

ALL SAINTS

episcopal church

Annual Report

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Table of Contents

Last Year's Minutes	p. 5, 6, 7
Reflections from the Rector	p. 8, 9
Rev. Jen Mariano, Pastoral Care	p. 10
Senior Warden's Report	p. 10, 11
Junior Warden's Report	p. 11, 12
Treasurer's Report	p. 12, 13
Acolytes	p. 14
Adult Christian Formation	p. 14
Altar Guild	p. 15
A/V Ministry	p. 15
Bright Beginnings	p. 16, 17, 18
Centering Prayer Group	p. 19
Chalicists	p. 20
Children's Christian Formation.	p. 20, 21
Communications	p. 21, 22, 23
Education for Ministry	p. 23
Environmental Ministry	p. 24, 25
Eucharistic Visitors	p. 25
Flower Guild Ministry	p. 25
Garden Guild Ministry	p. 26
Getting Ahead Program	p. 27, 28
Greeters	p. 28
Inspired Chapter, Daughters of the King	p. 28, 29
Lectoring Ministry	p. 29
Loops of Love	p. 29
Men's Group Ministry	p. 30
Monday Evening Bible Study	p. 30
Music Ministry	p. 30, 31, 32
Newcomer's Committee	p. 33
Outreach Ministry	p. 33
Over-The-Hill-Gang	p. 34
Seasoned Saints	p. 34
St. Mary's Chapter	p. 34, 35
Stewardship	p. 36
Truth and Reconciliation Committee	p. 36, 37
Usher Ministry	p. 38
Young Adult Ministry (YAM)	p. 38
Youth Group	p. 39

2026 Annual Meeting

All Saints Episcopal Church

February 8, 2026

11:30 AM—1:30 PM

Opening Prayer	The Rev. Catherine Thompson
Hymn	Nelda Clelland
Appointment of Secretary	Becky Johnston, Senior Warden
Approval of Minutes for 2025 Annual Meeting	Betty Briese-Ludwig, Registrar
Rector's Report	The Rev. Catherine Thompson
Senior Warden's Report	Becky Johnston
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Recognition of Current Vestry Members and Officers● Introduction of Nominating Committee● Vote for Incoming Vestry Members● Vote to Suspend Requirement for Youth Member of Vestry	
Junior Warden's Report	Peter Dula
Treasurer's Report	Cathy Guzauskas
Report from Associate for Pastoral Care	The Rev. Jen Mariano
Report from Director of Children and Youth Ministries	Alexandra Harrington
Outreach	Hilary Pettigrew
Truth and Reconciliation	Tracy Boyd
Presentation of Mutual Ministry Quilt	The Rev. Dcn. Kay Rice and Jill Browning
Closing Prayer	The Rev. Jen Mariano
Dismissal	The Rev. Dcn. Kelly Gearhart

Christ for the World We Sing #537

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with loving zeal; the poor, and
Christ we bring with fervent prayer; the way - ward
Christ we bring with one accord; with us the
Christ we bring with joyful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth - heal.
re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

All Saints Annual Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2025

Rev. Catherine called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m. and offered an opening prayer. The congregation joined in singing We All Are One In Mission.

Jill appointed Rachel Querry as secretary of the annual meeting. Jill reviewed the qualifications for voting – that parishioners eligible to vote today have been active at All Saints for the past year. Rob Cramer counted the members present and confirmed that we have more than 10% of our 500 members with more than 50 members present, thus we have a quorum.

Jill asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Hunt Hendrickson offered a motion to approve the minutes. Pat Wheeler seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried and the minutes are approved.

Jill noted that our bylaws call for the Vestry to include a youth representative. We do not have a youth who is willing and able to serve in this role. Don Orcutt offered a motion to suspend the pertinent sections of the bylaws (Article II, Section 2. Number and Term of Office and Article II, Section 4. Election) for this Annual Meeting in this regard. Arch O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jill introduced members of the Vestry Nominating Committee who were present: Mark Walker, Toni Serini and Rachel Querry. Sue Fowle was also on the committee and was not present.

Rector's Report

Rev. Catherine summarized recent activities in the parish, including 12 baptisms in 2024, 25 participants in newcomer's orientation and average weekly attendance of 201. Average Sunday attendance is 167. We had 717 attendees for Christmas services.

We had several successful staff and leadership transitions, including the Vestry voting to call Rev. Catherine as our rector. We are regularly posting on social media, have a new online church directory, a new logo and branding, a new information technology support vendor and new bookkeeper. We offer formation for all ages, started the Artist-in-Residence program, continue our Truth and Reconciliation Committee efforts, created a new LGBTQIA+ Alliance, recruited new co-chairs for the Stewardship Committee, developed a new Outreach calendar, joined with other churches for Vacation Bible School, and have participated in multiple local and diocesan choral events, and organized Parish Clean Up events. We paid off our 22-year-old mortgage. We ended 2023 and 2024 with a budget surplus and have a new Capital Improvements Fund to maintain 44,000 square feet of space. We decreased our endowment draw from 6% to 5%, completed audits for 2022 and 2023 and moved banks to ACNB.

Some of the challenges that we face include increasing costs for maintenance, increasing our rental income, lack of space in our main service, creating intentional leadership transitions and mentoring, and going deeper in our faith.

Opportunities include welcoming new people every Sunday, expanding our Children's Ministry, meeting our neighbors, planning for capital improvements and eventually adding an additional clergy person if our budget allows.

Rev. Catherine expressed her appreciation to all parishioners for being so welcoming to newcomers and helping people navigate our services.

We want to do more to meet and get to know our neighbors. We go to all of the festivals which is a great way to increase our community involvement.

Senior Warden's Report

Jill summarized recent Vestry activities and noted that any parishioner can request to see the Vestry meeting minutes and the financial reports at any time. In 2024, Vestry had a retreat where they approved the officers and had a speaker who focused on belonging, which informed much of the Vestry's work in 2024. The Vestry identified Five Big Holy Goals (adding artwork to hallways, holding regular cleaning events, holding young people/family fellowship events, exploring more speakers, and building mentoring relationships).

Jill shared that she is stepping down as Senior Warden after three years. The parish joined in round of applause for Jill.

Jill asked the current Vestry members to stand to be recognized. She noted that the vacancy rotation left one one-year term open. The Vestry appointed Tom Koerner to fill the last remaining one-year term. Jill introduced Betty Briese-Ludwig, Britt Jones and Pat Wheeler as the nominees for the three openings. Toni Serini made a motion to approve the new Vestry members. Arch O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion carried with no abstentions or objections.

Junior Warden Report

Jill expressed appreciation for Mark Walker's three-year service as Junior Warden. Mark expressed appreciation to the Over the Hill Gang and the Buildings and Grounds Committee for all of their work and expertise to maintain our campus.

We submitted a grant application for replacement of three exterior doors and installation of a security system but we did not receive funding at the time. The project has been placed on a reserve list. The grant application is available for others who would be applying for grants on behalf of All Saints. St. Mary's is funding the Patrick Street door replacement. We are challenged to find the funds for other door upgrades.

We had several roof leaks this year and flood damage in the downstairs conference room. We have had slate shingles, gutters and masonry repaired. We have a new HVAC contract and renewed other contracts including for fire extinguisher maintenance and internet.

The fire suppression system had issues and malfunctions this year that we needed to address.

Rotary installed two monitors in the Great Hall, which are available for use by All Saints presentations and presenters. We have an analysis of the A/V needs for the Historic Church and need funding to purchase and install. Mark announced that he is stepping down and his successor will be announced after the Vestry approves the new officers at their next meeting.

The remaining reports were brief because the meeting was running longer than planned. More details on all ministries were distributed in the annual report, which was printed and shared at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Catherine Guauskas delivered the report. Contributions are up by around 20% over last year. Our expenses also increased by 5%. We are taking a 5% draw from our endowment, which is around 1/3 of our revenue. We have a \$30,000 surplus for 2024.

Deacon's Report

Deacon Kathleen Smith-Jones shared that she has been coming to All Saints for a while and has been officially with the parish since September. She is happy to be back and preaching more frequently. She has been working with the Eucharistic Visitors and reported that we have nine EVs licensed and more who are being trained. Deacon Kathleen is leading the LGBTQIA+ Alliance, which is discussing a new name, more community involvement and a documentary viewing in March.

Director of Children and Youth Ministries' Report

Alexandra Harrington delivered the report and shared that we've had a lot of growth in children's formation this year. We have grown from four children to around 18 now. Parents are volunteering and are integral to the growth of the program. We've had Sunday School and Children's Chapel. We've updated the Court Street classrooms and will continue to make improvements and updates.

Outreach Report

Hilary Pettigrew delivered the report and expressed her appreciation for everyone's responses to her many requests for donations, funds and time. She welcomes people's ideas for additional ways that we can help.

Truth and Reconciliation

Toni Serini noted the committee's aims as summarized in the annual report. The last meeting included 20 people for a book discussion. Invisible Systems is the next presentation in March. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Rev. Deacon Kathleen offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Querry

Reflections from the Rector

In the 5th chapter of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul says, “be filled with the Spirit...singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” I can honestly say my heart is full to overflowing with thanks and praise to God because 2025 proved to be a pivotal year for All Saints. We need not wait to see the Holy Spirit moving in our midst because God has provided us with clear evidence of the fruits of your labor, your prayers and your gifts. Not only have we experienced growth in the number of people who call All Saints their church home, but we have experienced growth in our financial well-being, in our ministries, and in the hearts of God’s people.

If you haven’t noticed, our pews are filling up on Sunday mornings. Our average attendance in worship on Sundays has gone from 138 people in 2023 to 197 people in 2025. That is a 48% growth in attendance, which does not include the 28 households who regularly worship online. For Easter, we celebrated with 530 people in attendance, and for Christmas, we celebrated with 678 people. We baptized 16 new members into the family of God and confirmed or received 15 people into the Episcopal Church with Bishop Carrie. I am so grateful to the members of our Newcomers Committee who work so diligently to welcome our guests and help integrate our newest members into the life of the church.

Financially, it was an outstanding year. If you recall, in early November, I issued a challenge to add an additional \$15,000 in pledges for 2026 so we could hire an Associate Rector. You responded with joy, sharing from your own financial resources, to provide for the needs of all. We received a total of 143 pledges for \$430,828. That is a 5% increase in pledges received in 2024, which enabled us to hire the Rev. Jen Mariano as our Associate for Pastoral Care.

We were also blessed to receive an offer of a \$100,000 matching grant from a generous donor to raise the balance in our Capital Improvements Restricted Fund. We launched the “All I Want for Christmas” campaign during Advent, and once again, you responded, overwhelming us with your generosity as we raised over \$95,000 in gifts and pledges. The donor has agreed to give us the full \$100,000 match, for a total of \$195,000 to keep our campus in excellent condition for years to come. A big thank you to that donor, and to all who made it possible. A big thank you, as well, to Peter Dula and the Buildings and Grounds Committee for developing our 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan for the campus; to St. Mary’s Chapter who continues to support our improvement efforts; and to the Over the Hill Gang for donating countless hours of time and expertise towards repair and maintenance.

The departure of Jesse Ratcliffe as our Director of Music was unexpected, but God truly blessed us with Tyler Horton, first as our interim, then as our permanent Director of Music. Many thanks to Carroll Howe for helping us during the transition and to the Search Committee for their time and effort. Tyler wasted no time moving forward with our goals for the music program and, along with Claire Zimmerman, has launched our Children’s Choir for the benefit of our youngest members who want to offer their talent to God.

We were sad to say goodbye to our ministry partners with CORE, but were happy to welcome Discovery Cove, a Montessori based preschool, to our campus. We will also welcome a local Head Start program in the near future. We continue to host numerous community groups on our campus, including three recovery groups, the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek, and a baking cooperative, among others.

We also continue to serve as a blessing to our Diocese and are blessed by their ministry to us. We welcomed Deacon Kelly who joined us as our intern, celebrated her ordination, as well as the ordinations of Rev. Jen, Deacon Daniel and Deacon Santana. I serve as the Dean of the Central District of our Diocese, in addition to my role on Diocesan Council. Jill Browning has been elected to serve on the Standing Committee. We also host Diocesan groups, offer events like our Youth Lock-In, as well as a webinar on best practices for welcoming newcomers.

There is so much happening on our campus on any given day that I do not have enough space to mention it all, or have enough time to personally thank everyone who participates. Please know how much I appreciate your ongoing commitment to All Saints, our surrounding community, and beyond. It is only through your good gifts that we can impact the world for Jesus. I give thanks to God for each and every one of you and look forward to another wonderful year to come!



Rev. Jen Mariano, Pastoral Care

It is with heartfelt gratitude and joy that I write this report as the new Associate Rector for Pastoral Care. I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to serve the All Saints family in this new capacity. Please know I am here for you and available for whatever pastoral care needs may arise.

Our church is blessed with a strong and faithful foundation of pastoral care, thoughtfully led by dedicated ministry leaders, Linda Proctor and Diane Warner, in the following areas:

- Prayer – including the church prayer list and The Order of the Daughters of the King® prayer list
- Eucharistic Visitors – to area care facilities and private homes
- Pastoral Care Card Ministry – which sends cards for many pastoral care needs and concerns
- Loops of Love –the prayer blanket and prayer shawl ministry

I have met with Linda and Diane to learn more about the current state of these ministries, including how they function and what their immediate needs may be. I plan to continue meeting with these leaders on a regular basis, while remaining mindful of and responsive to the ongoing pastoral care needs of our church community.

To further support this work, the church now has a new pastoral care emergency phone line: 240 215-7419.

The number is included in the church voice mail message and is printed in the bulletin, as well as on a new pastoral care card that will be distributed in the Eucharistic Visitor baskets and other locations to be determined.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all your support and love over the years. I humbly ask that you keep me in your prayers as I enter this new phase of my ministry and I look forward to our journey together as a beloved community, united in love for and service to God and God's people.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Jennifer Mariano

Senior Warden's Report

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I reflect on the past year in the life of All Saints, I am grateful for the faithful work of the Vestry and for the continued engagement of this congregation. Together, we have focused on stewardship of our space, our finances, and our mission, always with an eye toward hospitality, sustainability, and faith formation.

One of our most visible accomplishments this year has been the completion of the Court Street classroom renovations. Working together with the Building and Grounds Committee and the Over the Hill Gang, and with the direction of

our Junior Warden, Peter Dula, the Vestry prioritized creating safe, welcoming, and joyful spaces for our youngest members. The updates include new luxury vinyl plank flooring, freshly painted walls and trim, and a beautiful new mural in the nursery. These improvements have transformed our classrooms into bright, inviting environments that reflect how deeply we value children and families at All Saints.

Another significant focus for the Vestry has been the expansion of our facility rentals. With portions of our building underutilized during the week, and especially after the loss of the long-term rental contract from CORE in 2025, this effort became even more important. Working closely with the church office staff, I am pleased to report that we successfully entered into a rental agreement with Discovery Cove preschool for classroom space and will be beginning a new long-term rental contract with the YMCA Head Start program. These partnerships not only provide much-needed revenue but also align with our values of serving children and families in our wider community.

This year also saw the launch of a Financial Training Ministry program, led by dedicated members of the congregation. The team offered a multi-session course covering essential financial topics such as budgeting, debt management, saving, stewardship, and long-term planning. This ministry reflects our belief that faith and daily life are deeply connected, and it equips participants with practical tools to support financial stability with confidence.

Other goals centering on creating welcoming, accessible messaging and on demystifying All Saints for newcomers remain in progress. This ongoing work will help us better articulate who we are, what we believe, and how we invite others into this life-giving community.

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to Jody Devany, Rob Cramer and Tom Koerner who are concluding their terms this year. Their leadership, prayerful discernment, and commitment of time and energy have been instrumental in the progress we have made. We are deeply grateful for their service to All Saints and for the many ways they have strengthened our parish.

I look forward to building on a strong foundation as we discern where God is calling us next.

Peace and prayers,
Becky Johnston

Reflections from Junior Warden

Submitted by Peter Dula

Major upgrades to our parish campus which included:

- Pew cushion replacement funded by a private donor.
- Audio video upgrade Great Hall funded by the Rotary Club of Frederick.

- Court Street Hallway and classroom upgraded flooring and painting funded by the “Ann Cramer Memorial Fund for Children and Youth”.
- ADA compliant doors Patrick Street funded by the Saint Mary’s Chapter.
- Upgraded Commercial Kitchen stoves and prep table warming station donated by a private donor and installed by the OTHG.
- Phone replacement due to replacement parts no longer available.
- Replacement of all four hot water heaters which were 15-30 years old well past the service life of the units.

Major/Minor repairs to our infrastructure which included:

- Conference Room flooring replacement due to flooding
- Flower Guild room air conditioner replacement by the OTHG
- Repair roof and ceiling over the Bishops Entrance
- Emergency repair to Historic Church air conditioner
- Historic Church furnace repair
- Men’s Restroom remodel Parish Hall classroom by the OTHG
- Revitalization of the Memorial Library
- Installation of campus wide surge protection

Treasurer’s Report

Submitted by Cathy Guauskas

2025 was a very successful year for All Saints in many ways, including financially. Our total revenues were \$896,546.73 and total expenses were \$880,140.54, leaving us with a surplus of \$16,406.19. In addition, the December capital appeal raised \$95,975.15 for the Capital Improvements restricted fund. The anonymous donor who agreed to match up to \$100,000 did indeed donate \$100,000. This means that our capital improvements fund will have around \$250,000 available for some much-needed repairs and maintenance projects that we previously did not have funds for, as well as providing a bit of a cushion for unexpected repairs that will inevitably come. We are very grateful to Rev. Catherine for her incredible leadership in developing a realistic budget and her diligence in making sure we lived within that budget. We are also very grateful to this entire congregation for being generous with time, talent, and treasure. It is only through your generosity that we can continue to do God’s work in our church, our community and beyond.

All Saints Episcopal Church
Budget vs. Actuals
January - December 2025

	<u>Total</u>		
	Actual	Budget	over Budget
Revenue			
Contributions			
Total Contributions	\$ 523,618.48	\$ 508,000.00	\$ 15,618.48
Facilities Rentals			
Total Facilities Rentals	\$ 45,477.50	\$ 60,000.00	\$ (14,522.50)
Other Operating Income			
4060 Funding from Investments	273,841.26		
	298,735.92	298,736.00	0.00
	11,382.00	8,000.00	3,382.00
	2,519.62	10.00	2,509.62
	\$ 327,450.75	\$ 316,746.00	\$ 10,704.75
	\$ 896,546.73	\$ 884,746.00	\$ 11,800.73
Total Revenue	\$ 896,546.73	\$ 884,746.00	\$ 11,800.73
Gross Profit	\$ 896,546.73	\$ 884,746.00	\$ 11,800.73
Expenditures			
1. Action			
Total 1. Action	\$ 150,072.19	\$ 150,401.00	\$ (328.81)
2. Worship			
Total 2. Worship	\$ 26,369.34	\$ 26,900.00	\$ (530.66)
3. Life in Community			
Total 5. Study and Learning	\$ 4,197.73	\$ 5,250.00	\$ (1,052.27)
6. Governance			
Total 6.1 Clergy	\$ 153,335.38	\$ 157,457.00	\$ (4,121.62)
6.2 Staff			
Total 6.2 Staff	\$ 324,740.62	\$ 342,502.88	\$ (17,762.26)
6.3 General & Administrative			
Total 6.3 General & Administrative	\$ 41,241.15	\$ 52,350.00	\$ (11,108.85)
Total 6. Governance	\$ 519,317.15	\$ 552,309.88	\$ (32,992.73)
7. Buildings and Grounds			
Total 5690 Building & Grounds - R & M	\$ 75,125.43	\$ 54,500.00	\$ 20,625.43
Total 7. Buildings and Grounds	\$ 171,416.06	\$ 137,500.00	\$ 33,916.06
Total Expenditures	\$ 880,140.54	\$ 884,610.88	\$ (4,470.34)
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 16,406.19	\$ 135.12	\$ 16,271.07

Acolytes - All Saints is blessed with the energy and enthusiasm of eleven exceptional young people serving in our acolyte corps. Seven young adults served as crucifers and are learning the art of being an altar server as well. Four additional youth have served as torchbearers at the 10 AM service and we would love to add more. One group training session was held and individual trainings were scheduled whenever there was interest in serving in these capacities. Rev. Catherine trained one of our crucifers to be a thurifer for special occasions. Thank you to those who have acknowledged the acolytes' efforts and offered kudos to the youth whereby building their confidence. Any youth or adult who is interested in exploring one of these positions is enthusiastically invited to see Jody Deveney at church or at jodydeveney@gmail.com.



Setting Your House in Order

A lasting gift for those you love.



ALL SAINTS
episcopal church

106 West Church Street | 301-663-5625 | www.allsaintsmd.org

Adult Christian Formation

This year, we were able to offer a wide variety of classes to aid in spiritual growth and formation, honoring several requests from members of the congregation. This academic year began with a series called, "Setting Your House in Order," coordinated by Linda Procter and led by a variety of experts in fields related to preparing for life after retirement. If you missed it, there is a booklet available upon request. We also learned more about the stained glass windows in the Historic Church thanks to Tee Michel and her wealth of knowledge. Diane Warner led an excellent class about Simon Peter. And members of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee are helping us learn more about creating a more authentic community using the book, DIGNITY, by Dr. Beth-Sarah Wright. For Lent, Adult Formation will once again team up with the Outreach Committee for a lecture series focused on the nurture and care of children (late February and March), followed by a class led by Deacon Kelly on Prayer Book spirituality. We are so

grateful to all our leaders who have generously shared their time and talent in helping us to grow our faith through study. If you have a topic of interest or would like to lead a class, please let Rev. Catherine know.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild grew this year to include four men and fifteen women allowing for three teams of six or seven members each. We have had the honor of setting the altar in the Historic Church for every communion service as well as Wednesday evenings in St. Paul's Chapel. We also prepared the sanctuary for weddings and funerals and participated in Candlemas and the Candlelight Church Tours.

Our members rotated serving for two weeks out of six. We have cared for the sacred elements with all the respect afforded to the body and blood of Christ and maintained the vessels and linens to reflect their beauty for the glory of God to use at Eucharists. Almost all our work was done on Sunday mornings with members occasionally helping on first Saturdays to accomplish tasks not required on a weekly basis. We welcomed and trained new members to the ministry who were mentored by a team leader and other team members. A step-by-step illustrated manual guided each step with pictures of how the altar should look when fully set.



The Altar Guild supported other worship and pastoral care ministries such as Eucharistic Visitors, the Music Ministry for compline, the Flower Guild and St. Mary's Chapter. Women, men and families are encouraged to become a part of this vibrant ministry. For further information see any altar guild member or contact Tina Butcher at tkhbutcher@comcast.net or Jody Deveney at jodydeveney@gmail.com.

A/V Ministry Report

Submitted by Ryan Lantzy

The AV ministry will be putting a call out for volunteers who would like to learn how to run the AV system and potentially become part of the rotation of AV operators. Please keep an eye out in the bulletin for information. Once we have some volunteers we will schedule time to conduct training on the AV system. We recently reviewed plans for the next phase of our AV system updates. These will include new speakers and sound processors to improve the intelligibility of speech in the worship space. Additionally directional mics will be placed throughout the historic church and strategically pointed to pick up our beautiful choir voices. This will allow us to better control the balance of choir vocals and organ accompaniment. There will also be small additions that will allow visiting musicians to plug in more easily and have them heard on the live stream as well as in the worship space.

Bright Beginnings

Dear Members of All Saints Episcopal Church,

Warm greetings from all of us at Bright Beginnings Learning Centre.

As we look back on the past year, our hearts are filled with thankfulness for your steadfast generosity and compassion. Your continued support has been instrumental in enriching the lives of children from the slum communities we serve. Because of your kindness, these young hearts are now growing in health, confidence, and faith.

We are delighted to share a few encouraging highlights that your contributions have made possible this year:

- 1. A journey of Hope through education:** Most of the Bright Beginnings children leave school due to difficult family circumstances. The children have faced many challenges — an illiterate household, a father struggling with alcoholism, no guidance towards education, no proper care and attention. Through your generous support, these young students have found a way back to learning. Re-enrolled in school and attending tuition classes regularly, the children are now not only catching up academically but excelling with determination. Your compassion has changed lives. Thank you for helping turn despair into hope, and a dropout into a proud student once more.
- 2. Enhanced Personal Hygiene:** The children have embraced good hygiene habits such as daily bathing, clean dressing, and proper oral care. Their sense of self-care and dignity has grown remarkably.
- 3. Improved Clothing and Grooming:** Thanks to your donations, the children now have access to comfortable, well-fitting clothes and regular grooming sessions that have helped them feel neat and self-assured.
- 4. Nutritious Meals and Medical Care:** Balanced meals and timely medical assistance have strengthened the children's overall health. They now appear more energetic, alert, and active throughout the day.
- 5. Holistic Physical and Mental Growth:** Through sports, learning programs, and creative activities, we've witnessed steady progress in both their physical and mental development. The children show greater enthusiasm and self-confidence in everything they do.
- 6. Reduced Illness and Improved Well-being:** With better hygiene and nutrition, there has been a clear reduction in common ailments. Attendance and participation in our programs have increased notably.
- 7. Special Care:** Attention has been taken for special needs kids. Right now, two special needs children are in the Bright Beginnings Learning Centre.

8. Computer Skills: For the children of Bright Beginnings Learning Centre, seeing and touching a computer for the very first time was nothing short of magic. These little hands, once used only to fight daily struggles, now explore keys that open doors to endless possibilities. Their smiles, filled with wonder and hope, remind us that even the smallest opportunity can spark the brightest dreams.

9. Community development: At the Bright Beginnings Centre, nearly twenty-five destitute and widowed women once struggling to survive as daily labourers found new hope when they joined the sewing program last year. Through dedication and patience, they learned well and now few of them are working in shops or taking orders from their homes, proudly earning an income with their own hands. Their journey stands as a beautiful example of community development—where compassion, skill, and opportunity come together to transform despair into dignity.

10. Commitment to Sunday School: The children now attend Sunday School regularly, where they joyfully learn moral values, discipline, and the teachings of love and kindness.

11. Spiritual Maturity: Their faith has deepened as they learn to pray, share, and care for one another. It's heartwarming to see their spiritual understanding blossom. Vacation Bible School is a favorite of the children. This is a great opportunity to know about Jesus through the art and theme given by the All Saints' Episcopal Church.

12. Active Church Involvement: Many of our children now take initiative in church activities — singing in choirs, playing instruments, assisting in services, and volunteering with cheerful hearts. Their eagerness to serve is truly inspiring. Each of these milestones stands as a testimony to your selfless giving. You have not only provided material help but also brought light, joy, and dignity to many young lives.



Our Mission

Our mission is to nurture the potential of every child through quality education, nutritious meals, and a loving environment that promotes dignity, learning, and growth.

Challenges

Children living in slums face many challenges that affect their education. Irregular attendance is common because their families often migrate seasonally in search of work, making it hard for them to stay in one place. With no stable agricultural jobs or regular wages, parents rely on temporary work, and children may also need to help earn money. These factors lead to frequent school dropouts, poor learning outcomes, and limited opportunities for a better future.

Goals for 2026

- Reduce irregular school attendance and minimize dropouts by providing flexible learning opportunities.
- Purchase 8 computers for the children for smart learning.
- Support children and families affected by seasonal migration so children can continue their education without interruption.
- Provide vocational training and skill-building activities so families can find alternatives to unstable agricultural and wage labour.
- Promote gender equality by supporting the education of both boys and girls, reducing barriers for girls.
- Involve children's voices in planning programs and encourage their participation in community activities for personal growth.

Conclusion

Bright Beginnings Learning Centre continues to be a testimony of faith in action. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to All Saints Episcopal Church for your enduring support, our dedicated teachers and volunteers, and our community partners who make this mission possible. Together, we are building a stronger foundation for their future — one filled with hope, good health, and faith.

With deepest appreciation and blessings,
Galinki John Vicliff and Sudha
Bright Beginnings Learning Centre,
Ponnur, India

Centering Prayer Group 2025-2026

Submitted by Colleen Gibney

Centering Prayer Group 2025-2026

The Centering Prayer Group meets weekly on Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. While all meetings take place on Zoom, this year we increased hybrid Zoom/live meetings to approximately one session per month in the ASEC basement Conference Room. We maintain an opt-in group list using a software tool to keep participants aware of updates, links, and weather issues.



What is Centering Prayer? Cynthia Borgeault writes: *“Basically, the method of Centering Prayer consists in learning to withdraw attention from our thoughts—those incessant creations of our busy minds—in order to rest in a gentle, open attentiveness to divine reality itself. This gentle releasing of thoughts is known in Centering Prayer teaching as ‘consenting to the presence and action of God.’ It is not hard to do, but it’s hard—at first—to value.”*

This past year, the Centering Prayer Group met weekly, and also hosted two additional events:

Welcoming Prayer information session, June 8th - We held a post-service information session on a contemplative practice called the Welcoming Prayer in St. Paul’s Chapel. The Welcoming Prayer focuses on welcoming afflictive emotions and sensations, and subsequently letting go of our clinging to excessive levels of security, affection, and control to allow for a more profound sense of God’s presence.

Introduction to Centering Prayer Half-Day Retreat, November 15th - Facilitators from Contemplative Outreach of Maryland and Washington led around thirty participants through an introductory workshop called Meeting God in the Silence to help newcomers to try out this form of contemplation, and also to help experienced participants refresh their practices. The event drew Frederick County participants from All Saints, Harriet Chapel, St. Katharine Drexel (which hosts a Centering Prayer group also), and from as far as Annapolis and Oxon Hill.

If you would like to drop in to try group practice, to receive the Zoom link, or to be added to the Centering Prayer mailing list for links and announcements, please email Colleen Gibney at centeringprayerfrederickmd@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page, “Centering Prayer - Frederick, MD at ASEC”.



Chalicists - Twenty-four dedicated men and women serve in the Chalicer ministry. We have had the honor of serving the congregation by offering the Cup of Christ to those who come to partake in the Eucharist. One group training was held as well as numerous individual training sessions whenever interest in this ministry was expressed. The Chalicer ministry would love to welcome new members. If you wish to explore serving in this meaningful capacity, please express your interest to jodydeveney@gmail.com who would love to talk with you

Children's Ministry and Formation

2025 was a fantastic year for the ASEC Children's Ministry! We started off strong, updating all the classroom space with new flooring, new paint, and even hiring a local artist to paint a beautiful mural in the nursery space! Children's Formation finished Heroes of the Old Testament and began learning about Heroes of the New Testament for the 25-26 school year. Our leaders for both Formation, which takes place at 9:00am on Sundays, and Children's Chapel, which takes place alongside the 10:00 service, consist of a strong group of volunteers with curriculum and resources supplied by All Saints.

Vacation Bible School 2025 continued the Wild Wonder Curriculum and focused on learning about and caring for God's creation. We had campers and junior counselors join three groups that rotated stations, played games, and learned all about the world we've been given. VBS 2026 will be split-campus, with mornings at ERUCC and afternoons at All Saints- this year we're putting down our magnifying glasses and picking up our tap shoes as we learn and perform a bible-based musical!

Children's Ministry finished 2025 strong with a Pumpkin Patch field trip and the ever-popular Christmas Pageant. We are so excited to see what 2026 has in store!



Nursery

The Nursery at All Saints serves our youngest parishioners from birth to 5 years old. Nursery Care is available every Sunday from 8:30am to 11:30am and is occupied by four Safe Church trained staff members in rotations of two. In 2025 we began our Nursery revitalization project by hiring Michelle Cromartie as the Nursery Supervisor, organizing and changing the toys available, and hiring local artist Jamie Gerhold to paint a beautiful mural inspired by the stained glass in the historic church.



Report provided by Alexandra Harrington, Director of Children and Youth Ministry.

Communications Annual Report

Submitted by Ryan Spadaro

2025 saw a large growth in member participation and our hosted events. I started creating Standard Operating Procedures for certain facilities around campus, one describing how to operate the Great Hall screens and another for setting up and running the AV Livestream in the Historic Church. I'd like to create more information for the technology we have to make everyone more comfortable and familiar with our tools. I will continue to assist in operating livestreams and audio/video for special events, weddings and funerals. I started advertising our spaces that are available for outside rentals, providing tours of our facilities and showing the extent of our facilities, while being the point of contact for technological questions or emergencies if they need.

New Designs

I collaborated with parishioners to create new banner designs and logos for a variety of All Saints events which have physical forms. *A banner for the Pride Parade and a T-Shirt design for Walk A Mile in Their Shoes 2025*



Artist in Residence Gallery

Continuing the resident artist series with a new artist every two months on display in the Church Office. The summer saw some of our most popular artists. I'm still focused on presenting local artists to give them a chance to promote their art for free to the community. If you would like to participate or know someone who would like to please contact me at: rspadaro@allsaintsmd.org



New Visual Billboards

With the help of the OTHG they installed new screens in the Church Office and Lower Gathering Space. These will reflect some of the longer running events or advertising events largely in advance, showing the church schedule and any important alerts regarding security or parking.

Stewardship Committee

Stewardship this year I collaborated with Tracy Boyd to create our logo for our 2025 campaign *My Story, Your Glory*. Putting together materials for Stewardship and opening our new little free library in the Parish Hall. Thank you to our Stewardship team for another successful year!

Frederick Candlelight Tours

The Candlelight Church Tours are probably the largest event in the year by volume over the course of several hours. Teri Rietfort and Hilary Pettigrew were exceptional at organizing and delineating tasks in order to host our visitors from near and far. We were also able to allow a local film maker, Salyer McLaughlin, to get footage of the Historic Church to premiere in his new documentary *BOOMTOWN*, which premiered in January and will continue at Warehouse Cinemas throughout February. Thank you to the Candlelight Team and our volunteers!

Let's continue to welcome those new to All Saints and show our community what we're all about!

Education for Ministry (EfM) Seminar Group

Submitted by Bennie W. Green, Mentor

The EfM seminar group met for its first session on Tuesday September 2, 2025 at 4:00PM- 6:00PM in the lower level conference room. Each weekly session begins and ends with prayer. The group has met each week in the same room except during a two week break over the Christmas Holidays.

The seminar group is comprised of eleven people, (10)Year 1 and (1)Year 3 members. Each week group members share their reaction to written materials, videos and podcasts as assigned in the syllabus. Written materials have included the Old Testament of the Bible, essays on theology and study of the history of Christianity; videos have included interviews with noted theologians. During each weekly session in addition to a discussion of assigned reading material, the group completes a theological reflection led by a different member of the seminar group.

The EfM group meets for thirty-six weeks; the final meeting takes place on May 19, 2026.

Visitors are always welcome during the first hour from 4:00PM-5:00PM.



Environmental Ministry

Submitted by Randy Querry



Nearly monthly, the Environmental Ministry hosts hikes at parks in MD, WV or PA. These hikes vary in challenge as we try to be inclusive and accessible to all ages. We share readings, prayers, history, traditions and celebrate saints to provide fellowship and enrich our spiritual journey. The following are highlights of our 2024 activities.

January 5th, we celebrated Epiphany and learned about the Magi's arrival to celebrate the King! We met at the church and walked through Baker Park at dusk. We read from the Gospel of Matthew reflecting on the arrival of the Magi, discussed their long journey, the significance and symbolism of the Magi's gifts and the astronomical occurrence that enfolds the mysteries of this season.

February 22nd, we met at Harper's Ferry National Historic Park Murphy-Chambers Farm. We learned of the multiple layers of history while hiking the beautiful countryside that included overlooks of the Shenandoah River. This farm was a site of the Battle of Harper's Ferry in 1862. The farm was a temporary site of the John Brown fort and later a meeting place for the Niagara Movement – a 1905 civil rights organization to fight for full, immediate political and social equity for African Americans. The group demanded voting rights, equal education, and an end to segregation.

March 22nd, we traveled to the C & O Canal for a nice blessing of the bikes service led by Deacon Kathleen, "May their gears be smooth, their brakes be strong". This beautiful outdoor service was followed by 10 miles of cycling on the towpath. The intergenerational group saw bald eagles, a barred owl and a great blue heron! **May 31st**, we hiked at Catoctin Mountain Park's Wolf Rock and Chimney Rock. Four miles and 900 feet of elevation, blossoming mountain laurel, and hours of fellowship ensued, followed by breakfast at a diner in Thurmont.

July 26th, the environmental ministry hiked the local Frederick Watershed enjoying the Buck Flats, Canaan and Catoctin Trails. The group reflected on Saint Mary Magdalene, her feast day being on the 22nd. Considered the Apostle to the Apostles, she ministered with Christ aside the 12 disciples and in some Christian sects is considered equal with the disciples. She is often pictured with an egg, symbolic of the resurrection.

August 23rd, the group visited Little Bennet Regional Park. We reflected on George Freeman Bragg Jr. whose feast day is August 3rd. Born enslaved in 1863, he eventually became an ordained Episcopal Priest eventually serving in Baltimore 49 years and advocating for civil rights his career.

September 27th, we hiked at Greenbrier State Park. The group hiked 6.5 miles and witnessed an Osprey diving for fish! The group reflected on “Making peace with the Earth” It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world; it’s nonviolence or non-existence. Martin Luther King Jr. “I see the Promised Land.”

Watch the All Saints E-blast for future Environmental Ministry Events in 2026! God’s peace as we trek through 2026.

Eucharistic Visitors

In 2025, a total of 407 visits were made to 89 communicants at 7 different care facilities, the hospital and many homes by 11 Eucharistic Visitors. The number of our parishioners requesting Eucharistic Visits because they are unable to attend worship in person continues to grow.

Might you feel called to assist in extending Christ’s presence and care beyond our church walls? To take part in a beautiful witness of faith, compassion, and service? No prior experience is required. If you are interested in learning more about this meaningful ministry, please contact Diane Warner, 301-964-6905.

Flower Guild

Submitted by Jackie Gambill

The Flower Guild Ministry warmly welcomes new members throughout the year! This small, dedicated group of parishioners shares a love for All Saints and a passion for flowers. No professional design experience is required, though some basic design knowledge is helpful. Most importantly, members should bring care and thoughtfulness to crafting beautiful altar arrangements. Flowers are purchased by the Flower Guild and made available in the flower guild room on Fridays. Members may arrange the flowers there or take them home to prepare. Once completed, the arrangements are placed on the altar on Saturdays.

Flower Guild Recap for 2025:

- Provided altar flowers for Sunday worship services and multiple funerals.
- Organized florals and plants for Easter and Christmas, and other parish wide celebrations.



Garden Guild

Submitted by Lisha Utt

The Garden Guild was hard at work again this season taking care of the gardens around All Saints including the Memorial Garden, the Boxwood Garden, and the Court Street Garden.

We met the 2nd and 4th Mondays from March to November (and a few days in between) to do regular upkeep including weeding, lots of weeding, pruning, and mulching.

In addition to the regular upkeep, other highlights included:

- Our most exciting news, the addition of two new trees in the Memorial Garden. The first, a Sango Kaku Japanese maple tree was planted in the southwest corner of the garden replacing the lilac tree we lost last year. It's also called a Coral Bark maple because of its bright coral bark that shines in the winter! The second tree, a Snow Fountain weeping cherry tree was planted around the pond in the northwest corner. It replaced an ailing fringe tree. We are looking forward to its lovely white blossoms this spring. Both trees were purchased from and planted by Stadler Nurseries.
- In May, we planted the containers in the Memorial Garden with a variety of summer annuals. Our team kept them watered, always a bit of a challenge in the high heat of summer. The pots looked beautiful until fall when we replaced them with pansies and liriope.
- We also planted 75 flowering vinca throughout the Memorial Garden, especially around the pond. It continues to be a great way to get long lasting color in the garden all season.
- We did a major pruning of the variegated euonymus hedge to get it back into shape. We also gently pruned our boxwood hedge in the front of the church to keep it in shape.

- Our relentless battle against our neighbor's vigorous orange trumpet vine invading our garden around the pond continued.
- Sadly we did lose two boxwood by the walkway at the north entrance to the Memorial Garden. They were burned by the salt used on the walkway during the winter. We are hoping to replace them this coming spring.

We continued our valuable partnership with Bartlett Tree and Shrub Service. They help us to maintain the health of our beautiful boxwood garden in the front of the church and work with us to prevent and treat diseases and pests in other shrubs and trees as needed. They are essential to what we do.

Finally, we started a wonderful project to replace the windows located between the columbarium that have been covered with grey louvers, with beautiful stained glass. We are working with McMow Stained Glass and hope to have the windows installed in the first half of 2026. We are very excited about this project and think the new windows will be a wonderful addition to the Memorial Garden.

We are a small but mighty group and are always looking for new recruits, no gardening experience required!

The Getting Ahead Program

Submitted by Katy Ackland

The United Way of Frederick County, Maryland manages the Getting Ahead Program. This Program is focused on leading the participants, or “investigators”, through an assessment of their own resources and gives them tools and guidance on how to increase those resources as part of their move toward becoming self-sufficient. The Getting Ahead Program helps people improve their lives and communities.

This year the United Way implemented a revised schedule that allowed the first session, or “cohort”, to complete and graduate before the holiday season, helping to avoid holiday and winter weather disruptions. They believe that this adjustment contributed to a higher graduation rate for the first cohort compared to the past two years. They also adopted a strategy of utilizing three facilitators alongside a larger group of investigators.

All Saints supported the Getting Ahead Program’s 16-week cohorts by alternating once a week with another church to provide full dinner meals, serve participants, and package leftovers for takeaway.

A few highlights from the most recently graduated cohort – the cohort started with 16 investigators, and 14 graduated in December. This marked the highest number of graduates they have had in a single cohort so far!

United Way thanks All Saints for our continued support and for so generously providing meals for the cohort. “Investigators were always very grateful for the meals, especially not having to worry about food for themselves or their children before coming to class.”

Thank you to the All Saint's ministries, parishioners, families and various groups that coordinated together in support of the Getting Ahead Program. United Way said that their partnership with All Saints "truly makes a meaningful difference for our participants, and we are very grateful for your ongoing commitment"

Greeters

Submitted by Diane Warner

Rooted in Christ's call to love one another, the Greeters Ministry serves as the first expression of welcome, joyfully inviting all people into our faith community and creating an atmosphere where each person feels seen, valued, and at home as we gather to worship and grow together in Christ.

In 2025 this ministry was served by 7 individuals. We welcome any that feel called to take part in this ministry.



Daughters of the King® InSpired and Genesis Chapters

Submitted by June Miller

The Order of the Daughters of the King® (DOK) is a lay order for women of the Episcopal Church and churches in communion with it. The InSpired Chapter of the DOIK was founded at All Saints in 1988. There are currently 47 Daughters in the Chapter, most of whom are, or were, members of All Saints. The Genesis Chapter of the Junior DOK is for girls and young women is established under the aegis of the InSpired Chapter.

As Daughters, we strive to carry out our Rule of Life, which incorporates a Rule of Prayer and a Rule of Service. In 2025, as relates specifically to All Saints, the Daughters of the InSpired Chapter:

- Led Stations of the Cross in the Historic Church during Lent
- Published and handed out the 2025 Lenten Meditation Booklet
- Organized the Maundy Thursday Night Watch in St. Paul's Chapel
- Held Chapter meetings monthly, on Saturday mornings
- Had the opportunity to dine out together during the Summer months
- At the Diocesan Convention, we were Prayer Chapel Hostesses
- Admitted 4 new Daughters into the Order
- Faithfully served across all ministries of the Church
- Made regular financial contributions to All Saints ministries
- Sponsored students in Haiti, through Education = Hope

- Sponsored 2 students in India, through Bright Beginnings
- Steadfastly and devotedly lifted up prayers requested of the Order
- Had the opportunity to attend a Spring Assembly on The Power of Lament
- Had the opportunity to attend a Fall Assembly on The Power of Sisterhood
- Had the opportunity to attend a P3 DOK Retreat at Claggett Sharing Our Stories

In 2025, Members of the Genesis Chapter met most of the months by zoom. Our Junior Daughters include those from All Saints and others from Georgia, West Virginia and Baltimore who support one another in prayer, completing projects and programs which were designed to deepen their faith and expand their learnings as they grow as Christians.

Lectoring Ministry

Submitted by Jamie Harris

- We had 34 active, trained lectors in 2025, plus two subs. Four of those are new this year.
- Our lectors read Scripture, Psalms (at 8AM) and Prayers of the People each Sunday of the year, as well as special occasions such as Lenten services, Evensong, and Christmas Eve.
- Our lectors are dedicated and eager to serve as often as possible.
- We have youth lectors for special services such as Christmas Eve.



Loops of Love

Submitted by Diane Warner

The Loops of Love's mission is to share Christ's love through the making and gifting of prayer shawls and blankets—offering comfort, hope, and the assurance of prayer in any time of need, especially times of joy, illness, grief, or transition. We currently have 6 active members of this ministry as well as others from our congregation that have made items at home and donated them. We have both knitters and crocheters making prayer shawls and blankets. In November 2025, we started making baby blankets as well. We look to 2026 to start a quarterly blessing of all the gifts made so they can be given with the love and spirit in which they're made. New members are always welcome as are all skill levels. We meet the first Thursday of each month in the Memorial Lounge from 8:15am - 9:30am. If you or someone you know could use some prayer in the form of warm loops of love, please contact Diane Warner at diane.dok@gmail.com.

Men's Ministry

The All Saints Men's Ministry met monthly on the 3rd Monday all through 2025 primarily for fellowship, fun and food at Cugino Forno. We were able to welcome men who were new to All Saints, as well as provide a venue for guys to connect and get to know each other better.

The connections we established allowed us to represent ASEC and support the wider community by:

1. Providing Food for the Getting Ahead Program
2. Holding the Annual Chili Cook-off to raise money for Advocates for Homeless Families
3. Networking and contributing labor with Waterboyz on a Fostering Love SWOT project, helping a foster mom by building a storage shed for bikes, as well as painting, landscaping and routine house maintenance.
4. Provided labor with Waterboyz at the Asbury Methodist Block party

Respectfully,

Dan Huebner

Men's Ministry Coordinator

Monday Evening Gospel Bible Study

Submitted by Lynn Gebrowsky

The All Saints Zoom Gospel Bible Study has become a regular fixture on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30, at the Zoom link provided in the ASEC eblast. We gather to study the Gospel and other lectionary readings for the Sunday ahead in order to contextualize and better understand the message of Jesus. We also look back at the preceding Sunday and explore how our study of the past week informed our appreciation of the readings and the homily or sermon accompanying them. While most of the group members are from All Saints, we are a geographically dispersed lot; former parishioners who have moved away and even some folk who have discovered the Gospel Bible Study online. Please click the Zoom link and join us whenever you are able!

Music Ministry

This report reflects my tenure at All Saints beginning in September 2025. While my time here has been brief, the following highlights offer a snapshot of the vitality, dedication, and promise present within our music ministry during these initial months.

Adult Choir



The Adult Choir continues to be an integral and visible part of our worship life at All Saints. Barring inclement weather, the choir is present each Sunday, leading worship faithfully and with joy. Since my arrival, three new members have joined the choir, and one member has returned following a sabbatical, bringing the current active membership to 24 singers.

Beyond regular Sunday worship, members of the choir participated in Bachtober Fest at Evangelical Lutheran Church under the leadership of Deacon Daniel Catalano. A smaller ensemble also collaborated with the handbell choir for the 2025 Historic Houses of Worship Tour, where their contribution was met with enthusiastic appreciation from the community.

Following a brief and well-earned rest after Christmas, the choir has returned to rehearsal with renewed energy as we prepare for Candlemas, Holy Week, and Easter. In support of long-term stability, two paid section leaders—one bass and one tenor—have been added to the choir. This was made possible through a reallocation within the music ministry budget and represents an important investment in the choir's continued health and sustainability.

Handbell Choir



The Handbell Choir remains an active and dedicated ensemble within our music program. Since September, the choir has played in worship approximately once per month and has now begun preparing music for the spring season. Two new ringers have joined the ensemble, with a third prospective member forthcoming. This growth allows the choir to return to a three-octave configuration, significantly expanding the range of music available to them.

Efforts have been made to make full use of our existing handbell library, which is both extensive and underutilized due to past transitions. The ringers continue to challenge themselves musically and are encouraged to invite others to join them in this ministry, strengthening both fellowship and participation.

Children's and Youth Music

In November, we introduced two age-based ensembles: Cherub Choir (Kindergarten–Grade 2) and the Chorister Program (Grades 3–8). While initial sign-ups have been slow, interest is beginning to grow. The primary challenge remains identifying rehearsal times that align with the already full schedules of families within the Frederick community.

I am currently in conversation with parents and plan to distribute a scheduling survey to better determine feasible days and times. The long-term vision is for the Cherub Choir to sing several times each year, rehearsing on a flexible, as-needed basis, while the Chorister Program would sing monthly in worship and periodically collaborate with the Adult Choir.

Parishioner and choir member Claire Zimmerman has generously agreed to serve as a volunteer proctor for the Chorister Program. The program is built around Voice for Life, a curriculum developed by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), which provides structured musical and spiritual formation for singers of all ages. We are excited about the foundation being laid and the future growth of children's music at All Saints.

Administration and Ongoing Development

A significant portion of my time thus far has been devoted to learning the rhythms and operations of the parish and building relationships within the All Saints community. This continues to be an ongoing and rewarding process. I have also enjoyed forming connections with colleagues at neighboring churches and with local ensemble leaders, including those associated with the Frederick Chorale. We welcomed the U.S. Army Chorus for a concert in early January and have hopefully begun a lasting relationship which can lead to future concerts.

In addition, I continue to refine and standardize our printed worship materials, including weekly bulletins and special liturgical resources. I am grateful to have been included in discussions regarding the church's sound system upgrades and appreciate the collaborative spirit surrounding this important project. I extend my sincere thanks to Rev. Catherine for her continued support, encouragement, and guidance as I grow into my role at All Saints.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tyler Horton

Director of Music

Newcomer's Committee

Submitted by Sally Baer

The Newcomers Committee receives first contact information from the forms available online at our web site and in the pews, for those expressing interest in All Saints. A committee member then sends a welcome email and Rev. Catherine also contacts the individual or family. Newcomers sponsor an Orientation gathering with lunch once each quarter and invite those interested in more information as well as meeting other parishioners.

We have had 56 people join All Saints through the Newcomer's Orientation in 2025 and have responded to 30 inquiries since, as our Church membership continues to grow. The Orientation Lunches have been very popular and include Rev. Catherine introducing the process for membership transfer or joining the Episcopal Church and All Saints, Frederick. Committee members speak about our many Ministries and offer a tour of our large facility as well.

Outreach Ministry

In the last year ASEC outreach ministry has supported;

Blessings in a Backpack
Advocates for the Homeless
Heifer International (raised \$2,741)
Beyond Shelter
Bright Beginnings, Ponnur, India
Special Challenge Camp at Clagget

Frederick Community College food lockers
Getting Ahead
Hearty House
Asbury Coat Drive
SHIP
Centro Hispano

In addition to the money, goods, and time we have shared with these organizations, we separately made donations from the Outreach restricted fund, of \$8000.00 to Beyond Shelter, \$4000.00 to St. Vincent de Paul Society, to SHIP \$4000.00, and \$3,000 to Centro Hispano. This was made possible by a generous bequest to All Saints Outreach Restricted Fund.

The work and loving kindness of our parish continues. I am hugely grateful for everyone's interest and support and I look forward to hearing some new ideas for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Hilary Pettigrew



Over the Hill Gang

Submitted by Mike Vaughn



The Over The Hill Gang (OTHG) has met weekly to maintain the building infrastructure of All Saints. From emergency plumbing repairs, to remodeling bathrooms and rebuilding basement walls and doors, OTHG keeps the church and grounds functioning to reduce expensive contractor-required calls.

Every Tuesday, 5 to 8 regular members meet for breakfast at 7 AM then tackle what needs attention. Whether up on ladders to replace ceiling lights or clearing debris from outdoor drains, OTHG gets the job done. During 2025, OTHG saved the church an estimated \$75,000 in labor and material costs, with members donating not just their time and skills but very often the materials needed for the repairs.

We are always looking for new talent to support our efforts at All Saints.

If you're interested, or you just see some maintenance item that needs to be done around the church, please email us at: mikeevaughn@gmail.com or call Mike Vaughn at (301) 807-4693.

Seasoned Saints

The Seasoned Saints Luncheon meets the second Wednesday of each month at Gladchuk's Restaurant in downtown Frederick. The group started with 8 members and has now grown up to 14! We meet from noon until 2PM and find the central location of Gladchuk's ideal for our senior members. To reserve seating call Terry Rimel 301-620-9906, if something comes up and you can not make it please let her know. Join in the fun!

St. Mary's Chapter 2025

President Sara Gibson, 1st VP Linda Procter, 2nd VP Marty Young,

Treasurer Betty Hedges, Secretary Jill Browning, Past Pres. Darlene Aulls

St. Mary's Chapter was formed as a women's group in 1886 by the Rev. Osborne Ingle to assist him in parish work. More than one hundred years later it clarified its role at All Saints to: provide daytime fellowship for members regardless of gender; support the physical plant of the church; provide financial support for groups within and outside of the church; and support members through prayer, programs, and participation in projects.



St. Mary's Chapter is open to all parishioners. We meet most months on first Monday's for a luncheon meeting that usually features a short program or guest speaker. There are currently about twenty-four active members and six honorary members.

In February St. Mary's worked in partnership with the Worship Ministry to sponsor the third *Candlemas Festival*, a parish-wide event celebrated the first Saturday in February. The festival coincides with the most popular downtown event, the Fire in Ice Festival. Our chefs sold hot food and baked goods in the Great Hall to raise funds, individual members sponsored an ice sculpture in front of the church, and the crowning activity was an evening Choral Candlemas Service. The chapter realized about \$1100 in profit from food sales and SMC merchandise. We also provided a venue for other ministries to sell merchandise. We thank the parishioners who volunteered their time to make the event successful and show hospitality to hundreds of visitors.

St. Mary's Chapter provided funds of \$17,779 to replace the doors to the Patrick Street Foyer with new doors that include a push-button opening system to make that entrance Handicap Accessible. In the kitchen of the Parish Hall the old range was replaced with a new one at a cost of \$1685. Chapter Outreach to non-profits in the community in 2025 was \$3250. These funds were generated from current and previous years' fund-raising activities and interest income. Members provided meals for the *Getting Ahead* program several times during the year.



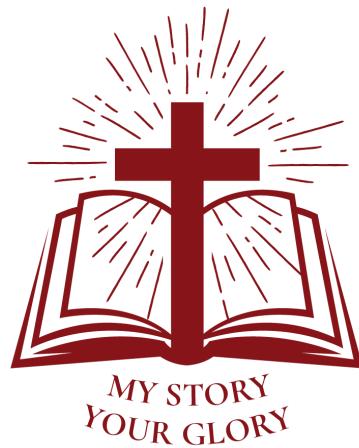
Stewardship Committee 2025

Submitted by Ashli Regan

The Stewardship Committee had an exciting year with a robust pledge campaign. Our parish community came together to pledge \$430,828.00 across 143 pledges for 2026. That is a 5% increase from 2025 which saw \$406,470.00 pledged across 137 pledges. All Saints is incredibly grateful for this community's generosity!

This year's campaign was built around the theme "My Story, Your Glory," and we got to benefit from the perspectives of many different stories being told here at All Saints while aligning around the story we hope to share in 2026. We were moved by the opportunity to read the testimonials of faith and what this parish community means to three of our All Saints families. We were blessed with the contributions of time and skills of many people coming together to prepare pledge campaign materials to mail and have available to pick up in the church, maintaining the system to allow people to give and pledge online and through automatic payments through tithe.ly, and coordinating and hosting a fantastic celebration event with food and beverage options, crafts and a moon bounce for the children, a Photo Booth with fun props and a library-inspired backdrop, and the grand opening of the All Saints Little Free Library with an abundance of books spanning multiple genres. Stories united us in the campaign season, and I am so excited to be a part of the All Saints story that unfolds in 2026.

I would like to give special thanks to those who volunteered with the stewardship committee, campaign, and celebration. Thank you to Scarlett Gibb, Rachel Query, Clarence Harper, Mary Alice Self, Ryan Spadaro, Vickie Burgee, Nancy McArthur, Betty Briese-Ludwig, Dawn Rosarius, Tom and Elizabeth Koerner, Alex Harrington, Rob Cramer, Jamie Lopez and Pat Word, Trevor Addie-Carter, The All Saints Vestry, and Rev. Catherine Thompson. We also are grateful for the support of every parishioner who came together to help with the campaign and celebration in ways big and small, and to every parishioner who has given their time, talents, and treasure to the mission of All Saints this year.



Truth and Reconciliation Committee Annual Report Summary

Current Committee Members: Joan Arnold, Tracy Boyd, Jill Browning, Rob Cramer, Ruth Green, Sarah Heald, Rixey Hoult, Stacy Lynskey, Rev. Jen Mariano, Linda Procter, Cathy Rogers, Kristen Starr

Our Mission: The committee aims to increase awareness of African American history, address implicit biases, and promote actions against racism to foster a more inclusive and equitable church, community, and society. We welcome new members to join and contribute to this mission.

KEY 2025 ACTIVITIES:

Readings & Conversations: Held two Readings and Conversations (book club) meetings

- February – *A More Perfect Union* by Adam Russell Taylor
- May – *Jesus & John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation* by Kristin Kobes Du Mez
- Currently facilitating discussions during adult formation on *Dignity: Seven Strategies for Creating Authentic Community* by Beth-Sarah Wright

March – Invisible Systems live presentation

- 50+ in attendance
- Collected \$710 in donations for Black Health Equity Coalition

April - Two committee members participated in the Diocesan Civil Rights Pilgrimage in Alabama and presented their experience at two adult formation sessions (May & October).

June – Held Juneteenth Celebration during fellowship hours

July – Participated in the Asbury Block Party

October – Participated in the Asbury UMC annual coat drive

DIOCESAN TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION - A member of the All Saints T & R committee serves on this commission and attends its monthly meetings.

T & R PLAQUE PROJECT

A majority of the committee's efforts in 2025 was spent on creating a plaque to:

- acknowledge All Saints' complicity in slavery & systemic racism
- apologize for it
- promise to do better

The original plaque wording was presented to the congregation for four weeks in June and July to encourage feedback. The revised wording, based on that feedback, was presented to the congregation in January of 2026. Again, feedback was encouraged, and the project is ongoing.

Visit the Social Justice page on the All Saints website for more information on the development of the plaque - including historical facts written in the All Saints archives and public records documenting some All Saints ministers, vestry members, and parishioners enslaved people.

Usher Ministry

Submitted by Scarlett Gibb & Teri Rietfort

Ushers serve our Lord each week by welcoming our parishioners and guests, distributing bulletins or programs, collecting the tithes and offerings, and facilitating an orderly procession for the distribution of Holy Communion. Ushers also volunteer to assist with funerals or special services such as Candlemas and Choral Evensong. In addition, the usher team has prepared and served meals for the Getting Ahead Program in 2025. The current ministry has 24 active volunteers; 8 are dedicated to the 8 a.m. Sunday service and 16 dedicated to the 10 a.m. Sunday service. We are deeply grateful for the dedication of our usher team volunteers who served at more than 175 services in 2025. Thank you for continuing to serve the All Saints community.

Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

2025 saw the creation of the Young Adult Ministry, also known as YAM. For those at least one year out of high school, all the way through those who are simply young at heart, YAM is a fellowship group aimed at bringing us closer together.

Our first fellowship activity brought us to Fourth Dimension for bowling and pizza- we had a great turn out and definitely learned that some of us are better at bowling than others... We then moved on to a low-key s'more's night with music, a firepit, and lots of chocolate. We finished the year with an outing to a local apple orchard where we learned the proper way to get an apple off the tree and enjoyed some cinnamon doughnuts.

YAM hopes to continue its growth into 2026 and eventually begin a bible study with focus on member-specific topics.



Report provided by Alexandra Harrington, Director of Children and Youth Ministries.

Youth Group

Submitted by Megan Fowle

2025 was a year of growth for the All Saints Youth Group. We continued our session-based formation curriculum, and covered topics such as Self-esteem, Conflict resolution, and Tenets of the Faith. These lessons are grounded in a scripture passage, but encourage Youth to focus on how the scripture and concept impact their lives as Christians today.

The Youth also performed several community projects to stay connected to service work for the Church and the Frederick Community. Over several days in the Spring, they crafted fleece tie-blankets that were donated to Kline Hospice Center, helped prepare the Easter Eggs for the Children's Egg Hunt, and put together Blessings Bags for community members that are passed out from the Church office.

Finally, we have been continuing to grow our community through a variety of fellowship activities. We spent an afternoon bowling at Fourth Dimension fun center, had a church wide scavenger hunt, learned to trust ourselves and others at Tree Trekkers, and shared incredible talent at the Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show!

The Youth are looking forward to another great year in 2026!



All Saints Episcopal Church | 106 West Church Street | Frederick, MD 21701
301-663-5625 | allsaintsmd.org