



A SELECTION OF REPORTS FOR THE
2023 ANNUAL MEETING
CHRIST CHURCH DETROIT

OUTREACH

Seth Lloyd, Chair

The Christ Church Detroit Outreach Committee is a dedicated group of parishioners which aims to demonstrate through its actions that our parish is a "beacon of hope" in Detroit. The members of the committee are Pat Ald (emeritas!), Mary Basse, Tim Bledsoe, Ruth Boeder, Bob Brown, Wendy Ford, Christine Galli, Emily Williams Guffey, Guy Jackson, Desmond Jones, Lucinda Keils, Sally LePla, Eileen MacDonald, Anthony Mitchell, Margo Norris, Barbara Perez, Josephine Powell, Lamar Richardson, Edwina Simpson, Frances Trix, Jan Weir, Caroline Widak, Stephanie Wren, and Seth Lloyd.

The major activities of the committee in 2022 were six in number. Each is briefly described below.

Sponsorship of an Afghan family: The parish agreed in the fall of 2021, after discussing the matter thoroughly, to sponsor a family of recent immigrants from Afghanistan. The parents and five children (now six) lived first in a hotel in Dearborn, and then were placed in a house in Westland.

All of the tasks associated with a sponsorship such as this are too numerous to mention. Chief among them, however, have been settling the family in their new house, enrolling the children in school, helping them to learn English (contrary to our assumption, no one in the family spoke English on arrival!), taking them to doctor and dentist appointments, and taking them shopping. This list only scratches the surface of the tasks performed by our parishioners.



I won't attempt to mention everyone who has played a role in assisting our family, but chief among them are Margo Norris, Mary Herring, Bobbi Gaspar, Eileen MacDonald, Patrick Warner, Mary Brown, Lauren Leney, and Bob Brown. Our thanks go to each of these individuals and the dozens of others who have helped!

Continuation of our food drive for Crossroads: The committee has sponsored for many years the collection of food and personal items and the weekly delivery of those items to Crossroads of Michigan on West Grand Boulevard. This effort continued in 2022.

Work Sessions at Gleaners and Pope Francis Center: After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the committee voted in December to resume scheduling work sessions assisting Gleaners Food Bank and the Pope Francis Center meal program. Our first session at Pope Francis Center is scheduled for January 21, 2023, and the first event at Gleaners on February 24. Our goal is to alternate these activities on a monthly basis. Please look for sign-up sheets for these valuable--and fun--activities.



Preparation and delivery of meals to Cass Community Social Services: As was the case in 2021, we did not house homeless men and women from Cass in Ledyard Hall this year. Instead, at Cass' suggestion, we chose a week in early November and prepared lunch and dinner each day for 50 housing-insecure individuals who were staying at Cass. Once again, Genet Barthwell "pulled the laboring oar" by planning the dinner menu each day and cooking the main course at her home. Genet would then deliver the trays of food to our kitchen, where she would be met by a team of parishioners who would finish preparing the meal and packing lunches for the next day. Parishioners would then deliver the food to Cass. Over 35 parishioners contributed to this project, but Genet was our "captain". She worked tirelessly and cheerfully, as is her habit! Thanks to all who assisted!

The Ninth Annual Advent Diaper Drive: Eileen MacDonald headed the Diaper Drive for the benefit of Crossroads again this year. She suggested, and we readily agreed, to change its focus slightly. Given the shortage of infant formula, Eileen suggested that, in addition to diapers, we also collect formula. The parish responded in its typical fashion, collecting more diapers and formula than the ambitious goal we set. We have delivered 18,000 diapers and the equivalent of 6,379 bottles of formula to Crossroads for the benefit of its clients. Thanks to all who contributed, and to both Eileen MacDonald and Sally LePla for their leadership and inspiring announcements!

Grants to organizations: As the committee has done since its founding over 25 years ago, it awarded grants to charitable organizations. In December, the committee awarded \$1000 grants to each of four worthy organizations: Hands Along the Nile (which sponsors a hospital and other services to the poor in rural Egypt); Episcopal Relief & Development for Florida hurricane relief; the Church at Crossroads (a new Episcopal congregation serving the spiritual needs of clients at Crossroads); and Have Faith, a foundation that supports an orphanage in Haiti and has gained local recognition by Mitch Albom.

2022 was another busy and fruitful year! If anyone would like to join the committee, please call or email Seth Lloyd. All are welcome!



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Teresa Lloyd, Chair

Members of the team: Teresa Lloyd (Chair), Ruth Boeder and Howard Matthew (Vestry Representatives), Barry Dickson, Jane Forbes, Desmond Jones, Roger Maki-Schramm, Josephine Powell, Patrick Warner, and Rev. Emily, with support from KaClarence Haynes and Randy Gilchrist.

I want to thank the committee members for all the hands-on work they have provided this year. We have become a DIY (Do It Yourself) congregation with many members providing expertise and muscle, so that we have saved many thousands of dollars in labor costs.

The committee has been meeting regularly to discuss issues dealing with the church buildings and grounds, some which we were able to tackle within our yearly budget, while others were passed on to the Capital Campaign Committee for inclusion in their projects.



Projects completed in 2022:

- *High-speed fiber internet and new audio-visual equipment* were purchased and installed in spring 2022, which enable the live streaming of services. Desmond Jones, Roger Maki-Schramm, and Howard Matthew led the research on this project, which also involved updates to the sanctuary electrical system. Desmond now livestreams services along with Chuck Atwater and Taylor Matthew.
- *Four Lower Level classrooms were re-tiled* by a DIY crew led by Ruth Boeder, so that the rooms could be used again for the school year beginning in September 2022. The rooms had not been in use since the recurring floods in 2021. Barry Dickson, Desmond and Sonia Jones, Roger Maki-Schramm, Howard Matthew, Jon Miller, Tom Rich, Jim Treece, and Patrick and Betty Warner were among the helpers.
- *Televisions for meeting spaces:* Two new smart TVs were purchased to help facilitate gatherings. One is portable and can be stationed anywhere on the main floor, and the other has been mounted on the wall of the Nursery, so that parents, caregivers, and children can follow along with the service.

- *Handicapped parking in the west lot:* Barry Dickson directed a team of workers to restripe the west lot along Jefferson Avenue, giving us additional handicapped parking. He also re-set the curbs along the church side of the lot, so that they aligned with the new spaces. Jon Miller helped in this project.
- *Accessibility within the church:* Meetings have been held to determine how to improve accessibility for our mobility-challenged members and guests. Partial completion of this project should occur when new flooring is installed beneath the pews in early 2023.
- *Emergency CPR/AED/First Aid training:* Roger Maki-Schramm arranged for two sessions to be held to teach life-saving techniques to church staff and volunteers, now that we are in the building more regularly and are also hosting guests. One session was held in December 2022 and the next is scheduled for February 2023. The previous training, coordinated by Desmond Jones and attended by numerous ministry leaders, had been held in January 2020.
- *The organ pipes on the west side of the great north wall (along Jefferson Avenue) had dislodged and fallen down in September 2021.* Renaissance Organ Company of Ann Arbor coordinated and conducted the repairs, with the oversight from Dr. Ed Maki-Schramm and the B&G Committee, and funding from the Mildred P. Stennis Special Music Fund and the Capital Campaign.
- *The electronic church sign on Jefferson Avenue was damaged in July 2022 by an automobile jumping the curb.* Repairs are being coordinated, and an insurance claim has been submitted to help defray the costs.
- *Stained glass window repairs:* A consulting firm is being sought to help determine what repairs need to be done, how much they will cost, and to develop a timeline for restoration. Funding for this initial study comes from the Margaret Hammond Stained Glass Fund.
- *Sibley House:* Repairs to Sibley House have begun. New storm windows are being made, and further repairs and painting will occur in the spring. Barry Dickson is the contact person for this job, and Steve Hughes is the carpenter hired to do the work.



STEWARDSHIP

Jim Treece, Chair

The Stewardship Committee seeks to promote a culture of gratitude and generosity as part of our spiritual growth into the teachings of Jesus.

The annual pledge drive asked parishioners to guesstimate how much they will be giving to the church in 2023, thus helping the Vestry to plan the coming year's activities and ministries responsibly. This year's drive was conducted in coordination with the capital campaign, with the two campaigns launching at the same time.

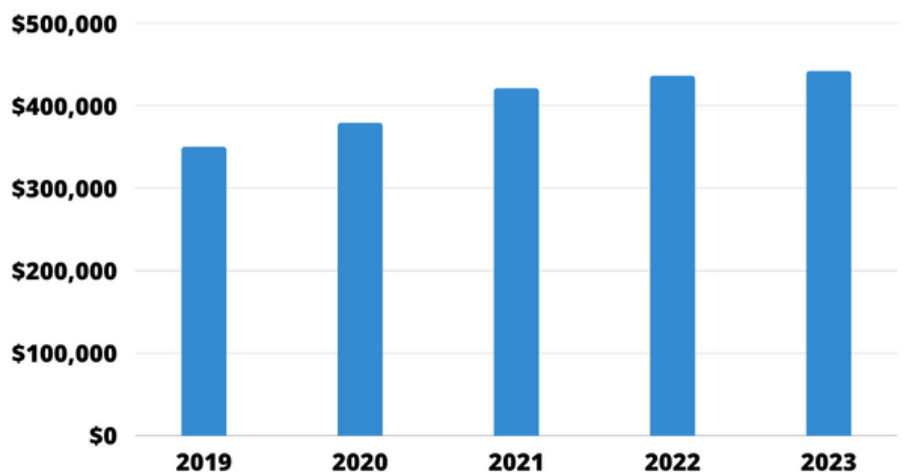


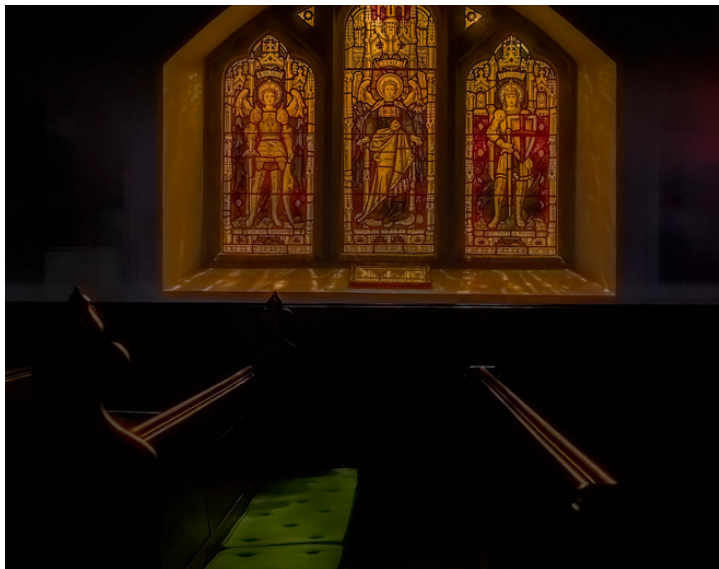
We therefore sought to explain the difference between the two: The annual pledge drive supports the everyday work of the church, including such mundane but critical tasks as keeping the heat on; the capital campaign supports major repairs such as the roof, while preparing the church for future ministry by updating our facilities.

Once again, the commitment and generosity of our parishioners to God's work at Christ Church Detroit proved amazing. As of January 20, 2023, Christ Church had received pledges from 94 households, down from 99 by the same date a year earlier, and down from a final total of 106 pledges for 2022. Even so, the amount pledged rose to \$436,863. That's a 2.6 percent increase from \$425,892 as of January 10, 2022. It's also up fractionally from a final total of \$435,767 pledged for 2022.

Based on past history, we expect that more pledges for 2023 will come in, raising the total even more. This is our fifth consecutive year of increase. In fact, over the past five years, pledges have risen 20%, from \$349,630 in 2019 to \$436,863 (and counting) today.

I thank the members of the Stewardship Committee--Susan Larsen, Jose Rodriguez, and Beth Ann Tesluk--and everyone who pledged, as well as those who plan to give but did not make a pledge, for their support for the church's ministry and missions.





The active members of the Finance Committee in 2022 included Denise Crenshaw, Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, Seth Lloyd, Howard Matthew, Megan Norris, and Jim Treece. They were joined in many of its meetings by senior warden John Loney and junior warden Ruth Boeder. During the year, the Committee provided assistance to the Vestry in managing the financial resources of the Church by reviewing statements and reports, overseeing receipts and disbursements (both for the regular parish operations and the capital campaign), preparing proposed budgets, and monitoring cash needs and investments.

During the year, the Committee had to address economic conditions that it has not faced recently, including high inflation, a substantial decline in the market value of Church investments, and reduced parking lot income resulting from area office workers continuing to do their jobs at home. As a result, the Vestry gave Committee members the challenge of suggesting significant cuts in the proposed 2023 annual operating budget in order to bring spending down to a more sustainable level. Fortunately, through the generous giving to the parish in 2022 and new and increased pledges for 2023, most of the suggested cuts have not proved to be necessary.

Thanks to members of the Committee, the wardens, and the staff, who showed dedication and good humor in addressing sometimes difficult issues. Thanks also to Glen Olivache, who has retired from his task of reviewing Church financial statements, but provided valuable assistance in getting the Church books in shape for a full audit. Finally, special thanks to all whose generous giving made the work of the Committee over the past year much easier.



RESTORE, RENEW, REJOICE

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Lisa C. Jones and Seth Lloyd, Chairs

One of the most exciting developments of 2022 has been the start of our capital campaign! With an official parish kick-off and "christening" as *Restore, Renew, Rejoice* in October 2022, it had been "building up" all year, and continues to gain momentum.

Following 2021, during which a fundraising feasibility study and a comprehensive facilities assessment were conducted, and the campaign leadership structure formed, 2022 saw the Steering Committee set task forces into motion, each with a specific focus.

The first to get to work was the Prioritization Task Force, beautifully led by co-chairs Susan Diehl and Howard Matthew, who developed a strategic, collaborative process to help focus the list of potential projects. The vast majority of the parish, along with key community stakeholders, participated in surveys, info sessions, focus groups, and other means that Susan and Howard designed.

Architects from Quinn Evans wove these insights into a 10-year master facilities plan that they provided in summer 2022. Ultimately, with comprehensive input from the parish, community partners, consultants, and architects, a \$2.7 million project scope launched in October 2022, and will dovetail into continued initiatives over the years. Several projects are already underway, including the repair and restoration of the sanctuary floor, the bell tower, and the organ pipes.

Another major boost of excitement came in October, when we were awarded a \$100,000 matching grant from the National Fund for Sacred Places! We thank everyone who has participated in the campaign so far and is working so hard to bring it to fruition, and everyone who has made pledges and gifts to date.



Photo credits: The photos on the cover, page 5, and the bottom of page 6 are by Meghan Mace, April 17, 2022. The photo on the top of page 6 is by Jamie Feldman, May 11, 2022. The others are by Rev. Emily, staff, and parishioners.