

Christ Church Parish, Kent Island  
830 Romancoke Road  
Stevensville, MD 21666

Non-Profit Org  
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**PAID**  
Stevensville, MD  
Permit No. 8



## August 2023 Connections

- ✝ Grounded in Christ
- ✝ Growing in Faith
- ✝ Giving in Community

410-643-5921

[www.ccpki.org](http://www.ccpki.org)



*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern*

## **COME AND SEE ... Words from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry**

We are becoming a new and re-formed church, the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement— individuals, small gathered communities and congregations whose way of life is the way of Jesus and his way of love, no longer centered on empire and establishment, no longer fixated on preserving institutions, no longer shoring up white supremacy or anything else that hurts or harms any child of God.

By God's grace ... **WE ARE BECOMING A CHURCH THAT LOOKS AND ACTS LIKE JESUS.**

**What does this re-formation look like in practice?**

**We'll know we're moving forward when we ...**

**Center on Jesus Christ.** His teachings, his example, his Spirit, his way of love and his way of life are the key to having loving, liberating and life-giving relationships with God, our neighbors, all of creation, and ourselves.

**Practice the selfless, self- giving way of the cross.** The way of "cruciform love"— Jesus' act of unselfish, sacrificial, self-offering love, or losing one's life in order to gain it—is our way to authentic life.

**Unite around the practice of a rule of life in small gathered communities.** These kinds of groups—small circles of people who support each other in following Jesus with intention and accountability— are necessary for cultivating Christ- centered life.

**Reclaim our Christian identity as a Spirit-driven, countercultural, underground movement.** We must break free of the church's identification with domination systems, empire, establishment, privilege, and social and cultural traditions that have held us captive—and get back in touch with the risk-taking, liberating ways of Jesus.

**Live and bear bold witness to the vision and values of Jesus.** We point to the reality of the kingdom (the peaceable reign) of God, and we seek to embody the beloved community, where each person strives for and celebrates the dignity and flourishing of every beloved child of God as much as we do for ourselves.

## Family Ministry News!

Summer Camp Ministry is important.

At church, kids wear stuffy clothes and don't get very many opportunities to run around and be loud and have fun. Summer camp lets kids be kids while they learn about God. They can ask all their silly and wonderfully ridiculous and also valid questions about faith around other children who are definitely wondering the exact same thing. Kids at camp get to find joy, find god, and find both of those things in the other.

This summer at Camp Wright, I've been leading many of the Serendipity blocks for the campers. Serendipity at Camp Wright looks like many different things. Normally, we do our check ins, talk about our Junks (something we did not like), our Joys (something we very much liked), and our Jesus moments (where have we seen God today). After we check in, we'll read a story. Sometimes, it's a bible story, sometimes it's different, like the Warm Fuzzy story or the Wemmicks. Always, they help teach kids about God.

We've talked about prayer, we've admired God's creation, and every camper has left with a better understanding of God and what they can do to continue building a relationship with Christ now that they aren't at camp.

Summer Camp Ministry is important, not because it's fun, not because it teaches them new activities, but because it allows them to form their own personal relationship with God while they're doing everything else. I am so grateful to be able to help these campers on their faith journey, and I hope to continue with fun, inclusive, and diverse ministry with our Christ Church youth once camp is all done for the summer.



Contact **Jane Ford** for more information.

## Transition Process

There have been lots of questions and concerns voiced recently regarding the Transition Process from a long-term Rector to a new Rector. Hopefully we can address a few of these here with a brief overview of the process with focus on the Interim Rector.

Following Father Mark's last service on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, a Supply Priest will begin doing our worship services and will be available to us for pastoral care. We have been so fortunate to secure an agreement with The Rev. Frank Crumbaugh for the period of November 12 through December 31, 2023. Beginning January 1, 2024, we hope to have secured an Interim Rector to be with us until a new Rector is found and installed by the bishop. An Interim Rector may be with us for six to eighteen months with our hope being one year.

The longer a Rector is in place, the more the church, its ministries and Leadership begin to reflect the personality and style of that Rector. This is by no means a bad thing, but unless we look for a clone, our next Rector will not be exactly like Father Mark. It is for that very reason that an Interim Rector is so important. The Interim Rector brings a specific set of skills and training to the parish they serve. They allow and encourage a parish to discern who they are, their goals, and most importantly what they want in a new Rector. The Interim Rector will also guide the Vestry, Transition Committee and Search Committee through the process of creating a Parish Profile to be uploaded to the Office of Transition Ministry in our Diocese and the National Church. This profile can be thought of as a "Job Posting". However, we are not posting a job, we are posting a calling that we hope will attract the best candidate for our needs. This is an intense process that will require the participation of all parishioners through listening sessions.

There is a wealth of information available to an Episcopal parish through the Diocese and the National Church. There are dozens of books and examples, there are consultants who are experts in these processes and most importantly we have in our midst, parishioners who have been through the process as part of Leadership, Search Committees, and Transition Committees.

We have resources at our fingertips, a loving and dedicated congregation and a rich tradition that will move us through this process to continue our work and worship in Christ.

## PROPERTY UPDATE

Warren was baptized with fire after being elected as the new Jr Warden. On his first official day there was an issue with the fire suppression system in the kitchen. The alarm sounded, the fire department was dispatched, the building was evacuated and the shrimp was ruined. When he looked at his phone and saw it was Brenda calling, he wondered, Why would Brenda be calling me from her cell phone? I just left there a little while ago. And so, the initiation began. On day two, there was no hot water in the kitchen. Fortunately, there was no fire. It was a false alarm. Unfortunately, it made a HUGE mess in the kitchen and caused numerous setbacks for our Soup Group folks. As well as, damage to the water heater. Welcome aboard, Warren.



If you are interested in helping this poor man out, contact Warren 410-703-3080 or email [jrwarden@ccpki.org](mailto:jrwarden@ccpki.org).

## SAVE THE DATE RETIREMENT PARTY HONORING

THE REV. MARK S. DELCUZE



SATURDAY, OCT 28, 2023  
5:30PM—8:30 PM  
SAIL AWAY WITH US

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH  
830 ROMANCOKE RD  
STEVENSVILLE, MD

# Singing in a Choir is Good for Your Health



An article in the Washington Post by Alexandra Moe (June 25, 2023) examined a “a growing body of research that points to the physical and mental health benefits of singing with others.”

Numerous studies have shown that singing in a choir can reduce stress, boost the body’s ability to fight illnesses, lower anxiety, stimulate memory for singers with dementia, increase lung capacity, and diminish postpartum depression. And, of course, these benefits are in addition to the camaraderie and satisfaction that comes from working together to create a fine musical product.

The Christ Church Parish Choir offers church and community members the opportunity to experience these benefits while supporting the worship ministries of our church. Now really is a great time to join the choir: our choir is actively growing, COVID is under control, and we need additional singers! All high-schoolers and adults are welcome without audition. You don’t have to be able to read music. We rehearse after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday (from about 11:25-12:25) so you don’t have to come out for rehearsals in the evening.

We will have a kick-off breakfast and rehearsal on **Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the church. Our first Sunday singing for the fall will be **September 11<sup>th</sup>** and we will rehearse after the service that day. All you need to do to sign up is send an email to Gary Van Essen ([music@ccpki.org](mailto:music@ccpki.org)) or talk to him on a Sunday morning. Come be part of our choir, and here’s to your health!



*Christ  
Church  
Parish* est. 1631  
*Kent Island*

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# QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

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June 30, 2023

# Financial Highlights

## First Half Revenues Stellar

Financial results during the first half of the year are encouraging. Giving is strong; donations to the Operating Fund are 30% over budget. 137 families donate regularly. We are well on our way to meet and even exceed our 2023 contributions budget. **Thank you!**

## Excellent Progress Reducing Mortgage Debt

Thirty-eight families have joined our Rector and his Family in his generous **40 & 10 Anniversary Challenge**. They have already contributed over \$11,000 toward our goal of \$16,000, when Father Mark and Mimi will add \$4,000 and reduce our mortgage debt by a total of \$20,000.

**Thank you to every family, including our Rector's, for their enthusiastic support!**

Meanwhile, many parishioners continue to make regular donations to the Mortgage Fund, making it possible for us to meet our monthly mortgage obligation. These contributions, along with extra money raised through the **40 and 10 Anniversary Challenge**, have allowed us to reduce our principal by over \$64,000 so far this year. If giving continues at the current rate, we can look forward to shrinking our mortgage debt to \$135,000 by the end of 2023. **Thank you!**

## Enthusiastic Parish Family Tending to Church Priorities

A large and capable corps of volunteers have made excellent progress improving our physical facilities. We have beautified the grounds, replaced the roof on our rectory garage, improved the air conditioning system, replaced aging



computers, and are in the process of cleaning and repairing the gutters. Our music program is spectacular. Altar Guild volunteers are increasing in numbers and skill. Our services are attracting new friends and members, even during the normally lean summer months.

**Thanks to the many folks involved in making our church such a beautiful and vital place!**

### **Christ Church Continues to Make a Difference in Our Community**

Parishioners and community volunteers are also enthusiastically and actively giving their time and talents to support our community. Soup Group volunteers have cultivated a large and loyal following in the community and fed many in need. We have increased our support of Haven Ministries. Every week, the Backpacks for Kids program helps hundreds of families in our county who would not otherwise have enough to eat. Donations to the children's bathing suit drive far exceeded expectations. Our Day School has completed its 51<sup>st</sup> year of successful support of pre-school children in our area. Our spring plant sale was once again a success.

**Thank you to everyone—church members and community volunteers—who support our outreach efforts!**



# 2023 FUND PERFORMANCE *(as of 6-30-2023)*

OPERATING FUND	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
<b>Revenues</b>			
General Offerings	\$117,718	\$152,532	\$34,814
Building Use	\$20,000	\$19,190	(\$810)
Fund Raisers	\$35,000	\$36,309	\$1,309
Miscellaneous Income	\$3,225	\$4,074	\$849
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$175,944</b>	<b>\$212,105</b>	<b>\$36,162</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Personnel	\$122,713	\$113,332	\$9,381
Facilities	\$49,462	\$55,670	(\$6,208)
Parish Life	\$30,221	\$34,278	(\$4,157)
Administration	\$19,740	\$22,003	(\$2,263)
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$222,136</b>	<b>\$225,384</b>	<b>(\$3,247)</b>
<b>Revenue Minus Expenses (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$46,192)</b>	<b>(\$13,278)</b>	<b>\$32,914</b>
<b>MORTGAGE FUND</b>			
Offerings	\$45,416	\$45,551	\$135
Outstanding Mortgage Loan		\$184,031	
<b>GRACE FUND</b>			
Offerings		\$150	
Grace Fund Balance		\$126,962	

## Financial Statement Notes

**General Offerings** include contributions, plate collections, special offerings and memorial gifts. Some memorial gifts are restricted and may not be used for budgeted expenses.

**Building Use** includes rental of our building facilities and kitchen to Living Water Lutheran Church, Christ Church Episcopal Day School and to individuals and organizations for weddings and special events.

**Fund Raisers** include such events as Plant Sales and Soup Sales.

**Withdrawals from Investments and Endowments** ideally will be no more than the interest/appreciation, thus preserving the principal for future years. Investment and endowment funds include the Juliana Blunt Fund, the Paca Fund, the Endowment Fund, the Investment Fund, and the Grace Youth Ministry & Education Fund.

**Personnel expenses** include the salaries, benefits, educational and travel expenses for our Rector, Minister of Music, Sexton, Family Ministry Coordinator, and Parish Administrator.

**Facilities** includes all expenses associated with maintaining the "home of our ministries" (including our rectory, the home of our rector), such as utilities, repairs, grass cutting, snow plowing and property/liability insurance.

**Parish Life** includes expenses to support outreach ministries, including programs for the homeless and hungry in our community, as well as our contribution to the Diocese for the work of the Episcopal Church. Our worship programs, including the altar guild and music ministry are also funded here.

# **CHIRST CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

## **Serving Those in Need in our Local Community**

### **BACKPACK WEEKEND MEALS FOR KIDS**

#### **SUMMER 2023**

Christ Church is providing summer weekend meals for 164 children who are attending summer school sessions in Sudlersville and 80 children in the Migrant Program held at Sudlersville Elementary School.

We will be packing food on Thursday mornings at 8:30 on 8/3 and 8/10. We are almost always finished by about 9:00. The Christ Church Youth Group is helping this summer and other children are always welcome! We love our volunteers, so please join us on any of these dates.

**We always welcome donations of food, following these guidelines:**

#### **Shopping Priorities, all Single-Serving**

**BREAKFAST: Oatmeal Packets, Cereal, Breakfast Bars**

**LUNCH: Mac & Cheese Cups, Chef Boyardee Cups, Chicken Noodle Soup**

**FRUIT: Applesauce Cups/Pouches, Fruit Cups**

**DRINKS: 100% Juice, Shelf-stable Individual Milk**

**SNACKS: Raisins, Cheese Crackers, Granola Bars, Pretzels, Cookies**

For information, please contact Kathy Sells: 410-490-6042 or [backpacks@ccpki.org](mailto:backpacks@ccpki.org). Thank you and God Bless You!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		1	2 10:00 Executive Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting
6 9:30 Worship Service	7 4:30 Broad Creek Cemetery Meeting	8	9 10:00 Executive Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting
13 9:30 Worship Service	14	15	16 10:00 Executive Meeting 7:00 Finance Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting
20 9:30 Worship Service	21 6:30 Vestry Meeting	22	23 10:00 Executive Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting
27 9:30 Worship Service	28	29	30 10:00 Executive Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting

Christ Church Office: 410-643-5921 ~ office@ccpki.org ~ www.ccpki.org

Regular Office Hours 9 am—3pm

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Com Meeting eting	3 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales	4 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	5 2:00 AA Meeting
Com Meeting eting	10 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales	11 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	12 2:00 AA Meeting
Com Meeting ce Com Mtg. eting	17 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales	18 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	19 2:00 AA Meeting  <b>7:00 Walt Wilkins in Concert</b>
Com Meeting eting	24 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales	25 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	26 2:00 AA Meeting
Com Meeting eting	31		

Clergy Emergencies, contact Father Mark S. Delcuze, Rector ~ 203-240-8884

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

		LEM	Lectors	Ushers
<b>8/6/2023</b>	9:30 AM			
<b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>		Leslie Schneider	Donna Guilford	John Reckord
		Jeff Pike	Thom Hirsch	Bob Rosekrans
<b>White</b>				
<b>8/13/2023</b>	9:30 AM			
<b>11th Sunday after Pentecost</b>		Jim Lipsner	Lisa Herilhy	Leslie Schneider
<b>Proper 14A</b>		Mike Herold	Patrick Herlihy	Charlie Schwan
<b>Green</b>				
<b>08/20/2023</b>	9:30 AM			
<b>12th Sunday after Pentecost</b>		Juanita Dombkowski	Caroline Aland	Eric Hummel
<b>Proper 15A</b>		Lois Vanderbok	Keith Fulmer	Linette Hummel
<b>Green</b>				
<b>8/27/2023</b>	9:30 AM			
<b>13th Sunday after Pentecost</b>		Liza Hamill	Jennifer Clark	Susan Hogan
<b>Proper 16A</b>		Keith Fulmer	Charlie Mead	David Lee
<b>Green</b>				
<b>9/3/2023</b>	9:30 AM			
<b>14th Sunday after Pentecost</b>		Charlie Mead	David Lee	
<b>Proper 17A</b>		Bob Rosekrans	Carole Katrinic	Laurelle McCready
<b>Green</b>				Ron McCready
<b>9/10/2023</b>	8:00 AM			
<b>15th Sunday after Pentecost</b>			Jessica Clark	Maria Jones
		Jeff Pike	Cathy Smith	Lois Vanderbok
<b>Proper 18A</b>	10:00 AM	Leslie Schneider	Pat Spinella	Warren Prender
<b>Green</b>		Patti Snyder	Helen Vansant	John Reckord

ing Chart 2023

Acolytes	Altar Guild	Counters	Greeters	Video Tech
Reagan Hohman	Dee Dee & Kevin McCracken, Carole Tulip	Dottie Wilson	Caroline Aland	Steve Dombkowski
Izzy Slavin		Bob Thompson	Susie Reckord	
Katie Schaefer	Dot Deren, Tom Christensen, Cara Fehrenbacher, Nancy Link			
Emily Schaefer		Judy Peppel	Charlie Mead	
Avery Miller		Kate McNealey	Bob Thompson	
	Betsy Sipes, Patti Snyder			Liza Hamill
Vivian Dorsey		Leslie Schneider	Becky Myers	
Landon Rosekrans		Liza Hamill	Connie Clark	
Emily Schaefer	Sally Lewis, Maria Jones, Eileen Shreve, Becky Myers			Bill Vanderbok
Katie Schaefer		Anna Sisson	Lois Vanderbok	
Reagan Hohman		Judy Peppel	Toinette McDowell	
Izzy Slavin	Dee Dee & Kevin McCracken, Carole Tulip			Dottie Wilson
Eleanore Melton		Dottie Wilson	Caroline Aland	
Vivian Dorsey		Bob Thompson	Susie Reckord	
	Dot Deren, Tom Christensen, Cara Fehrenbacher, Nancy Link			
Samuel Radley Taylor				
Avery Miller		Judy Peppel	Charlie Mead	Dottie Wilson
Landon Rosekrans		Kate McNealey	Bob Thompson	



Presents

# Walt Wilkins



**Saturday, August 19, 2023**

Doors 6:15pm EST  
**Music 7:00pm EST**

*at Christ Church Parish Kent Island  
830 Romancoke Rd  
Stevensville, MD*

Suggested Donation \$25/person  
*(or whatever you think is appropriate)*

More information can be found in our weekly email or by going directly to the website <https://www.macumcreekconcerts.com/>

**Reserve your seat today!**