled or not labeled at all.

Financial - Pat Spinella, Treasurer

Thank you to the members for donations and to the Financial Committee for their dedication during a difficult year.

- **Budget**
 - Nearly achieved our goal for general funds at 97% of target.
 - Soup Group provided \$38,000 to the budget, in spite of the shutdown.
 - The original PPP Loan was received thanks to timely application. This helped us weather the financial burdens of the pandemic.
 - We controlled our spending and only spent 92% of budget.
- **Investments and endowments.**
 - Thanks to the PPP Loan, we were able to avoid taking a planned \$11,374 from investment funds.
 - The mortgage fund received a \$30,000 donation in January. That, plus an additional \$10,000 transferred to mortgage fund has reduced our mortgage balance to under \$500k. We are now in good shape to retire the debt in 2024 when we will be able to focus on community outreach and other missions.
 - The 2021 budget has been approved by Vestry.
 - The new budget shows a minor increase of apportionment to the Diocese
 - Another round of PPP Loans is available and we have submitted our application.
 - The budget relies on close to \$80k in endowment transfers. This will hopefully be assisted by a new PPP loan.
 - Thanks to everyone for your energy, support and your donations.

New Business – Fr. Mark

- Molly Cannon will be our new Senior Warden in 2021.
- Thank you, Gary, Emily and Brenda and our trusted Financial Committee.
- Thanks to departing Vestry Jeff, Dottie and Colleen, and incoming Vestry Dennis, Cara and Lois.
- We are well poised to thrive in the New Year. Both of God's eyes are smiling on us. (John Prine)
- A year-end-statement will be sent to all members in a pdf.
- Physical copies of individual statements are also being mailed for tax preparation.
- Soup group planning to start up again in February
- New events: How we walk with Christ during Lent, new book clubs, the sacraments of communion and confirmation and being part of the Episcopal Church.
- The giving from our membership has been heartwarming. Many of us are taking advantage of Text to Give.
- Food continues to stream in and out. The Backpack Program feeds hundreds of families. Thanks to Kathy and Dick Sells and their Backpack team. Your donations of food and cash donations are delivered to the Grasonville Food Bank every Tuesday and Friday. Thanks to Juanita Dombkowski for her team coordination.

The business of the meeting is complete

After Meeting:

- Connie offered our thanks to Father Mark along with a six-pack of Corona and a lime, a lovely card & cash gift for all of Mark's gifts to us. Mimi Delcuze was thanked for her donation of over 600 masks donated to the church.
- Mark shared his appreciation and his thoughts of reopening our church soon and building on what has been done during COVID. He is full of joy at our accomplishments. Children and youth will be very important focus in the coming year.
- A tribute to John Gilbert. A memorial service will be done in the future.
- Look for a future email that will be sent asking for your input on how this Virtual Annual Meeting worked for you. It will also ask you to include what your hopes are for CCPKI in the coming year. Feedback and Hopes.

Thanks to Tara, Charlie, Molly and outgoing vestry members.

Call a friend today.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

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Nominations

Vestry (Three Positions Available)

Charlie Mead



I guess I'm a "cradle-Episcopalian." I was baptized in the Episcopal Church; my mom was on the Altar Guild, my dad was Junior Warden, and I was in the youth group and served as an acolyte. Our church, founded in 1733, was about as Episcopalian as they come – stone cathedral, historic graveyard, incense, priest with a British accent – the whole bit.

So, it was quite comfortable for me to join Christ Church in 2004, right after my wife and I moved to Kent Island. Information on the Parish's finances were hard to come by then. That was counter to my graduate school business education and 30 years in business management at a Fortune 500 company, so I joined the Vestry to see if I could help. I guess I did, because after my three-year term, they made me Senior Warden. There, with the able assistance of Treasurer Molly Cannon – and the occasional "encouragement" of Bishops Bud Shand and Henry Parsley – I oversaw the transition from our departing priest to the hiring and installation of Father Mark. That has surely been one of the more rewarding experiences of my life. I treasure the relationships that I developed in that time with all four of them as well as with many others in our Parish and community. During my eight-year tenure, we were able to grow the Parish from what the bankers affectionately described as an "unsustainable" operation to a financially stable organization. Since stepping aside, I have continued as Co-Chair of the Stewardship Team.

Becky Myers



Becky is from North Carolina and moved to Kent Island earlier this year to live with family. She was a veterinary technician for 19 years before retiring as medically disabled. In Durham, NC she enjoyed helping her church help others in the community through a variety of outreach programs, as well as beautification of the church campus. She is excited to be a part of Christ Church's family, serving Kent Island with faith, hope, and love.

Ben Riley



Ben Riley joined Christ Church in May 2021. He is a retired Navy Captain and is also retired from the Senior Executive Service in the Department of Defense. He presently works for Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI), part of Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. He regularly attends the 10:00 am service and evening prayer. He and his late wife, Susan Riley, have three adult children and nine grandchildren.

For Diocesan Convention Delegate (Three Positions Available)

Goldey Vansant, Josh Dorsey, Kaitlin Horvath

Celebration of Ministries

Acolytes

Acolytes have served in the church for thousands of years. The Acolytes symbolically bring and carry the light of Christ (torch bearers) or the Cross (Crucifer) during services. They assist in services by distributing collection plates to ushers and assisting the celebrant during Communion.

We are deeply grateful and proud of our Acolytes, who assist with in-person worship services. As services moved on-line, Acolytes did not participate. Looking to the future, youth in 3rd through 12th grades are encouraged to join the Acolyte Team and commit their time and talents to serving the Lord. Acolytes are trained and guided by an adult mentor to help them feel confident in their duties.

Schedules are prepared quarterly, and assignments are made according to Acolytes' availability.

Contact acolytes@ccpk.org

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild has been very busy during 2021. We would like to welcome our new members - Tom Christensen, Cara Fehrenbacher, Lynne Shand, and Patti Snyder. Unfortunately, we did lose three members in 2021 – John & Wyna Gilbert and Gini Wathen.

Our members plan the flowers for major church holidays, clean our linens, and set up for and clean up after services. If you look at the schedule, it looks like we have at least three people on each team. Unfortunately, many times members are unable to come and help at their designated time. We would like to have some new members who are willing to give one hour, one Saturday a month to set up for services and/or 30 minutes on one Sunday a month to clean up after services. We especially need help after the 10 am Sunday service. No one is ever expected to work alone, and we like to work in teams of three or four members.

Contact Anne Tyler: altarguild@ccpki.org or 410-643-6282

Backpack Meals for Kids

The Backpack Weekend Meals for Kids program is an initiative through which churches throughout Queen Anne's County provide weekend food for children at risk of hunger when school is not in session. Childhood hunger is a heartbreaking problem in our community and local families have continued to struggle during this COVID period. Every elementary and middle school in the county has a Backpack program supported by churches, including Christ Church Parish Kent Island.

At the beginning of the 2020/21 school year, the Queen Anne's County Public School System established "Grab-and-Go" food distribution sites at several schools across the county. Any family with children in the QACPS system could drive up and receive free breakfast and lunch meals. The Backpacks Program provided bags of weekend meals at all of these sites. Christ Church led other churches in distributing thousands of bags of food to local families through the end of the school year.

During the summer months of 2021, the Christ Church Backpack Program provided bags of weekend food for children in the QACPS Migrant Program in Sudlersville. Beginning in September, our volunteers gather weekly to pack and deliver 165+ bags of weekend food for children at Bayside Elementary, Kent Island Elementary and Sudlersville Middle Schools.

Christ Church also plays a key role in supporting the Backpacks program for Queen Anne's County. Our ministry coordinator serves as the primary contact person for all of the churches in the program and co-chairs the QAC Local Management Board Hunger Backpack Committee overseeing the disbursement of county funds to the Backpack program. The Backpacks program has an account with the Maryland Food Bank and Christ Church serves as a hub for receipt and delivery of MDFB food to churches for distribution to the schools.

The Christ Church Backpack Program is supported by donations of food and cash from parishioners and community individuals and organizations. We receive additional funding through the QAC Department of Children and Families. We welcome participation from anyone who would like to join our pack/deliver team of volunteers, meeting each week on Thursday morning at 8:30. If you have questions or would like to help, please

Contact Kathy Sells: backpacks@ccpki.org or 410-490-6042

Boy Scout Troop 1631 - Sponsored by CCPKI

Be sure to follow Troop 1631 Kent Island on Facebook and for additional information please contact Keith Fulmer at boyscouts@ccpki.org or 443-994-7940.

Broad Creek Cemetery

Broad Creek Cemetery, which dates back to 1650, is situated on one of the earliest church sites and is one of our most precious assets. The Cemetery has been lovingly restored and is open and available to all faiths and races. The Cemetery services the needs of the church and the people of the Eastern shore by providing a final resting place for loved ones.

The Broad Creek Cemetery Committee, with the assistance of community organizations such as the Kent Island Garden Club, Boy Scout Troop 1651 and other volunteers, carefully and regularly maintain and improve the Cemetery grounds. Such activities as spreading mulch, applying lime, disposing of leaves, removing fallen branches and weeding keep Committee members busy.

In 2021 the Committee accepted a proposal from Long Fence to replace the three wooden sides of the fence surrounding the cemetery. The fence will be installed this Spring and will immediately improve the Cemetery's already incredibly beautiful appearance. The Committee also expects to complete a plan in 2022 that will address how the Cemetery will look 5 years from now. That plan will take into consideration the construction of a handicapped accessible columbarium within the confines of the Cemetery as well as a tree replacement plan that will maintain the serenity and beauty of the site.

The Committee welcomes new members; this year we welcomed John Reckord and Becky Myers. Other members are Tom Christensen, Ed Garback, Richard Irvin, Sally Lewis, DeeDee McCracken, Kevin McCracken, Charlie Mead, Charlie Schwan, Betsy Sipes and Carole Tulip. If you are interested in joining the committee or obtaining information about the Cemetery, please contact Charlie Schwan at broadcreek@ccpki.org or (443-262-1074)

Building Use

Building use is managed through the church office by our Parish Administrator, Brenda Faulkner. All events are posted on the church calendar, which is available on our website. For the safety of everyone, building use and rentals have been very limited since March 2020.

Typically, our facilities are used year-round by many organizations such as: Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-anon, Bible Study, Boy Scouts, CECDS, Cub Scouts, Education for Ministry (EfM), Girl Scouts, Living Water Lutheran Church, Narcotics Anonymous, Non-profit organizations, weddings and funerals.

Contact Brenda Faulkner: rentals@ccpki.org or 410-643-5921

Christ Episcopal Church Day School (CECDS)

Mission: To provide a safe, loving and nurturing environment where Christian values are modeled and integrated into our developmentally appropriate curriculum. Through God's guidance, we teach children to:

- Respect themselves and others
- Develop a positive sense of self
- Celebrate and embrace diversity
- Develop a love of learning so they flourish spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically, and academically.



CECDS was closed from January through May 2021 due to Covid-19. We did use the time to redesign and update our website for our new school year of 2021-22! Families can now register and pay tuition online by going to www.cecd.org.

In June of 2021 we held a separate Meet and Greet for each family that registered for school year 2021-22. We started the school year in September of 2021 at full capacity with classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We have two 3 day Nursery classes (3 year olds) and 2 Pre-K classes (4 year olds). One class is Full day and one class is morning only. All staff is required to be vaccinated and all staff and children wear masks. We have been successful by using the layered preventative strategies as recommended by MSDE to keep our school open during the virus.

Registration is now open to the public for school year 2022-23 and we are filling up very quickly.

Find us on Facebook- Christ Episcopal Church Day School @CECDSKI
Follow us on Instagram @cecdski

Contact Lisa Oesterling: office@cecd.org or 410-643-8248

Christian Formation for Children

As is true of most churches across the country, the pandemic has deeply affected all of our parish. Throughout 2021, we worked hard to maintain an on-line presence with parents and children, but without their presence at regular worship, Sunday School and parish gatherings, our personal connections with parents and children have gradually diminished. We have taken several steps in the past few months to encourage parents and children to attend worship services when they feel safe to do so.

Family Services on Praise Band Sundays

Special prayers, recognition and activities are planned for children and parents once a month on Praise Band Sundays.

Activities for Children: Name tags for children and liturgical activity materials are prepared and available on tables in the back of the church and at the small table in front of the altar.

Family Respite Room

The prior meditation room has been re-purposed as a quiet space for parents to bring children as needed during the service. It's across the hall from the planned childcare room and there is a family restroom just down the hall.

Over the past few months, a team of parish volunteers has come together to connect with and listen to our parents with young children, to better understand their needs and hopes for their children. The team is exploring ways in which Christian Formation is changing in today's world and developing specific action plans to begin re-building our Children, Youth and Family ministries. The immediate priority is to create pathways for our parents, children and youth to develop enduring, supportive relationships with one another as they grow and deepen their faith.

There are three initial building blocks for this new foundation of Christian Formation:

Family-Centered First Communion Preparation

We will reach out to each family with children who may be candidates for First Communion and invite them to be part of a new family-centered approach to preparing for First Communion, learning about Jesus and the Bread of Life. As soon as it is safe to do so, we will bring parents and children together for an afternoon or evening of fun activity and planning.

Connecting Families with Newly Baptized Children

Fr. Mark has baptized 19 children in the past 18 months. We will reach out to each of these families, listen to their needs and hopes for their children and offer any faith formation resources or assistance the church might provide. As soon as it is safe, we will invite them to a parish gathering to meet and begin to get to know other parents of young children at Christ Church.

Child Care During the 10:00 Service

A new childcare space is being prepared for children aged four and under. It will be easily accessible, right next to the sanctuary. We are prepared to hire an experienced Childcare Attendant to care for the children and will identify 3 – 4 parish volunteers to assist with this ministry. All adults caring for children will be trained in the Diocese of Easton's Safeguarding God's Children program.

Counters

With vaccines available and attendance at the services growing each week last summer, we decided to go back to four counting teams which include Liza Hamill, Maria Jones, Dawn McKnight, Leslie Schneider, Anna Sisson, Bob Thompson, Dottie Wilson and myself, Judy Peppel.

We collect, sort and count the contributions, all of which must be entered on a spreadsheet. We carefully record everyone's pledged contributions and cash from the offering plates and make sure the tally on the spreadsheet matches the actual amount of money in the collection and then take the deposit to the bank. My thanks to all of the counters for their dedication to this important ministry.

Contact Judy Peppel: counters@ccpk.org or 410-643-5112

Digital Outreach Ministries: Livestreaming & Zoom

The COVID-19 pandemic helped Christ Church consider how we could best meet the needs of our congregation and community in the 21st century. In 2021 we set up two new opportunities for ministry: livestreaming worship services and Zoom meetings.

After pre-recording worship services for most of 2020 and the beginning of 2021, our church decided that we wanted to livestream services beginning in the fall 2021. To do this, we purchased a camera and re-purposed an existing laptop. Gary Van Essen installed the camera with the help of Goldey Vansant and then Gary and Dottie Wilson worked to test and set up the system. We are pleased to report that we have been livestreaming services each Sunday since September 19.

Anyone can access these services by going to <https://www.youtube.com/christchurchkentisland> or our church website. Since we began streaming, we have had a steady group of weekly viewers- some even in other states! Dottie has organized a team of volunteers including Liza Hammill, Bill Vanderbok, Cary Gates, and Ben Riley who will manage the livestream each week.

This year, we also established a system for holding Zoom meetings. A church member donated a 55" TV which Goldey mounted on the wall in the Conference Room. The church also purchased an additional TV and cart which can be moved anywhere on campus. Finally, the church purchased a special webcam called an Owl that is designed to capture video and sound from a group of people. Using these resources, we will offer some meetings, Bible studies, and prayer groups in a hybrid fashion: with some people attending in person and some people attending at home through Zoom.

As these ministries mature, we welcome additional parishioners to assist with our technology. . No previous experience is necessary. If you have basic computer skills, we can train you. Please contact Dottie Wilson (dorothydwilson@yahoo.com) if you are interested in serving in this way.

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year course of study developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Meeting weekly in a class seminar led by trained facilitators/mentors, assigned texts, and essays provide the content for discussion of the Christian tradition. The discipline of lay individual and group theological reflection connects life experience with study which enlightens all participants in articulating their faith, identifying their personal ministries and making a difference. The sharing of worship, spiritual autobiographies and stories create a sacred trust and fellowship among participants.

In May, 2021, three participants received their certificates of completion of the four-year program: Bluette Blinoff, Judy Grandin, and Marlene Stutzman. Here is what each one said about the value of EfM.

Bluette Blinoff: *“EfM is a journey which will change you forever. You will be a different Christian: more aware, more informed, and, hopefully, more curious. EfM is a great place to ask the tough questions: was Christ man and God, how does the Trinity really work, how does the Holy Spirit work in my life, and that all important question, what does God want me to do? What is my ministry? You will form new and important bonds with your classmates, with deep respect and love for their presence on this earth. EfM is a safe place to share your doubts and hear how others may have reconciled the same.”*

Judy Grandin: *“When talking with so many people over the years, if I had known then, what I know now, after EFM, I could have asked more relevant and meaningful questions, established better relationships, and broadened my horizons.”*

Marlene Stutzman: *“The best part of EfM was meeting great people and hearing different perspectives on the Bible from the very beginning to the end, along with the history of Christianity. It was a great experience and I highly recommend EfM.”*

September marked the beginning of the fifth year with a total of seven graduates over the last two years. This year EfM is meeting in-person and on Zoom. Whether in-person or on Zoom, all are encouraged to consider participating in this “deep dive” into faith and theology! For further information, please contact:

Bluette Blinoff: bblinoff@pfcfulfills.com or 610-212-6366

Connie Clark: constance.clark@trtlc.net or 410-302-2301

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors

Eucharistic Ministers

Eucharistic Ministers (Ems) are responsible for reading the psalms and the prayers of the people. They also assist the celebrant prepare and serve the Holy Eucharist during Holy Communion. COVID has forced us to make necessary changes. For now, we no longer assist with the chalice, but we continue our readings and assist Father Mark. We welcome all who would like to serve in the name of Jesus Christ. Parishioners who wish to become Eucharistic Ministers should contact Father Mark for more details. A short training will be provided.

Lectors

Lectors read scripture as part of worship. Reading Holy Scripture is one of the long-time traditions of the Episcopal Church. As a Lector in the Episcopal Church, we participate in the service by reading prepared readings from the Old and New Testament. We encourage all parishioners to be part of our worship celebrations by serving as a lector at the early or late service. There is always room at God’s table for more help,

please join our ministries. Father Mark and Administrator Brenda Faulkner provide guidance and scheduling. Of course, we are always happy to help, just call.

Jeffrey Pike 202.731.9148

Ruthanne Herold: lectors@ccpki.org or 410-739-5532

Feeding Our Community

In 2021 we fed our community through our Community Dinner ministry and expanded our efforts to provide food to those in need in the Sudlersville area.

Community Dinners

The Community Dinner ministry was launched in the fall of 2018. Its mission is to share God's love with others in our community while enjoying a good meal. Everyone is welcome and the dinners are free, although contributions are accepted.

In June and September of 2021, we offered outside dining as an option for our community dinners. The tables, chairs and decorations placed in the “grove” outside Shand Hall created a delightful atmosphere and a most welcome opportunity to visit with old and new friends. Our team of dedicated volunteers also provided optional curbside and home delivery of the dinners. As expected, the kitchen team and grill team (in September) did a terrific job and everyone raved about the food. The recipients were most grateful for the meals and generously donated funds sufficient to cover the cost of the dinner!

Sudlersville

In an effort to match what we do especially well – FOOD – with the need in our community, in 2021 we responded to two opportunities in the Sudlersville area, a part of the county with high food insecurity. During the summer, we delivered large numbers of soups and salads from the Soup Group to a monthly program for migrants and their children. In September, we helped to stock the emergency food supply pantry at Sudlersville Elementary School. We also began providing 20 large soups and 20 large salads to the parents attending adult education classes at The Judy Center Early Learning Hub at Sudlersville Elementary School on Thursday evenings. These weekly contributions were made possible by the Soup Group preparing the food and other individuals driving to Sudlersville each week to deliver the food. The Judy Center staff report that the recipients love the food and are thrilled to have food to take home and eat after their meetings. In addition to the soups and salads for the Judy Center, just before Thanksgiving we provided grocery gift cards for families at The Family Center in Sudlersville.

Through the QAC Backpack Weekend Meals for Kids Program, we received some additional funding that is targeted to feeding children and families. These funds are helping us to broaden our outreach ministry.

The Community Dinners and delivery of food to Sudlersville were possible only with the help of our incredible volunteers. ***Thank you*** to all who helped us feed our community in 2021 and to those who will help us do so in 2022!

Contact Dottie Wilson: dinners@ccpki.org or 615-478-2366

Finance Committee

The CCPKI Finance Committee develops and recommends the annual operating budget to the Vestry. They oversee the investment of endowment/dedicated funds, management of cash flow to meet current obligations and, in collaboration with the Treasurer, produces periodic reports for the Vestry, congregation, and the Diocese.

The Committee meets monthly on the Wednesday evening preceding the Vestry meeting. Current members, Cary Gates (chair), Dick Sells, Charlie Schwan, Bob Thompson, and Jordan Swonger review monthly financial reports, assess trends relative to the operating budget, and recommend strategies to help preserve and increase the Parish's financial assets.

The Committee also provides financial advice to the CECDS and the Cemetery Committee, and helps develop communication for the congregation on the current and future operating and capital plans of the Parish and to support the long-term health and resources of the Parish and its ministries.

If you have a financial background and are interested in the financial well-being of our church,

Contact Cary Gates: finance@ccpki.org or 443-481-0914

Garden Club Ministry

Well, if you're going to start a new club these days, you better do it outdoors! The Garden Club Ministry definitely fits that requirement.

In the Spring of 2021, the group of devoted gardeners that have been working on keeping the Christ Church grounds looking spiffy were unified under the drafted leadership of Tim Aland. It had been noticed by the Senior Warden that many devoted souls were working away and that we needed to have common goals so that we can accomplish more. And when Molly is right, she is right!

Walk-around inspections occurred with several members (Shands, Conrads, Alands, etc) and a list of needs were put to paper. One glaring need was the Circle that greets you as you arrive. After years of futile weeding, it was decided to remove the junipers and start again. Contractors submitted bids and the work was completed this fall. The intention is to grow grass in the circle with mulched beds around the crepes and statue.

As for the rest of the grounds, we concentrated on several beds to remove the weeds and invasive plants. Numerous folks helped out and the beds around the back entrance look great (thanks Becky, Kathy and others). We have plenty of gardens and plenty of work. The beauty of the grounds are accomplished by folks working when they can at their pace. We review and shoot emails to the group so we can concentrate efforts when needed. The Vestry has also added the grounds to the budget to offset expenses. It's all outdoors and at safe distances.

If you would like to join, you can reach out through the Church at office@ccpki.org or

Contact Tim Aland: gardenclub@ccpki.org

Grasonville Food Pantry

The goal of the Grasonville Food Pantry is to supply and deliver food two times per week to the elderly and handicapped who are in need. This ministry is comprised of two groups of six volunteers who deliver on Tuesdays and Fridays. These volunteers collect frozen and unfrozen food that was unsold from the Soup Group and food contributions in the grocery cart located in Shand Hall lobby. If the donations are small, the volunteers will purchase food to supplement it. Next, the volunteer delivers the food items to the Grasonville Community Center. This has been done throughout this ongoing pandemic.

We have also received some generous cash donations and food from our parishioners as well as non-parishioners that are greatly appreciated during this Pandemic. Because of COVID, our parish was included in the food donations provided through Linda Austin and Q. A.'s County but it was discontinued later in the year. We appreciate these six dedicated volunteers who have persevered during this continuing siege of COVID.

We are in need of more volunteers to assist our delivery team. If you would like to volunteer for the Grasonville Food Pantry, just call or text me.

Contact Juanita Dombkowski: foodpantry@ccpki.org or 410-310-0139

Greeters

Many thanks to all the members of the Greeters Team. These friendly Christians welcome members and visitors to worship every Sunday morning. Their role is fun and vital to the success of Christ Church. Our reputation as a warm and welcoming church is due in large part to our greeters' efforts. Each Sunday we were able to gather in person, teams of two welcomed and checked in each person in attendance. When appropriate, greeters supported the ushers in ensuring that everyone was safely seated and provided service bulletins.

Many thanks to the following team members who volunteered their time, energy, and smiles for Christ Church: Kathy Sells, Charlie Mead, Susan Reckord, Colleen Minahan, Caroline Aland, Tim Aland, Lois Vanderbok, Connie Clark, Maria Jones, Toinette McDowell, Bob Thompson and Dottie Wilson.

If interested in joining our team, please

Contact Molly Cannon: greeters@ccpki.org or 410-991-6752

Haven Ministries

Christ Church Parish is a participating church member of Haven Ministries, originally Queen Anne County Coalition of Churches. A participating church contributes financially as well as with volunteer support. Haven Ministries runs the only homeless shelter in Queen Anne's County as well as a large food pantry, a benevolent fund, Our Daily Thread Thrift Store and the Hope Warehouse. Haven Ministries is committed to giving those in need the chance to live independently by providing the life training tools needed to navigate life's ups and downs. Haven Ministries relies on hundreds of volunteers and donors to provide these services. Christ Church parishioners continue to volunteer in all aspects of the ministry and donate generously.

As you can imagine, 2021 continued to be a challenging year for Haven Ministries as it navigated the twists and turns of the pandemic with emergency housing and increased food insecurity of many Queen Anne's County residents.

Generous contributors to Haven Ministries allowed it to keep shelter services open throughout the shelter season in alternative locations, and increase food distribution. At the end of 2021, the two Hope Homes on

Main Street in Stevensville had roofs, windows and framing. When these homes are completed, hopefully in Spring or early Summer 2022, these homes will be used for housing assistance programs as there is a lack of affordable housing in the county.

Haven Ministries will continue its mission to serve our neighbors in need and looks forward to continued support and assistance from Christ Church.

Contact Caroline Aland: shelter@ccpki.org or 410-643-5847

Meals for Haven Ministries Shelter Guests

During the winter months when Haven Ministries provides shelter for those in need, participating churches are asked to provide dinner for the guests on a rotating schedule. Volunteers provide a warm and healthy dinner and perhaps dessert for folks staying at the shelter. When delivering dinner, volunteers are met by a Haven Ministries volunteer who divides the casserole or entrée, salad, and dessert into individual servings for each guest.

Making a warm and comforting meal for our neighbors who are having a difficult time is a wonderfully fulfilling endeavor. This direct and affirming support is an easy and important way to care for our neighbors. Leslie Schneider coordinates volunteers when it is Christ Church's turn to feed the shelter guests. If you are interested in providing dinner for your neighbors occasionally, please

Contact Leslie at lschneider3@msn.com or 410-310-4085

Hospitality-Soup Group

MISSION: Prepare, serve and sell soups and salads at our weekly Thursday Soup Market and foster fellowship and relationships in our community. Provide food contributions to local Grasonville food bank and Haven Ministries to meet needs of the food insecure in our community.

HISTORY/ACCOMPLISHMENTS: After the Christmas COVID surge in 2021, we closed the church and the kitchen down for the month of January but returned in February to full power. We had a great year with several new volunteers joining our ranks and many new customers as well. In spite of losing the month of January for soup sales, we still generated \$68,667 for the church operating fund, well above our goal for the year. We continue to improve and innovate our offerings and production teams to make the most of our volunteers and their talents. We are so proud of all we have accomplished and truly savor the friendships and camaraderie that this ministry has produced. We work closely with the Grasonville Community Center and Haven Ministries to coordinate food donations and extend our offerings further into our local communities. During this past year we widened our reach to include Sudlersville, Judy Center families, and summer season migrant worker families in Centreville. We also continue to respond to requests for people in need at any time and are looking forward to resuming the Community Dinners in 2022 to restore our connections in-person, once again.

GOALS FOR 2022: Our goals are simply to continue working with, around, and despite, the COVID restrictions and keep our kitchen safe and COVID-free. We know how much our soups and salads mean to all our customers and want to keep it going and even to further expand our menu offerings. We always welcome new volunteers to our team and hope to keep growing as we share the fun and fellowship in the kitchen and the Soup Market. Interested in joining us?

Contact Lindy Coltharp: soup@ccpki.org or 410-643-1607

Music Ministry

*O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night,
Come to us with Thy tender love, my soul's delight.
Unto Thee, O Lord, in affliction I call,
My comfort by day and my song in the night.
(American Folk Hymn)*

Once again in 2021, our Music Ministry team demonstrated that COVID-19 could not stop our song! We began 2021 without in-person services. During this time, choir members recorded solos and duets for our pre-recorded YouTube worship services. A highlight of these services was a breathtaking rendition of “Lamb of God” featuring Kathy Sells and her daughter, Laurie. For this collaboration, Kathy and Laurie recorded their parts in two different states! Our (distanced) choir joined forces to produce hymns and a powerful virtual anthem as part of our YouTube Easter service. On Easter Day we also returned to in-person worship at Camp Wright and welcomed back our Praise Band.

This fall, our Parish Choir reunited (for the first time in 18 months) at a choir retreat. The choir began singing at our worship services again on September 19th. The first anthem the choir sang after their hiatus was the classic “With a Voice of Singing.” Despite COVID-related challenges, our choir remained strong this fall and currently has fourteen members. The choir sang each week at 10 a.m. and at both services on Christmas Eve. The choir has also been aided greatly this season by Dave Hasek, who, in his retirement from full-time employment, has served as a volunteer choir accompanist and organist. Our Praise Band also grew this fall with the addition of Warren Prender rounding out our band with trumpet! We also welcomed back our resident bassoonist Micahla Hendrix, whose beautiful bassoon solos lifted our spirits and elevated our worship. In October, Emily and I presented a Broadway Cabaret, catered by Lindy (and friends), which raised funds for Haven Ministries and the church’s music program and offered an opportunity for church and community members to casually reconnect after much time apart. In December we also were able to bring back the Westminster Ringers at a well-attended concert to kick off the Christmas season.

We know that 2022 will bring challenges. COVID-19 is still present, and our Parish Choir and Praise Band will need to adapt to keep everyone safe. But there will still be music and Jesus will still be our song in the night! The Parish Choir is always accepting new members. Reading music is not a requirement and no audition is necessary. Just talk to me (Gary) if you are interested. And if you play an instrument or sing and would like to be part of our Praise Band, we would welcome you there, too. Our Concert Series will be back in 2022; we already have two concerts scheduled for this spring. Check out our website for more information. Finally, watch for more information about a special celebration of the Parish Choir coming in fall 2022!

Thank you to all the participants in the Parish Choir and Praise Band for their consistent generosity in giving their time to enrich worship. Thank you to Father Mark, Molly, Goldey, and the Vestry for always supporting our music program with their time and resources. Finally, thank you to the congregation of Christ Church for your kind words, financial support, and attendance which continue to make our church and music program possible.

Contact Gary Van Essen: music@ccpki.org or 443-413-3172

Parish Office

Our Parish Office is always a busy place. Throughout the week our Parish Administrator, Brenda Faulkner, works both in person and at home providing administrative support to our Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Ministry Leaders. Brenda also serves as liaison to CECDS and Living Water Lutheran Church and oversees the work of the Sexton. This year has challenged us to find new ways to do all the work God has in store for us. Brenda is grateful to the many volunteers that help make all of this happen.

Contact Brenda Faulkner office@ccpki.org or 410-643-5921

Property

2021 was a very busy year for Christ Church facilities, both inside and out. Rain gutter and roof work were required in several locations. In the summer, a very strong odor was coming from the PTAC (Packaged Terminal Air Conditioner) unit in the vesting room, along with a buzzing sound at first thought to be some loose sheet metal. Upon inspection, it turns out there was a beehive inside the unit! The situation was quickly remedied. Also, the large light fixture outside of Shand Hall (lovingly called “the five-headed monster”) had power restored, bulbs changed, and all the lights are now functional. Additionally, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers, the front circle, the parking lot islands, and various small gardens around the church look much, much better. Finally, a paving task was completed to mitigate the muddy conditions at the entrance to the kitchen drive, along with patching potholes in the perimeter drive.

Inside the building it was even busier. In the Day School, several PTAC units required servicing, and one classroom had a water leakage problem due to a lack of flashing on some brickwork. In the rest of the building, water heaters had to be replaced in a few bathrooms, and a new vacuum cleaner and a carpet extractor had to be replaced because of age. Due to questionable labeling, we also started a circuit mapping project, which is ongoing, to properly identify which breakers control which circuits. Also, a few network upgrades were done to support live-streaming and video conferencing. At the end of the year, our aging fire monitoring system failed completely and had to be replaced.

The kitchen required major work this year. A problem with the drains was discovered to be caused by a complete blockage in a part of the drain line that could not be fixed even with hydro-jetting. The eventual solution was to cut out a 4-foot section of the drain line and replace it. Procedures have been adopted to prevent this in the future. Also, the faucets along the sink wall were replaced because signs of failure were obvious. The exhaust fan over the stove finally gave up the ghost after multiple repairs over the years and had to be replaced. Most recently, a new water line and faucet was placed near the stove to act as a pot filler, negating the need to carry heavy pots of water from the sinks.

Lastly, the rectory. The front storm door had to be replaced due to wind damage that ripped the door from its hinges. We are still in talks with Church Insurance to resolve the status of a possible leak that occurred at the same time. Also, a new dryer had to be purchased to replace a non-functioning one. Finally, a big Thank You to the McDowells for stepping in to address several issues with the rectory. The Junior Warden is very grateful for their initiative!

Contact Goldey Vansant: jrwarden@ccpki.org or 410-827-6220

Recovery Ministries

Christ Church supports several recovery groups by providing a dedicated space for these groups to safely meet. We are blessed to have three AA Meetings and one Al-Anon Meeting currently using our facility.

Contact Parish Office: office@ccpki.org or 410-643-5921
Kevin McCracken: kmccracken@atlanticbb.net or 410-739-7571

Stewardship

As stewards of God's possessions, we are responsible for managing the resources of our families and our church in a way that we hope and believe pleases God. When asked to support Christ Church and her ministries in 2022, both members and friends responded, and we **exceeded our goals for 2022!**



Thank You!

Many thanks go to the **63 parishioners** who shared their aspirations for our church in the June Small Group Conversations and to the **67 families** who have pledged their support in the Strengthening Community with Faith, Love, and Hope Campaign.

We are also exceedingly grateful to **Dottie Wilson, Jordan Swonger, Kathy Sells, Susie Reckord, Jeff Pike, and Tom Christensen** for dedicating their creativity and time to designing and managing the Conversations and Campaign.

Small Group Conversations

In the June Small Group Conversations, we shared how we would like to allocate our resources. We agreed that we wanted to **care for**:

- Each Other: With increased pastoral care, fellowship, and more
- Our Community: By reinforcing our food-based ministries, and more
- Our Facility: So it can serve as a community resource and an inviting worship and gathering space

There was general agreement that:

- Our church is friendly, welcoming, and inviting
- Our preaching and music are inspirational
- Our outreach is strong and effective
- Our children's ministry must become strong and vital
- Online worship is here to stay
- Pastoral Care requires support.

Campaign Results

To date, 66 families have pledged \$173,530 to the 2022 Operating Fund – 105% of our goal. So far, 48 families have pledged \$91,294 to the 2022 Mortgage Fund – 101% of our goal. In addition, 27 families have pledged to cover our monthly mortgage payment plus \$1,000 for six months each in 2023 and 2024.

Each year since 2015, we have been fortunate to receive about \$60,000 in unpledged gifts to the Operating Fund and \$50,000 in unpledged gifts to the Mortgage Fund. We hope and pray for this to continue in the coming

three years, so that we can pay off the mortgage in 2024 and fully fund the ministries we want to support in 2022 and beyond.

Contact Molly Cannon: mollycannon@yahoo.com or 410-991-6752
Charlie Mead: cmead500@gmail.com or 410-829-9081

Ushers

As a doorkeeper in the house of God, we prepare the church for in-person worship services, help the service to run smoothly, and assist all who attend.

Talents Needed

Parishioners who can greet people warmly, and be especially hospitable to visitors and guests, allowing the love of the Lord to shine through them.

Time Commitment

An additional forty minutes to the service – twenty minutes prior to prepare for the service, and time after the service to tidy up the sanctuary and narthex and lock the church doors.

There is always room at God's table for more help. Please join our ministry.

Contact Bob Rosekrans: ushers@ccpki.org or 443-249-3233

Vestry

The Vestry consists of the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary or Registrar, Treasurer and nine elected parishioners. The Parish membership elects Vestry members for three-year terms. They serve as leaders of the Parish and as agents and legal representatives of the Parish on all matters concerning its corporate property and its relation to its Clergy. The Vestry meets to conduct its business for approximately two hours each month.

[Special thanks](#) go to Caroline Aland, Darleen Bedard, and Josh Dorsey for completing their 3-year terms in 2021. We will elect three new members at the Parish Annual Meeting to fill their spots.

Current Vestry members are: Father Mark Delcuze – Rector, Molly Cannon – Senior Warden, Goldey Vansant – Junior Warden, Pat Spinella – Treasurer

Class of 2022

Caroline Aland
Darleen Bedard
Josh Dorsey

Class of 2024

Dennis Conrad
Cara Fehrenbacher
Lois Vanderbok

Class of 2023

Tom Christensen
Toinette McDowell
Susie Reckord

Vestry candidates for the Class of 2025 are:
Charlie Mead
Becky Myers
Ben Riley

Contact Vestry: vestry@ccpki.org or srwarden@ccpki.org

Looking Ahead to 2022

In our Small Group Conversations in June 2021, we re-affirmed what was important to us, and we identified areas of focus for us to continue to live into our mission. Since June, we have initiated plans in each of these.

Expanded Pastoral Care: We have budgeted for and plan to train several Stephen Leaders through a course that trains caring volunteers to provide one-on-one care to parishioners and friends who are seeking comfort.

Christian Formation: Our first steps include hiring a child caregiver and identifying volunteers who can care for young children during the 10:00 am worship service. We are also developing a First Communion program for families and young people.

Expanded Food-Based Outreach: We have embarked on new initiatives to supply food to the Sudlersville Elementary School, the Sudlersville Judy Center, and The Family Center at Sudlersville. We also disbursing new funding targeted to feeding children and families. We will continue to support the Grasonville Food Pantry, Haven Ministries, and Haven Ministry Food Pantry. Our Soup Group will continue to sustain our community with soups and salads and may expand its offerings.

Welcoming Our Neighbors: We will update Shand Hall with new carpeting and lights. We will also address multiple facilities improvement projects, among them purchasing a new shed and maintaining our storm water management ponds.

New Technologies: We have deployed technology for live-streaming and videoconferencing, and we will continue to explore opportunities to connect with our community and one another using digital technology to share worship, study, and fellowship opportunities.

Our Mission

At Christ Church Parish Kent Island, you will find worship grounded in our congregation's four centuries of living God's mission. We value Jesus' teaching of all-inclusive, non-judgmental love. We are nourishing bodies, minds, and spirits; providing a safe place for renewal and recovery; and cultivating faith through meaningful relationships.



Grounded in Christ
Growing in Faith
Giving in Community