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# 2024 Annual Report

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Celebrating Our Parish Life and Ministry Together



**St. George's**  
Episcopal  
Church

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# From the Rector

January 2025



Greetings beloved St. Georgians,

In the letter to the Ephesians, Paul writes: “I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:1-3). I think these verses express much of what we are about at St. George’s. As we share this Annual Report for 2024, I hope you can see evidence of how we are living into our calling as disciples of Jesus, open to all in love.

This is the second such annual report in recent memory. The story it tells does not include every detail, but it gives an overview that I hope is encouraging and inspiring. I also hope that future generations reading this will get a sense of how we lived our faith in our time. Thank you to our Chief of Staff, Laurel E. Loch, for her editorial and writing work and to all who contributed.

2025 is the culminating year of our “five year vision,” and so this 2024 report is partially organized according to the three headings of that vision: “love God and each other,” “love our community,” and “be open to all in love.” 2024 saw progress toward our vision, especially as we finally embarked on our Open to All in Love Capital Campaign. I hope you will reflect on how our ministry has connected with our vision and where we still have work to do. In the coming year, we will be asking how God is calling us to envision our ministry in the next season of our parish life.

We began 2024 wondering how a contentious election year would impact our parish which reflects a diversity of backgrounds and viewpoints. I feel like we were able to bear with one another in love, even in the midst of disagreements. Some of those disagreements were over church matters, and we learned from one another. As your rector, it remains my goal to, as Paul describes, maintain a sense of unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. I want St. George’s to be a place where we are truly open to all in love. That means a willingness to be curious about each other’s stories and to listen. It also means we will not compromise our Baptismal Covenant commitments to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of every human being. 2024 saw us out in the community often, bearing public witness in ways that were about building relationships. I remain steadfast in hope that we will, with God’s grace, continue to gather humbly and courageously as one body in Christ. We will find even more ways to bear witness in our community to the hope we have in Christ.

I recently marked my 10th anniversary of work as your rector. As I begin my 11th year in ministry, I am grateful to God for this call and grateful to be in ministry with each of you. May we, with God’s help, continue to lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Your rector and brother in Christ,

# 2024 by the Numbers



**7**  
**Baptisms**



**255**  
**Average**  
**Sunday**  
**Attendance**



**50**  
**Newcomers**



**859**  
**Christmas**  
**Eve & Day**  
**Attendance**



**5**  
**Confirmations**  
**& Receptions**



**933**  
**Holy Week &**  
**Easter**  
**Attendance**



**1**  
**Wedding**



**52 Lay**  
**Eucharistic**  
**Visits**



**13**  
**Funerals**



**108**  
**Prayer**  
**Shawls**

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# Five Year Vision



In 2020, we celebrated our 300th Anniversary as a parish. These celebrations were an opportunity to not only examine our past, but look to a future that we wanted to bring into reality. These exciting conversations led us as we developed a Five Year Vision.

The Five Year Vision was thoughtfully crafted by volunteers, refined by Vestry and Staff, and shared with our parish family.

Our 2024 Annual Report celebrates all we have achieved in the name of our Vision and to the Glory of God. Like last year, this report uses the headings from the Vision: Love God and Each Other, Love Our Community, and Be Open to All in Love.

## St. George's Episcopal Church Five Year Vision - By 2025 We Will:

### Love God and Each Other

- Form disciples of Jesus (children, youth, young adults, adults, older adults) who are committed and connected
- Equip people of all ages for ministry leadership and evangelism
- Engage most parishioners in intentional small groups
- Cultivate practices of prayer, worship, generosity, spiritual discernment, and sabbath

### Love Our Community

- Transform the unjust structures of society beginning with racism
- Eliminate food and housing insecurity
- Broaden our connections through arts and music
- Sustain and renew the life of the earth

### Be Open to All in Love

- Make our historic building accessible to all
- Provide access/invitation through digital ministry
- Embrace the diversity of humankind, including those who have often not been embraced. (for example: LGBTQ+, Latino, Asian, African-American, Indigenous, Mixed race, differently-abled, Deaf and hard of hearing, traditions, nationality...If you recognize yourself in this list or wonder whether you fit: you are welcome here.)

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# Land Acknowledgment

St. George’s Episcopal Church acknowledges that our congregation gathers on the ancestral lands of the Patowomeck, Rappahannock, and Manahoac peoples. We honor the Indigenous peoples who long knew the land of our parish more than 10,000 years before it was established over 300 years ago, including the Patowomeck and Rappahannock Tribes who still live here.

We also acknowledge the impact of European colonization and the atrocities committed against Indigenous communities—including genocide, forced removals, cultural suppression, and violence. We express deep remorse for these, and all historic injustices, inflicted upon the Patowomeck, Rappahannock, Manahoac, and all Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge these past wrongs and recognize the ongoing impacts of colonization on Indigenous communities today.

We are grateful for the wisdom, resilience, and cultural contributions of Indigenous peoples, and we affirm our interconnectedness with all people and all of creation.

We pledge to work towards right relationships, justice, equity, and repair. We pray for God’s grace and wisdom in this work.

*The above land acknowledgment was prayerfully written by our Racial Justice and Healing Commission and in conversation with the local Patowomeck Tribe.*



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## Ministry Spotlight: Love God and Each Other

In 2024, we celebrated an abundance of ways to *Love God and Each Other*. Formation has been kindling in the hearts and minds of St. George's. Education for Ministry (EfM), a four-year extension program through the University of Sewanee, has exploded (in a good way!), with many new participants. While the Mary Faulkner Chapter of Episcopal Church Women (ECW) has decided to no longer meet, the Avis Chapter has grown in membership, fellowship, and service. Our Summer Pop Culture Sermon Series was a hit - with clergy turning to *Real House Wives of Salt Lake City*, *Harry Potter*, *We're Here*, *Bluey*, *The Bear*, and *Cowboy Carter* by Beyoncé for inspiration. We also loved each other more broadly, reaching out into the community. 2024 was our first year chartering Scout Troop 170, and we have enjoyed not only getting to know these Scouts better through Scout Sunday worship, but also through working together on parish cleanup days. Finally, opening our church doors wide for Election Day was a comfort to many, and brought us closer together in love, peace, and unity.

### Children and Youth Formation



Children and Youth formation at St. George's continues to grow in both attendance and fun. Having a consistent weekly formation for each age group has allowed the kids to engage and participate in their religious education, while also building community and friendships we hope will have lasting impact on their lives. Here at St. George's we love storytelling and each formation group focuses primarily on hearing and telling stories. Each week in Godly Play our younger children listen to an interactive story from the Bible. In SPLASH (Spirit, Prayer, Love All Spoken Here) our older elementary kids read stories directly from their Bibles, which are gifted to them as they enter the third grade. Youth formation centers on hearing stories from the youth themselves as they reflect on the Gospel reading of the day. It has been a wonder to watch the children grow in their relationships with one another and with God.

Aside from formation, the children of St. George's have had quite a year. Each season there have been special activities set aside for children to participate in. There was the Liturgy of the Light where the children were invited to participate in their own Easter service; Vacation Bible School where the kids heard stories, sung songs, and played games; and of course the Christmas Pageant where the children and youth led the Christmas Eve service with their beautiful rendition of the Nativity story. Furthermore, the children volunteered at The Table, attended the Blessing of the Backpacks, and decorated cookies at Christmas time. And let's not forget the Children's Choir which teaches kids the power of music and prayer, while treating the congregation to seasonal performances.

Here at St. George's, we value and honor our children. We want them to be visible and active members of the church. That is why we have started our Youth-led services, which give the children and youth an opportunity to be seen and heard within this beloved community. Youth Group, which meets twice a month, has been especially active in recruiting youth leaders as they join together for fun and enlightening activities; from singing carols on the trolley, going on hayrides together at Belvedere, and cooking for Mardi Gras dinner. It is a true blessing to have so many children and youth in attendance and we feel honored to be a part of their religious experience.

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## Adult Formation

In 2024, St. George's Christian formation included an invitation to dive more deeply into our Baptismal Covenant. Clergy led a series of Sunday morning forums in winter and early spring which were helpful for those preparing for confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church and for long-time members. At the same time, we learned more about our Episcopal traditions as we adopted a change in liturgy, directed from our Bishop, about how we receive the wine at Holy Communion. For three months, parishioners were instructed to no longer dip (intinct) their own wafer in the wine but to either sip the wine from the chalice or to receive the bread only. This led to some healthy and clarifying discussions, feedback to the Bishop, a parish-wide survey, and an eventual "middle way" approach by June. Eucharistic ministers, by request, may dip the wafer for the recipient. The conversations around this change were an important part of our growing in faith as a congregation which is part of a larger Church, bound together in a common covenant.

## Pastoral Care

2024 was another year of caring for our St. George's parish family in times of sickness, struggle, sorrow, and joy. It takes many shepherds to care for this flock! Lay ministers, coordinated by our Pastoral Care Commission, provided countless prayers, cards, calls, messages, and meals, as well as an abundance of prayer shawls and Eucharistic visits. Clergy listened, prayed, made hospital and home visits, trained lay ministers, responded to crises, and offered counsel and assurance of God's grace. One highlight of 2024 was growth in our One Body Response Team with new members and team captains stepping up to serve (and we hope the growth continues in 2025).

## Music as Worship

Each week, we are blessed with an abundance of music in our worship services, thanks to the many talents and generosity of our volunteer musicians and the leadership of staff - John Vreeland, Achim Loch, and Lisa Bogardus. In 2024, this abundance spilled out in new ways, both in our parish and our wider community.

We welcomed back Mark Moliterno, founder of Yoga-Voice®, for a workshop on integrating yoga into music practice as well as daily life. This not only supported our musicians, but also helped encourage parishioners who have not sung before to embrace congregational singing during corporate worship.

Our monthly Concert Series brought people through our red doors who might not otherwise come for a visit. These free concerts not only support local musicians, but share the physical and acoustic beauty of our space with our community. Additionally, our musicians hit the road, with performances by the St. George Voices and Jazz Ensemble at off-site concerts and nursing homes. Whether in the pews, gallery, or community, St. Georgians are making music and making a difference.



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## Ministry Spotlight: Love Our Community

Since our founding, we have been a church that is integral to the life of our city, and we remain committed to practicing our faith through loving our community. In 2024 we took great steps in our work to love the wider world. For the first time, St. George's joined with over 100 other vendors at the PD16 Juneteenth Celebration which welcomed guests from across the planning district. Thanks to the leadership of St. Georgians, we saw a project that began by making art with our unhoused neighbors at Community Dinner take on a new life of its own— now operating as Community Canvas. We showed up and advocated for our neighbors by helping to move the city one step closer to realizing the Jeremiah Community. And, with thoughtful consideration, we published a Land and Labor Acknowledgment. We know that to follow the path of Jesus, we must love those around us. We continue to feed our neighbors at our Monday Community Dinner. Our Afghan Allies ministry continues to provide household essentials to those settling in our community. And, thanks to your generosity, we increased our funding to our partners in Haiti, providing more than \$20,000 in essential funding in 2024. There is much we do as St. Georgians every day, week, and month to transform the world toward greater compassion and justice. Our love of community radiates far beyond the intersection of George Street and Princess Anne!

### The Table

2024 was a record year for The Table at St. George's. With the help of generous donors, grants, and community partners, we were able to purchase more crates of produce from the Flores Family Farm than in any year past. In this year alone, we were able to share 1,049 crates of nutritious farm produce with our neighbors—a 43% increase over previous years!



We also expanded our reach to more families by doing pop-up markets at events like the Community Connections Expo, National Day of Prayer, Treats on the Streets, and by partnering with the Fredericksburg City Schools Preschool Program.

This purchasing power and community presence has been vital because need has increased. Our average number of weekly shoppers continues to rise. On one notable Tuesday in July, we served 168 families—the highest number of shoppers we have had since moving to Market Square in 2021. Because St. George's puts our faith into action, The Table has created a welcoming, accessible space in downtown Fredericksburg where the relationships we form are as nutritious as the food we provide.

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# Ministry Spotlight: Be Open to All in Love

## Capital Campaign Update

In 2024, we took a major step in our Open to All in Love Capital Campaign journey. Under the leadership of campaign co-chairs Marilyn Farrington, Mike Fray, rector the Rev. Joe Hensley, Chief of Staff Laurel E. Loch, Vestry, numerous volunteers, and parishioners just like you, we prayed as a community, *God what do you want to do through me?*

Our Open to All in Love Capital Campaign focuses on addressing four core areas:

- **Maintenance:** We have structural maintenance to address in Faulkner Hall. Additionally, moisture mitigation is needed at the north and south walls of the Nave, as well as the brick courtyard immediately outside Sydnor Hall.
- **Endowment:** By growing our endowment significantly, we can generate monetary resources for future maintenance needs and also offer future generations the means to continue to care for our historic building.
- **Accessibility:** We will add a graceful ADA-compliant entrance ramp into the narthex entrance and an ADA-compliant ramp to connect our office corridor and Sydnor Hall. We will adapt existing restrooms on the office level to be handicap accessible. We will add a tasteful railing along the brick pathway in the graveyard to the church office entrance.
- **Columbarium:** Adding a columbarium to our graveyard will create an attractive visitor area and offer parishioners a marked final resting place for cremated remains. We will have a comprehensive plan for how landscaping and architecture work together.

A major highlight of our capital campaign, was Impact of Ministry Sunday, organized by our Generosity Team and led by Julie Lang. Banners representing each ministry at St. George's processed down the aisle during a celebratory, combined worship service. Additionally, several St. Georgians shared a cardboard testimony, highlighting the difference St. George's has made in their lives.



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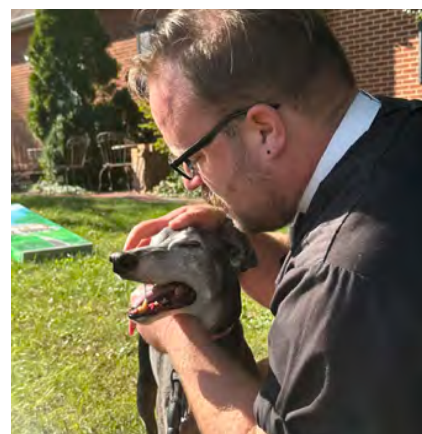
At the time of this publication, we have raised over \$3M so far towards the total project anticipated cost of \$5M! We give thanks for the generosity of St. Georgians! Looking ahead to 2025, we will begin the next phase of the project which includes proceeding with needed construction documents and supplementary materials, the next round of approvals from the Architectural Review Board (ARB), and ultimately, construction.

This project is a celebration of God's Love, the generosity of St. Georgians, and the shared commitment of embracing our call to be Open to All in Love.

## The House Young Adult Ministry

It was, as it always is, a colorful and gregarious year for St. George's campus and young adult ministry. It matters so much to us in ministry to create events and build a community where young adults who have only ever encountered *fire and brimstone* Christianity can learn that there is another way. Besides the regular slate of dinners and discussions and Christmas parties and coffee shop visits and bowling, we had a couple of major ministry highlights in 2024.

Over the summer, we celebrated our second annual ecumenical Pride Service with ministry partners from around the city and region. We had nine clergy from three denominations together with 120 congregants for a joyous service in the late afternoon of June 30. We had a lovely pop-up choir of members from multiple churches, guest celebrant the Rev. Katherine Ferguson, and a pair of homilies, including from young adult Juls Buyaki. It was so fun! In October, we hosted a fourth annual St. Francis pet blessing and had the privilege and joy of blessing twenty-some-odd dogs as well as a rabbit and a couple of guinea pigs. We're grateful to the *Campus Christian Community* for the space to host the pet blessing as well as hosting us for the year while our house undergoes repairs. Finally, one of the new things we do at the start of the semester is host a *Take What You Need School Supplies* booth in the main building of the UMW campus. Students are always so surprised that an organization (never mind a church!) would want to help them for no reason other than it's a good thing to do. It's such an easy thing to do, and made possible only by the generosity of our many church supporters donating hundreds of dollars of supplies. Thank you, St. George's!



– the Rev. Ethan Lowery, Young Adult Missioner

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## Senior Warden - Vestry Report



As I reflect on 2024, it has been a year of transition in the world at large, in our country, and in the life of St. George's Episcopal Church. Transition is often bittersweet, as we let go of what we cherish and what's familiar, while creating space for the new. I'm grateful that as a church community, St. George's allows God's grace to guide us through change, grounded in gratitude for what has been, and rooted in the joy of what's to come.

With great joy, we celebrated the marriage of our beloved Associate Rector, Father Will Dickinson. While we celebrated this new chapter in his life, we also felt the sadness of his departure from St. George's. We are grateful for the energy he brought to our liturgies and formation programs, and for his leadership in our experiment with small groups. We are also excited for the new life he and his husband Michael are beginning together in Charlottesville.

As we embraced the opportunity for change, we welcomed the Rev. Jamie Samilio as Interim Associate Rector in October 2024. Jamie brings a wealth of experience and a keen sense of humor! Her interim service, which will carry us through June 2025, gives us the time and space to continue discerning the leadership needs of our church as we move forward.

At St. George's, we are truly rooted in the joy of what's to come, as demonstrated by the success of our Capital Campaign kick-off! We are grateful for our beautiful, historic church building and we are excited about the new possibilities that will allow us to make it even more *open to all in love*. We celebrate the creativity, thoughtfulness, and commitment that have gone into this campaign, and the generosity of our parishioners who are giving beyond their annual pledge. This effort enables us to live into our values and our 5-year vision.

In 2024, the vestry continued its commitment to the realignment of St. George's ministry groups and commissions into Hub Groups. This initiative, started in 2023, aims to align ministries more effectively with our 5-year vision.

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The four Hub Groups are:

- Worship and Music
- Pastoral/Congregational Care
- Outreach
- Welcome and Formation

Each vestry and staff member is assigned to one of the Hub Groups and coordinates quarterly meetings. This structure fosters deeper engagement among ministries, vestry and staff, ensuring that we are aligned and working toward shared goals. After two years, feedback has been positive, and we plan to continue supporting the Hub Groups as we move forward.

As we step into the new year, thanks be to God for the grace that carries us through change. We are grateful for a church that is committed to living into its values, and for a vision to love God and our neighbor, love our community, and to be open to all in love.

–Michele Prout Alston, Senior Warden

## Finance Report

This annual report includes a summary of the 2024 year-end financial reports from church operations, as well as year-end balances of Trust Funds and Special Funds.

Revenues in 2024 exceeded 2023 levels and were within 99.5% of the revenue budget approved by the Vestry. Expenses for the year were 99% of budgeted amount, resulting in a net positive amount of \$9,252. This result compares favorably with last year's \$68,329 shortfall.

A large percentage (72%) of the parish's operating budget goes towards personnel costs. With the escalating cost of benefits (pension and health care) and the cost of living adjustment (COLA) recommended by the Diocese, we must grow our revenue every year in order to keep our staffing levels and programs on par with current levels. Many parishioners are taking advantage of tax savings offered by Qualified Charitable Distribution gifts from tax-deferred retirement accounts. We appreciate the generosity of our congregation and welcome their creative efforts to support the church's programs and missions.

The final budget for 2025 will be determined once all pledges are received and the goal will be to have a balanced budget, with gifts and expenses that are commensurate with one another.

## Estimates of Giving at a Glance for 2024

### Total Number of Estimates of Giving:

- 2024: 283


### Dollars Pledged:

- 2024: \$989,488

### 2024 Estimates of Giving:

- Increases: 116
- Decreases: 27
- First Time Pledges: 16
- Pledged in 2023 but not for 2024: 34

# Financial Summary for 2024

 St. George's Episcopal Church	<b>St. George's Episcopal Church</b> Fredericksburg, Virginia 2024 Church Finances as of December 31, 2024				
	<u>Year to date (YTD) as of December 31</u>				
	<u>Begin</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Receipts</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>	<u>YTD Net</u> <u>Change</u>
<b>Cash Flow Balance</b>					
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u>856,562.13</u></b>	<b><u>2,176,710.07</u></b>	<b><u>(1,857,870.33)</u></b>	<b><u>1,175,401.87</u></b>	<b><u>318,839.74</u></b>
Church Operating Accounts		1,287,136.08	(1,281,051.15)		6,084.93
Church Restricted Accounts		889,573.99	(576,819.18)		312,754.81
<b>Ministry Support Fund</b>	<u>YTD as of December 31</u>			<u>More + or Less - Than</u>	
	<u>2023</u> <u>Actuals</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Actuals</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Actuals</u>
<b>Revenue</b>					
Pledge Offerings	962,104.33	970,279.52	990,000.00	(19,720.48)	8,175.19
Bank Fee Contributions	2,985.70	3,825.78	3,000.00	825.78	840.08
Loose Offering	14,151.15	14,163.21	14,500.00	(336.79)	12.06
Non-Pledge Offerings	124,565.03	174,900.52	150,000.00	24,900.52	50,335.49
Gratitude Offering	24,405.00	12,956.00	30,000.00	(17,044.00)	(11,449.00)
Non-contribution Receipts	55,900.56	67,785.85	63,000.00	4,785.85	11,885.29
Use of Restricted Funds	0.00	35,965.50	35,965.54	(0.04)	35,965.50
<b>Operating Revenue</b>	<b><u>1,184,111.77</u></b>	<b><u>1,279,876.38</u></b>	<b><u>1,286,465.54</u></b>	<b><u>(6,589.16)</u></b>	<b><u>95,764.61</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<i>Pledge offerings are Estimates of Giving</i>				
<b>General Expenses</b>					
Diocese and Region	135,100.04	113,874.52	115,974.90	(2,100.38)	(21,225.52)
Grace in Action (Outreach)	28,957.41	29,471.71	31,520.00	(2,048.29)	514.30
World Mission	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Administrative	48,140.01	49,691.98	49,775.00	(83.02)	1,551.97
Building and Grounds	135,745.06	129,799.91	142,745.00	(12,945.09)	(5,945.15)
Generosity Team	2,810.95	1,215.43	2,400.00	(1,184.57)	(1,595.52)
Racial Justice & Healing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christian Formation/Education	3,160.50	4,340.83	6,008.00	(1,667.17)	1,180.33
Worship and Music	7,404.44	14,622.21	14,450.00	172.21	7,217.77
Member Care	3,321.87	7,728.93	6,750.00	978.93	4,407.06
Communications	7,454.72	6,894.39	8,270.00	(1,375.61)	(560.33)
<b>Total General Expenses</b>	<b><u>372,095.00</u></b>	<b><u>357,839.91</u></b>	<b><u>377,892.90</u></b>	<b><u>(20,052.99)</u></b>	<b><u>(14,255.09)</u></b>
Staff Expenses	880,345.96	912,784.31	908,068.98	4,715.33	32,438.35
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>1,252,440.96</u></b>	<b><u>1,270,624.22</u></b>	<b><u>1,285,961.88</u></b>	<b><u>(15,337.66)</u></b>	<b><u>18,183.26</u></b>
<b>Net Receipts/Expenses</b>	<b><u>(68,329.19)</u></b>	<b><u>9,252.16</u></b>	<b><u>503.66</u></b>	<b><u>8,748.50</u></b>	<b><u>77,581.35</u></b>

<b>Restricted Accounts</b>				<b>YTD as of December 31</b>	
	<b><u>Begin</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>Ending</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Net</u></b>
<b><u>Special Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Balance</u></b>	<b><u>Revenue</u></b>	<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>Balance</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Administrative Funds	72,064.77	24,432.68	(28,448.43)	68,049.02	(4,015.75)
Renewing for Ministry	264,730.86	75,428.14	(153,403.78)	186,755.22	(77,975.64)
Outreach	195,690.26	148,778.84	(125,684.51)	218,784.59	23,094.33
World Missions	32,400.01	12,217.00	(28,764.65)	15,852.36	(16,547.65)
Christian Education	27,020.56	5,518.91	(5,751.02)	26,788.45	(232.11)
Worship & Music	57,365.32	15,856.58	(20,348.30)	52,873.60	(4,491.72)
Fellowship (Parish Retreat/S Mont Camps)	24,866.16	21,494.69	(24,616.03)	21,744.82	(3,121.34)
Pastoral Care	713.98	0.00	0.00	713.98	0.00
Open to All in Love Campaign	0.00	526,068.51	(118,017.37)	408,051.14	408,051.14
Other Funds	<u>2,683.03</u>	<u>5,036.00</u>	<u>(2,718.54)</u>	<u>5,000.49</u>	<u>2,317.46</u>
<b>Total Special Funds</b>	<b>677,534.95</b>	<b>834,831.35</b>	<b>(507,752.63)</b>	<b>1,004,613.67</b>	<b>327,078.72</b>
<b>Restricted Reserve</b>					
Building Reserve	3,049.84	0.00	0.00	3,049.84	0.00
Designated Reserve	262,491.92	54,742.64	(69,066.55)	248,168.01	(14,323.91)
Undesignated Reserve	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Restricted Reserve</b>	<b>265,541.76</b>	<b>54,742.64</b>	<b>(69,066.55)</b>	<b>251,217.85</b>	<b>(14,323.91)</b>
<b>Total Restricted Accounts</b>	<b>943,076.71</b>	<b>889,573.99</b>	<b>(576,819.18)</b>	<b>1,255,831.52</b>	<b>312,754.81</b>
<b>Trust Funds</b>				<b>YTD as of Reporting Month</b>	
<i>Herndon balances are as of the reporting date, ToTF balances are as of the prior month-end and Landmark balances are reported quarterly</i>	<b><u>Balance</u></b>	<b><u>Deposits/Re-</u></b>	<b><u>Unrealized</u></b>	<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>Balance</u></b>
	<b><u>Dec 2023</u></b>	<b><u>alized Gains/</u></b>	<b><u>Gains</u></b>	<b><u>Withdrawals</u></b>	<b><u>Last Rpt</u></b>
		<b><u>Earnings</u></b>			
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u>2,854,338.96</u></b>	<b><u>11,625.34</u></b>	<b><u>359,721.63</u></b>	<b><u>(119,599.41)</u></b>	<b><u>3,106,086.52</u></b>
Mary Faulkner Matthew 25 Fund	84,006.60		11,505.23	(26,246.00)	69,265.83
General Endowment Fund	1,156,344.70	6,392.50	145,499.66	(48,828.37)	1,259,408.49
Herndon Memorial Trust Fund <i>(Non ToTF)</i>	645,474.97		81,109.94	(12,153.26)	714,431.65
A W Wallace Trust Fund	18,059.90		2,362.58		20,422.48
Benevolent Society Fund	12,208.31		1,597.07		13,805.38
Flower Guild St. George's	2,660.67		348.06		3,008.73
Long Term Building Fund	74,437.92		9,737.87		84,175.79
St. George's Landmark Bldg. Fund <i>(Non ToTF)</i>	132,185.57	5,232.84	11,488.12	(1,277.69)	147,628.84
Memorial Trust Fund	728,960.32		96,073.10	(31,094.09)	793,939.33

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# Parish Funds Report

Thanks to the generosity of St. Georgians over the years, we have multiple Funds designated to meet long term needs of our parish. With the exception of the Landmark Fund, the Funds listed below are held by the Trustees of the Funds with the Diocese of Virginia. St. George's Landmark Fund is held by the Community Foundation of the Rappahannock River Region (CFRRR).

## **Memorial Trust Fund**

Founded in June 1051, according to its charter, the Memorial Trust Fund was established "For assisting or founding; charitable or educational institutions; for the care of the sick, aged or helpless; for the care, health and recreation of children; for recreation, educational, charitable or benevolent purposes, and for the general repairs, maintenance, operation, and upkeep of any real estate owned by St. Georges."

## **General Endowment Fund (GEF)**

The purpose of the GEF is to provide funds that will ensure a firm financial foundation for the Church and provide additional funds for Church programs, outreach, and capital additions. It is not intended that the Fund supplement the annual operating budget for current expenses that are strictly administrative or operational in nature. Specifically, the funds in the Fund shall not be co-mingled with any other Church funds.

## **Herndon Memorial Trust Fund**

The Herndon Memorial Trust Fund, established in the 1950's was made possible through the generosity of John W. Herndon during his lifetime and by bequest upon his death. The Trust exists to offer needs-based funds for medical assistance to elderly men (aged 55 and older) of the St. George's congregation and greater Fredericksburg community. The mission of the Trust, and the hope and wish of the Committee and Vestry which oversee it, is to help relieve the financial stress and worry that often accompany illness or change in income status.

## **A.W. Wallace Trust Fund**

This Fund benefits widows over the age of 50 in need. It provides funding during the months of December, January, February, and March to assist, for example, with heating bills.

## **St. George's Benevolent Society**

Established in 1874, the St. George's Benevolent Society secures and holds all donations to be used to promote true religion to the poor in the Town of Fredericksburg.

## **Matthew 25 Fund**

Established in memory of Mary Faulkner, this Fund is dedicated to those members of St. George's who seek to see Christ in the face of strangers, offering them loving care and compassion in the Name of God.

## **The St. George's Landmark Fund**

This fund was established to support the maintenance, restoration, and preservation of the historic structure of St. George's. Part of our Open to All in Love Capital Campaign includes raising monies for this fund as an endowment so we can continue to care for our parish building well into the future.

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# Buildings and Grounds Report

In 2024, the Buildings and Grounds Committee continued its diligent work to maintain and enhance St. George's Episcopal Church as a welcoming, functional, and sustainable space for all. The following are key accomplishments from the past year.

## Facilities Management

There were several major maintenance projects, including plaster repairs in the Nave and sanctuary, and HVAC unit replacements. We installed a new electric oven in the kitchen and addressed drainage issues off of the back pantry with a sump pump installation. Additionally, we initiated critical updates for exterior windows and gutters to prevent water infiltration and structural damage.



*A highlight of 2024 were our Parish Cleanup Days in May and November. Volunteers - including Scout Troop 170 - helped with some landscape and gravestone care in our graveyard, and deep cleaning inside the church*

## Environmental Stewardship

The Environmental Stewardship Committee, a subcommittee, researched energy audits and promoted sustainable practices, advancing certification with Interfaith Power and Light as a "Cool Congregation." The church remains committed to reducing its carbon footprint and improving energy efficiency.

## Capital Projects

Progressed the "Open to All" initiative, focusing on accessibility enhancements and long-term structural integrity, supported by an engineering study.

## Community Engagement

Organized seasonal clean-up days, including a Fall Graveyard Restoration event, and collaborated with community groups, such as Girl Scout Troop 3275, to improve church facilities.

## Safety Initiatives

Conducted evacuation drills during services and provided safety training in collaboration with the FBI. Plans for a Command and Control Center and enhanced emergency communication tools were introduced to ensure parishioner safety during various scenarios.

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### History Archive Space

Through the work of our History Committee led by Cindy Helton, we finally established a dedicated space in a former classroom for our collection of historic artifacts and documents to be properly stored and organized.

### Looking Ahead

The committee aims to support the Vestry and staff as the Open to All Capital Campaign continues. We look forward to completing the remaining accessibility projects, finalizing window and door refurbishments, and continuing our focus on sustainable and safe operations.

The committee extends heartfelt thanks to the many parishioners who volunteered their time and talents to support these initiatives.

- Mac Smith, Buildings and Grounds Warden and Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Commission

## Preschool Report



I am so very thankful to be in my 10th year as director of one of the best preschools in town! As we celebrate another year of nurturing imagination and joy in learning, we are pleased to work with 32 children and their families.

Our staff of 4 co-teachers and one director has worked very hard to create a child-led experience for our Dragons. We have had a lot of fun learning about being in school and playing with cool sensory items like ooblek, scented playdough, and slime. We have built habitats for woodland animals, designed super-fast ramps for cars, created fabric Dragon forts and slides, and even shopped in our very own grocery store! We have created many masterpieces by exploring art in our new in class studio area. We enjoy weekly yoga practice and chapel service, and we get to explore new foods monthly with our Dr. Yum Preschool Food Adventure program. We visited Alum Springs park to learn

more about nature and Snead's Pumpkin Patch to enjoy fall festivities with our family and friends.

We helped five families with financial assistance, totaling almost \$9,000 in 2024. We are able to offer this assistance thanks to fundraisers and support from our parish family. Our biggest fundraiser is our Silent Auction, which will take place February 9, 2025.

We continued our new tradition of hosting a drive for a local ministry during our Gratitude Season by collecting items to sponsor a room at the Hesed House. We are so glad to be able to give back to our community in this way.

We look forward to all the new adventures waiting for us in 2025 and beyond!

- Danielle Davis, Preschool Director

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## Staff Report



In thinking of 2024 in the life of St. George's staff, I took a few moments to flip through agendas from our weekly staff meetings. It's our custom to have intercessory prayer at the start of these meetings, and close with prayers of thanksgiving and celebration. I noticed that time and time again, prayer requests for healing, comfort, or guidance, would show up under thanksgivings in a few weeks or months.

This is what 2024 was like for us on staff. While there were numerous times of uncertainty, in one way or another, they transformed into moments of joy and celebration. We celebrated welcoming Stephanie Dolezal to our staff in April as our Children's Ministry Coordinator, and then as our Ministry Assistant in December.

Two very real examples include the sorrow we felt upon learning that Fr. Will Dickinson and Ministry Assistant Michael Cooper-Smyth would be leaving our staff. In both cases, on their last days in the office, there were tears of sadness and also tears of joy. We genuinely rejoiced with Will and Michael, celebrating the steps they were taking towards new paths and phases in their lives. This transformation would not have been possible if our staff life were not rooted in love and compassion for one another.

I was also a recipient of this love and compassion from my fellow staff members in 2024. As it was my seventh year of ministry at St. George's, it was time for me to take a sabbatical. My colleagues in Christ never once complained about extra work or responsibilities they might need to absorb while I was away. They prayed for me weekly. And they joyfully welcomed me back.

They shared a number of stories with me when I returned, about what they learned, how they adapted, and when they embraced flexibility. While they learned ways to lean on other during my sabbatical, I returned with refreshed appreciation for focus, patience, and rest. I am encouraged that all of us want to embrace these lessons learned and find new ways to incorporate them into our daily work, ministry, and life together.

– Laurel E. Loch, Chief of Staff

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# Lists and Resources for Your Reference

## Vestry List

### Officers

**Treasurer:** Peggy Mathias

**Register:** Laurel E. Loch

### Wardens

**Senior Warden:** Michele Prout Alston – 2024

**Junior Warden:** John Graham – 2024

**Buildings and Grounds Warden:** Mac Smith – 2024

### Vestry Members

Anne Carey O'Connor – 2024

Brian Davis – 2025

Brooke Di Lauro – 2025

Pete Kelly – 2025

Peggy Verdine – 2025

Katie Green - 2026

Gabi Kelly - 2026

Rogers Lawson - 2026

Jennifer Vaughan - 2026

### Vestry Committees

**Personnel:** Michele Prout Alston, John Graham

**Buildings and Grounds:** Mac Smith

**Finance:** Peggy Mathias, Michele Prout Alston, John Graham

To contact the Vestry, please email: [vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

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# Staff List

## Clergy

If you have a pastoral emergency (death, hospitalization, or other crisis) and need to speak with clergy, please call or text 540.361.8573.

**the Rev. Joe Hensley**

Rector

[joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**the Rev. Jamie Samilio**

Interim Associate Rector

[jamie.samilio@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:jamie.samilio@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**the Rev. Ethan Lowery**

Young Adult Missioner

[missioner@thehousefxbg.org](mailto:missioner@thehousefxbg.org)

**the Rev. Rosemary Beales\***

Clergy Associate

**the Rev. Lynn Collins\***

Clergy Associate

*\* Rev. Rosemary and Mother Lynn officially became part of our clergy team as retired priest associates in 2024, occasionally assisting with worship, preaching, pastoral care, and formation*

## Lay Staff

**Lisa Bogardus**

Hand Bell Choir Director

[lisa.bogardus@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:lisa.bogardus@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Amy Bogardus**

Nursery Supervisor

**Kevin Carey**

Parish Finance Manager

[kevin.carey@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:kevin.carey@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Danielle Davis**

Preschool Director

[danielle.davis@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:danielle.davis@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Jake DeNap**

Director of Mission and Evangelism

[jake.denap@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:jake.denap@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Stephanie Dolezal**

Ministry Assistant

[stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Juliann Jones**

Director of Children's Music

[juliann.jones@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:juliann.jones@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Achim Loch**

Assistant Director of Music Ministries

[achim.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:achim.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Laurel E. Loch**

Chief of Staff

[laurel.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:laurel.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Barbara Miller-Richards**

Parish Secretary

[barbara@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:barbara@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Riley Mullen**

Facilities Manager

[riley.mullen@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:riley.mullen@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**John Vreeland**

Director of Music Ministries

[john.vreeland@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:john.vreeland@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

**Meredith Walburn**

Nursery Assistant

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# Trustees

## St. George's Trustees

*As recorded in the City of Fredericksburg Courthouse on September 20, 2021*

- Nick Cadwallender
- Marilyn Farrington
- Thomas Meredith
- David Morgan
- Mary Jane O'Neill

## Trustees of Funds

*As of November 15, 2024*

### **Memorial Trust Fund**

- Jane McDonald
- Russell (Chip) Willis
- Jordan Hinkebein
- Guy Miller-Richards
- Casey Hu

### **General Endowment Fund**

- JoAnne Rose
- Michael Alston
- Caroline Pritchard
- Hurley Bogardus
- Joseph Lyttle
- the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley (non-voting, ex-officio member)

### **A.W. Wallace, Benevolent Society of St. George's, and Matthew 25**

- Laurie Carter
- Brooke Di Lauro
- Ann P. Smith

### **Herndon Memorial Trust**

- Mark Steele
- Chris Cook
- Dave Davies
- Maureen Aylward
- Gretchen Pendleton

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## Hub Groups and Ministry List

*In 2023, our vestry shifted to a new way of organizing ministries from “commissions” to “hub groups” so that every ministry in the parish would have a chance to connect with other similar ministries, staff, and vestry members. These groups meet three times per year.*

### Welcome and Formation *Staff point of contact: Laurel E. Loch*

- Newcomers
- Young Adult Ministry
- Adult, Children, Youth Formation
- Lenten Weekend
- Tuesday Night Book Group
- Dinner Groups
- Education for Ministry (EfM)
- Baptism / Confirmation Preparation
- Children’s Music
- Vacation Bible School
- Nursery
- Youth Group
- Diocesan Youth - PYM
- Racial Justice and Healing Book Groups
- Generosity Team
- Planned Giving

### Congregational Care *Staff point of contact: the Rev. Joe Hensley*

- Pastoral Care
- One Body Response Team (OBRT)
- Personal Prayer Ministers
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs)
- Grief Writing Group
- Prayer Shawl Knitters
- Prayer Group and Prayer Chain
- Coffee Hour
- Parish Picnics
- Mardi Gras
- Saturday Night Suppers (SNS)
- Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont
- Over 80’s Luncheons
- Annual Giving Campaign
- Daughters of the King
- Episcopal Church Women (ECW)
- United Thank Offering (UTO)
- History Committee

### Outreach and Evangelism *Staff point of contact: Jake DeNap*

- Community Dinner
- The Table and The Table in the World
- Micah Partnership and Cold Night Shelter Teams
- School Dressing Days
- Angel Tree
- SAWs Virginia
- Downtown Greens
- Haiti Mission
- Afghan Allies
- St. George’s Preschool
- Website, social media, e-newsletter
- Publications and Fence Signs
- Docents
- Rally for Service Sunday
- Chamber Music Series
- June PRIDE
- The House
- Racial Justice and Healing

### Worship and Music *Staff point of contact: the Rev. Joe Hensley and John Vreeland*

- Ushers
- Acolytes
- Flower Guild and Altar Guild
- Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)
- Liturgical Coordinators
- Lectors
- Greeters
- Choirs
- Jazz, Celtic, and Chamber Ensembles
- Handbell Choir
- Celtic Service - officiants, leaders
- Baptisms, weddings, funerals
- Livestreaming
- Daily Office on Zoom

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**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
905 Princess Anne Street  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 7127  
Fredericksburg, VA 22404  
540.373.4133 (office)  
[office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Office Hours:  
Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 3 pm  
Fri: 9 am - 12 pm, and by appointment

Pastoral Emergencies:  
540.361.8573 (call or text)  
[StGeorgesEpiscopal.net](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net)