

STAND FIRM AND STEADY ...
Give yourselves fully
TO THE **WORK** OF THE
Lord
I CORINTHIANS 15:58



2023 EVERY MEMBER CANVASS

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Our legacy of love and service began on March 16, 1839, at the corner of Texas Avenue and Fannin Street.

For more than eighteen decades, Christ Church has steadfastly embraced its mission to manifest the love of Jesus Christ to the parish, the diocese, and the city of Houston.

Our historic buildings, jewel-like stained glass windows, glorious music programs, life-giving outreach ministries, and intentional, thoughtful worship are definitive of who we are as a community of faith. Each one of these elements is distinctly designed to lead God's people towards transformation of heart, mind, and spirit. As a congregation, in the coming year, we will embark together on our own journey of renewal, to determine the next steps in our future.

In St. Paul's writings to the Christians in Corinth, he ends his letter with encouragement to remain strong and faithful during times of change. He commends them on the good work they have done but reminds them that they must not stop there. It is not only about the past, or even the present, but it is about how they stick together and share the Gospel in the future. By giving themselves fully to the work of the Lord, they will ensure that God's love continues to spread in the world.

God never calls us to stand still or stay the same; there is always work to do. While anchored in a firm foundation of remarkable and unique ministry, Christ Church Cathedral is ever poised to meet the growing and changing needs of our community.





SERVE

Our vitally important outreach and justice work continues. The Beacon provides food, showers, laundry, and housing access for those who live on the margins.

Annually, the Mission Outreach Council (MOC) hosts the Alternative Giving Market and Christmas at the Cathedral that benefit local non-profits and the communities they serve. Most recently, the MOC initiated the Cathedral's sponsorship of a Guatemalan refugee family through partnership with Interfaith Ministries. The Justice & Peace Council hosted a heart-felt and honest racial reconciliation conference that sparked our Sacred Ground small-group program. And together, these councils sponsored a pilgrimage to the US/Mexico border.

Choir members, altar guild, ushers, lectors, worship leaders, lay Eucharistic ministers, lay Eucharistic visitors, and welcome team members work tirelessly to ensure more than 400 worship services are conducted every year. Our Youth Sunday service has engaged middle school and high school students. They help plan and participate in readings, photography, ushering, greeting, preaching and music during the 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. services. These acts of service help to further the wonder of God's Gospel by providing an outward and tangible expression of our love for others.

SHARE

Beyond just in-person worship opportunities, thanks to the technology in place in both the Cathedral and Reynolds Hall, we're able to share virtually our wonderful choral and organ music, compelling speakers during the Formation Hour, and life events such as weddings and funerals with so many around the nation and the world.

The 1 o'clock Spanish service draws online worshippers from Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Peru, El Salvador, and Ecuador regularly. Impressively, our online average weekly worship viewership was 1,064 last year.

In addition to worship service, many ministry areas such as Morning and Evening Prayer, Cathedral Reads small groups, weekly Bible studies, book club, and council meetings have each adapted formats that work best for them, with some remaining exclusively online, others meeting in-person, and many experimenting with hybrid forms of gathering. In 2022, beloved Cathedral programs and activities saw a return to normal; the Annual Parish Retreat, May Fete, Neighborhood Gatherings, Pancake Supper, and Episcopal Night at the Ballpark drew hundreds of participants from the parish and beyond. Sharing faith and fellowship with one another are important elements of our community life.



TRANSFORM

This past summer, twenty-two youth and adult missionaries traveled to Costa Rica – further strengthening the partnership between the dioceses of Texas and Costa Rica.

The Latino Ministry Council hosts the semiannual Conferencia Te, focusing on empowering Latina women and helping them explore opportunities in faith, life, and friendship. The Young Adults Council is committed to engaging in thought provoking conversations about inclusivity and faith, designing outings and programs to engage 20s and 30s from all walks of life. When our hearts are fully open to God's love for us, it has profound impacts on our relationships with one another.

In the 2022 Robert C. Stuart Lenten series, we were blessed with thought-provoking speakers who sparked excitement and explored the beauty and wonder of God's creation. The Building and Grounds committee, as well as a Community Garden task force, spent the spring and summer months investigating opportunities to decrease the Cathedral's carbon footprint and amplify our gardens of grace in a sea of concrete. In addition to transforming hearts and minds, we're committed to improving the physical world for future generations.

EMBRACE

We continue to extend pastoral care to those with material or spiritual need through in-home Eucharist, the Mourner's Path program for those encountering grief, the Alzheimer's caregiver support group, and one-on-one care extended by our lay chaplains.

In support, our Threads of Comfort and Joy prayer shawl ministry and our flower ministry provide visible and tangible reminders to homebound parishioners of their connection to the Cathedral community.

All God's people are welcome at the Cathedral; and it's important to meet everyone who comes to this place where they are. The Newcomer Council created the Cathedral 101 program, a "minicourse" to orient newcomers to the life of the Cathedral and answer key questions about worship, ways to serve, and how to get connected to people and ministries. The Anglican Way classes in the fall provide an in-depth history and critical understanding for newcomers and long-time members alike. Las Posadas in December, with the participation of more than twenty-five families, share the miracle of Christ's birth with surrounding communities. Through hospitality, inclusivity, and presence during life's toughest moments, we are drawn closer to one another.

Our mission has taken many forms over the years, and once again, we are called to follow where the spirit leads us.

As we prepare to welcome a new dean in 2023, let's remain steady and strong, and continue to give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord.



2023 EVERY MEMBER CANVASS CO-CHAIRS
WILL & CATHERINE RANDALL

We are both lifelong Episcopalians. Will grew up at Christ Church Cathedral and Catherine spent her Sundays at Good Shepherd in Austin with Rev. John Logan. Rev. Betty Adam provided marriage counseling to us and each of our three children have been baptized and confirmed here. Catherine is involved in many aspects of the church including the vestry and Altar Guild, while Will spends his volunteer time helping with The Beacon. Over the many years of being members of Christ Church, we have found that getting actively involved with the many great programs, events, and leadership opportunities the church offers really brings God into our lives. Christ Church is the Randall family's spiritual home and supporting the community financially keeps those efforts alive. We are honored to be this year's co-chairs for the Every Member Canvass.



2023 EVERY MEMBER CANVASS CO-CHAIRS
JIM MURDAUGH & GARY SMITH

Ever since we first met at Christ Church Cathedral on Christmas Eve 1994, our lives have been touched and blessed by this amazing, welcoming place. We love the music, the liturgy, the preaching, the teaching, the inclusivity, and the strong history of outreach. Looking back over all these years we realize that the Cathedral family has become our family. And like a family, the Cathedral occupies a major place in our lives, and merits—and needs—our investment of time, emotion, energy, and of course money. We feel the need and desire to support the Cathedral just as we would support our family. We love this sacred community that has been so good to us, and gladly choose to help provide for its nurture and growth in the years to come. Please join us with your generous support for the Every Member Canvass.

As stewards of the gifts that God has provided,

each of us is called to create a viable present while imagining an inspired future. As the scripture tells us, now is the time to remain steady and unwavering; with your help we can continue to meet the ever changing and ever-growing demands of ministry at the corner of Texas and Fannin.

First and foremost, we ask you to participate prayerfully in this year's Every Member Canvass. Pray for the mission and ministry we share, for the clergy, staff and lay leaders, and for all who are served by the gifts that we've been given. It is indeed, through your time, talent, and treasure that we're able to meet the needs of so many. We also ask that you make a financial pledge to the work of the church. Doing so during this year's EMC renews your commitment to our community, our diocese, and our city.

We were amazed and inspired by your generosity last year, and with immense gratitude we share that in 2022, 579 families made pledges to Christ Church Cathedral for a total of \$3.75 million. As we look ahead, in order to fully and responsibly fund the 2023 budget, the vestry anticipates that we need \$3.7 million in pledges. In a year of transition, now is the time for all of us to step up and rise to the challenge to continue our mission and provide a sound, financial footing to welcome our next dean.

We must remain steady and continue with vision, courage, and generosity. The opportunities ahead will be both bold and challenging; so, let us give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord.

Faithfully,

The 2022 Stewardship Council

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Chad Cross | Gay Gullede | Frances Kittrell |
| John Dennis | Susan Hoffius | Elaine Krause |
| Charlie Gillman | Mark Hull | Bruce McDonald |

WAYS TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE

When it comes to making your pledge for 2023, there are many options available:

Complete and sign a 2023 EMC pledge card. Place it in the offering plate during a worship service or place in an envelope and mail to the parish offices at 1117 Texas Ave, Houston, TX 77002.

Make an online pledge via the Cathedral's website at: www.christchurchcathedral.org/emc Look for the "Make My Pledge" button on the GIVE page.

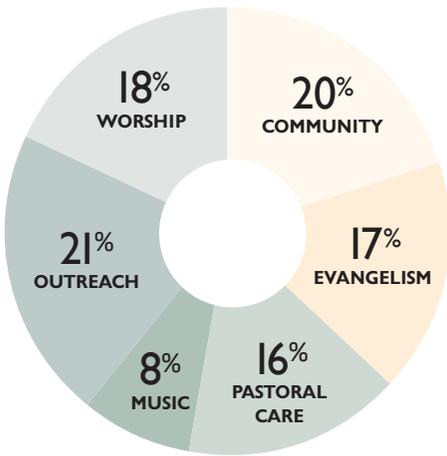
Scan the provided QR code to take you directly to the online pledge form.



LOYALTY SUNDAY IS
NOVEMBER 13



Where our money is spent



Where our funding comes from

Parishioner Contributions



Alternate Revenue Streams



CCC Endowment Fund



Range of Pledges

Pledges Received

| | 2022 ACTUAL | 2023 GOAL |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
| 25,000 and above | 27 | 28 |
| 15,000 to 24,999 | 36 | 36 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 41 | 44 |
| 5,000 to 9,999 | 106 | 110 |
| 2,000 to 4,999 | 160 | 168 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 109 | 110 |
| \$999 and less | 100 | 104 |
| TOTAL | 579 | 600 |

Out of an estimated 800 families in the congregation, 221 did not pledge in 2022. If more families pledge and do so generously, we will be able to expand our mission.



CHRIST
CHURCH
CATHEDRAL

FAQs

WHAT IS THE EVERY MEMBER CANVASS (EMC)? WHAT DOES IT SUPPORT?

The Every Member Canvass (EMC) is the annual financial pledge campaign that supports the mission and new and on-going programs of the church. The EMC helps cover the costs of everything from lightbulbs and coffee cups to innovative programs and vital technology.

WHAT IS A PLEDGE? AND WHY SHOULD I PLEDGE?

Parish members are asked to make a pledge of financial support to sustain our mission and ministry in the coming calendar year (2023). Making your pledge allows the Vestry to budget accurately and ensure with confidence that the Cathedral's programmatic needs will be met. The Cathedral never budgets beyond our means.

HOW DO I FULFILL MY PLEDGE?

Christ Church Cathedral operates fiscally on the calendar year – January to December. Payments, which are tax deductible, may be made on your schedule, in a lump sum or installments, in cash, by check, credit card, and through our various digital giving portals. There are several payment options, and you may select the one that works best for you. You can find information about the many ways to give on the Cathedral's website: www.christchurchcathedral.org/give

ARE THERE OTHER TAX BENEFITS WHEN MAKING A GIFT?

There are ever increasing ways to make giving to the church easy just like other non-profits – such as Qualified Charitable Distributions from IRA accounts, contributions through Donor Advised Funds, and the gift of stocks or securities. Some of these options may provide substantial tax benefits for those who qualify. Ask your accountant or investment advisor for more information about options like these.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED INCLUDING THE CATHEDRAL IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS?

Remembering Christ Church Cathedral in your estate plans with a gift to the Christ Church Cathedral Endowment Fund provides a lasting gift for the future. A portion of the annual budget is funded through annual distributions from the endowment fund. If you'd like more information about leaving a legacy gift visit the Cathedral's website: www.christchurchcathedral.org/plannedgiving

For questions or additional information, contact Minister for Stewardship Karen Kraycirik at 713-590-3338 or via email: kkraycirik@christchurchcathedral.org

