

# All Saints' Church Annual Report 2024



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# All Saints' Church Annual Report 2024

## Rector

*The Rev. Dr. George Rambow*

Since beginning my tenure as All Saints' rector on Christmas Eve, 2023, I have much to be thankful for. First and foremost, I am grateful for you, the people of All Saints'. Your commitment to our beautiful parish make it the warm, joyful, hopeful, and service-oriented community that all who come through our doors are blessed to encounter. Indeed, I hear regularly from visitors about how welcomed they feel here and how special All Saints' is.

Our wardens and vestry, along with our treasurer and clerk, are a wonderful team and a delight to serve with. Their experience and wisdom are an incredible blessing to our parish and are indispensable to me as All Saints' rector.

I am also grateful for our fantastic staff. Priscilla Bostock began serving as interim parish administrator in early December and, because of the excellence of her work, was hired to fill the position permanently in January. She continues to go above and beyond to ensure that administratively everything at All Saints' runs as smoothly as possible. Our music director, Kevin O'Malia, enriches our worship greatly with his talents, bringing the best out of our choir and contributing in many ways behind the scenes to the vibrancy of our community. Our sexton, Brian Kirby, is here rain or shine, often the first one in and last one out, to set up for events and keep our space in order. Volunteering her time as our parish accountant, Beth Farris has brought invaluable clarity, precision, and insight to our bookkeeping practices.

I would not be here at All Saints', if I did not believe that God is already doing, and will continue to do, wonderful things in and through this parish. And wonderful things are indeed happening. From January through March our average Sunday attendance was 64. Since then, it has climbed to a steady 76, with at least four Sundays (not including Easter) reaching as many as 90-plus congregants. At the Easter Vigil, which I will plug here as the most beautiful and liturgically rich service of the entire Christian tradition, there were 47 congregants, and the next morning, Easter Sunday, there were 127. Also exciting is the growing number of children now being cared for by our newly hired nursery worker and being taught by our Children's Church volunteers. In January, there were zero; now we have as many as 9.

Of course, more important than the numbers is the actual work that is being done in and through us. The leaders of our various ministries, committees, and guilds have each submitted their own reports, so I won't steal their thunder. I will simply say that the teamwork within these ministries and what they are accomplishing—from those who contribute to the liturgy (altar guild, LEMs, lectors, intercessors, acolytes, ushers, sound and streaming, flower committee) to hospitality, outreach, pastoral care, and transportation to Christian education and spiritual formation (including the newly rebranded All Saints' Forum for Faith and Life, the newly formed women's Bible study, the men's Bible study, and the Tuesday morning book study) to the care of our facilities—is inspiring.

May God continue to bless us as we strive to live out our mission to participate in God's healing work in the world through liturgy, deeds of love, the cultivation of our minds, and the experience of beauty.

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## Senior Warden

*Bob Bostock*

The past 12 months since we last met has been a banner year for All Saints'.

In December 2023 we welcomed our new rector, Fr. George Rambow, and his family –Emily, Madeline, and Noelle – back to All Saints'. We put George right to work, having to celebrate our Christmas services in his just his second Sunday as rector. He stepped into his new responsibilities without missing a beat.

Fr. George will detail what he has done over the past year. Suffice it for me to say that by any measure, his first year as rector has been a blessing to our parish. And it has confirmed the work of our Search Committee, who did an exceptional job bringing to the vestry outstanding candidates for its consideration and selection.

The Wardens and Vestry have been hard at work over the past year. Our junior warden, Roland Patterson, has completed six years of service in that position. And talk about going out with a bang. Junior wardens are traditionally responsible for property matters.

Over the past six years, he has been indispensable in guiding the parish from conception to completion – almost – of our construction project. Soon and very soon our new glass enclosed walkway into the newly renovated South Room, our new kitchen – the first since 1960 – and our expanded Butler Courtyard will be ready for our use.

He has been ably assisted by three other people who also have been indispensable to the progress and success of this project: Peter Thompson, Caroline Travers, and Joan Jones. They have devoted countless hours to this project. I don't know what we would have done without them.

Peter Travers and Scott Ricketts have done a great job overseeing the investment and expenditure of the Capital Campaign funds.

I also want to thank Eddie Brady, Amy Johnson's husband, for lending his expertise to the renovation and new planting in the Butler Courtyard.

In addition, those who share our space – especially the Cub School and the Princeton Learning Center – have endured the project with patience and good cheer.

Baxter Construction, under the leadership of project manager Chuck Miles, has had to surmount numerous challenges to the project. Shifting requirements from the Princeton Construction Department, inclement weather, lingering delays in the supply chain of various building materials and fixtures, and other unanticipated challenges have both delayed completion of the project and increased costs. But Chuck and his team have carried on with true professionalism and attention to detail.

Those increased costs necessitated an extra appeal to the parish. Our "Close the Gap" appeal, co-chaired by Caroline Travers and me, raised, to date, \$180,000. I want to thank all those who have helped to close the gap, so that, when the final bills are presented, we will be able to mark the "Paid in Full."

Once again, the members of the Vestry have worked effectively and collegially over the past year.

- Howard Bellizio has overseen the maintenance and improvement of our outdoor spaces.
- Sue Langhans has done a wonderful job truly putting the "care" in pastoral care.
- Jane Kleindienst and Shereka Banton has increased our outreach efforts.
- Paul Murphy and Priscilla Bostock have expanded our communications efforts, both internally and externally.
- Suzanne Thompson and Joan Jones have beautifully organized and carried out our hospitality time every Sunday and at other times during the year.

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- Peter Travers has continued to keep the vestry focused on the judicious use of our finances.

I would be remiss if I did not also thank our treasurer, Amy Johnson, and our bookkeeper, Beth Farris, who have done an exceptional job working with Peter Travers and our parish administrator, Priscilla Bostock, in keeping our books in order and our bills paid.

In the years ahead I am certain we will look back on the past twelve months as a time of renewal, transformation, and growth as this parish seeks to carry out its mission to serve God and God's people.

I look forward to the year ahead, when I have no doubt that God will continue to do "more than we can ask or imagine" in the 65<sup>th</sup> year of our parish.

## **Treasurer** *Amy Johnson*

Our current operating income through September is very close to being on budget to date, which is a better financial status than we had a year ago. We are on track to realize by year's end our budgeted income of \$540,725 if our assumptions about various sources of income hold. Overall, our income is sourced from pledges (60%), rental income and events (24%), and non-pledge donations (16%).

As of September, our operating expenses are slightly under what we had budgeted, and we are currently forecasting that we will end the year with about \$537,000 of expenses. Overall, our expenses are comprised of:

- Salaries and benefits (60%)
- Church upkeep and utilities (17%)
- Parish pledge to the diocese (10%)
- Insurance (5%)
- Rectory (4%)
- Various (office supplies, advertising, inside programs) (4%)

Other activities, such as music, flowers, and altar guild, are funded by separate fund-raising.

Beyond our typical income and expenses captured in the annual budget, we have also been managing the budget for the South Room, kitchen, and courtyard renovations. The cost for this work under our original contract with Baxter Construction was \$1,165,993 but, with various additional expenses, the figure to date for the total project is currently approximately \$400,000 higher. We have paid Baxter much of this total but still owe them over \$300,000. To cover this balance, we will use funds from various accounts, including the Endowment Fund and the Library Fund, as well as remaining contributions pledged by parishioners and any possible additional contributions.

Finally, financial figures aside, at the start of this year we began a transition from our former accountant (Lily Leonard) to Beth Farris, who is a parishioner, very experienced accountant, and deeply familiar with what's happening here at All Saints. She is an extraordinary addition to helping the church track and manage our finances!

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## Adult Forum for Faith & Life

*Mako Fujimura & Haejin Shim-Fujimura*

All Saints Forum on Faith and Life (formerly Adult Education) has launched this fall, and we have had quite a line up of invited speakers as well as highlighting congregation members. Mako and Haejin Fujimura head up this forum with Rector George and others from the congregation, including our Outreach team. We are posting these interviews on our YouTube Channel (@allsaintschurchprincetonnj), and Mako has been creating a "digest format" to capture some important conversations on his YouTube channel (@makotofujimura3020), to guide us toward integration of our faith to life, and giving a Biblical perspective on how we may care for our culture by creating a caring community at All Saints. These interviews and lectures are a perfect way to invite others to join us, and for us to get to know the remarkable community we have at All Saints.

## Altar Guild

*Judy Soncrant*

A small group of dedicated members continue to serve All Saints' Church by participating in the Altar Guild. Members serve at regular Sunday services, special services and occasionally at weddings or funerals. Schedules are setup on a four-month rotation. Members are allowed to switch services according to their personal needs. The Altar Guild does not have regular meetings.

Each Sunday (before or after the service), members are asked to perform additional duties in preparation for the Sunday schedule of services. The Altar Guild is also responsible for the care of the silver, linens and clergy vestments.

We are always interested in new members (youth included) for this service to God and our church, please contact me, the church office or any member of the Altar Guild. We are currently training new members.

## Cemetery

*Annie Thomas*

This year has seen our cemetery continue to be a place of rest and support for both those choosing to be buried in our cemetery, and their families closing chapters of their family member's lives. Some have taken their rest with us soon after their death and some have waited 41 years to come rest in peace with their family. There has been much appreciation expressed to our communities that the cemetery continues to be there for them in these tender times.

The conversation on the creation of a Memorial Garden continues, as space is limited in the cemetery area, and your thoughts on this matter are welcome.

Cemetery communicates on

Cell 609 865 7270; this is direct to Annie Thomas, Cemetery Manager.

Our email is:

Tasaintscemetery@gmail.com

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## Communications

*Priscilla Bostock and Paul Murphy*

All Saints' communications program has basically two audiences: parishioners and potential parishioners. Our internal program serves to inform parishioners of services, current events, and concerts, etc. Service bulletins and our weekly Saints' Alive! Newsletter, prepared by our Parish Administrator, are our most direct means of internal communication. Notices of special events are frequently posted on our bulletin board or on doorways.

Our website and social media sites, serve a dual purpose: internal and external. While the website and social media sites include parish news, pictures, recordings of our weekly services, sermons and adult forum on YouTube, and other information for parish reference, its primary audience is intended to inform potential parishioners. We treasure our wooded, pastoral setting, but it has the disadvantage of rendering us almost invisible to the outside community. Outreach is mandatory if All Saints' is to grow and flourish as a parish. Online searches for area churches quickly take seekers to our website, which is intended to give a comprehensive picture of our mission and programs. Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube pages additionally provide an informal picture of parish life.

The three new apartment houses being built on Terhune Road and the Princeton Shopping Center grounds represent an excellent opportunity to attract newcomers to All Saints'. We have prepared a packet that includes a welcome letter and invitation from Fr. George and a flyer with information about the parish. Five hundred of these have been distributed to residents as they move into the two Avalon residences on Terhune and an equal number will be going to residents of the other two when construction is completed.

Print media are an integral part of our external communications program. This year we ran ads announcing our service schedule prior to Holy Week and Advent in Town Topics, The Princeton Packet, Lawrence Ledger, and Hillsborough Beacon. Online announcements also appear on several local sites, such as Planet Princeton.

Significant parish events are announced with articles placed in the same newspapers plus Planet Princeton and Princeton online. This year we expect to get coverage of a ribbon cutting to open our newly renovated Southroom and kitchen.

We welcome parishioners' suggestions for enhancing our communications program and encourage you to visit our website at [www.allsaintsprinceton.org](http://www.allsaintsprinceton.org), our Instagram site at Instagram @allsaintspton, our Facebook page at All Saints' Princeton and our YouTube accounts @allsaintschurchprincetonNJ, @AllSaintsForumforFaithLife

## Flower Ministry

*Amy Johnson*

Liz Colagiuri, Beth Farris, Joan Jones, Heide Ratliff, Kathy Thompson, and Amy Johnson have been arranging flowers for the altar. We always welcome anyone new who feels a call to the ministry of beauty for our Altar and Sanctuary.

Flower Committee members create altar arrangements most weekends from cut flowers delivered to the church on Friday by the Pennington Market Floral Shop. The color and type of flowers are generally selected by the Floral Shop, reflecting what is in season and the best value, but the committee can place specific orders to honor a memorial or other special requests and for certain dates in the Church calendar, (e.g., all white for All Saints' Sunday, red for Pentecost, etc.).

Following Sunday services, Flower Committee members take down the altar arrangements and the flowers are made into smaller arrangements. These are then placed in the Chapel and/or breezeway or delivered by members

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of the flower committee, Father George when making pastoral visits to parishioners, or the pastoral committee to those who are convalescing, grieving, or observing a memorial, birthday, anniversary, or birth.

In addition to making the altar arrangements for each week of the Church year (except during Lent and Advent when there are no flowers on the altar), Committee members also plan, order, purchase, create and coordinate the floral decorations of the church for Easter and Christmas.

The flowers for the alter are funded by donations to this ministry. We made an appeal to parishioners for donations at Easter to mark memorials or thanksgivings and received \$3,590 in donations. To date we have incurred \$2,726 in expenses and will likely spend the balance of funds that remain to cover the last 2 months and Christmas decorating.

## Hospitality

*Joan Jones & Suzanne Thompson*

Currently, this ministry is providing refreshments each Sunday morning after the 10:15 service on a rotating basis in the rear of the church. During August, various congregation members filled in each Sunday to give the ministry a short break. Until the new kitchen and South Room are complete, the team will continue to provide the refreshments in the rear of the church. Several special events were on our calendar for September: Sunday, Sept. 22 a celebration of Megan and Tom's vow renewal; Sunday, Sept. 29 a celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Allen's ordination; Thursday, Sept. 26 Evensong and refreshments.

Supplies are purchased as needed by members of the ministry. When the kitchen is complete, we will need a better and more cost-effective way to fill the freezer and pantry for Sunday mornings. Establishing a budget would be helpful both for the volunteers and for church financial planning.

In the coming weeks when our new kitchen and South Room are complete, we will be assisting with buying and placing of new kitchen ware and dishes in appropriate new locations.

We will work with our rector to establish a system of hospitality guidelines reflecting responsibilities for church events and outside events to alleviate pressure on the volunteers who currently fulfill the hospitality needs.

We would like additional ministry members to lighten the load as we head into the holidays and beyond.

## Men's Book & Bible Study

*Alan Dybvig & Peter Travers*

The Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study, co-facilitators, Peter Travers and Alan Dybvig, are now meeting online via a Zoom platform. The group is has finished the Torah: Genesis through Deuteronomy. We are now going to explore the Deuteronomistic History which suggests Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Samuel I/II and Kings I/II are all a single work. At this point, we're just about half our way through SAM I. We're finding this serial reading of this portion of the OT is providing fascinating insights into the OT's difficult journey to monotheism.

The Tuesday Morning Men and Women Book Study, co-facilitators, Peter Travers and Alan Dybvig, are now meeting online via a Zoom platform. The group is just about finished reading parishioner Joe Nyce's *Mary's Lament's* which we found very thought provoking and are wrestling with the next read.



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## Music

*Kevin O'Malia*

We are now embarking on our next chapter of our journey at All Saints' Church, with the gentle, spiritual, and intelligent guidance of our new rector, Dr. George Rambow. Throughout the year, it has been a pleasure to serve with Fr. George, and to collaborate with him. Having a rector who is also a musician is any music director's dream come true, and we are indeed blessed to have him at the helm, embodying our mission statement to 'treasure artistic expression.' We look forward to continued leadership and growth.

### **In review, we have accomplished much in the past program year:**

- To further connect the parish through music, we have broadened the liturgical and musical programming in this academic year. We have included the congregation in psalm-singing, with the inclusion of antiphons. We have opened up style with the inclusion of more hymns from our wonderful supplements, *Wonder, Love & Praise*, and *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*.
- Recruitment: Our summer choir this year attracted many parishioners who have heretofore not sung with us, and many have stayed on in our parish choir into the program year!
- Connected our parish to the greater community through Sunday afternoon/evening offerings, as well as our first weekday Choral Evensong. Attendance at these events has been quite encouraging, and we are raising excellence and visibility beyond our doors, opening to possibilities of new membership.
- We had full orchestra for Easter Sunday, with the Fairmount Chamber Ensemble, singing full choral mass and music of resurrection! This was the first time having an orchestra since before the pandemic. It was truly wonderful.

### **Now, to programming and needs for 2023-2024**

- Further recruitment of singers of all ages to sing in our choirs.
- Development of a children's choir (or) an intergenerational choir. This will work in concert with Fr. George's new Christian education and children's church, where children of choir members sing with our adults once per month.
- From a generous grant from the Litton family in 2023, we have endowment for 2 years for a new choral scholar position. We are now receiving applications and holding auditions with students from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Lawrenceville. We expect two positions to begin in 2025.
- Funding for a sextet of singers will be requested to continue to meet these weekly needs for ministries to our parish church. Further recruitment of adult volunteers as well.
- Continued community offerings during Sunday afternoons and weekdays, to raise All Saints' visibility to the greater community.
- Aura Polyphonica, New Jersey's Renaissance Collegium, is now our parish choir-in-residence. We now offer our space on Mondays for their rehearsal, and in return, they provide us 2 concerts per year, as well as augment our own parish choir for evensongs and Lessons & Carols. This enhances the excellence of our own parish music program, and it allows us further recruitment from the greater community, and AP's own following, which is substantial.

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## The Organ

- In our mid-term planning (2-4 years), as part of the next improvement campaign for our facilities, we will be conducting feasibility studies for replacement of our parish organ. The current Allen Organ, dated from 1989, has experienced problems off and on which have been distracting to us while at worship. These studies will be conducted with our Director of Music, our Rector and our Vestry.

## Fundraising

- On October 26, we gave a premiere screening of the “Phantom of the Opera” the 1925 film noir thriller starring Lon Cheney. It was accompanied by improvisation from our Music Director, playing ‘in the moment.’ Our sanctuary turned into a movie theatre for the evening, and a good time was had by all! It was successful in achieving the parish music pledge to the church, and it raised over \$2,000 for the music ministries.

Lastly, a word of personal thanks. Thanks to my fellow staff: to Fr. George, our Rector, to Joan, Megan and Karl, our assisting clergy; to Bob, and Roland our wardens, for guiding us through this time of new beginnings. Thanks to Priscilla and Brian, for serving as great staff colleagues on a great team. Thanks to the wonderful vestry and wardens for their vocal support of our music program. Thanks to the kind and gracious parishioners of All Saints' Church, who continue to sustain our beloved music program from near and far. Thank you for prioritizing music as essential at All Saints' Church.

## Outreach

### *Shereka Banton & Jane Kleindienst*

Our Outreach Ministry this year has focused on wider personal involvement with our efforts to spread Christ's love to our neighbors. Food insecurity is described by our major non-profit partners in Mercer County as a silent epidemic, magnified by rising living costs, the end of pandemic relief programs, a lack of affordable housing, amongst other challenges. We at All Saints' Church hope that our contributions to these agencies will have a knock-on effect on people's ability to pay their rent and other basic expenses.

In the past year, we have gathered several times in the Library after the Sunday service to put together bagged lunches for Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). We also have a basket placed near the entrance to the Sanctuary for donations of non-perishable food. Every six weeks or so, the contents have been gathered and delivered to food banks in Princeton – principally Princeton Cornerstone Community at the United Methodist Church of Princeton, a satellite of TASK, and Arm In Arm at their food pantry housed at Nassau Presbyterian Church. Maureen Hunt, Chief Development Officer of Arm In Arm, came to our Evensong service on September 26 and met with parishioners during refreshments after the service. She invites All Saints' parishioners to visit their headquarters in Hamilton to learn about the various ways in which the agency supports the underprivileged in our communities.

For another of our partners, Home Front, our parishioners contributed generously to the Diaper Drive in early spring. Patti Wallack led us in sponsorship of 20 children for the Back to School Backpack Drive in August, and Suzanne Thompson will gather support for a group of children in December, checking off items on their holiday wish lists. This is an on-going partnership with Home Front, and their Community Engagement Manager, Gina Davio, came to meet parishioners at our homecoming picnic in September. Once again, supporting the drives indirectly helps low-income families to remain housed and fed.

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NAMI Mercer County, the local branch of National Alliance on Mental Illness, returned to us on October 15 to offer a lunch-time presentation after the Sunday morning service. Secretary of the Board, Maddy Monheit, and two NAMI volunteers, shared their experiences of mental health issues and how they have benefited from the array of support services offered by NAMI. In turn, several parishioners told their own stories in a lively and engaged discussion. One outcome of the meeting will be the opportunity for Senior Warden, Bob Bostock, to play a role in NAMI's outreach to the police departments in the area.

On the international front, supporting a project spearheaded by Princeton high-schooler, Nomsa Nganang, daughter of parishioner, Dr. Nyasha Bakare, All Saints' collected \$2,500 to supply age-appropriate materials and books for an Early Childhood Center in a rural district near Mutare, Zimbabwe. The Center is sponsored by retired Anglican Bishop, Sebastian Bakare, an occasional visitor to All Saints' Church. On October 27, our Forum featured a presentation by Nomsa with photos and videos of the difference made by our donation to the Center.

## Pastoral Care

*Sue Langhans*

In keeping with the Episcopal Church teaching that ministry is the work of all the baptized, All Saints' Parish parishioners, serve the pastoral needs of the congregation in many ways. These include calling on our homebound, hospitalized, ill, and those in need; taking Holy Communion to our hospitalized and those who cannot attend services in-person; offering support to those requesting our prayers; and offering transportation to church services and events.

We have a small group of parishioners who serve on the Pastoral Care team. These individuals visit the homebound and the sick. With flowers from the altar and lovingly prepared by the Flower Team, Pastoral Care team members deliver flowers to those with significant birthdays, are homebound or sick, or need cheering up.

One of our members, RoMa Johnson, provides grief and bereavement counseling to those in need.

I continue the vestry tradition of sending birthday cards to all current and former parishioners who have provided us with their birthday and either a physical or email address.

## Prayer Chain

*Sue Langhans*

The Prayer Chain is a network of members who offer daily prayerful support to members of the parish and their families and loved ones in need. It is confidential and at the individual parishioner's request.

## Property

*Roland Patterson & Howard Bellizio*

The highlight of the year has been slow progress of the kitchen renovation with scheduled completion in November.

### **Kitchen and South Room Renovation**

Thanks to Peter Thompson for managing this project and who made many improvements and caught many oversights by the architect. Many delays were due to the required Township approvals, weather and changes

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but we should be able to move in by the middle of November.

## **Building Assessment & Long-Term Planning**

The Entech Engineering was asked to evaluate our HVAC systems and create a plan for the next 2 – 3 years to repair and upgrade. This assessment includes a priority list of deferred maintenance and capital improvements.

## **2024 Maintenance Highlights**

Many items in the Entech Building Assessment have been fixed or partially fixed and we have been hard at work on new tasks. A few highlights are:

Pumps for sanctuary and offices heating repaired. Water supply valves replaced

- Many dead ash trees removed, brush cleared on slope to Terhune.
- Sanctuary light fixtures repaired and all bulbs replaced with LED. Undercroft main room fluorescents replaced with LED
- Breezeway north doors replaced
- Rectory sewage pumps and 3 faucets replaced
- Security cameras added to several entrances
- Spring work days when many parishioners cleaned 450 slate tiles for the new hallway into the south room.
- PLC was given a state grant to replace the windows and asbestos tiles in the classrooms at no cost to us

Many people have contributed time to the tasks and the property committee is always open to any new members who would like to lend their talents to this extremely important committee. Thanks to committee members Peter Thompson, Charles Colagiuri and Joe Nyce.

## **Future Projects**

Covered access to building from vehicles in driveway

## **Ushers**

*Bob Bostock*

Serving at the 10:15 am service each Sunday, the ushers duties include welcoming worshippers, distributing the service leaflet, recruiting oblation bearers on Sunday morning, collecting and tallying the offering, and assisting clergy and worshippers as needed.

Ushering is a wonderful way to get to know fellow parishioners while serving an important role each Sunday.

Each usher generally serves no more than one Sunday a month.

Serving faithfully as ushers in 2024 are Tony Beesley, Bob Bostock, Mary Bostock, Angelo Buencamino, Charles Colagiuri, Sue Langhans, Paul Murphy, Roland Patterson, Suzanne Thompson, and Steve Voorhees.

New ushers are warmly welcomed. Training and written instructions are provided to all new ushers.

Anyone interested in serving as an usher should contact the parish office or Bob Bostock.

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## Women's Bible Study

*Shereka Banton*

Our Women's Weekly Bible Study kicked off on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and has continued strongly since. The study has been a space for rich, enlightening, and safe conversations as we grow in fellowship with one another. We meet weekly at 4:30pm via Zoom with rotating discussion leads. Topics we've studied this year include:

- Community
- Forgiveness
- The Christian Walk
- Easter story
- Praise
- Resurrection Stories
- Book of Philippians
- Book of Ruth
- The Lord's Prayer
- Discipleship (Charles Stanley online course)
- *Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis (current)

Our general meeting flow is as follows:

### **Welcome & prayer – 5-10 minutes**

- Lead can ask for prayer requests (or wait until closing)
- Lead to assign speaking order for the session (based on order of videos in Zoom)

### **Study – 45 minutes**

- Discussion questions can be shared in advance (up to the lead)
- Lead or participants can also share visuals (e.g., art or music)

### **Closing prayer – 5 minutes**

- Lead can ask for prayer requests again & ask participant to pray

### **C.S. Lewis Event in Philadelphia – Our first outing!**

Thirteen parishioners attended our *C.S. Lewis Onstage - Further Up and Further In* on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at the Miller Theater in Philadelphia. The show is written and performed by Max McLean. After lunch at Chopt, we met at ASC and carpooled from there to Philadelphia. The outing was a success and was highlighted on our Church's Facebook page.

We held an informal debrief lunch on Saturday, July 13 at Chopt which was also an enjoyable discussion with 9 parishioners.

### **Upcoming: Macbeth in Morristown on Nov 16**

15 parishioners will attend the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's production of *Macbeth* on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. We will carpool from the church to Morristown. We anticipate another fun outing!

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## Worship Service Personnel

*Liz Colagiuri*

This past year, in coordination with the Parish Administrator, I took on scheduling for multiple ministries that support 10:15 a.m. Sunday services as well as special services, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and occasional choral evensongs. Given the considerable overlap with parishioners who serve in multiple ministries, we thought it made sense to move to a unified scheduling approach to simplify communication and avoid conflicts.

These ministries (with number currently serving in role) include:

- lay eucharistic ministers (4)
- lectors (15)
- intercessors (4)
- acolytes (3)
- livestream/sound techs (3)

We always welcome others! In the coming year, I would like to recruit and train 1-2 new lay eucharistic ministers, 2-3 acolytes, and at least 1 new livestream/sound tech. Please email me ([lizcolagiuri@gmail.com](mailto:lizcolagiuri@gmail.com)) if you would like to join one of these ministries.

This fall, we reintroduced a full complement of acolytes (crucifer and torch bearers) at the 10:15 service on the first Sunday of each month. Our current acolytes – Nicholas Higgins, Madeleine Rambow, and Noelle Rambow – all successfully completed a training session in early September.

My sincere thanks to all who serve in these important ministries. I would also like to thank the larger group of parishioners who help us “speak in tongues” on Pentecost by reading the assigned verse in a language other than English, as well as the many who take a part in the Palm Sunday reading of the Passion.

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## ALL SAINTS' VESTRY (as of October 2024)

### Wardens

<b>Senior Warden:</b>	Bob Bostock	Class of 2025
<b>Junior Warden:</b>	Roland Patterson	Class of 2024

### Vestry Members

#### Class of 2024

Howard Bellizio  
Jane Kleindienst  
Sue Langhans

#### Class of 2025

Priscilla Bostock  
Joan Jones  
Suzanne Thompson

#### Class of 2026

Paul Murphy  
Shereka Banton  
Peter Travers

**Treasurer:** Amy Johnson

**Clerk:** Mary Bostock