



CHRIST
CHURCH
CATHEDRAL

EPISCOPAL • MARCH 16, 1839

PARISH PROFILE

HOUSTON,
TEXAS

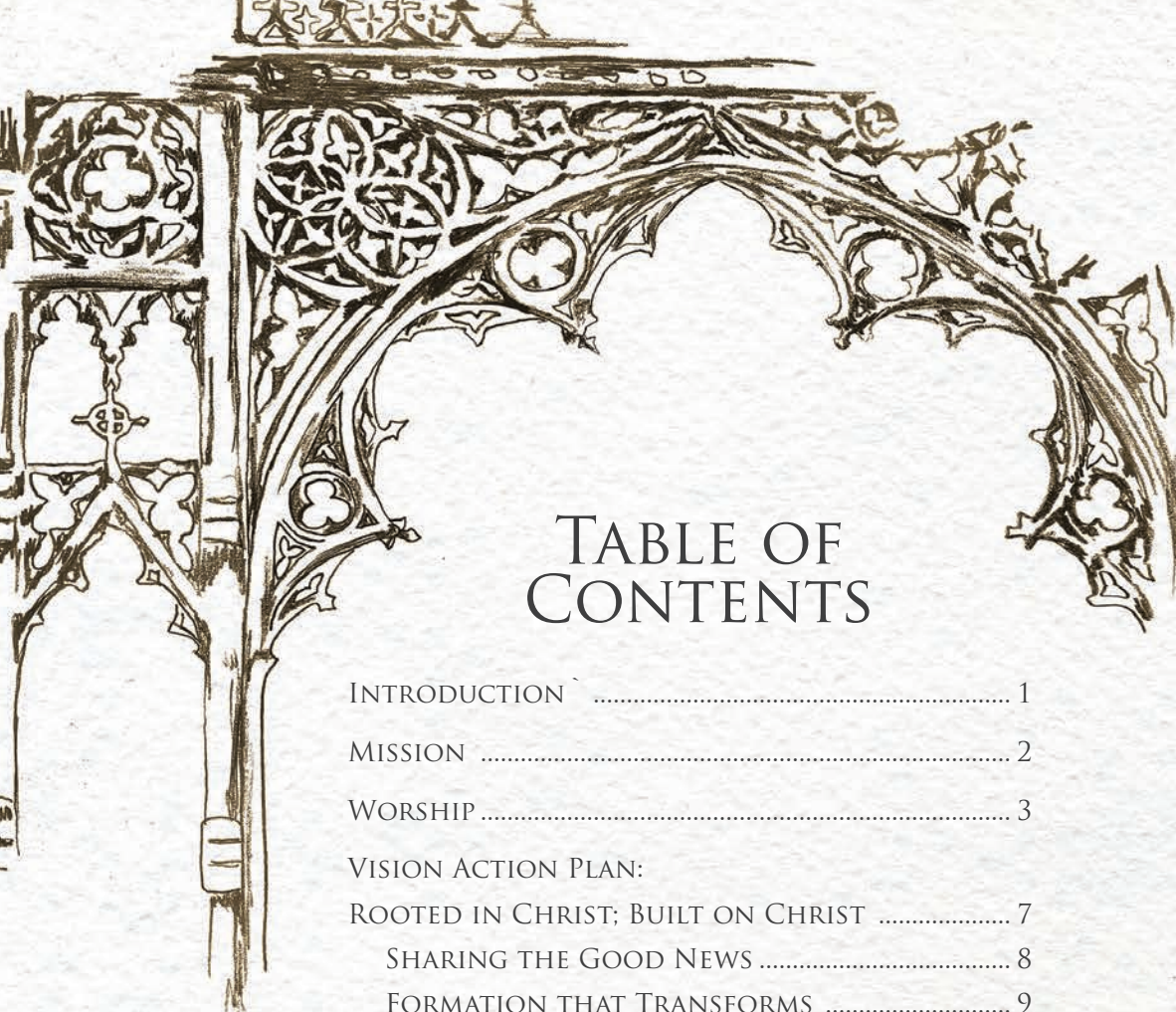


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WE ARE CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

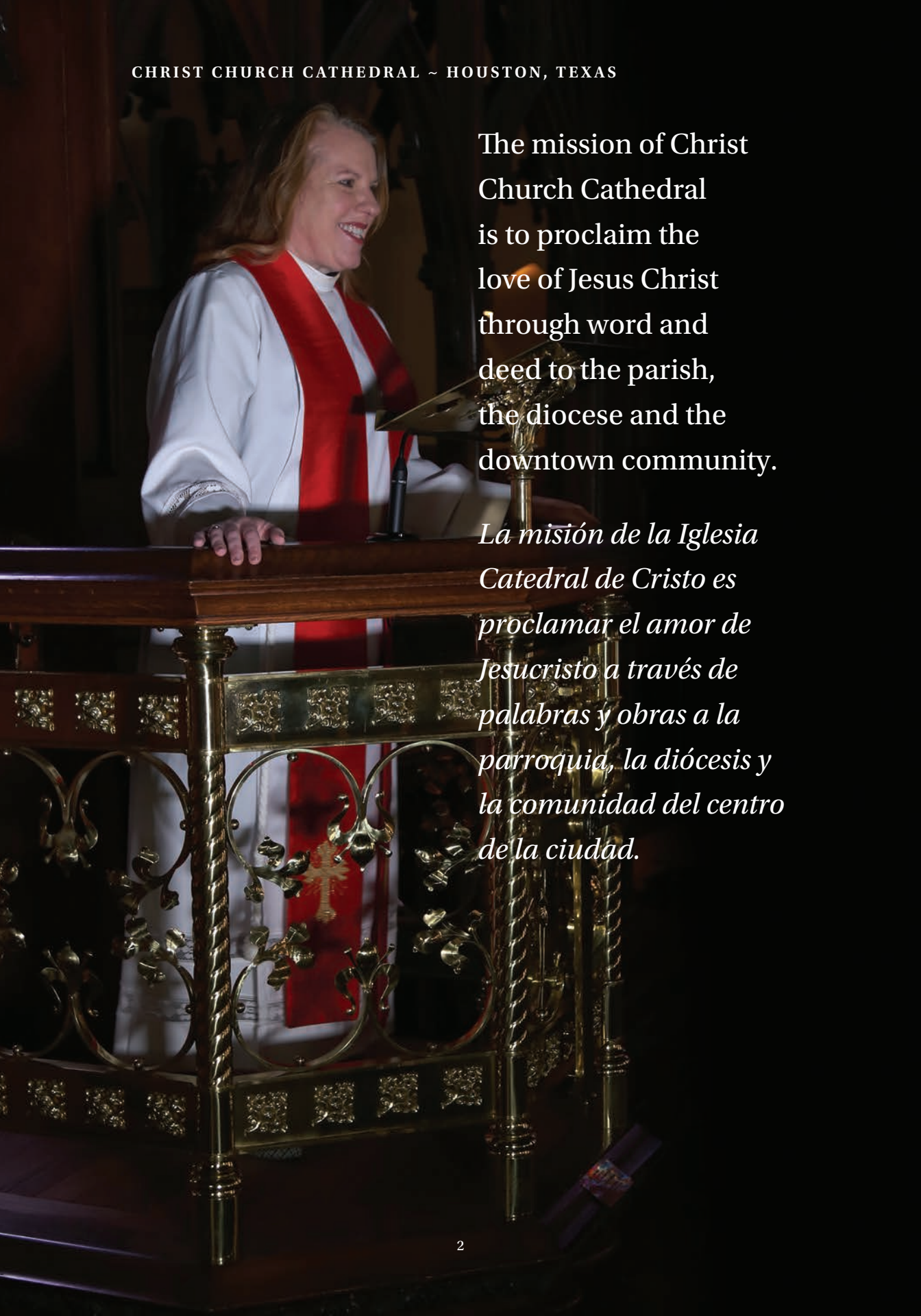
Christ Church is the Cathedral church of the Diocese of Texas. We are inspired by our traditions; we actively minister to the needs of our city; and we look forward in expectation to a future filled with hope.

Since 1839, Christ Church has proclaimed in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ with a tradition of radical hospitality that is still part of our culture. Our beautiful sanctuary is the third to be built on the corner of Texas and Fannin where we were founded 183 years ago. We now occupy two blocks and remain a beacon of faith and ministry for our nation's fourth largest city. Through sound leadership and a commitment of love and service to all, we continue to flourish, and while many of us are still grieving pandemic losses, our community remains inspired, united, and committed to the Cathedral.

We draw from the entire city, and meaningful and beautiful [WORSHIP](#) defines our communal life, reinforced by an emphasis on the [FELLOWSHIP](#) of an open, loving and inclusive parish that welcomes and affirms all who love God. Our membership strives to reflect the diversity of God's Kingdom, and regardless of where we are from and who we are, all are valued and invited to know the love of Christ.

We seek an intelligent and deeper understanding of scripture through diverse [FORMATION](#) opportunities, and we learn in love from the differing opinions of each other in a community known for being a "big tent" with a big world view. For us, love is also a call to action through our [MINISTRIES](#) because we are a dynamic congregation known for its generosity and charitable work. Our [VISION ACTION PLAN](#), adopted in 2020, captures who we are, what we are doing, and our goals for the coming years.

As a cathedral and seat of the Bishop of Texas since 1949, we welcome both our members and Episcopalians from throughout the diocese to worship, with a pre-pandemic ASA of 730. We are also a center of learning and formation with the pulpit as the heart of our identity. Our history and traditions underpin all we do, along with hope and expectation that we can help make the Kingdom of God a reality on earth today.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a white clerical shirt and a red stole, is smiling and speaking at a wooden podium. The podium has an ornate brass railing with circular and floral designs. A microphone is positioned in front of her. The background is dark and out of focus.

The mission of Christ Church Cathedral is to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ through word and deed to the parish, the diocese and the downtown community.

La misión de la Iglesia Catedral de Cristo es proclamar el amor de Jesucristo a través de palabras y obras a la parroquia, la diócesis y la comunidad del centro de la ciudad.



WORSHIP





LITURGY

God and Christ are at the Heart of the Cathedral, beginning with our worship. In gathering for prayer, a deeper understanding of scripture, and thanksgiving, we discover our most profound point of connection to God and one another.

The liturgy of Christ Church Cathedral is beautiful, meaningful and engaging. The Holy Eucharist, celebrated in a variety of forms, is marked by joyous participation and deep reverence. Proclamation of the gospel through exceptional preaching is cherished and valued. While many parishioners attend in person, our 11, 1 and 5 o'clock services are viewed online by many more in Houston, Texas and around the globe.

On Sundays, an early morning, 8 o'clock celebration of [RITE I EUCHARIST](#), with sermon but without music, is held in Golding Chapel.

The 9 o'clock [RITE II EUCHARIST](#) is less formal, but still traditional with choir, music, sermon and a special focus for families, often with a short children's sermon.

The 11 o'clock liturgy fully utilizes the musical tradition of the Cathedral with full choir in the celebration of [RITE I EUCHARIST](#).

At 1 o'clock, a service of [RITE II EUCHARIST](#) is celebrated in [SPANISH](#) in the Cathedral. The Spanish Book of Common Prayer and Spanish Hymnal are used as well as music from the Hispanic sacred tradition.

A la 1, se celebra un servicio de Eucaristia [RITO II](#) en [ESPAÑOL](#) en la Catedral. Se utiliza el Libro de oración común y el himnario en español, así como la música de la tradición litúrgica hispana.

At 5 o'clock, a candle-lit [CELTIC-INSPIRED EUCHARIST](#), "The Well," is offered, which features Celtic music. Contemplative and serene, The Well provides a quiet place for meditation and reflection.

[SOLEMN EVENSONG](#) is sung to mark All Saints, Epiphany, Lent's arrival, Palm Sunday and Pentecost. An annual service of Advent Lessons & Carols is a highlight of the year.

On Wednesdays at noon, Eucharist is celebrated in the Golding Chapel. On Wednesday evenings a bi-lingual service is offered at 6 o'clock. Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are led each weekday by lay persons via Zoom.

Worship at the Cathedral is supported by a robust and committed team of lay persons, including lectors, worship leaders, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, choir members, ushers, greeters, acolytes, and the Altar Guild.

MUSIC

Music at the Cathedral has a long tradition of excellence in the diocese and beyond. The music supports the worship and is an offering to the glory of God.



Organ console



Cathedral Choir in Concert



Treble Choir



*Robert Simpson,
Canon for Music*



Salisbury Cathedral, 2019

The commitment of the Cathedral to excellence in music is important to the membership. The music program is under the leadership of Canon for Music Robert Simpson and Cathedral Organist Daryl Robinson.

THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR prizes the Anglican choral tradition. This choir numbers over fifty members and is composed of volunteers, many with extensive musical background, and a core of professional staff singers. The choir sings at the 11 o'clock service and at other services throughout the year ranging from Festival Eucharists to Solemn Evensongs. Choral settings of the Mass are sung alternating with settings from The Hymnal. Communion motets and offertory anthems are sung weekly. Periodically they perform major classical works in a concert setting and have recorded several compact disks. The Cathedral Choir has traveled to England to be in residence at York Minister, St. Paul's, Salisbury, and Canterbury Cathedrals.

THE PARISH CHOIR sings at the 9 o'clock service and consists of volunteers together with staff singers. Volunteers range from those with no formal musical training to those with extensive experience, but they share enthusiasm and a desire to make beautiful music as part of the worship service.

THE CATHEDRAL TREBLE CHOIR is made up of young women grades 6-12 from the Cathedral and greater Houston community under the direction of Marianna Parnas-Simpson. In addition to singing at the Cathedral for Eucharists, Evensongs and other special events, the Treble Choir often serves as a guest children's choir for concerts and weddings.

At the time of its construction in 1939, the **CATHEDRAL ORGAN**, an Aeolian-Skinner, was the largest organ in the southwestern United States. It has been expanded several times since then, and in 1991 an antiphonal division and trumpets en chamade were installed. As part of the successful capital campaign of 2011, a new console and a total of 5045 pipes were in operation on Easter Sunday of 2012.

Affiliated Ministry

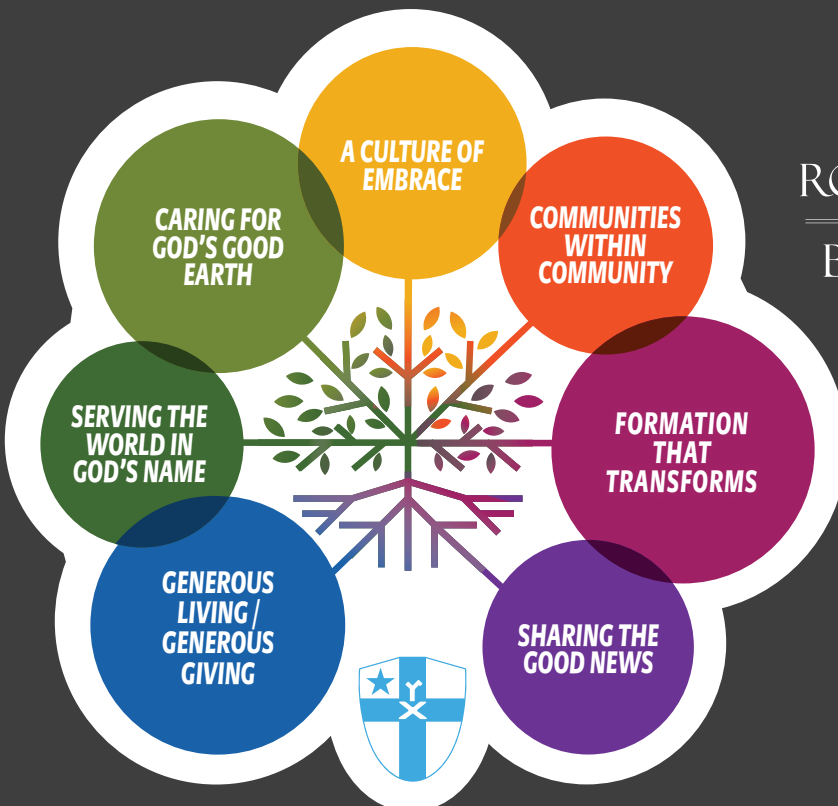
The Cathedral provides office and rehearsal space to the **HOUSTON CHAMBER CHOIR**, Houston's Grammy award-winning professional choral ensemble, led by artistic director, Robert Simpson.



VISION ACTION PLAN

Seeking a rudder that can guide us toward the Kingdom of God and a filter to distill our many ideas into effective action, we adopted a Vision Action Plan in early 2020 that is guiding us through the middle of this decade. It has seven areas of focus or petals, each building and complementing the others in a virtuous cycle. It is not a closed loop, however, and we expect our new Dean to inspire us to further action.

With the support of a strong, cohesive clergy and staff, the congregation is deeply involved in the Cathedral's life, and the plan was developed through the Cathedral's council system that is overseen by our **VESTRY** of fifteen members. There are eleven **CATHEDRAL COUNCILS** whose members are drawn from the Cathedral community. Each council is in turn led by a triumvirate leadership of a chair drawn from the laity, a vestry representative, and a member of the staff.



ROOTED IN CHRIST
BUILT ON CHRIST



SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Our own joyful response to the transforming influence of God in our lives is to share joy with others. We call this Evangelism, and it is a direct outgrowth of community, spiritual discipline, and formation.

With a strong foundation of families who are committed to the Cathedral across generations, we are open and affirming for people of all races, ages, socio-economic statuses, sexual orientations, and gender identities. Whoever you are, and whatever your story, you are welcome to know God and one another here.



Building on this **CULTURE OF WELCOME**, we empower our community to share the Good News of Jesus in all areas of our lives: our work, our play, and our homes. Evangelism is largely about **STORYTELLING**: the story of God's work in the world. We also create spaces in Cathedral programs for all to share their stories, share their joy, and share the story of God's love.

THE WELCOME AND NEWCOMERS COUNCIL strives to welcome and incorporate people into the body of Christ and to empower people to be bearers of the Good News at Christ Church Cathedral and beyond. The council offers a variety of opportunities to build relationships with and for newcomers, many of whom are young. Through our Welcome teams, Newcomer Gatherings, Foyers, and Newcomer Lunch and Learns we welcome newcomers to the Cathedral and equip them to find their way to the center of the community.



FORMATION THAT TRANSFORMS

In addition to our vibrant adult education programs that offer many ways for us to engage our intellect, many of us are hungry for knowledge about scripture and formation that transforms the heart. St. Paul says in Romans, “Be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.” (Romans 12:2). The prophet Ezekiel promises, “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you.” (Ezekiel 36:26). Three councils offer formation to three age groups:

THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION AND THE ARTS COUNCIL engages adults with spiritual, creative, embodied, and intellectual formation. Quiet days, artistic events, field trips, experiential learning days, and lectures augment the Sunday morning Formation Hour series. Evening offerings include The Anglican Way, How-to Bible, Amazing Women of Faith Hagiography Club, EfM, and Cathedral Commons Bible studies. The endowed Robert C. Stuart Lenten series (honoring the Very Rev. Barkley S. Thompson) is a highlight of each year, with well-known speakers who engage with the congregation in both large and small group settings. The council also leads the annual Cathedral Reads summer program. Books offered in the last few years include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, *The Cloister*, and *To the Lighthouse*, and are shared in small group settings and with the entire congregation. The council also organizes tours of venues and destinations with inspiring art and also helps highlight art exhibits in Reynolds Hall. The council strives to encompass the whole person in faithful, fun, and challenging discipleship.





THE YOUTH MINISTRY COUNCIL encourages spiritual growth in our young people by sharing the love of Christ within our community and beyond. Youth Ministry is focused on Formation, Outreach, and Community with our programming designed with each of these in mind. This focus has provided us with a clear vision of what is essential to and for our students. Sunday School is key in this process, but spiritual formation also happens in many different contexts. Examples include weekly Seed Group Bible study and Friday High School Fellowship. Because we believe that youth are leaders, we provide leadership development opportunities through this council.

THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COUNCIL Families represent a core pillar of our faith community. We believe that if we hear children in church, we will hear Church in our children. The mission of the Children's Ministry Council is to make space for children and families to safely build Christian formation into

their daily lives so that it becomes the foundation of their identity. The council engages with families through specific programming and ensures families are engaged in broader components of parish life. Highlights include traditional Sunday School, instructional eucharists, and enabling families to worship together, as well as providing podcasts and fun events that build intergenerational relationships.

Affiliated Ministries

THE CATHEDRAL BOOKSTORE offers a first-rate selection of books for adults, youth and children as well as the best cards to be found anywhere. It also stocks an array of prayer books and Bibles and other gift items with a religious theme. A portion of the proceeds from the Bookstore benefits the Cathedral gardens.

CATHEDRAL HOUSE EPISCOPAL SCHOOL is a Montessori school offering the highest level of early childhood education, with an emphasis on helping children ages 6 weeks to 5 years develop their minds and spirits. CHES is operated by Metropolitan Montessori Schools, an early childhood educational organization, on the Cathedral campus. Prior to the pandemic, 120 were enrolled, and current enrollment is 90 children. The Dean of Christ Church Cathedral and members of the Cathedral serve on the Board. KariAnn Lessner, Minister for Children and Families, serves as Chaplain, meeting in the Chapel of the Christ Child with the 3 and 4 year old classes weekly as well as appearing online via Zoom during the pandemic. Committed to partnering and supporting families, the school was honored and recognized as a Brazelton Touchpoints Recognized Facility.



COMMUNITIES WITHIN COMMUNITY

We value diversity and inclusivity in our community, wanting a space that welcomes everyone's voice. We are open to questioning and encourage thinking and dialogue. Our members come from throughout the Houston metropolitan area, and many commute 30 minutes or more to attend, passing by other churches on the way. While the congregation is predominately college-educated and comparatively affluent, we want it to more fully reflect the diversity of Houston. Three councils support our rich and fulfilling life:

THE COMMUNITY LIFE COUNCIL works to bring people together for service and celebration as the body of Christ. The council directly and indirectly oversees four parish-wide events every year: the Annual Parish Retreat, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, May Fete, and Episcopal Night at the Ballpark. On a smaller scale, the council coordinates Spring and Fall Neighborhood Gatherings, annual Foyers Groups, and monthly Bridge/Rummikub game nights at the Cathedral. Beginning in the fall of 2022, the council will further explore opportunities to help create community at the Cathedral, especially as we emerge from the pandemic's extended lockdowns. We look forward to experimenting with new ways to nurture relationships within our community.



The May Fete celebration at the Cathedral is more than 100 years old. With considerable planning and many volunteers, the May Fete Committee organizes and hosts the annual festival which celebrates our young members. All the Cathedral councils support and participate in the May Fete.

THE LATINO MINISTRY COUNCIL carries on the mission of Christ Church Cathedral and its guiding principles in the Latino community of Houston. We believe these principles as articulated in the Vision Action Plan are vital for the mission entrusted to us, and we are committed to them. Some of our many and varied activities include the weekly 1 o'clock service, Family Nights, Mes de Herencia, Conferencia Te, the Yard Sale to benefit first generation college students, Stations of the Cross, Sunday School, VBS, and the Posadas. Music and receptions are a key part of our community. We are continually thinking strategically, and we are keenly aware that our best natural resource for growth is in our neighborhoods. We are a family.

EL CONSEJO PARA EL MINISTERIO LATINO lleva a cabo la misión de la Iglesia Cathedral de Cristo y sus principios guías en la comunidad latina de Houston. Creemos que estos principios, tal como se articulan en el Plan de Acción y Visión, son vitales para la misión que se nos ha encargado, y estamos comprometidos con ellos. Algunas de nuestras muchas y variadas actividades incluyen el servicio semanal de la 1:00 pm, Noches Familiares, Mes de la Herencia Latina/Hispana, Conferencia Te, la Venta de para beneficiar a estudiantes universitarios de primera generación, Estaciones de la Cruz, Escuela Dominical, VBS y posadas. La música y las recepciones son una parte clave de nuestra comunidad. Estamos continuamente pensando estratégicamente, y somos muy conscientes de que nuestro mejor recurso natural para el crecimiento está en nuestros vecindarios. Nuestras son una familia.



YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

works to minister to the young adults at Christ Church, with a focus on connecting this demographic to the larger life of the Cathedral. As a council, we view our work primarily as ministry to and for young adults, ensuring they have space and time of their own where relationships with siblings in Christ can be nurtured. The work of the council focuses on monthly opportunities for socializing, either during a special one-off event at the start of the month or at a monthly happy hour.



A CULTURE OF EMBRACE

The Cathedral seeks to be an open, loving, and diverse parish that embraces all who wish to know God in this place. We embrace and seek to understand those whose faith differs from our own, and we are willing to work through difficult subjects. Through education, dialogue, and engagement with the community around us, we actively address the attitudes that divide the human family and seek to thwart God's love.

THE JUSTICE & PEACE

COUNCIL is called to illuminate and fulfill God's justice in the world. As needs and issues fluctuate, the council responds in a timely manner. Currently the council is focused on four issues: Medical Debt Relief, Refugees, LGBTQ+ support, and Civil Rights. The council paired with the Mission Outreach Council on several initiatives - educating parishioners on Medical Debt relief (which raised \$30,000 this past summer to cancel \$2 million in medical debt) and sponsoring a refugee family from Guatemala. The council represented the Cathedral by walking in the Annual LGBTQ+ Pride Walk and

Eucharist, as well as staffing the Diocesan table at the Montrose Center's Housing Our Future Gala. The council was highly involved in the Cathedral's Sacred Ground Dialogue on Race and Faith, and has a Civil Rights pilgrimage planned to Atlanta, Montgomery, and Selma in 2023.



Justice and Peace and Mission Outreach council members at the Rio Grande border fence on a trip to better understand conditions there.



CARING FOR GOD'S GOOD EARTH



*Blessing
of the Animals*

As a cathedral church in a sprawling urban landscape of concrete and metal, we are working to green the world around us, minimize our carbon footprint, use green spaces as reminders of God's good creation, and educate our congregation on how best to steward the earth. This challenge to the Cathedral to "work to green the world around us" is producing action in three directions:

All of the Cathedral Councils are challenged to educate the congregation. The ongoing [THEOLOGICAL ROUNDTABLE](#) on Ecological Theology and 2022's [ROBERT C. STUART LENTEN SERIES](#) set a strong foundation for our ongoing work. In addition to formation opportunities, the Cathedral is pursuing two initiatives.

The [BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE](#) is pursuing multiple strategies – such as installing LED lights wherever possible; ensuring all cleaning and gardening supplies are non-toxic; and supplying service plates, napkins, and cups that are biodegradable. A Vestry member built attractive "mug trees" to encourage the use of reusable mugs at coffee hour while the congregation donated mugs. The Cathedral also is signing up for a free Energy Audit, investigating LEED status in the Operations and Maintenance category, and hiring a consultant to help us reduce materials usage through recycling and other means.

A second action required a task force to study the viability of a [COMMUNITY DONATION GARDEN](#) on the Cathedral campus or at an alternate location. While this task force is delivering its final report in Fall 2022, interest in the idea inspired a parish family to grow vegetables at their farm and donate them to The Beacon. A group of young adults helped to weed and harvest, and several donations of many pounds of vegetables were delivered to the Beacon over the summer.



SERVING THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME

With servant hands and hearts of all ages, we put faith into action. Within our community, we address the pastoral needs of parishioners, assuring that no one navigates life's journey alone. We focus outside the Cathedral to partner with other charitable organizations to amplify and enhance our outreach to Houston's immigrant communities, the homeless, and others in need. Several councils, CUSE, affiliated ministries, and The Beacon support this work:

THE PASTORAL CARE COUNCIL strives to proclaim the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by addressing the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the Cathedral family and wider community. The Pastoral Care Council team shows up in hard places through a variety of ministries of prayer and presence by means of Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Lay Chaplains, support groups, grief groups, prayer shawls, and other efforts. The council also offers opportunities for the whole Cathedral to grow into disciples who are moved by compassion to be present to others.

THE MISSION OUTREACH COUNCIL exists to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ by identifying and developing opportunities that empower the Cathedral family and the downtown community to help and serve those in need. The council provides outreach to Houston's immigrant communities, serves as a sponsor to refugees through Interfaith Ministries, and organizes and supports mission trips to the southern border of Texas and beyond. The council also plans and executes the annual Alternative Giving Market, which creates opportunities for parishioners to support a variety of charitable agencies; Christmas at the Cathedral, which provides a Christmas meal and gifts to families in need each December; a semi-annual Blood Drive; and other outreach efforts.



Our 2022 Rally Against Hunger packed 100,000 meals to address world-wide hunger



THE CATHEDRAL URBAN SERVICE EXPERIENCE

(CUSE) delivers lasting urban experiences by bringing together populations in need. We connect faith and non-faith-based organizations to help them support the underserved in Houston. This is accomplished by linking our groups with appropriate service projects while finding our non-profit partner volunteers who are committed to their mission, all with the goal of providing the underserved and in-need the support they deserve. The McGehee Building includes the “Treehouse” on its top floor, which can accommodate overnight stays by those participating in CUSE.

Affiliated Ministries

KIDS HOPE is a community of volunteer mentors, prayer partners, and friends whose dedication, financial support, love, and presence builds connection between the Cathedral and public schools in the extended Cathedral neighborhood. Kids Hope maintains a cadre of trained volunteer mentors who visit with students one-on-one at school once a week during the school year. Kids Hope also has arranged donations of computers, musical instruments, books, supplies, and uniforms and has supplied career day speakers, spelling bee judges, and classroom readers for partner schools.

AT-RISK YOUTH provides immediate, one-time financial assistance that supports Houston’s working poor families who have experienced unexpected extreme financial emergencies. These situations threaten their capacity to provide for the most basic necessities and to keep their children in school. Founded by three Cathedral members, At-Risk Youth operates with zero overhead, using every dollar received to benefit its clients. The total At Risk Youth expended so far in 2022 is \$112,269.57. Since its founding, ARY has awarded over \$1.2 million in assistance impacting nearly 6,000 children and their families.

THE CATHEDRAL AA GROUP has been meeting at noon on weekdays for as long as anyone can remember. The group currently uses the Conference Room in the McGehee Building. An Al-Anon Family Group meets on Mondays at noon via Zoom.

THE BEACON - EMPOWERING HOUSTON'S HOMELESS

The Beacon is a separate 501(c)3 organization with the Dean of the Cathedral as its Chair and Cathedral members comprising at least 51% of its board. The Beacon is debt free, in good financial condition, and is located in the Dunn Center on our campus. It is a lynchpin in Houston's nationally recognized homeless response system, The Way Home.

The mission of The Beacon is to provide essential and next-step services to restore hope and help end homelessness in Houston. Meeting the essential needs of individuals experiencing homelessness with dignity and respect has been a cornerstone of the agency since its inception. In its 15-year history, The Beacon has evolved and created efficiencies as previous missions of the Cathedral and separate non-profits merged into one organization with \$5.6 million of revenue in 2021.



Five days a week, breakfast and hot homemade lunches are served to clients visiting our Day Center facility with 29,847 meals served in 2021. Clients also can access private shower cabins, have their clothes washed, sign up to receive their mail, obtain transportation assistance, and meet with a case manager. These activities allow staff to engage and guide them to several next-step services, including housing case managers committed to The Way Home's community-wide housing first philosophy.

Other programs fall under The Beacon's umbrella, notably Beacon Law and Brigid's Hope. Beacon Law offers civil legal aid to clients by helping them clear fines and restore IDs. Beacon clients work with either staff attorneys or local attorneys offering pro bono services. Brigid's Hope is a twelve-month intensive program for formerly homeless, non-violent female offenders that offers each woman a mentor, independent living, and minimal structure to foster self-sufficiency. Comprehensive case management and therapeutic services are offered along with life skills training and supportive services.

While The Beacon is not a disaster relief organization, its housing case managers helped house 936 individuals displaced by Hurricane Harvey in 2017, and it expanded its Day Center operations to seven days a week during the pandemic, one of only a few organizations that provided meals to the homeless.



GENEROUS LIVING, GENEROUS GIVING

We seek to educate all parishioners to be faithful and joyous givers of their time, talent and treasure. We also work to develop new opportunities and innovative methods for giving, increase the Cathedral endowment, and explore other revenue streams to support the Cathedral's mission.

THE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL guides the development of resources for the Cathedral to support its mission and respond to opportunities that God sets before us. The council works to encourage a culture of giving through our annual pledge drive, the "Every Member Canvass," and through planned giving to the Cathedral Endowment Fund through the Bishop Richardson Society.

Even when confronted by the pandemic, the congregation's financial support of the Cathedral did not waiver. In 2019, there were 615 pledges to our Every Member Canvass. A total of \$3,416,00 was budgeted, but a total of \$3,468,675 was raised in the end. In 2022, there are 579 pledges and \$3,760,000 pledged, with the vestry conservatively discounting this total to \$3,534,000 in the budget.

In addition to their treasure, Cathedral members also contribute their time and talents through our councils, affiliated ministries like Kids Hope and The Beacon, and special projects like Rally Against Hunger in September 2022, when volunteers packed 100,000 meals to fight world-wide hunger, following up on a similar project that took place immediately before the pandemic.



EMC Dinner and Skit

THE FINANCES *(dollars in thousands)*

CATHEDRAL OPERATING FUNDS	2019	2020	2021	2022 Budget
Every Member Canvass	3,416	3,343	3,332	3,534
Endowment Contribution	909	1,007	1,054	1,151
Facility Use & Other Revenue	1,593	1,106	1,632	994
Normal Revenue	5,918	5,456	6,018	5,679
Salaries & Benefits	3,504	3,170	3,129	3,384
Beacon Grant & Dunn Center & Other	425	313	119	94
Other Outreach	66	53	54	66
Liturgy & Ministry	770	772	758	824
Diocesan Activities	391	414	417	432
Facilities - Addition to the Legacy Fund	50	50	100	50
Facilities - Normal	702	701	1,047	829
Normal Expenses	5,908	5,473	5,624	5,679
Normal Net Revenue less Expenses	10	(17)	394	0
Facilities - Legacy Expenditures	190	41	96	NA
Use of the Barrow/Hellmann Fund	173	41	96	NA
Change in Net Assets	(7)	(17)	394	
ENDOWMENT FUND	2019	2020	2021	
Bequests & Memorial Gifts	6,983	2,028	550	
From Capital Campaigns	340	21	11	
Parish Add to the Barrow/Hellmann Fund	50	50	100	
Investment Return	3,095	1,991	3,616	
Oil & Gas Royalties	139	121	181	
Total Revenue	10,607	4,211	4,458	
Support of the Cathedral	1,097	1,078	1,100	
Parish Use of the Barrow/Hellmann Fund	173	41		
Support of the Hines Center	100	41		
Other Expenses	212	136	225	
Total Expenses	1,582	1,296	1,325	
Net Revenue less Expenses	9,025	2,915	3,133	
<i>Memo: Net Assets</i>	<i>27,906</i>	<i>30,734</i>	<i>34,495</i>	

THE ENDOWMENT

The Christ Church Cathedral Endowment Fund was chartered in 1954 by then Dean J. Milton Richardson. It was funded by the first Trustees who contributed a total of \$60,000. While always moving with the capital markets, the current fund balance is over \$30 million.

THE CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT FUND provides much-needed funding both annually and as sporadic opportunities for the Cathedral's mission arise. In the early 2000s, the Endowment Fund had grown to \$25 million when the Cathedral embarked on development of its east block, including the Diocesan Center, parking garage and The Beacon. This ambitious program, coupled with the financial crisis in 2008, drew heavily on the Endowment Fund, bringing its net value to approximately \$15 million in 2010.

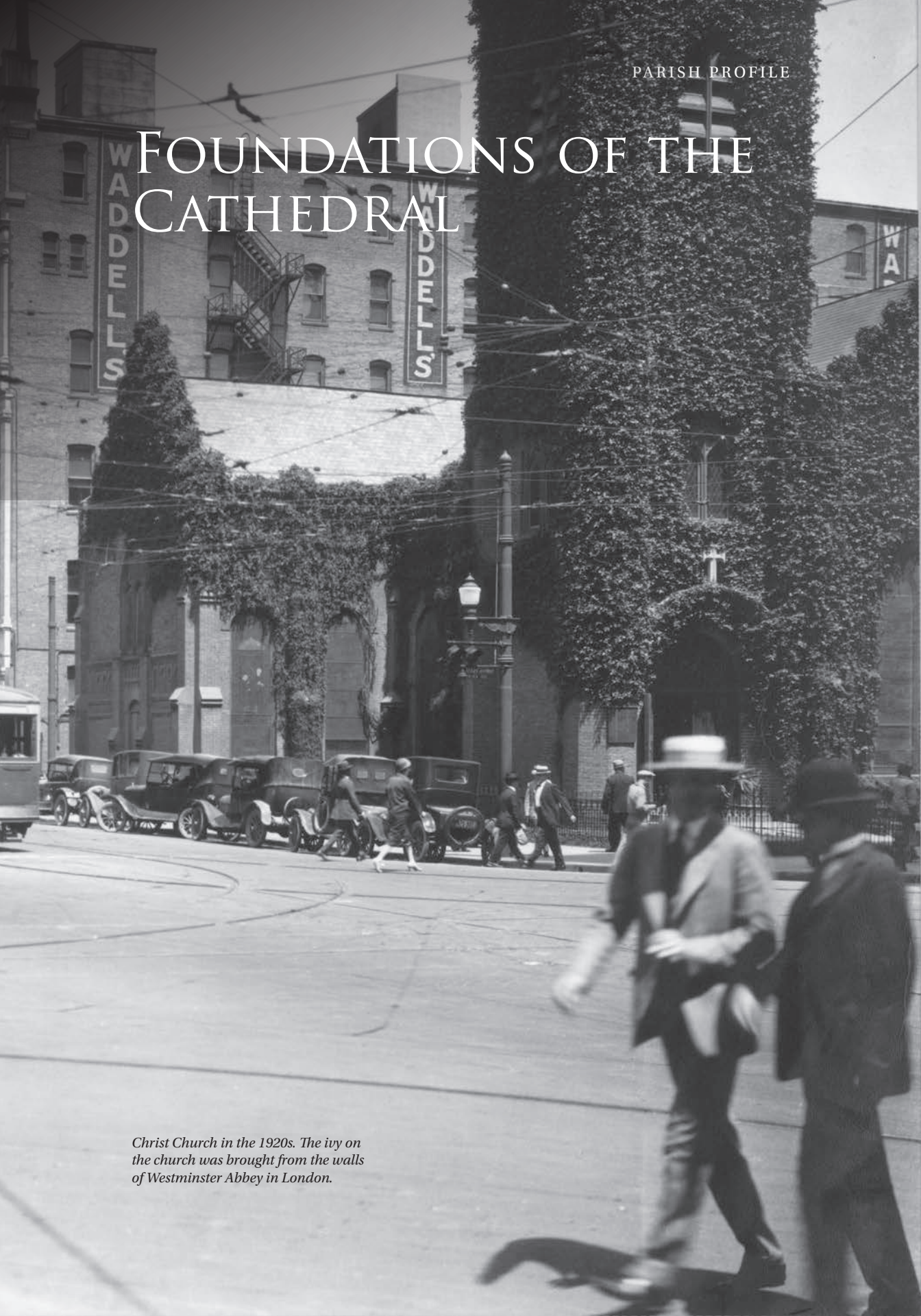
With two capital campaigns, **BUILDING OUR LEGACY** in 2011 and **SOWING THE SEED** in 2018, and additional bequests, we replenished the fund to over \$30 million by the end of 2021. The Sowing the Seed campaign exceeded its goal by \$2.5 million. We continually remind parishioners to include the Cathedral Endowment Fund in their financial planning in order to continue building our legacy.

THE TOM BARROW & STUART HELLMAN LEGACY FUND FOR CATHEDRAL PRESERVATION was established in 2013 and is housed within the Cathedral Endowment Fund to provide resources for major maintenance or improvement of the Cathedral's buildings and campus (capital expenditures), so these major expenses do not have to be covered by the annual operating budget. Each year, the vestry budgets a contribution of at least \$50,000 to the fund and then charges the cost of qualifying capital expenditures incurred over the course of that year to the fund. After all Sowing the Seed capital campaign pledges are received, the fund will have a balance of approximately \$3 million.

THE DEAN'S HOUSING FUND exists within the Cathedral Endowment Fund and was created to assist in purchasing a home for a new Dean, as well as future deans. Houston is an ever growing and changing environment, so making provision for the Cathedral's Dean to select a home and neighborhood that suits their preferences is important. Additionally, it provides the Dean with the opportunity to invest in personal assets during their tenure at Christ Church Cathedral.

PARISH PROFILE

FOUNDATIONS OF THE CATHEDRAL



Christ Church in the 1920s. The ivy on the church was brought from the walls of Westminster Abbey in London.

A COMMUNITY OF MEMORY

We are a church that values our history and traditions, which remind us of how we became who we are and provide perspective as we seek ideas to achieve a better future.

Our primary traditions are our communal Episcopal worship of our triune God, our care for and enjoyment of each other, and our tending to the spiritual and physical needs of our members and neighbors.

Christ Church was Houston's first religious congregation and is still worshipping on its original site. On March 16, 1839, Col. William Fairfax Gray called for the creation of Houston's first Christian congregation, and the Rev. Charles Gillet of Connecticut oversaw the construction of the first church. A second building was consecrated in 1866. In early 1893, a portion of the building collapsed, and the vestry borrowed money to build the current church, which hosted its first service on Christmas Eve 1893. A fire destroyed the chancel in 1938, but the congregation chose to remain downtown. Each Sunday a representative of the Cathedral Guides leads a tour of this sacred and historic space.

Christ Church has always been a part of the fabric of Houston. From its founding, Christ Church served people of many faiths and races, conducting funerals for Roman Catholics and weddings for Jews. The first Bishop of Texas, the Rt. Rev. Alexander Gregg, believed that Blacks and Whites should worship under the same roof, and Christ Church had Black members before and after the Civil War.

In the middle of the 20th century, Dean Milton Richardson stated, "a downtown church needs good preaching, good music and good parking," so over the next 50 years the Cathedral set about acquiring the "east block." A parking garage now shares that block with the Diocese of Texas and The Beacon.

Dean Pittman McGehee's arrival in 1980 began an era of transformation. He emphasized good preaching and formation while instituting the Cathedral's council system. Dean Walter Taylor reinvigorated our outreach ministry by founding New Hope Housing. Canon for Music Bob Simpson also arrived, ensuring continued good music. Under Dean Joe Reynolds, the Cathedral built the garage, brought the diocesan offices back downtown, and created The Beacon. Dean Barkley Thompson attracted families back to the Cathedral, launched The Well, and led us to create our first and second Vision Action Plans.

The Cathedral has a long tradition of mission, dating back to the Faith Home for orphaned children in 1892, and the tradition continues to this day. During Dean Barkley Thompson's ten-year tenure, he emphasized our role "in the midst of the city," reinforcing our commitment to urban ministry.

A COMMUNITY OF EXPECTATION

While its history and traditions are important, Christ Church is working to realize our Vision Action Plan through new ideas and initiatives:

GROWTH The Cathedral attracted young adults, couples and families under Dean Thompson. We want that growth to continue, and additional resources for this important demographic group may be needed. We also want to diversify beyond an inclusive but still mostly Anglo membership. Our Welcome Teams are working hard, but engaging with newcomers also remains a challenge.

RECOVERING FROM THE PANDEMIC Our financial support never dropped, and our numbers are now increasing. However, work remains to fully recover to our pre-pandemic average Sunday attendance.

LATINO CONGREGATION This congregation is still recovering from the pandemic and needs better communication with and connections to the larger congregation, involvement in other councils especially concerning social justice, pastoral care focused on the Latino community's special needs, and more resources for its work in the neighborhoods.

CONGREGACIÓN LATINA *Esta congregación se está recuperando de la pandemia. Sus necesidades incluyen más comunicación y conexión con los otros miembros de la Catedral, así como más atención pastoral enfocada en las necesidades especiales de la comunidad latina, y más recursos para su trabajo en los vecindarios.*

CARING FOR GOD'S GOOD EARTH A vestry task force is exploring a garden project to be a visible reminder of our love for God's creation and an example to the congregation and city by providing food for the church's ministries.

MIGRATION MINISTRY The Justice & Peace and Mission Outreach Councils made several trips to the border, seeking to identify how the Cathedral can respond to this humanitarian crisis that threatens to overwhelm the resources of Houston and Texas.

BEACON TASK FORCE Houston's success in addressing homelessness is nationally recognized, and The Beacon is a central pillar of this regional effort. A task force is studying how the organization can evolve to address emerging needs and priorities.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN Our recent Sowing the Seed capital campaign exceeded its goal by several million dollars, and its last pledges will be paid in 2023. Another capital campaign in the near future is not expected.

THE BUILDINGS



The Cathedral campus occupies two full blocks in the center of downtown Houston. The [HISTORIC CATHEDRAL BUILDING \(1\)](#) is on the west side of the [BISHOP'S COURTYARD \(2\)](#) at the corner of Texas and Fannin. The Thompson Cloister provides access to the [LATHAM BUILDING \(3\)](#), which houses offices, meeting rooms, the music facilities and our bookstore, and [REYNOLDS HALL \(4\)](#), the parish hall that hosts Treebeards restaurant during the week. The remainder of the “west block” holds the [JONES EDUCATION BUILDING \(5\)](#); the [HUFFINGTON COURTYARD PLAYGROUND \(6\)](#), the location for children’s education on Sunday and for Cathedral House Episcopal School on weekdays; and the [MCGEHEE BUILDING \(7\)](#), a center for youth activities and another site of meeting and office space. Across San Jacinto Street on the “east block” are the [DIOCESAN CENTER \(8\)](#) facing [NANCY'S GARDEN \(9\)](#), a parking garage operated by the Cathedral (and a source of revenue), and the [DUNN CENTER \(10\)](#) where The Beacon is located.

The east block and the McGehee Building opened in 2007, and the west block of the Cathedral campus underwent a major historic preservation and restoration project in 2018. The exterior masonry of the buildings surrounding the Bishop’s Courtyard was cleaned and tuck-pointed, and the sanctuary’s HVAC system was replaced. The sacristy and vesting areas also were re-imagined. Vesting spaces were moved up to the second floor to improve flow and accessibility, allowing more storage and work areas in the sacristy. These renovations provided a private vesting and study area for the Dean, a quiet oasis where he/she can reflect and prepare for worship. The Bishop’s Courtyard’s infrastructure was upgraded and its design returned to that of an English garden. Logan’s Garden on the west side of the sanctuary was restored in honor of beloved Canon Emeritus John Logan. The restoration and renovation of the Cathedral’s historic campus was made possible by the [SOWING THE SEED CAPITAL CAMPAIGN](#), which provided more than \$7 million toward these restoration efforts with another \$1.6 million provided by the Texas Historic Tax Credit program.



THE DIOCESE OF TEXAS

Founded in 1838 as a foreign missionary district of the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Texas was organized in 1849 and continues to be led by the Holy Spirit as it plants ministries and congregations to partner with and serve the wider community. Its history is closely entwined with the Cathedral.

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas is headquartered at the [DIOCESAN CENTER](#) on the Cathedral campus and is led by Bishop C. Andrew Doyle, the ninth Bishop of Texas. Bishop Doyle is supported by Bishop Suffragan Kathryn M. Ryan at the [SEMINARY OF THE SOUTHWEST](#) in Austin, Bishop Suffragan Jeff Fisher at All Saints Episcopal School in Tyler, Bishop Assistant Scott Mayer in downtown Ft. Worth, and Bishop Assistant Hector Monterroso in Houston.

The diocese spans nearly 70,000 square miles and encompasses 81 counties, with almost 450 clergy, 180 congregations, 70 missional communities, 27 campus missions, and 77,000 parishioners. Its congregations offer a broad range of worship styles along with traditional to liberal views on issues facing the Church today. The diocese embraces all people with mutual love and respect as one Church reconciled by Jesus Christ, joining God's mission to reconcile others and build up the Kingdom of God.



The Diocese also has a number of foundations dedicated to the health and growth of the Church, most notably the [EPISCOPAL HEALTH FOUNDATION](#) (EHF) with a corpus of over \$1 billion dedicated to funding transformational health initiatives throughout the Diocese. An EHF grant of \$200 million allows the Diocese to pay annually for health insurance for clergy and their families. It also owns [CAMP ALLEN](#), the nationally known Diocesan Conference and Retreat Center that accommodates a variety of spiritual, social and educational events for all ages and is located one hour northwest of Houston.

Christ Church remained a parish church until 1949 when it was consecrated as the Cathedral. Christ Church remains a self-governing, self-supporting parish and in full control of its investments. It also continues its regular parish activities and services under the leadership of the vestry and rector who also holds the title of "Dean." The Cathedral is available for diocesan functions when not in conflict with the services of the parish. Six rectors of Christ Church have been elected bishops of the Episcopal Church, including John E. Hines who became Presiding Bishop.



GOD IN THE MIDST OF THE CITY

The Cathedral's place in downtown Houston has inspired specific ministries to the homeless, downtown workers, downtown residents and many others. As in 1839, its location at the corner of Texas Avenue and Fannin Street places the Cathedral at the crossroads of Houston.

With an expanding residential population, downtown offers many opportunities for the Cathedral's continued growth. Downtown's large business community includes the headquarters of several major corporations, financial institutions, law firms, and other professional services. Visitation continues to grow, drawn to Major League Baseball only a few blocks to the east of the Cathedral on Texas Avenue, the Theater District (with seven performing arts companies and the most theater seats outside of New York City) a few blocks to the west on Texas Avenue, professional basketball and soccer a stone's throw away, parks, trails, and a growing restaurant and entertainment scene. The historic Harris County Courthouse, focal point for the nation's third largest county, is one block north, and City Hall is only a short distance away. In addition to Cathedral House Episcopal School, the Kinder High School for the Performing & Visual Arts, Incarnate Word Academy, South Texas College of Law, and the University of Houston Downtown offer a wide range of education opportunities. Outside of downtown, historic neighborhoods welcome growing populations while former industrial areas are being redeveloped as exciting mixed-use destinations, all served by public, charter and private schools.



HOUSTON

Houston is the nation's fourth largest city and fifth largest metropolitan region with 2.4 million and 7.2 million people respectively. By many measures, it also is our country's most diverse city.

The city of Houston spreads over 600 square miles, and the region, larger than the State of New Jersey, continues to be one of the fastest growing in the U.S. The Port of Houston is the second busiest in the U.S. and leads in international trade. About one third of the region's population is White, one third Hispanic, one sixth Black and one sixth a mix of other ethnicities. The area's median household income is \$69,000, and 13% of Houstonians live below the poverty line.

While Houston remains an energy capital, the industry comprises only 11% of the regional economy. Health care, centered on the Texas Medical Center (the largest such complex in the world) along with trade, engineering and manufacturing underpin the regional economy. Only New York City has more headquarters of Fortune 500 companies.

Downtown is the focal point of the 100 square mile rapidly urbanizing central city defined by I-610 ("the Loop"). Affluent neighborhoods and historic

ethnic communities are nearby, along with two public and two private universities. The Texas Medical Center is four miles to the southwest while NASA and coastal communities are to the southeast on Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The west side is dominated by numerous white collar business activity centers.

Houston was born on Buffalo Bayou on the northern edge of downtown. Downstream, it becomes the Houston Ship Channel four miles to the east, and upstream it leads to Memorial Park's 1464 acres. The Texas Medical Center, Rice University and 450-acre Hermann Park are also close by. In addition to the Theater District, Houston's thriving arts scene includes the Museum District where the recently-expanded Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Natural Science, Children's Museum, Asia Society, Holocaust Museum, and the world-renowned Menil Collection and Rothko Chapel are located.



Looking west over downtown. Christ Church Cathedral is located at the red cross.



THE NEW DEAN

The continued vitality of the Cathedral depends in significant measure on the spiritual leadership of an inspiring preacher and teacher — one who understands the importance of the liturgy and communicates a personal religious faith backed by a strong intellect and scholarly knowledge of scripture and theology. Our congregation prefers teaching that is thought-provoking, challenging and applicable to our lives.

The diverse community of the Cathedral is held together by love for Christ, respect for each other, and a sense of joy in coming together. The new Dean should be outgoing, warm and loving but also should have a commanding presence that draws even more people downtown.

The new Dean also should embrace the joys and challenges of our urban setting and participate in Houston's active interfaith community.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH Members of the Cathedral have diverse views on many issues. The new Dean should be a tolerant consensus builder and capable of embracing our differences, affirming God's love for all people, and helping deepen the spiritual growth of the entire congregation. While politics should be avoided, speaking about today's major issues through the lens of our values is expected.

WORSHIP The Cathedral is known for its traditional liturgies, its emphasis on the music of the Church and, increasingly, its online presence. The new Dean will need an appreciation for the apparent paradox of a parish that has always been forward-thinking for its time and place while maintaining a preference for traditional forms of worship. However, within the bounds of our traditions, we have been open to new worship offerings such as The Well.

MINISTRY The Cathedral's commitments to pastoral care to the congregation, downtown ministry and social justice are inescapable facets of its identity. The new Dean should be comfortable with people from all walks of life, from The Beacon client to corporate leaders, and be able to respond with love, creativity and patience in support of current and future outreach activities. He or she also should be prepared for new ministry initiatives to address new emerging and pressing issues, such as migration ministry.

YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES Most of the Cathedral's recent growth has been young adults and families, and we seek a Dean who will speak to their needs and interests. Within the framework of our tradition, we are willing to consider and support new ideas, technologies, strategies and programs, particularly those that will encourage the participation of young people.

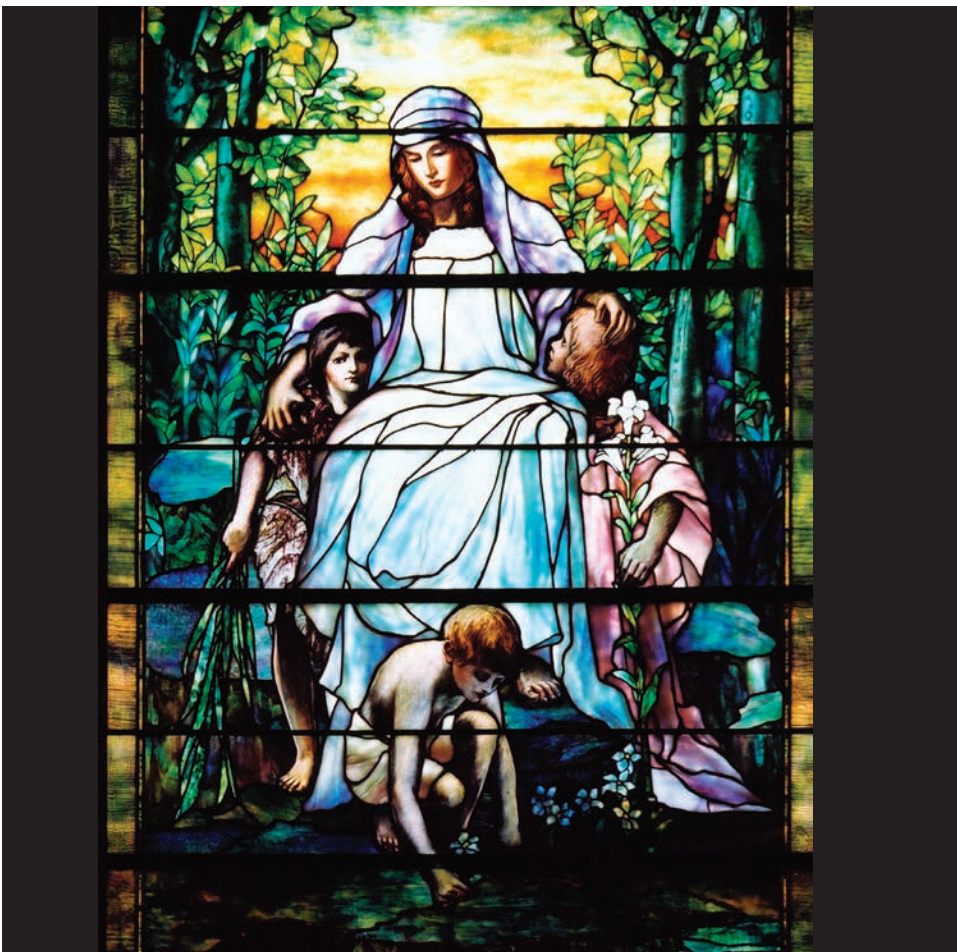
LATINO CONGREGATION The Cathedral has a dynamic Latino congregation, and it will be a true blessing if the new Dean can communicate directly with this important part of our community and be willing to learn from other churches with Latino congregations.

CONGREGACIÓN LATINA *La Catedral tiene una congregación Latina dinámica, y será una verdadera bendición si el nuevo Decano puede comunicarse directamente con esta importante parte de nuestra comunidad y está dispuesto a aprender de otras iglesias con congregaciones latinas.*

A COMPLEX ORGANIZATION The Cathedral supports many ministries and a full schedule while playing important roles in the Diocese and downtown Houston. The abilities to steward our resources plus attract, lead, share time with and delegate to an extraordinary clergy and staff are essential.

MODELING A HEALTHY LIFE We recognize that our aspirations for our Dean are comprehensive, and we are concerned that our Dean not be overwhelmed by the aspirations and responsibilities we have articulated. In fact, we recognize that a vital life of prayer and a healthy personal life are essential for our Dean and for our Cathedral community. Modeling such spiritual vitality and a healthy personal life amid the Dean's considerable responsibilities will be an important ministry of the Dean for all of us. We pledge our support for the Dean in modeling a healthy life, and we believe it is important for the Dean to support the cathedral staff in the same.

We realize that this description requires a lot from our new Dean, and our new Dean can expect a lot from the members of the Cathedral. The Cathedral parish is enthusiastically awaiting the next chapter in our history. We are committed to doing our part to support the new Dean with our prayers, our resources and our participation.



APPENDICES

CLERGY

The Very Rev. Gary D. Jones, *Interim Dean*

The Rev. Kathy Rock Pfister, *Canon Vicar*

The Rev. Simón Bautista, *Canon Missioner for Latino Ministry and Outreach*

The Rev. Becky Zartman, *Canon Missioner for Evangelism and Formation*

The Rev. Bradley Varnell, *Canon Missioner for Community Life and Young Adult Ministry*

The Rev. Ed Stein, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev. John Pitts, *Assisting Priest*

STAFF

Program Staff

Lucy Chambers, *Bookstore Manager*

Karen Kraycirik, *Chief Operating Officer & Minister for Stewardship*

KariAnn Lessner, *Minister for Children & Families*

Brant Mills, *Minister for Communications*

Marcia Quintanilla, *Minister for Youth*

Patrick Saccomanno, *Chief Financial Officer & Controller*

Gerardo Sandoval, *Operations Manager*

Robert Simpson, *Canon for Music*

Claire Soard, *Minister of Pastoral Care*

Daryl Robinson, *Cathedral Organist*

Matt Dion, *Organ Scholar*

Marianna Parnas-Simpson, *Artistic Director, Treble Choir of Houston*



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ~ HOUSTON, TEXAS

Administrative Staff

Wayne Ashley, *Communications Coordinator*

Peggy Beltrami, *Financial Administrator*

Mark Bohenic, *Publications Editor*

Lisa Cantu, *Receptionist*

Sylvia Castellanos, *Assistant for Latino Ministry*

Elizabeth Cuevas, *Program Coordinator, Childcare Center Supervisor*

Marie Easy, *Revenue & Accounts Payable Coordinator*

Louise Langford, *Executive Assistant to the Dean's Office*

John Merullo, *Administrative Assistant to the Vicar*

Ramona Sikes, *Manager of Human Resources and Parish Records*

Lisa Viktorin, *Wedding Liaison and Flower Dedications Coordinator*

Facilities Staff

Chase Cromartie, *Facilities Manager*

Shadrick Griffin, *Senior Sexton*

Dominic Albert, *Sexton*

Rodney Orange, *Sexton*

Maria Lara, *Housekeeper*

Cathedral House Episcopal School

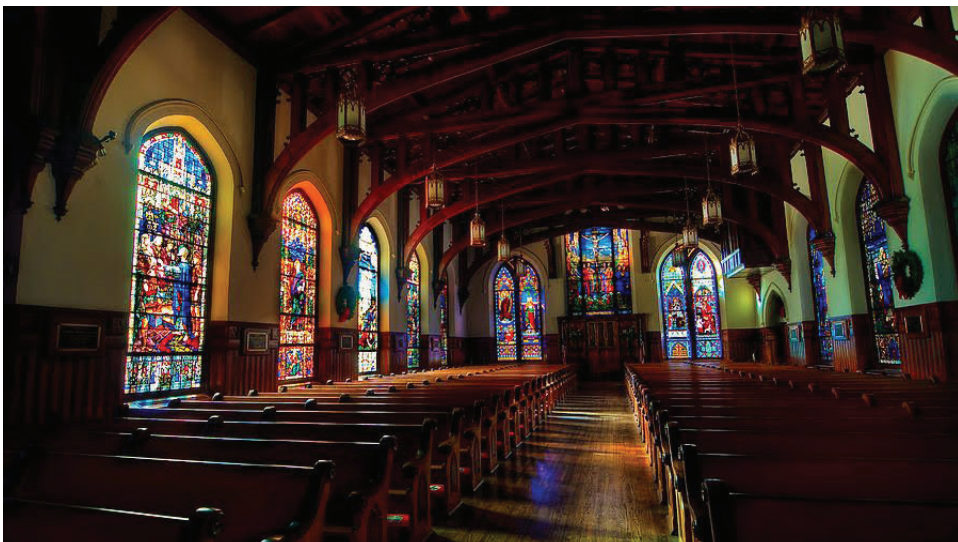
Teri Jackson, *Director*

Cathedral Urban Service Experience

TBA

Kids Hope USA

Jennifer Sickman, *Director*



VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Guy Hagstette, *Senior Warden*
 Flo Ray, *Junior Warden*
 Laura Galvin, *Secretary*
 Bilinda Matusek, *Mission & Ministry Chair*
 Katie Barnes
 John Bramblett
 Will Dugat
 George Hawkins
 Patrick Hayes
 Mark Hull
 Kristin Johnson
 Ben Powell VI
 Mimi Prioleau
 Gary Smith
 Sonia Velazquez

Ex Officio
 Mike Bullington, *Treasurer*
 Lyman Paden, *Chancellor*
 Matt Wareing, *Senior Warden Emeritus*
 Erin McMillin, *Junior Warden Emeritus*

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Linnet Deily, *Chair*
 Consuelo Bravo
 Robin Bullington
 Meredith Canada
 Deborah Wandel Francis
 Eric Hagstette
 Kristin Johnson
 Bill McKenzie
 Erin McMillin
 Will Randall
 Flo Ray
 Rob Reedy
 Floyd Robinson
 Matthew Wright
 Senior Warden, *Ex Officio*

THE PAST TEN YEARS

Year	Every Member Canvass	ASA
2012	\$2,439,647	610
2013	\$2,321,147	675
2014	\$2,851,375	691
2015	\$3,074,570	664
2016	\$3,130,398	715
2017	\$3,280,747	745
2018	\$3,477,511	735
2019	\$3,468,675	736
2020	\$3,401,902	730 ¹
2021	\$3,331,833	363 ²
2022	\$3,760,000	484 ³

1 January-March only

2 In person numbers only

3 In person January - September

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ~ HOUSTON, TEXAS

LAY LEADERSHIP

	MEMBERS INVOLVED
COUNCILS	134
OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Children’s Church School*	358
Mission Trips	25
Acolytes	35
Lay Liturgical Ministers	58
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	7
Lay Chaplains	7
Altar Guild	56
Ushers	53
Parish Choir	20
Cathedral Choir	56

** children and youth engaged in religious education or spiritual formation*

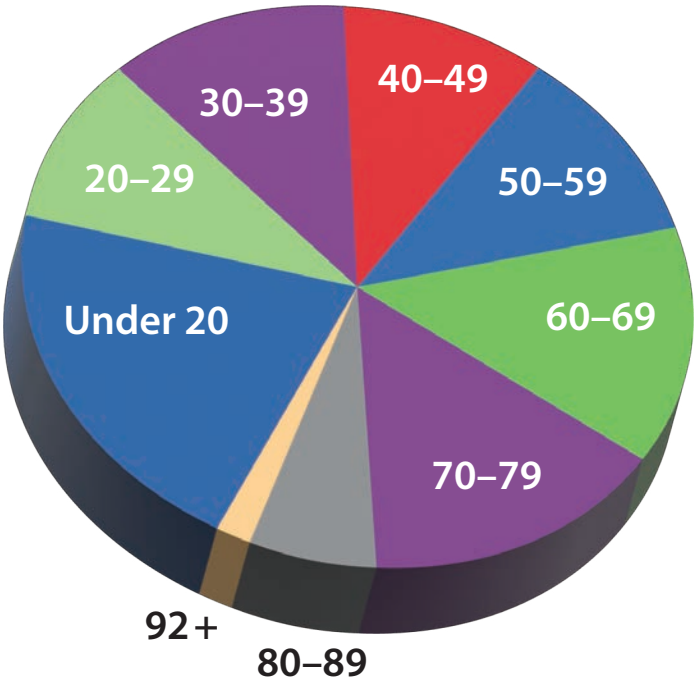
MEMBERSHIP DATA

Total Active Baptized Members	4,039
Communicants in good standing	2,542
Others who are active (non members)	616
Average Sunday Attendance	363*
Easter Attendance (2021)	
In-person	564
Online	1,598
Combined	2,162
Easter Attendance (2022)	
In-person	1,422
Online	2,572
Combined	3,994

**in-person attendance from 2021 parochial report*



AGE RANGE OF MEMBERS



**No DOB listed - 70*

VISION ACTION PLAN | COUNCILS AND MINISTRIES

Sharing the Good News

Welcome and Newcomers Council

Formation that Transforms

Christian Formation and the Arts Council

Youth Ministry Council

Children's Ministry Council

The Cathedral Bookstore

Cathedral House Episcopal School

Communities within Community

Community Life Council

Latino Ministry Council

Young Adults Ministry

A Culture of Embrace

Justice & Peace Council

Caring for God's Good Earth

Vestry

Serving the World in God's Name

Pastoral Care Council

Mission Outreach Council

Cathedral Urban Service Experience

Kid's Hope

At-Risk Youth

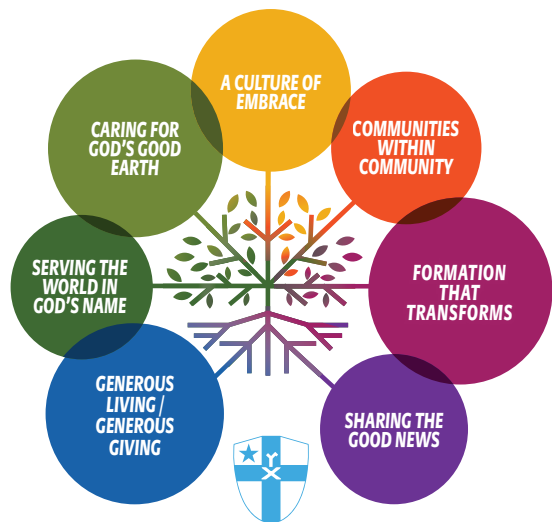
Cathedral AA Group

The Beacon

Generous Living, Generous Giving

Stewardship Council

Christ Church Cathedral Endowment Fund



ROOTED IN CHRIST

BUILT ON CHRIST



GLORY TO GOD WHOSE POWER,
WORKING IN US, CAN DO INFINITELY
MORE THAN WE CAN ASK OR IMAGINE:
GLORY TO HIM FROM GENERATION
TO GENERATION IN THE CHURCH, AND
IN CHRIST JESUS FOR EVER AND EVER.
AMEN

EPHESIANS 3:20,211



CHRIST
CHURCH
CATHEDRAL

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