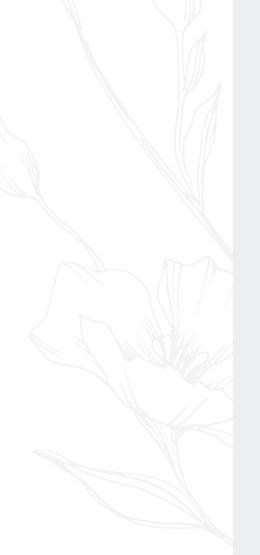
## ST. LUKE'S ATLANTA

## ANNUAL REPORT

2023





## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AGENDA

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Vestry Election Results

Introduction of New Vestry Members

Wardens' Report

Finance Report

Rector's Report

Closing Prayer



## Mission

defines our work, our objectives, and how we will reach our objectives

We are an inclusive Christian community—praying, singing, and working together to love God and our neighbor.

## Vision

#### names our aspirations

We dream of being a courageous, diverse, healing, and justice-creating sanctuary for the heart of Atlanta.

## **Core Values**

the things that drive us

**Faithful:** We strive to follow Jesus in the sacramental tradition of The Episcopal Church in prayer, fellowship, and study, and in service to the greater community.

**Inclusive:** We strive to welcome and grow with many kinds of people and perspectives toward a more just society.

**Dynamic:** We are open to change as we distinguish how to carry out God's work in this time by engaging in deep listening and thought-provoking processes of discernment.

**Generous:** We strive to collaboratively use our resources to care for each other, our church, our community, and our world.

## 2023 VESTRY

Lisa Boswell Lindley Cole Fontaine Draper John Floyd David Gillon Peter Kopp Whit Lanier Drew Putt Deneta Sells Ray Uttenhove, Junior Warden Greg Vaughn John Zintak, Senior Warden

Retiring Members: Lindley Cole, David Gillon, Ray Uttenhove, and John Zintak



## 2024 VESTRY CANDIDATES



Pat Brumbaugh is an attorney with King & Spalding LLP.

#### Involvement at St. Luke's

- Education for Ministry (EFM) graduate (2016)
- Sunday School teacher (former)
- Vestry Member (2017-2018)
- Chancellor (2019-2023)
- Acolyte Wrangler (current)
- Verger (2023)

#### **Community Involvement**

Atlanta Legal Aid Society (member of Board of Directors); Crossroads Community Ministries (former member of Board of Directors)

#### Ministry Areas of Interest

Property Committee, Worship

**Sharon Gay** is an attorney and senior counsel and former Atlanta Managing Partner of Dentons US LLP.

#### Involvement at St. Luke's

- Lay Reader
- Sunday Greeter
- Canterbury Court Board of Trustees
- Place Making Committee Member
- Vestry Member 2001-2004

#### **Community Involvement**

Member and past chair of Livable Communities Council of Urban Land Institute-Atlanta; past chair of Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership; past board member of Piedmont Park Conservancy, Georgia Regional Transportation Authority and Historic Ward Park Conservancy; graduate of Leadership Atlanta and Regional Leadership Institute

#### **Ministry Areas of Interest**

St. Luke's has been my oasis and my touchstone since I first attended a service in 1981. A former Baptist, I was confirmed at St. Luke's in 1983, and Neil and I married here in 1985. Now that I am winding down my law practice, I have more time to devote to volunteer service. I would like to apply my knowledge and experience in community development, civic leadership, consensus building, and public policy to assist our church as we continue to make our place in the heart of the city.



## 2024 VESTRY CANDIDATES



**Darryl B. Holloman** is a college administrator and serves as vice president for student affairs at Spelman College.

#### Involvement at St. Luke's

- Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Transformation Committee
- CYF Advisory Committee
- Children's Chapel
- Volunteer Nursery Aid
- Leadership St. Luke's
- Sunday Greeter
- CYF Director Search Committee member
- Good Shepherd Society Member
- DragonCon Hospitality
- Pride Parade Hospitality

#### **Community Involvement**

NASPA Board; NASPA Foundation Board; Human Rights Campaign Board

#### **Ministry Areas of Interest**

My professional work and board service has provided me with a sound background in governance, fundraising, administration and supervision, auditing, budgeting, and civic engagement. My church passion is working in the St. Luke's nursery! I look forward to my service every second Sunday.

**Allison Stouffer Kopp** is a public affairs and communications consultant, and senior vice president at VOX Global.

#### Involvement at St. Luke's

- Chair of Communications Committee
- Co-Chair of Parents of Little Ones (POLO) Committee
- Adult Formation Committee member
- Kanuga Committee member for three years
- Co-Chair of Young Adults Committee for two years
- · Served on discernment committees for two candidates
- TACC Board Member

#### **Community Involvement**

Served on Host Committees for annual fundraisers for several nonprofits including: Her Term & Jeannette Rankin Foundation—Women's Scholarship Fund (2017-2019); former president of Georgia NOW (National Organization for Women) (2017-2020); Former Communications Director and Vice President of the Washington, D.C., chapter for NOW (2011-2016)

#### **Ministry Areas of Interest**

Lifelong Formation; Communications/Public Relations and thought leadership; POLO support for parents; and supporting continuing discernment efforts of parishioners



## FROM THE WARDENS

Dear St. Luke's Family,

The year 2023 came to a close with our magnificent Christmas Eve services. The 4 p.m. service was filled with families and the children's pageant took us in a whole new direction with humor and joy and the angel Gabriel in a whole new light. In fact, the pageant brought a new perspective to the story of the night our savior was born. At the 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. services, we celebrated in true St. Luke's style. We had glorious music, beautiful pageantry, and artful sermons for us to ponder. And after the Christmas Day service on that cold Monday morning, the church offices closed for a much-needed staff break to finish the year.

And it was quite a year we had. As God calls us to do, St. Luke's remained committed to serving as a beacon of outreach and social justice in downtown Atlanta and beyond. Many parishioners engaged in our Community Ministries programs as we strive to live out our faith in the Baptismal Covenant, "to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being."

Our Faith and Advocacy Network (FAN) met monthly, held classes, forums, and vigils, providing opportunities for us to learn, pray, and act on important topics. Issues of systemic racism, housing and homelessness, economic equality, the death penalty, immigration, and gun violence prevention are just a few of the issues this group engaged to address. Partnerships grew with Ebenezer Baptist Church, the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing, and the Episcopal Public Policy Network, to name a few.

2023 was a banner year for our Children, Youth, and Families ministries. Our nursery was regularly filled with little ones while parents attended church. Our youth worked through a three-year primary and intermediate program based on the Episcopal Children's Curriculum. Our youth in grades 8 through 12 experienced some of the largest class sizes ever as they were guided through a curriculum called "Bridging and Belonging." They explored how identity is constructed, how belonging is cultivated and how to use practical and theological resources in everyday life. And several times this year, our parents came together to focus on learning, community building, and the work of parenting. At the direction of The Rev. Nicole Lambelet and the CYF team, participation of our children, youth, and families as acolytes, readers, singers in the Chorister program, or flower guild, grew as an integral part of the life of the church.

Music remains a central part of worship and church life. The adult, children, and youth choirs, and the St. Luke's concerts were elevated to new heights by the leadership of Director of Music Matthew Brown.

At the center of the program is the Alston Memorial Pipe Organ, which celebrated the 60th anniversary of its installation and the current campaign for the scheduled re-leathering of the pipes this year. The program boasts a record 59 children and youth choristers, and 45 choir singers composed of professionals and volunteers, providing a wide range of the highest quality of music. Our concert series elevated to new heights with spectacular performances by the Chenault Duo, the Vega Quartet, and colleagues from around the country for guest organ recitals. Bravo for all this great work.

None of this would be possible without the leadership of our Rector The Rev. Winnie Varghese, the dedicated hard work of the clergy and staff, and the strong participation from you, the members of this parish. From congregational formation and education, to property and finance, pastoral care, grants, community ministries, and parish life, the strength of this church is embedded in its parishioners. The church relies on you for your time given, the talents you bring, and your financial support to make St. Luke's a dynamic community of faith, striving to live out the gospel in the heart of Atlanta. Your support is so valued and appreciated.

The vestry's role is to provide strategic and financial oversight and support to Winnie and the staff. Our rector and the personnel are intelligent and diligent workers. The vestry responsibilities are to help strengthen the organization and to plan with the staff to discern what the parish is called to do. Your vestry has worked hard this year to uphold the Mission, Vision, and Core Values we have set before us. The related governance has been diligent and focused. Our commitment to the church By Laws, the guidelines of The Episcopal Church, and the diocese are strictly adhered to by our rector and your vestry. The composition of the vestry is intentional, in bringing a range of talents and skills as a representative collection of the congregation providing a commitment to serve at the highest level. To the vestry, we say job well done.

As we move into 2024, our church will continue to grow and expand our parish family and the programs and opportunities we serve. We will transform "The Backyard and Playground" into a new space for fellowship, ministry, and mission. We will continue and expand the bold programs we have started and look to the future of new programs to begin. Together, as a parish, we need to continue to spread the good work, invite our neighbors and friends, serve in our community, and live into "who we can be" and who God calls us to be.

Faithfully,

John Zintak, Senior Warden Ray Uttenhove, Junior Warden















## RECTOR'S REPORT

Joy & Hope in Belonging

Dear St. Luke's,

In the gospel of John, after the resurrection, Jesus goes to the sea where he had first called his disciples, and builds a fire to make them breakfast. The disciples were just coming in from a night of fishing. They had caught nothing. Exhausted at the end of their night's fruitless work, he tells them to cast their nets to the other side. They do and are overwhelmed with an abundance of fish.

Sometime when I look around on Sunday morning, I wonder if this is what it feels like to have cast our nets to the other side. There seem to be people, invitation, and opportunity everywhere.

Earlier in the fall, The Rev. Nicole Lambelet mentioned in a staff meeting that we were going to recruit additional nursery workers and volunteers to support the nursery on Sundays if a worker had to call in sick or got stuck in traffic. Easy, I thought, how many babies could there be? We could send the vestry person of the day down, and they could take a friend with them. Sixteen babies this week, Nicole said. The following Sunday, I stood at the top of the stairs near Peachtree and asked a few of the dads coming up the stairs from the nursery after church how many babies were down there today—16 one said; 18 said another. We can give thanks to Nicole's creativity and diligence in designing and implementing an excellent Children, Youth, and Families program. It is a huge part of attracting new families.

Our chorister program, led by Colleen Kingston, practicing on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour, further demonstrates our commitment to families and gives our kids one of the great gifts of the church–Christian formation through music education, which has formed and delighted generations of Christians.

Hiring The Rev. Matt Babcock as our vicar, a priest with oversight over the day-to-day operations and administration, has been a staffing goal of the parish since the pandemic. A model presented to St. Luke's by The Rev. Lang Lowery at the diocese during the interim period. In some ways the effectiveness of the vicar is visible in that things just seem to work. "The place looks great," someone said to me at a recent funeral. "I'm a member, but I haven't been here in a long time." Yes, the place looks great. We are working on how we do everything, and we are preparing the way, with all of the Prepare Ye The Way campaign money. We are improving our systems, and the sign of its effectiveness, is that you don't have to think a lot about how things work, except of course when they don't.

This year, we saw Courtland Street renovated. It's beautiful back there. The Memorial Garden got an accessibility face lift. This coming year, you will see the epic backyard project completed.

This year, feet were washed, water bottles collected and given away, people housed, and classes taught. Your gifts to our discretionary funds funded the \$200 gifts Common Ground awarded to people moving back inside after being unhoused. You paid light bills and got food on our neighbors' tables.

We hosted many receptions and meals and figured out how to add composting to our waste management. Tori and the facilities crew did that, over and over.

We used Realm! And subbed in for one another in worship and service. We signed up and didn't sign up but still showed up for classes and activities. You went to the Capitol and told your legislators what matters to you. People voted in Budd Hall.

We celebrated big birthdays and had too many memorials and celebrations of life, but we did them with great joy, remembering our friends.

St. Luke's welcomed parades that went by on Peachtree Street and lots of people who haven't been inside a church in a long time, and some long-time members who hadn't been inside this church for a long time.

In the fall, we kicked off a forum series on Belonging. We decided on that in the spring, and a few weeks before we began in September, noticed that the Presbyterians on North Avenue had a big fence sign that said BELONG. We might have thought about borrowing it. It was everywhere this past year—BELONG—somehow we thought of it as well. What we all need, a place to belong.

Robert P. Jones told us at the end of the book study with Ebenezer Baptist Church in the spring that belonging is the anecdote to extremisms. A place where you are cared for, as you are. A place that calls you to something greater than your self. A taste of the kingdom of God for all.

As we begin a new year, which is an election year, we are planning the year with Romans 15:13 in mind.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

I've been thinking about it as "Joy and Hope in Belonging."

Christian hope is not a simple optimism or looking on the bright side of things, it is the deep knowing that Christ has conquered death and redeems this creation and each of us to live faithfully together. This means we resist any thing that tells us we cannot belong to one another.

This means we commit to being with one another and brave in our relationships as we work for a better world.

Let us continue to be a community, learning, growing, and serving in light of God's call to each of us.

Megan Wyman said, during a particularly busy week, that "St. Luke's can't stop, won't stop."

There's a lot going on here, like the stirring up at the beginning of any good creation. That stirring up also means we are growing, and in the words of the artist Romare Bearden, "There is an art that emerges in the chaos."

Let us be a sanctuary in the year to come, one where we can offer belonging, where joy and hope and God's saving love can be found.

The Rev. Winnie Varghese, Rector



## WORSHIP



In 2023, St. Luke's continued to expand existing community worship on Sundays, as well as through Evening Worship and Choral Evensong. We welcomed new clergy on staff, as well as distinguished guest preachers throughout the year. Our worship offerings continue to deepen and grow as we walk into this new year.

### Highlights

St. Luke's continued its custom of three morning services at 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and 11:15 a.m., and formation time during the 10 a.m. hour.

Our clergy continued to visit Canterbury Court throughout the year, providing pastoral visitations and Holy Eucharist to residents.

We integrated our worship into the life of the neighborhood by hosting two Jazz Mass services outside on Peachtree Street.

We welcomed The Rev. Matt Babcock as vicar, and Terri Murru as seminarian.

We welcomed visiting clergy, thought leaders, and teachers including Dr. Tina Pippin, Atlanta City Council President Doug Shipman, Deputy Chief Prenzinna Spawn, Dr. Robert P. Jones, The Rev. Dr. Gary Mason, The Rt. Rev. Dr. John Perumbalath, The Rev. Mal Rogers, The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Kaeton, and many other voices from within our community.

St. Luke's hosted Pride Eucharist for the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta to mark the beginning of Pride Week.



## LIFELONG FORMATION

This year, we used the formation time on Sunday mornings for rich conversations together. We talked about inclusion and belonging. Our guests included Dr. Tina Pippin from Agnes Scott College, Candler Seminary faculty and parish members The Rev. Dr. Danielle Tumminio-Hansen, and The Rev. Dr. Gabby Thomas. The programming for the year was the result of work from the Formation Committee and Kate Kennedy, who is St. Luke's Minister for Community Discernment. We were invited to re-set the table and to re-gather in person as a community and welcome newcomers.

During the seasons of Lent and Advent, we offered two classes on prayer, the psalms, the psychology of spirituality, and addiction. Based on feedback from the parish, we are balancing our desires to hear from experts, be together, and take a deep look into certain topics.

#### Kanuga

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Kaeton invited us to a rich meditation on pilgrimage from her own experience as a priest and traveller at St. Luke's Annual Parish Retreat.

### Education for Ministry (EFM)

After a very long run, EFM took a break this fall and will return in 2024.

### Inquirer's Class

This fall St. Luke's offered an Inquirer's Class, inviting new members to consider becoming a Christian, an Episcopalian, or joining St. Luke's. We were pleased to take a large group to the Cathedral in December to be confirmed or received.

### **Contemplative Forum**

Led by Martha Eskew and Mindy Duryea, this group meets after church on Sundays to study Christian contemplative practices.

### Thursday Bible Study

This group, which meets on Thursday mornings, has been studying the gospel of Mark with Amy-Jill Levine's guide.

### Sacred Ground

Three Sacred Ground groups met in the spring to study the church's history and participation in the enslavement of African people. This Episcopal Church curriculum uses film and conversation groups to help churches interrogate their unique histories and discern their roles today.

### The Banned Book Group

This opportunity for parishioner-led conversation on classic books that have been challenged or banned continues to meet once each month.

### Womanist Midrash

Our now annual Womanist Midrash group partnered with The Temple and Ebenezer Baptist Church for the second workshop using The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney's lectionary to study the often overlooked stories of women in the Hebrew Bible.















## PASTORAL CARE

## Act III

A group for parishioners ages 60 and older that meets regularly for social gatherings, luncheons, and informational talks. Speakers this year included The Rev. Winnie Varghese and The Rev. Matt Babcock.

## Community of Hope

A group of lay pastoral care ministers who assist St. Luke's clergy by connecting with those in our community experiencing illness or grief. Centered in Benedictine spirituality, the group meets monthly and is chaired by John Stewart.

## Good Samaritan

A group of parishioners that provide shortterm care to members of our community. This assistance includes: transportation to appointments, meal preparation and delivery, home and yard work, etc. The group is chaired by Jeanne Daniels.

## **Eucharistic Visitors**

This group of trained parishioners take Communion to community members who are homebound or unable to attend services. The group is chaired by Donna Church.



## Daughters of the King

This pastoral order of women prays daily for St. Luke's and its members. In 2023, the group hosted a successful coat drive and coordinated the delivery of seasonal poinsettias and lilies to homebound and bereaved parishioners. Amanda Wood serves as the group's chair.

## Grief Support Groups

This is a ministry available to all parishioners experiencing grief. The gatherings utilize the small group model (four to six participants), meet monthly, and are facilitated by a member of the clergy and a therapist. For additional information, contact the parish office.

## Healing Ministry

This group of trained lay volunteers serves our community each Sunday during the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. worship services. During Communion, Healing Ministers are available at the back of the church to offer a space for personal prayer for service attendees.

### Intercessors

A group of parishioners who offer daily prayer and thanksgiving for St. Luke's parishioners and those on the prayer list. Intercessors also meet together monthly to provide updates and pray together. The group is chaired by Claire McDonald.

Pastoral Care Line: 404-873-7631

## COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

In 2023, St. Luke's Community Ministries continued to grow and offer new education and volunteer opportunities and to serve more people in our community. St. Luke's continues to serve as a space for community engagement by hosting external gatherings and serving as a polling location. As a church, we are engaged in learning about issues impacting our community and how the church can be a voice for change.

Community Ministries partnered with Holy Comforter, Midtown Assistance Center, Respite Care Atlanta, Crossroads Community Ministries, The Park at St. Luke's, and other neighbors on-site and off-site to provide essential services and support for our community.

Community Ministries is also us! St. Luke's parishioner-led ministries include the Courtland Street Mission, Fill the Baskets, Love Hydration, the Mustard Seed Garden, and the Advent Tree. If you feel so called, please join us!

The Faith and Advocacy Network (FAN) offered several opportunities for formation, conversation and action in the areas of gun violence prevention, creation care, voter empowerment and protection, economic equity. The group continues to sponsor an annual forum with state legislators, providing an opportunity to learn about issues that impact our city and state.

Because of its location in the heart of the city, St. Luke's has a unique opportunity to host outside organizations and community groups. This year, St. Luke's hosted the Regional Housing Forum, elections in the spring and fall, and a community information session on The Stitch project. St. Luke's partnered with Ebenezer Baptist Church for a book study of "The End of White Christian America," by Robert P. Jones. Hundreds of people participated and the two churches hosted Jones for a lecture in the spring. The two churches have also partnered to host social gatherings, such as a Hymn Sing, and opportunities for growth and development in the areas of fellowship, prayer, economic development, social justice, and ending mass incarceration.



## MUSIC

St. Luke's music programming in 2023 centered around the 60th anniversary of the Alston Memorial Organ. This continues through 2024. With support from St. Luke's leadership, a committee was established to engage support for the long-term maintenance of the Alston Memorial Organ. Committee members include Cotten Alston, Matthew Brown, Jane Long, Fluffy McDuffie, Bobby Mays, Joe Massey, Ernest Plunkett, Trenton Tunnell, and Bunny Winter. The Hodgson Organ Fund was established to honor the extraordinary legacy of longtime St. Luke's Organist and Master of Choristers Dr. Hugh Hodgson. Plans are underway for the Alston Memorial Organ to be re-leathered in 2024. This major maintenance process is required for pipe organs every 30 years.

In 2023, St. Luke's chorister program continued to grow under the superb direction of Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth Colleen Kingston. A curriculum published by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), "Voice for Life," is used for music instruction, along with lessons in liturgy, prayers, the hymnal, and formation.

**January**—St. Luke's Junior and Senior Choristers visited Grace Church Cathedral in Charleston, S.C., where they joined voices with the Cathedral's choristers to lead music for Sunday morning Eucharist.

St. Luke's Schola and Adult Choir continued to offer monthly Choral Evensong services preceded by 45-minute concerts featuring acclaimed musicians from Atlanta and across the country.

**February**—The Adult Choir offered a Choral Evensong for the Feast of Absalom Jones, featuring music by David Hurd, Undine Smith Morre, and Kola Owolabi. The service was preceded by a performance featuring Violinist Jessica Stinson and Pianist Portia Schuler Hawkins. Together, they offered music by Samuel Coleridge Taylor, William Grant Still, and Florence Price.

**March**—St. Luke's continued its partnership with ensemble vim as Ensemble-in-Residence. ensemble vim features an eclectic array of music composed by minority composers with strong ties to the American South.

St. Luke's also hosted concerts by The Atlanta Women's Chorus and The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus. **April**—The Third Annual Concert for a Cause featured The String Queens and raised \$20,000 to benefit The Boyce L. Ansley School. The event coincided with the installation of "Beyond Circumstance: Abstracts from Ansley" in the Glenn Gallery. The exhibit featured art created by Ansley School scholars under the instruction of Heyward Morris Fougerousse and assisted by Elizabeth Ashley Finsthwait.

**May**—St. Luke's hosted the annual meeting of the Royal School of Church Music in America's Board of Directors.

The Adult Choirs of All Saints', Holy Innocents', and St. Luke's collaborated to offer a Three Choirs Choral Evensong service.

St. Luke's hosted the Marywood University Chamber Singers.

Director of Music Matthew Brown opened the Midday Music in May concert series with an organ recital at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church.

St. Luke's Choristers were honored with certificates and RSCM medals for their musical growth and choir commitment during the annual Chorister Recognition Ceremony.

## MUSIC

**Summer**—In June, St. Luke's hosted South African Concert Organist Rudy de Vos as part of the annual Atlanta Summer Organ Festival.

St. Luke's enjoyed the weekly musical leadership of our Summer Choir. Appreciation is expressed to everyone who participated.

**September**—Monthly Choral Evensong resumed with the St. Luke's Schola and Adult Choir. The first Evensong of the program year featured a brilliant pre-evensong recital by Thomas Sheehan, who is organist for the Washington National Cathedral.

**October**—In recognition for his significant work and contributions to the cause and advancement of church music Matthew Brown was made an Honorary Member (HonRSCM) of the Royal School of Church Music in Chester Cathedral, U.K.

Evensong on Sunday, Oct. 22, featured the premiere of a new set of Preces and Responses by Korean-American Composer Texu Kim. This was the first of three new compositions commissioned for the 60th anniversary of the Alston Memorial Organ.

In support of St. Luke's partnership with Ebenezer Baptist Church, Matthew Brown and Dr. Patrice E. Turner led a hymn sing at Ebenezer. The event was followed by a dinner.



**November**—St. Luke's hosted its second Chorister Festival. This year's festival welcomed guest conductor Bryan Zaros, who is associate director of music at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Approximately 70 choristers from Georgia and North Carolina participated in the weekendlong event. Choristers premiered a new setting of the Phos hilaron by acclaimed Organist and Composer Dorothy Papadakos, who was present for the premiere.

St. Luke's was awarded The Gerre Hancock Internship in collaboration with the Association of Anglican Musicians for 2024-2025. The internship provides an aspiring Episcopal Church musician to spend 10 months with one of the leading music programs in The Episcopal Church.

**December**—St. Luke's continued its annual Lunchtime Live! concert series during the season of Advent. This year's series featured music by Flutûre, a quartet of flutists, Saxophonist Matthew Hess with Pianist Matthew Brown; the Vega String Quartet; and Dr. Joyce Johnson, who is professor of music emerita and college organist at Spelman College. This marked Dr. Johnson's first performance at St. Luke's.

St. Luke's welcomed more than 350 guests for the 48th Annual Messiah Sing-Along. Under the baton of Maestro Clinton Smith, the performance featured soloists from Metropolitan Opera. The event benefited the Atlanta Community Food Bank. More than 400 pounds of peanut butter jars were donated following the performance.



## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

We started the year with a parent survey to help us assess the program's needs and define our vision. Analyzing and interpreting the results together revealed strong desires for community, spiritual growth, discipleship, and fun! With that feedback we created new program offerings, wrote and launched new curriculums, restructured the Sunday morning formation hour, added service opportunities, recruited more volunteers, and hired more staff. The year was full of formative changes that brought St. Luke's CYF community together and strengthened our commitment to be a place of witness and belonging for the city of Atlanta.

## Highlights

Sundays are a robust time of learning for St. Luke's children and youth. In addition to discovering more about our life of faith in age-specific learning environments, we receive music lessons from Ms. Colleen, participate in a weekly service project, and serve as lectors, intercessors, and acolytes for worship services. This year we moved to offer Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services, confirmation classes, and monthly youth group gatherings. On any given Sunday, we have close to 30 volunteers and staff persons dedicated to supporting CYF ministries.

This year, the CYF team launched a new series of offerings including the Lenten Prayer Pot Project, parent small groups, a "Junior" Flower Guild, a book club for high school students, and Saturday morning Family Formation events, which drew more than 70 participants across all age groups.

We hosted a wide range of special events. Familiar St. Luke's favorites such as Messy Games, the Easter egg hunt, and Trunk or Treat continued. We also enjoyed new events such as the pre-Lenten Donut Brigade at local middle and high schools, the Interfaith Ping Pong Tournament, a trip to Alabama to participate in the Jonathan Myrick Daniels pilgrimage, breakfast gatherings for Parents of Little Ones (POLO), social meet and greet events for parents, and several summer groups, such as sports and ice cream meet-ups at locations across the city to include more of our community.

The CYF team continues to work closely to attend to both the spiritual and social needs of St. Luke's families.

"I am so grateful that I was raised in a community that encompasses the idea of living a life of love. Accepting and loving all, regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, social class, and wherever they are on their spiritual journey... I have found great comfort in knowing that no matter how long I am gone, and no matter how much doubt I have, I will always be welcomed with open arms from the people of this church. I know that the reason my faith has grown so strong is belonging to a church that puts love first." –Annika Speakman, senior sermon





## OUR CAMPUS

#### Memorial Garden Renovations

At the end of 2023, St. Luke's finalized landscape and hardscape improvements to the Memorial Garden as part of our commitment to improved accessibility on the church's campus.

Thanks to funding from Prepare Ye The Way II and The Columbarium Fund, we were able to engage Landscape Architect Josh Koons of Koons Environmental Design, and Patrick Hand of Integrated Land Design.



#### Re-Imagining St. Luke's Back Yard in 2024

In 2023, St. Luke's Property Committee and Vestry approved funding and initial plans for renovations and enhancements to the Courtland Street side of St. Luke's campus, encompassing the playground, garden, walkway leading to the church's back doors, and lawn space. The goal of the project is to create a more functional, accessible space for outdoor gatherings and events.

The idea and initial funding for this project began as a way for the Cushman, Taylor, and Alston families along with the Goddard and Glenn foundations to honor the legacy of Elkin Goddard Alston. The area along the back of the building and the playground, named for Anne Alston Glenn, will be redesigned to support gathering space for small groups in loving memory of Elkin and her love for gardening, St. Luke's and bringing people together.



## PARISH RECORDS

Baptisms	16			
Deaths**	17			
Confirmations	11			
Receptions	7			
Marriages	5			
Active Members	1919			
Active Households	948			
Active Children	233			
Confirmed Members	1205			
Out-of-Town Households	79			
Active Membershi	p Changes			
Transferred in by Letter	9			
Joined by Request	7			
Transferred Out	16			
Made Inactive	8			

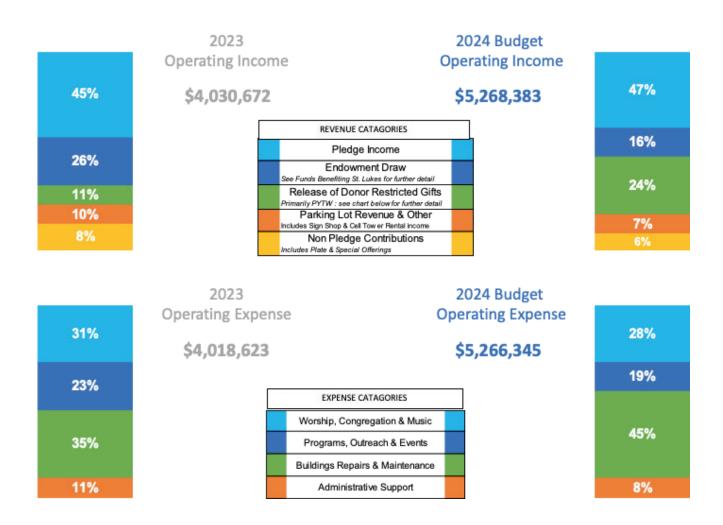
## PARISH RECORDS

BAPTISMS	Sawyer Adams; Colleen Baldridge; Alexander Cook-Green; Lucy Erber; Maya Hand; Jeffrey Jackson; Julian Kelley; Lucy Macon; Eleanor Macon; Eleanor McConnell; Emilia Miller; Walter Miller; Pennington Oliver; Katherine O'Rouke; Jennifer Upchurch; Claire Velten
BURIALS**	Betty Anderson; Peter Dahle Colbenson; Carla Crawford; Margaret Foreman; Martha Kennedy Gay; David Hinshaw; John Leslie Humphreys; Mary Lewis Brown James; Edgar Jett; Joseph Kingston, Daniel Gordon May; Sr.; Victor McNeil; Ronald Osborne; Albert Clarence Sewell, III; Charity Scott; Arn St. Cyr, Sr.; Anne Thompson; Mark Christopher Upchurch; Harold Charles White, Jr.; W. Franklin Wiant; Dora Pettway Wier; Alan Yurchuck.
CONFIRMATION & RECEPTION	Dorothy Adams; Colleen Baldridge; Geoffrey Barnett; Jacob Brennan; Matthew Brown; Terrance Cook-Green; Elizabeth Finsthwait; Austin Hannon; Henry Izlar; Violet Jarrells; Katherine Kennedy; Brent Macon; Lindsey Macon; Madalyn Mentor; Kaiyanna Price; Laura Roberts; Kennedy Thedford; Silas Vermilya
MARRIAGES	Sarah Callahan Hill & William Stokes Houch, IV; Elizabeth Wright Shipp & Tanmay Solanki; Mary Stuart Hall & David Gray Walker, Jr.; Dawn Elizabeth Biggins & Daniel Dewayne Henderson; Brook Fairleigh Ptacek & Andrew Bennett West
TRANSFERRED/	James Adams; Marjorie Anne Foster; Ann Harrison; Laura Hicks;
REQUESTED IN	Kathleen McCanless; William McCarty; Catherine McCarty; Alice Murphy; Karen Ott; Philip Ott; Barbara Pettoni; Harold Reynolds, Jr.; Charles Sutton; Margaret Sutton; Carmen Toussaint; Evie Wiseman
TRANSFERRED OUT	Mary Allen; Shana Bassett; Stellar Coleman; James Coleman; Daphne Coley; Randolph Coley; Pride Forney; Conover Foster; David Foster; Larry McMichael; William Robertson; Sarah Topfl; Silas Vermilya; Marshall White; Karl Wicker; Renee Wilson- Wicker

\*\*Deaths represent members on record who died in the past year; burials may include family of St. Luke's members.



## FINANCIAL ACTIVITY





\* In 2020 Capital Projects and Strategic Indicatives/Programs were funded directly - no release of PYTW funds

# FUNDS BENEFITTING ST. LUKE'S 2023 END OF YEAR FUND VALUES

#### St. Luke's Endowment Fund, Inc.

The St. Luke's Endowment Fund, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of Georgia as a nonprofit corporation and is managed by Trustees appointed by the Vestry. The Rector is a voting member, with the Senior Warden, Finance Chair, Treasurer and Secretary of the Endowment Fund serving as ex officio members. Truist Bank provides investment counsel and holds the assets of the fund. In 2024, the Church will receive 4% of the average preceding 36 months (\$547,194).

#### VALUE: \$15,438,861

## The Rector, Wardens & Vestry (RWV) Fund

The assets of the fund are available to the Vestry for use at its discretion and for other specific purposes as directed by various donors.

#### VALUE: \$843,581

#### The McBurney-Fowlkes Fund

Upon her death, parishioner Helen Sterrett McBurney bequeathed a trust to be used for the relief of those experiencing "sickness, sorrow, financial distress or other adversity." Mrs. Frances Fowlkes added to the corpus of the McBurney trust. St. Luke's receives half of a distribution of 4 percent of the average value of the Fund's liquid assets over the preceding three years. The Church has no rights to the corpus of the McBurney Fund. Grants are recommended to the Vestry by the Grants committees.

#### VALUE: \$9,334,179

#### DISBURSEMENTS IN 2023:

- Medical, dental and other aid to/for parishioners and others—\$46,211
- Grants to charitable organizations— \$154,790

#### **Albert Boylston Fund**

The assets of this fund, resulting from a bequest received in 1984 from Albert Boylston, are managed by Truist Bank. Annual payouts from this fund are handled in the same manner as those from the St. Luke's Endowment Fund, Inc. In 2024, the Church will receive 4% of the average preceding 36 months (\$135,178).

VALUE: \$3,380,837

#### **Smith Hawkins**

William A. Smith left a large portion of his estate in trust to St. Luke's to help those in need, especially those with medical and other related expenses. Earnings are distributed to the Church according to a 5% total return distribution policy, using a three-year moving average to determine market value. The Church has no rights to the corpus. Disbursements are restricted and are recommended to the Vestry by the Grants committees.

VALUE: \$4,978,874

#### DISBURSEMENTS IN 2023:

- Medical, dental and other aid to/for parishioners and others-\$28,600
- Grants to charitable organizations— \$133,210
- Clergy benevolence funds-\$8,400

#### The Michael Marsh Fund

The Marsh Fund was endowed May 17, 1995, as a bequest from parishioner Michael Marsh. The fund was established with an initial donation, the use of which is restricted as to principal. Disbursements are restricted and are recommended to the Vestry for approval by the Grants Committee.

VALUE: \$543,278

Smith Hawkins Grants \$170,210

> Diocesan Pledge \$291,272

Total Given by St. Luke's to the Community \$974,738

> Campus of Miracles Support\* \$221,411

McBurney Grants \$201,001

> Community Ministries Benevolence Funds \$90,844

\*Campus of Miracles Support includes property and facilities support for Crossroads Community Ministries and the Training and Counseling Center

## BY THE NUMBERS

Our Giving

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Dollars Pledged	1,626,355	1,897,918	1,909,155	2,083,346	2,036,365	1,921,758
Pledge Dollars Received	1,621,404	1,964,408*	1,895,223	2,061,074	1,833,599	TBD
Number of Pledges	418	438	430	408	428	391
Average Pledge	3,891	4,333	4,463	5,106	4,578	4,915





## 2024 PLEDGE CARDS RECEIVED As of Jan. 19, 2024

Corinne & Jeff Adams **Dottie Adams** Nancy Adams & Chris Kinney Joan & Frank Alexander Betsy Allen Nancy Allstrom Virginia & Bond Almand Valerie & Cotten Alston Ingrid Anderson & John Wallace, Jr. Shepard Ansley Yum & Ross Arnold Jeff Ashworth Lexi & Kwam Awotwi Matt Babcock Ken Baggs & Warren Williams Linda Bair Mary Ball Lisa Ballard Cortney Lollar & Josh Barnette Ann & Hal Barrett Angela & Jason Barringer Lynsey Barron Donna Basinger **Kim Basinger** Lynn & Tim Baxter Vivian & John Bencich Claire & Bryan Benedict Carolyn & Harry Benedict **Charlie Benedict** Franklin & Veronica Biggins **Kenzie Biggins** Dawn Biggins Henderson Sara & Rick Blanchard Jeronia Blue Anna Boller Haqiqa & Bill Bolling Amanda Bolster Cathy Bonk Lisa & Jim Boswell Kate & Matt Boyer Maggie & Jacob Brennan Susan Brooks Ann & Pat Brumbaugh Nancy & Coleman Budd Missy & Kenny Budd

Frank Bullard Nancy & Steve Burnett Deborah Bursa **Denson Buttrey Constance** Callahan Ruth & Al Caproni Brittany Carson Cyndi Cass & Larry Skowronek Liz Chadwick Sterling Chadwick Eleanor Chin Donna Church Ruth & Tom Claiborne Danielle & Jill Clark Billy & David Clifton-Strawn Lindley Cole Nadine Cole Jean & Julius Coles Jim Coley Michele Colson Bert Compton Keri & Dave Conley Alex & Terrance Cook-Green Jennifer Cox Ann & Jeff Cramer Mignon Crawford Debby Crawford-Yates Sally Crouse Melissa & Alex Crozier David Culp Patty Curtis Patty Williams & Beth Curtis Jackie & Jimmy Cushman Laurie & Hal Daniel Jeanne & Alan Daniels Nancy Daves Susan & Roosevelt Davis Elaine DeCostanzo & Annabeth Balance Kate & Matt Dempsey Janci Demyun Lisa Dobbs Zane Dodd Andrew Hall & Amy Doyle Fontaine Draper Kathleen Dumitrescu

Lane & Linda Duncan Amy Durrell & Russell Currey Mindy Duryea Carolyn Dwyer Alison & John Earles Mary Anne Edwards Mike Egan David Emory Beth & Drew Erber **Glenn Eskew** Martha Eskew Carol Evans **Orrie Evans** Allison & Jeffrey Ezell Claudia Faulkenberry Louise & Bruce Faurot Ashley Finsthwait Judith Fischer Diane & John Floyd Rebecca & Joe Follman **Caroline & Trace Fooshee** Marie Fortune Marjorie Anne Foster Martha Foster Heyward & J.P. Fougerousse Donna & Carter Fowlkes **Elizabeth & Thomas Fowlkes Brooks Franklin** Melissa Frawley & Steve Tedder **Beattie Friday** Griffin & John Fry Katie & Rod Ganske Ayres Gardner Sharon Gay & Neil Schemm Mary & Richard Gerakitis Julie Gerhardt & Courtney Bryant LaFawn Gilliam Anna & David Gillon Stuart Girardeau Nancy & Lewis Glenn Sandra Glover Eddie Gordon Mary Hair Graham Josephine Grant Carol Gray & Alex Walker

Astrida Greco Linda Green Bruce Gunter Flavia & Dwight Gunter Don Hackney Amy & Graham Haer Dana Halberg & Larry Pless Lala & Geoff Halsema Eleanor Hand Sherry Hansel Jane & Dick Hansen Adelaide Hanson Jennifer & David Hardy Elise Harris & Mark Johnson Ann Harrison Frances Harrold **Diane Hawkins** Katie & Ryan Healan Sue Henderson Hope Hendricks-Bacon & Ed Bacon Carolyn & Lem Hewes **Denise & James Hicks** Mary Higgs Carey Hill Annette Hines **Bette Hines Richard Hines** Marie Holbein & Bill Kootsikas Chippy & Mac Holladay Judi Holley Priscilla & Linton Hopkins Noreen Horrigan Candie Howard Nancy & Pierre Howard Amy Hubbard Melba & Jim Hughes Emily Huie Amy Humphreys Leslie & Scott Inman Rosemary Jean-Louis **Glynn Jones** Joann Jones Averill & Mark Jones **Bob** Just Moira Keller & Beau Weidman, III Rachel & Jack Kelley Karen Kelly & Jonathan Miller Kate & Robert Kennedy Susan Ker-Seymer Hillary & Eric Kilfeather Dawn & Tim Killenberg Colleen Kingston

Allison & Brandon Kopp Laura & Peter Kopp Marjorie Kouns Gail Kurlansky Liz Kustin Mary & Elliott Kyle Jane Lafferty Susan Laird & Mel Mobley Nicole & Kyle Lambelet Philip & Nina Lamson Kathleen & David Lang Carrie & Whit Lanier Jackie Lawrence Tommy Lazenby Kim & Rob Ledford Kathy & Richard Lee Rebecca & David Leege Jim LeVan Gene Paradise & Bob Lightsey Alice Limehouse Rhonda & Charlie Lokey Martha Lokey Stacey & Peter Lorish Chervl Lower Annie Mabley Amy Macklin & Erik Speakman Lindsey & Brent Macon Karen & Rollin Mallernee Anne Markette Ellen & Tommy Marshall Joe Massey Rae Lynne & Larry Mattis Claire & Gordon May Robert Mayes, II & Adrian Brown-Maves Sue McAvoy & Bill McKinnon Kathleen McCanless Catherine & Bill McCarty Marianne McConnel Beth McDonald Claire McDonald Libba McDonald Fluffv McDuffie Laura & Kenneth McDuffie Ginna McFarling Harry McFarling Elizabeth & Bernard McGhee Brooke & Drew McGuffin Linda & Louis McLeod Elizabeth McMillan Bee McNeil Christina & Aneesh Mehta

Pat Merchant Rebecca Mick & Michael Wakefield Katie & Joe Miller Panke Miller Jenny Milucky & Jimmy Satterwhite Karen Minyard & Richard Turner Jenn Moeller Valerie Molyneaux Vicki Mooney & Virginia Jones Kathy & Bill Moore Elizabeth & Chris Moore Michelle Morancie Kristina & James Mormino Jane & Tom Morphis Carter & Hampton Morris Becky & Ralph Morrison Nicole & Marc Mosley Isabelle & Sam Moss Meg & Frank Moye Alice Murphy Eileen Murphy & Tom Coleman, Jr. Jeff Muscarella Maureen Musgrove Debbie Newman Lynda & Ed Newsome Alice Noland Hugel & Chris Hugel Barbara O'Brien Liz & Brian Opsahl Emily & Jason O'Rouke Clara & John O'Shea Shelby Outlaw Mary Lynn Owen & Rob Cleveland Lisa Pate Strawn Sallie Patterson Darryl Christopher Payne Martha & Houston Payne Carolle Perkins Sophia Peterman Barbara Pettoni Barbara & Sam Pettway Patty Pflum & Neil Shorthouse Johannah & Joe Phelan Jerico Phillips & Ashley Orr Mary Ann Phillips Larry Pinson Sally & Don Plummer Ernest Plunkett Lou Post Susan & Ted Pound Kaiyanna Price Lisa Crawford-Pringle & Lon Pringle Anne Pritchett

Becky Pruitt Drew & Cap Putt Audrea Rease Susan & Stan Reid Chip Reynolds Kippy Richberg & Mark Simmons Jane & Tim Rigby Susanna & Keith Roberts Sue Rohan & Mark Luker Lori & Greg Rush Jody & Gary Sams Jackie & Murray Saylor Carole Schenck Mary Willson Schill Christine Hoskins & Heiko Schmidt Carrie Teegardin Sue & Mark Scofield Sandy Seabury Deneta & Bryan Sells Leigh & Jonathan Serrie Randy Sewell Ward Seymour Freny & Anand Shah Thom Shelton Glenna Shepherd Brenda & Robert Sherrill Sue Sherrill Christina & Kevin Shiels Dawn & Trey Shipp Kate & Tim Silvis Suganthi Simon & Mike Ebner Lynn & Len Sinclair Cindy Skixdmore Charles Slick Judith Smith

Heath & Myles Solomon Michele Southwell Adelaide Steedlev Amalia & Scott Stephens Olivia & Steve Stephens Paulette & John Stewart Susan Stewart Carrie Stockard Deborah & James Strack Brenda Street Myra Stubbs Elaine Swobe & Jeff Hopper Kim Sydnor Cindy & Lee Tabb Kennedy Thedford Carter Thomas Martha Thomas Gabby & Matthew Thomas Phil Thomas Laurel & Wade Thompson Honour Thornton Chet Tisdale David Todd Gene Todd Elizabeth Toledo & Winnie Varghese Jessica & Jon Tonge Carmen Toussaint Nora & Bill Townsend Katherine Tribble Trenton Tunnell Carol & George Ude Ray & John Uttenhove Lee & Wayne Vason

Greg Vaughn Karen & James Vaught Claire & Michael Velten Emilee & Andrew Walker-Cornetta Nancy Walton Peggy Walton-Walker & Larry Lord Elaine Ward Libby & Ballard Ward Anne Warren Betsy Wash Tanya & Lynn Washington Yvonne Watkins Alice Watson Elliot Watts Kim Weaver Susan Wells Maxine Wheatley Linda Wiant Bob Wicker Michael Wier Sallie Wilgus Brianne & Frederick Willard Darryl Holloman & Glyn Williams Marcia Williams Marilyn Williams Susan & Bill Willson Susan Windham Bunny Winter & Michael Doyle Fran Wood Liz & Peden Young Sharon & Randy Young **Ruth Yurchuck** Nancy & John Zintak



## APPENDIX

#### Statement of Financial Activity Historical and Budgeted

	Act	Actual 2022 A		Actual 2023		Budget 2024	
Revenues							
Operating Revenues							
Contributions	\$	2,365,878	\$	2,144,546	\$	2,767,250	
Special Offerings	\$	5,443	\$	14,585	\$	15,000	
Transfers from Other Funds	\$	1,202,572	\$	1,469,908	\$	2,130,951	
Other Income	\$	28,743	\$	25,926	\$	20,000	
Total Operating Revenues	\$	3,602,635	\$	3,654,965	\$	4,933,201	
B & I Fund Revenues	\$	309,369	\$	375,706	\$	335,032	
Total Revenues	\$	3,912,004	\$	4,030,672	\$	5,268,233	
Expenses							
Operating Expenses							
Compensation	\$	1,883,485	\$	1,933,164	\$	2,152,258	
Worship	\$	20,580	\$	12,302	\$	15,500	
Adult Christian Education	\$	23,541	\$	21,399	\$	36,966	
Pastoral Care	\$ \$ \$	3,342	\$	10,864	\$	10,250	
Parish Life	\$	74,100	\$	40,364	\$	37,800	
Program Support	\$	273,672	\$	254,142	\$	242,015	
Community Ministries*	\$	71,140	\$	67,895	\$	106,639	
Finance and Stewardship	\$	413,654	\$	370,717	\$	401,696	
Property and Capital	\$	676,429	\$	754,083	\$	1,686,174	
Hospitality	\$	36,251	\$	37,839	\$	26,500	
Communications	\$	83,144	\$	119,713	\$	152,902	
Children's Christian Educ	\$	34,018	\$	23,673	\$	47,800	
Youth Program	\$	25,095	\$	12,905	\$	40,300	
Music Program	\$	186,994	\$	222,229	\$	197,340	
Total Operating Expenses	\$	3,805,446	\$	3 <mark>,</mark> 881,289	\$	5,154,140	
B & I Fund Expenses	\$	109,077	\$	137,334	\$	112,205	
Total Expenses	\$	3,914,523	\$	4,018,623	\$	5,266,345	
Net Total	\$	(2,519)	\$	12,049	\$	1,888	

## APPENDIX

#### **Statement of Financial Position**

	12/31/2023	12/31/2022
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,334,703	\$ 1,276,582
Receivables	\$ 6,270	\$ 41,008
Property and Equipment, Net	\$ 16,640,817	\$ 16,123,085
Total Assets	\$ 17,981,791	\$ 17,440,675
Payables	\$ 22,242	\$ 14,707
Accrued Expenses	\$ 60,401	\$ 26,299
Accrued Prepaid Pledges/Other	\$ 201,263	\$ 145,537
Total Liabilities	\$ 283,906	\$ 186,543
Unrestricted	\$ 16,592,471	\$ 16,044,944
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 1,389,320	\$ 1,395,731
Total Net Assets	\$ 17,981,791	\$ 17,440,675
Restricted Cash In Use		
Total Cash and Equivalents	\$ 1,334,703	\$ 1,276,582
Less Restricted Accounts	\$ <mark>(1,389,320)</mark>	\$ (1,395,731)
Net	\$ (54,617)	\$ (119,150)







## CLERGY

The Rev. Winnie Varghese, Rector The Rev. Matt Babcock, Vicar The Rev. Nicole Lambelet, Associate Rector for Children, Youth, and Families The Rev. Dr. Gabrielle Thomas, Theologian in Community The Rev. Kim Jackson, Priest Assisting The Rev. Pat Merchant, Priest Assisting The Rev. Gene Paradise, Priest Assisting The Rev. Emilee Walker-Cornetta, Priest Assisting

## STAFF

Michael Baker, Sexton Matthew Brown, Director of Music Tammy Burns, Sexton Tommy Couch, Sexton Tara Duncan, Communications Specialist Valerie Freer, Reception David Hendee, Director of Finance Brian Hummel, Facilities Manager Michelle Jemmott, Manager of Office Administration and IT Kate Kennedy, Minister for Community Discernment and Formation Colleen Kingston, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth Elizabeth McKinnon, Director of Communications Greg McRae, Lead Sexton Tori Moore, Director of Hospitality and Events Djalia Uwimana, Assistant Director for Children, Youth, and Families Ben Weaver, Assistant Organist Megan Wyman, Executive Assistant to the Rector

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