

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31, 2021



*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Grand Blanc, Michigan*

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AGENDA FOR THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

11:00 AM Zoom instructions (remain muted, raise hand to speak, wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking)

Test Poll

Appoint Secretary

Adopt authorization of the annual meeting:

The Chair will entertain a motion to authorize the annual meeting of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Grand Blanc, MI to be done online. All official actions conducted during the meeting will be official actions of the annual meeting of St. Christopher's, Grand Blanc as required by the Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan.

11:15 AM Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members

11:20 AM Election of New Vestry Members

11:25 AM Financial / Treasurer's Report

11:40 AM Wardens' Reports

11:50 AM Acceptance of 2020 Reports as presented

12:00 PM Other Business / Additional Questions

12:20 PM Adjournment

VESTRY & CONVENTION DELEGATES

Vestry Officers (2020)

Jane Brewer - Senior Warden

Bill White - Junior Warden

Angela Campbell - Clerk

Bobbie Walton - Treasurer

Leaving Vestry (Thank you for your service!)

Bill Anderson

Angela Campbell

Bill White

Going off in 2022:

Jane Brewer

Dawn Rutherford

Rebecca Stermer

Going off in 2023:

Ken Duck

Caroline James

Chris McDonald

Kay Van Natta

For election this year and going off in 2024:

Flo Gjerstad

Steve Huber

Bobbie Walton

Diocesan Convention Delegates 2020

Angela Campbell

Linda Rathburn

Joyce Thewalt

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Total Budget vs YTD Actuals
 January - December 2020

	Current Month Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	% Budget Used
Income					
41000 OF Pledge Income	44,765.00	337,547.22	345,425.00	7,877.78	97.7%
41001 OF Plate Income	4,150.00	9,685.89	23,000.00	13,314.11	42.1%
41002 Operating Restricted Income	-	5,900.00	-	(5,900.00)	-
41003 Scrip Income	-	-	-	-	-
41004 Special Offerings Income	-	-	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.0%
41005 Misc. Operating Fund Income	800.00	26,401.63	27,000.00	598.37	97.8%
41006 Sexton Event Pay	-	150.00	-	(150.00)	-
41040 R - Outreach	-	-	-	-	-
41041 R - Memorial	-	50.00	-	(50.00)	-
41042 R - Columbarium	-	-	-	-	-
41043 R - Camp Income	-	-	-	-	-
41044 Non-Operating Misc. Income	-	-	-	-	-
41045 R - SOC	-	-	-	-	-
42000 BF Pledge Income	-	250.00	-	(250.00)	-
42001 BF Plate Income	900.00	3,820.00	-	(3,820.00)	-
42002 Building Use Income	150.00	1,950.00	7,000.00	5,050.00	27.9%
42003 Misc. Building Fund Income	-	-	-	-	-
43000 Clergy Discretionary Income	50.00	160.50	-	(160.50)	-
44000 Curate Discretionary Income	-	245.50	-	(245.50)	-
49060 Operating Interest Income	218.04	3,540.86	2,000.00	(1,540.86)	177.0%
49061 Operating Dividends	-	-	100.00	100.00	0.0%
49070 Bldg Interest Income	-	1.79	-	(1.79)	-
Billable Expense Income	-	-	-	-	-
Sales of Product Income	-	-	-	-	-
Uncategorized Income	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income	51,033.04	389,703.39	414,525.00	24,821.61	94.0%
Expenses					
501 Clergy Expenses					
50100 Clergy Salary	1,954.24	27,336.52	58,400.00	31,063.48	46.8%
50101 Clergy Housing	1,212.42	14,511.78	21,600.00	7,088.22	67.2%
50102 Search Committee Expense	-	61.89	2,500.00	2,438.11	2.5%
50103 Clergy Pension	-	3,600.00	14,400.00	10,800.00	25.0%
50104 Clergy Health	-	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.0%
50105 Clergy Life Insurance	28.19	281.90	444.00	162.10	63.5%
50106 Curate Salary	1,403.00	16,836.00	5,000.00	(11,836.00)	336.7%
50107 Clergy Continuing Education	-	(500.00)	1,000.00	1,500.00	-50.0%
50108 Clergy Supply Expense	-	675.00	-	(675.00)	-
50109 Clergy Expense	-	249.00	3,575.00	3,326.00	7.0%
50110 Clergy Discretionary Expense	-	200.00	-	(200.00)	-
50140 Curate Expense	-	165.10	1,000.00	834.90	16.5%
50150 Curate Discretionary Expense	-	1,041.17	-	(1,041.17)	-
Total 501 Clergy Expenses	4,597.85	64,458.36	109,919.00	45,460.64	58.6%
502 Staff Expense					
50200 Employer SSI/Medicare	392.05	4,870.65	5,542.00	671.35	87.9%

	Current Month Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	% Budget Used
50203 Staff Health Insurance	135.84	2,048.37	3,261.00	1,212.63	62.8%
50204 Workers' Comp Insurance	-	933.00	700.00	(233.00)	133.3%
50205 Staff Mileage	-	-	-	-	-
50206 Misc. Staff Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Total 502 Staff Expense	527.89	7,852.02	9,503.00	1,650.98	82.6%
503 Administrative Expense					
50300 Office Assistant Salary	1,609.14	18,340.08	19,000.00	659.92	96.5%
50301 Postage & Shipping	115.50	899.71	750.00	(149.71)	120.0%
50302 Office Expenses	211.89	3,448.00	8,800.00	5,352.00	39.2%
50303 Advertising	-	383.00	500.00	117.00	76.6%
50304 Legal & Professional Expenses	-	60.00	8,000.00	7,940.00	0.8%
50305 Conference & Education	-	150.45	750.00	599.55	20.1%
50307 Phone/Internet	573.16	6,373.69	6,000.00	(373.69)	106.2%
50308 Printer/Copier Rental & Supplies	275.84	2,108.65	3,804.00	1,695.35	55.4%
50309 Bank & Service Charges	130.40	1,895.89	4,000.00	2,104.11	47.4%
50310 Payroll Processing	-	1,989.50	1,800.00	(189.50)	110.5%
50311 Diocesan Assessment	2,507.00	30,084.00	30,080.00	(4.00)	100.0%
50312 Accounting Services	500.00	6,800.00	6,000.00	(800.00)	113.3%
Total 503 Administrative Expense	5,922.93	72,532.97	89,484.00	16,951.03	81.1%
504 Christian Education Expense					
50400 Christian Education Director Salary	-	2,166.67	2,500.00	333.33	86.7%
50401 Nursery Attendant(s) Salary	200.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	100.0%
50402 Adult Formation Expense	23.50	157.50	-	(157.50)	-
50403 Youth Formation Expense	-	467.25	500.00	32.75	93.5%
Total 504 Christian Education Expense	223.50	5,291.42	5,500.00	208.58	96.2%
505 Music Ministry Expense					
50500 Director of Music Salary	2,291.66	27,499.92	27,500.00	0.08	100.0%
50501 Organist Salary	400.00	5,000.00	5,200.00	200.00	96.2%
50503 Music	-	322.00	750.00	428.00	42.9%
50504 Supply Organist	-	300.00	-	(300.00)	-
50506 Instrument Maintenance	-	907.85	1,000.00	92.15	90.8%
50507 Instrumentalist	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.0%
50508 Misc. Music Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Total 505 Music Ministry Expense	2,691.66	34,029.77	35,450.00	1,420.23	96.0%
506 Worship Expense					
50600 Worship Supplies	35.73	1,918.62	1,000.00	(918.62)	191.9%
50601 Flowers	-	-	-	-	-
50602 Altar Guild	-	40.58	750.00	709.42	5.4%
Total 506 Worship Expense	35.73	1,959.20	1,750.00	(209.20)	112.0%
507 Building & Grounds Expense					
50700 Sexton Salary	624.00	7,800.00	16,000.00	8,200.00	48.8%
50702 Utilities Electric	1,355.18	20,659.33	25,000.00	4,340.67	82.6%
50703 Utilities Gas	185.69	7,591.52	7,000.00	(591.52)	108.5%
50704 Water & Sewer	401.28	4,327.51	4,500.00	172.49	96.2%
50705 Trash Collection	665.61	7,036.15	3,000.00	(4,036.15)	234.5%
50706 Burglar Alarm	219.10	1,424.15	2,200.00	775.85	64.7%
50707 Fire Alarm	-	-	-	-	-
50708 Lawn Care	501.00	5,243.00	3,600.00	(1,643.00)	145.6%
50709 Snow Removal	-	7,070.00	3,500.00	(3,570.00)	202.0%

	Current Month Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining	% Budget Used
50710 Landscape Maint. Supplies	-	-	-	-	-
50711 Bldg. Maint. Supplies	17.88	473.70	1,500.00	1,026.30	31.6%
50712 Repairs Church	-	5,099.14	15,000.00	9,900.86	34.0%
50713 Repairs Equipment	-	2,412.15	4,000.00	1,587.85	60.3%
50714 Kitchen Expense	-	506.05	500.00	(6.05)	101.2%
50715 Property Insurance	3,550.25	14,415.50	10,200.00	(4,215.50)	141.3%
50716 Misc. Building & Grounds	-	-	-	-	-
Total 507 Building & Grounds Expense	7,519.99	84,058.20	96,000.00	11,941.80	87.6%
508 Restricted Expense					
50810 Columbarium Expense	-	-	-	-	-
50820 Memorial Expense	-	-	-	-	-
50830 Camp Chickagami Expense	-	-	500.00	500.00	0.0%
50840 SOC Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Restricted					
50502 OR - Section Leaders Pay	1,125.00	9,700.00	-	(9,700.00)	-
50603 OR - Inreach Expense	-	-	-	-	-
50850 OR - Special Music	-	400.00	-	(400.00)	-
50851 OR - Choir Robes	-	-	-	-	-
50852 OR - VBS & Scholarship	-	-	-	-	-
50854 OR - Flowers & Beautification	(58.53)	4,029.61	-	(4,029.61)	-
50855 OR - Linens & Cruets	-	-	-	-	-
50856 OR - Candleholder	-	-	-	-	-
50857 OR - Vestments	-	-	-	-	-
50858 OR - Building Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
50859 OR - PA System	-	-	-	-	-
Total Operating Restricted	1,066.47	14,129.61	-	(14,129.61)	-
Outreach					
50800 Outreach Expense	-	-	950.00	950.00	0.0%
50801 Food Pantry Expense	-	-	500.00	500.00	0.0%
Total Outreach	-	-	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.0%
Total 508 Restricted Expense	1,066.47	14,129.61	1,950.00	(12,179.61)	724.6%
50850 OR - Special Music	-	-	-	-	-
50851 OR - Choir Robes	-	-	-	-	-
509 Other Expense					
50900 Mortgage Interest	-	28,534.03	62,915.04	34,381.01	45.4%
Mortgage Principal Paid	-	29,138.09	-	(29,138.09)	-
50910 Lighting Loan Interest	-	(29.75)	-	29.75	-
52900 Misc. Operating Expense	-	150.00	-	(150.00)	-
Total 509 Other Expense	-	57,792.37	62,915.04	5,122.67	91.9%
Program Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	22,586.02	342,103.92	412,471.04	70,367.12	82.9%
Other Expenses					
59020 Unrealized Gain/Loss	(14,376.14)	(3.77)	-	3.77	-
59040 Discretionary Bank Charges	7.28	88.62	-	(88.62)	-
Total Other Expenses	(14,368.86)	84.85	-	(84.85)	-

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10200 Clergy Discretionary 4366	120.77
10300 Curate Discretionary 4421	1,422.72
10400 Building Fund Savings 8248	1,138.23
12070 General Savings Account 9797	26,089.27
Operating Checking	
10100 Operating Checking 1847	116,344.57
Total Operating Checking	116,344.57
Total Bank Accounts	\$145,115.56
Other Current Assets	
12010 R James Safley Memorial	69,281.11
12011 R James Youth	1,431.91
12012 R James Ingram	46,071.56
12040 SSGA	47,294.79
Total Other Current Assets	\$164,079.37
Total Current Assets	\$309,194.93
Fixed Assets	
14010 Building Value	8,199,700.00
14020 Building Contents	868,500.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$9,068,200.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$9,377,394.93
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Long-Term Liabilities	
20200 Mortgage Payable	618,905.15
20400 Diocesan Loan Payable	500,000.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$1,118,905.15
Total Liabilities	\$1,118,905.15
Equity	
32 Net Assets	(76,652.71)
320 Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	
32000 Net Assets - Operating	8,066,097.80
Total 320 Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	8,066,097.80
321 Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	
32001 Net Assets - Building Fund	1,238.23
32003 Net Assets - Non-Operating Restricted Funds	28,080.75
32006 Net Assets - Discretionary Fund	120.77
32007 Net Assets - Curate Discretionary Fund	1,422.72
32999 Net Assets - Operating	161,529.51
Total 321 Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	192,391.98

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
Net Income	76,652.71
Total Equity	\$8,258,489.78
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$9,377,394.93

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
2021 Budget

December 2020

INCOME	2020		2021		DIFFERENCE
		BUDGET		PROPOSED	
Operating Pledges	41000	\$ 345,425.00	\$ 240,450.00	\$ (104,975.00)	
Non-Operating Restricted Income	41001	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$ -	
Operating Restricted	41002	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Special Offerings	41004	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	
Misc. Operating Income	41005	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ (7,000.00)	
Sexton Event Pay	41006	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Operating Interest	49060	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	
Operating Dividends	49061	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	
Restricted - Outreach	41040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted - Memorial	41041	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted - Columbarium	41042	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted - Camp Income	41043	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Non-Operating Restricted Income	41044	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Restricted - SOC	41045	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Building Plate	42001	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Building Use Income	42002	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	
Clergy Discretionary	43000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Curate Discretionary	44000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 414,525.00	\$ 302,550.00		

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
2021 Budget

December 2020

EXPENSES	2020		2021		
		BUDGET		PROPOSED	DIFFERENCE
Clergy					
50100 Salary	\$	58,400.00	\$	58,400.00	\$ -
50101 Housing	\$	21,600.00	\$	21,600.00	\$ -
50102 Search Committee	\$	2,500.00	\$	-	\$ (2,500.00)
50103 Pension	\$	14,400.00	\$	14,400.00	\$ -
50104 Health Insurance	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$ -
50105 Life Insurance	\$	444.00	\$	444.00	\$ -
50107 Cont. Education	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$ -
50108 Supply Clergy	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
50109 Clergy Expense	\$	3,575.00	\$	3,575.00	\$ -
50110 Clergy Discretionary	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Staff Expense					
50200 Employer SSI/Medicare	\$	5,542.00	\$	5,542.00	\$ -
50203 Health Insurance	\$	3,261.00	\$	3,261.00	\$ -
50204 Workers Comp	\$	700.00	\$	700.00	\$ -
50205 Staff Mileage Expense	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
50206 Staff Expense	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Office & Administration					
50300 Admin. Asst. Salary	\$	19,000.00	\$	19,570.00	\$ 570.00
50301 Postage	\$	750.00	\$	750.00	\$ -
50302 Office Expenses	\$	8,800.00	\$	8,800.00	\$ -
50303 Advertising	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$ -
50304 Legal/Prof/Audit	\$	8,000.00	\$	8,000.00	\$ -
50305 Conference/Edu.	\$	750.00	\$	750.00	\$ -
50307 Phone/Internet	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$ -
50308 Printer/Copier	\$	3,804.00	\$	3,804.00	\$ -
50309 Bank & Service Charges	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,000.00	\$ -
50311 Diocesan Tithe	\$	30,080.00	\$	42,417.00	\$ 12,337.00
50312 Accounting Services	\$	6,000.00	\$	8,400.00	\$ 2,400.00

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
2021 Budget

December 2020

		2020	2021	Difference
Christian Education				
	50400 Dir. Of Christian Education	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ (2,500.00)
	50401 Nursery Attendants	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ (2,500.00)
	50402 Adult Education	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	50403 Youth Education	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
	50404 VBS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Music Expense				
	50500 Director of Music	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00	\$ -
	50501 Organist	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,200.00	\$ -
	50502 Section Leaders	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	50503 Music	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ -
	50504 Supply Organist	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	50505 Instruments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	50506 Instrument Maint.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
	50507 Instrumentalist	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
	50508 Misc. Music Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Worship Expense				
	50600 Worship Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
	50854 Flowers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	50602 Altar Guild Expense	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Inreach				
	50603 Inreach Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Building & Grounds				
	50700 Sexton	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -
	50702 Utilities Electric	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -
	50703 Utilities Gas	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -
	50704 Water & Sewer	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ -
	50705 Trash Collection	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
	50706 Burglar Alarm	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -
	50708 Lawn Care	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ -
	50709 Snow Removal	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
	50710 Landscape	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	50711 Building & Maint. Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Total Pledges 2021	52	Total Pledges 2020	71
Total Amt. Pledged 2021	\$282,610.00	Total Amt. Pledged 2020	\$341,555.00
Average Pledge	\$5,434.81	Average Pledge for 2020	\$4,357.8

Increased Pledges	19	
Decreased Pledges	5	
Unchanged Pledges	28	
New Pledges	2	(also included in increased pledges)

2021 Pledge Amounts

\$1500	2
\$501-1000	6
\$1001-2000	11
\$2001-3000	11
\$3001-4000	3
\$4001-5000	5
\$5001+	14

WORSHIP IN 2020

Attendance (Averages)

	Pre-COVID (through 3/11/20)	Post-COVID (3/15/20 on)
Sunday	76	35
Wednesday Evening	10	10
Easter (all)	75	
Christmas (all)	104	

Services Performed in 2020

Sunday Holy Eucharist	19
Sunday Morning Prayer	53
Sunday Liturgy of the Word	16
Mid-Week Holy Eucharist	8
Mid-Week Evening Prayer	38
Private Holy Eucharist	2
Baptisms	1
Burials	1
Ordinations	4
House Blessings	1

INTERIM PRIEST REPORT

Dear Friends,

When I assumed the position of interim priest-in-charge at St. Christopher's on April 1, 2020, every Episcopal church building in the four dioceses of Michigan had been closed to all activity, including in-person worship, since mid-March by order of our bishops because of COVID-19. The bishops had issued a thorough, three-stage re-entry document setting forth procedures and best practices for parishes to follow during each of the stages.

I had no idea – and I venture to guess most people had no idea, either – that eight months later our buildings would still be closed to in-person worship. During that time of closure we have been challenged to re-think what it means to be the church.

The enforced exile we find ourselves in was not what any of us would have expected or preferred. We have struggled with grief, loss, anxiety, frustration. We want our lives to get back to normal.

Significant things have happened in the wake of our building closure. I think it is helpful to be reminded what they are.

We learned to gather and worship remotely. We even joined together for Zoom coffee hour. We have come to realize that remote worship is here to stay, and that it provides an important means by which to connect for those who cannot attend worship in person.

Care Teams were established so members of the parish could still remain in contact since seeing each other at church on Sunday morning was not permitted. Important and holy conversations continue to come out of those contacts.

The Mask Mavens, a mask-making ministry, was created with the purpose of making masks for parishioners to use when in-person worship resumed. The Mask Mavens got to work straightaway, and before anyone knew it we had an abundance of masks.

Some of the masks made their way to Midland. Folks cleaning up after the dam collapses and ensuing flooding did not have access to masks due to a shortage. This was a much-needed outreach facilitated by our siblings at St. John's, Midland.

The drive-by stewardship in-gathering facilitated by Jane Yorks was a resounding success. Folks not only turned in their pledge cards they had an opportunity to fellow parishioners even if masked and physically distanced.

The Advent/Christmas box project, which was the brainchild of Fr. Michael, was another attempt to reach out to the parish. The contents of the box provided a way for folks to prepare for the birth of Jesus in various ways.

And last, but by no means least, your search committee found, and your vestry called, a new rector. In a process naturally fraught with twists and turns everyone remained calm and focused. Congratulations on a job well done!

Your wardens, vestry, and treasurer provided steady leadership during this challenging time. I told them more than once how I knew they did not sign up for this, and that I was grateful be able to minister with them. Thank you again to Jane Brewer, Bill White, Bill Anderson, Angela Campbell, Ken Duck, Caroline James, Dawn Rutherford, Becky Stermer, Kay Van Atta, and Bobbie Walton.

I am grateful to have served as your priest-in-charge for eight months. It was a blessing and an honor. And I wish you all the best as you begin a new chapter in your life as a parish.

The Rev. Ann Grady
Interim Priest-in-Charge

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR REPORT

It is something of a cliché to say that we're glad to see the backside of 2020. You know too well the reasons; no one reading this needs any reminders. It's safe to say 2020 is a year none of us will forget, no matter how much we'd dearly like to. 2020 was a time for radical disruption in our lives, spiritual, emotional, mental, economic – every dimension of our lives experienced some kind of change.

It was common in the early days of the pandemic to be optimistic about a couple of key things: to be convinced that we could beat it, and to be convinced that we were learning lessons through this experience that would hopefully alter us for the better in long-lasting ways. As much as we wanted to return to normal, we also were able to see with new eyes some of the ways in which the old normal wasn't sufficient.

In our life together, we quickly learned about some of the ways our normal was not going to get us very far for much longer. We instituted a whole host of new experiences, processes, ways of being together, in light of the changing norms for safety and for ministry. I'm particularly grateful for the Care Circle connectors, the folks who responded "Yes!"

to my request for help with staying in touch on a regular basis with our households. We didn't do this perfectly – I doubt we ever could – but we began a new ministry together that transformed our relationships, and I suspect the goodness that that effort began will continue to benefit our common life for a long time.

We've also stepped out into holding services online – an insufficient but still honest and decent effort to gather and worship God together. What we've all learned is that there's no true substitute for being with one another, and we pray daily for the time when we can do that again. We've tried to make our online services as accessible as we know how, and we're learning more and more as we go. I suspect that streaming services online will continue even after we are worshiping in person again, and I am glad of the chance to share our worship with the world on this new scale.

We also instituted online giving for the first time, and we've done good work to recall the needs of the church and the world around as we asked our members to make a financial commitment to help meet these needs again in 2021. As I write this I know that there are still some households who have not yet been able to make a pledge; I know that the economic hardship of the pandemic has radically changed the circumstances of some of our families. I hope that 2021 sees better days for them and for all who struggle to meet the financial obligations of their households for whatever reason. Meanwhile, God continues to call us into mission, and we move forward with the resources we're blessed to receive.

Looking forward, we have much to be excited about. Vaccines are coming, bringing a new brightness to the hope we've all been nurturing. Our new rector is on board and learning quickly about our community, our context, and about how to steer through a skid on I-75. *grin* I am looking forward to doing everything I can to support him in his ministry as our priest, pastor, teacher, and catalyst for our continuing journey with Christ. I hope that you will join me in praying for him, especially as he begins a new ministry with us in a new place, and that you will do all you can to support him as he seeks to be faithful to his call with us at St. Christopher's. In the short time I've known him I've found him to be faithful priest, a kind man, and a gift to the church.

Thank you for the gift of allowing me to serve Christ's church with you this past year. I have learned so much. I have made numerous mistakes. You have continued to be generous, kind, and supportive to me, just as you always have during my time at St. Christopher's, and I cannot imagine a greater gift in a year such as this one. Blessings abound!

Submitted by The Rev. Canon Michael Spencer

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Dear Faithful Members of St. Christopher's,

The struggles of 2020 are past us and the future looks better in 2021. Your prayers have helped so please continue to pray!

In spite of our building being closed to our worshipping together we have accomplished a great deal. Here's a recap:

- Fr. Don's last day was January 2020
- Our last in-house worship together was March 8, 2020
- We began our Facebook and Zoom services online
- Rev Ann Grady became our PIC
- The Diocese shared their recommendations for reopening
- Care Circles were established
- Ordinations sponsored by the Diocese were held at St. Christopher's
- Pledges for 2020 were faithfully maintained
- Online giving was installed
- Stewardship was undertaken for 2021
- "Parade of Pledges" was well received
- The drive/through event mentioned above was a big success thanks to Jane Yorks for heading this event and BIG THANKS to all the people who braved the cold to man the stations and greet everyone!
- Fr. Michael Spence provided us with at home advent candles and we thank him
- Advent and Christmas services were live streamed from the church building
- FISH had a record setting season as the need became greater than ever and we shared our building with them, with all the protocol protections and approval of the Diocese.
- The Search Committee worked hard to bring our new Rector, Fr. Jerry Lasley, to us on January 1, 2021 and we welcome him with open arms!

We are blessed for sure and know that God is with us always. Stay safe and keep being "The Church" as we move forward in 2021.

Peace to All,
Jane Brewer, Sr. Warden

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

There is not much to report about the Church property. The only areas in use are the church office and the area being used by FISH personnel.

Just before everything was shutdown last year we had a leak in the roof over the organ. The organ sustained damage to several of the pipes. Before we could get the organ repaired the church was closed. We did get the leak repaired. The repair appears to be working. I have checked for leaks when I have been in the building.

We hope to get the organ fixed when the church is reopened for church services.

The flat parts of the roof need to be replaced. That is one of the items planned for the future. Another item on the to do list is to have the vehicle entrance and the parking lot refinished.

William B. White, Junior Warden

MUSIC REPORT

Musical Happenings at St. Christopher Episcopal Church, 2020

Adult Choir: Musical growth and contribution to our church

As our Advent and Christmas season was drawing to a close, our Adult Choir was very pleased as we had just completed very musically challenging pieces. Also, we had the blessing of guest singers appearing to join our Christmas Eve service (that evening we had singers from the Julliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Kansas City Conservatory, Oberlin Conservatory, UM School of Music, Western MI, Central MI and Oakland U ALL coming to volunteer their time to complement the sound of our choir). It was truly a beautiful gift from all of them.

Too, for this special Christmas Eve service, as it was going to be Father Don's last one with us, we engaged a string ensemble and harpsichord to play the Arcangelo Corelli "Christmas Cantata" as our opening Prelude. This ensemble was comprised of local college musicians, as well as our own Victor Galea playing cello. They played beautifully and this music enriched our service.

Normally, the Adult Choir meets every Wednesday from 7-8:30-ish, (following the wonderful soup supper which devoted volunteers, Ellen Safley, Noralynn Hassold and Caroline James prepare for everyone. This supper is a wonderful time of sharing and laughter. Every week, someone volunteers to bring a soup or two). Too, the Adult Choir rehearses prior to our 10:15 service, usually around 9:00-10:00 a.m. Sometimes, there are a few fin-

ishing touches which need to be addressed before the 10:15 service.

Our choir has grown in size, and we are in the area of 24 regular singers. We are blessed with especially strong tenor and bass sections. We sing 43 Sunday mornings, and extra services during Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Christmas, totaling 50 services. We also sometimes lead as well as participate in several ecumenical services (Good Friday & Thanksgiving) in the Greater Grand Blanc Community. The Adult Choir at St. Christopher has been working very diligently on learning and singing Anglican Chant. We truly enjoy this aspect of our service music.

Musical Gift to Choir in support of section leaders: They do more than just sing!

The very generous gift from an anonymous donor has made it possible for our church to have excellent section leaders. This gift has supported our section leaders from 2019 thru 2020 and possibly into 2021. Section leaders are, in my heart, more than just a trained singer who helps the existing choir. These young people are being exposed to the beauty of the rich musical heritage in our Episcopal faith; too, they are leaning and participating in the caring, loving, kind church body of St. Christopher. We are so blessed that our anonymous donor wants to share our church with these young musicians.

Choir Robes/Library Boxes: Necessities.

After the generous donation from the Hassold family for the new robes, Noralynn went through our entire robe collection, repaired AND also created robe assignments roster for each singer; she even prepared us with a few extra robes for when we have guests! Ellen Safley offered to take several robes home to wash and iron them; which she so kindly did.

The library boxes did arrive; we now are in possession of 50 much needed choir music file boxes; however, due to the pandemic, I was not allowed to organize/file our music. Hopefully, as restrictions shift a bit, perhaps I will be able to accomplish this task in the coming year!

Bells

Our Ding-a-lings (fondly named by NancyLee Fawcett) were beginning rehearsals in January, 2020, and we were welcoming back our strong leadership from Victor Galea. We are 11 ringers strong (plus two alternates). Our Bell Choir core include: Sue Corliss, Caroline James, Jane Yorks, Ellen Safley, Audrey Ditri, Flo Gjerstadt, Patricia Lewis, Joyce Thewaldt, Gabby Ireland, NancyLee Fawcett and Bill Hartley. Our alternates, Michael Spencer and Victor Galea, complete our ensemble.

The year began with our scheduling earlier rehearsal times to tend to the task of cleaning and polishing our bells. This was a very satisfying chore. By the time we finished, our beautiful Malmark bells were sparkling!

As we began rehearsals, I could tell that our ensemble had improved and Victor and I were looking at more challenging pieces for us in the coming season of Lent. We did ring the Sunday before we had to shut everything down, March 8.

Unfortunately, the pandemic interrupted us in early March; up until that time, we had completed about 10 rehearsals. Hopefully, soon, we will be able to resume our joyous ringing!

Pandemic adjustments:

Although we were required to 'not gather' in our space, many creative musical ideas were carried to completion. Reverend Ann Grady worked very closely with us, trying to keep us safe and yet still engaged. Greg Hassold very kindly agreed to Zoom preludes, hymns and postlude music from his living room piano. At times, Noralynn Hassold would help with hymn leading, (and kitty one and kitty two would make the occasional appearance).

As I continued to plan music for all services, sometimes we had to 'adjust' the schedule to better fit the altered service, be it in a morning prayer structure or otherwise.

During the fall, we did host an ordination for four priests, which Father Michael ingeniously accomplished by holding four separate services! This kept everyone safe! Victor Galea played cello for this service and guest organist David Grondz, played beautifully.

All singers did their best to attend all services offered online.

At one point, mid-year, Father Michael met with me (over Zoom) and we discussed the possibility of perhaps figuring out a way we could at the very least possibly incorporate our Bell ensemble into a service, but it was then decided that it was too dangerous-- ultimately, possible exposure to the virus.

It has been so lovely to carry in my heart the knowledge that each singer in our choir has expressed to me how much they miss participating in our services. EACH signer from our choir has said this to me.! Truly, we all love being together at St. Christopher.

A very special thank you to Ken Duck (saxophone), who graciously offered his musical services to us as well this year. Thank you, Ken!

Organist, Jeffrey Walker very kindly played Advent 3 for us 'in house' as well as Christmas Eve. Thank you, Mr. Walker!

As of 2021, our parish organist, Greg Hassold has returned to the building. Thank you, Greg!

-----just as an addendum, last year, in 2020, our church music schedule was planned

through

Easter, which was April 12. We had a brass ensemble lined up, music was already being rehearsed and the choir personnel had already been assigned solo work.

We hope, all of us, as this pandemic loosens its grip upon our world, we will once again be able to worship through the medium of music.

Special Musical Events:

For the past four years, St. Christopher has hosted the Grand Blanc Messiah Sing. This year, due to the pandemic, it could not be held. This is the first interruption in the 31 year history of the Grand Blanc Messiah Performance. Thankfully, local news anchor, Bill Harris, very graciously arranged to have our performance from November 2019 streamed on the Mid-Michigan Now media page, (Fox 66) on November 22, 2020, which would have been the day we would normally have performed it. This Messiah performance, which was held at St. Christopher, in our nave, has already reached a viewing number of 6,000 followers. (It is still available if anyone would like to see it).

Nada Radakovich, Director of Music

ORGAN UPDATE

After the completion of the “phase one” project by Fowler Hebert Organ Company, I was able to reacquire two stops from them (at no cost) which they had not intended to reuse: the swell trumpet (which has already been installed); and the swell mixture. I have the rack board for the four rank mixture and will have to drill 244 holes of various sizes to hold the pipes (which are in a tray below the pedal division). In addition I have a set of trumpet pipes and the necessary rack board which can be used as the octave sounding Clarion. The addition of these two stops will make the swell division complete and very effective. Chest space and control provisions were included in the project.

It is also my hope to complete the pedal open wood stop (there are 7 large pipes visible behind the lower great chest, leaving 25 more for a full stop) and to add independent bottom octaves (12 pipes each) to the great diapason and the pedal octave. I have all of these pipes which I will donate along with my time and labor. The only costs involved will be wind chests and reservoirs. The console and the electronic control system have provisions for all of these additions. These stops will give the organ greater warmth and depth of tone.

Before Christmas I reinstalled two pouch boards of the pedal posaune which had been damaged by water when the roof leaked some months ago and were later repaired by Fowler Hebert.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Walker
Organ Tuner/Technician

OUTREACH REPORT

The Outreach Team coordinates the living ministry of Christ to the community. This year we worked on these projects:

Family Promise - We help Calvary Methodist Church in Holly serve dinner and supply food for meals. In January 2020 we served two dinners to the family staying at the church for the week. Due to COVID Family Promise work has been suspended. We look forward to the time we can serve again.

Christmas Giving Tree - December 2020 we purchased gifts for a family of 6 children. It wasn't our usual of decorating a tree with cards. With phone calls and email we got it done. The items were given to FISH and the family picked up the gifts along with hygiene products and food. Thanks to all who helped.

Food Pantry - Last spring when pandemic began, and we no longer used our building we decided the food in the pantry should be donated to FISH. We can restart when we are all together again.

FISH - FISH continues to use our church building to house their office and food. Distributions are made the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Especially in this time of great need we are thankful we have the facility that allows us to help serve our community.

Our love for others is our grateful response to the love God first demonstrated to us.

-1 John 4:19

Rebecca Stermer
Bobbie Walton
Bill Anderson