

## 2016 STAFF

<b>The Rev. Ann Kidder</b>	<b>Rector</b>
Yuri Sato McElliot	Director of Music/Organist
Mary Zup	Parish Administrator
Steve Halasz	Sexton (Part Year)
Hugh Kelly	Sexton
Lucy Gutierrez De Calvo	Churchkeeper
Jolyon Welsh	Sunday Porter
Peggy Reda	Director of Faith Development
Melanie Reda	Nursery Director
Tellerd Organization, Ltd.	Bookkeeper
S'Amore Tatman Group	Auditor

## 2016 VESTRY

John Irwin	Senior Warden (Class of 2016)
Charles Marston	Junior Warden (Class of 2018)
Kurt Liljedahl	Treasurer
Irene McMullen	Clerk (Class of 2016)
Mary Holmes	Class of 2016
Heather Daly	Class of 2017
David Dickenson	Class of 2017
Mary Murray	Class of 2017
Elise Bennett	Class of 2018
Sean McMillion	Class of 2018

**Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting of St. Christopher's by-the-River  
January 24th, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Hargrave, out-going Vestry Clerk.

- (1) Call to order by Priest-in-Charge, Mother Ann Kidder.
- (2) Confirmation of a quorum (10) present for a regular meeting confirmed. (There were more than 10 present.)
- (3) Opening Prayer by Mother Ann.
- (4) Last year, no annual meeting minutes were taken. However, Heather Daly, David Dickenson, and Kathy Vilas were elected to 3-year terms on the Vestry. The report was accepted and approved by the congregation.
- (5) Thanks to those leaving the Vestry: Joycelyn Brogley (resigned in December), Scott Broome, Janet Hargrave, and Jim Phillips.
- (6) Mother Ann presented Jim Phillips with a book, "The Ohio Bucket List" and a gift certificate to a restaurant as a token of thanks for all his work as Senior Warden this last year. Joycelyn Brogley was not present; her gift of thanks will be delivered.
- (7) Steve Halasz has accepted a position as Sexton at St. Paul's Church and Irene Rogner has retired after 16 years with us. There are 2 cards of thanks for them to be signed in the Guild Room. A restaurant gift certificate will be enclosed for each in thanks of their service to the parish.
- (8) "It has been an interesting year..." per Mother Ann. She went on to say that she and the Vestry will have a Mutual Ministry Review in March, with a facilitator provided by the Diocese. This is part of the discernment process to consider whether Mother Ann is to be our Rector.
- (9) Jim Phillips gave a financial update. The Vestry had budgeted a deficit of \$54,400 for 2015. We ended the year with a deficit of \$45,000 so much better than expected. At their January meeting the Vestry approved a budget for 2016 with a deficit of \$24,729. Our deficit is not a spending problem. This is a lean budget. The Church has approximately 180 households but only 76 of them have pledged. We need more members of the parish to participate in pledging. We have had good cost cutting due to Mother Ann. We need 'supply side' from the parish and hopefully we will be able to decrease the deficit even more.
- (10) Nominating Committee Report given by the Jim Phillips, Chair: After thanking the other committee members (Sandy Batcheller, Randy Cole, and Kitty Thomas) he announced the slate of nominees. The nominees are:
  - For 3-year Vestry terms: Elise Bennett, Charley Marston, and Sean McMillion
  - For a 2-year Vestry term (to fill an unexpired term): Mary Murray
  - For a 1-year Vestry term (to fill an unexpired term): Mary Holmes
  - For a 2-year term as Representative to the Northeast Mission Area Council: Nancy Irwin
- (11) Mother Ann asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she asked for a vote for the slate as presented by acclamation, with the Clerk casting one ballot for the slate. Motion was made, seconded and passed.
- (12) Floor was opened for Questions.
  - (a) Peter Batcheller asked if the parish has a new sexton yet. Mother Ann responded that the new Vestry will be considering how best to meet the needs of the parish.
  - (b) There were no other questions. Mother Ann asked for feedback about this year's 9:00 (between the services) time for our Annual Meeting.
- (13) John Irwin asked for a formal call for a special meeting of the new Vestry, in accordance with Diocesan Canons, to elect parish Officers for 2016. Mother Ann called for such a meeting, which was approved by the congregation.
- (14) Closing prayer by Mother Ann.

**RECTOR'S REPORT**  
**Respectfully Submitted by Mother Ann Kidder**

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2016 I am deeply grateful for so much in the year that has passed. I continue to be incredibly thankful for our wonderful parish staff and volunteers. Yuri is a gifted and dedicated Music Director and Organist. Her work with our youth and adult choirs and hand chime choirs enriches their lives and our worship. Funerals and weddings run smoothly because of her experience and dedication to our shared ministry. Peggy Reda, Debbie Cole, and Melanie Reda also continued their excellent work in guiding the faith formation of our children and youth. Sunday mornings would not be the same without Jolyon Welsh and Joyce Zaid, who make certain that coffee is made and the building is tidied. Rosalie Della Ratta and the **many** volunteers who spread a feast for Coffee Hour each week cannot be thanked enough! My thanks, too, to our Altar Guild, altar flower delivery team, and to all those who participate in leading worship on Sunday mornings by ushering, reading, or serving with me at the altar. I am so very grateful for your service.

The past year saw some changes to our parish staff. In 2016 Mary Zup moved into her present position as our Parish Administrator. Becky Everett now volunteers in the office each Tuesday and Thursday, making it possible for Mary to miraculously do everything we ask of her in 18 hours a week. Thank you Becky! When it's time for one of our many parish-wide mailings we are so grateful for these dedicated volunteers: Polly Bixler, Helen Cicirello, Becky Everett, Gretchen Fisher, Nicki Henry, and Tim Scott. We couldn't do this without you! Lucy Gutierrez De Calvo and Hugh Kelly joined us in 2016 as Church-keeper and Sexton, respectively. They fulfill their roles with grace, patience, good humor, and hard work. It feels as though they have always been a part of this parish. Many of you have commented to me how appreciative you are of the quality of their work and the care that they demonstrate for both our building and for all of us.

I continue to be deeply grateful for our Vestry and its Officers. As you will see in my list of "Highlights" 2016 was a busy and productive year. The Wardens and I meet each Thursday morning for at least an hour to ensure that the many aspects of our parish life and ministry continue to progress as efficiently and effectively as possible. I rely on their wisdom and trust their judgement on a regular basis. The Vestry has worked faithfully and well together this year. They have accomplished much and I am grateful for them all. My sincere thanks to Elise Bennett, Heather Daly, David Dickenson, Mary Holmes, John Irwin, Charley Marston, Sean McMillion, Irene McMullen, and Mary Murray.

I particularly want to recognize Kurt Liljedahl for his decade of service to this parish as our Treasurer. 2016 was Kurt's tenth year of ministry and he has decided that it is time for another person to step into that role. Parish Treasurer is an almost invisible ministry, requiring a high level of dedication and commitment. Kurt has seen the parish finances safely through some very challenging times. He had planned to retire as Treasurer at the end of 2013 but when Father Selnik announced his resignation, Kurt put the needs of St. Christopher's first and committed to staying on through the transition to a new Rector. There is no "thank you" adequate to express our gratitude but we are preparing a token of our appreciation to be presented to Kurt later this year.

The St. Christopher's Guild continues to serve as the heart of this parish's pastoral care and outreach ministries. Please take the time to read the wonderful summary of their 2016 ministry that Debbie Cole has provided in this Annual Report. If you have never volunteered to help with Bargain Box, please read the long list of organizations that benefit from the funds raised and consider pitching in this spring.

As you read through the Highlights of 2016, remember that it takes all of us faithfully working together, being good stewards of the resources given to us by God, to live out our "Yes" to Jesus Christ in the vows we made at our baptisms and that we recommitted to in our confirmations. Your "Yes" was made abundantly clear when I was diagnosed with a rather aggressive skin cancer in September. I will be forever grateful for your

## RECTOR'S REPORT CONT'D

acts of love toward me and your prayers for healing. They held and carried me through a frightening and uncertain time in my life. Thank you all.

Most of my day to day time is spent in parish ministry: planning and leading worship, providing pastoral care and home communions, officiating at baptisms, weddings, and funerals, supervising staff, leading adult Christian Education, preparing parishioners for baptism, confirmation, or reception, and tending to a variety of administrative duties. In fulfillment of my ordination vows, I am also expected to serve the wider church. In 2016 I presented a seminar on "Vocational Discernment from a Spiritual Perspective" for Encore NEO. I attended an Adult Faith Formation workshop and the Diocesan Spring Clergy Conference. I continued to serve as our Northeast Mission Area Council representative on Diocesan Council and in December was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of Diocesan Council. I also continued my work with the "Retreat Experience Working Group" for our Diocesan Camp & Retreat Center, now known as "Bellwether Farm". I continued to participate in Clericus and Fresh Start, and attended our Diocesan Convention in November kicking off our Bicentennial year.

Additionally, I participated to varying degrees in nearly all the 2016 Highlights that follow. As I have often said, parish ministry is never boring! I love being your priest and am honored to have been called as your Rector in 2016. I look forward to many more shared years of joy and ministry with all of you.

With much love, Ann+

### Christian Education

In 2016 the Sunday Adult Forum studied the Gospel According to John, and the book of Job. "Growing a Rule of Life" study groups met during Lent on Sunday and Monday mornings as well as on Wednesday evenings. Deacon Lydia Bailey led a Lenten Retreat at the Museum of Art. The Adult Forum also read and discussed the book "Jesus' Family Values" by Deidre Good. Sunday morning faith formation classes for children and youth were offered throughout the school year, (see details in Peggy Reda's report). Nursery care for infants and toddlers was available every Sunday and offered for special parish events.

### Evangelism & Service

Special parish offering for Salem & Johnny Musleh's twins; Two successful Bargain Box sales (Thank you Carolyn Misco and Guild members); Summer Day Camp; CPR & AED certification training; Thursday News & Notes launched; Website revision and launch; Establishment of a parish sponsored Cub Scout Troop; Two U.T.O. In-gatherings; Blessing of the Hunt; Blessing of the Animals; Fair Trade Christmas Fair; St. Christopher's Guild programs and service projects (See Debbie Cole's report - they organize and make it easy for the parish to participate!); Toiletries for Veterans program; Food Pantry Ministry expanded (Donations for Chesterland Presbyterian Church's Foodbank and Volunteering at Our Savior Lutheran Church's Foodbank in Mayfield); Riverside AA and Al Anon groups continue to call St. Christopher's "home"

### Pastoral Care & Fellowship

Sunday Coffee Hours; Epiphany Sunday High Tea; Epiphany Open House at the Rectory; Newcomers dinner in the Fellowship Hall; Shrove Tuesday (Sunday morning) Pancake Breakfast; Midge the Police Dog; Lenten program "Growing a Rule of Life" mid-Lent Simple Supper; "Lifters & Luggers and Movers & Shakers" Party at the Rectory; New Member "Garden Party" at the Rectory; Rally Sunday and Celebration of Capital Campaign; Stephen Ministry training begun under leadership of Kathy Pender; Meal deliveries to convalescing parishioners; Flowers delivered to hospitalized and home-bound parishioners from the Altar each Sunday; The return of the Clambake!

## RECTOR'S REPORT CONT'D

### Stewardship

Finance Committee formed; Completion of "Beginning A New Day" Capital Campaign and Celebration; Successful 2017 stewardship campaign.

Capital projects begun or completed in 2016: Initial Brainstorming meeting for renovating Children's Chapel (to be undertaken and completed in 2017); Renovations to two main-floor bathrooms; New carpet in church; Continued to explore/move forward on an elevator/lift; Submitted a grant application for River Bank Remediation.

### Worship

Bp. Arthur Williams' visitation on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes, Palm Sunday Blessing of the Palms and Reading of the Passion with Eucharist, Maundy Thursday Agape Supper with Stripping of the Altar, Good Friday Liturgy, Two Easter Sunday Festive Eucharists, Thanksgiving Eve service, Advent Lessons & Hymns; Christmas Pageant, Three Christmas Eve services, One Christmas Day Eucharist

Communion: 93 Sunday Eucharists, 16 Weekday Eucharists, 58 Private Communion

Daily Office: 9 Sunday services of Morning Prayer, 27 Weekday services of Evening Prayer

Total 2016 Attendance: (Sunday 3,965) (Easter 153) (Christmas 234)

Average Sunday Attendance: 78

10 Baptisms: Caleb Scott Thirion, Molly Rae Van Curran, Linda Ruth Webb, Kinsley Trefney, Hudson Champ, Kathryn Kinsley Gray, Austin Michael Jenkins, Brandon William Jenkins, Morgan Elizabeth Jenkins, and Landry Jean Currutt

3 Weddings: Luci Schey & William (Bill) Spring, Jack Reynolds & Kate Stromberg, Dana DeCapite & Gregory DeVan

9 Burials: Robert J. Gunton, Quentin "Q" Alexander, Anne Lax, Norma A. Leahey, Betsy Hope, Jane L. Wick, Barbara McKinney, Jane O. Lantz, and Ralph String

2 House Blessings: The McMillion Family and The Lee Family

Please see Reports from Yuri McElliott and Peter Batcheller for details regarding our Music Program and Sunday Servants.

### Other Projects/Progress

Implementation of new administrative software; Continued development of a parish committee structure; Mutual Ministry Review; Calling of Mother Ann as Rector; Vestry and St. Christopher's Guild reconciliation; By-laws revision completed

**SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**  
**Respectfully Submitted by John R. Irwin, M.D.**

Recovery, Reconciliation, Reformation, Refurbishment and Reflection

As I look back on the year 2016 and report to the Parish as its Senior Warden, I believe that, first of all, we should give thanks to our God and to each other for the year that we have experienced, with its worrisome trials and its great successes. This has been a year of recovery, reconciliation, reformation, achievement, growth, and progress, all ending in a bright prospect for the future.

All good things come of God and during this past year I have certainly, personally, witnessed events that I believe reflect the hand of the Divine. I expect that many of the rest of us have also felt that hand through the year. That hand has certainly been laid upon our parish, for our guidance and benefit.

The recovery that we experienced this year and for which we owe the greatest debt of gratitude is the recovery of our Rector from a very serious health crisis. With our prayers and with the superb skills of her medical and surgical professionals, Mother Ann has endured and overcome a great challenge. Our first thoughts and our first thanks should be for her recovery, which is now secure.

When 2016 began, there were significant stresses in this congregation and much time and effort was put forth by many, many parishioners to reconcile those stresses and to realign and unify the parish to move forward in its missions to the parish, to the community and to the wider world. Wonderful and productive conversations have accomplished a great deal of that and I believe that 2017 will see a strong, cooperative relationship across the entire parish.

This past year has also been one of reformation with the adoption of a new Code of Regulations, which will facilitate and encourage the future growth of effective dialogue and efficient cooperation between the many activities and components of this parish. As I have remarked before, although we are numerically a small parish, through blessings provided to us by our forebears and by our own ongoing efforts and generosity, we are able to provide a breadth of programming and services that far exceeds the expectations of a small parish. This is work that has been done in the past and continues day by day, for which we should all be proud.

On behalf of the Vestry I wish to extend thanks to all who have served in positions of leadership on the Vestry, on the several Guilds, on committees and all those day to day functions that maintained the vibrancy of this parish. Thanks must of course be extended to our Rector, our Administrator, our Sexton and our Church Keeper.

A look around the Parish also reveals the extensive refurbishments that have been accomplished under the guidance of our Junior Warden including complete renovations to our bathrooms, new carpeting for the nave and altar, repair of the nave ceiling and multiple other improvements. As the Junior Warden reports, we are planning for even further additions and improvements in the coming year.

Again, with thanks to the entire Parish, I am pleased to be able to report that our financial circumstances have also greatly improved over the past 12 months. At the commencement of 2016 we anticipated an annual budget deficit of nearly \$40,000. Through the energetic and conscientious efforts of the Stewardship committee, the Every Member Canvas and, most importantly the devotion and generosity of this congregation, we have been able to reduce that annual deficit to approximately \$10,000 by the end of 2016. This remarkable achievement will help secure our financial and operational future and enable St. Christopher by-the-River to continue our missions and ministries.

**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**  
**Respectfully submitted by Charles Marston**

A year ago I received a call from Kitty Tomas asking if I would serve on the Vestry and I said yes. I then was asked to become the Junior Warden.

While in past years I have been Chairman of the Every Member Canvas, Treasurer, and Senior Warden, being the Junior Warden has been a new experience.

While the Junior Warden's responsibilities are to provide assistance to the Rector and Senior Warden, here at St. Christopher overseeing the maintenance of the buildings and grounds also comes with the job.

I asked myself: "What is on who is quite inexperienced in building maintenance going to do?" I am blessed that within our congregation there are many talented people and a helping spirit. Sean McMillion, Sally Conley, Elise Bennett, John Brown, Fran Meyers, Kitty & Bruce Thomas and Irene McMullen all came to my rescue.

Because we concluded our Beginning a New Day Campaign, the following refurbishment projects were able to be funded:

Lady's Bathroom	\$14, 876.18
Men's Bathroom	\$14, 105.28
Sanctuary Carpet	\$11,334.00
Sanctuary Ceiling	\$ 3,300.00
Fire Alarm Upgrade	\$ 7,200.00
Computer Upgrade	\$ 2,006.00
Miscellaneous small Projects	\$ 1,982.52

We are also blessed to have two new people on our staff: Luz "Lucy" Gutierrez DeCalvo, our cleaning professional ("Church Keeper"), and Hugh Kelly, our Sexton. Thanks to Lucy's hard work, the church sparkles and any dirt which gets into our building has a short visit.

Hugh's many years of experience is obvious even to the casual eye and his willingness to pitch in and help, especially at unusual times and crises has also been noted by all who come and go on a weekly basis.

We also appreciate the support our Porter, Jolyon Welsh and his wife Joyce continue to provide each year.

While most of the major projects are completed, we have some more to do; which I will report on in future publications.

All in all, it has been a busy year with lots of meetings; Vestry, stewardship, finance, building planning, as well as weekly meeting with John and Mother Ann.

As this report and others will conclude, despite the fact that life always has unforeseen challenges and disappointments, we finish a very successful year.

Thanks to all my helpers, my fellow Vestry members, Mother Ann and everyone reading this report. One will note that the crows feet are very apparent around my eyes due to the big smile on my face.

With best wishes for a healthy, prayerful and spiritually uplifting New Year, your friend, Charley Marston.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Respectfully Submitted by Kurt L. Liljedahl, Treasurer**

The 2016 budget approved by Vestry anticipated a deficit of \$(22,880) after 2015's substantial loss of \$(53,241). Pledge and plate receipts were projected to increase 5.5% after a 6.2% improvement in 2015. Salaries and benefits were estimated to decline \$32,800 or 11.8%, while operating expenses were projected to increase \$16,400 or 29.3%.

As I write this report we have not received preliminary December results so the table below is only through November. However, I know we had a strong December and full year pledge and plate income and total income should exceed budget by 1% to 2%. St. Christopher's Fund income, which is currently set at 5.5% of the fund's average assets over the last 12 quarters, is and will be exactly on budget for the year. Outside parish expenses, which is almost entirely our monthly Diocesan assessment and is calculated as a percentage of our actual expenses, will be just slightly below budget. Salaries and benefits are in line with budget through November and should be for the full year. Other operating expenses are running 9.3% below budget through November and will be under budget for the full year.

At this point in time, I expect the final 2016 results to show a deficit of \$(13,000) to \$(20,000), which is \$3,000 to \$10,000 better than budget.

Below are the condensed income statements for the periods shown. In December Vestry approved a 2017 budget and is summarized in the last column.

	11 Months				
	<u>2014</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2016</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2017</u> <u>Budget</u>
Pledges and Plate	\$186,566	\$198,186	\$179,948	\$209,000	\$219,000
St. Christopher's Fund	\$120,374	\$125,598	\$119,088	\$129,914	\$130,310
Other Income	<u>\$24,067</u>	<u>\$9,525</u>	<u>\$6,563</u>	<u>\$4,400</u>	<u>\$10,800</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$331,007</b>	<b>\$333,309</b>	<b>\$305,599</b>	<b>\$343,314</b>	<b>\$360,110</b>
Outside Parish Expenses	\$35,241	\$52,672	\$44,217	\$48,762	\$49,913
Salaries and Benefits	\$187,587	\$277,831	\$224,477	\$244,975	\$247,623
Operating Expenses	<u>\$59,668</u>	<u>\$56,046</u>	<u>\$60,215</u>	<u>\$72,457</u>	<u>\$74,025</u>
Total Expenses	\$282,497	\$386,549	\$328,909	\$366,194	\$371,562
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$48,510</b>	<b>\$(53,241)</b>	<b>\$(23,311)</b>	<b>\$(22,880)</b>	<b>\$(11,452)</b>



**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S FUND REPORT**  
**Respectfully Submitted by David Dickenson**

Fund A:

Market value on 12/31/2016: \$2,269,844.51  
Investment and Administrative Fees in 2016: \$17,388.18  
Tax Prep Fee: \$1,000

Fund B:

Market value as of 12/31/16: \$76,256.64  
Investment and Administrative Fees in 2016: \$593.32  
Tax Prep Fee: \$1,000

In accordance with the spending policy for the year 2016, the Fund *distributed a total of \$129,913.76* to St. Christopher by-the-River's operating funds. Distributions are made on a quarterly basis.

We wish to recognize and thank our donors for their generous support. Their kindness will have a major impact on the financial security of St. Christopher's by-the-River. We would also like to express our appreciation to Dan McMullen for all the works he did on amending our trust agreement with Key Bank.

Those interested in including St. Christopher's Fund in their charitable contributions and/or estate plans should contact Charley Marston, Treasurer of St. Christopher Fund.

**ALTAR GUILD REPORT**  
**Respectfully Submitted by Sue Marston & Marcia Alpers**

2016 was a year of change for the Altar Guild. Because of Church By-Law changes, the guild no longer has a treasurer or bank account. All our expenses now flow through the church accounts.

Our membership totals 16 women (listed below) who prepare the altar for all services, weddings, funerals, and baptisms. This year we welcomed into the Guild four new members: Laura Cotton, Teri Ianni, Neal Lee, and Theresa Richardson.

The Guild also orders flowers and decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons. Our members make 100 palm crosses for the Palm Sunday services. Our thanks to Janet Hargrave who prepares and delivers the Altar flowers each Sunday to our shut ins.

The Altar Guild women are dedicated in their service to the church. We appreciate the time and talent they give each week.

Marcia Alpers '88	Nicki Henry '07	Mary Murray '05
Jane Battles '95	Teri Ianni '16	Jean Ramsey, III '92
Sally Conley '09	Neal Lee '16	Theresa Richardson '16
Laura Cotton '16	Loni Todd-Lorenz '14	Sue Marston '91
Rosalie Della Ratta '11	Carolyn Miscko '93	
Judy Eakin '16		

CO-DIRECTORESSES:	Marcia Alpers and Sue Marston
FLOWERS:	Carolyn Miscko, Janet Hargrave and Jane Battles
WEDDINGS:	Marcia Alpers, Sally Conley, Nicki Henry and Sue Marston
LINENS:	Sally Conley, Jean Ramsey

## WORSHIP REPORT

### Respectfully Submitted by Peter Batcheller

We thank all the Parishioners who were involved in our Church Services in 2016 as:

1. **Eucharistic Ministers (EM).** These volunteers are trained by local Clergy, Laymen and licensed by the Bishop of Ohio to perform the duties of reading lessons, leading Psalms similar to Lectors but also sharing the chalice and performing other duties around the Altar. Those presently licensed to perform this duty and were able to donate their time in 2016 are:

Peter Batcheller	John Irwin	Fran Meyers
Randy Cole	Charley Marston	Melanie Reda
Dale Gnant	Beth Miller	

Kathy Pender is under Training for 2017.

2. **Lectors.** They volunteer to read the Lessons and lead the Psalms when required. Those involved in this Ministry this past year:

Peter Batcheller	David Hauserman	Lindsey	Courtney Schmidt
Rik Bole	Darlene Hauserman	McMillion	Bob Syverson
Randy Cole	Judy Holmes	Fran Meyers,	Kitty Thomas
Brendan Daly	Mary Holmes	Beth Miller	Sue Thorpe
Heather Daly	Thomas Holmes	Kathi Mitchell	Jenessa Thirion
Elsbeth Daly	Teri Ianni	Cindy Murphy	Dave Walle
Mona DeBaz,	John Irwin	Kathy Pender	Douglas Webb
Margaret Douglas	Renee Kolecki,	Chris Pucell	Linda Webb
Jeff Eakin	John Kramer	Jean Ramsey	Joyce Welsh
Chandler Everett	Cornelia Lee	Melanie Reda	Brian Wright
Marilyn Fisher	Ron Lee	Theresa Richardson	
Dale Gnant	Charley Marston	Fran Sarkisian	

3. **Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM).** Local Clergy supply the Training and this duty is licensed by the Bishop of Ohio. You are allowed to administer Communion with consecrated bread and wine outside the Church to baptized persons and normally to the sick or those incapable of attending a Church Communion Service.

Peter Batcheller, Marilyn Fisher, Debbie and Randy Cole had this license in 2016.

4. **Lay Readers (LR).** Extensive Training is provided by local Clergy at Diocesan workshops to lead worship, such as Morning and Evening Prayer (but not the Eucharist), both in the Parish and at outside institutions. This duty is again licensed by the Bishop of Ohio.

Peter Batcheller, Randy Cole, John Irwin, Charley Marston and Beth Miller have this license.

Presently Fran Meyers is under Training for 2017.

You probably saw this group in action at the 8 and 10.15 am Services leading Morning Prayer based on Rite One (at 8) and Rite Two (at 10.15).

5. **Ushers.** They are responsible for Greeting the Congregation as they enter the Church: Distributing the Bulletins: Finding, if necessary, seats for people: Collecting the Offertory and offering it at the Altar: Guiding and Helping Communicants to and from the Altar rail: Providing a count of Attendees: Guiding any overflow to the Guild Room: Counting and Safeguarding the Collections at both the 8 and 10.15 Services. Handling these duties most of the time in 2016 were:

Brian & Tyler Wright	Brendan & Austin Daly	Doug and Joycelyn Webb
Rik Bole	Kurt Liljedahl	David and Darlene Hauserman

During the course of the year, Peter Batcheller, Jane Battles, Sally Conley, Denny Currutt, Becky Everett, Rosalie Della Ratta, John and Chris Kramer, Sue and Charley Marston, Lydia Zimmerman could also be seen with helping with this ministry.

Ron and Cornelia Lee, Bob Syverson, Linda Webb are under Training to perform this duty at the 10.15AM Service.

5. **Acolytes.** Various members of the Church Sunday School are involved in the 10.15am Service.

We are always on the lookout for members of the Congregation for any of the above Ministries so if you have a desire or calling, then please let me, Mother Ann or the Church office know.

## MUSIC REPORT

### Respectfully Submitted by Yuri, McElliot, Music Director

I am very pleased to submit the 2016 Music Report. It is a great pleasure for me to serve as Director of Music/ Organist at St. Christopher's.

Our **Junior Choir** is working very hard rehearsing every Sunday after the 10:15 service, and they sing once every few weeks. They also play Handchimes and they are having a great time with that. The children are very quick learners and it is a great pleasure to work with them. Our junior choir members are:

Austin Daly	Elsbeth Daly	Lily Klinginsmith
Bridget Daly	Anna Klinginsmith	Maddie Pucell

Our **Handchime Choir** rehearses on Sunday mornings, and they work very hard. In addition to work throughout the year, they played Five Christmas carols during the Christmas Eve prelude. They did a fantastic job with some very challenging pieces, and I am very proud of each one of them. Our Handchime choir members are:

Sal Cicirello	Andrew Everett	Sue Marston
Heather Daly	Becky Everett	Fran Sarkisian
Gretchen Fisher	Chandler Everett	

The **Adult Choir** meets to rehearse every Wednesday night and on Sunday mornings before services. They are very dedicated and I am so grateful to work with each of them. In addition to their wonderful work every Sunday, they also sang for two Easter morning services and at the 7:30 prelude and 8:00 service on Christmas Eve. The members of our Adult Choir are:

Sal Cicirello	Becky Everett	
Debbie Cole	Chandler Everett	Jan Tuttle
Heather Daly	Gretchen Fisher	Fran Sarkisian

Special thanks go to Becky Everett for her wonderful work playing the *carillon* every Sunday morning. She does a great job and we all appreciate her so much!

Thanks to generous support from the St. Christopher's Guild to the Music Ministry, we were able to invite David Ellis to play for Easter Sunday and first Sunday of Advent, and Megan Kelly from Ohio University to play the Clarinet. We are so grateful for these generous gifts from the Guild which made it possible for us to include such amazing musicians in our worship.

For our summer services and special holidays, we were blessed to have many of our own members share their musical talents with us. This year's participants included Whitney Cole, Andrew Everett, Chandler H Everett, Katie Everett, John McElliott, and Joshua McElliott. Many thanks to all of you for sharing your talents with us and enriching our worship.

**We are always looking for new members** to join the Adult Choir, Handchime choir, and Junior Choir. If you are at all interested, please contact me. In addition, if you play a musical instrument; we would love to have you join us!

## **FAITH DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

**Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Reda, Director of Faith Development**

In these often difficult times in the world we may forget that we need to ensure that we have done our best to nurture the development of the faith of our children. We are caught up in the web of complications in life and the world and forget that there are so many ways that we can equip the children for whatever life brings by strengthening their own, personal relationship with Christ. This is what we as their families and parish families do by sharing the Sunday worship with them, by asking them what they talked about in church school, by acknowledging their contributions in the service as they begin to participate, by visiting the nursery, by helping them to pray, by offering to join in the church school class and by pausing in our daily lives, especially on Sundays, to remember that we are ALL children. Our goal in Church School is to teach them all that we can about the God who loves them and will be an everlasting presence in their lives.

Our teacher, Debbie Cole, for many years has shared her love for the disciple, Peter. Recently, we reviewed some of the history and the key figures in the Bible study that we have done over the years. I asked whether there was a person that most stood out in their mind, in their memory. Without hesitation, Bridget Daly, shot up her hand and said, "Peter!" I asked why. Bridget shouted, "He keeps messing up, but God still loves him! That's a good thing for me." Thus, Debbie Cole, Melanie Reda and I hope to help the children in this complicated world to find a way to never let go of the fact that they are forgiven and loved.

We thank Mother Ann, the Vestry and our entire parish family for your prayers, support and financial support.

### **Nursery (Average Attendance: 12)**

Miss Melanie has helpers now. As the children grow, they want to help the little ones. There have been Sundays when the nursery swells to 15. Be sure to invite your neighbors and friends to come and visit our church.

### **Children's Chapel (Average Attendance: 15)**

A Committee is in place to discuss renovations in the Children's Chapel and will meet this spring.

This is the place where what we have learned in Church School is put into action. This is where we pray for ourselves and for others. This is where we learn the order of worship and where we share what is in our hearts. This is where we feel comfortable, as we are and in the knowledge that we can talk to God. It is a magical place.

### **Faith Development Class (Average Attendance: 6-10)**

We continue with the curriculum, *Weaving God's Promises*, and the study of God's people and the life of Christ through the book of Matthew. We have practiced more reading from the Bible and the books in it and acquainting ourselves on how to read, i.e. Book of..., Chapter, Verse... We encourage regular attendance and welcome your suggestions.

### **Summer Church Camp (Enrollment: 6-7)**

We were a small, but fun group. Our program still included field trips in the neighborhood, crafts and activities and Bible stories. Our theme was "What was life like in the time of Jesus?" (tents, desert, sandals, eating bugs and hot, dry weather!)

### **Special Events in the Church Calendar**

Our Christmas Pageant, Children's Vespers, Epiphany, Lent Easter Egg Hunt, and outreach projects throughout the year seem to attract the greatest interest and attendance still and keep us in the rhythm of the church and life of our parish family.

## WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Debbie Cole, Guild President

St. Christopher's Guild includes in its membership all the women of the parish and invites anyone interested (regardless of gender) to participate in our programs and fundraising activities. Our focus continues to be the support of outreach and activities that benefit women and families.

Our two primary activities continue to be our Bargain Box fundraisers, which are so successful due to the gifted leadership of Carolyn Misco and the loyalty of all the sorters and sale workers, as well as the generosity of our parishioners. It is especially exciting when we see all parishioners, vestry, Guild spouses, and even the Sunday School pitching in to help. This community effort is what makes this outreach truly a St. Christopher's event.

The focus of our programs this year was outreach. Included was the making of lap robes for Geauga Department on Aging, baking bread to raise funds for The Children's Guild and making arrangements for Holly Hill. We also filled thirty-five backpacks for adults at the Episcopal Westside Shared Ministries, another thirty-five being donated for children by parishioners, along with books and toys. We were also treated to two wonderful educational programs, including an excellent talk on the problems in the Middle East by Mona DeBaz and a wonderful talk and recital by David Ellis at the home of Sue and Charley Marston.

While the past year has been somewhat difficult as it was a time of transition, the good news is that we have moved forward in defining our role in the church and our relationship to the vestry. Hopefully, in the future, anyone new to the parish can be aware of how we operate without having to rely on corporate memory to understand procedures. This is important if we are to all work together to achieve our goals.

Finally, thank you to all the Guild members who continue to step up and help. It is our work together in Christ's service that makes St. Christopher's a stronger community.

## WOMEN'S GUILD FINANCIAL REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Elise Bennett

	2016 BUDGET	2016 INCOME
<b><u>INCOME SOURCE</u></b>		
Bargain Box (Net)	\$ 22,510.00	25,808.02
Stationery (Net)	40.00	-
Misc. Income	-	205.00
	<u>\$ 22,550.00</u>	<u>\$ 26,013.02</u>
		<b>NET</b>
<b><u>INSIDE DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>
Guild Functions/Events	<u>1,850.00</u>	<u>844.26</u>
	<u>\$ 1,850.00</u>	<u>\$ 844.26</u>

**OUTSIDE  
DISBURSEMENTS**

**BUDGET**

**NET  
DISBURSEMENTS**

Bargain Box Expenses	4,400.00	4,288.60
Cleveland Food Bank	1,000.00	1,000.00
Episcopal Relief & Development	250.00	250.00
Holiday Favors-Holly Hill	100.00	88.68
Diocese of Jerusalem	500.00	500.00
Episcopal West Side Ministry	4,000.00	4,000.00
Gathering Place	500.00	500.00
Hospice	1,000.00	1,000.00
Mailing/Printing/Supplies	200.00	76.76
Meals on Wheels (Hillcrest & Chagrin)	250.00	250.00
National Cathedral	200.00	200.00
New Directions	500.00	500.00
Family Promise (Formerly:New Life Community)	500.00	500.00
Blessed-Are-We	550.00	391.89
WomenSafe	1,000.00	1,000.00
Backpacks	1,000.00	514.64
Bread for Children - supplies donated	500.00	-
Lap Robes	1,000.00	400.05
Dolls	1,500.00	-
UTO	100.00	-
Unbudgeted Donations & Expenses	<u>1,650.00</u>	<u>3,600.00 ***</u>
	\$ 20,700.00	\$ 19,060.62
Total Inside & Outside Disbursements:	\$ 22,550.00	\$ 19,904.88

**ADDITIONAL YR. END  
DONATIONS**

\*\*\* In addition to 2016  
budgeted amount

Cleveland Food Bank	1,000.00
Episcopal West Side Ministry	500.00
St. Andrews Youth Program	1,000.00
City Mission	500.00
Heifer:Send a Girl to School	<u>600.00</u>
	\$ 3,600.00