

The 2024 Annual Parish Report



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Gordonsville, Virginia

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A WORD ABOUT THE 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

The canons of the church only require the election of new vestry members during the “annual meeting”. Therefore, the only official business to be conducted will be the election of new vestry members. Once the election is conducted, the official meeting will be concluded.

Questions about the specific content of any of the reports that follow should be addressed directly to the individual who submitted said report.

1. Senior Warden

Greetings to you all as we begin a New Year ~!

As we remain in transition seeking a new Priest for Scott Parish, we were blessed during this past year to have several Supply Priests with us. We began the year with the Rev. Mark Wastler, who served as mid-term Supply from February through early June and who led us through a contemplative Lenten season and a very meaningful Holy Week and Easter Day service. Throughout the year we were also blessed and are grateful for Penn Bowers and Pauline Vismer, our Lay Eucharist Ministers, who led us in Morning Prayer services on several Sundays.

Over the course of the summer of '24 we were fortunate to have our good friend and former Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Jane Barr, serve in a Supply capacity for several Sundays. In addition, The Rev. Richard Lord and The Rev. Will Dickinson also served with us through the Fall months. The Rev. Jeffrey Fishwick led one service in December as well as our Annual Christmas Eve Service, which is a cherished one we all look forward to in rounding out the year.

Continuing to serve as your Senior Warden during our ongoing transition period has been challenging but has been made easier with all the support and encouragement I have received from our Vestry, our Supply Priests and from all of you in our congregation; for that I am truly grateful. Of course, the most challenging aspect has been and continues to be our search for a new priest. In that regard, our Discernment Committee, chaired by Carolyn Smith, has done exemplary work in jumping through all the hoops required to post a job opening on the Diocesan website. Thankfully, that posting is now on the website and we are prayerful that we will be receiving interested applicants soon.

In the meantime, Christ Church remains active and plays a significant role in all our lives. The varied areas of responsibility essential in sustaining our life in this community include the Altar Guild; Music Department; Outreach; Fellowship & Beautification; Christian Education; Finance and Treasurer; and our physical facilities management. Our Parish Administrator, Cynthia Arnold, serves the essential role of supporting all these areas in the life of our church, and we are grateful for her work and dedication.

Although being sidelined with health issues over the past several months, our dear friend and consummate organist, Tom May, continues working on his recovery process that will bring him back to us and to making our organ 'sing' like no one other than he can do.

As we move forward into this new year, I remain hopeful and optimistic that we are being led forward in all right ways, and I know that we are blessed every step of the way by the Holy Spirit.

Abundant Blessings Always,

Millie Travis

Senior Warden

2. Junior Warden

The Buildings and Grounds of our church and rectory are in fair condition, and currently are not challenged with significant concerns. Our property continues to have a dynamic list of items which could use attention and can be addressed as time permits.

After many months of sitting empty, our rectory was placed on the market as rental property in March, and within a few days the property was leased on a yearlong contract. The new renter has taken fair accountability for the routine maintenance and is prompt in rent remittance. The shed needs some work, and we are waiting for a convenient time to repair the hole in its roof. One last ongoing project which will be completed in January '25 is the cleaning of the fireplace flues.

As for the church and parish hall, the smaller maintenance items were again handled throughout the year by our membership, which like the rectory, saved us from hiring landscape vendors. (One vendor was hired to perform a deep raking from under the magnolia trees). The removal of the honeybees from the church eaves was completed the previous Spring, although they appear to have come back to the belfry having been spotted in the late Fall. The replacement of the Heating and Cooling systems for the parish hall was completed satisfactorily. The church building AC systems are aged but continue to hold their own and will need replacement, but I recommend we run these to failure, then replace individually. In the Spring, a Va. State compliance inspection of the boiler was performed post maintenance without issue.

As I am being relieved of my warden duties at the start of 2025, any of the concerns I have regarding our physical assets will be discussed with the oncoming warden in detail.

As always, if there are concerns or questions, please feel free to speak your mind.

Humbly Yours,

Kevin Cordray

CEC Junior Warden

3. Music Department

I would like to thank the members of the choir for their dedication and tireless support of the music program. It would not exist without them.

In addition to the Sunday services, your music department has provided support for extra services including Christmas, Holy Week and funerals.

We thank Kelly Grooms, organist, for stepping in and supplying much needed support while Tom and Ben convalesce. The congregation's acappella singing is much appreciated.

I would encourage members of the parish to consider joining the choir as we worship God through music. We always need new members as we echo "when in our music God is Glorified."

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin C. Armistead

Choirmaster

4. Altar Guild

Mission Statement: This group prepares for the meeting of the people of God. Each member is devoted to Christ and His Church to give of herself/himself to the service of the altar.

Our devoted members continue to perform in this ministry with much grace.

We wish to give thanks to our monthly Altar Guild members who have continued to keep the altar ready for church services, funerals, weddings and other special occasions. The hands of Altar Guild members are charged with the privilege of tending to the beauty, peace and tranquility of worship. This is a special ministry preparing for God's word.

Thanks, and appreciation to several groups:

Linens: Gail Parrish for washing and ironing the weekly church linens.

Supplies: Ann Schwind for ordering and obtaining the communion wine and wafers.

Brass and Silver: Gail Parrish and Pauline Vismer for cleaning and polishing all of the brass and silver several times a year.

Altar Flowers: Monthly flowers ordered from Colonial Florist and green arrangements from Altar Guild members.

Christmas and Easter Decorations: Tom May, Ben Armstead, Anita Cordray, Greta Shaw, Gail Parrish, Mary Jane Shackelford for providing their talent and time for decorating the church for Christmas and Easter celebrations.

Thanks to all the members for their time and service to this ministry. This ministry is a wonderful example of good stewardship and devotion to our Church. All members are welcome to join this ministry.

Thank you,

Gail Parrish and Ann Schwind

Co-chairpersons

5. Outreach

The Christ Church Parish Family (as always) extended God's loving hand and heart into our community throughout the 2024 year. Your generous response to every outreach invitation has brought beautiful blessings to so many in our community. Loving our neighbors in this way undoubtedly brings a smile to the heart of Jesus. Thank you for your unfailing and generous support of these Outreach events.

Blessings Box: Thanks to your continued thoughtfulness and generosity, the Christ Church Blessings Box continues to be the hand of God to our neighbors. This ongoing ministry in our garden reminds our neighbors that "All are always Welcome." This message is being received daily! Often our neighbors sit on the bench as they eat and ponder the beauty with St. Francis. It has also been an opportunity for our neighbors to be givers as well! Often items are anonymously placed in the box. This is a beautiful silent relationship between Christ Church and our community. May we continue to offer this simple gesture of God's unconditional love to our neighbors.

Easter Egg Hunt: Christ Church held our annual Easter Egg Hunt ...welcoming neighbors into our churchyard home and sharing the joy of Easter. Over 500 Easter eggs were loaded with candy and hidden! More than 20 children delighted in hunting for eggs. Our church family and our neighbors shared the joy of watching. It was a beautiful Eastertime of fun and fellowship.

Free Children's Book Fair: Thanks to all who made this special event one filled with God's Love for our neighbors from the Summer Child Care Program across the street. Over 35 children were welcomed through open doors into our Parish Hall (which had been transformed into a well-stocked Book Fair). They were so excited to shop for free (beautiful) books. Each child could choose five books for themselves, plus one to give away. They were given a special bag to carry their books home. The bags have our church's picture on them, and each held an inspirational bracelet, a kindness coin (to be passed on with an act of kindness), a "church" bookmark, and a Be Kind pin with Luke 6:31 on it. Some of the children put their pins on right away. (Please see the pictures in the Parish Hall.) The members of our church family who were present shared God's Love (and their love of books and children). The children were so delighted to show us their new books! Planting seeds, my friends, planting seeds!!

4th of July Parade: Christ Episcopal Church was a familiar sight during the Gordonsville 4th of July Parade. As God Bless America was displayed and cried out from "our" truck, two of our grandchildren gave out over 200 little God Bless America frisbees to every child they could see along the route! Our neighbors along the route were smiling and waving. Thanks to all!!

Back to School Clothing Drive: In August, we held our back-to-school new-clothing drive to benefit children in grades (K-5) at Gordon Barbour Elementary School. Everyone in our church family was so generous. We were able to provide the school clinic with many new clothes and new shoes for the students. Surely, many children (and their parents) were blessed with this outpouring of God's love.

Gordonsville Chicken Festival: We filled over 50 children's bags with inspirational bracelets, pencils, bookmarks, kindness coins to pass along to another who needed kindness, and Luke 6:31 "Be Kind" pins. Many baked goods were ready to be given away. Unfortunately, the Festival had to be cancelled due to the weather.

Veteran's Day Parade: Christ Episcopal Church is a familiar "neighbor" as we participate with our community in this special Gordonsville event to honor our veterans. Our church banner was proudly carried, "our" truck was decorated, and one of our grandchildren passed out "Pray for our Heroes" buttons to those cheering along the parade route. It is always wonderful to join in this beloved community event.

Habitat for Humanity Food Drive for Thanksgiving: Christ Church once again demonstrated God's LOVE in your generous outpouring of monetary donations. Together with Orange Presbyterian Church, we were able to provide a \$70 Food Lion Gift Card to fourteen Orange County Habitat for Humanity Partner Families. While this helps them with their Thanksgiving Dinners; more importantly, it reminds them that they are beloved members of God's family.

Angel Tree: Our "Angel Tree" took on a different "shape" this year. Instead of providing us with a gift list, the counselor at Gordon Barbour Elementary School had a different request. She wondered if we might help 2 or 3 families with Food Gift Cards. She said that many of their families suffer from food insecurity. Now, here at Christ Church, we have been buying gifts for the "Angel Tree" for many, many years! We weren't sure how our church family would react to such a drastic change. And ... so many of our church family had just been so generous in their donations for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Additionally, by the time we got word out for this need, donations needed to be given by the following Sunday. Precious and such generous Christ Church family ... you responded with the true joy and thankfulness of Christmas! We were able to bring twelve \$100 gift cards to the school. Twelve families were so greatly blessed by your kindness and generosity! Through you, God's very real touch was within their homes for Christmas.

God Bless our Christ Church family for these beautiful expressions of God's unconditional love to our neighbors.

Jo-Anne McCausland

6. Fellowship and Beautification

Many Thanks to Margaret Hill and Belvia Riner for organizing sign up and assuring our Sunday Coffee Hour Fellowship after church service. Thanks to all who have hosted!!

Thank you, Margaret, for the welcoming atmosphere of our courtyards. The planters have been seasonally planted and maintained to provide a peaceful beauty to our church surroundings.

7. Christian Education

In 2024, we once again returned to our traditional Lenten Program with weekly Wednesday night soup/bread and scripture study beginning February 21st and ending on April 3rd. We read the book, A Journey through Genesis, published by Forward Movement. We discussed scripture, shared our thoughts pertaining to the questions at the end of each chapter, and prayed together. Thanks to everyone who participated in this fellowship.

Carolyn Smith

8. Treasurer

The church has two investment funds, the Christ Church Legacy Fund and the Organ Fund. The Organ Fund was established to provide funds toward a new organ as and when needed. Both these funds did well in 2024.

Church Legacy Fund January 1, 2024, \$699,647
 December 31, 2024, \$814,384

Organ Fund January 1, 2024, \$62,958
 December 31, 2024, \$80,165

2024 saw an increase of 14% in the number of pledges received.

The church has benefitted from the rental of the rectory for most of the year. This provided an extra \$15,300 in funds.

It was not necessary this year to transfer funds from the Legacy Fund to meet extraordinary expenses.

Looking to the future and the need to hire a new priest the Finance Committee has developed a budget of \$172,000 for 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Vismer

Treasurer

2025 Budget

Christ Episcopal Church, Gordonsville, VA

Account Name	Sep 22/Aug 23 Exp	Sep 23/Oct 24 Exp	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Plate Offering	\$3,037.76	\$3,477.05	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00
Pledge Offering	\$81,992.00	\$84,530.50	\$81,820.00	\$85,000.00
Regular Giving	\$10,270.00	\$13,560.00	\$7,000.00	\$14,000.00
Rectory Rental	\$0.00	\$9,900.00	\$0.00	\$21,600.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$7,032.98	\$2,442.50	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
Total Income	\$102,332.74	\$113,910.05	\$91,820.00	\$126,600.00
Priest-in-Charge	\$54,318.17	\$16,654.61	\$60,000.00	\$85,000.00
Priest-in-Charge Travel	\$4,926.26	\$216.15	\$500.00	\$500.00
Priest-in-Charge Continuing Ed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Secretary Salary	\$6,225.00	\$6,824.97	\$7,000.00	\$7,175.00
Organist Salary	\$9,389.28	\$9,725.04	\$9,800.00	\$10,045.00
Sexton Salary	\$5,435.46	\$5,575.02	\$5,600.00	\$5,740.00
Supply Clergy	\$448.47	\$6,678.62	\$0.00	\$3,350.00
Payroll Tax	\$3,211.74	\$1,781.10	\$3,000.00	\$2,250.00
Workers Compensation	\$0.00	\$603.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Payroll Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Total Personnel	\$83,954.38	\$48,058.51	\$86,400.00	\$115,110.00
Miscellaneous	\$96.00	\$1,099.16	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total Miscellaneous	\$96.00	\$1,099.16	\$500.00	\$500.00
Electricity	\$3,629.46	\$3,619.59	\$4,000.00	\$3,800.00
Natural Gas	\$5,540.82	\$3,304.45	\$6,000.00	\$4,400.00
Water and Sewer	\$660.18	\$652.48	\$650.00	\$650.00
Telephone & Internet	\$2,511.18	\$2,924.94	\$3,000.00	\$3,200.00
Total Utilities	\$12,341.64	\$10,501.46	\$13,650.00	\$12,050.00
Rectory Electricity	\$0.00	\$416.30	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Rectory Water , Sewer & Trash	\$0.00	\$288.08	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Rectory Building	\$0.00	\$1,017.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00
Total Rectory	\$0.00	\$1,721.38	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$7,996.33	\$16,806.75	\$21,000.00	\$10,000.00
Lawn/Garden Care	\$188.39	\$56.76	\$750.00	\$5,000.00
Facilities Insurance	\$10,068.00	\$10,326.00	\$10,500.00	\$11,000.00
Custodial Supplies	\$0.00	\$231.57	\$1,000.00	\$250.00
Total Facilities	\$18,252.72	\$27,421.08	\$33,250.00	\$26,250.00
Office Expenses	\$2,824.39	\$4,137.55	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Total Administration	\$2,824.39	\$4,137.55	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Diocesan Pledge	\$6,724.65	\$6,291.00	\$6,206.00	\$6,750.00
Diocesan Council	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00
Total Diocesan Obligations	\$6,724.65	\$6,291.00	\$6,606.00	\$6,750.00
Altar Supplies	\$181.94	\$405.69	\$1,100.00	\$700.00
Music Department	\$1,603.90	\$1,786.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Organ Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,266.00
Total Worship	\$1,785.84	\$2,191.69	\$2,100.00	\$3,966.00
Christian Education	-\$88.57	\$170.00	\$250.00	\$200.00
Total Christian Education	-\$88.57	\$170.00	\$250.00	\$200.00
Parish Life	\$198.81	\$192.16	\$500.00	\$200.00
Total Parish Life	\$198.81	\$192.16	\$500.00	\$200.00
Outreach	\$157.74	\$827.18	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Total Outreach	\$157.74	\$827.18	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Total Expense	\$126,247.60	\$102,611.17	\$156,756.00	\$172,026.00

Christ Episcopal Church, Scott Parish - Gordonsville VA
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2024

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.100.120	Blue Ridge Bank	70,089.60
1.300.110	Diocesan Missionary Society Note	1,000.00
1.305.100	Davenport Investment Acct	894,548.65
Total Assets		\$965,638.25
Liabilities		
2.100.300	Prepaid pledges	1,000.00
2.100.400	Federal Withholding	330.60
2.100.401	State Withholding	36.00
2.100.510	Gordon-Barbour Elementar School	250.82
2.100.511	Book Fair	100.00
2.100.515	Thanksgiving	5.00
2.100.516	Rummage Sale	2,459.14
Total Liabilities		\$4,181.56
Fund Balance		
3.100.100	General Operating Fund	62,108.11
Total Operating Funds		\$62,108.11
3.500.100	Christ Church Discretionary Fund	361.97
3.500.120	Altar Guild Fund	3,644.92
3.500.140	Outreach General Fund	154.46
3.500.150	Youth Group General Fund	247.77
3.500.160	Gail K Bowers Mem Youth Act Fd	390.81
Total Designated Funds		\$4,799.93
3.540.100	Christ Church Legacy Fund	814,383.82
3.550.130	Organ Fund	80,164.83
Total Specified Funds		\$894,548.65
Total Fund Balance		\$961,456.69
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		<u>\$965,638.25</u>

Christ Episcopal Church, Scott Parish - Gordonsville VA
Treasurer's Report as of December 2024 for General Fund

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
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Income

4.100.100	Plate Offering	703.00	163.00	3,308.07*	2,000.00	2,000.00	(1,308.07)
4.100.200	Pledge Offering	6,480.00	6,822.00	83,138.50*	81,820.00	81,820.00	(1,318.50)
4.100.210	Regular Giving	1,980.00	587.00	15,835.00*	7,000.00	7,000.00	(8,835.00)
4.100.220	Prior Year Pledges	0.00		75.00			
4.100.300	Rectory Rental	1,800.00		15,300.00			
4.100.400	Miscellaneous Income	1,100.00	87.00	1,526.50*	1,000.00	1,000.00	(526.50)
4.100.500	Undesignated Memorials	0.00		550.00			

Total Income **\$12,063.00** **\$7,659.00** **\$119,733.07*** **\$91,820.00** **\$91,820.00** **(\$11,988.07)**

Expense

5.100.100	Priest-in-Charge Salary	0.00	5,000.00	8,300.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	51,700.00
5.100.101	Priest-in-Charge SECA Reimbursement	0.00		634.95			
5.100.102	Priest-in-Charge Pension	0.00		1,800.00			
5.100.103	Priest-in-Charge Health & Dental Insurance	0.00		4,000.00			
5.100.120	Secretary Salary	583.33	587.00	6,999.96	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.04
5.100.130	Organist Salary	816.67	813.00	9,800.04*	9,800.00	9,800.00	(0.04)
5.100.140	Sexton Salary	466.67	463.00	5,600.04*	5,600.00	5,600.00	(0.04)
5.100.160	Supply Clergy	1,099.85	0.00	6,093.47*	0.00	0.00	(6,093.47)
5.100.165	Supply Organist	1,200.00		1,800.00			
5.100.170	Employer Payroll Taxes	142.80	250.00	1,713.60	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,286.40
5.100.171	Workers Compensation	0.00	38.00	488.00	500.00	500.00	12.00
5.100.175	Payroll Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Total Personnel **\$4,309.32** **\$7,151.00** **\$47,230.06** **\$85,900.00** **\$85,900.00** **\$46,904.89**

Miscellaneous

5.100.700	Miscellaneous	105.26	38.00	328.42	500.00	500.00	171.58
5.110.100	Electricity		\$38.00	\$328.42	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$171.58
5.110.110	Natural Gas	130.52	337.00	3,337.27	4,000.00	4,000.00	662.73
5.110.120	Water, Sewer and Trash	312.02	500.00	3,628.96	6,000.00	6,000.00	2,371.04
5.110.130	Telephone and Internet	54.44	56.00	653.28*	650.00	650.00	(3.28)

Total Utilities

5.110.200	Building Repair/Maintenance	275.38	250.00	3,026.94*	3,000.00	3,000.00	(26.94)
5.110.280	Lawn and Garden Care	\$772.36	\$1,143.00	\$10,646.45	\$13,650.00	\$13,650.00	\$3,003.55
5.110.285	Custodial Supplies	191.81	1,750.00	4,488.66	21,000.00	21,000.00	16,511.34
5.110.300	Facilities Insurance	0.00	57.00	221.91	750.00	750.00	528.09
		0.00	87.00	132.63	1,000.00	1,000.00	867.37
		2,842.21	875.00	10,586.71*	10,500.00	10,500.00	(86.71)

Total Facilities **\$3,034.02** **\$2,769.00** **\$15,429.91** **\$33,250.00** **\$33,250.00** **\$17,820.09**

Rectory Expenses

Christ Episcopal Church, Scott Parish - Gordonsville VA
Treasurer's Report as of December 2024 for General Fund

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget	Page 2 of 2 Annual Budget Remaining
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5.110.400	Rectory Electricity	0.00		416.30			
5.110.401	Rectory Water, Sewer & Trash	0.00		288.08			
5.110.403	Rectory Building Repair/Maintenance	0.00	413.00	1,017.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,983.00
	Total Rectory Expenses	\$0.00	\$413.00	\$1,721.38	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,983.00
5.120.100	General Office Expenses	604.51	250.00	3,499.57*	3,000.00	3,000.00	(499.57)
	Total Administration	\$604.51	\$250.00	\$3,499.57*	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	(\$499.57)
5.130.100	Diocesan Pledge	519.00	519.00	6,206.00	6,206.00	6,206.00	0.00
	Total Diocesan Obligations	\$519.00	\$519.00	\$6,206.00	\$6,206.00	\$6,206.00	\$0.00
5.140.110	Altar Supplies	0.00	88.00	372.02	1,100.00	1,100.00	727.98
5.140.120	Music Department	633.00	87.00	1,816.00*	1,000.00	1,000.00	(816.00)
	Total Worship	\$633.00	\$175.00	\$2,188.02*	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	(\$88.02)
5.150.100	Christian Education	32.50	19.00	170.00	250.00	250.00	80.00
	Total Christian Education	\$32.50	\$19.00	\$170.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$80.00
5.160.100	Parish Life	20.04	38.00	338.84	500.00	500.00	161.16
	Total Parish Life	\$20.04	\$38.00	\$338.84	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$161.16
5.170.000	Outreach (Budgeted)	0.00	38.00	546.71*	500.00	500.00	(46.71)
	Total Outreach	\$0.00	\$38.00	\$546.71*	\$500.00	\$500.00	(\$46.71)
	Total Expense	\$10,030.01	\$12,553.00	\$88,305.36	\$150,856.00	\$150,856.00	\$71,489.97
	Difference	\$2,032.99	(\$4,894.00)	\$31,427.71	(\$59,036.00)	(\$59,036.00)	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date