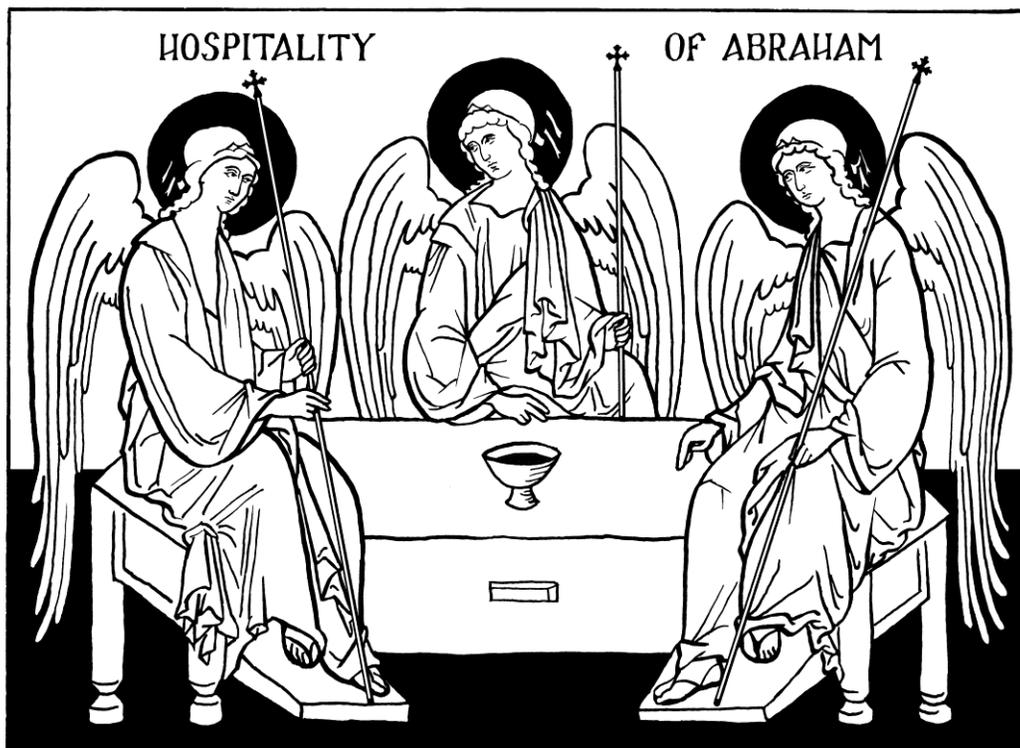




CHRIST CHURCH
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
FOUNDED 1672

Annual Report 2014



**Annual Parish Meeting
February 8, 2015**

103 Willow Street
P.O. Box S St. Michaels, MD 21663
410.745.9076 Fax 410.745.5760
www.christstmichaels.org

Christ Church Annual Meeting with Dinner
Sunday February 8, 2015

Evensong	5PM
Social	5:30PM
Dinner	6PM
Meeting	7PM

Hymn 488 – *Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart* – *William Thomas*

Opening Prayer

Appointment of the Teller/Registrar – *Mark Nestlebutt*

Minutes of the February 9, 2014 Annual Meeting – *Nancy Besso*

Report of the Nominating Committee – *Mark Nestlebutt*

Parish Elections:

Wardens

Members of the Vestry

Delegates and Alternates to the 2016 Diocesan Convention

Comments from the Wardens – *George Dixon & Pat Martin*

Recognition of Those Completing Vestry Terms – *Mark Nestlebutt & George Dixon*

Annual Stewardship Campaign Report – *Lisa Felts & Tom Mendenhall*

Finance Report for 2014 – *Bob Ziegler*

Parish Operating Budget for 2015 – *Tom Orem*

Special Recognition – *Mark Nestlebutt*

Comments from the Rector – *Mark Nestlebutt*

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Hymn 420 – *When in our music God is glorified* – *William Thomas*



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

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2013 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2014

Following Evensong and dinner in Etherton Hall, the Annual Meeting was opened at 7 pm with a hymn led by William Thomas and a prayer from The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt. Mark extended his appreciation to Bev Kegan and Pat Martin as Parish & Community Life Vestry liaisons for organizing the Vestry sponsored dinner.

APPOINTMENT OF THE TELLER/REGISTRAR - Mark Nestlehutt

Mark Nestlehutt appointed Nancy Besso as Registrar for 2014.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2013 ANNUAL MEETING - Mark Nestlehutt

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to forego the reading of the minutes from the 12 February 2013 annual meeting and were approved as written.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Mark Nestlehutt

The Nominating Committee consisted of Linda Norris, Bev Kegan, Lesley Moyer, Mark Nestlehutt, Carolyn Wasdyke and George Dixon.

The following persons were nominated by the Committee for Senior and Junior Warden:

Senior Warden (1 year): George Dixon

Junior Warden (1 year): Pat Martin

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to close nominations and appoint George Dixon as Senior Warden and Pat Martin as Junior Warden.

The following persons were nominated by the Committee for the Vestry:

Vestry Members (3 years): Don Buxton-Worship and Music
Jim Fulton-Vestry Liaison
Pamela McCloud-Christian Formation
Judy Parker-Parish and Community Life

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to close nominations and appoint Don Buxton, Jim Fulton, Pamela McCloud and Judy Parker as Vestry Members for a 3 year term.

The following persons have been nominated as Delegate and Alternates for the 2015 Diocesan Convention:

Delegates: Harry Lowe
Pat Lowe
Lee Yerkes
Alternates: Claudia Frantz
Sara Walker
Myron Walker

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to close nominations and appoint Harry Lowe, Pat Lowe and Lee Yerkes as delegates to the 2015 Diocesan Convention; and Claudia Frantz, Sara Walker and Myron Walker as alternates to the 2015 Diocesan Convention and delegates to the 2016 Diocesan Convention.

Ray Wasdyke was nominated to serve for the remaining two years of Phil Dinkel's term who resigned earlier this year. Ray Wasdyke was approved by voice vote.

COMMENTS FROM SENIOR & JUNIOR WARDENS - *Carolyn Wasdyke, Senior Warden*

Carolyn thanked all for gathering to celebrate together at this meeting tonight. This year has been a roller coaster ride, with Mark's illness and surgery and then Carolyn's accident. All is well now and it is thanks to all for supporting Christ Church in so many ways, that it was accomplished. She encouraged all to read the Annual Report, especially Mark's comments.

Thanks to Mark for his leadership and spiritual guidance. He is there for us in times of need and with us to celebrate our joys. We look forward to many more years of his ministry.

Thanks to Lynn for stepping in for Mark while he recuperated from his surgery. We appreciate her enthusiasm, compassion and humor and she did a remarkable job of taking on the responsibility of the Advent Season.

Thanks to Ed Partridge who volunteered to assist Lynn and did so with great joy.

Carol Osborne is the glue that holds everything together. She is a wealth of knowledge with a positive approach to everything and everyone. She is a tremendous asset - thank you, Carol.

Thanks to George Short with his "yes we can" attitude. He does all that is asked of him to meet all our needs.

Thanks to the Vestry, Registrar and Treasurer for all their work, leadership and commitment in managing the affairs of our Parish.

Thanks to George Dixon, Junior Warden, for being the support that I needed, especially after my accident. It has been a pleasure working with him and he will be a wonderful Senior Warden.

At the annual Retreat in March 2013 we started our Mutual Ministry Review, asking the question: how are we doing? We identified the challenges and celebrated our successes:

The successes included starting a new Sunday evening service; outreach by Lynn to those who were displaced when the old apartments in St. Michaels were torn down and construction began on new apartment buildings; some changes were made in the way grants are funded; communications were enhanced with the weekly email Blast; the number of trustees were increased to oversee church investments; the name of the long term church investment fund was changed to the Heritage Fund and the 1672 Legacy Fund was launched.

2013 was a challenging budget year that ended with a \$13,720 surplus; the 2014 stewardship campaign was very successful and exceeded \$500,000 for first time.

George Dixon, Junior Warden:

George thanked Carolyn for all of her work and contributions this past year; she did an outstanding job. He said that he wants to hear from the parish members about what changes might be made to help the parish be successful. There are going to be changes in the Diocese with the retirement of the Bishop and that opens up possibilities to explore new visions for the Diocese and our church.

2014 will be a great year thanks to the work that Carolyn has done and the generosity of the parish.

RECOGNITION OF THOSE COMPLETING VESTRY TERMS –

Carolyn Wasdyke and Mark Nestlebutt

Bev Kegan served on the Vestry as liaison for Parish and Community Life: she shared this responsibility with Pat Martin; Bev possesses great organizational skills and oversaw many committees and social events

Lesley Moyer served on the Vestry as liaison for Pastoral Care - she had a great passion for what she did.

Linda Norris served on the Vestry as liaison for Worship and Music; she was an advocate for increasing the Sunday service experience (bell ringers, new Sunday evening service).

Tony Vaughn served on the Vestry as liaison for Outreach and Wider Mission; he maintained our outreach mission and made changes in the way grant money is dispersed.

George Dixon served as Junior Warden for the Vestry; he has great wisdom.

Carolyn Wasdyke served as Senior Warden; she responded to Mark's illness in such a wonderful and helpful way; it was an interesting and great year for both each other and for the parish.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN REPORT - *Jim Vail and Lisa Felts*

Jim Vail: There are 195 pledges with a total of \$535,000; Jim was humbled and grateful to the parish for responding in such a positive way to the critical issues facing the parish. Be sure to look at the chart on page 15 of the annual report understand the importance of structuring a budget for the future. Lisa has been a fabulous co-chair.

Lisa Felts: She is looking forward to wonderful ministries, understanding that future challenges must be embraced.

FINANCE REPORT FOR 2013 - *Tom Orem for Larry McCanna*

Tom Orem: finance report and parish operating budget - see page 44 of 2013 Annual Report.

The Operating Reserve Fund was moved from Westwood Investments to a laddered CD investment at PNC Bank.

The surplus from 2013 (\$13,720) was moved to 2 funds: Habitat for Humanity-\$5,000; and Building Fund-\$8,720.

PARISH OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2014 - *Tom Orem*

Operating budget for 2014: used \$515,000 of the pledged total of \$535,000 for the 2014 budget.

The budget increases went mainly for COLA, music, outreach, Diocese apportionment.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS - *Mark Nestlebutt*

Mark Nestlebutt gave special recognition to several parishioners stepping down from important parish volunteer jobs

Bud Kaiser - coordinator to paparazzi for two years

Martha Austin - scheduler for readers and from 2011-2013 for readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Sheila Vaughn - scheduler for greeters for five years

John Hunnicutt - chairman of the Grants Committee from 2009-2013

Lee Thomas - oversaw Church Children's program from 2009-2013

Mary Riedlin - Kitchen Committee coordinator from 2006-2013

Helen Bower- was co-directoress of the Altar Guild with her daughter, from 2004-2013.

COMMENTS FROM THE RECTOR - *Mark Nestlebutt*

The Annual Report is unusual; it is not just thanks to all the people who helped out during this past year, but looking to the future and what we are being challenged to do. Pledges are down,

Sunday attendance is down, average amount of pledges is down - we, as a parish, need to confront this and decide how we will go forward. Past successes do not predict the future. The challenge is how to reconfigure our parish - we are called to be and to make faithful followers of Jesus Christ. We need to look at our budget and decide how to accomplish this and stay within the budget. We want to be a sustainable, viable faith community moving forward. The generosity of the parish has given the church the time to make these decisions. Mark commended all for the tremendous generosity of spirit. Also, thanks for the tremendous generosity the parish extended to him during his illness.

CLOSING BLESSING AND HYMN - *Mark Nestlebutt and William Thomas*

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Nancy Besso, Parish Registrar

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT TO THE PARISH

2014 has been a year of changes and a year of preparing for more changes. We celebrated the call of our former Associate Rector, Lynn Hade, to be the Rector of the Church of the Advent in Hatsboro, PA; we welcomed Clelia Garrity as our new Deacon; and we started Renewal Works. Renewal Works comes at the best possible time, at the time our parish completes a restructure from a “two full time priest parish” to a “single rector parish”. It is a time we should assess “what direction” we should move in? How do we better serve our parishioners and community? Renewal Works is central to helping us answer these questions and renew our spiritual focus and energy.

My endless gratitude to Chris Whyman and Glenn Porter for making Renewal Works a meaningful long term project; to all of the parishioners who took the Spiritual Life Survey; and for those of you who dedicated time and effort as members of the Workshop. We will implement the recommendations coming from the Workshop as well as continuing to “mine” the data from the survey for other ideas on how we can better serve our parishioners and community. A Steering Committee will be formed to aid the Vestry, Wardens and Rector in moving forward with the recommendations.

During 2014 the Vestry and Wardens also focused on our parish buildings. Our Parish House is now ten years old; it has been 26 years since the renovation to the Church which is over 130 years old. Under the leadership of Ray Wasdyke and Elizabeth Foulds a Facilities Committee was formed bringing together constructions and building maintenance expertise. I thank Ebby duPont, John Scofield, John Masone, and Sid Smith for joining this committee. Along with our Sexton, George Short, these folks have tracked down the problems and created a five year strategic plan of what needs to be done. You have all seen the result of the water leaks. I must tell you that in the next several years significant work will have to be done to the Church building exterior, painting the interior, replacing pew cushions and carpeting, and doing some work on the floors. 2015 will be a year of defining and refining the way forward in terms of work to be done, the costs and raising the money to pay for this necessary maintenance.

The 2015 Stewardship Campaign has been a great success. Yes, we wanted 200 pledging units and we will continue to strive for that. We received 180, but we did reach \$485,124 as of January 18, 2015. Thank you Lisa Felts and Tom Mendenhall you did a great job! And thank you parishioners who pledged to support your Parish.

Thank you to each Vestry member for all the work you do, much of which is never seen by our parishioners. Each of you brings energy and ideas that makes this a great parish. Pat Martin's thoughtful leadership and advice has been a great source of encouragement. We are most fortunate to have Mark as our “Chief Spiritual Officer” and his advice and counsel is always “spot on”. Finally, thank you to each parishioner for making the last twelve months a wonderful experience for Tellie and I. Your willingness to help is amazing, thank you.

Respectfully Submitted by George Dixon, Senior Warden

RECTOR'S REPORT TO THE PARISH

Looking Back on 2014 — *A Review*

If 2013 was the year that a proverbial “shot was fired across our bow”; 2014 was our year of initiating maneuvers to adjust course. Much of 2014 was concerned with living into the changes outlined in my CY2013 annual report entry. As such, our Parish undertook an audit or survey of our parishioners’ religious beliefs and spiritual practices; allowed for regular and anticipated staff turnover to enable us to change our staffing model; and began resizing our committee and governance model and tightening our operating budget. All of these efforts and initiatives required strong leadership from our Wardens and from our full Vestry.

RenewalWorks - One of the goals outlined in last year’s report was a desire to gauge the temperature of our congregation via some form of inventory or matrix that would provide us with a snapshot of where Christ Church is today and then to build from that “present status” to chart a course for where our Parish’s leadership team—Rector, Wardens and Vestry—feel we are being led by God. That was the purpose of RenewalWorks. I first discovered RenewalWorks from a fellow priest, the Reverend Len Cowen, who had used a pilot survey called Episcopal Spiritual Life Renewal (ESLR) with his parish in Massachusetts. Following the pilot project, which was done in conjunction with Forward Movement Publications, the Diocese of Chicago and others (involving 3,000 Episcopalians from 33 parishes), ESLR become RenewalWorks. And after a thorough vetting by a vestry sub-committee, our Vestry voted unanimously to introduce RenewalWorks to Christ Church. During September and October, 182 parishioners completed the spiritual life survey; which represented 91% of our goal of 200, and 85% of our Average Sunday Attendance of 215 (CY2014). Once the data was sorted and aggregated, the resulting report was examined by a team of 23 parishioners attending four workshops during November and December. The thought was, of course, that with strong parishioner input and commitment to the process, recommendations and goals as determined by the group would shape how and what Christ Church values and prioritizes for the coming years. Initial results indicated a deeper desire for engagement with prayer and scripture in our parishioners’ daily lives and at the parish level in providing instruction and opportunities in these areas. I thank Chris Whyman and Glenn Porter for their diligent work and commitment to shepherding this project through the workshop phase and parish presentations.

Staffing - In early October we said goodbye to our Associate Rector, the Reverend Lynn Hade, who was called to be Rector of the Church of the Advent in Hatboro, Pennsylvania. Lynn devoted two plus years of her ministry to Christ Church and brought to our Parish a commitment to children’s ministry, community engagement, and expanding our hymnody and service music. During her tenure we tested a Wednesday evening children’s Christian formation program; created a community-wide gospel choir; and experimented with a monthly contemporary/contemplative evening Eucharist. Lynn’s ministry touched many of us, especially her small group work and community involvement. I credit Lynn’s focus on personal spiritual formation as helping to guide where we are moving as a parish. That said, Lynn’s departure opened up possibilities to move from employing one generalist to employing multiple specialists on a staff that was shifting to increasing pastoral care needs and a desire for reconnecting with our local community. In late November, we called the Reverend Clelia Garrity, a vocational deacon from St. Paul’s Church in Delray Beach, Florida to join our staff. Clelia’s gifts are in social work, pastoral care and teaching and, as a deacon, her ordination vows focus on the work outside the church’s walls and in the local community. Additional staffing was anticipated for

Christian formation for families with young children; assessing how best Christ Church can utilize its resources in meeting the needs of those in our community—especially those populations considered most vulnerable; and enhancing how we communicate electronically with our parishioners.

Governance/Programs - In 2005 we expanded our vestry by two positions to accommodate the growth that was occurring in our parish community. In the aftermath of the 2009 recession and the 20% decline in our Town's population and a slightly less dramatic decline in our Sunday attendance, we have found it increasingly difficult to recruit and raise up new volunteers and lay leaders within our parish. Many of our parishioners divide their time between Maryland and Florida, or travel extensively, both of which prohibit their ability to serve on the Vestry or as Wardens. Similarly, the 20/80 rule holds true at Christ Church, with roughly 20% of the parish population doing 80% of the volunteer work. During 2014 the Wardens and I discussed reducing the size of the Vestry by three positions by electing three, as opposed to four, new members each year to serve a three-year term. One of the challenges of limited volunteers is how do we staff all our current programs. The short answer is that we cannot and, therefore, we must assess and prioritize our programs. Last year I wrote that:

The mission statement and vision at Christ Church is to be a “vibrant faith community grounded in history and open to the future.” Christ Church is “inclusive, caring, active and engaged in proclaiming the Good News of Christ.” At the heart of what we seek to do at Christ Church is to both be and make faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Yes, we hope to do so in a manner that creates a vibrant parish. Yes, we do not want to forget our history. Yes, we want to be open and not fearful of what the future brings. And yes, we want to be inclusive, caring, active, and engaged in proclaiming the Gospel. Nevertheless, our primary goal as Christians is to both *be and make faithful followers of Jesus Christ*. So what does that mean in practice? It means that we need to critically evaluate how and if each of our programs and committees contributes to this primary goal. It means restructuring our organizational and governance model so that the work of our clergy, staff, and volunteers always work towards the end goal of enabling Christ Church to *be and make faithful followers of Jesus Christ*.

During 2014, we began making structural changes to live into this vision. We have already begun making additional changes during the first month of 2015, but much work remains to be done.

Acknowledgements - In addition to the Reverend Clelia Garrity, I am fortunate, if not outright blessed, to have a staff of faithful, talented, and committed individuals. Carol Osborne remains the voice and face of our parish office and she always endeavors to extend love and hospitality to those who enter our parish house. George Short's dedication and commitment is evident each week by his willingness to help others and to go the extra mile on behalf of our Parish. William Thomas continues after 28 years at Christ Church to provide us with moving and accomplished choral music with both our Chancel and Youth choirs. He is ably assisted by Lynne Philips who has built a close-knit community that has grown our Bell Choir and elevated its abilities. While not exactly staff, I want to recognize and thank our new Treasurer, Bob Ziegler, who succeeded Larry McCanna and keeps our finances and recordkeeping in good order.

A parish cannot function well without the assistance of caring, faithful Wardens and a thoughtful and supportive Vestry. Our Senior Warden, George Dixon, and our Junior Warden, Pat Martin, have been devoted and faithful leaders who contribute their witness, wisdom, and wit in partnering with me to lead this Parish. God willing and the people consenting, George and Pat will be elected to serve in their existing capacities for one more year, restoring my desired model of Senior Wardens serving for multiple terms, as was the case with Fritz Riedlin, Jim

Maffitt and Chris Whyman. During our annual meeting we will recognize and thank four Vestry members who are completing their three-year terms: Elizabeth Foulds, Tom Orem, Sparrow Rogers, and Hanna Woicke. Elizabeth's leadership in Facilities (formerly Property) was tremendous, bringing her professional experience to our maintenance of the parish house and in our legal skirmishes regarding zoning appeals by our neighbors. Tom brought a faithful and conservative stewardship to our finances as Finance Chair and made sure that our expenses were in keeping with our goals. Sparrow brought a love and enjoyment of children to her tenure on the vestry, even serving as co-director of the acolytes during her vestry term. And Hanna brought a passion and commitment to outreach and continually raised the question of whether Christ Church is doing enough in the community and, if not, what could we do better. In addition to these four members who are completing their regular three-year terms, two vestry members are departing earlier than anticipated: Katie Hunnicutt (2016), who was completing Pat Martin's remaining two-year term, is stepping down after one year; and Pamela McCloud (2017) is stepping down after one year due to her wintering in Florida and increased travel. I thank them both for their time on the Vestry and the service they provided our Parish and for the counsel they provided the Wardens and me.

While it has been another busy year at Christ Church—and a year of transition—there are two statistics that bode well for our Parish: we finished 2014 with a slightly higher average Sunday attendance than the previous year; and our operating revenue was much higher than that of the prior year as well.

Looking Ahead to 2015 — *Some Thoughts & Opportunities*

Last year I wrote that an annual report, by its very nature, was a backward looking document. Nevertheless, I would like to look ahead to the coming year and provide the Parish with some thoughts and plans for 2015.

Challenges - I feel that the greatest challenge faced by Christ Church for the foreseeable future is sustainability and vitality. What is it about St. Michael's Parish that has sustained it since its founding in 1672—almost 350 years—and what is it that will sustain this parish for the long-term? I believe that it was a commitment to addressing the needs of the immediate community in a manner that was tangible and impacted peoples' lives. Going forward, I think Christ Church needs to refocus on what is happening here in St. Michaels and the neighboring communities. If my mantra for last year's annual report was for us *to be and to make faithful followers of Jesus Christ*, this year's mantra is to continue to do just that while also working *to break down the barriers and walls within our community*. Christ Church needs to be relevant to the challenges facing St. Michaels and its residents. The two greatest "at-risk" populations in our community are seniors and children. While some initiatives are currently in place, the challenge remains as to how we engage with these groups in a way that makes our baptismal promise to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself" more tangible and more concrete.

Opportunities - The late U.S. Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill is famous for stating that "all politics is local," by which he meant that it is the local and everyday issues, as opposed to the big and intangible ideas, that motivate most people. Similarly, perhaps we can write that "all ministry is local." A desire to become more embedded and aware of our local community's needs began as a desire to change how the Grants Committee distributes our financial resources within the community. Can we leverage financial resources with opportunities for hands on service to the poor? The desire to become more relevant to our immediate community also has shaped recent decisions in staffing. In November, the Reverend Deacon Clelia Garrity joined our staff. As a vocational deacon Clelia's primary ministry is directed outside the walls of the church as

described in the ordination vows for a deacon: “In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely” (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 543). This charge is manifested in her work in Haiti and the Bay Hundred community, as well as in her work in pastoral care to our parishioners. More recently, Lori Ramsey joined our parish staff as our Community Missioner. A “missioner” is someone who is assigned or given a religious or charitable mission to a specific place. In that regard, Lori has been given both a religious and a charitable mission to facilitate our connections, ministries and outreach within St. Michaels and Bay Hundred. We are blessed with so many resources at Christ Church, but the challenge is in how we best employ those resources for the greatest impact within the community.

Strengths - One of the most amazing aspects of Christ Church is its lay-leadership and how that leadership enhances our vitality. In order to remain a vibrant faith community—one that remains open to the future—our ministry must be shared by clergy and volunteers. As I noted last year, many of the initiatives that are so dear to Christ Church began as, and to a great degree remain, lay-led programs with minimal direct clergy involvement. These programs thrive because of the passion and dedication of the volunteers who prioritize these programs.

Once again, I want to thank you for the trust that you have placed in me as your Rector during these past eleven years together. Your love for Jesus Christ, for God, and for neighbor, is always humbling and deeply touching. As we continue to move through 2015, my goal, with the help of the Wardens and Vestry, is to continue to make thoughtful and intentional decisions that enable Christ Church to build strength and vitality as we chart a course for the next decade and beyond for our Parish’s ministry here in St. Michaels and the Bay Hundred area.

Faithfully,
The Reverend Mark S. Nestlehutt

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS OF
CHRIST CHURCH – ST. MICHAEL’S PARISH,
THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE PLACES BEFORE THE PARISH
THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR ELECTION
ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH 2015:**

To serve as Senior Warden (1 year term):

George Dixon

To serve as Junior Warden (1 year term):

Pat Martin

To serve as Vestry Members (3 year terms):

Doug Rollow

Lisa Felts

Nancy Masone

To represent St. Michael’s Parish at the 2016 Diocesan Convention:

Delegates

Myron Walker

Sara Walker

Claudia Frantz

Alternates

Jim Fulton

Terry Fulton

Mary Jane Wyant

2014 Nominating Committee

George Dixon

Pat Martin

Mark Nestlehutt

Tom Orem

Sparrow Rogers

Hanna Woicke

✘ ✘ ✘

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS OF CHRIST CHURCH, ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

At the February 8, 2015 Annual Meeting, a motion will be made to Amend Section 1 of Article VII (The Vestry) and Section 2 of Article XIV (Nominations) of the By-Laws of Christ Church, St. Michaels Parish for the purpose of reducing the membership of the Vestry from the Wardens and twelve members to the Wardens and nine members. **Three**, rather than the current **four** Vestry Members, would be elected each year for a three term.

At the January 13, 2015 Vestry Meeting, the Vestry approved supporting the Parish voting for these changes.

The motion would amend two Articles of the By-Laws as follows (Changes are underlined and shown in bold print)

ARTICLE VII The Vestry

Section 1. (a) The Vestry of St. Michael's Parish shall consist of the Wardens and ~~twelve~~ **nine** elected members. The Wardens and the Vestry members shall be communicants in good standing as defined in Article IV, Section 1 (b) of the By-laws.

(b) ~~Four~~ **Three** members of the Vestry shall be elected annually, to serve for a term of three years. A member of the Vestry whose full three-year term shall have expired shall not be eligible for re-election until after the expiration of one year.

(c) Two Wardens shall be elected annually to serve in accordance with Article IX of the By-laws.

ARTICLE XIV NOMINATIONS

Section 2. (a) It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to select and place in nomination the names of at least ~~four~~ **three** eligible members of the Parish to serve as members of the Vestry, each member to serve for a term of three years

(b) In the event of a vacancy on the Vestry due to death, resignation, transfer or removal or for any other reason, the Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the next annual meeting the name of an eligible member to fill such vacancy for the remainder of that unexpired term.

(c) If a vacancy occurs on the Vestry between the time of filing of the Committee's report and the day of the annual congregational meeting, the Nominating Committee shall place in nomination, at the annual meeting, the name of an eligible member to fill such vacancy.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Clergy Liaison: Mark Nestlehutt
Vestry Liaisons: Pamela McCloud & Sparrow Rogers

ADULT FORUM

Submitted by Ray Wasdyke

The Adult Forums continue to be diversified in subject matter. Topics are chosen both through suggestions received from Forum participants and the recommendations of parishioners.

The “Best of 2014”, from an attendance point of view, were the presentation on *The Arab Spring* by Edward Gabriel, *Wounded Warriors* by Bob Nilsson and a two-art series of *Exploring Christian Ethics* by Clayton Railey. Many other forums proved to be very informative and interesting and the forum coordinators are to be complimented on their ability to find presenters on such a wide variety of topics.

In September we began the fall series with a “Welcome Session” and included following sessions by the Reverend Mark Nestlehutt the Very Reverend Edmund Partridge, LHD and Rabbi Peter Hyman.

We also wish to thank our coffee hosts who provide morning snacks; we are grateful for their constant support and hospitality.

Adult Forum Coordinators:

Claudia Frantz
Jim Proctor

Ray Wasdyke, chair
Carl Widell

ADULT INQUIRERS COURSE

Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlehutt

As Christians, our goal is to endeavor to both be and become faithful followers of Jesus Christ. In working towards this goal, we offer on an annual basis an opportunity for those who are new to Christ Church, the Episcopal Church, or Christianity in general, an opportunity for adult learning based on the needs, interests and backgrounds of the groups’ members. The general scope of the course is to explore what it means to be a Christian—a follower of Jesus Christ; an Episcopalian and member of the Anglican Communion; and a member of Christ Church as we strive to deepen our understanding and commitment to our faith. This year’s group met five times in the winter of 2014, with six adults joining the group. Of those attending, two were confirmed and two were received by the Bishop. The course is led by the Rector and the primary texts for the course are the *Book of Common Prayer, 1979* and *Welcome to the Episcopal Church* by Christopher Webber.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Submitted by Pat Martin, Junior Warden

We thank each of our teachers, curriculum assistants, and special classroom assistants for their contributions to the Church School.

The program consisted of one story (read, watched or told); an opportunity for student reflection; and an activity. Goals were to provide a welcoming environment, a positive group experience and an opportunity to create and affirm the children’s sacred experience.

The plan going forward is to bring on board a new Church School coordinate and then seek inputs from parents and grandparents to develop a new approach to meet our changing needs for 2015 and beyond.

Teachers:

Susan Armstrong	Jessica Morris	William Thomas
Pat Lowe	Diane Thomas	Gillian Whyman
Pat Martin	Lee Thomas	

Curriculum Assistants:

Sara Walker	Carolyn Wasdyke
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Assistants:

Mimi Sanford	Zoe Thomas
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POPCORN THEOLOGY

Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlebutt

In the winter of 2010 we launched our first Popcorn Theology Lenten Series based on a model used by All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta, which the Rector discovered during his sabbatical. The concept is simple and enjoyable: come together as people of faith to watch a film and then discuss the film's religious, ethical and moral themes as a group. Attendance the first year averaged 11 people who watched five films together. The genre was "films from Australia"—the site of the Rector's sabbatical project. By 2014, our fifth year, attendance at the five films averaged 31 people. To date we have had five popcorn theology Lenten series and one off-season mini-series; totaling 27 films. The themes and films are chosen with adults in mind.

Lent 2010 (Australian Films): Picnic at Hanging Rock; The Tracker; Rabbit Proof Fence; December Boys; and Samson & Delilah

Lent 2011 (Redemption): Billy Elliot; John Q; The Shawshank Redemption; Waking Ned Divine; (one weather cancellation)

Lent 2012 (Australian and New Zealand Films): Breaker Morant; The Dish; Whale Rider; The World's Fastest Indian; and Flirting

Lent 2013 (Pilgrimage): The Way; James' Journey to Jerusalem; Salmon Fishing in the Yemen; Cast Away; and The Straight Story

Lent 2014 (Relationships Lost and Found): The Perks of Being a Wallflower; Lars and the Real Girl; Intouchables; The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel; and Quartet

Mini-Series (Parishioner's Choice): The Lunchbox; Dogma; and The Immigrant

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH PROGRAM

Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlebutt

In September 2013 we introduced a new Sunday morning Youth Group program targeting tweens and younger teens (young people in 6th through 9th grades). The purpose of this program is to build Christian community and to encourage this age group to actively engage with their faith. Our curriculum is **re:form**, which is a DVD-based discussion format that explores the church, the creed, and the bible and relates these to everyday life. In the summer of 2014 a new designated youth meeting space was created on the second floor of the parish house. The program meets weekly during the Christian Formation Hour. During the winter and spring of 2014, there were ten students participating regularly in the group, with an average Sunday attendance of six. In the fall of 2014, there were ten students enrolled (two students aged out of the program and two new students joined). The average attendance during the fall of 2014 was five, with a core group of six young people participating.

Students Enrolled:

Caroline Church	William Newberg	Annie Sanford
Lucy Morris	Adie Parish	Isaiah Whyman
Asa Nestlehutt	James Parkinson	
Christopher Newberg	Blake Rogers	

Adult Mentors:

Mark Nestlehutt	Alison Sanford
Gena Newberg	Larry Sanford

YOUTH CONFIRMATION*Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlehutt*

Confirmation is the act of making a mature declaration of one's faith before the Bishop and the congregation. Our Youth Confirmation Class meets on an every-other-year basis and is a separate program from our general parish Youth Group, although participation in Youth Group is a requirement for Confirmation. In 2014, five teens participated in the class and were confirmed by Bishop Shand on May 4, 2014.

Confirmands:

Taylor Bennett	Brandon Kerrigan	Zoe Thomas
Helen Fegan	Mimi Sanford	

YOUTH GROUP*Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlehutt*

The Youth Group program is open to all Christ Church youth in grades six through twelve, as well as their friends. The group generally meets on a monthly basis on Sunday afternoons to serve on outreach projects, for community involvement, and for bonding as a group. 2014 gatherings included painting bowls for the Empty Bowls hunger relief program; collecting monies for the Souper Bowl of Caring; stuffing and hiding Easter Eggs for the annual parish Easter Egg Hunt; and assembling the Thanksgiving and Christmas Boxes for St. Michaels Community Food Pantry, among other activities.

Adult Mentors:

Mark Nestlehutt
Gena Newberg

OUTREACH AND WIDER MISSION

Clergy Liaison: Clergy Team
Vestry Liaisons: Alison Sanford & Hanna Woicke

ANGEL TREE PROJECT*Submitted by Neil and Susan Armstrong, Coordinators*

The objective of this project is to provide a happier Christmas to selected children in St. Michaels who might otherwise have few if any gifts. Each year we serve about 70 children between 2 and 11 years old. Parishioners provide the gifts and Santa presents them at a party. This activity is very well received by the children and their families who attend the party. Thanks to the many gift donors who make this all possible by shopping for and wrapping the gifts on a short timeline. Also thanks to those who bake for the party.

The groundwork begins in October when we reach out to community sources to get the names of deserving children. A form is distributed to each family where they can provide gift ideas. We then transfer this information to Angel Tree tags that hang on a Christmas tree. Parishioners choose tags and shop for some of the gift ideas, using a guideline of \$50-\$60 total budget. Gifts are collected over the ensuing two weeks. The party is held at Union United Methodist Fellowship Hall, since it is near where many of these children live. Games, crafts, and refreshments are provided at the party and then Santa arrives to distribute the gifts to each child.

Christ Church Volunteers:

Nancy Besso	Jim Fulton	Asa Nestlehutt
Charlie & Katie Cricks	Gerry Leder	Judy Sandground

Community Resources:

Janelle Allen	Perry Barvit	Chris Vereide
Drusilla Barnett	Jessica Passwaters	Reverend William Wallace

BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT

Submitted by Gillian Whyman and Judy Sandground

In early May, plans began for our summer outreach to students living at or below the poverty level in the Bay Hundred Area. We contacted the schools to find out how things went in the past school year and what would be needed for the coming year. Once they provided poverty level statistics, anticipated enrollment and per grade lists of supplies, we were able to determine what we needed to purchase.

2014 has been a difficult year for many in our community and the need for help continues to grow. At Tilghman Elementary School two out of every three children are receiving help from Back to School. All students from Tilghman and St Michaels Elementary School eventually move on to the Middle/High School and we continue to support them in many ways as they progress. We know from reports from school administrators that this assistance at all grade levels makes a big difference in academic performance.

Back to School is only successful because of your generous support. Everything that is achieved is because you care and want to make a difference. School supplies and assistance with fees help ensure that all students are equipped to learn. Thanks to you, students we assist are going to college and vocational training programs. These young people are on the path to a better education in part because of your efforts.

Due to increasing poverty, this program has grown over the past 14 years. We are very grateful to the 106 donors who have invested their dollars in these children. Together we raised \$13,124. In addition, many of our shoppers donated their purchases saving us \$1909 in shopping expenses. In total our parish gave \$15,033. We are also thankful to the many parishioners who volunteered their time to support this outreach.

Volunteers, who spoke on Sundays, stored backpacks, shopped, inventoried, transported, packed and delivered:

Deke Abbott	Bob & Joanna Holden	Ed Partridge
Lynn Barrett	Mary Hyatt*	Bev & Glen Porter
Ginny Berliner	Harry Lowe	Lisa Rey
Nancy Besso	Carol McCanna	Sparrow Rogers
Helen Bower	Jim McCloud	Judy Sandground
Bob Burger	Gena Newberg	Larry Sanford
Mike Clark	Jane Nigra	Elizabeth Simoncini

Jim & Pat Ellis
Jeff & Julie Hart

Mary Ellen Olcese
Linn Ong

Lee Thomas
Gillian & Isaiah Whyman
Mary Jane Wyant

*Mary Hyatt, who passed away this Fall, had been an active supporter of Back to School for a number of years. We will miss her and her many contributions.

Thank you for all your support. You are sending the community of St Michaels the message that Christ Church is a loving, caring church committed to supporting education for the children and families of our community.

CHILDREN’S HOME FOUNDATION (CHF)

Submitted by Nance duPont and Martha Austin

The Children’s Home foundation of the Eastern Shore provides scholarships to high school graduates who want to pursue vocational and technical fields of study. Nursing, early childhood education and auto mechanics are the most sought after courses. Currently there are 119 students enrolled with scholarships totaling \$213,350. More than half of these students are non-traditional students wishing to return to the workforce or needing to update their training. Students usually graduate within two or three years with a marketable skill and remain on the Eastern Shore thereby enhancing the workforce here. CHF also offers ‘camperships’ to children to attend local summer camps; the majority attend Camp Wright on Kent Island. In 2014, 80 campers received \$30,195 in scholarship funding.

The CHF Board has 28 members representing all nine counties of the Eastern Shore. We are two of three from Talbot County. At our 2011 Diocesan Convention, the Sunday before Thanksgiving was designated CHF Sunday by then Bishop Shand. This year \$1414.08 in open plate offerings was collected and sent. The generosity of Christ Church St Michaels is very much appreciated. In these difficult economic times, Children’s Home Foundation is especially motivated to continue to offer these scholarships to our local young adults.

Volunteers:

Nance duPont

Martha Austin

Sally Akridge

EL HOGAR DENTAL MISSION

Submitted by Dr. James R. Campi, Coordinator

This year has been a year of transition for the dental program. As planned, we were able to install an updated vacuum system in the dental clinic. This will greatly enhance the efficiency of the clinic. Dental teams again went and addressed the dental needs of those at El Hogar.

Of vital interest to the long term success of the program, we are finalizing the transition of the dental program to “SHARES”. SHARES International is a mobilized force of medical professionals who volunteer their time and expertise to provide safe, effective reconstructive surgery, physical therapy and pediatric dentistry for children in Latin America. SHARES is based in Florida.

I will along with Chris Poling, a dental assistant, who has gone on every dental mission trip with me, will travel to El Hogar in March 2015 for the last time. We will be helping the people from SHARES with the system, the methods of treatment, and any other issues to give them a full picture of the program. That will allow SHARES to take full responsibility for the program from that date forward. This will include all dental funding, team recruitment, and providing all the dental needs of the children in the future. SHARES have been doing this in other countries for some time and they are well versed in running dental clinics in other countries.

This is a tremendous step for El Hogar. These past nine years have seen this program grow and get on solid footing. Now we have a plan that will insure the future dental needs of all the kids. It is time to let others carry the torch for the kids of El Hogar. Well done Christ Church. I am so proud of Christ Church and the support that you made possible for these kids. Amazing work that God led us to! Thank you for letting me be a part of your vision and support.

EL HOGAR PROJECT IN HONDURAS

Submitted by Bill Corba, Liaison

Christ Church has been involved with the mission at El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza in Honduras since 2005. To date, we have sent five teams to work and to share in the lives of the amazing children for whom El Hogar is home. We have painted walls and played baseball, poured concrete and read books, built brick walls and shared meals. Many of us, including the ECW have sponsored individual children for several years and continue corresponding with them long after they left the program. I am proud to report that my long-term sponsored boy, Alexis, graduated from the farm after nine years with the program.

Although the parish has not sent a work mission for the past couple years, we have plans to send our sixth team in 2015: June 13 to 20. Anyone age 15 and over is welcome to join this team. More details will be provided in upcoming Tidings and Sunday bulletins.

Like many charities, El Hogar has struggled since the 2008 recession as their financial needs continue to grow so they can the needs of the poorest children of Honduras. As we are all aware, in 2014 the US saw a huge influx of immigrant children from south of our border. Many of these unaccompanied minors were from Honduras. Your financial support is needed now more than ever. (Please visit them at www.elhogar.org) We continue to be honored and humbled to support the staff and teachers of El Hogar as they remain committed to their mission:

*...to provide a loving home and education in a Christian environment
for abandoned, orphaned and hopelessly poor children, enabling them
to fulfill their ultimate potential as productive human beings in Honduras.*

With Bill Corba stepping down as our official liaison, we wish to thank him for his unwavering commitment to El Hogar

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Submitted by Alison Sanford, Vestry Liaison

Activities of the Environmental Issues Committee have included educating and sharing knowledge of environmental issues and examining practical solutions for Christ Church mainly through articles in Tidings and Adult Forum presentations. Most recently, the committee addressed the hot water problems in the kitchen and the lighting in Etherton Hall. In addition, this committee designed and hosts the annual “Green Dinner” and implemented recycling in the parish house.

Margie Steffens developed and chaired this committee since its inception. She is stepping down from this role. We thank you, Margie, for your commitment to the environment and for sharing your passion with your fellow parishioners.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Pamela McCloud

Our parish provides an annual donation to Episcopal Relief in Development as part of our commitment to the Millennium Development Goals. In addition, we support the mission by providing the congregation an opportunity to purchase alternative holiday gifts through the

Gifts for Life catalogue. This year, we fielded a team to assist in the Crisfield redevelopment activities of the Episcopal Relief. This team worked with others from the Diocese over a week.

Volunteers:

Neil Armstrong
Susan Armstrong

Bob Petizon
Mary Jane Wyant

GRANTS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Alison Sanford, Vestry Liaison

2014 was a year of transition for the Grants Committee as we direct ourselves toward new initiatives and special projects. As 2014 ends we are working to form a new Grants Committee to continue the important work of reaching out to our local community and supporting programs which make people's lives better. It's an important ministry and it really matters. Funding for the Grants Committee is being carried over into 2015 so this ministry will have the resources to have a positive impact on the community.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Submitted by Neil Armstrong, Liaison

Christ Church is a longtime supporter of Habitat for Humanity Choptank. Each year we allocate a \$5000 grant to their on-going operation as part of our "Partnership in Faith". Several of our parishioners are active in this outreach, including current Habitat board members Steve Clineberg and Myron Walker. During 2014 Habitat for Humanity Choptank completed five homes in Talbot and Dorchester counties. Four more homes are under construction as of January 2015. Besides construction work Habitat volunteers can help with mentoring and financial planning for prospective new home owners. For more information on this important mission and how you could provide volunteer help, please see www.habitatchoptank.org or contact Neil Armstrong.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Submitted by Alison Sanford, Vestry Liaison

This is a line item in our annual budget. However, with the changes in the Grants Committee, there was no group responsible for overseeing the disbursement of these funds in 2014. Therefore, the clergy and vestry liaison took responsibility for disbursing the \$4,000 allocated for MDG's in November 2014.

ST. MICHAELS COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Submitted by Beth and Howard Eckel

It was a busy year for The St. Michaels Community Food Pantry enrolling many new families in the client registry, searching for resources to provide for their needs, and fulfilling our mission to our neighbors. Financial donations were \$35,267.50. Food costs, including Holiday Baskets were \$39,926.35. The Pantry is located in the Parish House of Christ Church St. Michael's Parish.

With the help of volunteers, who open the Pantry twice weekly for two hours, 2,151 needy neighbors were served, representing 5,310 family members, up from 2013's 1,565 needy neighbors representing 3,375 family members. In addition to our wonderful volunteers, listed below, the Pantry was able to operate thanks to generous contributions and awards from kind individuals, local vendors and community organizations including the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), The Woman's Club of St. Michaels; Bonnie and John Booth of *The Jack Russell Races and Hearts on Talbot*; Christmas in St. Michaels; Boy Scout Troop #741; Events of St. Michaels Charity; Church World Service; Angels for Charity of St. Michaels Events; St. Michaels Power Squadron; Empty Bowls/Mid-Shore Foundation; St. Michaels Farmers Market; the Royal

Oak United Community Methodist Church youth group; Rosalee Casey's Bread; The St. Luke's Methodist Church Nursery School; and Tred Avon Bait & Supply Co.

Thanks to the above kind benefactors, The Pantry continued offering meats: chicken purchased from Allen-Harim Foods at its Cordova facility and venison donated by Tred Avon Bait & Tackle Co. in Easton.

After the Farmers Market's season ended, organic products from a farmer near Cambridge, were donated to The Pantry each week through late autumn by Joni Doolin and Linda Barrow. Supplemental potatoes, onion and carrots were purchased throughout the winter from Graul's. The Pantry clients expressed much gratitude for the additional protein and fresh produce. Clients often share and compare recipes while waiting by The Pantry door. .

In addition to Boy Scout Troop 741's bountiful (thanks to generous town residents) December food drive, the Scouts and leaders Mike Mesko, Bill Roth and Steve Luethy, transported bi-monthly food purchases from Graul's to the Parish House and helped stock Pantry shelves.

The Scout's also transported all the foods that were placed in Holiday Baskets for distribution at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Graul's Market donated the turkeys, for the Holiday baskets and gives the Pantry a 5% discount on food purchased during the year. Under the supervision of Mary Ellen Olcese, Operation Baskets 2014 was once again a great success. The Christ Church Youth Group packed 135 Thanksgiving and 120 Christmas baskets, and happy Pantry volunteers helped distribute to happy Pantry families.

Special thanks go to Alice Petizon for summer Pantry management and to Neil Armstrong, Bob Petizon and Roger Galvin for meat/grocery transportation during the summer months while Beth and Howard Eckel were away. Always, everyday thanks and hugs to Carol Osborne and George Short for their assistance. All of us find much satisfaction in our mission. Thank you for helping us.

Volunteers:

Brooke Alexander	Beth & Howard Eckel	Mary Ellen Olcese
Neil & Susan Armstrong	Jim Ellis	Linn Ong
Joe Brannegan	Babs & Fred Humphrey	Alice Petizon
Betty Brunetti	Katie Hunnicutt	Alison Sanford
Lin Clineberg	Kim Kerrigan	Judy Tanczos
Bill Corba	Carol Kilbourn	Chris & Gillian Whyman
Lee D'Zmura	Lois Lindsley	Bob & Esther Ziegler

TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER

Submitted by Pamela McCloud

For the fifth year, Christ Church provided volunteers to assist the Talbot Interfaith Shelter in providing cold weather shelter from December through April. The volunteers acted as overnight and evening supervisors and provided dinner for a week in January.

Volunteers:

Suzanne Brannegan	James McCloud	Judy Sandground
Lisa Felts	Kathie Middleton	Dick & Judy Tanczos
John & Katie Hunnicutt	Lynn Partridge	Mary Jane Wyant
Bev & Burgess Kegan	Mary Riedlin	
Clacky & Sandy King	Alison & Larry Sanford	

UNITED THANK OFFERING

Submitted by Esther Ziegler

The United Thank Offering is a twice yearly offering for projects that primarily benefit women and children. Since 1889 monies have been collected through Episcopal Church parishes in America to benefit people who are in need and underserved in their communities. Requests for grants come from individual parishes and dioceses from around the world. The uniqueness of UTO is that it is an offering in thanksgiving to God for all God's many gifts.

For many years individuals (mainly women) throughout the day would drop coins into small blue boxes in thanksgiving to God. Two in-gatherings, spring and fall, are held in each parish to collect the offerings of thanks. In recent times Christ Church St. Michael's Parish has replaced the blue boxes with the loose offering in the Sunday plate. This method has increased the level of giving and enables everyone to participate.

This past year \$800 was collected in the spring offering and \$1501.50 in the fall offering for a total of \$2301.50 for 2014.

Carol Osborne and George Short were most helpful in this effort.

PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

Clergy Liaison: Mark Nestlehutt
Vestry Liaisons: Katie Hunnicutt & Judy Parker

COFFEE HOUR

Submitted by Pat Martin

Coffee Hour is held after the 8 o'clock Church Service in Etherton Hall. It is designed so those attending the 8 o'clock service may have coffee and goodies prior to the Adult Forum. Those attending the 10 o'clock Service have the opportunity to socialize with eight o'clock parishioners and have some coffee. Adult Forum is a time to share thoughts on current or historical events. Coffee Hour is from nine o'clock to nine fifteen throughout the program year. No matter which service you attend you are encouraged to come to Coffee Hour followed by the Adult Forum.

In 2014 there were thirty-four Coffee Hour sessions, eighteen in the winter/spring session and sixteen in the fall session, led by thirteen volunteer teams (approximately twenty-three people).

When a team is assigned, it is their responsibility to prepare the coffee and provide "goodies" for the session. At the end of Coffee Hour, the team of the week is also responsible for the cleanup. However, they are not alone in the clean up! A special thank you goes out to those parishioners who volunteer their time to help the team clean up at the conclusion of the Forum.

New volunteers to this important ministry area continue to be welcomed. At this time, we are still looking for a Coordinator. Please consider hosting two or even one session per year. All interested applicants are welcome to contact one of the Wardens. Your participation in Forum and Coffee Hour is both rewarding and stimulating. This Spring Mary Lou McAllister, Linn Ong and Chloe Pitard will be added to the group.

The coffee hour volunteers are highly appreciated for their hard work and dedication to making the Adult Forum a very wonderful time to come together for fellowship and to meet and welcome visitors. A big thank you to all of you!

Thanks are also directed toward the Parish Administrator, Carol Osborne, for ordering the coffee supplies and making sure that correct names are posted in the service papers each week. Also, an expression of appreciation to Katie Hunnicutt and Judy Parker, liaisons with the Parish and Community Life Ministry, who guide and offer support to ensure that Coffee Hour continues to proceed smoothly.

Volunteers:

Bob & Lyn Barrett	Jim & Pamela McCloud	Lisa Rey
John & Katie Hunnicutt	Jim & Linda Montague	Judy Sandground
Bev & Burgess Kegan	Linda & Tom Norris	George & Margie Steffens
Lisa Rey	Bob & Kay Perkins	Peter & Hanna Woicke
Pat Martin	Fritz & Mary Riedlin	

COMMUNICATIONS

Submitted by Jim McCloud

The Communications Committee seeks to use media for better messaging to our parishioners and to build broader community interest in Christ Church. The committee is comprised of representatives of our various church media as listed below. This past year, the committee has focused on improving communications and coordination between Christ Church's various print and electronic media. The group meets every six weeks.

Committee Members:

Peter Houck, Tidings
Jim McCloud, Church website
Jim Proctor, for photos taken by the Parish Paparazzi
Judy Sandground, Special publication and electronic media assignments
Kay Stephenson, Publicity to local print publications
Kim Weller, Weekly Update ("The Blast")

COVENANT CHURCHES

Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlebutt

"*And who is my neighbor?*" (Luke 10:29). Covenant Churches was created in the mid-1990s to bring together the Anglo and African-American faith communities for opportunities for joint worship experiences and outreach efforts within the community of St. Michaels. In the past, the Covenant Churches sponsored a joint Thanksgiving eve service, Good Friday service and Habitat build. Currently, Covenant Churches sponsors the Lenten series program, Easter sunrise service, and annual tent service on the lawn of the maritime museum.

The tent service, held this year on June 22nd, was the largest crowd to date. The tent service collects donations to pay expenses. 2014 collections were \$1469.34. Combined with the prior balance of \$1708.80 and a donation from the Church of the Advent of \$491.00; and deducting expenses of \$961.00 along with a \$500.00 donation to the St. Michaels Community Center the current balance for this ministry is \$2208.22. The Rev. Lynn Hade is the Rector at the Church of the Advent and was very active in the Covenant Churches when she was the Associate Rector at Christ Church.

An outgrowth of the tent service and Covenant Churches is the St. Michaels' Gospel Choir under the direction of Leroy Potter. The choir performed at both the tent service and then at a concert in Musket Park in August.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Submitted by Linda Norris

The Disaster Preparedness committee was formed as a result of a diocesan wide program to train participants on how to develop a plan for a disaster and how to respond once a disaster has occurred. This year's accomplishments include participating in the Ministry Fair, gathering relevant information from a parish wide survey, developing a parish list by location, developing a list of parishioners to call to check on, and getting planning maps on which pins are being placed in to locate parishioners to determine who might be at risk for various events.

Committee Members:

Bob Holden
Tom Mendenhall
Linda Norris

DOCENT'S GUILD

Submitted by Army Webster

The Docents' Guild had a very busy year welcoming visitors from around the world and most of the U.S. States. Specifically, 1,884 visitors came from 30 foreign countries and 45 U.S. States and the District of Columbia. Compared to last year, this was up by 220 visitors and the total of foreign countries was up by 19. These numbers are accumulated from the guest register. From May through October, the Church is staffed by docents from 2 to 4 p.m. to greet visitors and talk about the rich history of our Church.

The Guild held its Spring Meeting on March 29, 2014 in Etherton Hall with twenty-four members attending. Under discussion were new items to be ordered, scheduling, the Treasurer's Report, the need for more docents and the plan for a new Handbook. The Fall Meeting was held at Etherton Hall on November 8, 2014, with 24 docents attending. The treasurer's report was discussed. \$100 had been spent as a thank-you gift to Lynne Hade. After expenses for postage, the income was \$902.55 which brought the balance to \$3,921.84. It was decided to purchase the reprinting of the Church history booklet, "In the Beginning" because only 15 copies were left and it would be a shame to lose this written history.

We have lost a number of docents and gained very few new ones. All the docents are very enthusiastic about their assignments and feel it is a special privilege to explain the history of our Church to visitors. I would like to mention that this couldn't function without the help of the many hours spent by our scheduler, Lillian Watts; our secretary, Linda Makosky, writing the minutes and helping me; our treasurer Carol Kilbourn; and Carol McCanna who did the tabulation of the number of visitors. Lee Thomas is working on a new handbook. George Short is always there to help and checks the donation boxes after docent hours. My great appreciation and thanks go to all as well as my fellow docents.

Docents:

Martha Austin	Julie Hart	Carol McCanna
Lynn Barrett	Nan Heikes	Fred Meendsen
Janet Bickert	Al Holmes	Linda Montague
Bert Boon	Betty Hurford	Jackie Novak
Victoria Chandler	David & Sherry Jeffery	Jill Poe
Lynn & Ryland Chapman	Bevlee Kegan	Ann Roe
Lin Clineburg	Carol Kilbourn	Doug Rollow
Helen Dettbarn	Pat Lowe	Barbara & Sid Smith
Terry Fulton	Linda Makosky	Lee Thomas
Rachel Gruenberg	Melissa Malcom	Carolyn Wasdyke

Lillian Watts
Irmey Webster
Jessie Weddle

Norma Wieand
Sandra Wieand
Louise Woods

Lane Wroth

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Submitted by Pat Martin, President

All women of Christ Church are members of the ECW. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in all or any ECW activities.

In 2014, the ECW expanded its outreach program to provide for more organizations that care for children and the elderly in Talbot County. We contributed over \$18,000 to organizations such as the St. Michaels Community Center, Critchlow Adkins Child Care Centers, Care Packs, CASA, SMYLE and SMASH.

The results of a September 2013 survey taken by all female members of Christ Church found that fellowship is an essential element of participation in ECW. We are pleased that the women in the parish participate in our major fund raising events, such as the Spring/Fall Rummage sales and the Christmas Bazaar. We earned over \$19,000 from this year's rummage sales.

The monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month with the exception of July and August. We meet in Etherton Hall and have lunch. Beverage and dessert are always provided. Each member brings their own lunch or it may be provided depending upon the program. After lunch there is a speaker or an activity followed by a brief business meeting. Topics for this past year have been Pathways of Hospice, Human Interest Projects in third world countries, greens making and cookie making for the Pastoral Care Committee. Participation in the Rummage Sales and a June Picnic at Londonderry are fun fellowship activities. A major social and outreach event is hosting the women of all local churches for a luncheon and music program provided by St. Michaels High School. Attendance for this event is usually about ninety. We participated in the farewell reception for Lynn Hade, Associate Rector and supporter of the ECW and gave her a Praise Stole. A Christ Church liaison attends meetings of the Diocesan ECW and notifies us of programs and retreats in which we participate. We also support the United Thank Offering event.

It is a joy to see the women of Christ Church come together to share in both fellowship and stewardship. We want to thank everyone whose support has made us a cohesive group and all the volunteers who have made a great success of our programs.

Officers:

Pat Martin, *President*
Judy Sandground, *First Vice-President*
Karen Orem, *Second Vice-President*
Louise Woods, *Secretary*

Jessie Weddle, *Treasurer*
Lillian Watts, *Corresponding Secretary*
Elizabeth Simoncini, *Diocesan Liaison*
Esther Ziegler, *United Thank Offering*

LAY WEEDERS

Submitted by Lin Clineburg

The purpose of the Lay Weeders is to enhance and maintain the gardens surrounding the Parish House and Church. In addition to normal garden maintenance, the Lay Weeders plant annuals twice a year, (spring and fall) at the Parish House. We gather at 8 AM on Monday mornings, generally every other week, from mid-March through October. Once the gardens are established, we work an hour or more as needed to keep the gardens and grounds blooming and beautiful. Following our launch in August 2007, the gardens have become well established and enjoyed year round with reasonably low maintenance both for cost and volunteer labor.

It is most rewarding to know that many of our original volunteers remain totally committed and still enjoy working together. Our sexton, George Short has helped keep the flowers happy by

watering on a regular basis throughout the season. He also enhanced the beds by the Parish Hall walkways with construction of a low brick barrier to help retain soil and water for the plants. A great improvement; Thank you so much George!

Budget for the year 2014 was \$830 with actual spending totaling \$553.

Volunteers:

Lin Clineburg	Kay Perkins	Hanna Woicke
Suellen Gargalli	Sara Walker	
Katie Hunnicutt	Irmy Webster	

LEA LIBRARY

Submitted by Robert and Lyn Barrett

The library was widely used again this year. We circulated many books, but not all were signed out, so we do not have an accurate count of circulation. Parishioners are encouraged to sign the book when they borrow books. We were given twenty-three books which were added to our collection. We purchased three new books, for a total of twenty-six additional titles. We have a \$180 budget for 2015 to acquire additional books.

LEMONADE-ON-THE-LAWN & CIDER-IN-THE-HALL

Submitted by Carolyn Houck

Lemonade on the Lawn and Cider in the Hall are events that offer time for fun and fellowship following the 10:15 service. They are great venues for greeting familiar friends and meeting visitors and newcomers. We currently have nineteen hosts - some are individuals, some are couples, and some are families with children. We are always looking to add new hosts, so that hosts serve only once during the warmer months (April through September) and once during the colder months (October through March). This year Karen and Philip Morrison and Lori Ramsey and Andrew joined us. A big thank you goes out to all of our wonderful volunteers!

Volunteers:

Neil & Susan Armstrong	Cathy & Tom Mendenhall	Davie & Dianne Shaw
Jack & Martha Austin	The Morris Family	Bruce & Lee Thomas
Bob & Karen Burger	Karen & Philip Morrison	Carolyn & Ray Wasdyke
Beth & Laurie Driggs	The Newberg Family	The Whyman Family
Carolyn & Peter Houck	Lori & Andrew Ramsey	The Widell Family
Bev & Burgess Kegan	The Rogers Family	
The Magee Family	The Sanford Family	

MEN'S CLUB

Submitted by George Dixon

The Men's Club is a self-financing group of Christ Church with currently 30 to 35 active participants; yet all men in the Parish are members. Information on the schedule and Speaker program can be found on the Christ Church web site; in the weekly Service Bulletins; Weekly E-mail Blast, the Tidings, calling the Parish office; or by calling George Dixon at 410-745-6307.

The purpose of the Men's Club is to provide a forum to better understand international, national and local issues of interest to Christ Church Parishioners. The Speakers' Steering Group, formed in 2012, has expanded its role to be the overall Planning Group for the Club. Our objective is to enrich the lives of the men of the Parish by a combination of 'light' worship; interesting and informative Speakers; and a great breakfast. The 2014 attendance plateaued in the range of 25 to 30, with the October 2014 meeting dropping to a low of 11. In 2013 attendance did increase to 25 to 30 individuals each breakfast and the active participation increased to 35, an increase of 10 percent over the 2011 to 2012 timeframe.

In April 2014 the Men's Club successfully held a lunch meeting in Easton and invited all parishioners to attend. The topic was "Ageing in Place" and the speaker, Martin Bell, a Washington DC expert on this topic. The lesson learned is we can attract good speakers from out of the area, but we need to do that for a weekday luncheon. Forty-five people attended this meeting.

The 2014 Speaker Program was:

January: Dr. Barbara Viniar, President Chesapeake College, discussing community college education on the Eastern Shore

February: Dr. William C. Boicourt, Professor Horn Point Lab, speaking on the impact of global warming on the Chesapeake region

March: Stuart Clarke, Executive Director, Town Creek Foundation, discussing nonprofit organizations on the Eastern Shore

April: Martin Bell, Executive Director, National Aging in Place Council, speaking on the growing trend of aging in one's own home.

May: A field trip was made to the Easton Airport to better understand the impact the airport has on Talbot County's economy.

September: Retired Congressman Chris Shays discussed the political climate in Washington DC

October: Paige R. Bethke, Development Director, Talbot County discussed the strategies and plans for the economic growth of the County

November: Kristen Greenaway, President Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum spoke on her vision for the future of the CBMM

December: Frank Hopkinson, Treasurer, St. Michaels Fire Company discussed the operations and financing of the local volunteer fire company.

Breakfast's meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from September through May, the church program year. In December the breakfast shifts to the first Saturday to de-conflict with Christmas in St. Michaels and the ECW Christmas Bazaar. In 2014, primarily to attract new speakers the Club will experiment with one off-site lunch and an off-site breakfast.

Our meetings are held in Etherton Hall and the Club contracts a local cook to prepare the breakfast meal. Each attendee pays \$12 for breakfast. The food is purchased and prepared by a local who receives \$10 per breakfast served. During 2014 the Christ Church Strove Tuesday Pancake Supper was cancelled because of snow. Normally the men purchase, prepared, cooked, served and cleaned up after the Pancake Supper. Proceeds are donated to Boy Scouts Troop 149. In 2014 a donation was made to Troop 149 in lieu of the Pancake Supper proceeds. The year-end balance in the Club's account is \$1993.

The leaders of the Club have contributed many hours to building participation; and making each meeting and the Pancake Supper a success. They all deserve great credit: Phil Webster, Burgess Kegan, Peter Woicke, Larry Sanford, Sal Simoncini, and Bob Holden. The Club thanks Peter Houck and Jim McCloud for the publicity in the Tidings, E-mail Blasts, and the web site.

PARISH PAPARAZZI

Submitted by Jim Proctor

The mission of the Parish Paparazzi is to document through photographs and videos, those events across the Parish which the clergy, staff or event coordinators wish to retain in the church archives and for use in church materials, publicity and history. As soon as possible after an event, the photos are indexed and downloaded into the parish computer online data base and copies are sent to the Parish Communications committee for its use. The online data base has

been growing over the last several years and now is a remarkable archive of hundreds of photographs accessible by computer, smart phone or tablet.

In 2015 we will start to increase the number of video records in the data base. Video has tremendous advantages of capturing the sound, motion, and photography of events creating a living motion picture. This will require some upgrades to our data base for storage, identification and retrieval, but it is worth the time and resources to better preserve the history of Christ Church. This is the Number 2 priority for 2015.

The Number 1 priority for the Parish Paparazzi in 2015 is to recruit additional Paparazzi's to enable coverage of all Church events. The Parish Paparazzi is a team effort and requires a team of folks to cover all the events in Christ Church -- it is not a one person job. We provide On-the-Job training.

Hand in hand with our Top 2015 Priority is making each parishioner aware of the value the Parish Paparazzi's bring to your church event and how you can help by:

1. Schedule your event early with the Parish Paparazzi.
2. Help us recruit new Paparazzi's
3. Use your smart phone or camera to capture those special moments in church life in picture or video; then download them to a "thumb" drive, USB drive or CD and put them the Parish Paparazzi's box in the Volunteer Room.

I want to thank our Present Paparazzi's who give their time to the parish. In addition to them, Sal Simoncini has been an inspiration. He helped me at one particular event and was fantastic organizing subjects. The results made all the difference in the world in the final product.

Thank all for the opportunity to serve Christ Church. All comment and critique are welcome. Without it we cannot improve.

Paparazzi:

Elizabeth Foulds
Bud Keiser

Fritz Riedlin
Jim Proctor

'TIDINGS' NEWSLETTER

Submitted by Peter Houck

The purpose of our monthly newsletter is to provide a means of communication among all segments of the Parish Community and to acquaint readers with important, relevant, or entertaining developments on as timely a basis as possible.

Tidings now goes out online and in color to 130 of the circa 350 parishioners who receive the print version of the newsletter. In 2015, we plan to offer parishioners the opportunity of receiving Tidings online instead of by mail, which could result in possibly significant cost savings. The newsletter continues to rely heavily on the receipt of timely articles, announcements and photographs from regular and occasional contributors. Besides our clergy, Rector Mark Nestlehutt, former Associate Rector Lynn Hade and Parish Administrator Carol Osborne, regular and occasional contributors of articles and updates include:

Neil Armstrong
Martha Austin
Robert Barrett
Jim Campi
Lin Clineburg
George Dixon

Beth Driggs
Nance duPont
Beth & Howard Eckel
Lisa Felts
Terry Fulton
Julie Hart

Bob Holden
Carolyn Houck
Bev Kegan
Linda Makosky
Pat Martin
Carol McCanna

Jim McCloud
Pamela McCloud
Tom Mendenhall
Lesley Moyer
Linda Norris
Lynn Partridge

Ann Roe
Judy Sandground
Margie Steffens
Lee Thomas
William Thomas
Carolyn Wasdyke

Ray Wasdyke
Gillian Whyman
Mary Jane Wyant
Bob Ziegler

Regular and occasional contributors of photographs include:

Neil & Susan Armstrong
Bill Corba
Elizabeth Foulds

Bud Keiser
Linda & Paul Makosky
Jim McCloud

Jim Proctor
Sparrow Rogers
Judy Sandground

Without the contributions of the many individuals mentioned above, *Tidings* could not fulfill its mission of enhancing parish communications. My sincere thanks go to each of them.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Submitted by Lisa Rey and Carolyn Wasdyke

*“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,
for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2)*

The Welcoming Committee’s leadership, new this year, is focused on our being a parish that welcomes others through the love of Jesus by extending Christian hospitality to all those who enter Christ Church. This includes welcoming visitors during times of worship; planning occasional events to bring newcomers together; and working to ensure that new members find support and opportunities to continue their spiritual journeys. New Welcoming packages are being given to visitors at our Services. The Committee will work in partnership with the Ushers, Greeters, Vestry members and parishioners to become more proactive in nurturing a welcoming environment within our church.

PASTORAL CARE

*Clergy Liaison: Reverend Mark Nestlehutt
Vestry Liaisons: Jim Fulton*

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Submitted by Jesse Weddle

Eucharistic Ministers are church members licensed by the Bishop to take communion to the sick and shut-ins. This ministry continues to provide a valuable service to our home-bound parishioners. We have four Eucharistic Visitors who have served 36 communions in private homes, nursing homes and hospitals located in Royal Oak, Newcomb, St. Michaels, Easton, and Denton. Thank you to these dedicated volunteers who take this much needed comfort and connection to our shut-in parishioners.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Submitted by the Reverend Mark Nestlehutt

“When did we see you sick...and we visited you?” (Matthew 25:39)

The Pastoral Care Team is charged with coordinating and implementing pastoral care to meet the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our parishioners in hospital, nursing home, or those who are homebound. The team leaders meet monthly with the clergy and consist of a group of volunteers who care deeply about our parish family. They will organize the preparation

and delivery of meals to those in need during a difficult time. Some of them visit parishioners and others in the community who are confined to home or to another place of residence on a regular basis. We endeavor to keep aware of the needs of our congregation, but we would very much appreciate your help. If you know of someone who seems to be in need but might be hesitant to ask for assistance, please call Mark Nestlehutt, Clelia Garrity or Carol Osborne at the church office: 410-745-9076.

Team Leaders:

Karen Burger	Mark Nestlehutt	Christopher Whyman
Lesley Moyer	Jessie Weddle	Mary Jane Wyant

Pastoral Care Visitors:

Martha Austin	Pat Martin	Sara Walker
Karen Burger	Linda Norris	Christopher Whyman
Sandy King	Alison Sanford	

PRAYER CHAIN

Submitted by Christopher Whyman

The prayer chain is a fairly quiet, but important ministry. Each month a list of people and concerns is distributed at the meeting, or sent via email for those who are unable to attend. The list contains the current Sunday Prayers of the People list and a ‘silent’ prayer list of those who have requested prayers but do not wish to be included in the Sunday read-aloud list. Those who volunteer for our prayer chain wish to remain anonymous, but we thank them for their continued intercessory prayers

STEPHEN MINISTERS

Submitted by Lesley Moyer

Since Stephen Ministry’s inception in 2007 we have served 47 Care Receivers. We have trained a total of eighteen Stephen Ministers and currently have four active Stephen Ministers. As of this writing three of the ministers are in Stephen Ministry relationships. Typically, each Stephen Minister is matched with one Care Receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour. Men are matched with men; women with women. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the need remains. Stephen Ministers care for people with a wide range of ministry needs - grief, divorce, unemployment, hospitalization, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, financial stress, rehabilitation after an injury, terminal illness, relocation, long-term disability and countless other life difficulties. The relationship is completely confidential and in many cases the friendship continues long after the Stephen Ministry part of it has closed. Mary Jane Wyant and I continue as Co-Leaders and meet monthly with the Stephen Ministers on the second Tuesday of the month. Please do not be afraid to ask for help for yourself or someone else - we are here to help and we care! Please contact Lesley Moyer: 443-786-4624 or the church office. Thank you to all Stephen Ministers past and present for their time, commitment and willingness to be with someone in need.

Our Active Stephen Ministers:

Susie Granville
Marsha Johnson
Mary Jane Wyant
Judy Sandground
Barbara Sheridan

Stephen Leaders:

Lesley Moyer

STEWARDSHIP

*Clergy Liaison: Reverend Mark Nestlehutt
Vestry Liaisons: Elizabeth Foulds, Tom Orem, James Vail, Ray Wasdyke*

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Lisa Felts and Tom Mendenhall, Co-Chairs

“Grace, Gratitude and Generosity, Giving at the level that God expects!”

The 2015 Stewardship Campaign has been an appeal for parishioners to step up and pledge their support by giving joyously to God and the Church. We asked for our parishioners to show faith by engaging in the parish community, living out our baptismal promises and entering into a life of intentional, sacrificial giving to God.

Our goal was to receive a commitment from 200 pledging units. As of January 18 there have been 180 pledges with generous pledges totaling \$485,124. We have fallen short of our 200 pledge unit goal and are very concerned with the downward trend of fewer pledging units - 180 pledge units is the lowest number of pledges we have received in any of the last four years.

We will continue to communicate the importance of pledging and giving to support all the wonderful ministries at Christ Church.

We thank all the Parishioners, Clergy and Parish Staff that have helped with their ideas, time and of course pledges.

FACILITIES *(formerly Properties)*

In 2014, a Facilities Committee was formed comprised of parishioners with expertise and experience in the maintenance of buildings. We wish to thank John Masone, John Scofield, Sid Smith, and Ebby duPont for their time and energy in working on the Parish's buildings. A special thanks to George Short for his support to the Facilities Committee and his daily stewardship of the Parish properties. Ray Wasdyke and Elizabeth Foulds, the Vestry Liaisons for Facilities, established and are the Co-Chairs of the Committee.

CHRIST CHURCH BUILDING & GROUNDS

Submitted by Ray Wasdyke

A draft strategic plan was prepared that identified significant interior and exterior maintenance that needs to be addressed in the 2015 calendar year and beyond. The strategic plan outlines upgrades and maintenance required over the next five years. The more important work that could affect the structural integrity of the Church includes: repair of the Church's bell tower, repointing and sealing of the exterior masonry wall of the Church, and replacing missing slate tiles and snow guards in the roof. The most important problem is determining and remediating the source of water leaking into the interior of the Church. Following the exterior work, the interior of the Church has not been painted since the late 1980's and needs to be done. Likewise, pew cushions and carpeting will need to be replaced, along with some refinishing of the wooden flooring. Our church is a beautiful, historic, and spiritual building which needs a level of repair not done since the last major renovation in 1988-1989, nearly 30 years old.

PARISH HOUSE & GROUNDS

Submitted by Elizabeth Foulds

Work completed in 2014 includes the exterior paintwork, partial roof replacement and a new lock system fitted on the side door by Key One; this is a security issue. The air

handlers in the Parish house will be replaced in late 2014 or early 2015 and heat pumps will be installed to provide heating service to the Parish House. The Vestry approved a multi-year program to replace all eight air handlers. We must remember 2015 is the tenth year of the Parish House.

I wish to thank George Short for his diligence in looking after the day-to-day running of the Parish Hall and the grounds. A big thanks you to the parish Lay Weeders for their unstinting gardening work; we all appreciate the beautiful plantings.

FINANCE REPORT

Submitted by Tom Orem

Christ Church St. Michael's Parish is blessed with members who give their time, talent and treasure. Without these gifts we could not function.

2014 ended with expenses exceeding revenues by \$34,206 before transfers. A loss of \$35,018 was planned for the year and the actual 2014 loss before transfers come in \$1,313 better than planned due to the generosity of parishioners; and by the vestry and members throughout the congregation exercising great responsibility in the use of church funds. Additionally, there were transfers in from the Heritage Fund, Vestry Designated Funds, and from Temporary Restricted funds totaling \$36,668. This resulted in a total surplus after transfers of \$2,462.

Revenue for 2014 and 2015:

In 2014 members contributed \$493,107 in pledges, \$15,797 in Plate Offerings, and Friends brought in an outstanding or blessed \$43,390. These total weekly givings came to \$552,294. An additional \$27,761 from other revenues brought the total revenues for 2014 to \$552,294 compared to budgeted revenue of \$580,000.

Fund transfers have become an integral part of our operating budget and are necessary to fund our ministries. Pledges and other weekly giving are not sufficient to meet our budget.

In December 2014, \$36,000 was transferred from the Heritage Endowment Fund and investment income from Vestry Designated and Temporarily Restricted funds brought the total fund transfers to \$36,668.

The 2015 budget is based on receiving \$470,000 in pledges, \$15,000 in plate, and \$50,000 from Friends. Integral to funding the operating budget for 2015 is the planned withdrawal of \$37,000 from the Heritage Endowment Fund.

Expenses by Ministry Area for 2014 and 2015:

Clergy: Expenses for Clergy Compensation and benefits came to \$222,669 for 2014. The 2015 budgeted amount for Clergy Compensation and Benefits is \$164,533 as we are now a single Clergy parish. The 2015 budget for Clergy reflects a cost of living adjustment of 2%.

Worship and Music: For 2015, amounts were increased in several areas to reflect actual spending in 2014. The 2015 budget for Worship and Music totals \$56,645 and includes a cost of living adjustment of 2% for the Music Director.

Christian Formation: The 2015 budget of \$16,325 includes two new budget lines. The first is a \$6,000 stipend for a part time Family Ministry Coordinator, and the second is \$1,500 for Spiritual Development Retreats. The remaining budget lines are funded at or above the level of actual 2014 expenditures.

Parish and Community Life: Planned 2015 spending for this area will increase over 2014 by \$1,930 for a 2015 total of \$12,700. This provides for an increase to cover, actual costs, for planned parish events.

Outreach and Wider Mission: The 2015 Budget is \$34,000. This includes \$8,500 for Community Grants; \$4,000 for Millennium Development Goals; \$5,000 commitment to Habitat for Humanity; \$2,500 allocated for the El Hogar Dental Mission; and a new budget line of \$14,000 for the new Community Mission Coordinator.

Pastoral Care: The total budget for 2015 is \$560.

Stewardship: This category refers to all aspects of the parish's physical buildings and the day-to-day operation of the church and parish hall. Expense categories include those for the Sexton, utilities, maintenance, equipment and supplies, insurance, the annual stewardship campaign, the Parish Administrator, office functions, and governance. The actual amount spent in 2014 for Stewardship was \$227,592. The 2015 budgeted amount is \$231,292. The 2015 budget for Stewardship reflects a cost of living adjustment of 2% for our Parish Administrator and Sexton.

Additional Expenditures During 2015:

Diocesan Apportionment: This final budget category is based on a percentage of our operating budget and is an amount requested by the Diocese. The requested apportionment for 2015 was \$78,437 which is fully funded in the 2014 Budget.

The 2015 Budget Report follows on the next two pages.

2015 BUDGET REPORT

Description	Budget 2014	Actual Full Year 2014	Budget 2015
REVENUES			
Weekly Givings			
Pledge	\$515,000	\$493,107	470,000
Plate	15,000	15,797	15,000
Friends	50,000	43,390	50,000
Total Weekly Givings	\$580,000	\$552,294	\$535,000
Other Revenues			
Investment Income			
Other Donations	5,800	7,771	5,000
Parish Hall Use	2,500	1,835	2,000
Wedding Donations	5,000	7,075	8,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	4,500	11,080	9,000
Total Other Revenues	\$17,800	\$27,761	\$24,000
Total Revenues	\$597,800	\$580,055	\$559,000
EXPENSES BY MINISTRY			
Clergy Compensation & Benefits			
Total Compensation	168,978	153,424	113,336
Benefits	75,938	69,245	51,197
Total Clergy Compensation & Benefits	\$244,916	\$222,669	\$164,533
Worship and Music			
Total Worship	6,800	2,477	2,800
Total Music	49,579	48,893	53,845
Total Worship and Music	\$56,379	\$51,370	\$56,645
Christian Formation			
Total Christian Formation	\$8,575	\$6,203	\$16,325
Parish and Community Life			
Total Parish and Community Life	\$10,770	\$8,184	\$12,720
Outreach and Wider Mission			
Total Outreach and Wider Mission	\$20,000	\$20,002	\$34,000
Pastoral Care			
Total Pastoral Care	\$650	\$49	\$560
TOTAL EXPENSES BY MINISTRY	\$341,290	\$308,477	\$284,783

STEWARDSHIP			
Property			
Personnel			
Personnel Total	53,487	53,177	53,408
Utilities Total	31,580	39,325	38,390
Maint, Equip & Supplies Total	21,438	20,967	22,245
Insurance (Property) Total	10,795	10,999	11,000
Property Total	\$117,300	\$124,468	\$125,043
Annual Stewardship Campaign			
Stewardship Expenses & Planned Giving	2,620	3,635	4,200
Total Stewardship Campaign	\$2,620	\$3,635	\$4,200
Administration			
Personnel Total	62,096	62,136	62,149
Office Functions Total	21,810	26,821	24,150
Administration Total	\$83,906	\$88,957	\$86,299
Governance			
Insurance (Liability) Total	2,560	2,792	3,000
Diocese, Parish, Misc Total	6,950	7,740	12,850
Governance Total	\$9,510	\$10,532	\$15,850
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	\$213,336	\$227,592	\$231,392
Diocesan Apportionment	\$78,192	\$78,192	\$78,437
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$632,818	\$614,261	\$594,612
TOTAL REVENUES PER ABOVE	\$597,800	\$580,055	\$559,000
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(\$35,018)	(\$34,206)	(\$35,612)
Transfers			
Transfer from Perm Endowment fund	36,000	36,000	37,000
Transfer from Vestry Designated funds	- 0	500	
Transfer from Temp Restricted fund	- 0	168	
Total Fund Transfers	\$36,000	\$36,668	\$37,000
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AFTER TRANSFERS	\$982	\$2,462	\$1,388

The purpose of our Planned Giving initiative is to increase the size of our endowment, the Heritage Fund. A larger endowment will produce more income to help support current and future ministries. Because this is the first appearance of a Planned Giving Report in the Annual Report, for historical purposes, a review of our activities since the start of this effort follows.

2011

Our Planned Giving initiative began in the spring when the Wardens, Jim McCloud and Judy Sandground, attended a workshop led by the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF). Shortly thereafter, Mark convened a group of parish elders - all with financial backgrounds. Each agreed we should initiate a program and a committee was formed to determine how to proceed. These recommendations were presented to Vestry in December.

2012

A Resolution to move forward with Planned Giving was approved in January. During this year, Wardens Judy Sandground and Carolyn Wasdyke attended a series of webinars offered by ECF on various aspects of introducing and managing a planned giving program. Based on information gathered it was determined that existing guidelines for the management of our then current Permanent Endowment Fund needed to be expanded.

2013

In January 2013, the Wardens began drafting new guidelines and procedures using input from the 2011 committee report and the current Trustees of the Permanent Endowment Fund plus knowledge and insights gained from the ECF. Wardens Carolyn Wasdyke and George Dixon along with the Trustees reviewed the draft and finalized it in the summer. In August, Vestry approved a resolution to change the name of the Permanent Endowment Fund to the Heritage Fund of Christ Church St. Michaels, to increase the number of Trustees from three to five and to establish a Planned Giving Committee to manage both the Planned Giving program and a legacy society to be named the 1672 Society in honor of the founding year of our parish.

In September, Jim McCloud and Judy Sandground accepted the call to co-chair the Planned Giving ministry at Christ Church. At an Adult Forum that month, the new provisions adopted by Vestry were presented and in November thirty-two parishioners attended an informational event. Former parishioner Hank Spire who with his wife, Linda, had previously made a substantial gift to our Permanent Endowment Fund, shared their journey and commitment to leaving legacy gifts and supporting the future of Christ Church.

2014

This year focused primarily on providing information and resources to parishioners and in thanking those who have made a planned gift. There were articles in Tidings regarding end of life planning and testimonials of those who had made planned gifts. In June, we brought Jim Murphy head of the Planned Giving Practice at ECF to Etherton Hall to lead a group of parishioners in an exploration of the many forms of planned giving. Later that day, he spoke to leaders from our parish and from other parishes in our Diocese about initiating a planned giving program. By November we were able to welcome the donors of nineteen planned gifts as Charter Members of the 1672 Legacy Society. On November 2, a special dinner was held to thank them for their future gifts to our Heritage Fund. In 2015, we will continue to encourage parishioners to remember our church in their estate plans and to make current gifts designated for the Heritage Fund.

TELLERS

Submitted by Bob Ziegler

Weekly offerings are counted each Sunday just after the second service by teams of parishioners and we greatly appreciate the service of all who participate in this essential activity. The tellers complete a spreadsheet report that itemizes the contributions for all parishioners. The report and related deposit ticket are provided to the Parish Administrator who reconciles the information, enters the specific information into the church's accounting software and arranges for the deposit to the bank.

We greatly appreciate the service of all who participate in these essential activities.

Tellers:

John Booth
Phil Dinkel
Beth Driggs
Jim Ellis
Lisa Felts

Burgess Kegan
Pat Martin
Lynn Partridge
Judy Sandground
Shelia Vaughn

Jessie Weddle
Bob Ziegler
Judy Sandground

The Financial Statements for 2014 are on the following pages.

CHRIST CHURCH, ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
Statement of Financial Position - Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2014

	Unrestricted Funds				2014	2013
	Operating Fund	Vestry Designated	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Totals	Totals
Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents:						
Checking	\$38,579	\$116,067	\$- 0	\$- 0	\$154,647	\$187,752
Savings and money market	- 0	252,197	100,286	53,790	406,272	405,274
Investments, at fair market value:						
The Heritage Endowment Fund	- 0	- 0	- 0	1,104,257	1,104,257	1,062,711
Property and equipment	3,355,090	- 0	- 0	- 0	3,355,090	3,355,090
Total Assets	\$3,393,669	\$368,264	\$100,286	\$1,158,047	\$5,020,266	\$5,010,827
Liabilities						
Taxes and other withholdings						
from wages	\$2,899	\$- 0	\$- 0	\$- 0	\$2,899	\$1,103
Prepaid pledges	66,569	- 0	- 0	- 0	66,569	68,245
Other liabilities	3,565	- 0	- 0	- 0	3,565	2,074
Total Liabilities	73,033	- 0	- 0	- 0	73,033	71,422
Net Assets						
Unrestricted:						
Operating fund	3,320,636	- 0	- 0	- 0	3,320,636	3,318,176
Vestry designated	- 0	368,264	- 0	- 0	368,264	405,041
Total Unrestricted	3,320,636	368,264	- 0	- 0	3,688,899	3,723,217
Temporarily restricted	- 0	- 0	100,286	- 0	100,286	96,686
Permanently restricted	- 0	- 0	- 0	1,158,047	1,158,047	1,119,502
Total Net Assets	3,320,636	368,264	100,286	1,158,047	4,947,233	4,939,405
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,393,669	\$368,264	\$100,286	\$1,158,047	\$5,020,266	\$5,010,827

Christ Church, St. Michael's Parish
Statement of Activities – Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Budget		Actual - Year Ended December 31, 2014					2014 Totals	2013 Totals
	2014	Unrestricted	Operating Fund	Vestry Designated	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted			
Revenues									
Weekly Givings:									
Pledges	\$515,000	\$493,107	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$493,107	\$443,715	
Friends	50,000	43,390	-	-	-	-	43,390	75,832	
Open plate	15,000	15,796	-	-	-	-	15,796	14,761	
Total Weekly Givings	580,000	552,293	-	-	-	-	552,293	534,308	
Other Contributions	5,800	7,771	49,891	100	24,694		82,456	138,961	
Other Revenues:									
Parish hall use	2,500	1,835	-	-	-	-	1,835	2,405	
Wedding & funeral donations	5,000	7,075	-	-	-	-	7,075	4,450	
Investment income	-	-	1,001	-	52,851		53,852	139,610	
Miscellaneous revenues	4,500	11,080	-	-	-	-	11,080	4,613	
Total Other Revenues	12,000	19,990	1,001	-	52,851		73,842	151,078	
Total Revenues	597,800	580,054	50,892	100	77,545		708,591	824,347	

Operating Expenses

Expenses by Ministry:								
Clergy compensation	168,978	153,424	-	-	-	-	153,424	166,486
Clergy benefits	75,938	69,245	-	-	-	-	69,245	75,846
Worship and music	56,879	51,371	1,254	-	-	-	52,625	48,073
Christian formation	8,575	6,203	-	-	-	-	6,203	6,744
Parish and community life	10,770	8,184	518	-	-	-	8,702	11,518
Outreach and wider mission	20,000	20,002	51,586	5,000	3,000		79,588	76,003
Pastoral care	650	49	-	-	-	-	49	136
Property:								

Personnel costs	53,488	53,177	-	-	-	53,177	51,894
Utilities	31,580	39,325	-	-	-	39,325	31,587
Maintenance and supplies	21,438	20,967	34,311	-	-	55,278	22,422
Insurance	13,355	13,791	-	-	-	13,791	13,136
Stewardship expenses	2,620	2,104	-	-	-	2,104	2,579
Administration:							
Personnel costs	62,096	62,136	-	-	-	62,136	60,370
Office expenses	21,810	26,821	-	-	-	26,821	20,034
Parish miscellaneous	6,950	9,271	-	-	-	9,271	6,297
Diocesan assessment	78,192	78,192	-	-	-	78,192	56,125
Total Operating Expenses	633,319	614,262	87,669	5,000	3,000	709,931	649,250
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Before Transfers from Other Funds	(35,519)	(34,208)	(36,777)	(4,900)	74,545	(1,340)	175,097
Fund Transfers (Note 4)							
Building improvements	-	500	-	-	-	500	-
Clergy Discretionary Fund	-	168	-	-	-	168	-
Investment income	36,000	36,000	-	-	(36,000)	-	-
Heritage Endowment Fund distribution	36,000	36,668	-	-	(36,000)	668	-
Total Transfers							
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets After Transfers from Other Funds	\$481	2,460	(36,777)	(4,900)	38,545	(672)	\$175,097
Net Assets - Beginning of Year		3,318,176	405,041	96,686	1,119,502	4,939,405	
Fund Transfers - Vestry Approved (Note 5)							
				8,500		8,500	
Net Assets - End of Year		\$3,320,636	\$368,264	\$100,286	\$1,158,047	\$4,947,233	

CHRIST CHURCH, ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
Statement of Activities - Vestry Designated, Temporarily Restricted, and Permanently Restricted Funds
Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Fund Transfers (Note 4)									
	Beginning Balances	Contributions	Investment Earnings	Expenses	Investment Earnings	Building Improvements	Endowment Distribution	Outreach Fund	Year-End Transfers	Ending Balances
Vestry Designated Funds										
Sabbatical Fund	\$42,602	\$-	\$247	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$42,849
Back to School Project	22,839	13,274		(11,660)						24,453
Building Fund	74,686			(33,311)						41,375
Churchyard (Columbarium)	16,498			(1,000)						15,498
Food Pantry Fund	38,839	35,267		(39,926)						34,180
Memorial Fund	23,243	800		(518)						24,043
Men's Club	1,993	450		(1,254)						1,925
Music Fund	212	100							1,254	312
Operating Reserve Fund	185,031		754						(1,254)	184,531
Total	405,943	49,891	1,001	(87,669)	-	-	-	-	-	369,166
Temporarily Restricted Funds										
Altar Guild	2,590									2,590
Outreach Fund	94,098	100		(5,000)					8,500	97,698
Total	96,688	100	-	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	8,500	100,288
Permanently Restricted Funds										
Heritage Endowment Fund	1,061,811	24,694	52,851			(36,000)				1,103,356
Walk-in Ministries	54,499			(3,000)						51,499
Acolyte Fund	2,289									2,289
Total	1,118,599	24,694	52,851	(3,000)	-	(36,000)			-	1,157,144
Grand Totals	\$1,621,230	\$74,685	\$53,852	\$(95,669)	\$-	\$(36,000)		\$-	\$8,500	\$1,626,598

CHRIST CHURCH, ST. MICHAELS PARISH

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2014

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations: Christ Church, St. Michaels's Parish (the Church) is a not-for-profit religious organization and is affiliated with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. The Church is located in St. Michaels, Maryland and the majority of its parishioners live in the Talbot County, Maryland region. The Church receives its primary support from charitable contributions and investment earnings.

Basis of Accounting: The accompanying financial statements are presented on the modified cash basis of accounting, whereby, revenues are generally recognized when received and expenses are generally recognized when paid. The exception to the cash basis of accounting is that prepaid pledges have been recorded as deferred revenue and are reflected as a liability of the Church.

Basis of Presentation: The Church generally prepares its financial statements in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. SFAS No. 117 requires that the Church report information regarding its assets, liabilities and net assets and its revenue and expenses according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. Following is the specific information relative to the various classes of net assets:

Unrestricted Net Assets

Operating Fund: The primary purpose of this fund is to provide resources for normal operations of the Church. The fund's primary sources of revenue are the contributions made by pledges, friends, plate offerings, and investment income. The expenditures from the fund occur on a regular basis, and primarily consist of clergy compensation and related benefits, property expenses, administrative costs, and the diocesan assessment.

Vestry Designated Funds: These funds consist of certain contributions made to the Church which have been designated for specific purposes. The vestry designated funds include the following:

Operating Reserve Fund: These are surplus funds generally transferred from the operating fund each year to be available for unforeseen operational expenses of the Church.

Building Fund: This fund was established to provide a reserve for future major repairs and capital expenditures associated with the main church and the parish hall.

Memorial Fund: This fund was established as a repository for unrestricted bequests and memorial gifts to the Church. These funds may be used for purposes determined and approved by the clergy and vestry.

Sabbatical Fund: This fund was established in order to fund a clergy sabbatical. The fund is maintained in a separate checking account at The Talbot Bank of Easton.

Back to School Project Fund: This fund was established to account for contributions and expenditures associated with providing school supplies to needy children at various schools in the community.

Churchyard / Columbarium Fund: This fund was established to account for revenues and expenses associated with the churchyard and columbarium. Revenues result primarily from the sale of niches and occasional contributions.

El Hogar Dental Clinic: This fund was established to account for contributions and expenses to support a dental clinic to treat the children of El Hogar, Honduras, an Episcopal orphanage and school.

Food Pantry Fund: This fund was established to account for contributions and expenses associated with providing supplementary food for community members in need. Note that these funds are administered by the Church and the assets of the fund are not the assets of the Church.

Men's Club: This fund was established to account for the operating activities of the Men's Club at the Church.

Music Fund: This fund was established to fund special musical activities beyond the scope of the annual budgeted support for music and choir activities. Expenditures from this fund are recommended by the worship and music committee and approved by the vestry.

Temporarily Restricted Funds

These funds consist of specific contributions whose use is limited by donor-imposed stipulations that are satisfied by actions of the Church pursuant to those restrictions. The funds are managed as part of the general investment portfolio. The temporarily restricted funds include:

Outreach Fund: This fund was established in 2005 with a bequest from an estate and designated by the vestry for the purpose of supporting the Church's outreach ministry.

Altar Guild Fund: This fund was established in 2006 with a bequest. Monies from this fund are available to the Altar Guild for specific purposes.

Permanently Restricted Net Assets

These funds consist of specific contributions whose use is limited to donor-imposed regulations that neither expire by the passage of time nor can be fulfilled or otherwise removed by the Church's actions. The permanently restricted funds include the following:

The Heritage Fund: This fund, previously called The Endowment Fund, is the financial foundation upon which past generations have generously given contributions to build and maintain the

church. The Heritage Fund is invested and maintained by an independent investment counselor and is overseen by the Investment Committee and Vestry.

Walk-in Ministries Fund: This fund was established with a restricted gift of \$50,000. The excess above the principal may be used by the clergy to assist in the Church’s ministry to members of the community who are in need of short-term financial assistance.

Acolyte Fund: This fund was established with a restricted gift of \$2,000. The excess above the principal may be used to support acolyte programs.

Property and Depreciation: The Church generally capitalizes major additions to property and equipment. Expenditures for maintenance and routine repairs are charged to expense as incurred. The Church does not currently depreciate assets that have been capitalized.

Income Taxes: The Church is a not-for-profit organization exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Church is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as other than a private foundation.

Note 2: Investments

The components of investment income for the year ended December 31, 2014 by net asset classification and by category of income are as follows:

Investment Categories	Heritage Fund
Cash Equivalents	\$ 39,383
Equity	123,293
Fixed Income	219,160
Common Funds	722,420
Totals	\$ 1,104,256
Income Category:	
Interest and dividends net of management fees	\$ 61,976
Net realized & unrealized gains (losses)	(18,543)
Totals	\$ 43,433

Note 3: Liabilities

Included in Other Liabilities is a small grant from the National Episcopal Church that is being administered by Christ Church. The grant is being administered in such a way that all expenses relating to the grant are covered by the income received.

Note 4: Retirement Plans

The Church makes contributions to a defined benefit plan administered by the Church Pension Fund of the National Episcopal Church, covering full time clergy members at Christ Church, St. Michaels Parish. Under this plan, retirement benefits are determined at the time of retirement, based on compensation and years of service. The pension fund consists of pooled contributions from employees of clergy working in the Episcopal Church and its agencies, assessed at 18% of clergy compensation.

The Church also makes contributions to the Episcopal Church Lay Employees' Defined Contribution Retirement Plan, which covers all salaried employees. The Church contributes 5% of each participant's salary, and matches all employee contributions up to 4% of salary. All full time employees are eligible to participate in the plan after one year of service with the Church, and contributions to the plan are immediately 100% vested.

Note 5: Fund Transfers

Significant fund transfers made in 2014 are as follows:

Heritage Fund - \$36,000 was transferred from the Heritage Fund to the Operating Fund in December 2014, to cover expected excess of expenses over revenue in the Operating Fund.

Outreach Fund - \$8,500 was transferred from the Operating Fund to the Outreach Fund in December 2014. It is anticipated that these funds will be distributed as part of the outreach of the Church in the first quarter of 2015.

Note 6: Other Matters

In 1998, real estate located at 205 Green Street, St. Michaels, MD was gifted to the church. According to legal documents filed with Talbot County, a deed was recorded conveying a remainder interest in the property to the Church. So long as the donor of the property is alive, the donor will have the right to use and enjoy the property; however, upon his death the Church will automatically assume ownership of the property. Until that time, the donor of the property is responsible for the taxes, insurance, and upkeep of the property. For accounting purposes, the Church will not record the property as an asset on its financial statements until the Church actually takes possession of the property.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Clergy Liaison: Reverend Mark Nestlehutt

Vestry Liaisons: Don Buxton

ACOLYTE GUILD

Submitted by Ann Roe

The Acolyte Guild is comprised of young parishioners, aged ten years or older. The Guild members serve every Sunday during the family Eucharist service, at special events and during holiday celebrations. This year, our acolytes participated in the National Acolyte Festival again, which is held at the National Cathedral in our Washington, DC. We gratefully have added new members again this year.

Acolyte Guild Members:

Caroline Church	Walter Morris	Annie Sanford
Sophia Esposito	Asa Nestlehutt	Mimi Sanford
Ashleigh Kerrigan	James Parkinson	Zoe Thomas
Brandon Kerrigan	Mason Roe	Isaiah Whyman
Lucy Morris	Blake Rogers	

ST. MARY'S ALTAR GUILD

Submitted by Judy Hause

During the church year Advent 1, 2013 to Advent 1, 2014 the Altar Guild prepared for 162 services. This number includes 117 Sunday services with seven Baptisms, six Evensong and eight 'Altars of the World'. There was one Thanksgiving service, four Christmas Eve/Christmas Day, eleven Lenten services, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday/Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The Altar Guild also prepared for ten weddings and thirteen funeral/memorial services.

We currently have 21 active members and are enthusiastically trying to recruit new members to join the Altar Guild.

Altar Guild Members:

Carol Armstrong	Sue Kilmon	Faye Shannahan
Martha Austin	Sandy King	Nancy Sipe
Helen Bower	Nancy Masone	Diane Thomas
Lynn Chapman	Linda Norris	Janet Underwood
Nance duPont	Louisa Parkinson	Jessie Weddle
Judy Hause	Anne Pilert	Norma Wieand
Nan Heikes	Mary Riedlin	Sandy Wieand

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS

Submitted by Alison Sanford

A healthy fifty-seven dedicated Eucharistic Ministers and Readers serve at all Sunday, holiday, Even Song and special services throughout the year. Each person serves approximately two to four times per quarter. They are an integral part of our Sunday worship and their devotion is greatly appreciated by the clergy and the congregation. The efficiency of this group is due to their willingness to fill in and cover for each other when necessary.

Participants:

Neil Armstrong	Jim McCloud	Elizabeth Simoncini
Susan Armstrong	Cathy Mendenhall	Margie Steffens
Martha Austin	Elizabeth Morgan	Dick Tanczos
Lynn Barrett	Dorothy Mowry	Judy Tanczos
Bob Burger	Lesley Moyer	Lee Thomas
Karen Burger	Asa Nestlehutt	William Thomas
Don Buxton	Linda Norris	Zoe Thomas
Meredith Buxton	Mariana Parkinson	Jim Vail
Carol Carlson	Lynn Partridge	Roger Valentine
Michael Clark	Kay Perkins	Sheila Vaughan
George Dixon	Chloe Pitard	Jessie Weddle
Beth Driggs	George Raitt	Chris Whyman
Laurie Driggs	Bruce Ragsdale	Hanna Woicke
Jim Fulton	Lisa Rey	Peter Woicke
Jeff Hart	Fritz Riedlin	Bill Woods
Julie Hart	Mason Roe	Louise Woods
John Hunnicutt	Peggy Rogers	Howard Zwemer
Bud Keiser	Sparrow Rogers	
Nancy Masone	Mimi Sanford	

FLOWER GUILD*Submitted by Susan Armstrong*

The Flower Guild is responsible for the weekly flower arrangements for the main altar at Christ Church. We presently have five teams of two who take turns arranging the flowers. Flowers are chosen in keeping with the church season, and reflect the colors and needs of each Sunday. Each team is as creative as the imagination can be, yet still observe the requirements of the season. It is a challenging but rewarding responsibility. The teams do an outstanding job and certainly deserve many thanks and much appreciation. We would especially like to thank Jo Batters and Carol Armstrong who are going off the Flower Guild team. Carol was a long time member of the Flower Guild.

Quite often the flowers on the altar are given by parishioners as memorials or in celebration of important events. This is done by signing up at the parish office for a particular Sunday and making a donation to the Altar Guild. We welcome these donations and thank you for your support. I would like to personally thank the members of the Flower Guild for their dedication and hard work each weekend.

Flower Guild Members:

Carol Armstrong	Pat Martin	Christine Parish
Nancy Besso	Mary Ellen Olcese	Lee Thomas
Jo Batters	Chloe Pitard	Sara Walker
Sherry Jeffrey	Leslie Stevenson	
AJ Lippson	Louise Woods	

GREETERS AND OBLATION BEARERS*Submitted by Carolyn Houck*

Greeters and Oblation Bearers provide the very important ministry of welcoming our guests and carrying the sacred elements to the altar. They serve at both regular Sunday services and at special Holy Day services. Guests to Christ Church have remarked upon their friendliness and

helpfulness. We are grateful for their continuing support and dedication and welcome other church members to join us.

Volunteers:

Neil & Susan Armstrong	Carolyn & Peter Houck	Tom Orem
Nancy Besso	Bev & Burgess Kegan	Fritz & Mary Riedlin
George Dixon	Cathy & Tom Mendenhall	Judy Sandground
Suellen Gargalli	Jim & Linda Montague	Elizabeth & Sal Simoncini
Dick & Susie Granville	Jackie Novak	Jim & Susan Vail

HEALING ALTAR

Submitted by Lesley Moyer

Our Healing Altar ministry continues into its 16th year. We have five regular Healing Altar ministers, Elizabeth Morgan, Mary Jane Wyant and Lesley Moyer at the early service; and Peter Houck and Bev Keegan at the later service. I thank them for their service, dedication and support of this important ministry. If you would like to share an intercessory prayer for yourself or someone you love and care about, please come to the Healing Altar directly after receiving communion. You will find comfort, concern and confidentiality!

Healing Altar Ministers:

Peter Houck	Lesley Moyer
Bev Kegan	Mary Jane Wyant
Elizabeth Morgan	

MUSIC

Submitted by William Thomas

The state of the Music Program at Christ Church is outstanding. It is indeed a pleasure and privilege that I write this annual report regarding music at Christ Church, St. Michaels Parish. At the outset I wish to express my sincerest and heartfelt gratitude for the continued support, enthusiasm, and appreciation with which this parish embraces music in its community life of worship. Music in general and singing in particular in worship is an ancient tradition. And I am proud that corporate worship at Christ Church continues to embrace that tradition.

The success and high quality of the Christ Church music program thrives thanks to the leadership provided by the director, the rector, support of the vestry, and the many dedicated volunteers who are committed to our choirs.

Again this year I worked closely with the rector, The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt and his former associate, The Reverend Lynn Hade, to develop liturgies of high quality and integrity. Services are planned carefully according to the seasons of the church year, the lection cycle, and major and moveable feasts. Hymns, psalms, and anthems are carefully selected, prepared, and rehearsed to support and enhance worship. I especially want to thank Mark for his attention to detail in planning services and for his support of the choirs and my work. I also wish to acknowledge and thank the Vestry Liaison, Don Buxton for his support and assistance with our music ministry.

The chancel choir continues to lead worship on a weekly basis. Presently there are 19 members of the choir. The choir sings at the 10:15 service throughout the program year. This year the chancel choir sang at the Memorial and Labor Day weekend combined services for the 8:00 and 10:15 congregations. In addition to singing every Sunday throughout the program year, the choir sings on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, two Easter Sunday liturgies, Evensong for the Fall Harvest Dinner, the Christmas in St. Michaels festival of choirs, Christmas Eve, Epiphany Lessons and Carols, and Evensong for the Annual Meeting. We are in the 8th year of our monthly Evensong series. The choir has been leading Evensong the first Sunday evening of each month, October through April. Attendance at these

Evensong services continues to grow and the service is being received with appreciation by those in attendance. I whole-heartedly encourage all parishioners to participate in these Evensong services.

Ultimately I am grateful to the members of the Chancel Choir. They sing with reverence, beauty, and passion. They are a joy to work with and we share close fellowship, friendship, and warm humor.

The youth choir remains active and is singing with great tone and enthusiasm! They rehearse each Sunday from 11:45 – 12:15. They sing an anthem at the Parish Family Eucharist, generally on the first Sunday of each month. In addition, they sing on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. Recently the youth choir performed an excellent program, “The Light before Christmas.” This was done in lieu of the traditional Christmas Youth Program. The service was received with much regard and enthusiasm. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with these fine young musicians, and I especially want to recognize and thank their parents for supporting their children in music.

This past year we were fortunate to be the recipient of a gift of a Stegler baby grand from the estate of Ken Doubrava. The Boston baby grand piano is now placed in Etherton Hall, which is a welcomed addition to that room. The organ, a Rodgers 950 digital 3 manual organ and accompanying 3 ranks of principal pipes on the great division continues to serve us well. Last summer 2014, the organ sustained damage from a lightning strike. It has been service on four occasions since then. I am now in the very early discussion phase of considering improvements to the organ and the eventual replacement of the main console, replacing loud speakers, and adding three more ranks of pipes to the organ. I am also recommending at this time that the rehearsal piano in the music room be replaced. The Yamaha upright has served us well and will continue to serve us in another area of the church school floor. I remain grateful to the vestry for the financial support required to care for and maintain these excellent instruments.

Thanks be to God that the “State of the Music Program” continues to remain strong at Christ Church.

Adult Chancel Choir:

Karen Burger	Lisa Felts	Bill Ragusa
Don Buxton*	Julie Hart	Larry Sanford
Meredith Buxton	Jeff Hart	Sherry Sutton
Debra Dawkins	Barbara McGinnis	Jessie Weddle
Jeanie Donahoe	Linda Makosky	Christopher Whyman
Laurie Driggs	Christine Noyes	
Claudia Frantz	Glenn Porter	

Youth Choir:

Sophia Esposito	Marianna Parkinson	Annie Sanford
Asa Nestlehutt	Blake Rogers	Zoe Thomas
James Parkinson	Logan Rogers	Isaiah Whyman

BELL CHOIR

Submitted by Lynne Phillips

After another year, your bell choir is now at full strength, thanks to the addition of three new ringers this year. We continue to grow musically and the majority of our repertoire is level 2 music. This is quite an accomplishment and I'm very proud of our ringers. We had a triumph at Christmas in St. Michaels this December. I hope all of you were able to hear the bells show off for the town. They were spectacular. Even though we have every position covered regularly, there are times when ringers have other commitments and can't participate in a rehearsal or a service. Therefore, I am still looking for people who can step in and sub for us from time to time. It's difficult at rehearsals when people are missing--like a piano with missing keys--so I'm not only hoping to find people to fill in at performances, but also at rehearsals. Please contact me if you are interested. I am also still looking to

acquire handchimes to bolster the variety and musicality of the pieces we do. I will keep you posted on that endeavor. Thank you so much for all your support.

Bell Choir Ringers:

Diane Dinkel
Beth Driggs
Nance DuPont
Pat Ellis

Al Holmes
Patsy Holmes
Carolyn Houck
Lynn Partridge

Chloe Pitard
Lisa Rey
Mary Riedlin

USHERS

Submitted by Bob Burger

The men and women who serve as ushers of Christ Church provide help whenever it is needed and assist the clergy in the conduct of each service. The ushering teams seat those needing assistance, count attendees, collect the plate offering and coordinate the flow of parishioners and guests wishing to take communion. On behalf of the clergy and every parish member, I thank all ushers, past and present, for your contribution to the ministry of Worship and Music and to the parish life of Christ Church. If you are interested in becoming an usher, I would be pleased to meet with you, explain what is involved, and provide any necessary training. Just give me a call at 410-745-5685.

Retiring Ushers:

Carol Carlson
Dick & Susie Granville

Anne Keiser
Al & Margaret Naeny

Jack Shannahan
Barbara Smith

New or Returning Ushers:

George Dixon
Jim & Terry Fulton

Suellen Gargalli
John Masone

Fred Meendsen
Isaiah Whyman

Ushers:

Jack & Martha Austin
Nancy Besso
Bob & Karen Burger
Bev & Burgess Kegan
Elizabeth Foulds
Jack Hughes
Bud Keiser

Nancy Masone
Roy Meyers
Fritz & Mary Riedlin
Judy Sandground
Dave & Dianne Shaw
Mike & Barbara Sheridan
Sid Smith

Bruce & Lee Thomas
Ray & Carolyn Wasdyke
Carl Widell
Svetlana Widell
Bill & Louise Woods
Lane Wroth
Howard Zwemer

PARISH STATISTICS 2014

Baptisms:

James Reid Battmer
Louisa Elizabeth Violet Child
Pryor MacKenna Claudias
Daniel Santiago Gonzalez, Jr.

Lucas Antonio Meneses-Vaughan
Liam Joseph Newnam
Brittany Suzanne Piquett
Brody Michael Ryan

Confirmations/Receptions:

Taylor Cole Bennett
Helen Grace Fegan
Brandon Michael Kerrigan
Alice Jane Lippson
William Joseph Ragusa

Debra Himelwright Rich
Robert Littlejohn Rich, Jr.
Mimi Carolyn Sanford
Zoe Marie Chunlong Thomas

Funerals:

David L. Christianson
Helen Esther Collet
Kenneth Joseph Doubrava
Leonard Hodgson Foulds
Martha Reid Hudson
Mary Hundley Hyatt
Mary Louise Inkell
Mary Elizabeth Jacoby
James Strawbridge Maffitt

John Frederick Mautz III
Patricia Wroth McDermott
Edgar Nash III
Donald Ofte
Walter W. Parker, III
Elizabeth P. Scofield
June Smith Snider
Beryl Ulmer Wiley

Transfers in/New Members:

Donna Barker
Claire Brien
Steve Brien
Jonathan Kane
Susan Kane

Andrew Greenaway Ramsey
Lori Ramsey
Kay Stephenson
Don Theune
Dodie Theune

Transfers Out:

Eugenie Drayton
Ronald Fuchs
Sherry Fuchs

Susan Marine Shenk
Jean Lindstrom Thomson

Weddings:

Michelle Diane Thomas and Marshall Knox Davis
Lynn Susan Freeburger and Edmund Bruce Partridge
Katharine Kerry Somerville and Jared Samuel Dvornicky
Richard G. Scobey and Bruce Allen Ragsdale
Rebecca Anne Cheadle and Colin Michael Troha
Katherine Brennan Wright and Jeffrey Keith Sexton
Jennifer LeCompte Scott and Matthew Owen Gatewood
Laura June Reichert and Charles Mixon Matthews
Mary Thomas Anderson and William Millington Ginder
Anna Catharine Leist and Kevin William Weigand
Kathryn Clayton Shook and Andrew Thomas Davis
Kathryn Ann Whaley and Jonathan Richard Tumas

VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH

George Dixon, *Sr. Warden*
Pat Martin, *Jr. Warden*

Bob Ziegler, *Treasurer*
Nancy Besso, *Registrar*

Elizabeth Foulds 2015
Tom Orem 2015
Sparrow Rogers 2015
Hanna Woicke 2015

Katie Hunnicutt 2016
Alison Sanford 2016
Jim Vail 2016
Ray Wasdyke 2016

Don Buxton 2017
Jim Fulton 2017
Pamela McCloud 2017
Judy Parker 2017

MINISTRY AREAS OF CHRIST CHURCH

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Vestry Liaisons: Pamela McCloud & Sparrow Rogers

Adult Forums	Ray Wasdyke
Adult Inquirers	Mark Nestlehutt
Church School	TBD
Youth Confirmation	Mark Nestlehutt
Youth Group	Mark Nestlehutt

OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION

Vestry Liaison: Alison Sanford & Hanna Woicke

Back to School Project	Gillian Whyman & Judy Sandground
Children's Home Foundation	Nance duPont & Martha Austin
El Hogar Project in Honduras	Bill Corba
Episcopal Relief/Development	Pamela McCloud
Grants Committee	TBD
Habitat for Humanity	Neil Armstrong
Honduran Dental Mission	Jim Campi
St. Michaels Food Pantry	Howard & Beth Eckel
Talbot Interfaith Shelter	Pamela McCloud
UTO (United Thank Offering)	Esther Ziegler

PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

Vestry Liaison: Katie Hunnicutt & Judy Parker

Coffee Hour	TBD
Communications	Jim McCloud
Covenant Churches	Mark Nestlehutt
Disaster Preparedness	Linda Norris
Docent's Guild	Imy Webster
Episcopal Church Women	Pat Martin
Lea Weeders	Lyn Clineburg
Lea Library	Robert & Lyn Barrett
Lemonade on the Lawn	Carolyn Houck
Men's Club	George Dixon
Parish Paparazzi	Jim Proctor
Tidings Newsletter	Peter Houck
Weekly Update	Kimberly Weller
Welcoming Committee	Lisa Rey & Carolyn Wasdyke

PASTORAL CARE

Vestry Liaison: Jim Fulton

Eucharistic Visitors	Jessie Weddle
Pastoral Care Team	Mark Nestlehutt
Prayer Chain	Chris Whyman
Stephen Ministry	Lesley Moyer

STEWARDSHIP

Vestry Liaisons: Elizabeth Foulds, Tom Orem, Jim Vail & Ray Wasdyke

Facilities	Elizabeth Foulds & Ray Wasdyke
Finance Committee	Tom Orem
Heritage Fund	Jim Vail
Planned Giving	Jim McCloud & Judy Sandground
Stewardship	Lisa Felts & Tom Mendenhall
Tellers	Bob Ziegler

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Vestry Liaison: Don Buxton

Acolyte Guild	Ann Roe
Altar Guild	Judy Hause
Choirs:	
Chancel	William Thomas
Handbell	Lynne Phillips
Youth	William Thomas
Eucharistic Ministers	Alison Sanford
Flower Guild	Susan Armstrong
Greeters	Carolyn Houck
Oblation Bearers	Carolyn Houck
Readers	Alison Sanford
Ushers	Bob Burger



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, _____
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found _____
 3 So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song, _____
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night _____
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! _____



1 and a - dor - a - tion leaves no room for pride, _____
 2 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound, _____
 3 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, _____
 4 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the Light? _____
 5 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise! _____



1 it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried _____
 2 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found _____
 3 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue, _____
 4 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight, _____
 5 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways _____



— Al - le - lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Mark S. Nestlehutt, *Rector*
The Reverend Clelia P. Garrity, *Deacon*
Mr. William R. Thomas, *Director of Music*
Ms. Carol A. Osborne, *Parish Administrator*
Ms. Lori S. Ramsey, *Community Missioner*
Mr. George E. Short, *Sexton*



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