

# *The Last Sunday after the Epiphany*

**332<sup>rd</sup> Annual Parish Meeting**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2005**



July 11<sup>th</sup> 2004 groundbreaking ceremony. *Photo (l to r):* Mark Nestlehutt, Paul Janson, Bud Keiser, Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt, Paul Winters and Hank Spire

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
**ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH**  
FOUNDED 1672

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**Sunday, February 6, 2005**  
*The Last Sunday after the Epiphany*

**Christ Church**  
**St. Michaels, Maryland**

**9:30 AM Holy Eucharist & Annual Meeting**

*The vestry has set the annual meeting during a special combined service at 9:30 AM today.  
The business meeting will take the place of the Liturgy of the Word.*

**Voluntary**

**Hymn 427**    When Morning gilds the skies

**The Opening Acclamation**

Celebrant:    Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People:        *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

**The Collect for Purity**

**Hymn S-278**    Glory to God

**The Collect for the Day**

**Reading:**     Exodus 24:12, 15-18

**The Agenda of the Annual Meeting**

1. Minutes of December 2003 Annual Meeting
2. Report of the Nominating Committee – Fritz Riedlin, for the committee
3. Appointment of the teller – the Chair
4. Vote on accepting the proposed amended By-laws
5. Election of Wardens, Vestry members, Delegates and Alternates
6. Recognition of those completing vestry terms & outgoing treasurer – the Chair
7. Comments from the Senior Warden – Fritz Riedlin
8. Stewardship Report – Mike Kerrigan, Chair, Annual Stewardship Campaign
9. *Building for the Future Capital Campaign* and Building Project  
Report – Kay Perkins & Bud Keiser
10. Financial report for 2004 – Ed Sipe, Treasurer
11. Budget for 2005 – Bill Wilson, Chair, Finance Committee
12. Ministry highlights: Visibility Project & Welcoming Committee

**Hymn 137**    O wondrous type! O vision fair

*(at this point in the meeting, will ushers please give a 10 minute notice to church school to join us at The Peace)*

**The Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

**The Sermon** The Reverend Mark S. Nestlehutt

**The Peace** (*children join the congregation*)

**The Offertory**

Offertory Anthem: Transfiguration – Joel Martinson

Chancel Choir

**The Great Thanksgiving** – Eucharistic Prayer A

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**Hymn S-128** Holy, holy, holy, Lord

**Hymn S-155** Alleluia, Christ our Passover

**At Communion**

Hymn 129 Christ upon the mountain peak

Hymn 134 O Light of Light

Communion Anthem: Wondrous Love

Youth Choir

**The Post-communion Prayer**

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**The Blessing**

**Hymn 135** Songs of thankfulness and praise

**The Dismissal**

**Voluntary**

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# CHRIST CHURCH

## St. Michael's Parish

### Senior Warden's Report to the Parish

During the year 2004 Mark and Abigail have clearly established their leadership in our parish. Paul Winters has continued to fill an important supporting role and spiritual leadership. We are blessed to have such a dedicated clergy team!

While the parish hall was out of service, we needed to find facilities for our office and programs in addition to storage for the parish hall furnishings. Thanks to the efforts of Paul Janson, we have all the facilities needed to get us through the year of construction. The office is a "cozy" corner in the old mill on Chew Street. St. Luke's has graciously allowed us to use their parish hall for both adult and children's Christian Formation classes. These are being ably led by Doris Fink, Debbie Keller and Bill Parsons. The St. Luke's facility is being utilized for the monthly men's breakfast and will be the home of this year's Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Paul also found storage space for other furnishings of the Parish Hall.

This past Fall, Abigail provided us with the newest member of the congregation, Honor Nestlehutt. All of us who have seen her agree that she is indeed a beautiful addition to our church family! During Abigail's maternity leave, Mark and Paul picked up Abigail's duties, particularly during the busy Advent and Christmas season.

For me, the past three years have been an exciting time to serve on the vestry of Christ Church, St. Michael's Parish. It has been a time of profound change for us all . . . from the retirement of our rector, Erv Brown, the death of Deacon Jim Lea, the departure of Curate Earl Beshears to the interim year led by Tim Raasch. It has also been a time of great new beginnings with the search and call for Mark and Abigail to begin their ministry with us and the start of the construction on our new parish hall.

In spite of the disruptions, our worship and parish programs continue to flourish. Our finances are strong. From my point of view we have been blessed with the gifts and fruits of many people. For their dedication and labors I am deeply grateful.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fritz Riedlin, *Senior Warden*

## **Rector's Report to the Parish**

This has been a year marked by growth on many fronts in the life of Christ Church – St. Michael's Parish. In 2003, on the heels of Erv Brown's retirement as Rector and the controversial decisions of our Church's General Convention, we ended the year with a deficit in excess of \$20,000. Average Sunday attendance had dropped by 35 people, and our Church School enrollment was down to 6 children. In 2004, we turned the tide. We finished the year with a small surplus, average Sunday attendance increased by about 25 people (from 204 to 228), and our Church School added a second classroom and enrollment was up to eighteen children by year-end. These are strong signs of both spiritual and material growth at Christ Church.

After several years of planning and development, we finally raised the critical level of revenue needed in order to break ground on our Parish House expansion and renovation project. This was no small task. Kay Perkins and Hank Spire, with the support of the wardens, vestry and clergy, raised an additional \$500,000+ in the first half of the year. On a hot and humid Sunday morning in July, Bud Keiser, chair of the building committee and member of the Implementation Team, put a shovel into the ground to mark the groundbreaking of this tremendous *Building for the Future – Community to Community and Generation to Generation* project!

It is the work of an army of volunteers who keep our church functioning week in and week out. Some of these men and women are stepping aside after years of service. I want to thank Bill Woods, our parish treasurer for the past five years, for his dedication and commitment to managing the finances of our parish. Also, Charles Wilson, who has coordinated our Ushers, and George Barbis, who has coordinated our Greeters, are stepping aside at this time. Many thanks to these two men for their service. And shortly after Easter 2004, Anne Keiser, co-directress of our Altar Guild, stepped down after many years of leadership. Thank you Anne. Of course others have stepped in to take on these responsibilities: Ed Sipe was appointed treasurer in December 2004. Fritz Riedlin will direct our Ushers, Nancy Masone will coordinate our Greeters, and Judy Hause directs the Altar Guild, along with Helen Bower.

Fritz Riedlin, whom I first met on his visit to St. Chrysostom's in Chicago during the search process, has completed two years as Senior Warden and his full term on the vestry. Many thanks to Fritz for his steady leadership during this time of transition, as well as to vestry members Tom Norris, Peggy Parsons and Bill Wagner for their three years of dedicated service. And thank you Deb Dawkins for your year of service as Junior Warden. Lastly, it is time to say goodbye to Mary Thomas, our parish secretary, who after eight years of keeping us organized in the office, and in general, retired from full time work at Christ Church, but will remain with us as a volunteer.

The mark of any parish is how it lives out its faith. Is it a welcoming and loving community? Does it reach out to others in service? I truly believe that Christ Church continues to be a Christ-centered faith community and look forward to continued growth in the coming year.

Faithfully,  
The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt, *Rector*

## **Report of the Nominating Committee**

*Sunday, February 6, 2005*

According to the by-laws of Christ Church (12/2/96), the Nominating Committee consists of the four members retiring from the vestry at the completion of their terms:

Tom Norris  
Peg Parsons  
Fritz Riedlin  
Bill Wagner

In addition, no fewer than two members of the congregation appointed by the Rector:

Nance duPont  
Gillian Whyman

The following persons have been nominated by the Committee for election at the 2005 Annual Meeting:

<b>To serve as senior warden (1 year term):</b>	<b>Jim Maffitt</b>
<b>To serve as junior warden (1 year term):</b>	<b>Marilyn Barrett</b>
<b>To serve as vestry members (3 year term):</b>	<b>Martha Austin</b> <b>James Campi</b> <b>Dick Crompton</b> <b>Doris Fink</b>

**To serve as Delegates and Alternates for the Year 2006 Diocesan Convention:**

<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Lee D'Zmura	Peggy Rogers
Paul D'Zmura	Edward Sipe
Barbara Smith	Nancy Sipe
Sid Smith	Jessie Weddle

Fritz Riedlin, for the Committee

**MINISTRY AREAS OF CHRIST CHURCH:**

***CHRISTIAN FORMATION; OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION; PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE;  
PASTORAL CARE; STEWARDSHIP; and WORSHIP & MUSIC***

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

**Adult Christian Formation Committee**

**I. The Mission Statement** - The mission of the Adult Christian Formation Committee is to provide Sunday morning forums for parishioners that deepen our understanding and commitment to our faith so that we may proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ; to seek and to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves; to strive for justice and peace among all people; and to respect the dignity of every human being.

**II. Weekly Topics** - The weekly topics for these forums have been based on the results of the survey presented to the members of the congregation. Our topics focused on Holy Scripture, Church History, Christian Theology, Studies in Contemporary Society, Christian Ethics and Moral Theology, and Ministry.

**III. Presenters** - During this year, thirty presentations were conducted by parishioners and guest speakers. We are grateful for the support of our parishioners who extended themselves for the purpose of contributing to these Sunday morning sessions. We would like to thank the following people who are in this group: Deborah Colborn, Leonard Foulds, Virgil Maxwell, Dorothy Mowry, Mark Nestlehutt, Tom Norris, Bill Parsons, Peggy Rogers, Morris Osborn, William Jacoby, Margie and George Steffens, Chris Whyman, Pamela Widell, Paul Winters.

**IV. The Coffee Hour Committee** - This Committee, led by Paul Janson included numerous pairs of weekly hosts and provided a pleasant and friendly atmosphere prior to each forum session. These folks welcomed our visitors and members most affably. They were an important support to the weekly sessions of the Forum.

**V. Support Staff** - Our gratitude is extended to Robert Thompson for all his efforts in making the appropriate room arrangements each week along with Mary Thomas and Alison Sanford who assisted our committee in advertising our programs in the Sunday bulletins, the tri-folds and monthly Tidings. We also appreciate the leadership skills of Debbie Keller in making arrangements for the forum to meet in the Fellowship Hall at St. Luke's Church, and for Paul Janson, Tom Norris and Robert Thompson who were responsible for the smooth transition to this new location.

**VI. Conclusion** - In conclusion, the Adult Christian Formation Committee is thankful for this year. We have printed a tri-fold, a new vehicle for advertising the weekly topics and presenters. We moved to a temporary location at St. Luke's Fellowship Hall in 09/04. There has been growth in our weekly member participation. We thank all those people who support the Forum weekly. We continue to be most appreciative of the ready and willing support that our clergy devotes to the Forum.

**VII. Committee Members** - The members include the following: Carol Carlson, Deborah Colborn, Sue Granville, Peggy Rogers, Margie Steffens, Tom Norris, William Wagner, Vestry Liaison, Christopher Whyman, The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt and The Reverend Paul Winters.

Submitted by Doris G. Fink, *Adult Christian Formation Committee Coordinator*

**Church School**

In 2004,, the Church School consisted of two classes: Preschool and Primary, plus the nursery. We are using the “Living the Good News” curriculum. Total enrollment in the program was eighteen: Svetlana and Katya Widell; Riley Weller; Zoe Thomas; Mimi & Anna Sanford; Mason Roe; Christopher and William Newberg; Asa Nestlehutt; Gillian Lewis; Ashleigh and Brandon Kerrigan; Sarah and Helen Fegan; Isaiah Whyman; Jordan & Riley DeTar.

Submitted by Bill Parsons

### **Adult Inquirers Class**

Nineteen people participated in the 2004 Inquirers Class, which met over a four week period to discuss the Episcopal Church—it’s history, spirituality, theology and worship. Of the group, three were confirmed, two were received into the Episcopal Church, and one reaffirmed her vows during Bishop Shand’s visitation in June 2004.

Submitted by Mark Nestlehutt

## **OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION**

### **Community Grants**

Report on 2004 Activities: St. Michaels Library Expansion (\$1,000); St. Michaels Community Center (\$1,000); Episcopal Relief Fund (\$2,000); American Red Cross, Florida Hurricane Relief (\$2,000); Christ Church Wednesday Night Youth Program (\$2,000); St. Michaels Boy Scout Troop 741 (\$1,000); St. Michaels Branch-Easton Day Care Center (\$1,000); El Hogar Orphanage (\$1,000). Total Givings-\$11,000

Submitted by Paul D’Zmura

**Community Food Bank** – *no report submitted*

**Community Youth Group** – *no report submitted*

## **PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE**

## **Docent's Guild**

"... a wonderful church" written in the register by a visitor from Vienna, Austria. The docents and members of Christ Church agree.

Docents staffed the church from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM each day from May first to November first, welcoming visitors and offering them a tour of the church or the opportunity to be by themselves in the church. In addition we were on duty during Holy week, Waterfowl Festival and Christmas in St. Michaels. The best attended day was the anniversary of 9/11 with 69 visitors.

It was another good year. We numbered 61 docents, a good working number. Although some docents like to serve alone, we prefer that two docents are on duty. Docents keep a record of the number of visitors who come while they are on duty. According to our records, 2,385 people came in 2004. Donations of \$1,555.23 were received. We fulfilled our pledge of \$10,000 to the Capital Campaign Fund and met our expenses of postage, the printing of postcards and brochures and the cost of "The Cross in my Pocket." In addition we donated \$200 to the building of Robert Thompson's house.

We meet in March to prepare for 2005. Plan to join us. Being a docent is a very rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted, Kathryn R. Hutton

## **Episcopal Church Women (ECW)**

The ECW is looking forward to the future. The Board planned a year of information, spirituality, caring and friendship. This is being accomplished.

2004 events included: A baby shower was held for the Nestlehutts in September. It was a joyous time for all. In October, Paul Winters presented us with an informative program on stained glass. His samples were breathtaking. We were pleased to have our Fall Rummage Sale in the old Fire House. Both the women and men volunteers and donations were abundant. Friendships were created. It was satisfying to share our income from the sale with those less fortunate. A special thanks to all. November's program was the Diocesan ECW Board that provided us with facts on how our money is being put to use. We now have a better understanding of happenings outside of our ECW. In December, we remembered our shut-ins with Christmas plants. We were pleased to have the Chamber Singers, under the direction of Bill Thomas, share their talent with the community. After the program, they enjoyed a pizza luncheon at St. Luke's. Many thanks to those that made this occasion so memorable.

I wish to thank all of the contributors that made 2004 so successful.

Submitted by Joan Crompton, *ECW President*

## **Men's Club**

Objective – To unite male church members in brotherhood and prayer and to strengthen our knowledge of the many aspects facing our world and society in general together with local issues.

Membership – Telephone list of 55 members

Active – Meetings on the second Saturday of each month encourage approximately 35 members to attend.

Guest Appearances – Habitat for Humanities; Hospice of Talbot County; President, Edinburgh Tattoo video; St. Michaels Commissioner on Future Planning; R&D Director of FEMA on Mt. St. Helen’s Eruption.

Events Planned – Rev. Paul Winters on developing stained glass designs; United State Marine Corp Recruiter; St. Michaels Police Chief Ed Henry; Part 2 Slide Presentation on Mt. St. Helen’s Eruption.

Future Objective – To encourage membership to actively enroll new members and to be more vocal in suggesting topics of discussion in which they are interested and also in recruiting speakers of interest.

Breakfast Meetings – Ellen Gordon Lally continues to perform admirably in culinary execution although this year we have raised the price from \$5 to \$6 per head to offset the cost of purchased items that were readily available in the former church hall refrigerator.

Outgoing Contributions – The Group recently voted to add \$1 to the cost of each Breakfast served to be used as a Scholarship Fund. It now stands at \$91 and it has not been decided how it should be awarded to be meaningful. Our Annual Pancake Supper is ongoing and last year contributed \$738 to the Boy Scouts. Our own financial status is stable at \$142.42 and not in danger of increasing!

Footnote – I have enjoyed being chairman for 2004-2005. However, it is not my intention to be endorsed for a second term.

Submitted by Leonard H. Foulds, III, *Chairman, Men’s Club*

## **Welcoming Committee**

Committee members:

Abigail Nestlehutt, Judy Parker, Mary Riedlin, Alison Sanford, Mary Len Trippe

The Welcoming Committee (formerly the “Newcomers Committee”) is a small, dedicated group whose purpose is to ensure visitors are welcomed and given the opportunity to learn more about Christ Church.

In February 2004, we held our first “welcoming event.” Approximately ten newcomers and several Christ Church parishioners attended this evening event at the Nestlehutt home. It was very successful and we intend to continue them on an annual or semi-annual basis, depending on the number of newcomers we have. The next welcoming event is scheduled for later this winter.

After reviewing the current visitor pew cards, the Welcoming Committee was unanimous in its decision that they were outdated and in need of replacement. We had several meetings to discuss layout, wording, and other design ideas and to look at sample pew cards from other churches. We are pleased to say that, with A LOT of help from Kim Weller, we now have new, revised, up-to-date visitor pew cards (sample attached).

Another way in which Christ Church has welcomed visitors in the past, primarily local visitors, is with “gift bags”. The committee feels that it is important to continue this tradition and, to this end, has put

together new welcome bags. These bags are off-white canvas and approximately 9" x 11" in size. They have been imprinted with our purple and gold Christ Church crown logo and will contain the following:

- ✘ postcard of the worship schedule
- ✘ pamphlets/brochures containing current community event information (updated seasonally)
- ✘ newly designed Christ Church bookmark (sample attached)
- ✘ current issue of TIDINGS
- ✘ small folder containing history and updated information about Christ Church

The first new welcome bag was hand-delivered by Abigail herself just a few weeks ago!

Finally, in 2005, it is our intention to hold our first ever "Bring a friend to church" Sunday. We plan to hold this in conjunction with St. Francis Sunday in late October. Why not bring your furry, feathery, scaly AND human friends to church? By then, we will have our freshly renovated parish hall (right???) and can host a special coffee hour. We want this to be a big success and so it is time to start planning now. Abigail has some materials for planning "Bring a friend to church" Sunday and we would like to form a committee particularly for the event.

This is an exciting time for our parish. We anticipate that membership on the Welcoming Committee will grow. Gift bags need to be assembled, the late winter welcoming event needs to be organized, and "Bring a Friend to Church" Sunday needs to be planned. And, as always, all of us can do our part by personally welcoming a new face on Sunday morning.

Submitted by Alison Sanford  
ENCLOSURE

## **PASTORAL CARE**

### **Associate for Pastoral and Community Ministry Annual Report 2004**

2004 was my first full year serving at Christ Church, St. Michaels. My title is Associate for Pastoral and Community Ministry and so my role has to do with pastoral care and community ministry. Additionally, I serve in a more general priestly fashion by being a part of the sacramental life of the parish at baptisms, weddings, funerals, Sunday worship and other services as well as responding in crises situations.

January is a quiet month in St. Michaels and it was a good time to begin a program for new mothers. Together with two parishioners I started the Infants and Moms program which ran on Thursday mornings until the summer. February was the perfect month for hosting a welcoming event at our home as part of our revitalized welcoming program. Warmer months brought inspiration to spend time outdoors and with that the start (or return) of Lemonade on the Lawn, which turned into Cider on the Lawn in the fall and we plan to return when the weather permits. Covenant Churches hosted the Lenten Series, a Good Friday service, an Easter Sunrise service, the tent service, the Thanksgiving service and a service of lessons and carols during Christmas in St. Michaels. Over the summer a Visibility Committee was formed with the goal of raising the profile of Christ Church in the community and spreading the Good News of what we

have to offer. In general, I spent 2004 learning some about the community ministries of Christ Church and starting to expand them in certain areas. More to come!

Christ Church has a strong history of pastoral care with many people involved in visiting our parishioners in need. To this strong base I added a prayer chain, reorganized the care circle and made pastoral visits.

2004 was a year of listening and learning about this parish for me. I found many wonderful ministries thriving and enjoyed working on some new ones. I feel in a good place from which to build in the years to come. Of course, October brought maternity leave for me and so I spent fourteen weeks focusing my attention on my infant daughter and two year old son. It was an important time for our family as well as a good time for me to reflect on my ministry at Christ Church and to enjoy sitting in the pews and experiencing a different perspective on our worship. I thank all the people of Christ Church for the ways in which you have enriched my life and ministry.

Submitted by The Reverend Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt

Three organizations are covered under the Pastoral Care umbrella: Eucharistic Visitors, Prayer Chain and Care Circle.

### **Eucharistic Visitors**

Christ Church has six Eucharistic Visitors licensed by the Diocese to take Communion to the sick and the shut-ins using sacraments which have been consecrated at a Sunday service of Holy Communion. During the past year these conscientious and dedicated lay people made 68 trips taking Communion to parishioners in their homes, in nursing home facilities and in the hospital. This is a very special ministry which is, in essence, an extension of the Church's service of Holy Eucharist to include those who are unable to participate otherwise because of illness or infirmity.

### **Prayer Chain**

Those regularly listed in the prayers of the Prayer Chain include all who are ill, recovering from surgery, undergoing emotional stress, experiencing grief, or suffering from any affliction. At the end of December there were 15 names on the regular prayer list, another 31 names on the silent prayer list, 19 on the shut-in list and one on the grieving list. The fifteen members of the Prayer Chain are praying on a regular basis for all those for whom prayers have been requested as well as 17 members of the armed forces presently on active duty. The Prayer Chain meets monthly to add new names to the lists or delete names of those who have recovered from surgery or have returned to health.

### **Care Circle**

Under the guidance of Abigail, our Associate Rector, the Care Circle has recently been reinvigorated with seven participants willing to provide food to parishioners who are sick or in need of transportation to the doctor or in any other way which they feel might be of assistance.

Submitted by Jessie Weddle, *Vestry Liaison*

## **STEWARDSHIP**

### **Annual Campaign**

In 2004 we received 207 pledges totaling \$322,651 towards our stewardship goal of \$325,000. Looking to the 2005 campaign, in the fall of 2004 we set a goal of increasing stewardship participation and revenue by 15% or approximately \$45,000 in order to fund the ministry of the parish and allow for a moderate level of debt service for the new parish house project. As of 12/31/04 we had received 192 pledges totaling \$332,851 towards our goal of \$370,000. (*As of 1/26/05 we had 204 pledges totaling \$354,020.*)

For the 2005 campaign: 31 of these pledges are new, first-time pledges. 123 people who pledged in 2004 increased their pledge for 2005 and 4 people (who pledged) decreased the amount of their pledge for 2005.

Submitted by Mike Kerrigan, *Chair*

### **Finance Report**

The final budget report for 2004 and the 2005 budget as approved by the vestry are included in this report to the annual meeting. Highlights are as follows:

#### **2004**

- Income was \$387,807 (98.7% of budget) with pledge income at 100%. This was an increase of \$19,355 over 2003.
- Expenses were \$385,672 (96.3% of budget), a decrease of \$5,444 from 2003.
- Surplus for the year was \$2,135 versus a deficit of \$23,756 in 2003.

#### **2005**

- Income is budgeted at \$418,000, an increase of \$30,193 (7.8%) over 2004 and has the appropriate level of pledge support.
- Operating expenses are budgeted at \$298,865, a 3.6% increase over 2004. Total expense is budgeted at \$412,865 which includes \$14,000 debt service to finance the Parish Hall renovation.
- Budget surplus is \$5,155 after debt service.

### **Commentary**

Giving recovered from the decline that occurred in 2003 but is still below that of 2000-2002 years. With the positive response for 2005 pledging, income is projected to return to the 2002 level.

Operating expenses for the past three years have been held down by lower staffing levels during the change of clergy, partial year expenses for Parish Hall operation during the renovation and elimination of the Green Street House. Expenses for 2004 were only 1.8% higher than 2001, the last year of full clergy staffing. The notable changes in the 2005 expense budget are:

- Clergy compensation and benefit increase of \$5,600 (3.5%) over 2004 budget
- Visibility campaign (\$2,000)
- General insurance increases (\$1,100)
- Leased copier to replace current out of service purchased copier (\$2,000)

Increases in utility and insurance costs over the past three years have been contained by lower staffing cost during the interim years, partial year operation of the Parish House, removal of the Green Street House, minimal maintenance requirements and general cost management of programs. As the new Parish House becomes operational and we maintain full staffing, we will have continued upward pressure on expenses. The major unknown for 2005 is the operational expense of the new Parish Hall.

Respectively submitted by William L. Wilson, *Finance Committee chair*  
ENCLOSURE

### **Treasurer's Report, for the year ended December 31, 2004**

Typical of most church organizations, especially Episcopal churches, December was a month in which receipts exceeded expenses. Pledge receipts of \$50,020 brought the total receipts to \$321,098, only \$902 short of budget. When Open Plate and Uncommitted Friends receipts are included, total givings were only \$10,638 short of the budgeted amount of \$390,000. Total Revenues, including Other Income and Special Projects, of \$387,807, were only \$5,193 less than the budgeted amount.

Personnel expenses of \$253,982 were \$2,336 over budget—less than 1%. Operating expenses were \$138,290 (including the Diocesan Asking of \$55,400) or \$6,509 under budget—about 5.8%. Total expenses were \$385,763, or \$4,173 under budget. Thus the excess of revenues over expenses was \$2,043, or \$1,021 under budget.

Compared to 2003, total revenues were more and total expenses were less. The result was a \$24,000 swing in a positive direction.

During the month of December, 2004, the Investment Committee authorized sales of investments in the Mercantile Investment Account so as to make a transfer of \$225,000 from the Operating Fund to the Parish Hall Building Fund. This reduced the payable to the Building Fund to \$40,620, to be transferred at a later date.

Of other interest are changes on the Balance Sheet. The Green Street residence and accumulated depreciation were removed since it was moved to another owner. Now included as Construction in Progress is the Parish Hall Building Fund net expenditures to date. It will be capitalized in full at the end of 2005 when the renovations are completed.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Sipe, *Treasurer*

### **Permanent Endowment Fund**

This is the first report the trustees of the Fund have made to the Parish since inception. The Fund was started in May of 2001 by the notification that the Parish would receive quarterly payments from a Charitable Remainder Trust for thirty years to be put into a permanent endowment fund. The Payments were estimated to be \$30,000 a year. However, as the stock market fell so did the payments we received. The payments for the year 2004 were \$21,108.24. The Vestry agreed in May 2001 to put seed money of \$50,000 to help start the fund. The fund has been invested in several Vanguard Funds, Certificate of Deposit and Money Market Funds. To date the Endowment Fund has received a donation and Remainder Trust funds totaling \$145,042 and its Market Value at 12/31/04 was \$175,049. The parish does have, per Vestry Resolution, the ability to withdraw funds annually. That amount is 5% of the last three years average market value. We do not under Maryland law have the right to invade the Historic principal that is the \$145,042. Currently the Parish does have the ability to withdraw \$12,055 for the years 2003 and 2004.

<u>Year</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Contributions to date	\$87,721	105,947	123,944	145,042
Market Value @ 12/31	\$72,165	96,603	136,457	175,049
Gain /[Loss]	[\$15,556]	[9,344]	12,513	30,007

Respectively submitted by Trustees,  
William Ginder, *Chair, Permanent Endowment Fund*  
William Hughson, Bill Wilson

**Property** – *no report submitted*

### **Tellers**

There are 11 teams comprised of 20 parishioners who count the weekly offering and deposit the funds in the Mercantile Eastern Shore bank. They fill out a report which gives credit to each parishioner for his/her weekly offering. This report and the deposit slip is then given to the Parish Secretary who keeps a record of the information.

Submitted by Mary Thomas, *Parish Secretary*

## **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

### **Acolyte Report**

In January 2004 there were 14 acolytes serving at Christ Church, St. Michael's Parish. In June, two graduated from high school and one resigned. Currently there are 11 active participants. Recruitment has

been attempted with little success. Four acolytes (1 crucifer, 1 subdeacon and 2 torchbearers) are scheduled for the regular family service each Sunday, plus Easter Vigil service, two Easter Sunday services, Thanksgiving Day service, three Christmas Eve services and Christmas Day service. Also, acolytes serve as needed for special services (ordinations, funerals, weddings). The annual Acolyte Sunday trip to the National Cathedral was offered, but no acolytes were able to attend.

In appreciation for their service and dedication, the acolytes were taken to Six Flags for the day. Members of the Acolyte Guild are: Lee Hamilton, Claire Austin (graduated), Elysia Hicks (resigned), Eddie McCall, Megan McCall, Camper Newnam, Jackie Novak, Avery Noyes, Maura Olcese (graduated), Bill Parsons, Peggy Parsons, Lily Sanford and Patrick Weller.

Submitted by Lee Hamilton, *Acolyte director*

### **Altar Guild Report**

During the church year, Advent 1, 2003 to Advent 1, 2004, St. Mary's Altar Guild prepared for 184 services. This number includes Sunday Services, Wednesday Healing services, Easter, Christmas, Advent and Lenten services as well as four Baptisms, six weddings and 17 funeral/memorial services.

There are 25 current members serving on the Altar Guild. One member, Shirley Hall, is deceased. Five members have taken a leave of absence for various reasons: Sue Brannegan, Mary DeLashmutt, Nancy Masone, Linda Seemans and Ruth Suter. We welcome three new members: Nan Heikes, Carol Sue Clark and JoAnn Myers.

Anne Keiser retired as Directress of St. Mary's Guild, but continues to faithfully serve as a Guild member. Judy Hause is now co-directress with Helen Bower.

Pat Janson, Guild treasurer, reported expenses this year were \$3,340 for flowers (including Christmas and Easter) and an additional \$1,110 for wine, candles, wafers, etc.

Faithfully prepared and submitted by Helen Bower and Judy Hause, *Co-Directresses*

**Choirs** – *no reports submitted*

**Readers** – *no report submitted*

**Eucharistic Ministers** – *no report submitted*

### **Oblation Committee**

The members of this parish organization have been extremely loyal and dependable during the year just ended. They have performed as assigned without problems.

Faithfully Submitted by Bill Jacoby

## **Usher Report**

It is always such a pleasure to report on the usher activity. Much devotion and complete responsibility are displayed by the men and women serving our congregation. Every Sunday, and other times when required, our ushers report without fail to manage their duties as needed. To expound on how many times they usher, deliver the oblations, and act as greeters, would be bragging because in each case it is often and graciously performed. I know that their attitude will always be evident and devoted.

I am saddened by the fact that it is time I retire. It has been 13 years of great pleasure and admiration working with the ladies and men serving as ushers. I am most grateful for their complete cooperation and performance. It is also my pleasure to present Fritz Riedlin as our new chairman. Fritz is a very dependable and dedicated man. He will perform a great service to the ushers.

Thank you so much to each usher for doing everything you could to make my responsibility a pleasure.

Submitted by Charlie Wilson

## ***Building for the Future*** **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORTS**

### **Building Committee**

In the spring of 2004, after lengthy delays, the building permit for the addition to the parish hall was issued. After putting out bids, Jaeger, Inc. of Aberdeen, Maryland, was awarded the contract with the

lowest bid of \$1,572,890. Lauren Dianisch, our architect, has worked with this company and gave us her assurance that this is a reputable firm. After the Green Street house was moved to its new location further down the street, construction was able to begin. Payments are being made monthly based on work completed and supplies purchased. As of the end of January, 2004, six payments have been made totaling \$564,186.42. It has been necessary to have four change orders resulting in an increase of \$11,828.44 to the contract price. All of these changes came about because of additional work required due to unforeseen circumstances such as the need to remove an abandoned septic tank found under the old nursery room, removal of asbestos found in the furnace room, and additional work required by Conectiv for power line burial. We have also had nearly \$19,000 in additional expenses to pay for utility services which include \$10,500 to the Town of St. Michaels for water hookup and \$8,500 to Conectiv for electricity hookup. These were paid from the \$72,000 contingency fund reserved as part of the project costs.

On the other hand, we have been blessed with additional specific gifts made. A donor has given the four windows on the bank parking lot side of the old parish hall which will be custom made to resemble the two windows with arched top currently on the front of the building. Additional specific gifts are under consideration.

Originally, the completion date was projected to be in May of this year. However, delays of approximately six weeks were encountered while waiting for Conectiv Power to remove and replace old power lines which passed over the building. The new completion date is now scheduled for the end of June. This will be subject to favorable weather conditions to complete the exterior work.

Respectfully submitted by Bud Keiser, *Building Committee chair*

### **Capital Campaign / Implementation Committee**

Looking back to January 1, 2004, it's incredible to realize how far we have come in realizing the dream and plans of many years to rebuild and re-vitalize the Parish House of Christ Church.

A summary detail of the campaign pledges, receipts, expenditures and future financial needs based on projected building costs was prepared on a going-forward basis. Following previous set-backs and a fundraising hiatus, the task ahead was daunting.

At the first Vestry meeting in 2004, there were serious doubts expressed about the viability of the project and the ability to raise the funds necessary to implement the ambitious building plans. At that juncture, we had raised \$1.1 million, including Vestry-designated endowment funds, toward a newly revised project estimate of \$2+ million. Though a \$1.5 million line-of-credit had been approved, we all had serious reservations about committing the parish to such debt. Many alternate plans were discussed.

However, following a successful Vestry retreat, a vigorous endorsement was made to re-affirm earlier decisions to proceed with the building plan, re-launch the campaign with full vigor, produce a new brochure and establish objectives with time-lines and strategies to raise the necessary funds. We could then finalize a revised building contract in order to break ground by the summer of 2004.

In order to proceed with our plans, we committed to raise 75% of the total project costs before groundbreaking. That meant raising an additional \$400,000 in pledges by June 15, 2004.

Month-by-month, we chipped away at the objectives. A tremendously successful fundraising auction, "Raising the Roof," at Talbot Country Club brought in a whopping \$64,350, and, voila, Mark announced on May 27<sup>th</sup> with satisfaction that we had achieved and, in fact, exceeded our groundbreaking goal of \$1,475,000. So, we were at last ready to apply for our building permits, sign a contract and move toward breaking ground sooner than expected.

Groundbreaking occurred mid-summer. You can see the weekly progress, you can see the results of tremendous effort of so many people, tremendous generosity of the Parish family, perseverance beyond the pale of Bud Keiser and the Building Committee and, most importantly, incredible dedicated leadership by Mark and Abigail Nestlehutt. They were the motivators, and they had the vision and conviction to proceed.

We thank you all for your commitment to our ongoing challenge of raising the additional \$500,000. With continued dedication, by this time next year, we not only will have a beautiful and functional new Parish House, but we will have been successful in completing the pledge commitments to see the job through.

Submitted by Hank Spire and Kay Perkins, *Co-Chairmen, Capital Campaign*

### **Capital Campaign Treasurer's Report**

The attached report shows the results of the Capital Campaign to the end of 2004.

During the last four years the Fund has received \$1,065,766 from Parishioners, \$239,000 from the Vestry and \$64,345 from the Auction for a total of \$1,369,111.

As we all know, construction started in earnest in 2004. As of year end we have expended over \$750,000. Most of the \$8,000 of Other Expenses are related to the costs associated with moving to and organizing the temporary offices as well as the \$800 per month rental for the office and for required storage space. Of the \$31,000 Permit/Utilities expense, \$22,500 went to the town of St. Michaels and \$8,500 to Conectiv. Most of the other items are self explanatory.

The above contributions, less construction in progress, result in the Fund now having about \$619,800 in cash assets. In addition to cash assets there are approximately \$229,000 of unpaid pledges.

Construction expenses payable to Jaeger, the prime contractor, are running at the rate of \$100,000 - \$150,000 per month. There are, of course, additional monthly expenses such as rent architectural costs, etc. which will continue. As of year end the estimated amount remaining to be paid under the contract to Jaeger is \$1,123,011.95.

Submitted by Mike Sheridan, *CCCF Treasurer*  
ENCLOSURE

