

THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER
PELHAM MANOR, NEW YORK



2026 ANNUAL REPORT

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2026 Annual Meeting Agenda	3
CLERGY & VESTRY REPORTS	
Rector's Report	3
Vestry Report	6
Priest Associate's Report	8
Deacon's Report	8
THE PILLARS OF CHRIST CHURCH	
Christ Church Ministry Chart	10
The Pillars of Christ Church: Worship, Service & Community, Foundation & Finance	10
WORSHIP	
Worship & Liturgy Report	12
Music Program Report	13
Verger's Report	14
Ushers Report	15
Altar Guild Report	16
Flower Guild Report	17
SERVICE & COMMUNITY	
Children's and Family Ministries Report	18
Adult Christian Learning Report	21
Outreach Report	23
Daughters of the King Report	26
Fellowship Committee Report	28
Men's Group Report	29
Women's Connection Report	30
Art Ministry Report	30
FOUNDATION & FINANCE	
Communications Committee Report	32
Buildings Committee Report	33
Tenant & Rental Report	34
Grounds & Garden Committee Report	36
Stewardship Report	38
Investment Committee Report	38
Treasurer's Report	41
Minutes of Prior Year's Annual Meeting	43
Annual Parish Elections	45

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

February 1, 2026

- Opening Prayers, Welcome
- Rector's Report
- Warden's Report & Election Results
- Treasurer's Report
- Q&A
- Blessing and close meeting with the Doxology

RECTOR'S REPORT

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2025 was a fruitful year in the life of the Parish, and I believe that 2026 will be another great year.

2025 was a year of renewal and growth at Christ Church. We welcomed three new staff members. We have focused on feeding and clothing ministries in our Outreach efforts. Our music program built on last year's excellent foundation. Our finances have become more sustainable for the long term.

I called Mother Meredith Hawkins as our Priest Associate in the late summer. We haven't had a Priest Associate since Canon Susan Harriss left to oversee the transition at Christ Church Bronxville several years ago. Mother Meredith brings a much needed second priestly voice and presence to the pulpit and altar. She is gifted in many ways, and it has been a pleasure having her with us two Sundays each month. Mother Meredith, Deacon Chisara, and I are a great team, and I am so happy that Meredith has joined us.

This summer I also appointed Michael Moynihan, who has long run our Thursday Lectionary Bible Study, as our Director Adult Christian Education, and he has already grown our offerings for adults, beginning with "Episcopal 101" and "A Christian Response to Violence" and a Christmas Quiet Day. He will also preach occasionally. Michael's increased role has been a great blessing to the entire parish, and I am grateful for his leadership and wisdom the past decade and thrilled his role has expanded this year.

At the start of September, I hired Liam Myers as our Director Children & Family Ministries, a position held for the past two years by now-seminarian Evan Felicetti. Liam has stepped in and done an excellent job programming Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and Youth Events, all while learning about the Parish and meeting parishioners. I am thankful for Liam's pastoral sense, good humor, and hard work in this essential parish ministry, and I'm very happy he's joined our staff.

In 2026 we will have another major staffing change. Marie Main, our beloved Parish Administrator will retire on May 31, 2026, several days before a very significant birthday. Marie has served as our

Parish Administrator for fourteen years. Working with her has been one of the greatest blessings and joys of my life. She brings a pastoral and loving presence to everything she does for Christ Church – and she does more than anyone knows. She is wonderful, and we will greatly miss having her in the office each day. I am very glad that she will remain an active parishioner at Christ Church in retirement. We will begin a search for a new Parish Administrator immediately with the hope to hire someone starting May 1 so there is some overlap before Marie retires. Mark your calendars for Trinity Sunday, May 31, when we will have an epic retirement party for Marie. Information about that will go out in the coming weeks, as well as information about a Retirement Purse for Marie.

Our Music program is thriving and growing under the leadership of Dr. Justin Bischof, our Director of Music. Justin's work with the parish choir and children's choir has been wonderful. Every Sunday's 10am Mass is reliably excellent (and about 65 minutes!) in large part because of the great organ pieces, hymns, and choral music that Justin and our singers provide. Our Children's Choir continues to grow, and Justin is working on ways to bring in more children for Christmas and Easter in 2026. Justin has also revived our Choral Evensong program on Candelmas and Michaelmas each year to supplement Christmas Lessons and Carols. Justin has brought in the Modus Operandi Orchestra (MOO) as our orchestra in residence to supplement Christmas and Easter services and our concert program. Justin's job description includes ensuring that we have a concert program that features our amazing Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ. The 2024-2025 Friends of Music Concert Series was featured three organ concerts and an organ/orchestra concert. The 2025-2026 Friends of Music Series is midway through added one choral/orchestra concert (The Faure Requiem). The concerts have been outstanding, and I hope you will take these opportunities to enjoy world-class musicians in our home parish. It's a great honor having Justin on staff, and I am grateful to be in ministry with him.

Our Outreach efforts overseen by Carla Carol have been robust, energetic, and Spirit-filled. Our annual Classic Car Show fundraiser for Outreach raised over \$11,000, we have increased our focus on feeding efforts as the lapse in SNAP funding affected our communities, and our coat drive for the winter has recently capped off the year. Many thanks to the scores of donors and volunteers, there are too many to name, who serve our community and turn prayers for the needs of others into action and direct support. Carla stepped down as Chair of the Outreach Committee at the end of 2025. I will be forever grateful for the energy and passion that Carla brought to the Outreach Committee, and I am thrilled that she will continue to organize the Car Show and the Coat Drive. I am very happy to announce that Denise Liburd has taken over as Chair of Outreach, and I encourage you to support her work as she begins oversight of this essential parish ministry.

My role as rector means I oversee all the staff and programming at Christ Church, all of which is funded by three primary sources of income: pledges, rentals, and endowment. By far, our largest income source is pledges, and I am pleased that our 2026 Stewardship Campaign has begun very well. Many thanks to Jeff Bodenmann our Stewardship Chair for this year's streamlined campaign. We sent out Pledge Cards to 200 families, and for those who pledged in the past, we included their prior pledge amount

and requested an increase of 5% or 10%. The response thus far has been overwhelmingly positive. Our goal is \$550,000 and 150 Pledges. Last year we had 120 Pledges for \$507,000, and the increases will cover continued, normal cost of living increases. Increases so far have totalled nearly \$50,000. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2026, please make one today. Please see the Stewardship Report for more information.

In related good news, the Diocese of New York granted us nearly \$60,000 in assessment relief for 2025. That relief allowed us to get through 2025 with a nearly balanced budget and a healthy draw from our Endowment. For 2026 and beyond, the Diocese modified its own income model. The new Common Mission Share, which I helped to draft, lowered assessments for nearly every congregation. Ours decreased from about \$100,000 to about \$40,000. That savings doesn't get us off the hook for Pledges (we DO need you to Pledge), but it will help our 2026 budget, assuming we make our Stewardship Pledge goal of \$550,000.

We enter 2026 with a deficit, even with decreased Assessment and increased Pledging. Please review the Treasurer's Report for information on our finances. Some of our deficit can be offset if those who Pledged last year, but have not yet Pledged, make a 2026 Pledge.

More of the deficit can be offset with a Capital Campaign. We last had a full-blown Capital Campaign in 2018 for our 175th anniversary. We have had smaller campaigns (for the AC in the church) since then as well. The Vestry plans to move toward a model that sees a mini-capital campaign every other year, beginning in 2026. This will allow us to fund the projects we always need to do (in 2026: Rectory Bathroom after the fire, curb appeal improvements on Pelhamdale and Shore Road, etc.). More will be announced in the coming months, but please note that we will be doing a Capital Campaign in 2026. If you want to be part of the fundraising team, please speak to JD Calder or John Fox.

I'm very proud of our parish. We are healthy, happy, and doing the good work of Jesus Christ in our church and community. Please join me in thanking our volunteers and staff for their hard work, please consider if you can help out in anyway, and please let me know if you have any feedback or ideas.

I want to thank the members of our Vestry and Officers, in particular our Wardens, JD Calder and Etta Gumbs. I am grateful to Allison Bodenmann our Treasurer, John Fox our Assistant Treasurer, and Guy Sanscartier our Bookkeeper. Our Vestry members and officers put in many hours behind the scenes to ensure that our buildings, finances, and ministries are overseen. I also want to thank the leaders of every Committee and Ministry and all of our volunteers. We are an active church with many ministries and too many people to name. Thank you all!

I am grateful to our staff and the parish clergy, Marie, Justin, Liam, Michael, Ed, Walter, MaryAngela, Deacon Chisara, and Mother Meredith, for their hard work and ministry over the past year.

On a personal note, I am grateful for all the support we received during Liam's intensive care hospitalization from Easter Sunday until Easter 4. Thank you to my father for covering Easter Day, Easter 2, Easter 3, and the Baptisms and other services offered in addition to Sunday worship, and thank you to my mother and father for taking care of Nicholas during those weeks. Thank you to everyone in the parish who prayed and offered support during that very difficult time and Liam's recovery afterwards. You have no idea how grateful we are for your love and support.

The Good News of Jesus Christ has been proclaimed at Christ Church the past year with enthusiasm through faithful worship of Almighty God, the regular celebration of the Sacraments, and a wide variety of ministries inspired by the Holy Spirit. God bless you all for all you have done this year! It is an honor to serve the Church as your rector. Thank you all for your love and commitment to Christ Church. Most of all, I want to recognize my wife Nicole and my boys Liam and Nicholas who have supported my call as a priest and rector. We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful parish. God bless you all, and as always, if you need anything, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead

WARDEN & VESTRY REPORT

I thank you for allowing me to serve as the Senior Warden of our Church. 2025 was my second year as Senior Warden. This position continues to be a rewarding experience, as well as, a position of great learning. This summer, Evan Felicetti, our Youth Director, left us for seminary at Yale Divinity School. Evan laid a wonderful foundation in our youth area. We were able to continue his efforts by welcoming Liam as our new Youth Director. Our music program has continued to grow and attract new members to the choir and the parish. Justin has started Concerts at Christ Church, which are very well attended and add to the reputation of the parish.

We began 2024 with a planned deficit. As happens with old buildings, we had several unexpected expenses that increased the size of our deficit. Thanks to a record Stewardship Campaign, a reduction in our diocesan assessment, and the generosity of all of you, we were able to keep the deficit to a level we could manage.

Everything we have here at Christ the Redeemer, is due to the efforts of the Ministers, Vestry members and congregants that came before us. Your Vestry makes a great effort to keep our parish financially sound and to build on the efforts of those past generations so our parish may continue on for future generations.

Please join with me and thank the members of the Vestry for the great work they have done on your behalf.

I encourage everyone to find a way to support the good and important work done here. Your Vestry meets monthly to do the work required by NY State Law and NY Diocese Canon Law. This encompasses reviewing finances, buildings and committee activity status, upcoming events and specific needs and your petitions.

Vestry & Parish Officers

The Rev. Matthew Hoxsie Mead, Rector
JD Calder, Senior Warden (2024)
Etta Gumbs, Junior Warden (2023, 2025)
Allison Bodenman, Treasurer (2023-Present)
John Fox, Assistant Treasurer (2023-Present)
Jean Gruener, Clerk (2019-Present)

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2023</i>
Jennifer Bland (2022, 2025)	Curtis Chase (2024)	Andrew Des Rault (2020, 2023)
Stephen Dolan (2022, 2025)	Charlette Finch (2024)	Jack Kraft (2020*, 2023)
Robert Boyer (2022**, 2025)	Robert Landis (2021, 2024)	Barbara Zambelli (2020, 2023)

Each year denotes the beginning of a term. Vestry members serve three-year terms and are grouped by year of election. Wardens serve two-year terms. Vestry and Warden may be elected to serve a second term.

* completed C. Allen term that began in 2020 ** completing JD Calder term that began in 2022

Vestry Official & Legal Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibility with the Rector in promoting the spiritual welfare of the parish. Aid the Rector in the institution, conduct, and development of the program of the Church both within and without the Parish. Agent and legal representative in all matters concerning property: maintenance of the buildings and furnishings, maintenance of other property (rectory, parking lot, grounds, etc.), and providing adequate insurance. Responsibility for the finances of the parish, raising money, prompt payment of salaries and bills, prudent Care of trust funds, endowments and bequests, sale and transfer of securities and other assets, maintenance of records, annual report and budget (approve expenditures and recommend and approve salaries). Represent the parish in its relations with the Rector. Serve as "Council of Advice" for the Rector when requested. Call a Rector if there is a vacancy.

If you ever have a question or concern regarding the Parish or one of the Church buildings, please feel free to reach out to me. I generally attend the 10am service and stay for coffee hour. You can also email me at jdcalderdesign@aol.com.

Respectfully submitted,
J.D. Calder
Senior Warden

PRIEST ASSOCIATE'S REPORT

In September 2025, I was delighted that Father Matt "called" me to serve as Priest Associate at Christ Church Pelham. This church has been special to me for many years, as I started attending when I moved to the area in 2014. Father Alan, the Interim Rector, involved me in Morning Prayer, and I appreciated the friendly welcome of the congregation. When Father Matt arrived he provided mentorship in discerning my calling to the priesthood, which ultimately came to fruition in 2022. After serving at several churches that were in transition between rectors, I am delighted to now serve at Christ Church Pelham. I appreciate Father Matt's leadership, mentoring and example, as evidenced by the beautiful liturgy and traditions of the church. My role is to support him by preaching and celebrating at the Eucharist as well as helping to lead Quiet Days and participating in other events at the church. As many of you know, I am a "bivocational priest" who works during the week as a physician researcher, with my main focus being "Type 5 Diabetes", ie. a previously neglected form of diabetes associated with undernutrition.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Dr. Meredith Hawkins

DEACON'S REPORT

I greet you once again in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. All honor and glory be to God for seeing us through the year, 2025, and for bringing us safe and sound to the beginning of another year. We as a community of faith remain thankful to God, for as we reflect on the past year, we give thanks for God's faithfulness and the opportunity to serve our congregation and community. Pastoral care ministry at Christ Church Pelham remains vibrant due to the healthy tradition in our parish of seeing this ministry as a collective responsibility to look out for one another, with full dedication of our parishioners at every level. Our church members are seen voluntarily giving pastoral care visits to fellow church members in need at home and in hospitals and in facilities. Our church members are sure to notify the clergy of any parishioner in need of pastoral care; we remain grateful for this healthy practice of alerting/notifying the clergy should a pastoral care need arise at any time in the parish to ensure that no one is missed. We continue to respect the individual wishes of parishioners in times of need. Nonetheless, it remains important for the clergy to be aware of any situation or and be notified of the wishes of the parishioner in question in terms of visits.

What makes us strong as a church community is our commitment to forging strong relationships within our community and beyond. Let us continue to nurture and to grow seeds of Godly love as a faith-based community in our commitment to God's work. Our Outreach relationships with the Church of Saints John, Paul, and Clement in Mount Vernon, Trinity Church in New Rochelle, and Saint James Church Fordham in the Bronx continue to grow. Our team of parish women volunteers

continue to show up as the SS. JPC food pantry transitioned back to pre-Covid food distribution without necessarily packing food in individual bags. We also continued to participate in fundraising campaigns and food drives at every level.

Our parish remains committed to activities which enrich our Godly lives. Last year, the Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) Christ the Redeemer Chapter continued a strong presence in the Diocesan DOK activities such as the DOK Diocesan Spring Assembly with our chapter members in full attendance. We also participated as a Chapter in meetings at various national and regional levels. We look forward to attending more conferences and seminars this year. DOK is an international Order in which Daughters undertake a Rule of Life which incorporates a Rule of Prayer and a Rule of Service. For those who are interested in knowing more about this Order, please visit their website at www.doknational.org. We continue to seek new members to this wonderful order.

As we start this new year, let us ask God to renew us in body, mind and spirit to continue the work God has given us to do, to love and serve Christ in others. It is our duty to seek ways to maintain and even increase the work of God in our parish. We must rely on God to increase our zeal, dedication, and commitment with which we do God's work here at Christ Church. Serving God is a tradition at Christ Church Pelham.

The year 2026 presents another opportunity for us to grow as Christians. We still have a lot of work to do. I continue to pray for good health, strength, the right mind and the right spirit, and the desire to persevere in good work to the honor and glory of God. May we always find inspiration and strength through prayer to live our lives for God and in God who gave us life. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole



CHRIST CHURCH MINISTRY CHART

Area	Committee	(Co-)Chair
Worship	Acolytes / Lectors / Chalicists	Walter Roberts & Mary O'Shaughnessy
Worship	Altar Guild	Paige Lavengood, Jackie Kraft
Worship	Flower Guild	Patrice Fitzpatrick
Worship	Ushers	Jean Gruener
Worship	Worship	Fr. Matt
Worship	Pageant & Vacation Bible School	Liam Myers
Worship	Parish & Children's Choirs	Justin Bischof
Service	Adult Christian Learning	Michael Moynihan
Service	Children's Ministries Committee	Liam Myers
Service	Church School	Liam Myers
Service	Concerts at Christ Church	Justin Bischof
Service	Evangelism (Newcomers)	Fr. Matt
Service	Outreach	Carla Carroll (2025); Denise Liburd (2026)
Service	Pastoral Care	Clergy
Service	Discernment	Fr. Matt & J.D. Calder
Community	Fellowship Events	Jackie Kraft & Janet Salvatore
Community	Coffee Hour	Jackie Kraft & Janet Salvatore
Community	Youth Group	Liam Myers
Community	Men's Ministry	Andy Des Rault
Community	Seniors	Marie Main
Community	Women's Connection	Barbara Zambelli (2025)
Foundation	Communications	Erik Ipsen, Missy Kisob, Mary O'Shaughnessy
Foundation	Buildings	John Fox
Foundation	Tenant and Rentals	Marie Main and Etta Gums
Foundation	Finance	Allison Bordenmann
Foundation	Garden of the Resurrection	Erik Ipsen, Jim Young, Danielle Ganpat
Foundation	Grounds	Erik Ipsen, Jim Young, Danielle Ganpat
Foundation	Investment	Margaret Young & Melissa Roddy
Foundation	Personnel/Legal	JD Calder
Foundation	Stewardship / Planned Giving	Jeff Bodenmann
Foundation	Car Show & Coat Drive	Carla Carroll

THE PILLARS OF CHRIST CHURCH

In order to support the various ministries of the parish and coordinate the efforts of our many committees, we continue to rely on a structure that groups our committees into core ministries.

Worship – Committees/ministries within the worship ministry include Clergy, Liturgy, Music, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Ushers, Livestream Operators, Acolytes, Lectors and Chalice Bearers.

Service & Community – The committees that organize and encourage the service that we provide to our parishioners, our community, and our world. Committees within the service ministry include Children’s Ministries (Confirmation Class, Sunday School, Christmas Pageant, Vacation Bible School), Adult Christian Learning (including Bible Studies), Outreach, Pastoral Care. The committees that strengthen the bonds between members of our parish are represented by the Fellowship committee, as well as the various other groups of our parish: Art Ministry, Communications, Youth Group, Fellowship Committee/Events, Men’s Group, Women’s Connection, and Senior’s Group.

Foundation – These committees generally work behind the scenes to ensure that our Parish is open, safe, staffed, and able to offer programs and ministries. Foundation committees oversee the buildings and grounds of the church (our literal foundation) as well as the financial aspects of the parish. Committees included in the Foundation ministry include the Buildings, Rentals & Tenants, Grounds, Investments, Stewardship, Finance & Budget, and Vestry.

Each member of the Vestry is assigned as a vestry liaison to one or more ministries of Christ Church. This includes working with the committee chair(s), attending select committee meetings, and reporting to the vestry as a whole on the activities of the ministries within their area of responsibility.



WORSHIP & LITURGY REPORT

In 2025 the Holy Eucharist was offered every Sunday and on major Holy Days and all major services were livestreamed. A review of the past years shows attendance trends.

	2023	2024	2025
Total Sunday worshippers	5959	7207	6814
Average Sunday Attendance	112	139	131
Total Sunday Eucharists	130	134	124
Easter Attendance	346	410	490
Christmas Attendance	410	410	425
Total Weekday Attendance	1760	1647	1778
Livestream Views	3.9K	5K	6.3K
Total YouTube Subscribers	1008	1193	1291

Christmas and Easter have returned to pre-pandemic levels, and our Average Sunday Attendance seems to have levelled off.

In addition to Sunday morning and Holy Day worship, we offer a 4pm Thirty-Minute-Mass most Sundays during the academic year. We offer a regular Wednesday eucharist. The Eucharist is offered on Holy Days. On Zoom we offer Evening Prayer on Mondays, Morning Prayer on Tuesdays, and Bible Study on Thursday mornings.

Other Sacraments and Sacramental Rites were offered in 2025. Bishop Glasspool visited Christ Church for Confirmation. Baptisms, Marriages, and Funerals were offered in 2025, and we were able to livestream these services to those who could not attend. Anointing with Holy Oil for Healing was offered after each Sunday morning Eucharist. Hospital visits and pastoral calls were offered normally throughout 2025. Looking ahead, Bishop Heyd is scheduled to administer Confirmation at 10:00am on April 12, 2026.

As always, more detailed in-person attendance numbers and online statistics are available upon request. They are imperfect metrics, but they do provide some helpful insights.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead
Priest & Rector



MUSIC PROGRAM REPORT

Dear fellow parishioners,

It is hard to believe that I am halfway through my second season with all of you here at Christ Church! I continue to appreciate how important a role the Music Program plays in our life together at Christ Church. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and am dedicated to continuing to grow the tradition of excellence, a sense of community, and giving to others. Music is a unique and powerful way to worship God as a community, whether singing a hymn together or sitting in a concert listening to His voice through the pens of the great composers.

Parish Choir

Our Parish Choir is an inspiring group of exceptionally dedicated volunteers and 4 skilled professional section leaders who lead our worship week after week with love and skill. They continue to grow musically with cherished repertoire while expanding their experience to embrace new works. In November, they performed the Faure Requiem with 15 players of Christ Church's orchestra in residence (MOO Modus Operandi Orchestra of New York City) as part of our celebration of All Saints Day. MOO also joins the Parish Choir and the Children's Choir for Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday services. The Parish Choir is a fun and focused group that worships God through music. We are always interested in like-minded individuals joining the choir, so please do be in touch!

Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir continues to flourish with 8 excited and engaged children who sing once a month during the 10 am service as well as on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. The kids had the wonderful experience of singing with MOO on Christmas Eve in a touching rendition of Away in a Manger. They also led the Christmas Pageant, singing with great gusto! Learning while singing and

having fun is their motto! They meet every Thursday from 5-5:30 pm, and always have room for more, so please be in touch if you would like your child to join the fun!

Friends of Music Concert Series

Our 2025-2026 series is celebrating the 6th Anniversary of the installation of the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ with 6 concerts featuring 4 internationally acclaimed organists, MOO, and our Parish Choir. Our recital organists are Stephen Tharp, Isabelle Demers, Ken Cowan, and yours truly. Our concerto organist is David Enlow as part of our 2nd Annual Orchestra & Organ concert, which will feature 40 members of MOO in a program of beloved favorites: Poulenc *Concerto for Organ* and Brahms *Symphony No. 1*. A huge thank you to Dr. Martin Nash for underwriting the annual orchestra concert and to all our loyal Friends of Music donors for their support of this important musical outreach.

Organ Work

Our resident organ curators, the firm of A. Thompson-Allen, continue to provide excellent service for our world-class Juget-Sinclair organ with regular visits twice a year. This past fall, they successfully fixed 3 dead pipes after discovering that they had become home to some mice and squirrels, one of whom had eaten their way out of one of the façade pipes (!). Juget crafted a new pipe for us and installed it during their October visit to install a new airflow conduit for the Swell division. This was done to increase the tuning stability for the part of the organ that is closest to the ceiling.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at justin@christchurchpelham.org or 646.206.7638 with any questions or feedback.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Justin Bischof
Director of Music & Organist



VERGER'S REPORT

The Vergers

Joining me (Walter Roberts) leading our processions and preparing our liturgies is our newest Verger (in training), Sandra Rivera. Sandra has been an acolyte and has taken (EFM) Education for Ministry, and she has been a great addition! I am looking forward to the 2026 Verger's Conference in Newport, Rhode Island, and this time I will have someone to travel with!

The Acolyte Guild

We are trying to rebuild our Acolyte Guild as strong as it was before the pandemic. The Acolyte Guild at Christ Church is still active and operating. Fr. Matt appointed Mary O'Shaughnessy to schedule and recruit acolytes. And of course, Sandra and I will fill in anytime there are none available. A big "Thank You" to our acolytes who do participate in our services. We count on them to make the services flow, and our worship is always enhanced by their presence. The Acolyte Guild is open for all who want to Serve.

Livestreamers

All of our Sunday and Holy Day services, as well as the Pageant, choral events and concerts, are livestreamed. We have a great livestream computer setup which is overseen by Father Matt and Mary O'Shaughnessy. We also have a small but dedicated group of teens who run the livestream for major services and major events. Most Sundays it is run by Father Matt (from his iPhone!), Mary O'Shaughnessy, or me (Walter Roberts). If you are interested in helping with the livestream (and you are good at computers or video games) please reach out to Mary.

Lectors

The role of a lector is to proclaim the Word to the people of God. Lectors are lay members of the Parish who regularly read the lessons. Mary O'Shaughnessy also schedules our Lectors. The Lectors are open to all who want to read.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

The Lay Eucharistic Ministers (chalice bearers) are used in the absence of Deacons and Priests to assist the Celebrant. They do not take the place of but assist the celebrant in distribution of the Sacraments.

It is my pleasure to work with the Acolytes, Livestreamers, Lectors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers,

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Roberts
Verger

USHERS REPORT

“I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.” Psalm 84:10

Ushers are the doorkeepers at Christ Church; they are the first welcoming faces a parishioner or visitor to Christ Church sees. The usher’s role is to contribute to the smooth progression of the worship service so that clergy and congregation might better concentrate on their devotions. At regular Sunday services, the ushers work as a team, usually of two. They distribute bulletins, help with seating, assist parishioners or visitors with mobility issues and monitor the doors in the Narthex during the processional so that latecomers do not disrupt the choir and clergy. During the service, the ushers take up the collection and bring the offering forward to the altar, then they arrange the additional kneeling cushions. During Communion, they direct the congregation to the communion rail, pew by pew. Should anyone need communion brought to their seat, one of the ushers advises Father Matt accordingly. After the service, the ushers count and record the offerings in the collection plates and note the attendance count they have taken. They then ensure that the offerings, envelopes and record book are safely stored away in the church office. At funeral services and special memorial services, Christ Church often welcomes large groups of people who are here for the first time and the church is sometimes quite crowded. On these occasions, the ushers are responsible for helping everyone to find seating, sometimes directing latecomers to pews in the belltower.

During 2025, twenty-one parishioners served as ushers at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 services on Sundays, at funerals and memorial services, and at special services during Holy Week, at Christmas and on other holy days. Some served only once or twice during the year while others faithfully showed up several times a month, sometimes stepping in at the last moment. In addition, two young parishioners regularly assisted with the collection at the 8:00 service.

I am grateful for this small and dedicated group of parishioners who faithfully and joyfully serve the church but Christ Church needs more doorkeepers! I encourage others who would like to join this ministry to let me know of their interest and availability. Please contact me at gruenerjean@me.com

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Gruener

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The primary purpose of the Altar Guild is to prepare for celebrations of the Holy Eucharist and other sacraments of the church. The Altar Guild’s work provides both order and beauty for the worship of the church. The members of the Altar Guild have completed another year of service to the Church

preparing the sanctuary for all Sunday, midweek and special services. The Altar Guild provides wine, wafers and candles for use during worship services. Linens, vessels, vestments and church hangings are cared for by the Altar Guild and replaced as needed. We are always looking for people who would like to share in this most rewarding ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Kraft and Paige Lavengood

FLOWER GUILD REPORT

The mission of the Flower Guild is to ensure that the church and altar are adorned with flowers appropriate to the season and occasion. The principal activity of the guild is to purchase and arrange the flowers displayed in the Church every week. We also work with parishioners who wish to make donations of flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of a special event or person.

Due to the generosity of a local florist, Frank at Enchanted Flowers in New Rochelle, we can offer fresh flowers for both the Main Altar and the Bolton Altar for the suggested donation of \$150. Donators can ask for specific remembrance/celebration requests. These requests will be noted in the weekly Sunday bulletin. The donations made during the Christmas and Easter collections help to make the Flower Guild a self-sustaining ministry, and we thank everyone who has made donations throughout the year.

The guild currently has 13 members, listed below. In 2025 we have also been investing in real looking artificial flowers to supplement those times when no donations have been made for that week. We hope to increase our membership and prospective new members are encouraged to contact Patrice Fitzpatrick. We invite any parishioners interested in this ministry to join us.

Members of the Flower Guild: Angela Lore-Barone, Allison Bodenmann, Alice Dean, Marie Dumas, Charlette Finch, Patrice Fitzpatrick (Chair), Etta Gumbs, Emily Kane, Katherine Kenworthy, Colette Phipps, Janet Salvatore, Cherie Sigward and Anne Zahner.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice Fitzpatrick





CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRIES REPORT

Sunday School

Sunday school began in September 2025, with many students returning from last year. The year began with a Blessing of the Backpacks with many children and youth attending the service. We had an altar full of backpacks, thanks to Fr. Matt for blessing our children for the school year. This service was also my first service as the Director of Children and Families Ministries. I have enjoyed getting to know the church community and learning its rhythms. In November and December, all the youth enjoyed gathering together for the beginning of Sunday School to learn Christmas songs. Moving forward, I look forward to bringing together students for joint classes at times, as well as separating students as needed. This will allow Sunday School to adapt and continue to meet the needs of the community. Each Sunday, depending on various factors, we have anywhere from 1 or 2, to 6 or 7 learners. Special thanks to all the Sunday School Teachers that volunteer regularly!

Christmas Pageant

In December, we were delighted to put forth our Christmas Pageant on Sunday the 14th, at 4pm. The timing of the pageant in the early evening, similar to last year's show, has created a wonderfully fun and festive atmosphere that has allowed more families and children to get involved than in previous years. In what was a truly packed house, we had thirteen children participating in the show! Following the pageant, we invited the children and families to join for cookies and a small reception. Once again, a highlight of our Pageant was the beautiful music, including singing by our children's choir, conducted by our renowned Director of Music Justin Bischof. Extra special thanks go to all who made

the Pageant possible, including Denise, Erik, Walter, Fr. Matt & most especially all of the children and youth.

Vacation Bible School & Summer Family Sunday

Unfortunately, due to schedule complications, Youth Ministry at Christ Church was unable to put forth a formal Vacation Bible School in August 2025, as is tradition. However, as an alternative, we held several “Family Fun Sundays” throughout the summer, as a relaxing and spiritually connecting way to enjoy fellowship during the warm weather months. These were held on July 13th and August 3rd, and featured hot dogs on the field, lawn games and our famous Christ Church bouncy castle! We look forward to Vacation Bible School this coming summer 2026 which will take place in the mornings on August 17th, 18th, and 19th.

Confirmation Class

One of the blessed sacraments in the Episcopal Church, Confirmation represents a mature public affirmation of faith and statement of commitment to the responsibilities of their baptism on the part of the recipient. Typically, at Christ Church, our confirmants are in 8th and 9th grade, but there is no age limit to being confirmed. This year, confirmation is scheduled for April 12th, where our church is honored to host Bishop Mathew Heyd to lay hands on the confirmants, in keeping with this sacred ancient tradition. Our 2025-2026 class is led by me, Father Matt, and Deacon Chisara. We have four youth confirmants in the class.



Youth Group

With spring rapidly approaching, our plan is to continue planning exciting youth group meetings, including opportunities for the youth of our parish to do service in our church and community. Youth Group continues to grow this year and provides a safe space for the teens and young people to make friends, have fun, and grow in their faith. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for youth to gather during Church events. In October, we hosted a simultaneous youth group event during Octoberfest, and we plan to do this during the upcoming Pizzeria Night.

Saint Michael's Conference

High School and College age young people are invited to attend the upcoming Saint Michael's Conference from July 26-August 1 with Fr. Matt. The Conference is Episcopal/Anglican and draws young people from all over the US. It's a really fun week with a mix of worship, classes on various Christian topics for teens in the morning, and free time and activities in the afternoon and evening.

Respectfully submitted,
Liam Myers
Director of Children's Ministries





ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & LEARNING

We have a variety of events throughout the year, and we are gifted at our parish to have not one but two Bible study groups meeting weekly.

Rector's Bible Study

The Rector's Bible Study meets on Zoom each Thursday at 8am and lasts about 45 minutes. The Rector's Bible Study takes a fairly academic track and explores one book of the Bible at a time. We are now reading the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). In 2025 we read Genesis and began Exodus. In 2024 we read Job, and the Gospel and Letters of St. John. In 2023 we read Obadiah, Ruth, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, Revelation, Daniel, and the Psalms. In 2022 we read Saint Matthew's Gospel. In 2021 we read Isaiah, Amos, Jonah and stories of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. Join using the Zoom Button on our website. Each Bible Study is recorded and posted to our YouTube Page, so you can catch it later if you miss the live version.

Lectionary Bible Study

In addition, an in person, lectionary-based group, led by Michael Moynihan, gathers in the Church library each (and almost every) Thursday throughout the year, from 10:00 am to noon. We begin each session by catching up in prayer for the special needs of those present, as well as covering community and world concerns. We then review the past Sunday's Homily to see if our study the previous week prepared us for the Liturgy. Finally, with the help of various Scripture Commentaries and reference books, we delve into the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday, usually beginning with the Gospel reading. We discuss its meaning in the time and context in which it was written, and more importantly how it applies to our lives today. Because what we share is often personal, our first rule is "*What is said in Bible Study stays in Bible Study!*" Just like Vegas. We are careful to respect one other's opinions and keep politics out of our discussions. On occasion throughout the year Bible Study includes a festive breakfast or lunch in recognition of birthdays and holidays. All are welcome!

Adult Learning Events

Periodically we offer evening Adult Learning sessions on specific topics, moderated by our Rector and our Director of Adult Learning, Michael Moynihan. We began the year with "Loss, Grief and Faith," and the struggle when they overlap. The second session, "Episcopal 101," was billed as an opportunity to share and discuss our varied experiences as Episcopalians; ranging from the cradle variety to recent converts. Our third, in October, focused on "A Christian Response to Violence." For this timely discussion of how to deal with violence in our world, our country and our community, Father Matt and Michael were joined by the head of Psychiatry at a large Westchester hospital and a retired special agent with the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). Each of these three sessions were attended by roughly 30 participants. Our current plan is to offer/host a Passover Seder Event during Lent, specifics TBA, to more deeply understand our Jewish roots in faith. These sessions begin with Mass at 5:15 pm, a light dinner at 6:00 pm and our Conversation running from 7:00-8:30pm.

Quiet Days

Father Matt has organized several Quiet Days each year. A Quiet Day is like a mini retreat with time for silence, learning, prayer, and fellowship. Past Quiet Days have been on Biblical themes (The Gospel of Mark, the Gospel of John, the Passion Narratives, the Birth Narratives, etc.) In 2026 we took a group approach that incorporated Mother Meredith, Michael Moynihan, and Just Bischof. Our Christmas Quiet Day drew nearly 20 people and was a success. Look ahead to our Lenten Quiet Day in a few weeks.

Our hope for these programs is always to welcome familiar and new faces alike; anyone searching to deepen their faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Moynihan
Director of Adult Christian Education





OUTREACH REPORT

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." – Matthew 25:35-40

Detailed below is a summary of 2025 activities undertaken by the Outreach Committee and supported by Christ Church Parishioners:

Brown Bag Lunch Program – In 2025, Christ Church completed its ninth year of support for the Brown Bag Lunch Program at Trinity St. Paul's Episcopal Church in New Rochelle. This initiative included buying and stocking supplies for the Men's Group to prepare sandwiches and assembling lunch bags for sixty individuals. Special thanks to The Men's Group for their ongoing support of this program.

Outreach Sundays – Parishioners continued to generously donate food items on the first Sunday of each month to support the Food Pantry at Sts. John, Paul, and Clement Episcopal Church in Mt. Vernon. The Outreach Committee continued to provide financial support six times a year to St. James Episcopal Church/Fordham for its Food Pantry Program.

Schliemann Scholarship Fund – In 2025, the Committee recommended and the Vestry approved scholarships of \$3,000 each to two individuals looking for financial assistance to attend a trade or vocational schools.

Outreach Appeal for Lent and Easter – The beneficiary of the 2025 Easter Appeal was Hearts & Homes for Refugees (HHR). The Appeal began on Ash Wednesday and concluded with a Dessert Auction on Mother's Day which raised over \$1,390. Thanks to generous parishioner support, our final donation to HHR was approximately \$6,500.

Period Poverty Donations – During International Period Poverty Month in May, the Outreach Committee partnered with the Sharing Shelf of Port Chester to collect tangible donations from parishioners which were then donated to young girls and women in need.

St. Francis of Assisi Day/Pet Adoption Event – In conjunction with the Blessing of the Animals on October 5 members of the Outreach Committee and interested parishioners co-hosted a Pet Adoption Event with the Humane Society of Westchester County resulting in the adoption of 5 puppies and 3 kittens by local residents.

Christ Church Annual Classic Car Show – On November 1, the Outreach Committee and the Vestry sponsored the Second Annual Car Show at Christ Church. More than 250 classic cars – from Model T's to hot rods and exotics, were on display. More than 800 spectators enjoyed the festivities which included music provided by a live DJ, dining from a food truck, shopping with vendors placed in Hoag Hall, and touring the sanctuary. This initiative raised over \$11,000 which was divided equally between Outreach and the Church. The Outreach Committee will use these funds to support its ongoing activities in 2026. Special thanks to Carol Ipsen for overseeing the Car Show Raffle event in the Parish Hall that raised about half of the day's proceeds.

Thanksgiving-in-a-Box – Christ Church parishioners once again participated in the annual Thanksgiving dinner drive with other houses of worship in Pelham. More than 1,000 dinners were delivered to needy families in Westchester County. Our ongoing thanks to Beth Conway, who has faithfully coordinated this effort for Christ Church for many years.

NYC Cares Winter Coat Drive – In December, Christ Church collected more than 965 coats that were given to the New York Cares Alliance for distribution to area individuals and families in need. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners and area residents, the number of donated coats grew from 719 in 2023.

The Giving Tree – For 2025, the beneficiary of Outreach Giving Tree was the Humane Society of Westchester County in New Rochelle. During Advent and Christmas, parishioners were asked to

donate pet food and toys, cleaning and grooming supplies as well as monetary donations. These tangible and financial donations will be used to support the Humane Society's animal rescue initiatives which are at a critical level due to the unprecedented number of family pets being surrendered because their owners can't afford to feed and care for them.

Christmas Dessert Auction – On December 21, parishioners generously donated a variety of holiday desserts for the Christmas Dessert Auction. Proceeds of over \$1,000 from the Auction will be used for Outreach initiatives in 2026.

Summary of 2025 Outreach Grants

In addition to the joint Outreach/parishioner engagement activities noted above, the vestry approved the Outreach Committee's recommendation to provide \$7,500 in financial support to the following organizations:

- \$1,500 to Community Services Associates in Mount Vernon which serves a full nutritious dinner four nights a week to anyone in need. Dinner guests are also provided with a take home lunch for the next day.
- \$2,000 each to the following Episcopal churches in support of their feeding programs: St. James/Fordham in the Bronx; Trinity St. Paul in New Rochelle, and Sts. John, Paul and Clement in Mount Vernon.

The Committee wishes to once again thank parishioners for their in-kind donations and their cash contributions. Coupled with the grants shown above, Christ Church was able to provide approximately \$20,000 in financial and tangible support in 2025 to those in need. We believe that helping those in need is a fundamental tenet of our Christian faith and our Episcopal heritage. Your generosity makes our communities kinder and better places for all our brothers and sisters. The Outreach Committee welcomes suggestions and new ideas from all parishioners. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Outreach Committee or if you would like to volunteer to participate in one of Christ Church's outreach activities, please – join us!

Finally, the Outreach Committee members would like to welcome Denise Liburd as the new Chair of the Committee and to thank Carla Carroll for her leadership of the Committee these past two years. Her unceasing advocacy for those less fortunate has been an inspiration to us all. You will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Dumas, Patrice Fitzpatrick, Chong Genovese, Etta Gumbs (Vestry Liaison), Jackie Kraft, Ed McGann, Sandra Rivera and Carla Carroll



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING REPORT

The Christ Church Pelham Chapter completed its second full year of ministry in 2025. With six active members, the chapter continues to grow in prayer, service, and presence within the parish, while actively inviting new members to discern a call to the Order.

Ministry and Outreach

- Conducted a phone-call ministry to parishioners, especially households with elderly members and young children.
- Donated auto-repair coupons to Hearts and Homes for Refugees.
- Supported outreach dinner for a local homeless shelter.
- Participated in parish events including the Annual Car Show, Blessing of the Animals, and Sunday School Barbecue.
- Continued the monthly clothing drive, distributing items to St. Mary's (Brooklyn), Weshab (Bronx), and Trinity Church (New Rochelle).
- Assisted with repasses following funerals and sponsored coffee hour on several occasions.

Spiritual Formation and Diocesan Engagement

- Joined the parish Quiet Day, welcoming visitors from other DOK chapters in the Diocese of New York.
- Attended the Region 2 Spring Conference, participating in worship, fellowship, and formation with Daughters across the diocese.

2025 Highlights

- Strengthened parish presence through consistent service and hospitality.
- Expanded outreach to vulnerable populations, including refugees and the homeless.
- Deepened spiritual life through diocesan connections and shared prayer.

Goals for 2026

- Increase membership through intentional invitation and discernment.
- Sponsor coffee hour more frequently as a ministry of hospitality.
- Hold a Day of Prayer for the parish and wider community.
- Support parish events with continued service and presence.
- Celebrate the chapter's second anniversary with a meaningful community gathering.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole





FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

A big part of fellowship is good conversation over a cup of hot coffee/tea after worship. We thank everyone for hosting a Sunday morning Coffee Hour - please see either Janet or Jackie to sign up to host an upcoming Sunday Coffee Hour.

This year started off with a New Year's Brunch. Fellowship receptions that are planned: Pizzeria Night, Superbowl Party, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Maundy Thursday Dinner, Ascension Day Steak Dinner, various Picnics and other dinners, our famous Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner, and Christmas Brunch... just to name a few.

We always welcome help and new ideas for fellowship. You can always find Janet and Jackie at Coffee Hour after the 10:00am service, we look forward to a great 2026!

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Kraft and Janet Salvatore, Co-Chairs



MEN'S GROUP REPORT

The Men's Group meets in the undercroft one Wednesday each month to make sandwiches for Trinity Saint Paul's. After sandwich making, we head to Rockwell's (or elsewhere when feeling more adventurous) for dinner and conversation. We also host several special events during the course of the year. In 2025, among other things, we threw a party for the Super Bowl (which we are doing again next week!). We also enlisted help of the Men to participate in various projects around the Church, including volunteering at the car show. Our hope is to continue apace in the new year with our programming, especially as winter draws to an end. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for activities or events. Stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted,
Andy DesRault





THE WOMEN'S CONNECTION REPORT

The Women's Connection continued its tradition of creating social events as well as performing service projects. We met via zoom throughout the year to plan our activities or just to chat about our lives. Continuing our commitment to be of service to others, the women of the parish made meals for hundreds of people to be served by Community Service Associates at their Mount Vernon location. We also packed hundreds of bags of food for the food pantry at the Ss. John, Paul, and Clement Church in Mt Vernon. We help wherever and whenever needed to assist in the activities of our parish. In 2026, we will continue our commitment of service to others and continue to create activities which will bring us together as sisters with a shared faith.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Gunther Zambelli

ART MINISTRY REPORT

The Art Ministry began by brightening up the Parish Hall with monthly displays of paintings, drawings, photographs, and other hanging artworks for sale from local artists, including some parishioners. The ministry has proven to be a success and enjoyed by all!

It is free for the artist to use the hall, which is very unusual in the art display world. Even if the artwork is not sold, it brightens up HOAG HALL and attracts non-parishioners to visit our church.

The ministry features artists of all mediums. With 7 large display areas there is room for up to 28 plus pieces of artwork. Displays will include art on canvas, photography, textiles, watercolors, pastels, etc. Works will be displayed for 4-6 weeks and then another show will be rotated in.

All are welcome to display their god given talents. Please spread the word. The Art Ministry is always looking for new pieces to show. If it can hang on the wall, and is church appropriate, we can hang it! Receptions are held for each change of artist.

Thirty percent of the proceeds of the sale of the artwork is now donated to the Parish of Christ the Redeemer.

This year, 2025, 47 works have been sold, grossing \$6415 (The church received 20% of that in 2025).

Art is available to be viewed/bought on M-F 10-3 pm or by appointment. If you or someone you know would like to display artwork in Hoag Hall, please contact Patrice Fitzpatrick at patric23@optonline.net or 914-393-1885.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrice Fitzpatrick, Chair



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Some years, the Communications Committee just gets lucky... as we did big time, on multiple fronts in 2025. True, we only turned out one (albeit 27-page) issue of *Soundings*, and it took us until December to do it, but we reveled in the myriad makings of a period Father Matt heralded in his column as one of “renewal and growth”.

Those ingredients range from a record-busting coat drive (thanks much, Outreach head Carla Carroll), to parishioner Hildy Munch who keeps on kicking, and inspiring us all with a veritable bonfire of 105 candles on her chocolate birthday cake.

We also got to understand more about how our choir’s four section leaders got so darn good with their vocal chords...and to appreciate a bit more about how verger Walter Roberts quietly, of course, sets a high standard of piety and dignity for all of us. And then we read what our six newest confirmands had to say about their deepening relationship with God, and about how a young Liam Myers from Wisconsin, brought a soothing authority and compassion to his role as our new Youth Minister. Meanwhile, we heard about Adult Learning Director Michael Moynihan hosting evening gatherings in the library where light dinners are followed by talk of subjects as weighty as how to cope with rising violence all around us.

And then, on a chilly morning in November almost everyone had some experience of our second annual Classic Car Show. It drew 350 4-wheeled stars and hundreds of eager admirers to have a ball with the aid of an army of parishioner ticket takers, hawkers, tire kickers, bakers and barkers, who took pleasure in each other’s company.

We on the Communications team last year also lucked out with our newest member, Managing Editor (not to mention Digital Wizard) Mary O’Shaughnessy, who merrily charted our way to one of our best-looking *Soundings* ever.

And to top it all off, who can but marvel at a powerful gust of beneficence from the Diocese of New York, which lightened our parish’s financial burden by \$60,000 in 2025. Woo hoo! And thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Gruener, Erik Ipsen, Mary O’Shaughnessy



BUILDINGS COMMITTEE REPORT

With input from Parish Property Management and other knowledgeable professionals, the buildings ministry coordinates the regular upkeep and maintenance of all Christ Church buildings and infrastructure and recommends to the Rector and Vestry short and long-term plans for capital improvements that will enhance the use and preserve the historic character and architectural elements of the buildings.

This past year has been one of primarily repairs and maintenance. While there have been some smaller sized capital projects undertaken, most of our time has been spent on maintaining our complex.

Of a capital nature we replaced the water heater for the old parish house, as well as various kitchen appliances in both Rectory and the assistant Sexton's apartment. Repairs were made to all of furnaces and boilers (We have 4 in total), lighting systems both inside and outside the church, and roofs both of the Church as well as The Old Parish House.

In late October we had a small fire in the Rectory in one of the upstairs bathrooms caused by an electrical issue with a bathroom fan. Luckily there's a second bathroom on that floor and our insurance will cover the majority of the cost of repairs. We are, however, taking the opportunity to further improve that bathroom. Of note our systems all worked in that incident. The fire triggered our monitored alarm system, and the alarm company notified the Pelham Manor Fire Department. Father Matt was in the office at the time and immediately went to the Rectory and used the fire extinguisher, that we had on hand, to put out the fire.

We continue to closely monitor our utility usage and note that for the year ended December we used 0.7% less gas and electricity than the year before. However, rate increases raised our total costs for these by 6.0%.

In 2026 we hope to repair both the Spanish door at the rear of the church as well as restore the windows in the choir room, and music library rooms. Timing is not fixed but we anticipate that we will make a grant application to The Diocese to pay for a portion of the work. Also planned is the removal of the weathered plexiglass covering over the stained-glass window located at the rear of the church above the Narthex. The wooden frame surrounding the glass will also be restored and painted. We anticipate that this ‘uncovering’ will enhance the window from both inside and outside the church. The later project will be mostly paid for by a grant from Pelham Preservation and Garden Society.

Respectfully submitted,
John Fox and Father Matt
Buildings Co-Chairs



TENANT AND RENTAL REPORT

AA Groups: The Pelham Women’s Group, the Pelham Shore Road Group and the Saturday Evening “Sober Over the Rainbow” Group. They rent the undercroft for their afternoon and evening meetings several days/evenings during the week and on Saturday mornings.

Hearts & Homes for Refugees: They are an organization committed to assisting and advocating for refugees in our country. Meshing well with Christ Church’s Mission Statement, they rent the space in the Old Parish House building across the parking lot from the Church/Offices.

The Montessori School has been renting space at Christ Church since 1992. This marks their 34th Anniversary at Christ Church. They use our Hall for various events, including a once a week

exercise/yoga class, for Christmas and Easter shows for families and an amazing student's Art Show at the end of the school year.

Alex Wooden Driveway Garage Rental: Alex has been renting $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Garage since 2017. His contracting home improvement company is responsible for the opening and closing of our niches, and adding plaques.

Boy Scout Troop 1: Have been using the Parish Hall for their Troop 1 meetings every Thursday evening since September 2023. Troop 1 was founded in 1916, so 2026 is their 110 year of continuous service. Christ Church is their Charter Organization. In addition to their Thursday evening meetings, they have additional monthly youth planning meetings, adult planning meetings and two times a year hold Court of Honor meetings where they recognize scouts for various achievements. Their "Key 3" leadership is Fr. Mead (Chartered Organization Representative), Jason Feldman (Troop Committee Chair) and John Waters (Troop Scoutmaster). Troop 1 currently has 42 active scouts on their roster in grades 6-12. February 8th is their annual Scout Sunday and Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Like in past years, Troop 1 scouts will represent/participate in the 10am church service plus the scouts will be serving breakfast from 8am-12:30pm for \$10 per plate. Please join "our" Troop for a delicious breakfast. We will be in the Undercroft that morning for both coffee hours.

On April 17th from 8:30am to 5:30pm, the hall will, once again, be rented to Life Line Screening: Life Line Screening offers non-invasive preventive health tests, primarily using ultrasound, finger-stick blood tests, and EKGs, to help people detect risks for stroke, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, and some cancers, often recommended for those over 50 to find issues early before symptoms appear. They conduct screenings at community events, focusing on early detection of plaque buildup, abnormal heart rhythms (AFib), and other conditions, providing results to participants to share with their doctors for diagnosis and treatment planning. Please come to the parish hall and take advantage of these life-saving tests.

Potential Filming/Holding Rentals: One of our "hoped for" rentals every year is for television or movie production companies to use our space for filming or production holding. We are in active conversations with a film company for 2026. Pray it materializes!

We have had several one-time, hall events/rentals this year: Birthday parties, anniversary parties, etc. Our parish hall dresses up beautifully for all occasions. Contact Marie at 914.738.5515 or email: marie@christchurchpelham.org for your next rental.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Main
Parish Administrator



GROUND & GARDEN COMMITTEE REPORT

A busy year of work around the church's four acres of trees, shrubs, rock outcroppings, lawns and more began for us and our long-time groundskeeper Frank Moretti Landscaping in mid-March, when traces of snow still lingered in the hedges. First up the small, badly deteriorated plaza surrounding the rustic cross in front of the Pelhamdale Avenue parking lot. There we reset the flagstones, replacing several and power washing the lot. Next, we addressed long-time erosion around path running uphill roughly 10 yards from the lower parking lot to the backside of Church by laying a 4" thick bed of gravel and soil seeded with Lazer low-sun/strong-rooting grass. We also dressed up the walkway running from the church's rear driveway to the door of old brick schoolhouse, now housing Music Director Justin Bischoff on the 2nd floor and the ground-floor office of Hearts & Homes for Refugees. There we replaced gravel on both sides with two pink Knockout roses front and back and ornamental grasses in between. And to tone down the tall new ConEd gas-valve and piping beside the circular drive in front of church, we added soil, mulch and a pair of handsome *euonymus* bushes, which are already thriving.

Late in the summer we reversed gears and cleared out bushels of vegetation...a bumper crop of vines and assorted weeds running riot in the large window well on backside of church beneath the choir's music library facing out to the Garden of Resurrection. There we added gravel (and a dose of herbicide) to retard newgrowth

For the first time in several years we did not make use of our arborists at Almstead Tree, as they found no pressing need. The company's shrub and lawncare arm did, however, make a series of eight visits over the summer to apply at various carefully defined locations treatments to combat everything from boxwoods' dreaded leaf miner insects to taxus scale. Meanwhile, many of our shrubs and roses got holistic soil and root care via periodic hoses with freshly brewed compost tea billed as brimming with "mutualistic organisms".

And with summer winding down in early September, the Grounds Committee did something we haven't done in many years. We put our groundskeeping work for the next year out to bid. We had long been happy with the quality of Moretti's work, but we felt the time had come to see how his firm stacked up pricewise. Committee member Danielle Ganpat, an architect in private life, put together a richly detailed 10-page prospectus, chockablock with maps and photos detailing our anticipated needs for 2026. We asked for bids by October 10 for a package of services running from gutter cleaning on a half dozen buildings including the rectory, to edging and weeding our lawns. In the end we received bids from three firms, including Frank Moretti's...which emerged as our clear winner...one that we now know prices its services competitively.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Ipsen, Jim Young, Daniel Ganpat
Grounds & Garden Committee Co-Chairs



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

2026 Pledge Drive Numbers (as of January 27, 2026)

2026 Pledge \$	2026 Pledges	2026 New	2026 Increased	2026 Flat	2026 Decrease
\$469,860.00	112	13	82	12	5

2026 Median % Increase/Decrease	2026 Average \$ Increase/Decrease	2026 Total \$ Increase/Decrease
5.14%	\$438.35	\$49,095.00

2025 Pledgers not yet Pledged	Total 2025 Pledgers (flat) not yet Pledged	People Asked with Giving Histories not yet Pledged
26	\$99,870.00	66

The Stewardship Campaign for 2026 is off to a strong start. We are on track to reach our goal of \$550,000 in Pledges. For those who have not yet pledged for 2026, please take this opportunity to do so – any amount is cherished and appreciated.

The easiest ways to make a 2026 pledge are:

- scan the QR code
- fill out a Pledge Card and place it in the offering plate
- contact Marie Main in the Parish at Marie@ChristChurchPelham.org or 914-738-5515.



Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Bodenmann & Father Matt
Stewardship co-Chairs

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

2025 Investment Committee Activity

The Investment Committee is responsible for overseeing the investment of the endowment, which was \$4.15 million at 11/30/25. Members of the committee for the year were Melissa Roddy and Margaret Young (co-chairs), Brandon Bethea, Erik Ipsen, Amanda Kaufmann, Ed McGann, and Tom Sampson. Robert Landis is the Vestry Liaison. The committee met four times in 2025. We are looking for at least one more member and would welcome anyone with a background in finance.

The endowment is managed by the Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT). The DIT is an investment fund that functions like a mutual fund and is open to all parishes in the diocese. Since October 2023, the investment advisor for the DIT is Partners Capital (“Partners”).

Endowment Report

In 2025, markets experienced a robust "everything rally," with all major asset classes delivering positive returns, driven by strong economic resilience despite slowing job growth. U.S. equities performed well, with the S&P 500 rising over 17%. International and emerging markets outperformed domestic stocks significantly, and even US bond indices were up ~ 7%. The AI boom continued to fuel market gains, with the technology and communication services sectors accounting for nearly 60% of the S&P 500's performance. The Federal Reserve cut interest rates three times during the year, providing a tailwind for both equities and global bonds, which saw their best year since 2020.

The church's endowment growth was 12.3% before withdrawals, in line with several comparable benchmarks blending equity, bond, and private investment classes. The goal is always for investment returns to cover withdrawals and inflation and still have significant balances to invest for the future.

Balance at December 31, 2024	\$3,869,367
Total Investment Returns:	477,781
Withdrawals for Church Operations:	(193,789)
Net Investment Returns after Withdrawals:	\$283,991
Balance at November 30, 2025	\$4,153,358

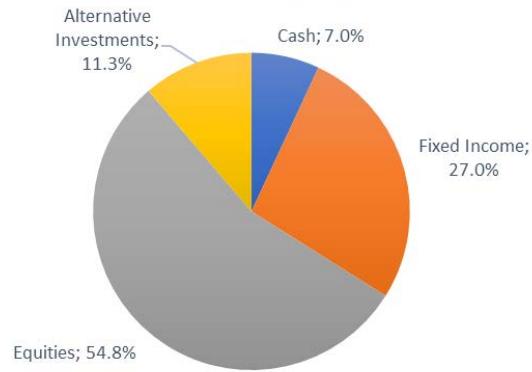
An overview of the activity in the Parish's endowment during 2025 is shown here. The total investment returns easily covered the endowment withdrawals. The net investment returns equate to growth of 7.3%, well above inflation in 2025 of 2.7%.

The asset allocation at 11/30/25 is shown on the right. These allocation percentages have been relatively stable since March 2024.

Withdrawals

In January 2025, the Vestry approved a 5% draw, or \$168K, from the main endowment to supplement the annual operating budget. The draw is calculated as a percentage of the prior three years' rolling average of the endowment's value. The actual endowment draw for the year was the same, at \$168K. In addition, a draw of \$12K was made from the Garden of the Resurrection to cover garden deferred maintenance; no draw was made the prior year. The garden draw supplements garden revenue received from the sale of niches. Another withdrawal of \$13K was made from Schliemann fund for scholarships,

Asset Allocation at 11/30/25



which is part of the general endowment but reserved for trade school scholarships; the church is tasked with spending the Schliemann balance out and was pleased when an appropriate opportunity surfaced. All withdrawals are approved by the Vestry.

The budgeted endowment draw for 2026 is 5% of the average of the last three years' ending balances, or \$176.2K.

The goal is to both maximize returns and minimize withdrawals in order for endowment growth to exceed inflation. Over the last 10 years, a total of \$1.59 million has been withdrawn to fund church operations and capital needs.

Standard practices for many not-for-profit institutions allow endowment draws of 4% - 4.5%. The DIT recommends 4% and automatically facilitates endowment draws of that amount for each client. The Investment Committee has regularly suggested to the Vestry that it try to reduce the endowment draw as a percentage of the endowment, to preserve the long-term viability of the endowment and ensure that endowment growth outpaces inflation to preserve purchasing power. We encourage members of the congregation to remember the endowment in their wills or in memorial contributions as a way to preserve the endowment value, this community and our lovely church home we all love so much.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Young & Melissa Roddy
Investment Committee Co-Chairs



TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurers Report 2026

The financial health of our church is strong. We have some challenges in the coming year that we will meet through the combined effort of us all.

The 2025 Operating Budget

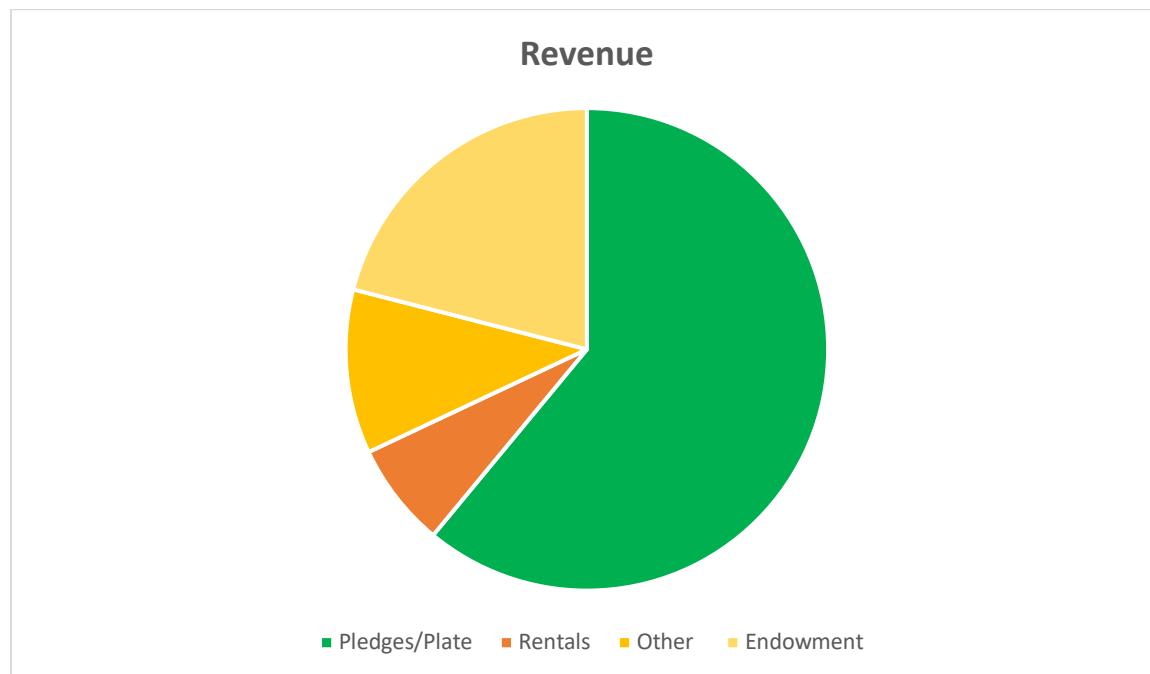
The 2025 budget was prepared to continue with our primary goal to support our worship and core ministries, e.g. outreach, fellowship, and others. In addition, we sought to continue to build youth and family ministries and insure our growth into the future.

Revenues

The 2025 overall revenue was \$895,427. Pledge and plate income reached a record high with 114 pledges and revenue totaling \$545,239.

A decrease in apartment rental income was offset by more Parish Hall rentals and main tenants Montessori School and Hearts and Homes for Refugees. Other revenue streams included fundraising by outreach events and music Concerts.

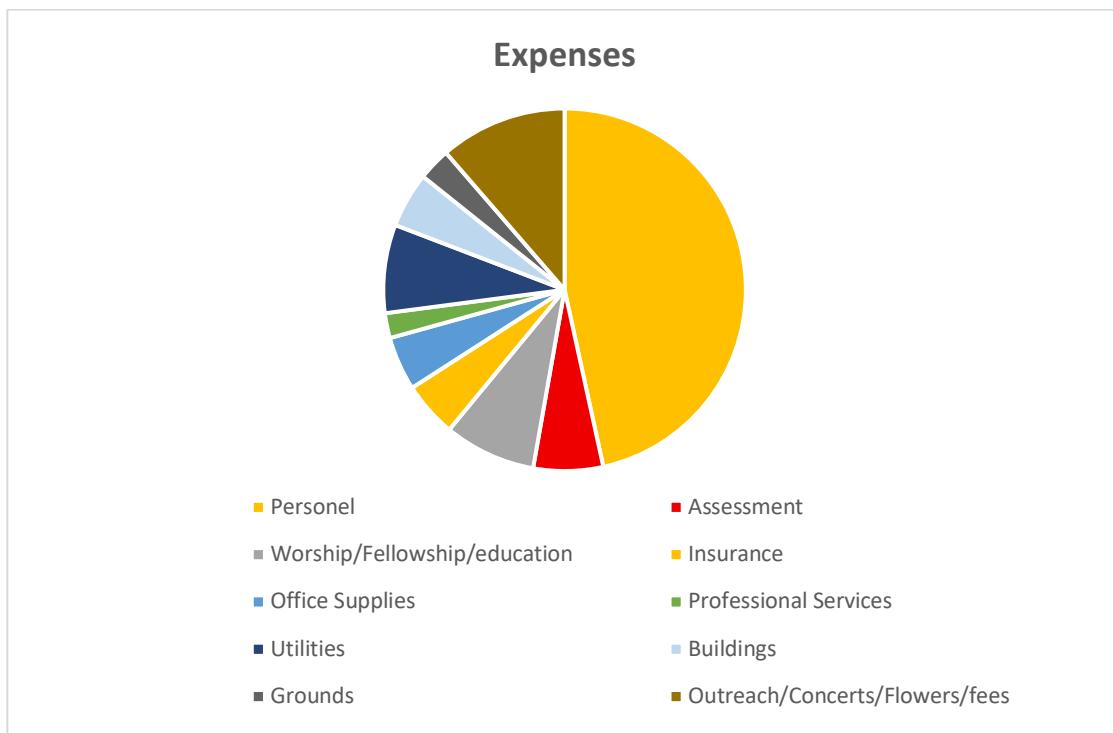
Endowment revenue accounts for 21% of our overall revenue.



Expenses

The 2025 expenses of \$943,520 reflect net deficit of \$8,843 for 2025. We began the year anticipating an \$84,482 deficit. This was offset by pledging increases during the year. We appealed to the diocese to lower our assessment and that was approved, ultimately reducing it by \$59,134. In addition, we are in the process of an audit for 2024, which will cost \$15,000, however it is not finished, so that money moves to 2026. There were lower costs and timing issues in a few other places, Office expenses, building improvements (Rectory bathroom) and utilities.

Personnel continue to be our largest expense, covering our 3 full-time employees and 6 part time or stipend employees.



2026 Operating Budget

The 2026 budget maintains our core and strategic priorities of worship, community support and growth ministries. Our budgets in 2026 have been reformatted based on the new Diocesan guidelines on how churches will be assessed in 2026 and going forward. We now will include all revenue, but the percentage is much lower than before. Our assessment this year is \$36,758 versus what would have been \$100,000+ with the prior formula.

Revenue

The 2026 Budget reflects anticipated revenue of \$959,063, which is a 7% increase over last year's actuals. Pledge income continues to be strong; most people increased their pledges over 2025. We currently have 112 pledges for \$470,000. We have 24 people who pledged last year and have not made pledges for this year, we hope they will take this opportunity to consider pledging again today.

Rental income has been increasing due to additional use of our parish hall. Other revenue includes Outreach, Concerts, Fellowship, fundraising, Garden of the Resurrection, Rental Income, and things that we will now have to report to the Diocese under the new assessment guidelines. Our Endowment draw is based on a 5% draw, which is the same as last year.

Expenses

We are projecting an increase in expenses to \$1,024,562 in total expenses, which is an 8.6% increase over last year's actual expenses. Overall, this will result in a deficit of \$65,499 in the 2026 budget which we will need to work to offset during the year.

Several factors affect this number. We did not finish the audit for 2024, so we have not been charged and that money will now come out of 2026, (\$15K). In prior years we have been able to do a "light audit" not needing to hire a firm, but since our revenue is now over \$750,000, we will continue to have formal audits, so that expense will continue every year. In addition, we hired a Priest Associate and a Director of Adult Christian Education, each with a stipend. Again, we only have 3 full-time employees, and 6 part-time employees.

Buildings increased because the bathroom renovations in the rectory moved into 2026, (\$20K) and other repairs will fall into 2026.

The parish's main challenge remains generating revenue, with 62% of operating funds relying on parishioner pledges. More details will be provided at the annual meeting. While we've worked to minimize expenses, expanding our church and programs requires additional time, talent and funding.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the members of the Finance Committee for their dedication to this ministry: John Fox, JD Calder, Margaret Young, Melissa Roddy, Etta Gumbs, Anne Calder and Father Matt Mead. Additionally, we acknowledge the Vestry for their valuable contributions to the process.

We welcome parishioners with knowledge of financial matters and an interest in our Parish to consider joining us.

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Bodenmann, Treasurer

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer
Financial Report
December 31st, 2025

	2026 Budget	2025 Actuals	2025 act vs 26 Bud Fav/(Unfav)	2025 Budget	2024 Actuals
REVENUE					
Pledge & Plate Revenue	592,648	545,239	47,408	531,233	519,176
Rental Revenue	64,966	60,589	4,376	54,666	59,586
Other Revenue	113,250	104,739	8,511	43,000	57,460
Endowment Revenue	188,200	184,860	3,341	170,129	267,113
TOTAL REVENUE	959,063	895,427	63,637	799,028	903,334
EXPENSES					
Personnel Expenses	468,352	439,388	28,965	444,574	433,609
Diocesan Assessment	36,758	58,631	(21,873)	95,892	87,492
WORSHIP					
Worship	46,275	45,685	590	39,950	42,397
SERVICES					
Church School (Youth Ministry)			-		
Christian Education	10,000	7,502	2,498	5,400	6,382
Evangelism	-	-	-	750	-
Mutual Ministry Review			-		
Conventions and Seminars	2,500	2,476	24	1,800	2,035
FOUNDATION					
Office Expense	48,341	45,320	3,021	46,800	53,226
Professional Services	51,000	20,968	30,032	39,400	17,474
Utilities	78,566	74,415	4,151	77,303	69,898
Building	70,320	46,482	23,838	44,338	42,099
Grounds	19,550	27,382	(7,832)	21,225	20,973
OTHER EXPENSES					
Other Expenses	122,900	107,143	15,757	41,400	31,461
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,024,562	943,520	81,043	922,338	867,495
NET OPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)	(65,499)	(48,093)	(17,406)	(123,311)	39,250
Amount avail from prior year		39,250		39,250	
Net Surplus(Deficit)	(65,499)	(8,843)		(84,482)	39,250

PRIOR YEAR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Draft Minutes of the Christ Church Annual Meeting, January 26, 2025

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Father Matthew Mead at 11:30 a.m.

In attendance: There were 100 parishioners in attendance.

Opening Prayer and Welcome: *Father Matthew Mead*

Timeline for Voting: The polls had opened when parishioners received the ballots mailed the previous week. For those qualified parishioners who had not already returned a ballot by mail or by hand, ballots were available at the registration desk and could be completed and submitted on site.

Rector's Report: *Father Matt*

Father Matt outlined the four major areas of parish focus in 2024, which were: restructuring of the music program, growing the Sunday School and other family ministries, welcoming newcomers and building relationships with members, and every member making a financial pledge.

- Music program: A search committee co-chaired by Jeff Bodenmann and Margaret Young considered 30 applicants for the post of Music Director and Organist. World class organist Dr. Justin Bischof was called in June 2024 and thanks to his skill and energy, Christ Church now has programming of music and hymns that are well-known, a children's Sunday choir for the first time since 2019 and a well-attended concert program. There was a round of applause for Justin.
- Sunday School and family ministry: Thanks to the work of the Director of Children's Ministries Evan Felicetti, the vacation bible school in 2024 was the largest yet and the Sunday School has seen increased attendance. A youth group that meets twice monthly has been established and now has outside dining events. Six young people will be confirmed by Bishop Mary Glasspool on May 18. It was noted that more children and teens are needed as acolytes. There was a round of applause for Evan and another for the parishioners who teach and otherwise assist with Sunday School.
- Regarding newcomers and relationships, Christ Church has a new and unified database that enhances communication. In every e-blast, there is a link to a detailed information form that will facilitate follow-up with parishioners and newcomers alike. Another, less technical method of reaching out to visitors is the wearing of name tags, which all parishioners have available at the entrance to Hoag Hall. Future events are planned for newcomers (since COVID) to the parish and families with school-age children.
- The Stewardship campaign for 2025 has been a resounding success, with pledges to date totaling \$501,285, a record high figure. Twenty-one families who pledged for 2024 still have not done so this year. It is hoped that every parishioner will make a pledge and that if this

year's pledge was the same as last year's, it might be increased by five to ten percent, as pledges and plate contributions make up 62% of the parish's total income. There was a round of applause for Stewardship Chair Curtis Chase and for a wonderfully successful campaign.

Treasurer's Report and Budget : *Father Matt, Allison Bodenmann*

- In addition to an opening deficit of \$41,318, there were increased expenses in the 2024 budget due to an overlap of salaries during the transition of the music director, apartment improvements and repairs, a computer for the new Music Director, increased insurance and utilities rates, the cost of maintaining and repairing multiple older buildings, and personnel expenses. Ultimately, \$73,191 were needed to balance the budget and this was achieved in part by increasing the draw from the Endowment by \$100,000 – to a rate of 7.7 percent instead of the hoped-for 4.5%. A lower rate would ensure that the Endowment growth outpaces inflation.
- A surplus of \$37, 620 was carried forward to the 2025 budget, which has an overall opening deficit of \$69,027.
- The Diocesan Assessment has increased by 10%; we plan to file an appeal with the Adjustment Board and request a reduction for 2025 and 2026 so we can continue to increase pledges and work our way to a balanced budget.
- The challenge for 2025 will be to keep expenses as low as possible and to grow revenues, which are highly dependent on pledges and plate contributions. We also will ask parishioners who have not increased their pledge (yet) to do so in the coming weeks.
- The full Treasurers' Report and Financial Report are in the Annual Report for 2024.
- Father Matt thanked Treasurer Allison Bodenmann, Assistant Treasurer John Fox, Bookkeeper Guy Sanscartier and members of the Finance Committee for their work on the budget.

Questions and Answers:

- There were no questions about the budget.
- Justin Bischof thanked all those who had helped him upon his arrival at Christ Church and he led the group in a round of applause for the choir.

Warden's Report and Election Results: *J.D. Calder*

The results of the uncontested election, with 55 ballots cast (including ballots submitted by mail and at the meeting), accepted the recommended slate of candidates, as follows:

- Junior Warden – Etta Gumbs, two-year term
- Vestry Members:
- Jennifer Bland – three-year term
- Robert Boyer – three-year term
- Stehen Dolan – three-year term
- Delegates and Alternate Delegate to the 2024 Diocesan Convention:
- Barbara Zambelli – Delegate to Convention

- Carol Ipsen – Delegate to Convention
- Andrew DesRault – Alternate Delegate to Convention

Father Matt congratulated and thanked the new Vestry Members, Convention Delegates and Alternate Delegate. He further thanked the Wardens and Vestry members, Deacon Chisara, the Chairs and Co-Chairs of Committees and of Ministries, his wife Nicole Mead, Michael Moynihan for Bible Study, the Parish Administrator Marie Maine, Verger and Sexton Walter Roberts and Sexton Ed Blue, who is in his 53rd year of service to Christ Church.

Final Blessing: *Father Matt*

Singing of the Doxology

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

PARISH ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for election as vestry members at the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Christ the Redeemer on January 25, 2026

- **Sr. Warden (2-year term): JD Calder**
- **Vestry (3 seats for 3-year terms): Margaret Bailey, Dawn Bloise, and Alison Hinds-Pearl**
- **Convention Delegates to the 2025 Diocesan Convention: Barbara Zambelli and Carol Ipsen (Delegates) and Curtis Chase (Alternate)**

Elections according to the bylaws

Our parish bylaws provide specific procedures for elections at our annual meeting. All qualified voters present must sign in to receive a ballot. Regarding voter qualifications our bylaws state the following: “Qualified voters are the Rector and all persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who have been baptized and belong to the Parish and have been regular communicants at its worship and have financially contributed to its support within the past twelve months.” Our bylaws state that vestry members can run for two consecutive terms and serve a maximum of six years before they have to step down from the vestry for at least a year before they run again. There are four open vestry positions this year, three are for the full 3-year term and one is to complete a departing vestry member’s term for the next 2 years.

Candidate Statements

Here are the questions posed to all Candidates:

- How long have you attended Christ Church? Do other members of your family come to Christ Church?
- Please describe the positions you have held, or activities you participate in at the church.
- Why do you want to serve and work on the Vestry?
- What skills and life experience would you bring to the Vestry’s work

J.D. Calder, Senior Warden/Two-year term

My wife Anne and I have been members of Christ Church since 2000, and over the years, I have participated in many areas of the Parish. I am currently Senior Warden and work directly with Father Matt, Etta Gumbs, and our Treasurers to oversee the life and finances of the Parish.



Before serving as Warden, I served several terms on vestry, participated in and later co-chaired the Outreach committee for many years, co-chaired the AmeriCares parish outreach work project for five years, and served as treasurer for two years. My wife and I co-chaired the 2017/18 Capital Campaign. We raised both of our children here, and they were active members of the parish; our son Alexander was an acolyte for many years.

Although my children are older now, I still believe that families are key to a well-rounded and robust parish. As Warden, I work to reach out to young families, and ensure that the church offers programs and activities that will appeal to these groups. We need to keep Christ Church a welcoming place to all, but we owe it to those who have come before us to make every effort to keep our wonderful home going.

Outreach is very important to me. God has been very good to our family. In thanks for that, I devote a great deal of time to outreach and volunteer work. I have participated in various outreach and service initiatives over the years, from directing home fix-up projects, to assisting refugee resettlement, to running a food pantry during the pandemic. I'd like to use my experiences to expand our outreach presence and parish involvement.

Finally, although I no longer practice, I am an attorney by training. During my previous service on vestry, this training came in very useful, and as a vestry member I would be available to offer a legal perspective on issues facing the church.

Margaret Bailey Cardwell, Vestry Member / Three-year term

I have been a member of Christ Church since 2010, when my family and I moved to Pelham. Prior to settling in Pelham, we lived in Denver for five years and, before that, on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. My husband, Mark, and I were married at St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue, where I later served on the vestry as Chair of the Stewardship Committee. Our sons, Sam and Jack, were baptized at St. Bart's and were confirmed at Christ Church.



I was raised Roman Catholic and became an Episcopalian as a young adult. I am grateful to the Episcopal Church, whose tradition, theology, and openness have provided a spiritual home for both my family and me.

Mark and I are engaged in parish life and are enthusiastic supporters of Christ Church's music program, which we believe plays a vital role in welcoming new members and deepening our worship experience.

Professionally, my work as a journalist and a teacher has shaped me into a thoughtful questioner and a careful listener. I hope that serving on the vestry will deepen my understanding of Christ Church's mission and governance, and allow me to contribute meaningfully to the life and work of the parish.

Dawn Bloise, Vestry Member / Three-year term



How long have you been at Christ Church?

My family began attending Christ Church in 2012, when our two oldest children were baptized. After a pause during the COVID pandemic, we resumed active participation in 2024. Since returning, it has been a pleasure to reconnect with the community, deepen our understanding of the Episcopal faith, and become involved in the many volunteer opportunities the church offers.

Activities/ministries in which I've been involved:

As a family, we enjoy participating in opportunities to give back at Christ Church. Between the five of us, we have donated coats to the coat drive, supported the food pantry, made sandwiches for the hungry, and participated in Thanksgiving-in-a-Box. We have attended steak and pizza nights, baked for dessert auctions, participated in youth group gatherings, live-streamed services, enjoyed the car show, and recently began participating in the children's choir. We look forward to continuing to expand our involvement at Christ Church.

Family members:

Our family consists of my husband, Chris, and our three children: Ethan (16), Ainsley (14), and Charlie (11). We make an effort to attend Christ Church together and are most often at the 10 a.m. service. When Sunday morning service conflict with Charlie's hockey games or Ainsley's horse show competitions, we enjoy attending the 4 p.m. evening service. Our oldest son began attending boarding school this year and joins us whenever he is home during school breaks and holidays.

How would you view serving on Vestry as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?

Serving on the Vestry would provide an opportunity to give back to a church that has given so much to our family. Christ Church has been instrumental in introducing our children to and nurturing their Christian faith. I would welcome the opportunity to deepen my understanding of the church's inner workings and to offer my time and talents in support of Christ Church's operational, outreach, and stewardship goals.

Something valuable or something you love about Christ Church:

Joining a well-established community can often feel intimidating, but what I have always appreciated about Christ Church is how welcoming it is to people at every stage of their faith journey. Our family also values the Sunday sermons, which consistently encourage thoughtful reflection. We appreciate learning more about biblical stories and how they relate to present-day life, as well as how we can apply those teachings in meaningful, practical ways.

What skills and experience could you bring to the Vestry?

I bring more than a decade of experience in the advertising industry, where I developed brand and marketing campaigns for a wide range of clients. I am eager to apply my expertise in strategic development, consumer communications, and project management to support the Vestry in achieving

Alison Hinds-Pearl, Vestry Member / Three-Year Term

Serving on the vestry is a natural extension of my Christian journey, shaped over more than twenty years as a member of this parish.

My husband, Scott and I found a spiritual home in this congregation. Our son, Aedan who was baptized, confirmed, and served as an acolyte in this church. I taught Sunday School for several years, and now serve as a lay reader. This faith community has sustained our family through different seasons of life, and I feel called to give back in a deeper way.



My professional life as an attorney has trained me to listen carefully, weigh perspectives thoughtfully, and approach complex questions with clarity and integrity — skills I hope to bring to the vestry as we discern how God is calling our church forward.

What I find most meaningful about our parish is the way it maintains traditions, shows compassion, and creates a genuine sense of belonging. For all of these reasons, I would be honored to serve our parish as a vestry member.

Nominees for Diocesan Convention

Carol Ipsen

Barbara Zambelli

Curtis Chase (alternate)



CHRIST CHURCH

Episcopal/Anglican

Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*
The Reverend Dr. Meredith Hawkins, *Associate Priest*
The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole, *Deacon*
Ms. Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*
Dr. Justin Bischof, *Director of Music & Organist*
Mr. Liam Myers, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Mr. Michael Moynihan, *Director of Adult Christian formation*
Mr. Walter Roberts, *Verger and Sexton*, Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*

Honorary Clergy

The Rev. David Hoag, *Rector Emeritus*
The Reverend Deacon Katie Lawrence, *Deacon Emerita*

Parish Officers & Vestry

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*
J.D. Calder, *Senior Warden*; Etta Gumbs, *Junior Warden*
Allison Bodenmann, *Treasurer*; John Fox, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jean Gruener, *Clerk*
Jennifer Hawks Bland, Stephen Dolan, Robert Boyer, Charlette Finch,
Curtis Chase, Jack Kraft, Andy DesRault, Robert Landis, Barbara Zambelli

Worship Schedule

Every Sunday at 8am & 10am: Holy Eucharist
Sundays as announced at 5pm: Holy Eucharist or Evensong
Wednesdays & Holy Days as announced at 5:15pm: Holy Eucharist

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer

1415 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, New York 10803
914.738.5515 - www.christchurchpelham.org

*Christ Church Pelham is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition.
As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth and committed
to serving God through worship and service to our community and the world.*