



Christ Church & San Marcos

Annual Report 2021

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Annual report of the year 2020

Budget for the year 2021

Agenda

January 24, 2021

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Opening Prayer: The Rev. Matthew Engleby
- ❖ Comments and Recognitions: The Rev. Matthew Engleby
 Staff,
 Vestry, and retiring Vestry Members: Chip Gibson & Suzan Ryan
 Treasurer: Diane Giokaris
- ❖ Slate of the new Vestry members
 - Joanne Coffman 3-year term
 - Edward Stallsworth 3-year term
 - Janice Munson 3-year term
- ❖ Financial Report: Diane Giokaris, Treasurer ; Jay Gallwitz, Financial Scy.
 - Acceptance of the 2021 Annual Budget

Committee Written Reports:

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- ❖ Additional Business:
 - Election of New Vestry Members

- ❖ Vestry Covenant with Parish

- ❖ Closing Prayer

The Interim's Report

I feel quite fortunate to have landed, albeit temporarily, at Christ Church / San Marcos. This community possesses a great spirit for service, a deep sense of faith and a longing for the fruition of God's kingdom. Even though I have been with you for a few months, I have seen you demonstrate great acts of faith and courage and I am inspired by your witness.

Certainly, my engagements have been mostly limited to digital impressions and I have shared with you the frustrations related to coming into a parish in transition in the midst of lockdown. Most of those challenges have to do with the inability to meet the members of the parish face to face and get to know you in a more personal manner. I have been able to meet a few of you with social distancing, but the truth is that I "know" many of you as "office computer," or "galaxy phone" or ""319238." To give credit, Dorothee works hard at changing names on the Zoom image, for the primary purpose of name recognition, and for that I am grateful. But we play the hand we are dealt, and I am recognizing the resilience of the church in these challenging times.

I want to begin by offering prayers of gratitude for the service of the parish staff. I have been able to spend time with Dorothee, Will, German, and Mario. Susan created a great team and I have benefited from the talents and commitment of these people. Dorothee has been critical in my transition, familiarizing me with key administrative issues, parish members, and assisting in worship. Will is a joy to work with, very passionate and focused on his ministry; and so talented. Mario has an incredible connection with a dispersed community of faithful individuals as part of San Marcos, and bears so many of their burdens. German always has a smile as he works around the plant and I enjoy our morning chats as I see him in the church or sidewalk. I am learning from all of them.

As to my role and where we are headed;

I am really here to steady the ship and keep the community moving forward as efficiently as possible. I am not here to change direction, initiate new ministries, revamp the liturgy, etc. Part of this process may require "clearing the deck," to continue with the metaphor, but that is nothing substantial, simply providing space and structure for the new rector.

Clearly many of the ministries of the parish have been on a hiatus of sorts for the year, with most of us waiting patiently for a chance to return. I hope that happens by mid year. I think that we need to be thinking toward that time when we can gather, as we need to reassemble our community and celebrate. I am grateful for the ministries that are making the best of things. Please read those reports in this document.

Of concern is the decline in pledging and financial support. Certainly there is justification for the decline. Clergy turnover frequently presents a decline in financial support. However, this transition coincides with a pandemic that makes the pain even more. I think the work of the finance committee, wardens, and treasurer has been great, but we need to keep our eye on the horizon in order to make a positive situation to attract and call a new rector. (See report)

Regarding the search process:

Many of us in the Episcopal Church are familiar with the search process and the calling of a new rector. Traditionally this has been a drawn out process that involves the formation of a committee that does much of the leg work of a search, and then presents the results of the committee to the vestry, who then exercise the legal activity of a “call.” In recent years, there has been a movement away from this drawn out process to a more efficient search that relies upon the vestry to exercise the search and call a new rector. This process is more streamline, takes advantage of our digital toolbox, and most importantly, strives to maintain the momentum of the parish ministries. Long searches can be beneficial in troubled parishes or large corporate churches doing international searches; but there is plenty of evidence that indicates that mid size parishes that are healthy and vibrant (such as CC/SM) lose momentum and enthusiasm when moving from a well loved rector to a new one. The diocese does not want CCSM to lose momentum and strongly encouraged us to adopt this approach. The vestry is a group that works well together, is used to making decisions together and in this day and age of Covid, is used to zooming together. After much prayer and discussion the Vestry has agreed to function as the Search committee of CCSM and will seek involvement from the wider parish where possible. We asked Yvonne Davies to chair the vestry search committee. The Vestry pledges to keep you as informed and involved as they are able to do. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk with Matt or Vonnie.

The first step of this process takes place on Sunday, January 31. With the support of the Diocese, we welcome Joanne Izzo back to CC/SM. Joanne will lead a workshop for us called an Appreciative Inquiry which will be helpful as we begin our search for a new rector. She will lead us through a series of discussions and questions that help us look at where we are now, where we need to go and who we seek. This 90- minute workshop will be held on zoom and will involve parish wide feedback as well as small group discussion facilitated by your vestry. This information will be the basis for future conversations with vestry in the search process. Your presence on January 31 is critical.

I look forward to our journey together as we discover God’s call for us and the church.

In peace, Matt

2020 Report from the Senior Warden: Chip Gibson

Well, here we are: 2021. Golly.

When I accepted the job of Senior Warden one year ago, I anticipated, based on my previous years on the Vestry, a largely smooth and gentle glide path through to the completion of my term. Sure, there would be a challenge or two. A leaky boiler perhaps. A sticky door. A creaky pew. Stuff like that.

I certainly didn't allow for a global pandemic.

And then - Egad! - I sure as heck didn't anticipate the departure of our beloved Susan Copley! And yet, looking back over 2020 at Christ Church/San Marcos I am feeling a sense of warm well being. We as a loving community have had to face a lot. And yet I believe that - though certainly tested by extraordinary circumstances - we have emerged stronger and more united for the trials that we have shared and the solace we have provided for each other.

I feel extraordinary gratitude for my fellow Vestry members. In a "normal" year the Vestry meets twelve times. To process and engage the challenges of 2020 in something like real time we decided in March to begin meeting weekly, which we did through November. Thus, we conducted over forty Vestry meetings in 2020, which has to be a record. And yet, despite the unprecedented frequency of our meetings and the myriad complexities we had to wrestle with, there was never a cross word expressed nor a moment when grace, gratitude, commitment, and humility were not in ample evidence.

The Vestry was able to move quickly to bring Father Matthew on board, and what a timely blessing that has been. Enormous thanks to Matt for jumping in so ably and with such care, sensitivity, and intelligence. And I am also enormously grateful to Dorothée for her hard work and inexhaustible good humor, and for the motley crew of our daily morning prayer (Join us! It's fab!)

Most importantly, enormous thanks to everyone who has participated in Zoom services and in the rich variety of Zoom church activities. Please, if you know of anyone who has been reluctant to use Zoom or who is intimidated to try, reach out to them and offer to help. All who have joined us on Zoom (and Facebook) have benefitted by it, and yet I know that there are still folks who we usually see who are not with us digitally. It's easy, and our virtual gatherings have been wonderfully inspiring and sustaining.

2021 will have its challenges, yes, but with the full engagement of our loving congregation, our church leadership, Father Matthew, and the grace of a God who loves us madly, I believe that Christ Church/San Marcos will emerge from this new year stronger and better than ever.

Onward!!

Respectfully Submitted,

Chip Gibson

Book Club

A few years ago, we started our Christ Church Book Club and have been going strong ever since. Every few months we strive to choose a book that will enrich our hearts and minds. Whether a title on spiritual growth, understanding social issues, or inspirational sharing – the discussions not only give us an opportunity to learn but have resulted in bringing us closer in community. And we do have fun!

This past year we've explored **Seeing My Skin** by Peter Jarrett-Schell (further enriched by a zoom appearance with author and his wife), **Barking to the Choir** by Gregory Boyle, **How to Be an Anti-racist** by Ibram X. Kendi, **American Dirt** by Jeanine Cummins, and **Holy Envy** by Barbara Brown Taylor.

We are starting off 2021 with Zora Neale Hurston's **Their Eyes Were Watching God**. Come zoom with us!

Christian Formation

Combined reports for Nursery, Godly Play (GP) and Youth Group (YG)

It goes without saying that this has been a challenging year. But, we are happy to say our kids have risen to the occasion and have been participating (as much as they are able) in our Zoom "Kids Connect" at 11:30 after the Sunday service.

We have combined both the GP age group as well as the YG in these Zoom meetings and that took some creative brainstorming to plan a program that would engage the difference in ages.

We are committed to making sure our kids know that their Christ Church Family is still here for them and anxiously awaiting their return.

So, here is what we have done this year to keep our kids connected and engaged:

- **Kids Connect (Zoom)- 11:30 Sundays-**

Games for kids, incorporating Bible guessing games and brain teasers. Prizes were delivered to the winners. Our kids are VERY competitive!

YG, GP kids and teachers presented Godly Play stories to the group

We had some serious discussions as well, about reaching out to people who were alone on Thanksgiving and discussed some ideas about renovating the YG Room.

- **Puppet Show-** presented for Susan's farewell-GP kids worked the puppets and YG handled the "tech issues" such as filming, editing and preparing the video for Zoom.

- **Advent Project**-with the help of our teachers, advent candles and cards were delivered to all the kids in all classes . Each Sunday a congregant read a Godly Play Advent story as each child “lit” their LED candles and participated in the 10am Service.
- **Christmas Pageant**- families with young children were invited for a photo shoot (masks and distancing included) and YG helped with costumes, photo taking using our green screen, sound, editing, backgrounds etc. The final version can be seen on YouTube under [Christchurchpageant](#). Our tech kids are AMAZING! A few kids could not make the shoot so their voices were taped and “patched in” so they could still participate.
- **Nursery (Miss Rosie’s class)**- our teachers sent each child note cards with personal notes, letting them know we missed them. We have also reached out to these families to see how we can include the younger kids and keep them connected. A parent zoom meeting has been scheduled to get their input.

So what’s next?- Here’s a few ideas we are kicking around...We remain excited and hopeful for the new year !

- We received a generous donation from a contact of Barbara Turk’s of over 80 plain fabric “sock monkeys” and supplies to decorate them. One idea is to have the kids color them and donate them to YAI or other group.
- We are discussing having the kids present the readings once a month (similar to what we did in the past). Although we are thrilled they attend the program after the service, we would like to encourage them to participate during the service as well, just as they would have pre-COVID.
- Discussing Youth Group involvement in Abbott House Zoom programs etc.
- Planning a Youth Group Room Makeover as soon as we are able.

Thanks so much to our teachers and families that have always supported our efforts !

Mary and Orville, on behalf of the Christian Formation Team

Fun Ministry

The Fun Ministry was formed in the summer of 2018. In February of 2020 we hosted a terrific in-person talent show. After that unfortunately there was a big pandemic and we were unable to do anything live. However, we continued with some Friday Fun Nights on Zoom. Some events that were hosted were game nights, concerts, as well as a virtual talent show. We will continue to plan events that will bring people together and enjoy time together!

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Viggiano, Mary Millan, Anthony Wynne, Carter Lard

Nurturing Parish Inclusive Identity

The pandemic required us to stop our major project in this ministry -- the research of our church's connection to slavery. We hope to start that back up when the pandemic ends. The REPAIR anti-racist meetings and discussions have continued in a semi-monthly virtual format and are open to all to attend. Many church members were participants in the Black Lives Matter protests this summer following the murder of George Floyd.

Steel Passion Report

Steel Passion, the Steel Band of Christ Episcopal Church will be celebrating 30 years of music ministry in this new year 2021. There was not much to celebrate in 2020. We did have one gig on Sunday, 13 January at Kendal on Hudson. We were so happy to be able to play before our world shut down! No Chili Cook Off, which is one of the favorite out reach fundraisers. There were no Tropical Wednesdays at WIBC where Christ Church-ers would enjoy each other and the sun setting over the Hudson and the sweet sounds of Steel Passion. No playing in the church services. No Halloween Parade! A Tarrytown and Steel Passion favorite. But most of all not being able to be together! We really do enjoy being and playing together.

We kept our spirits high with Zoom get-togethers and hopes of a much better 2021. We did have time to organize, clean out and clean up our closets and tuck our instruments away! We look forward to resuming our rehearsals and gigs as soon as it is safe to do so.

Stewardship

Well, obviously, this has been a challenging stewardship season, and we are behind where we want and need to be. We have been hampered by the pandemic, by the ensuing fall off in church attendance, and by what I'm told is the predictable reduction in pledging that occurs in the transition period after a beloved minister retires.

And yet, despite this formidable trifecta many of you have responded with care and generosity, and many have increased their commitment to our church! Enormous thanks to you!

We are continuing to add to our count, day by day, pledge by pledge. Please, if you have not yet made your pledge for 2021 it is not too late! And if you are in a position to increase your commitment, well, this is an awfully good year to do so!

I particularly want to thank my fellow committee members - Edward Stallworth, Bria Judkins, and Lora Anderson. Your intelligence, eloquence, commitment, and great good humor have been a blessing to me, and it has been an honor and a joy to serve with you all.

Respectfully Submitted, Chip Gibson

Venta de Ropa /Clothing Closet

This has been a very different year for The Clothing Closet.

The primary mission is to the people nearby who need clothes but cannot afford to pay normal retail prices. Others we are able to help include new immigrants get a complete wardrobe of 'cold weather clothes' and the Abbott House 'kids'. We team with Midnight Run to provide regular cold weather clothes to those in need in NYC. We also take clothes to: Love in Action in Yorktown Heights that sells every day to those in need, and to St. Christopher's House at Graymoor to provide wardrobes for men starting on the road to recovery. Some of the best women's wear has gone to Dress for Success and the bed linens have helped out at animal shelters.

But, this year has been very different. We have only had one sale and brought in \$700.

During the rest of the year, we have essentially cleared out the Clothing Closet supply of clothes and sent them to LIA. This was an ongoing operation because despite pleas not to bring clothes, we still have bags of clothes arriving each week. Margarita and her family have been the ones to keep up this mission throughout the year.

In 2021 we very much look forward to restart the Clothing Closet sales and weekly processing of the incoming clothes. Anyone who wants to join in the fun each week, should contact Margarita, Kathy Hamilton or Ken Davies.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Davies

Cristosal Ministry

Our mission remains focused on human rights and individual dignity as necessary core societal values. Both in our community primarily through our continuing work with asylum seeking refugee children being housed at Abbott House and globally through our deep connection to the support of Cristosal's work in Central America. Presently we are running activities under the "Be the Change" program umbrella.

In late January 2020, three of us from the congregation joined another human rights group to attend a week-long training seminar at Cristosal's El Salvador headquarters. We all were profoundly impacted by the training, individuals we met and situations experienced.

The Covid-19 pandemic disrupted all plans as in-person/group interventions became impossible. Work began remotely via Zoom on puppet theater presentations as alternative means of keeping the Cristosal relationship alive within the congregation. Also, we produced and sent a Zoom fundraising puppet theater presentation to be included in Cristosal's special 20th anniversary fun raising event.

Holiday clothing and schooling materials donations for Abbott House kids were solicited at year end and one local firm used funds originally targeted for their holiday party to help us distribute clothing/supplies to the children. Earlier in the year, before the pandemic restrictions were put in place, we utilized a big jar to collect pocket change under our “Be the Change” theme. Unfortunately, due to the truncated timing for the program (due to Covid) only a small financial amount was collected and sent to Cristosal. We will continue this “Be the Change” theme to emphasize that we all can do something to make things change as long as we do step up and do something.

With this “do something” philosophy guiding us, we are welcoming more CCSM youth into working with us in expanding our ability (and style) in our remote interactions with the asylum-seeking kids. What we learn and develop through this kid-to-kid engagement is hoped to facilitate developing a new bridge into the local community for potential fund raising and disseminating of knowledge of the human rights work of Cristosal.... a potential doorway to spreading lessons from Cristosal’s Global School for the reducing of human rights injustice anywhere.

Respectfully Submitted

Philip Viola

Community Communications

Christ Church and San Marcos Monthly, Special Events and Projects are the activities that Community Communications works to promote in local media platforms and to local residents. Unfortunately, with Covid-19, there were not events to promote.

Thank you Dorothee Caufield for your facilitating “This Week” vital email communications to parishioners and Ken Davies on the CCSM web site to announce and promote Christ Church San Marcos Zoom church worship services, weekly and special events and other programs.

In 2021, email and online communications will continue to be the key media to communicate CCSM news and activities to parishioners and to those looking at our website for information.

Thank you to all Parishioners who promote the Church’s activities and events on zoom through word-of-mouth communications and their social media sites with their family and friends.

Respectively Submitted 2020 Communications Committee,

Karen Kuhn, Jeff Raderstrong and Jonathan Marshall

Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown

<https://www.communityfoodpantryshtt.org>

The community food pantry has been housed in the basement of Ackerman hall for the past nine years. The pantry was begun by a group concerned village residents and community leaders in response to local food insecurity. Historically, this has been a healthy choice pantry where clients choose from an assortment of foods based on family size. Due to pandemic guidelines, food is now distributed in prepared bags. To facilitate this bagging process, Fr. Matt has arranged to move this operation temporarily to the main hall of Ackerman. This larger, well ventilated room has made shelving, bagging and distributing food safer and more efficient. Fr. Matt and Mario are often available to welcome the pantry clients. Several parishioners are volunteers with this vital ministry.

Before the pandemic, food was distributed 1X per month, serving an average of 275 families (850 people) at an average cost of approximately \$7,000. During the pandemic food is distributed twice a month serving 500 to 700 families (3,500+ people) at an approximate cost of \$30,000.

The pantry is dependent on many community organizations, businesses, schools, and individuals who donate time and money. Volunteers, in addition to stocking, purchasing and distributing food, help with publicity, grant writing, and client registration. If you would like to join this exceptional team, please contact Barbara Mahoney, Volunteer coordinator: swimmerxyz@aol.com. Cash contributions help fund the buying of food in bulk at a discount.

Checks can be made out to:

The Community Food Pantry, C/O
Christ Church
43 South Broadway
Tarrytown, NY 10591

For information regarding food drives or food donations as well as ONLINE DONATIONS please go to <https://communityfoodpantryshtt.org>.

I am grateful and proud that we at Christ Church and San Marcos can provide space in our building and in our hearts for this needed outreach.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzan Ryan, Suzan914@gmail.com

Midnight Run

Christ Church adults and youth have been participating in Midnight Runs for over eight years now. We team up with St. Barnabas Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church in Irvington to bring food, toiletries, clothing, backpacks, carry cases and blankets to NYC's homeless. We have a core team of 3-5 parishioners, and we typically average 8-9 Runs a year, although we were only able to complete one Run in 2020 due to the pandemic.

For our Friday night Runs, youth and adult members of our three parishes make 125-150 sandwiches and assemble about 100 bags of travel-size toiletries, bringing them to 4 or 5 NYC sites designated by the Midnight Run HQ in Dobbs Ferry.

The continued love and support of our congregation help us extend encouragement and hope, as well as many, many much-needed supplies to our NYC friends. Please keep the donations coming! Thanks, too, to Christ Church Clothing Closet, which has contributed coats, pants, scarves and other clothing items to our Runs.

It is hard to say right now when we will be up and Run-ning again, but I will make the announcement as soon as I hear from our teammates at St. Barnabas.

Thank you for your support. Please get in touch with any questions, or if you would like to join us for the pre-Run prep and/or the Run itself!

Submitted by,

Lynne Shafer, *Coordinator*

Online: Christ Church & San Marcos

Christ Church & San Marcos are here for you online; website plus the facebook page and podcasts. Where is the website - <https://christchurchtny.org>

The website is updated several times each week, so IT REALLY IS WORTH looking each week to see what is going on at the church.

<https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newupcoming.php>

Typically, before COVID, most of the viewers of the website were searchers looking for church information - e.g. "What churches are in Tarrytown?" "What does Christ Church do? What style are they? Would we fit in?"

So, the website is intended to give a good flavor of who we are and what we do.

Now the website is being upgraded to be even more appealing as we go into our search for a new rector.

Here are some of the contents:

San Marcos - https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newsan_marcos.php

Who We Are - https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newwho_we_are.php

- Participate - <https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newparticipate.php>
- Toddlers-Teens - https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newchildren_youth.php
- In the World - <https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newoutreach.php>
- Past Activities - https://christchurchtny.org/CC/newrecent_activities.php

What is remarkable about CCSM? It's community. Despite losing our beloved rector and the building being closed for services, we have a very strong zoom community. Contributing to this are the weekly Sunday services and these are all present on the website for those who missed them or for anyone new who is interested in CCSM. Note that they are 'cleaned up', so the "Ken – turn your mic on" sections are all removed, so the service is a more worshipful experience. Though some banter is kept to remind us of who we are and why we keep together. All the sermons are there also.

Facebook - this makes it easy to share our church with others and also carries our Sunday services Live, thanks mainly to Will Dannenberg.

Lovingly,
Ken Davies

Young Adults Institute (YAI)

YAI is an organization which provides day programs at their center and also operates group homes for mentally and physically disabled adults throughout Westchester County. There are 10-15 adults in each home along with a staff who cares for them on a 24-hour basis.

Three separate groups of volunteers from the YAI center come into Christ Church/San Marcos each week. On Tuesdays one group comes in to clean the sanctuary and chapel. On Wednesdays a group goes into the clothing closet to fold clothes and on Thursdays a group cleans the library.

As with many things in 2020, our YAI folks have not been able to come to Christ Church. They are such a gift to us and we look forward to their return.

The YAI group homes and day program suffered loss of lives of both clients and staff. They are just beginning to return to the day program. The folks who have returned are limited to in-house activities. They love Christ Church and took great pride in their work. We look forward to their return when safe. We were unable to have their appreciation luncheon but we will certainly celebrate them with a big party when they return! We know how they love to party!

Healing Prayer

While healing prayer hasn't been offered during the pandemic because we have not been together in the same physical space, we hope to resume this practice when we resume worship in shared space and when it will be safe to do so. This is our honor and privilege.

Healing prayer is available once a month during communion. God wants us to talk with Him about everything, no matter what we're going through, or feeling. Sometimes it feels difficult to pray, sometimes it's easy. It can be done with a lot of faith, or very little. Sometimes it's hard to pray; especially when feeling alone, afraid, going through something difficult. Healing prayer is a way to go to God alongside another member of the congregation, and be anointed with oil. It's not that we can't pray alone, but there is something very special about praying with another believer. Anyone can offer healing prayer, there is no special formula, no need to "get it right". However, Susan does offer some guidance to help get started. Consider joining us in this life changing ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Pfeffer and Meg Schroeder

Prayer Chain

The "Prayer Chain" is comprised of a small group of people who devoutly offer up prayers upon request. These requests can be made for oneself or on behalf of another person, usually with the permission of the individual. Confidentiality is maintained while these prayers are being offered and afterward. Please contact either Cynthia Barr- Pfeffer at 914-606-0221 or cynthiadecember@yahoo.com or The Rev. Matthew Engleby to activate prayers. If you would like to participate as one who offers prayers, you may similarly contact either The Rev. Matthew Engleby or Cindy Pfeffer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Pfeffer

Prayer Ministries at Tarry Hall, Kendal, & Crestview

The year began innocently as we proceeded with our twice monthly services at Tarry Hall, Kendal and Crestview. When the pandemic hit, everything changed. We could no longer visit any of these communities. Given the nature and space considerations, Crestview became the only viable congregation to Zoom with. They alone have a large room to allow for social distancing. We continued prayer services with Crestview during these COVID-times, thanks to shared contributions from Dorothee, Jackie Ray, and her granddaughter, Kiara.

We hope to persevere with our Crestview services during these challenging times until we can again be with Crestview in-person. As for the other two communities, we hope to return live sometime in 2021 too.

Gratefully,
Howard Lipson
Prayer Ministry

Property Committee

Parishioners serving on the Property Committee in 2020 were David Copley, Jeff Eagan, Mario Salinas, Kathy Hamilton, Jack Jolly, Suzan Ryan and Pat Roth. While we lost David Copley because of his move, we welcomed Laura Durkin to the committee.

Our parish hall kitchen and bathroom renovation plans have been stalled. After village changes in ventilation requirements had been resolved, we received the permit from the village to go ahead with our plans. This occurred days before we closed in person worship due to the Covid-19 pandemic. All renovation plans remain temporarily on hold.

The WIFI in Ackerman was updated per request of the food pantry and the floor in the Elizabeth Street entry for the Nursery school was retiled. A new refrigerator was purchased for the rectory kitchen.

Kudos to our parishioners, in addition to the committee members, who stepped in to mow, rake, paint and clean the church plant upon the sickness and hospitalization of our sexton, German. A thorough decluttering of the main floor of the parish hall was accomplished in preparation for the Food Pantry moving temporarily upstairs to accommodate the increased numbers of clients they serve. The windows in Ackerman Hall were repaired and washed. This cleanup continues in 2021 with help from the clothing closet ministry and the youth group. Spring 2021 will include power washing around the church and parish hall.

Our plans for 2021 include the repair of the rectory porch/ garage roof and the interior of the garage walls. We will also focus on preparing the rectory for a new rector. A comprehensive maintenance schedule is being prepared that includes routine tasks, contact information of vendors and contractors we use, and annual inspection requirements.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Roth

Altar Guild

“Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness”

Since March 2020, due to the Covid 19 epidemic, at the direction of our Bishop, our Church building was closed. Christ Church San Marcos congregations have not been able to worship in the Church building. Therefore, the Altar Guild has been on “hiatus”. The last service that was celebrated in the church was Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

During the summer, Altar Guild members did have 2 work-day sessions in the Church, packing up the prayer books, hymnals and bibles to be stored away. We also disposed of badly worn cushions and washed down the pews.

We are looking forward to the time when we can safely set up and worship in our most sacred space. At that time, we will need “all hands on deck” so please consider joining us. Thanks!

Submitted by Lita Porter for the Altar Guild

Chancel Theater

This year the Chancel Theatre schedule was greatly abbreviated by COVID. We had only five plays performed, two live and three on Zoom.

January: I HAVE A DREAM- Two young men attend the MLK Washington, DC event in 1963. They bond and agree to travel to Mississippi together for a voter registration drive that will ultimately result in their murders.

February: TRANSFIGURED- James, John and Peter reveal their astonished reactions witnessing Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop.

August: KEYS TO THE KINGDOM- A prisoner is visited by a stranger who guides him to forgiveness.

October: COFFEE BREAK- A businessman gets a new perspective on sharing from a seemingly homeless man.

December: UTOPIAN RHAPSODY- Two famous writers combine to create a Christmas classic.

We look forward to a 2021 that fills the year with more Chancel Theatre!

Gratefully,
Howard Lipson
Chancel Theatre Ministry

Evensong

Like all of the Church's ministries, Evensong was perforce forced to change by the pandemic. Fortunately, the transition to Zoom was relatively painless, although a certain loss of atmospheric was inevitable. We look forward to returning to our accustomed practice as soon as it is safe.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Atkinson

San Marcos Annual Report 2020

San Marcos started the year 2020 with the traditional Epiphany day (Three Kings Day) bilingual service with the collaboration of the Abbot House Youth, we enjoy all the pageant with the kids as they represented the story of baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, Three Kings, etc., we had our joint coffee hour with members of Christ Church/San Marcos congregations to nurture our relationship. We also had Ash Wednesday service and started the Lent Season.

When the Pandemic of Covid-19 started, the world changed our way of lives in different ways: we had big challenges, everything had to close to protect the people, many lost their jobs, or worked from home, the church closed the doors, but our ministry continued the services through Zoom and Facebook Live. Since then we have been in contact with our members to any calls any time, to keep us in touch via phone, text messages, emails, etc. to maintain our unity and stayed informed and known of our members well being, financial, psychological and pastoral needs after all time we had stayed home. Some of our San Marcos members were working on essentials jobs, and were affected emotionally due to Covid-19. We all have relatives here in the U S and in our countries of origins where they also had family or friends who got sick or pass away to covid-19. Many where affected by unemployment and could not afford to pay rent, with God's help and the support of the church and generous members of Christ Church/San Marcos we were able to help in some of the cases, or providing smalls jobs for some. Or with the help of the food pantry many of our families were provided with food. We had worked as community to survive the pandemic taking care of each other.

The retirement of our great Rector Susan Copley was very emotional for everyone, we had thanked her for all her support for our latino ministry during all the years we shared with her. And we keep being blessed for the Vestry and Christ Church support.

Our Sunday services and Compline Prayers on Wednesday continues throughout all this time on Zoom and Facebook live, we also have gained a lot of followers in the U S and our country of origins, from the Abbot House kids who now lived with their relatives in the U S, and from San Marcos members and friends. We welcome father Matt and appreciate him for sharing and support to our latino ministry.

We keep being blessed by the Vestry and Christ Church for their continuous hard work to maintain the parish and their ministry active, and showing us that we are all in this together, and we all are praying for some day we will meet in the church.

May God Bless us All,
Mario Salinas
Lay Pastoral Assistant

Music Ministry

The mission of the Ministry of Music of Christ Church & San Marcos is to provide parishioners with meaningful and fulfilling worship through music. The ten months that have passed since our doors were physically shut have certainly turned our worship upside-down, but I am happy to report that our resolve is strong, and our ministry is growing.

Following the shutdown, the choir tested different formats to contribute music to our online services. For the Easter season, choristers met on Zoom to rehearse, and submitted individual recordings of their parts to be compiled into a virtual choir recording. In the summer months, we began using a program called *Jamulus*. While it requires more technical know-how than logging onto a Zoom meeting, the program allows for live music-making without time delay. Choir rehearsals are now held via *Jamulus* each Thursday evening from 7:30- 9:00 p.m. Though there is not a video component, the use of this program has strengthened our musicianship in unexpected ways and provided a weekly opportunity for worship and connection with each other. Additionally, the virtual nature of our program has continued to allow for collaboration with instrumentalists-- our 2020 selections featured music from 10 different professional musicians.

Once comfortable using *Jamulus*, we have been able to expand our online musical offerings. During Advent, the choir offered a virtual service of Choral Evensong as well as 30 minutes of carols prior to the Christmas Eve service.

In the fall, the Ministry of Music offered a new weekly virtual class called "Singing for the Self-Conscious." These half-hour sessions allow parishioners that feel drawn to worship through music learn musicianship skills and singing basics with the privacy of a muted microphone. Meeting for 14 weeks, it had an average weekly attendance of four to five

participants, allowing for flexibility of topics covered, songs sung, and room for conversation and fellowship. The class will resume in February, 2021.

A primary goal as Director of Music is to facilitate musical worship that relates to the scripture and liturgy, pastoral message, or often just the atmosphere of the world surrounding us. Through preparation and careful selection of texts and musical settings, it is my hope that such a ministry encourages thoughtful and engaging worship. Looking towards the future, 2021 will see the Ministry of Music lay groundwork for more engagement with our surrounding community and further the use of music that reflects our identity as a parish: a mission-oriented community with open and loving hearts.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilden Dannenberg
Director of Music

Vestry Covenant

We promise to pray to God, alone and together, and to invite God into our lives and work for the church – and to be open to hearing God speak to us.

We promise to study the scriptures and worship on a regular basis.

We promise to represent God and the whole church in our deliberations.

We promise to demonstrate our leadership and commitment to our church by example.

We promise to hold one another accountable in a loving manner that builds up rather than tears down.

We promise to stand behind, support and respect the priest.

We promise to listen to the staff and respond to their needs so as to make their efforts as productive as possible.

We promise respect and care for one another.

We promise to use our time on the vestry as a way to make an important gift to the church.

We promise to listen to one another.

We promise to welcome opposing points of view and listen to what people are saying with respect & openness.

We promise to support the final decision of the vestry whether it reflects our views or not.

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Matthew Engleby, *Interim Priest*
Mario Salinas, *Pastoral Assistant for Hispanic Ministry*
Wilden Dannenberg, *Director of Music Ministry*
Jhonny Garcia, *San Marcos Musician*
Diane Giokaris, *Treasurer*
Jay Gallwitz, *Financial Secretary*
The Rev. Dorothée Caulfield, *Administrative Assistant*
German Verdin, *Sexton*
Rosemarie O'Keefe, *Nursery Director*
Nicole Annicchero, *Nursery Assistant*

VESTRY

Chip Gibson
Suzan Ryan
Margarita Cantillana
Jon Marshall
Janice Munson
Jeff Raderstrong
Suzan Ryan
Meg Schroeder
Philip Viola

43 South Broadway, Tarrytown, NY 10591
Parish Office: (914) 631-2074 ▪ Office@ChristChurchTNY.org
Web Site: www.ChristChurchTNY.org
The Rev. Matthew Engleby: interim@christchurchtny.org