

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

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May 2024

## 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 Easton

*What if I had not believed that I should see the  
goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!*

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With this, the Psalmist cries out in faith and gratitude for the blessings of protection and deliverance. Christ Church Parish on Kent Island has had many moments in her long history at which it was neither hyperbolic nor excessive to cry out with the Psalmist.

Imagine the relief and thanksgiving at its founding at the conclusion of a perilous transoceanic voyage in August 1631 - God's faithful people having built a Church on dry land of the Crown's gift, and saying their prayers together.... or when Charles II was restored to the Throne in 1660 and we realized that we'd survived The English Civil War.... or when we'd weathered the several epidemics that beset us (COVID-19 included).... or when the countryside, riven and torn with violence, was peaceful once again, be it 1783, 1815 or 1865, and we were still here.... or when, already known as "The Old Parish," we took our place in the newly constituted Diocese of Easton in 1868.... or when our own beloved Rector became Bishop of that same diocese generations later. These were moments – historic moments – worthy of the psalm.... *the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living* indeed!

Of equal moment we added another on Monday, 22 April 2024. Three women walked into Queenstown Bank – our current Church Warden Lois Vanderbok, our Treasurer Kate McNeeley, and the former Church Warden Molly Cannon, whose breathtaking courage put her signature on a document necessary to ensure the survival of the Parish – and paid off the mortgage on this property. The debt represented the largest by far of any debt in our near-four centuries of existence; it was a necessity brought on by strife and it entailed untold anxiety and strain in this

Psalm 27:17 *The Book of Common Prayer 1979*, pg.618

community of faith for years. It called upon us to engage years of vigilant, faithful stewarding of our financial resources. And it's gone. It's over. It's done. *What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!*

Savor this moment and thank God for the privilege of being alive and here to witness it. In the days ahead, we shall mark this event properly in sacred, joyful celebration, and we shall turn our minds and hearts to what lies ahead. We are strong and capable, and we have proven that in the retirement of this debt with such gracious, intentional, generous speed, especially in these last six months. What lies before us requires no less of us than the mortgage did. We now turn our attention to the needs of the World and the ways in which we do the work of Jesus outside these walls. We turn our attention now to the ways in which we maintain these walls that now shelter no debt. We turn our attention now to what lies ahead, *"Not that we have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but pressing on to make it our own, because Christ Jesus has made us his own. Beloved, we do not consider that we have made it our own; but this one thing we do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, we press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."*

Love you.... I'm more proud of this Parish than I have words to say.

For all that has been, *Thanks*. For all that will be, *Yes*.

FBC3+

*Continued*

Philippians 3:12-14 NRSV



## A Word from Our Sr. Warden

### May 2024 holds much in store:

**5 May 2024**, we will honor those youngsters who have been working with Lindy Coltharp in what the Parish knows as “*First Communion*.” This is a short program in which school age children are brought together to learn about some of our sacred practices and the beliefs that drive them.... and to learn as well about some of the places in the Church and objects that we use in worship.... and finally to make the Communion Bread they will use in marking this moment on Sunday, 5 May 2024.

**9 May 2024 at 11AM**, we will Consecrate and set apart forever the new Columbarium in Broad Creek Cemetery. We will do that with formal prayer and preaching, an apostolic blessing, and the first burial by which the structure is put into service. +James J. Shand, X Bishop of Easton, will preside, and Mark S, Delcuze+, the Rector Emeritus, will preach. There’s no rain date, so bring an umbrella if the weather looks rainy that day.

**19 May 2024 at 10AM**, we will observe what’s often called “*an instructed Eucharist*;” it’s the same liturgy, and of the same duration as any other, using a leaflet that I think you will find interesting and helpful. Please be certain to be there.

**26 May 2024**, we commence the Summer schedule of worship, having one Sunday liturgy at 9:30AM.

FBC3+

I have never had any doubt that the Holy Spirit was alive and well in Christ Church, but the month of April solidified that belief. Truly, this parish believes in its mission to serve God and each other in everything we do.

Here are the highlights of April in my view:

- The Mortgage has been paid off at a speed that caught everyone off guard.



- The survey conducted by the Search Committee had unprecedented response and showed this parish to be in a perfect position to grow. (On the following pages, you’ll see graphs prepared by Jennifer Leach, Search Committee Chair)
- The Vestry and Search Committee met together on April 14 in order to support, collaborate and review the process as we prepare to submit our Call to the Office of Transition Management. Many parishes who do not have this mutual support face a greater chance of a failed search.

- Dan and Marguerite Starsonneck, Sue Schafer, Ben Riley, Carol Conrad and I met with Joanne Fisher, Youth Commissioner for the Diocese of Easton in order to determine our path forward in formation programs for all children of our parish. (We will very much miss Jane Ford!) We are looking at best practices from other successful youth programs, and looking for creative ways to engage our youth and families in programs that recognize the challenges parents face in these times.
- The Vestry voted to change Lindy Coltharp's title to Hospitality Ministry Coordinator in recognition of the valuable ministry that Lindy and our Soup Group provide to our parish and our community.
- The Vestry Minutes will now be posted on our website. This will bring another level of transparency to our parish, potential candidates and visitors.
- The Vestry and Finance Committee approved some upgrades to the sound and video system that will add an additional camera, better sound and a Narthex TV that will run announcements.

April has been a busy, productive and positive month. Father Frank and I are praying that May will bring us additional financial prosperity as our generous parishioners transition their remaining mortgage gift plans to the Operating Account and Capital Improvement Funds. As we approach Pentecost, I know the Holy Spirit will continue to soar through this community of faith and light our hearts on fire with love.

**Lois Vanderbok**

847-650-2680

[srwarden@ccpki.org](mailto:srwarden@ccpki.org)

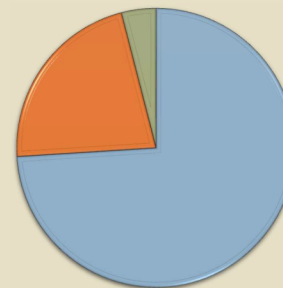
## Christ Church Parish Kent Island

### *A summary of the interpretation of our Parish Survey*

- The Key Indicators point to high levels of satisfaction and energy at CCPKI.
- The Top Priorities are shared by all age groups as well as long-standing and new members
- We are a hospitable parish that welcomes and values differences in theological perspectives.
- There were no significant internal issues identified.

### Satisfaction

(High)

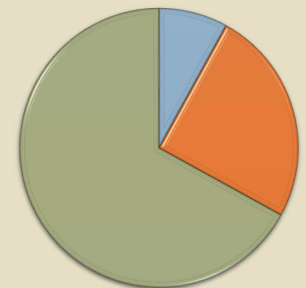


■ Clearly Agree ■ On the Fence  
■ Clearly Disagree

*Overall, I am satisfied with how things are in our Church.*

### Energy

(High)



■ Clearly Agree ■ On the Fence  
■ Clearly Disagree

*It seems to me that we are just going through the motions of church activity. There isn't much excitement about it among our members.*

## Drivers of Satisfaction



EXCEPTIONAL  
WORSHIP



FLEXIBILITY



TRUST IN  
LEADERSHIP

## Drivers of Energy



QUALITY  
WORSHIP



HOSPITALITY



TRUST IN  
LEADERSHIP

## Top 3 Priorities

1

### GROWTH

Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.

2

### GROWTH

Develop & implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.

3

### EDUCATION

Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.

High  
Satisfaction



Transformational  
Parish

*Focus on strategic planning*


High  
Energy

## Who is our next Rector?

- A **bridge builder**, able to connect people with differing views.
- Helps people **feel valued and loved**.
- Able to lead the parish toward the **realization of our vision**.
- A **creative** and mindful agent of change.
- Increases **spiritual vitality** of the parish by combining activity with prayer.
- Develops **educational programming** that suits a wide variety of schedules.



## Christ Church Calendar ~ May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:00 Evening Prayer 7:30 AA Meeting	2 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	3 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	4 2:00 AA Meeting
5 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service	6 5:00 Evening Prayer 1:00 Cemetery Committee Meeting	7 5:00 Evening Prayer 5:30 EfM Conf. Room 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	8 5:00 Evening Prayer <b>7:00 Audit Committee Meeting</b> 7:30 AA Meeting	9 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	10 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	11 2:00 AA Meeting
12 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service <b>11:30 Confirmation Class</b>	13 5:00 Evening Prayer	14 5:00 Evening Prayer 5:30 EfM Conf. Room 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	15 5:00 Evening Prayer <b>7:00 Finance Committee</b> 7:30 AA Meeting	16 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	17 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	18 2:00 AA Meeting
19 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service <b>11:30 Confirmation Class</b>	20 5:00 Evening Prayer <b>6:30 Vestry Meeting</b>	21 5:00 Evening Prayer 5:30 EfM Conf. Room 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	22 5:00 Evening Prayer <b>6:30 CECDs Graduation</b> 7:30 AA Meeting	23 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	24 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	25 2:00 AA Meeting
26 9:30 Worship Service	27 	28 7:00 Boy Scout Meeting	29 7:30 AA Meeting	30 8:30 Backpacks Prep 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales	31 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	

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

Clergy Emergencies, contact Father Frank Crumbaugh, Interim Rector ~ 609-709-3939

Regular Office Hours 9 am—3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday



## 2024 First Quarter Financial Highlights

### Generous Offerings

The Christ Church family has been very generous in the first quarter of 2024. General Offerings were 23% more than expected at this point. Contributions to the Mortgage Fund were twice the amount expected and have resulted in reducing the mortgage balance to \$74,600 at the end of the quarter. Many families made special contributions towards the replacement of the Shand Hall roof; these robust donations enable Christ Church and her ministries to shine. **Thank you so very much!**

### Pressure on Expenses

Maintenance and repair costs for our aging facilities continue to put pressure on our expense budgets, and we are spending somewhat more than anticipated on administrative supplies and services. On the other hand, personnel costs have been less than anticipated while we enjoy the services of our Interim Rector. Overall, expenses have been within our budget.

### Mortgage Progress

**Many thanks** for the sustained, dedicated parishioner commitment to eliminating our mortgage debt! We have reduced the balance of our loan during the first quarter by more than \$34,000 to \$74,600. We maintained about \$53,000 in our Mortgage Fund, so at the end of the quarter, we needed donations of approximately \$21,600 to completely pay off the mortgage loan!! Since the time of this report's publication, the payoff amount has continued to decline, and we anticipate that the mortgage will soon be paid off!

Once the mortgage is paid off, we will no longer be asked to donate money to retire the mortgage debt. While this is welcome news, to be sure, it is also a terrific opportunity to fund the ministries of Christ Church more fully by shifting our planned mortgage donations to the Operating Fund. It is essential to increase our traditional level of operating funds, so that we can reduce our reliance on endowments to fund our ministries and facility maintenance needs. Thank you in advance for your continued understanding and generosity.

## 2024 FUND PERFORMANCE (as of 3-31-2024)

OPERATING FUND	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance
<b>Revenues</b>			
General Offerings	\$65,625	\$80,953	\$15,328
Building Use	\$9,861	\$9,085	(\$776)
Fund Raisers	\$16,500	\$19,111	\$2,611
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,562	\$1,351	(\$212)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$93,548</b>	<b>\$110,500</b>	<b>\$16,951</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Personnel	\$49,266	\$31,367	\$17,898
Facilities	\$28,924	\$36,251	(\$7,327)
Parish Life	\$19,185	\$18,789	\$395
Administration	\$11,278	\$13,588	(\$2,310)
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$108,652</b>	<b>\$99,996</b>	<b>\$8,656</b>
<b>Revenue Minus Expenses (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$15,104)</b>	<b>\$10,504</b>	<b>(\$4,599)</b>
<b>MORTGAGE FUND</b>			
Offerings	\$22,708	\$43,645	\$20,937
Outstanding Mortgage Loan		\$74,600	

### 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.

**Personnel expenses** include the salaries, benefits, educational and travel expenses for our Rector, Minister of Music, Sexton, Nursery staff, 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.



## CECDS Newsletter Article May 2024

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> CECDS is graduating our 52<sup>nd</sup> class! Our graduates know how to be kind to others; respect themselves, their peers and their elders; ask for help when needed; share their gifts with others and embrace those who are like them and those who are different. They began at CECDS as toddlers and are leaving as confident, curious, and caring children willing and ready for the next step. We are so proud of them!

This month we look forward to our Nursery Teddy Bear Picnic at Camp Wright. The fun starts with a tractor ride and ends with a Bear Hunt and so much in between. Such a great way to end our school year!



The Pre-K will enjoy the annual field trip to Matapeake Elementary to visit Kindergarten. We will explore the playground, cafeteria, gym and media center. It's fun to note the similarities and differences between Pre-K and Kindergarten.

Grandparents Day was held on April 29<sup>th</sup> and was a great success. Our children loved showing their grandparents what they do in school- decorating picture frames, experimenting with magnets, creating with playdough, blowing bubbles, dancing to music and enjoying Father Frank's Family Chapel.

We cannot end the year without a Big thank you to our PTO! The PTO continues to support the school, staff and children with fundraising and enhanced activities this year. We so appreciate all you have done.

Mark your calendars for May 4<sup>th</sup> to join us for the 2nd annual FUND THE FUN fundraising event at Ten Eyck Brewing Company in support of Christ Episcopal Church Day School's scholarship and enrichment programs! Rain date: May 11, 2024, 12-4PM

- Silent auction of themed baskets
- 50/50 raffle, door prizes
- Class mascot raffle drawing
- Face painting, bounce house, field day games
- Alumni group photo
- Fun-O-Kake food truck, Ten Eyck's food truck, pizza, baked goods

All are welcome to this family friendly event! CECDS alumni of all ages - we would love to see you! —

**May 4, 2024  
12-4PM**

**Ten Eyck Brewing Company  
205 Grange Hall Rd  
Queenstown, MD 21658**



**Christ Episcopal Church Day School**

KENT ISLAND'S ORIGINAL PRESCHOOL

*EASTER AT CHRIST CHURCH 2024*



*EASTER EGG AT CHRIST CHURCH 2024*



*Chesapeake Bay Community Band  
Free Concert 2024*



# Announcements

**Confirmation/Reception**—For anyone interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, classes will be held on Sunday, **May 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>** after the last service. Bishop's visitation will be on **June 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM**. Please contact the parish office for more information 410-643-5921 or [office@ccpki.org](mailto:office@ccpki.org) or speak to Fr. Frank directly.

**First Communion** for those in Lindy Coltharp's class will be held on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at the 10 am service.

**Summer Worship Schedule**—Begins May 26<sup>TH</sup>. Join us at 9:30AM in person or online.

**BROAD CREEK CEMETERY NEWS**—You are invited to join the Broad Creek Cemetery Committee at the consecration of the columbarium on May 9, 2024 at 11:00 am.

In addition to our Interim Rector, Father Frank Crumbaugh, we anticipate Bishop Bud Shand and Father Mark Delcuze to attend. Mrs. Marilyn Hargrave, the mother of Patricia Spinella, will be interred during the ceremony. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

If you would like further information on the columbarium, please contact Charlie Schwan (443) 262-1074.

