



ST. CHRISTOPHER BY-THE-RIVER

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER / ANNUAL REPORT

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting of St. Christopher by-the-River Held on March 3, 2019

Respectfully Submitted, Irene McMullen, Clerk

March 3, 2019 Annual Meeting for 2018

The Annual Meeting of St. Christopher's by-the-River Parish was called to order by Mother Ann at 11:05 AM, following the 10:15 AM service, at 11:28 AM. Mother Ann led a prayer.

John Irwin moved to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting minutes, as corrected. Fran Meyers seconded the Motion. Mother Ann noted that there were at least thirty-five (35) electors in attendance. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

John Irwin, Senior Warden reported on the nominations made by the Nominating Committee. Dr. Irwin noted that, regrettably, Charley Marston is retiring. He was thanked for his steadfast service. Janet Hargrave nominated Sean McMillion, David Hauserman, and Elise Bennett to be elected to the Vestry. Charley Marston seconded the motion. Mother Ann closed the nominations. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Dr. Irwin spoke about the role of the Vestry. He thanked Mother Ann.

Charley Marston, Junior Warden, thanked all for the renovations of the church which are being undertaken. Charley thanked the many parishioners for their efforts and contributions to the church. We will be undertaking many more projects in 2018.

Mother Ann thanked Charley Marston, the parish and staff for their service.

Mary Murray, Treasurer, noted that the church budget for income was not met in 2018, as income did not cover expenses. She expressed gratitude to all for their contributions.

Sue Marston moved to conclude the meeting. Sally Conley seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 AM. Deacon Lydia Bailey gave parting words to the congregation.

2019 STAFF

The Rev. Ann Kidder	Rector
Yuri Sato McElliott	Director of Music/Organist
Mary Zup	Parish Administrator
Peggy Reda	Director of Faith Development
Melanie Reda	Nursery Director
Hugh Kelly	Sexton (Jan-Aug)
Luis Calvo	Sexton (Sep-Dec)
Lucy Calvo	Churchkeeper
Jolyon Welsh	Sunday Porter
Tellerd Organization, Ltd.	Bookkeeper
D'Amore Tatman Group	Auditor

RECTOR'S REPORT
Respectfully Submitted by Mother Ann Kidder

2019 was a fruitful and busy year. We increased our "Adult Communicants in Good Standing" from 82 to 117 and our Average Sunday Attendance rose from 69 to 72. Dedication to growing in the knowledge and practice of our faith through study and service increased this year. Between March and October, 34 parishioners read "Walk In Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices". The discussions were wonderful and those preparing to be confirmed or received found it helpful in their process of claiming the Episcopal Church as "home".

Please take the time to read all of the reports in this Annual Report so that you may truly comprehend the breadth of service to others in the name of Christ that is such a core aspect of this parish. The Women's Guild, Grief Support Group, Stephen Ministers, Daughters of The King, our participation in the North-East Mission Area Council (NEMAC), Men's Shelter Volunteers, and your individual contributions to the Chesterland Food Pantry and volunteer services throughout this area are a powerful witness to the healing and life-giving work of the Holy Spirit.

The Vestry, in their leadership role, also authorized several expansions of our outreach to others.

With the Vestry's approval, I submitted a Sustainable Development Grant proposal to our Diocese on behalf of American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem's "Mother Empowerment Program" A grant of \$5,000 for that program was approved. This program serves Palestinian mothers and their newly diagnosed children with disabilities in a three-week residential program. Mothers participate in their children's therapy and are trained to continue working with their children when they return home. Mothers are taught how to be effective advocates for children with disabilities in their local communities. This life-changing program is the only one of its kind in the West Bank and Gaza.

This year the Vestry also approved "Your Neighbor's Cloak", part of the West Side Shared Ministry, as the recipient of our monthly non-pledge offering. The funds supplement the clothes closet by enabling the purchase of new underwear, socks, and personal care items.

The Vestry approved distribution this year of \$10,000 of Jubilee Funds. \$500 was donated to the "Raise the Roof" Guild fundraiser for building two houses through Food For The Poor. The remaining \$9,500 was donated to Church of the Redeemer in Loraine in support of renovations to bring their parish kitchen up to commercial code standards for expansion of their feeding programs.

Life in a parish community means that we share in each other's joys and sorrows.

We rejoiced with Jamie and Matt Vazzana at the birth of Emery Quinn Vazzanna and with Haley and Rich Radis at the birth of Vivienne Quinn Radis. (Both couples were married at St. Christopher's in 2018.) We also welcomed Lucy Lytle "home" in 2019 as she transferred her membership from her previous parish in South Carolina. Other joyful highlights were the baptism and confirmation of Leslie Marting, the baptism of another VanCuren grand-baby on Christmas Eve, and the reception into the Episcopal Church of Diana DeGeronimo, Dave and Darlene Hauserman, and Barb Pesuit, who were confirmed and received by Bishop Williams at his Visitation.

Bishop Williams Consecrated the Children's Chapel (dedicated to the ministry of Joan Hellman and all the teachers who have followed her at St. Christopher's). He also Consecrated the Children's Chapel Altar (given by Jim and Kathy Pender), dedicated and blessed the Altar Cross and Candles (given by Jean and Robert Wallace), and the Processional Cross (given by Jane and Ramon Battles). He blessed the Elevator (given by the Figgie Foundation) for good measure, which had previously been dedicated.

In 2019 I officiated at the weddings of Amy Battles and David Payne, and Margaret LaMantia and Christopher McNelly. In December Bishop Hollingsworth officiated at the wedding of Emily Garrett and Kyle Colwell.

There were also times of shared sadness as we gathered to honor Fred Bixler, Jon Ramsey, Hugo Alpers, Jack Barker, Robert Lomas, Dwight Allgood, William P. Spring (no relation to our Bill Spring), Linda Costello, Tucker Marston, and Jerry Loth, who all died in 2019.

The following list will give you a “feel” for the year as it flew by:

- January: Celebrated the 25th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood.
Burial service for Fred Bixler
- February: Dedication service for our new elevator
Pancake Breakfast
- March: Annual Meeting
Ash Wednesday services with the Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday evening Lenten “Simple Suppers”
Institution of our parish’s Chapter of Daughters of The King and Admission of
Debbie Cole, Becky Everett, Kathy Pender, and Annette Lowe as members.
Vestry Retreat at Bellwether Farm and initiation of long-range planning priorities
Birth of Emery Quinn Vazzana
- April: Holy Week services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday agape meal and stripping
of the altar, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services.
Marriage of Amy Battles and David Payne.
- May: Bargain Box Healing Eucharist and Sale Day
Burial of Jon Ramsey
Burial of Hugo Alpers
Visit by Mother Carola von Wrangel (Food For The Poor)
- June: Burial of John (Jack) Barker
Gave the Invocation at the dedication of Marston Park
- July: Birth of Vivienne Quinn Radis
Burial of Robert Lomas
- August: Baptism of Leslie Marting
- September: Burial of Dwight Allgood
Rally Sunday
Marriage of Margaret LaMantia and Christopher McNelly
Burial of William P. Spring
Blessing of The Hunt
- October: Burial of Linda Costello
House Blessing for Renee Kolecki
Blessing of the Animals
Visitation by Bishop Arthur Williams (See above for details of his Visitation.)
- November: Burial of Tucker Marston
Thanksgiving Eve Service
- December: Services for the 4 Sundays of Advent, including Lessons and Hymns and the Church School’s
Christmas Pageant
“Blue Christmas” service
Christmas Eve Family Vespers service and Baptism of Finley VAnCuren-Bender
Christmas Eve Prelude Concert by the Choir and Christmas Eve Festive Eucharist
Death of Jerry Loth on December 29th.



In closing, I want to say how grateful I am for the Staff of this Parish, who genuinely care about all of us, our ministry, and this building that makes much of that ministry possible. Thank you, Mary, Yuri, Peggy, Melanie, Luis, Lucy, Jolyon, and Joyce. Thank you, Debbie, Becky, and Paulette, for your hours of volunteer time week in and out for our Church School children and Parish Office support. Thank you to our Vestry for such thoughtful and wise leadership of this parish. Thank you to each and every one of you who volunteer your time in so many ways. You are a blessing to this parish and to me.

(RECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED)

Finally, I want to say a special thank you to John Irwin and Irene McMullen as you retire from your Vestry service as our Sr. Warden and Clerk. You were both on the Vestry when I arrived six years ago, and you have both provided a steadying hand for the work of the Vestry – and for me. Thank you!

We are truly “one body in Christ” as we seek to serve the world in His Name. May we continue to learn and grow in love and service throughout 2020.

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

As I come to the end of six years as a member of the Vestry, during five of which I served as your Senior Warden, I feel greatly honored by having served on the Vestry and by helping, along with many others, to achieve so much to improve our Parish. During these years, I have served with two superb Junior Wardens, Charley Marston and Becky Everett, along with all of the other Vestry members, each and every one, a devoted and invaluable member of the Vestry and this Parish.

During these past years, much has been accomplished through the efforts and generosity of so many people, including the installation of the elevator, the installation and consecration of the Children's Chapel, the River Bank Restoration, and a host of many other improvements, upgrades and updates, some of which are quite visible such as landscaping but others of which are equally important but less obvious.

During the same years, through the efforts of the Vestry and the Stewardship Committee, we have regained financial stability, and, with the work of the Capital Campaign, we have been able to afford these many improvements.

There always remains more to do, and I know that the succeeding Senior Warden and the new members of the Vestry will continue on that path. Our parish is small, compared to some, and large compared to others, but we have been blessed by so many advantages and so many hard working parishioners, the Vestry, the Guild, and all of the various volunteer functions and outreach programs, that I know that this Parish is fulfilling its missions and responsibilities to our communities and our faith.

Perhaps more than anything else, I have seen that our new leader, our Rector, The Rev. Ann Kidder has brought to us her skills, compassion, energy and devotion to this Parish and I am most gratefully appreciative of the opportunity to have served these several years as her Senior Warden.



JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT
Respectfully submitted by Becky Everett

It is with the greatest pleasure that I have been able to serve as your Junior Warden this past year. Having the support of our outstanding Rector, Senior Warden, and Vestry as well as the support of the parishioners has meant the world to me!

The past year has been very busy as we continue to maintain and improve the church building and grounds. The Riverbank Project was completed this past spring, and we are thankful for the stabilization of the riverbank that it provides. In addition, we finally completed the elevator project and passed inspection on it last spring. What a great addition to our church home, allowing every parishioner/visitor access to our entire building!

We will be completing a landscape project this spring, which was one of the items that had been designated for Capital Campaign funds. Exscape Landscaping cleared out a great deal of the overgrown and weed-infested beds in the side yard of the church. This spring, the planting portion of the project will be completed and promises to be beautiful.

Due to a manufacturing defect, the choir room carpeting was replaced, and the guild room is getting a much needed make-over with the walls and woodwork being painted. Thank you to the Women's Guild who is paying for this face-lift!

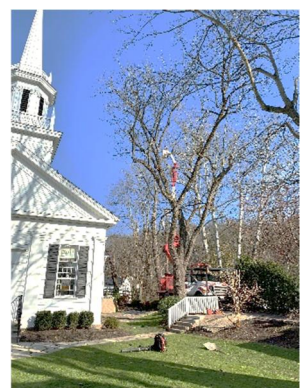
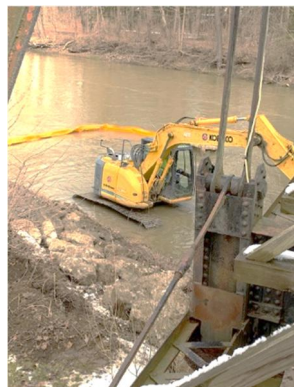
We have been blessed with the presence of our new sexton, Luis Calvo, who joined us in August of last year. He has proven to be a wonderful, hardworking addition to our staff. He and I worked very hard to clear out both the boiler room and furnace rooms in the basement as well as the rectory garage and shed. I am pleased to say that all these areas are now much more accessible and organized.

The leaves/miniature trees that were growing in the church and rectory gutters have been cleared out which has solved part of the issue of water in the basement. We also were blessed and fortunate to have VanCuren Tree services do some needed tree removal/trimming at no cost! Finally, a new church sign was installed in the front yard.

Future projects include replacing the picket fencing, planting perennials on either side of the front door of the church, redesigning the flower bed surrounding the St. Christopher statue in the side yard, and installing a new lamppost in the front yard.

Thank you to everyone for the help, support and confidence you have placed in me as your Junior Warden. It has been an honor to serve you in that capacity this past year.

Prayers, Blessings, and Best Wishes to you all!



TREASURER'S REPORT
Respectfully Submitted by Mary Murray

The 2019 budget approved by the Vestry in early 2019 anticipated a modest loss despite continued tight control over expense growth. At the end of the year, pledges and plate came in at \$248,276, better than budget by \$8,000 and an increase of 3.4% compared to the previous year, and resulted in a small surplus of \$1,474. While we are pleased to have been able to meet our expenses, we have not been able to offer wage increases to our staff and we continue to rely on operating support from St. Christopher's Fund. The Stewardship Committee continues to work on improving our financial planning efforts based on encouraging parishioners to provide estimates of their financial contribution. In addition, in 2019 we began offering online and credit card payment options which just is beginning to show results.

The parish continues to receive generous support for the operating budget from the St. Christopher's Fund, totaling \$127,612 in 2019. This amount represented 5.25% of the Fund's average assets over the last 12 quarters, a reduction from the 5.5% we had been receiving for several years. We continue to have a goal of reducing our reliance on the Fund to a more sustainable 5% while also producing breakeven to modestly positive operating results. Other income is primarily investment income from our capital and music funds, with 2017 having benefitted for a couple of one-time items.

The Vestry has approved a preliminary budget summarized below.

	2016 <u>Actual</u>	2017 <u>Actual</u>	2018 <u>Actual</u>	2019 <u>Budget</u>	2019 <u>Actual</u>	2020 <u>Budget</u>
Pledges and Plate	\$ 214,783	\$ 237,811	\$ 238,123	\$ 240,000	\$ 248,276	\$ 257,000
St. Christopher's Fund	\$ 129,914	\$ 130,310	\$ 126,178	\$ 127,600	\$ 127,612	\$ 127,600
Other Income	\$ 7,571	\$ 26,305	\$ 18,261	\$ 19,000	\$ 22,735	\$ 21,000
Total Receipts	\$ 352,268	\$ 394,426	\$ 382,562	\$ 386,600	\$ 398,623	\$ 405,600
Outside Parish Expenses	\$ 47,931	\$ 51,550	\$ 53,337	\$ 53,919	\$ 54,319	\$ 55,335
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 241,594	\$ 251,922	\$ 266,528	\$ 267,197	\$ 266,665	\$ 270,400
Operating Expenses	\$ 65,780	\$ 75,897	\$ 72,436	\$ 74,480	\$ 76,165	\$ 78,730
Total Expenses	\$ 355,305	\$ 379,369	\$ 392,301	\$ 395,596	\$ 397,149	\$ 404,465
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (3,037)	\$ 15,057	\$ (9,739)	\$ (8,996)	\$ 1,474	\$ 1,135

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S FUND REPORT
Respectfully Submitted by Kurt Liljedahl

Fund A:
 Market value on 12/31/2019: \$2,548,887.78
 Investment and Administrative Fees in 2018: \$17,939.80
 Tax Preparation Fee: \$1,000

Fund B:
 Market value as of 12/31/19: \$86,438.27
 Investment and Administrative Fees in 2019: \$601.32
 Tax Preparation Fee: \$1,000

In accordance with the spending policy for the year 2019, the Fund ***distributed a total of \$127,612.08*** 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.

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.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN
Respectfully Submitted by Jim Pender

I thank you for the opportunity to chair the 2019 Stewardship Campaign and co-chair our 2020 Campaign with David Hauserman

As you may know, David and Darlene are moving to Georgia and we will sorely miss them.

Summary of our 2019 efforts:

1. We greatly appreciate the generosity of all of who contributed \$ 236,000 in support for our recent fiscal year and have also pledged their continuing support for 2020.
2. Thanks to the generosity and foresight of those who preceded us at St Christopher's, we are the beneficiaries of St Christophers Fund. Please remember that after we meet our current financial needs, it is now our responsibility to amplify that Fund for future generations. Please keep that tradition in mind when doing your gift or estate planning. Charlie Marston and I are always available to discuss that subject with you and/or your representative.
3. We all know finance is only one dimension of "Stewardship". We will continue to devote portions of several Sundays to the life of St. Christopher's as fulfilled in Music, Education, Community Service, Outreach, The Guild, The Grief Group, Steven Ministry etc..

As one member put it; "Stewardship involves everything we have with everything we do, all of the time."

All of the above, and each one of us, is important to the life of the parish.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT REPORT
Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Reda, Director of Sunday School

The year 2018-2019 was one of reevaluation and adjustment. With declining enrollment and the modern challenges of hectic family schedules and demanding social expectations, our staff has tried to address the possibilities of strengthening the faith formation program and meeting the vital needs of our children.

The Vestry Education Committee, led by Mary Holmes, met with various Christian educators, including Debbie Cole, Paulette Matthews and Peggy Reda, and of course, Mother Ann, to assess any changes.

In response to the #1 request from families in our parish, we have changed the start time for the younger class from 9 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Hopefully, this will facilitate a growth in attendance with the later start time. We have already made the change starting in January. Mrs. Cole's older class is continuing the start time of 9 a.m.

The curriculum is still "Weaving God's Promises" and follows a three-year cycle. There are two levels of instruction – one for elementary and intermediate and one for youth. Each cycle year is based upon a different book of the Bible. This year is based upon the Book of Luke. The curriculum is very user-friendly and flexible for different class sizes.

We continue to emphasize the Church calendar's seasons, i.e. Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time, i.e. colors, symbols, meanings. We also study the life of Christ through the season: preparation, celebration of the birth of Jesus, the revealing of Jesus as the Son of God, i.e. Baptism, Miracles, Parables, and great seasons of Lent and Easter.

The children build a strong community each year and learn to develop their own understanding and relationship with Jesus Christ. It is a gift to witness their joy in the Lord. Let us continue to recognize our responsibility to offer the very best in faith formation to the children and give them every opportunity to know Christ. In this very busy life and challenging time, St. Christopher's is privileged to be able to provide a program that helps the children grow in their faith and knowledge that God loves them.

We thank the following for their commitment to the children: Mother Ann, the Vestry, the Staff of St. Christopher's, our parish family, Debbie Cole, Paulette Matthews, and Melanie Reda.

MUSIC REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Yuri Sato McElliot, Music Director

Once again, our choir members worked hard each week and shared their talents during our Sunday services. Each choir is small in numbers but I feel so blessed to work with such dedicated and fun people every week. Our three choirs – the junior choir, handchime choir, and adult choir meet every Sunday morning to rehearse before services. The adult choir also rehearses on Wednesday nights.

Thank you so much to junior choir members, Anna and Lily Klinginsmith for helping me train our younger choir members, Race and Alexis Matthews. All four are amazing youngsters and I always enjoy making music with them. BIG thanks to Gretchen Fisher and Paulette Matthews for helping all of us!! I am looking forward to continuing that in 2020.

This year, we are so happy to welcome Lucy Lytle back to the adult choir! Our adult and handchime choir members are Debbie Cole, Becky Everett, Chandler H. Everett, Chandler P. Everett, Gretchen Fisher, Lucy Lytle, Sue Marston, and 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!

We are always looking for new members to join any of our choirs. If you are interested in participating in any way, please contact me. In addition, if you play a musical instrument; we would love to have you join us!

WOMEN'S GUILD REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Sue Marston, Guild President

I would like to encourage women of the parish to become more active with the Guild. Come to a program, help with Bargain Box. You are ALL MEMBERS, so please become an engaged member.

Our Guild events for the past year were:

January	Tour of the Children's Museum
February	Euclid Beach carousel talk and tour
March	Lenten program at Cleveland Museum of Art with Lydia Bailey
May	Bargain box
June	Highly successful auction for Food for the Poor
September	Bargain Box
October	Making beef stew for the Trinity Cathedral food program
November	Filling backpacks with wrapped Christmas presents for Westside Shared Ministries
December	Making Christmas arrangements for Holly Hill Nursing Home
January	Tour at the Museum of Modern Porcelain Art
February	New Directions program with Director, Mike Maloney

One of the Guild's responsibilities is the care and upkeep of the Guild room. This year with our Sexton, Luis' help, we refurbished the room with a fresh coat of paint.

It is a small but mighty group of women that contributed to our Guild events this year. Why not join us as we do God's work and have camaraderie and fun. Be committed!



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S GUILD 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT – Respectfully Submitted by Elise Bennett

<u>INCOME SOURCE</u>	<u>2019 BUDGET</u>	<u>2019 INCOME</u>
Bargain Box (Net)	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,404.50
Stationery (Net)	\$ 40.00	\$ 46.37
Ckg Acct Int/Chgs (NET)	\$ -	\$ 18.13
	\$ 22,040.00	\$ 22,469.00



<u>INREACH DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>NET DISBURSEMENTS</u>
Guild Programs	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 334.00
Guild Room Expenses	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 889.10
	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 1,223.10



<u>OUTREACH DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>NET DISBURSEMENTS</u>
Bargain Box	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,669.51
Cleveland Food Bank	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Holiday Favors-Holly Hill	\$ 150.00	\$ 79.14
Diocese of Jerusalem	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Episcopal West Side Ministry	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Gathering Place	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Hospice	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Mailing/Printing/Supplies	\$ 200.00	\$ 55.00
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	\$ 265.86
WomenSafe	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Backpacks	\$ 800.00	\$ 516.83
Human Trafficking Project--on hold for more research	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Two Foundation	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Food for Poor-added into other funds reserved	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Library	\$ 100.00	\$ -
UTO	\$ 100.00	\$ 43.50
Unbudgeted Donations/Expenses	\$ 2,840.00	\$ 2,980.34
	\$ 18,890.00	\$ 17,060.18
Total Inreach & Outreach Disbursements:	\$ 22,040.00	\$ 18,283.28



ADDITIONAL YR. END DONATIONS

*** In addition to 2019 budgeted amount	Food for Poor	\$ 9,830.00
	Seeds of Literacy	\$ 500.00
	Cleveland Food Bank	\$ 1,000.00
	Episcopal West Side Ministry	\$ 1,000.00
	St. Andrews Youth Program	\$ 1,000.00
	City Mission	\$ 1,500.00
	Heifer:Send a Girl to School	\$ 600.00
	Lutheran Mens Ministry	\$ 2,000.00
	Grief Group	\$ 100.00
	Bellwether Farm-Summer Camp	\$ 200.00
	Western Reserve Hospice Camp	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 18,730.00

3 Year Accrual

WORSHIP REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Peter Batcheller

We thank all the Parishioners who were involved in our Church Services in 2019 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 who are presently licensed to perform this duty and were able to donate their time in 2018 are.

Peter Batcheller
Randy Cole
Dale Gnant
John Irwin

Charley Marston
Beth Miller
Fran Meyers
Melanie Reda

Sandra Redmond
Kitty Thomas

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

Peter Batcheller
Rik Bole
Randy Cole
Victoria Connell
Mona DeBaz
Jeff Eakin
Becky Everett
Chandler Everett
Marilyn Fisher
Dale Gnant

David Hauserman
Darlene Hauserman
Judy Holmes
Mary Holmes
Thomas Holmes
Teri Ianni
John Irwin
Renee Kolecki
Cornelia Lee
Ron Lee

Annette Lowe
Charley Marston
Lindsey McMillion
Tom Matthews
Fran Meyers
Beth Miller
Kathi Mitchell
Kathy Pender
Chris Pucell
Jean Ramsey

Melanie Reda
Fran Sarkisian
Courtney Schmidt
Bob Syverson
Kitty Thomas
Sue Thorpe
Linda Webb
Joyce Welsh
Brian Wright

Unfortunately, Bob Syverson has left the area so he will no longer be performing duties. On the bright side, Patrick Manning will be assisting at the 8AM service and Cindy Costello is to become an alternate at the 2020 services.

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, Debbie and Randy Cole, Chandler & Becky Everett and Janet Hargrave have this license.

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, Beth Miller have this license. Presently Fran Meyers and Dale Gnant are under Training.

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 services.

Those who performed these Usher duties included:

Brian Wright & Rik Bole

Kurt Liljedahl

David and Darlene Hauserman

Cornelia and Ron Lee

Charley Marston

Tom Matthews

Linda Webb

Becky and Chandler Everett

Peter & Sandy Batcheller

Members of the Congregation and also the Altar Guild (at the 8 am Service) also helped when asked.

In order to enhance the flow of our 8 and 10.15 am Sunday Services, the following or a variation of such was put into effect:

1. At the 10.15am Service, the Ushers will be responsible for Closing the gate immediately after bringing up the Offertory. This will give the EM the opportunity of helping the Celebrant prepare the Wine and the Wafers.

2. At the 10.15am Service, the Ushers will be responsible for Opening the gate immediately after the last Communicant has received and is returning to their pew and should be done before the Celebrant and EM administer Communion to anyone who is unable to make the trip to the Altar Rail for Communion. Peter Batcheller supplied some Training for this Service

3. At both Services, the EM is responsible for snuffing out the Lectern and Altar candles.

At the 8am Eucharist this should be done prior to leading the Celebrant out for the Final Blessing

At the 10.15 AM Eucharist this should be done during the last Hymn and before leading the Celebrant out with the Crucifix.

At both Services, the Lectern candles should be first snuffed out followed by the Altar candles (the left or Gospel first followed by the right or Epistle candle)

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 Mother Ann, Peter Batcheller or the Church office know or just add your name to the sign-up sheet outside the Guild Room.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Marcia Alpers

Our membership totaled 16 women (listed below) who prepare the altar for all services, weddings, funerals, and baptisms.

The Guild also orders flowers and decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons. Our members provide 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

Sally Conley '09

Laura Cotton '16

Rosalie Della Ratta '11

Judy Eakin '16

Darlene Hauserman '18

Nicki Henry '07

Renee Kolecki '19

Teri Ianni '16

Neal Lee '16

Loni Todd-Lorenz '14

Sue Marston '91

Carolyn Miscko '93

Mary Murray '05

Jean Ramsey, III '92

Courtney Schmidt '19

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

Emeritus Members: Jane Battles '95, Polly Bixler '95, Helen Cicirello '85



HOSTESS REPORT
Respectfully Submitted by Mary Zup

Throughout 2019 many of our parishioners provided refreshments for our weekly fellowship hour after our 10:15 Service. Thank you to our hostesses and hosts from 2019:

Sandra Batcheller	Nicole Henry	Lindsey McMillion	Sandra Redmond
Elise Bennett	Judy Holmes	Irene McMullen	Mary Reynolds
Laura Cotton	Mary Holmes	Carolyn Miscsko	Courtney Schmidt
Charlene Currutt	Nancy Irwin	Mary Murray	Dolores Storer
Rosalie Della Ratta	Cornelia Lee	Keri Osolin	Susan Thorpe
Rebecca Everett	Lucy Lytle	Katherine Pender	Linda Webb
Gretchen Fisher	Tillie Malm	Barb Pesuit	Karee Weikel-Broome
Janet Hargrave	Susan Marston	Christina Pucell	
Darlene Hauserman	Paulette & Tom Matthews	Jean Ramsey	

ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING
Respectfully Submitted by Becky Everett

The Order of the Daughters of the King is a religious order of women who have vowed to undertake the Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. Our mission is the extension of Christ's kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism. We seek to know Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's Love in the world around us.

The St. Christopher Chapter of Daughters of the King was established last March and consists of four women from our parish. We promise to pray daily for the individuals on our prayer list, regularly adding to this list from prayer requests that have been submitted in our prayer box in the narthex. We also attend the Spring and Fall assemblies of the Order in our Diocese.

We meet on a monthly basis where we have chosen to read and discuss various selections from spiritual texts, discuss ways in which we can serve the church community and support Mother Ann any way we can. This year, we have tried to give assistance with funerals and memorial services at St. Christopher's, and we participated in the Blue Christmas service in December by providing a fellowship time after the service with light snacks and coffee.

We are grateful for the support we have received from Mother Ann and the parish community. We welcome anyone who is interested in becoming a Daughter. We also welcome any questions/inquiries you may have. Please feel free to contact Becky Everett, Kathy Pender, Annette Lowe or Debbie Cole.

MOTTO OF THE ORDER

For His sake...

I am but one, but I am one.

I cannot do everything, but I can do something.

What I can do, I ought to do.

What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.

Lord, what will you have me do?



GRIEF GROUP

Respectfully Submitted by Kathy Pender

In the fall of 2019, an ongoing Grief support Group was formed

to meet on certain Tuesday nights as scheduled. (2 – 3 times a month). This group is open to members of St. Christopher's Church as well as the community. This has been a good way to introduce people to our church and see what services we do provide.

The people who have attended the meetings have remarked how much the support has helped them move through some of their feelings and emotions that go along with the ever-changing waves of grief.

The group offers companionship and understanding from others who have experienced similar challenges that living with grief brings.

The dates and times of the group are posted in the Gates Mills Pink Sheet as well as the church bulletin board. You are welcome to join the group at any time

STEPHEN MINISTRY REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Kathy Pender

Love one another ---as I have loved you."

Our Stephen Ministers continue to provide confidential, one to one care to individuals in our church. We are also introducing our Stephen Ministry to the community. As a reminder as to "What is a Stephen Minister?" A Stephen Minister: 1) has received 50 hours of training in providing emotional and spiritual care 2) a caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports and encourages 3) someone who will be there for his or her care receiver meeting on a regular basis for about an hour each week 4) a child of God who walks beside a person who is hurting , for as long as there is a need.

Additional training occurred at our bi-weekly meetings throughout the year as training skills were reviewed. We focused on spiritual development by concentrating on different readings by Henri Nouwen and others. Our discussions are helping in self reflection and knowledge of self and one another so that we may better serve others.

"To equip the saints for the work of the ministry."

Our group works with Mother Ann to coordinate what our experiences are with care receivers and what our program is accomplishing and what the needs might be of our congregation.

We are presently studying two books dealing with the complex changes that occur physically, emotionally and spiritually with aging. We hope to present a series to the parish on this topic of Aging.

This year we began putting information in the Pink Sheet (publication of Gates Mills) as a way of getting information out about St. Christopher's Church and some of the things such as the Stephen Ministry and the Grief Group that would be available to the individuals in the community.

I am truly blessed to have the privilege to work with these dedicated Stephen Ministers who show so much compassion and care and love to their care receivers and to their fellow Stephen Ministers and to me as their facilitator. Their service surely is the work of our Lord and our Savior Jesus Christ.

"Be compassionate just as your father is compassionate"

Luke 6:36

2019 NEMAC Annual Report
Respectfully Submitted by Linda Webb, NEMAC Secretary

NEMAC, Annual Report, 2020 Annual Meeting, St. Christopher

Purpose

NEMAC — Northeast Council Mission Area Congregations — of which we are a member, held four meetings last year, hosted by Mother Rose Anne Lonsway at Grace Episcopal Church, Willoughby. St. Christopher had representation at each.

Our fellow member parishes are: Christ Church, Geneva; Epiphany, Euclid; Grace, Willoughby; Good Shepherd, Lyndhurst; St. Andrew, Mentor; St. Bart, Mayfield Village; St. Christopher; St. Hubert, Kirtland Hills; St. James, Painesville; St. Luke, Chardon; St. Martin, Chagrin Falls — and St. Peter, Ashtabula.

Over the four meetings NEMAC held in 2019, the average attendance was 15 Priests and Lay reps:

Feb. 2019	Apr. 2019	Jul. 2019	Oct. 2019	Average
12	18	14	16	15

Collaborative Mission Work

During 2019, NEMAC focused on an initiative to foster collaboration among the 12 NEMAC parishes to promote working together to deliver mission outreach projects. This is to be consistent with Episcopal Law, Canon 3, summarized here.

Canon 3: of Mission Areas.

- The purpose of the mission area is to share in communication and the sharing of programs and resources, to provide mutual support among congregations, and to identify and implement opportunities for collaborative ministry. Canon 3, Sec. 1, a

Under the duties of the mission area council:

- Support and encourage the development of mission partnerships Canon 3, Sec. 3, d
- Oversee the allocation and expenditure of all money designated for Mission Area usage. Canon 3, Sec. 3, h

In 2019, we formalized our process for intake of new requests, creating a funding request form so that our members could provide a consistent set of information about a proposed project for review and voting by NEMAC members.

Grants

The following projects were approved for funding during 2019:

<i>Requestor/s</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description</i>
Epiphany	Community Meals	\$500	Take-home containers for participants
St. James, Grace, St. Andrew	Family Pride Fair	\$600	Collaborative event held in Painesville; summer, 2019
St. Martin, Human Trafficking	Speaker Honoraria	\$200	Hosted by the Human Trafficking Task Force; held at St. Bart
St. James, St. Hubert, St. Luke, Christ Church	EfM Scholarships	\$550	One full and one partial scholarship
Epiphany	Luncheon Program, "God Before Guns"	\$300	Table for NEMAC parish participants

Summary

For more information about NEMAC — or if anyone at St. Christopher's is interested in starting or being involved in a collaborative mission outreach project, please contact either Peter Batcheller or Linda Web

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CLASS DATES

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 1, 8, 15

April 19, 26

May 3, 17

KEY DATES

Mar 22 & 29: No class Spring Break

April 5 Palm Sunday

April 12 Easter

May 17 Last class. Classes will be combined

GRIEF GROUP DATES

MEETS AT 6 PM

March

17, 24

April

7, 21

May

5, 19

June

2, 16

Please contact Kathy Pender for questions or more information at 440-463-7378 or email at kp@momshrink.com.

GUILD PROGRAMS

April 24 Bargain Box

May Lakeview Cemetery

Gilded Age Tour

June End of Year Luncheon

NEEDED!

Hostesses needed for April 5th (Palm Sunday), if you are able to help, please contact the office.

Lenten Art Retreat Led by Deacon Lydia Bailey

MARCH 21, 2020

10:00-12:15

This will be a different art museum experience. It will be semi self-directed involving your reflection one or two pieces of art, with an outline to guide us. The art one settles on can speak to us spiritually without having a conventional religious subject. It can be an icon that serves as a window into God. At the start of the day we'll convene under the bamboo trees in the Atrium - then reconvene here at the close to discuss our findings."



Lenten Soup & Fellowship

LENTEN SERIES

Soup Suppers will begin March 4th and will continue

Wednesdays through April 1st, starting at 6 PM.

Sign up on the bulletin board to attend and indicate if you can bring a soup or salad.

We will be discussing the book Crazy Christians. Please see Mother Ann on Sunday if you need a book or call the office. Books are \$13.

Vestry

John Irwin Senior Warden
Becky Everett Junior Warden
Irene McMullen Clerk
Mary Murray Treasurer

Class of 2021

Elise Bennett, David Hauserman,
Sean McMillion

Class of 2020

Becky Everett, Mary Murray,
James Pender

Class of 2019

Mary Holmes, John Irwin, Irene
McMullen

**Northeast Mission Area Council
Representatives**

Peter Batcheller, 2019
Linda Webb, 2019

ST. CHRISTOPHER
BY-THE-RIVER
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
stchrisbytheriver.org

7601 Old Mill Rd.
PO Box 519
Gates Mills OH 44040

The Rev. Ann Kidder, Rector
stchris.motherann@gmail.com

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 a.m. Nursery Care for 10:15 service
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Parish Office

Open T-W-TH 8:30-2:30
440-423-4451
stchrisbytheriver@gmail.com

March 2020 Newsletter

St. Christopher by-the-River

We welcome you to join us:

Sunday, MARCH 1st – Lent I

8:00 a.m. NO SERVICE
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Annual Meeting

Sunday, MARCH 8th – Lent II

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, MARCH 15th – Lent III

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, MARCH 22nd – Lent IV

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, MARCH 29th – Lent V

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR KIDS 5-14

9 a.m. Church School Class (2nd level)
10 a.m. Church School (Younger Children)

NURSERY CARE

10 am-11:30 am for Ages 0-4



ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

March 1st 11:00 AM