

# 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

## St. Catherine's Episcopal Church Marietta, Georgia

January 21, 2024





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## CLERGY & LAY STAFF

The Rev. Sarah K. Fisher, Rector

The Rev. Trey Phillips, Director of Youth Ministries

The Rev. Deacon Jess W. Speaker III, Deacon

Shannon Darke, Seminarian

Rachel Hutton, Executive Assistant to the Clergy

Bill Ivey, Facilities Manager

Pam Kulpa, Director of St. Catherine's Preschool

Pat Pepper, Coordinator of Newcomer Connection

Dr. Chris Walters, Organist & Choirmaster

## 2023 VESTRY

### Class of 2023

Margaret Shaw

Harry Tear

Allen Jablonski

Barbara Perry

### Class of 2024

Ellen Adams

Dave Daniels (*resigned*)

Nelson Gale (*Senior Warden*)

Maria Salgado

### Class of 2025

Victoria Lennon

Fred Lopez

Linda Scott

Michael Wherry

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Tom Donoghue, Treasurer

Frances Bowden, Clerk of the Vestry



# AGENDA

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church  
2023 Annual Meeting  
Sunday, January 21, 2024

- 11:30 AM Call to order
- Appoint the scribe
- Approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Telling our Stories: Elizabeth Lopez
- Senior Warden's Report: Margaret H Shaw
- Vestry Election
- The Rector's Report: The Rev. Sarah K. Fisher
- A musical interlude: Dr. Chris Walters
- 2023 Finance Insights and Review: Nelson Gale
- 2024 Budget Presentation: Nelson Gale
- Thank you to Pledgers and Givers of Record
- Listening Builds Trust—strategic planning feedback: Margaret H Shaw & Nelson Gale
- Telling our Stories: Wade Reck
- Fun Things:
- Introduce the staff
- Thank you to our outgoing Vestry members
- Presentation of the St. Catherine's Cross
- Adjourn until next year!

## 2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> 2023

9:00 AM – Call to Order

Open floor for Vestry Nominations to close at Peace

Appoint Scribe – Frances Bowden. Motion by Margaret Shaw. 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Diffley. Vote Unanimous

9:05 AM – Service Begins

9:20 AM – Sermon by Rev. Sarah Fisher

State of St. Catherine's/ Rector's Address

9:40 AM – Vestry Nominations Close

10:15 AM – Service Ends

10:30 AM – Brunch in Parish Hall and guidance on meeting activity

10:45 AM – Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Margaret Shaw. Seconded by Dave Daniels. Vote Unanimous

10:46 AM – Youth Minister Report

Rev. Trey Phillips

Was a year of finding out who we are as a youth program

Praying, Growing, Serving, Playing

Time of building up foundations after COVID

10:50 – Warden's Report

Harriett Pyburn, Senior Warden

Transition and discovery

Staff transitions

What do we prioritize when coming back

Being in community was a priority

Spent a lot of time just listening

Honor to serve as senior warden

Thank you to everyone

10:53 AM – Vestry Elections

Fred Lopez, Victoria Lennon, Michael Wherry, Linda Scott.

Vote by acclimation

Motion by Maria Salgado. Seconded by Harry Tear. Vote Unanimous

10:55 AM – Treasurer's Report 2022

88% of pledges were met

Knew there would be a short fall

Vestry approved a \$32K overage

Performing 3 years' worth of audits

Strat Reserves will cover shortfall

Thanks to Finance Committee members

We have hired a different bookkeeper firm for 2023 that better aligns with our needs and hopefully budget

Questions? Please ask Chuck Zimmerman

#### 11 AM – 2023 Budget Presentation

Margaret Shaw and Nelson Gale

Committed to a balanced budget in 2023

Largest problems in 2022 were pledge shortfall and book keeping expenses

2023 Budget

Removed associate rector line for 2023

Several other line items adjusted

Pledges are down

For various reasons: death, retirement, moving

Expenses

All salaries remain the same this year

Building repairs increased

All other ministries reduced

Still offering ministries but will have to think differently

Focused on education

Temporarily Restricted Funds discussed

2023 Bottom Line

Being careful stewards of our resources

Further discussion held

Maria Salgado

Church is welcoming

Committed to Service

Lots of Sheetcakes

Church home – need to care for building and community

Shortages everywhere

Discussion on what we can do

#### 11:30 AM – Rector's Remarks

Things we did in 2022

Rev Trey Ordained

Rev Rebecca found a church

Jess became our deacon

Shannon awarded postulancy

Listening sessions  
New workroom  
Had a flood  
Rose retired  
New roof on entire property  
Website audit  
Vestry Retreat  
2 pilgrimages  
We did a lot this year

11:40 AM – Fun Things

Musical Interlude  
Staff Introductions  
Presentation of the Coveted St. Cat's Cat award  
    Given to people for various reasons throughout the church  
    Rachel Hutton has full list  
Thanksgiving to outgoing vestry  
    Rebecca Riney, Harriett Pyburn, Katie Van Etten  
Thank you to others

11:50 AM – St. Cat's Cross Presentation

    Chuck Zimmerman for Treasurer's work  
    Harriett Pyburn – Sr. Warden and outreach service

11:56 AM – Welcoming the New Vestry

Motion to adjourn made by Rebecca Riney, Seconded by Chuck Zimmerman. Vote Unanimous.

Meeting ended 12PM



Submitted by Frances Bowden



## 2024 VESTRY ELECTION CANDIDATES



Lisa Johnston



Greg Stewart



Karen Friend



Rebekah Fontenot

## ST. CATHERINE'S CORE VALUES

Created and adapted in 2021

**St. Catherine's Episcopal Church is Christ-Centered:** Christ's teachings guide our decision making and priorities.

We strive to be:

### **Loving**

- practicing love in our actions, by serving each other and serving the world
- living the Gospel with our words, hearts, minds, and hands
- embodying sacrificial love that seeks the good and well being of St. Catherine's, of Marietta, and of the world

### **Courageous**

- doing the hard things that reflect Christ's teachings of love for all people
- being open to, and responding to, a changing world
- following Jesus's teachings, even when they're hard

### **Generous**

- demonstrating the belief that all things belong to God
- being faithfully responsible with the gifts given to us
- professing our faith by sharing what has been given to us

### **Nurturing**

- believing that we are better in Community: many parts, one body
- growing the faith of all, especially our children and youth
- reflecting our call by Christ to care for one another and the world around us

# RECTOR'S REPORT

THE REV. SARAH K. FISHER

sarah@stcatherines.org



Historically, in these reports, I've spent my time looking back, reflecting on what has been and offering thanks for the many, many hands and hearts that make St. Catherine's the place of deep joy and gladness that it is. This year, I'm branching out, singing to the Lord, and the people of St. Cat's, a new song. This year, my report looks forward. But before I can look forward, I have to set the stage a little and take a quick look back. We're going somewhere, but you've got to understand how we've gotten here. I want to highlight three things that happened in 2023, so you can see what I'm imagining in 2024.

First: early in 2023, I sat in a room with the Finance Team and looked at the budget for the year. It was tighter than it has been in my tenure here. All of us quickly came to the same conclusion: there was no room for an Associate Rector in the 2023 budget. And while I knew Trey would continue to grow into his priesthood and would continue to be a stellar priest, I also felt the absence of the role. So 2023 has been a year for me of reimagining and redefining my role as a priest and Rector of this place, as well as a year of reimagining the role of the Associate Rector.

In addition, we switched bookkeeping companies—from YPTC to SNS. And, mid-year, we switched Treasurers. Our beloved Chuck Zimmerman's plate was rich with good work, which made it hard for him to balance work, home and St. Cat's in this transition moment. He helped Tom Donoghue transition into the Treasurer position. We are grateful to them both. And it has meant changes in policies & procedures, relearning some things while reimagining others. Our staff, particularly Rachel Hutton and Pam Kulpa have been asked to step up in ways they didn't sign on for. I am grateful for their willingness to learn, experiment and grow. All to say: we are learning and growing into what it means, as a parish, to have our finance department outsourced. And while much is good, it's not been without growing pains.

Second: we revitalized our lay pastoral care ministry, using a multi-tiered approach called Caritas Connections. This was done with an eye not only for empowering the laity but also strengthening our pastoral care, church-wide, while also preparing for my sabbatical that will happen in just a few months. Weekly phone calls are being made to those St Cat's members on the prayer list and on the parish cycle of prayer; lay people are coordinating with clergy to make hospital visits; and we've even got a team ready for the unexpected things that pop up. Tom Hunter, Terri Gabrielson, Kristin Blackstock, Deacon Jess Speaker III and Joe Hegedus are the key people making sure this ministry runs smoothly and the church and I are deeply indebted to them. They work in partnership with the staff and with other pastoral care teams like the Stephen Minsters and Sonshine Meals to make sure the parish is deeply rooted in love and care for each other.

And third: after two decades of service to this church, the Drs. Williams retired to their lake home about two hours away from here. And we gathered a search team. When Chris Walters walked into the room, none of us fully expected what we got: a heart for music, Jesus, the church and her people. Our decision was swift and clear: God was calling Chris to be the Organist/Choirmaster in this place. There have been few times the Spirit has been so incredibly decisive. I am beyond grateful.

All of these things defined 2023 and have set a firm foundation for us as we move into 2024. In 2024, I anticipate continued growth—both in numbers and in spiritual health and vitality.

Here are the key areas I'm focusing on as we move forward:

**Structures:** One of the grand experiments I have conducted over the past few years has been around structures. We have experimented with ways of connecting ministries and Vestry. We've done this out of necessity—everything shifted in the pandemic and finding our footing has taken a moment. What's clear to me in 2024 is that we have returned strong. Our church services are full. We are welcoming in new members and welcoming back people we've missed. And there is a need for some of our old structures to resume their place. This year will see a return of a Vestry liaison for major ministry groups. Those will be assigned at Vestry Retreat and ministry team leads can anticipate meeting with your Vestry liaison within the month of February. In addition, we are bringing back quarterly ministry team meetings. These meetings are open to the entire parish, but are especially critical for ministry team leads, Vestry and staff to attend. These meetings last about an hour and a half and have time for looking at our ministries as a whole but also in teams. With our finance department being outsourced, it is especially important that ministry teams and Vestry members understand and have access to ministry budgets. This will happen at Quarterly Ministry Team meetings and with Vestry liaisons.

**Ministry renewal:** In the search process that called me here as Rector, one of the things I was most drawn to at St. Cat's was the depth of our ministry teams and leadership. There's no denying that we've taken a hit in that area since 2020. And yet, many areas of ministry are coming back, growing stronger, and other new ministries have been brought into our community. Consider this your formal invitation to find and work with at least one ministry team at St. Cat's. We need you. A couple of areas really need some attention. They include: Community Life and Fellowship—this covers everything from coffee hour to parish life events to who buys and cuts the sheet cakes. We are in need of restructuring, reimagining and reorganizing that ministry area. If you have passion, gift and skill in the art of hosting and hospitality, please connect with me or with Linda Scott. We'd love to bring back Greeters and work towards a robust newcomers team. If welcome is your gift, please connect with Pat Pepper. We really need acolytes at both services, but especially at the 11:00 am. Children, youth and adults are all welcome to serve as acolytes! If that sounds like something that would make your heart sing, please contact Joseph Hegedus. But mostly we need people to find and grow in a ministry area that brings them great joy. Ministry work brings us community, purpose and commitment. It's one of the essential ways we grow God's Kingdom. So I urge you, if you haven't yet, to find a ministry and explore the ways God is inviting you into the work of discipleship.

**Sabbatical:** In the Episcopal Church, full time clerics are expected to take a sabbatical leave of 3 months every 5-7 years. In June, I will have been ordained 19 years and I've never had one. And I've been here for 7 years. So...it's time. My sabbatical is coming soon: April 14th will be my last day with y'all before Mandy and I set off on adventures around the world. On that day we can anticipate a combined service, some ways to play together and lots of hugs. On the 15th I will set out and turn off my email and forward all texts and calls to Trey! As you may know, we received a Lilly Grant to help fund this sabbatical, so you will be invited to participate with me—enjoying weekly yoga classes and monthly cooking classes. I can already tell you: I will miss you. I know I will. And I will come home to you in August, refreshed and ready for the work ahead of us.

**Staffing:** We set three goals in the 2023 stewardship campaign, all designated to help us strengthen the whole of the parish. The goals were: to provide pay increases for staff who we felt were underpaid, making their pay more just; to bring a quarter-time children's minister onto the staff team; and to hire an Associate Rector. I am pleased to tell you that, thanks to your generosity, we have been able to do much of what we hoped for. For starters: we were able to increase staff pay for our underpaid staff.

The Associate Rector position and the children's minister position is a bit more complicated. But the long and the short of it is that we have, in fact, hired a new Associate. Would you like to meet them? I am delighted to introduce to you the Senior Associate Rector for Christian Education, Evangelism, and Stewardship, The Rev. Trey Phillips.

So I'm going to hand the mic over to Trey in a minute. But before I do I want to talk about what Trey's new position is, what he will be doing and what this means for our Youth Program. Trey will be stepping out of the role of Youth Minister and into the role of Associate Rector. To ensure the seamless continuation of our vibrant youth program, we are in the process of hiring a part-time Youth Coordinator who will take on some of the administrative and pastoral responsibilities of the Youth Program. As Associate Rector, all education and formation will fall under Trey's umbrella of care. This means his role will evolve more into oversight of the youth program, working closely with the part-time youth coordinator and the experienced slate of 16 adult volunteers who make our youth program so strong. As such, Trey and I can still be expected to be as involved and accessible to our youth as any clergyperson is. In the vein of restructuring and ministry renewal, this means we will continue to invest in the leadership of our youth and adult leaders to guide our healthy youth program.

We recognize the need for a part-time Family and Children's coordinator. This particular ministry of Christian education will also be under Trey's umbrella of care.. Trey plans to build up the Families with Young Children network and he will have more of a direct hand in that work in the initial phase of strengthening that ministry. We also recognize that given all he is going to take on, he may well need assistance beyond volunteers. We will be closely monitoring the work to see if we need to add more support during the year.

Those are some "in the weeds" parts of Trey's new job. The larger vision is this: Trey's role seeks to strengthen the vitality of our parish by nourishing three core Christian practices of education, evangelism, and stewardship. Ultimately, these practices are about spiritual growth—a vision rooted in the belief that a deep understanding of Christian teachings, coupled with a commitment to evangelism and responsible stewardship, forms the foundation for a thriving and transformative spiritual journey.

# MOTHER SARAH'S SABBATICAL

In 2023, St. Catherine's received a grant to enable Mother Sarah to participate in the 2023 National Clergy Renewal Program. This grant money will be shared by both the church and Sarah for renewal activities. St. Catherine's is one of 177 congregations across the United States selected to participate in this competitive grant program, which is funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. and administered by Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. Established by the Endowment in 2000, the program's grants allow Christian congregations to support their pastors with the gift of extended time away from their ministerial duties and responsibilities. These grants are once-in-a-lifetime grants, so this is a big deal! (Some of you may remember that Father Jim also got a Lilly grant. While they are once-in-a-lifetime for the priest, they can be granted multiple times to parishes). This grant means that you, St. Cat's will be invited to journey with Mother Sarah, by sharing in some of the activities she and Mandy will be doing.

The theme of Mother Sarah's sabbatical is "embodying joy." She and Mandy will be traveling lots of places but there are two key areas of focus: the first is spending almost a month in a yoga training course. And the second is spending almost a month cooking with a professional chef. You will be invited to share in these experiences here at St. Cat's. All of these classes are offered to the people of St. Cat's free of charge.

## ST. CAT'S OFFERINGS

During Sarah's sabbatical, we will offer a weekly adult yoga class in the Parish Hall. It will be led by Katie Ewaskiew. Katie is a teacher that Mother Sarah has classes with at Inspire East Cobb Fitness and Wellness. She'll be offering a Vinyasa Flow, a beginner level yoga class (although those with more experience are welcome to come and modify poses). Katie has worked with people of all ages and abilities. We have some feedback on times, but would welcome more! Go here (<https://bit.ly/skfsabbatical>) to give your thoughts on the best time for classes!

And...our own Sue Snape of Fun with Food will offer three classes. Each class will offer fun, healthy ways to cook. All ages are welcome and we encourage families and singles alike to come! You'll leave with a full belly, some new skills and tons of ideas.

### FUN WITH FOOD WOKSHOPS INCLUDE:

- **WORKSHOP ONE | QUICK AND NUTRITIOUS SNACKS April 27, 2024 - 10:00 AM**  
This workshop will be hands-on for the granola balls and the smoothies and hummus will be demonstration only. Smoothies and Hummus plates will be available for sampling.
- **WORKSHOP TWO | "MEAL" PREP SCENARIOS | VEGETABLES & REDUCING FOOD WASTE May 11, 2024 - 10:00 AM**
- **WORKSHOP THREE | FOOD AND YOUR MOOD June 15, 2024 - 10:00 AM**  
tasting challenges, brain foods, meal ideas banana avocado ice cream tasting challenges

## CURATE | YOUTH DIRECTOR

The Rev. Trey Phillips  
trey@stcatherines.org

As a curate/priest, my theme for 2023 was "growing in leadership". That has meant taking up responsibilities in pastoral care and liturgy alongside my duties as youth director. St. Catherine's also fostered my mindset to serve and lead the wider church. This past year, I served as a teaching assistant at Emory University, studying and presenting alongside other faith leaders who wrestled with questions about the church's future. In addition, the publication of the Diocese of Atlanta's Pathways featured a profile on the impressive interfaith work of our youth program. Lastly, I was accepted into the Trinity Leadership Fellows program and now participate in online classes that empower my leadership at St. Catherine's.

As the youth director, I am delighted to share the exciting and impactful highlights from our youth ministry, showcasing the growth, leadership, and community engagement that defined the past year.



### **We welcomed several new youth faces.**

A remarkable milestone was achieved as we welcomed over 25 new faces to various youth events last year. This increase in new visitors is a testament to the inviting and inclusive environment cultivated within our youth ministry through our Wednesday Night Live programming.

### **Our youth served on the Diocesan Youth Commission.**

Our youth are active participants and emerging leaders within the broader church community. Emma Mabry, Elizabeth Singleton, and Luke Mikkelsen were selected to serve on the Diocesan Youth Commission—a commission tasked with planning and facilitating diocesan youth events—showcasing their commitment to shaping the future of our church.

### **Our youth were confirmed.**

Several dedicated youths—Danielle Yucius, Bryce Pyburn, Harry Tear, Forrest Ettel, Julian Gardiner, and Lukas Deisen—completed an extensive year of confirmation training.

### **Several youths underwent the Rite-13 Ceremony.**

Zoey Hutton, Patrick Clements, Tess Sauve, Jett Mikkelsen, Christina Pyburn, and Frannie Hitchins underwent the Rite-13 Ceremony, symbolizing their transition into adulthood within the church.

### **Our youths took an Urban Adventure Trip to Charleston, SC.**

Ben Darke, Elizabeth Singleton, Anna Grace Ettel, Emma Mabry, Luke Mikkelsen, Kyleigh Paris, and Nathan Keisel, embarked on an enriching Urban Adventure Trip to Charleston, SC. The youth planned and led this experience, fostering opportunities for personal growth and exploration outside the familiar confines of their daily lives. We stayed at the historic St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

### **We welcomed the new Rite-13 class into the Youth House.**

We joyfully welcomed a large new class of 6th-7th graders into the youth house. This warm reception ensures that our ministry continues to be a place of acceptance, belonging, and spiritual growth for young individuals as they navigate their adolescent years.

### **We developed a new leadership program for our youth: St. Cat's LEAD Team.**

The St. Cat's LEAD team is a new initiative to take the leadership training Father Trey is receiving as part of the Trinity Leadership Fellows, as well as the leadership skills present in this parish, and instill that into the next generation of youth. We are molding the next generation of church leaders through mentorship, skill-building activities, and hands-on experiences. This hand-selected group of youth helps guide our youth program by planning and coordinating youth activities such as service projects and multifaith initiatives.

### **Here is what Bryce Pyburn had to say about the program:**

*“Leadership and leadership through faith mean two very different things to me. I’ve always been a comfortable leader, but that mindset is different from the one presented to me through the LEAD program’s training sessions. We’ve had conversations about conflict resolution and working through uncertainty, which were both powerful in addition to practical. Certain sentences have especially stuck with me, like ‘the second you draw a line between yourself and others, Jesus is on the other side of it.’ ...In short, leadership isn’t just about intelligence, decisiveness, communication, and a will to win. It’s also about understanding, self-awareness, service, and compassion. Understanding that has helped me develop as a person and a leader.”*

### **Our youth gathered with youth of other faiths.**

In our commitment to fostering understanding and unity, our youth actively participated in multifaith events, including the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Celebration and several gatherings with our neighbors at Temple Kol Emeth.

### **We celebrated a successful Cinco De Mayo Fundraiser Event.**

Under the leadership of Amy Mikkelsen and Joy Ettel, the youth program organized a highly successful Cinco De Mayo Fundraiser Event, raising an impressive \$14,000+. This financial support is a testament to the generosity and commitment of our parish, enabling our youth to experience life-transforming pilgrimages.

These highlights reflect the vibrancy of our youth, the support of this parish, and the dedication of our leaders and volunteers. None of this would be possible without the generous support of guardians and volunteers who gave their time, energy, and donations to ensure our program's success. Nor would these accomplishments have happened without the faithfulness of our 16 adult leaders. Thank you, Mel Paris, Susan Jenkins, Kelly Iacobelli, Fred Lopez, Dave Banko, Katja Michael, Thad Barrington, Caroline Brennan, Karen Kraeger, Wade Reck, Harry Tear, Deelee Freeman, Steve Pyburn, Jason Snape, and Jennifer Tear. Our youth program is driven by their passion, love, and humor.

Lastly, thanks to Patty Foglesong, Susan Jenkins, Katja Michael, and Steve Pyburn for guiding our youth committee.

# DEACON'S REPORT

THE REV. JESS SPEAKER

jess@stcatherines.org

Beloved of St. Catherine's, 2023 was an eventful year for this newly ordained Deacon.

As I am sure you can imagine, my biggest task for the year was getting to know this parish family. Learning names was just the beginning, I also started learning how things work here... how St. Cat's worships, celebrates (sheet cake!), and functions. There has also been a tremendous amount of learning how to function as a deacon in a parish. This year had many firsts for me: first baptisms, first funerals, first Holy Week, first Exultet at the Easter Vigil, first Confirmation and Bishop visit. All things you can only really learn by doing, no matter how hard you might have studied. I am eternally grateful for the grace given by Mother Sarah, Father Trey and the parish as I work to figure out everything.

It was an important year for me as a new Deacon as I began to learn how to navigate life as a Deacon. Learning how to juggle being a husband and father, working an often more than full time job, engaging in diaconal ministry, pastoral care visits, finding time for recreation, and all of the surprises that life springs on us.

I was blessed by everyone who attended the Lent and Advent quiet days. It was wonderful to share the day with you, engaging in various kinds of prayer to reflect and worship during these two very important seasons of the church year.

Attending the All God's Children pilgrimage to Selma in October was also a blessing. It was a powerful opportunity to learn from activists who took a stand in that small town years ago. The work was (and continues to be) hard, but being surrounded by that group of fellow pilgrims made it a very rich experience.

I have also been working to build the relationship between St. Catherine's and our Scouts, BSA Troop. The troop has provided support for our Quiet Days, Trunk or Treat and the Epiphany Party by building and tending to our fire pit. The Troop also provided pancakes for our Shrove Tuesday celebration. I look forward to continuing to strengthen this relationship as we support the work being done to teach servant leadership to the youth in East Cobb.

Looking to the future, I am excited to work with Rhonda Robinson and St. Catherine's as part of our Outreach committee as we take the Gospel of Jesus out into our community showing those on the margins the love of God. This parish is full of people with giving hearts and together we will continue to give to our neighbors in Cobb County and beyond.

Lastly, I want to thank each and every one of you for welcoming the Speaker Family with open arms. Having St. Catherine's as my first diaconal placement has been a wonderful experience and that is because of YOU.





# SENIOR WARDENS' REPORT

Margaret Shaw

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2023 was a busy, healthy and growing year in our church family. Here are some of the quiet events, and some highlights -- as you read through I hope you'll have some "yes, I remember that!" moments, and I also hope you'll remember some other events or special times that spoke directly to you. We are the family of ST. Catherine's, part of the family of the Episcopal Church USA, part of the world-wide Anglican family, part of the global Christian family and most important of all: we are part of the huge and exquisitely diverse, intertwined, divinely created and loved beyond imagination family of God.

## **Families require food: We had meals - we broke bread together.**

Lenten Soup Suppers - that fostered fellowship in the groups that made the soup together, and encouraged conversation at the tables where the soup was eaten.

Outreach for Inreach Breakfasts - where we had wonderfully prepared breakfasts and learned about outreach ministries that ST. Catherine's supports, financially and with our time

Sup with the Saints on All Saints - and like the loaves & fishes of Jesus' time, we had abundant food for everyone!

And of course, being ST. Catherine's, we had .... SHEETCAKE!!

## **Families need space to gather: Our church home has been improved and maintained, and is used constantly!**

Courtesy of the Great Christmas Flood of 2022 - we have new flooring in the Admin Wing.

Thanks to a project envisioned by a parishioner, funded via Great Oak Grant, and overseen by Bill Ivey - we have a new space for storing the Clergy Vestments that keep them orderly and able to "breathe".

Thanks to Bill Ivey's diligent watchfulness, non-stop monitoring, and experience dealing with things both routine and unexpected - our facility continues to serve the many needs of our congregation and the community with nary a pause.

We open our facilities to community use: ST. Catherine's hosts AA meetings, Toastmasters, Boy Scouts, Red Cross Blood drives, and Family Promise hosting.

## **Families have to manage their money:**

In 2023 St.Catherine's transitioned to a new (local) bookkeeping firm, Simpson Nonprofit Solutions (SNS); this saved a significant amount over our 2022 spend with a different firm.

In 2023 we transitioned to a new treasurer, Tom Donoghue -- in a process so seamless you probably didn't know that it happened. We are extremely grateful to Chuck Zimmerman for his service in the treasurer role during the many changes of 2022 and into 2023.

We completed the (Diocese required) financial audit for calendar year 2022, with a new audit firm and at a reduced rate.

## **Families support and encourage each other: We joined with other Cobb County faith communities**

In November we participated in the 19th Ecumenical Thanksgiving - celebrating the tremendous gift of religious freedom (and freedom from religion) that is part of the founding of this country

In June we attended a community prayer service at East Cobb UMC titled “A Time of Prayer and Action” in support of the Jewish community following a demonstration at a neighborhood synagogue where protestors carried Nazi flags and other anti-Semitic symbols.

### **Families say "goodbye" and "hello" to friends and colleagues**

In June we said goodbye to Dr's Brian and Jana Williams, who had given 20 years of good and faithful service to our music program.

And in August, after the search team diligently searched and prayed and interviewed and discerned - we joyfully called Dr. Chris Walters as our Director of Music. We welcomed Chris, and Carri, and Tarryn, and Shae. We thank them for their "Yes!"

### **Families take trips together: we went on Pilgrimage**

- In October the All God's Children Ministry sponsored a pilgrimage to Selma, AL - open to all in the parish - where we continued our education and reflection on a history that can be difficult to look at honestly. We shared those experiences with the parish over breakfast last week.

### **Families welcome new members and mourn the passing of cherished beloved ones**

St. Catherine's family grew - through new members walking through our doors, and new members being carried through our doors. We baptized, we received, and we celebrated confirmations.

St. Catherine's family saw beloved members leave us for the life eternal. We mourned, we wept, we remembered, and we walk alongside those who are on a grief journey.

### **Families learn - about life and about each other**

Christian Education (Formation) happens Sunday morning, Wednesday evening, in the parlor, in the Youth House and over Zoom - all ages are welcomed to learn more about Christian life, the Episcopal Church, and to share stories of impactful moments

The "Feisty Seniors" as our Bishop is fond of calling us -- decided it was time to form a "55+" group to enjoy activities & social occasions. Watch out world - we're not done yet!

In closing, I am grateful for each member of this family, and grateful to belong to it. I encourage each of us in 2024 to be aware of where we might engage with this family in a new and meaningful way. I encourage us to listen, share and grow – closer to God, closer to each other.

Blessings,  
Margaret Shaw  
Senior Warden



# MUSIC & CHORAL

CHRIS WALTERS - ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

chris@stcatherines.org

What a joy it is to be at St. Cat's! Truly!

My first Sunday was September 17th of this year. So, while I may not have a full year's worth of reporting to share, I will offer up a couple of thanksgivings and first impressions:

- In my “honeymoon” period as the “new guy on the block,” I have intentionally taken some risks in choosing a wide variety of **hymnody** at both 8:30 and 11:00 services. This has been completely intentional – I have wanted to get to know you, musically! Perhaps you've even noticed some “deep tracks” in our chosen hymns, recently. Rest assured that I've made note of the ones sung robustly (and also the ones we may have, well, mumbled through together)! And, I look forward to continuing to try to expand St. Cat's hymn repertoire, and above all else, to ensure that our hymnody supports and proclaims our lectionary readings every Sunday.
- The fellowship and community of the St. Cat's **Chancel Choir** is a real treasure of this parish. I'm fed spiritually and musically when I rehearse with Chancel every Wednesday night, and I am very proud of the sounds we are continuing to refine and the musical risks we are already comfortably taking together. I'm excited to brainstorm and put into action what additional projects Chancel may be able to take on down the road as we seek to continue to enrich our liturgical practice.
- If I'm being really honest, I was a bit apprehensive about how a youth choir could be successful when encompassing such a large age range. Developmentally, 3rd grade through 12th grade is a BIG gap! But...largely thanks to the excellent leadership of Anna Grace Ettel...I have come to learn how well **Choristers** can function as a safe, uplifting, encouraging, and fun place for our children and youth to explore their singing voice and to build up their confidence and skills for serving in worship. I'm proud of the sounds this capable group is making, and I'm thrilled that we are welcoming new singers!
- Though we had a really short runway this year with our Friends of Music Concert Series, we successfully hosted Coro Vocati in December. We had our first organizational meeting a couple of weeks ago, and are now moving in the right direction to better our internal organization to welcome violinist Amadi Azikiwe (on February 4th at 3:00pm!) and the Amadeus String Ensemble later on in the spring. Our discussion at our most recent committee meeting revealed to me a passionate leadership group for service and a collective heart for bringing the best musical experiences to our parish and wider community as possible.



On a personal note, everyone in the Walters household is thrilled to officially become a part of St. Cat's in 2023!

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Walters, Organist/Choirmaster

## FACILITIES - BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Bill Ivey, Facilities Manager  
facilities@stcatherines.org



This little church on Holt Road is bigger than you might know:

We are stewards for the Diocese of 10 acres of land here!  
Our buildings were built in stages: the first was completed in 1967 and it's been added on to several times resulting in the campus we have today.

It comprises over 33,000 square-feet under roof! We have 28 HVAC systems to heat and cool us, 24 toilets, a commercial-sized kitchen, a preschool with over 100 students, and a memorial garden where some of the founders of this church rest, as well as many others we love and miss.

If you count the number of worship services, education classes, choir rehearsals and meetings that are held here every week ... the front doors of our church have been open and closed more than 15,000 times this year alone. So much so, we discovered that some of the bolts that hold the doors in place had to be replaced recently ... they were bent!

This past year began with recovering from 2 frozen pipes that burst & flooded parts of our administrative offices. Thanks to good insurance, we repaired not only the walls and the ceiling, we also replaced all of the flooring in that wing.

As with any year, there has been storm damage to repair, trees to take down, pipes to fix and a host of small and large projects in every nook and cranny.

We sponsored two workdays to spruce up our bushes and trim back years of overgrowth. Thanks to great volunteers for doing much of that work ... including a guy who just showed up one Sunday and said, "I have tools to use, what can I do to help?"

And another who calls a couple of times a month and says, "I'm coming down to church, tell me what needs to be done." You can read about a brilliant opportunity for service we hope to continue this year in the next article from Harriett Pyburn. We appreciate all who have helped this past year.

In the next few months you will see a new sign for St Catherine's that will be built on the hill next to the main entrance. This project will also be funded mostly by insurance as our 30-year-old sign out front was damaged by an errant driver on Holt Road last fall.

What makes this place so special is that St Cats is a living, breathing part of our community here in East Cobb ... and we thank God for all that we have been given by our forebears.

I recently read a reflection by Dr. Beth-Sarah Wright who worships with us when her husband comes to do his Bishop visits. She said, "What if we saw ourselves as 'holy partners' in a heavenly calling ... faithful to God's work and creation in us?" That's the way I see our work in this place ... faithful partner's in God's work here.

# ST. CATHERINE'S PRESCHOOL

PAMELA KULPA

pam@stcatherines.org



## What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?

To provide a safe and happy place for teachers to teach, for students to learn, feel cared for, and to grow.

## What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?

There are 23 women working together in this not so huge space. EVERYONE gets along and seems to genuinely like being with each other. These kind of relationships are special and make all the difference in a happy work place. Happy teachers are huge accomplishment these days!

## What are you optimistic about for 2024?

That we will grow back to full capacity

## Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?

I feel that God's timing has definitely made itself known to me many times in the last few months. Especially when I am trying to make a tough decision or deal with a challenging situation concerning a student and their family. I will finally see something that God has been putting in front of me that I didn't see before.

## Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.

Lynne Gates has worked at the preschool for 33 years. Having her here to work alongside me everyday is a God send. She is the face of the preschool, gives wonderful tours to families which usually seals the deal for families to join our preschool.



# ADOPT A PLOT

HARRIETT PYBURN

harriettspyburn@gmail.com



## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry**

We want to steward the beautiful gardens of St. Catherine's in a way that brings joy to those who maintain them as well as those who walk past them. These grounds are just a small part of what makes us a welcoming and inviting church.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

In 2023, we experimented with a new form of garden keeping. To complement our parish work days and our signup rotation which has been used for years to plan for lawn mowing (although let's be honest - Al Jones handles a huge amount of those weeks!), we started a program called Adopt-a-Plot with our gardens. We divided our green spaces into small, manageable chunks, gave them Biblical names and puppy dog personalities and offered them up for adoption for the 2023 growing season. For example, "Leah" (meaning weary or delicate), was described as "neglected and shy, but will blossom with patience and attention". We had both large and small areas of varying degrees of difficulty to adopt so everyone could find a good match (just like you would when rescuing a dog). Individuals, friend groups, couples and families signed up to "adopt" one area for the spring and summer. Our volunteer pool grew tremendously, and it was wonderful to hear the positive feedback from those who enjoyed spending time working in our beautiful space.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

Based on the feedback we received in 2023, I think we will continue this approach in 2024. We hope we can expand to include additional areas that could use more attention such as the amazing rain garden next to the youth house.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

This approach demonstrated to us that many are ready to joyfully serve God in this place - sometimes we just need to find ways to draw our circle wider. While the task of keeping all of the gardens tended can be daunting if you are approaching it as one person, Adopt a Plot allowed many to pitch in in ways that they were comfortable and able - which reminds me of what church and community are all about.

## **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

A huge thanks to the following: The Reck family for the labyrinth, The Detweiler/Lennon family for our sensory garden, Amanda Chu and Robert Anderson for the corner as you turn to the youth house and parish hall, Pat and Bob Pepper for the parish hall island, Marlene Stewart and Bryce Pyburn for the parish hall hill, Harriett Pyburn for the parlor hill, Marlene Stuart for the Memorial Garden, Lee Stuart for the area outside the Memorial Garden, and Greg and Tami Stewart for the front entrance.

## **ALTAR GUILD**

KELLY IACOBELLI

kelly\_iacobelli@yahoo.com



### **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

The altar guild cares for the vessels and other objects needed for the sacraments. We set the credence table before services, prepare for baptisms and funeral services and care for the silver, brass and linens. What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?

### **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

This team is much smaller in size than in years past, but the dedication of its members has kept everything moving smoothly. People step in to take extra duties to ensure everything is taken care of.

### **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

We look forward to the holiness of each season in the church.

### **Can you share a story of a time when you have seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

Witnessing a baptism is always special at St. Catherine's. The beauty of the font with people gathered around it reminds us of our own baptisms and renews us.

### **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks?**

The altar guild team is small but mighty! Each member is devoted to ensuring that everything is ready for the clergy.

# FLOWER GUILD

EMILY GALE

emgale48@gmail.com



## What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?

Our mission is to enhance our worship using God's handiwork . I call our work visual liturgy or "icing on the cake."

## What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?

We have worked as a team to accomplish our work.

## What are you optimistic about for 2024?

I am optimistic about continuing our work and adding a couple of new members.

## Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?

When our flower arrangements bring joy or comfort to those for whom they are intended. For instance, in the case of a particular donation or funeral

## Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.

Pam Phillips and Karen Manno



# LECTOR'S REPORT

REBECCA RINEY

rineyr@gmail.com



**What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

To invite parishioners to participate in the Readers Ministry

**What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

We have enrolled new Readers to participate

**What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

That we continue to grow the ministry and support those who want to participate in the service by being a Reader!

**Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

When so many are so willing to be a Reader/Lector during service.

**Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

Joe Hegedus for being so patient with me in teaching me how to manage this minstry.

# ACOLYTE/YOUTH READER REPORT

JOSEPH HEGEDUS

acolytes@stcatherines.org



## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

The Acolytes and Youth Readers are a blessing to each other and the congregation by joyously serving in many of our regular and special church services.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

Our youth are very busy and capable people; yet, they have chosen to serve with the help and support of their families. I cannot stress how important this is to me. When you see an Acolyte or Youth reader serving please know they were not assigned. They chose to be there. In my opinion the world is far too busy sometimes; yet these young people chose to serve God.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

My hope is that in 2024 the adults of St. Catherine's will join with our youth serving as Acolytes. I believe that there is no reason why we cannot serve along side our youth and take inspiration from them.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

The older youth do an amazing job of guiding and mentoring the younger people each and every week.

## **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

I would encourage each of us, as the opportunity presents itself, to thank our Acolytes, Youth Readers and their families! They are all truly a blessing to St. Catherine's!

# STREAMING TEAM REPORT

FRANCES BOWDEN  
streaming@stcatherines.org



## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

The purpose of the streaming team is to make it possible for people to attend st. Catherine's even if they can't leave their homes.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

We have been able to add more people to the team and make it so it's not just the Frankie and Bill show. We are always looking for more people to help!

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

Growing this ministry more. Having teams of people cross trained in both sound and video to cover any eventualities

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

It's always a moment where someone new finally "gets it". Usually this happens in the middle of a catch-the-preacher sermon where the video has to move fast to catch all the action and then boom! Light bulb! And smoothness.

## **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

Bourke Brennan. He was one of our first volunteers and was a dedicated member. With the spin up of choristers and youth group, he has had to take a step back. But we will be here if he ever wants to make a return.

# ADULT EDUCATION

ELIZABETH LOPEZ

atlopezelizabeth@gmail.com



## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

Adult education offers a space for participants to deepen their relationship with God and to experience Christian community through study, prayers, engaged discussion, and fellowship.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

We initiated a church-wide theme of Finding God and have seen growth in participation across adult classes-- Sunday morning classes, bible and book studies, and special gatherings like the All God's Children pilgrimage.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

That we will continue to encounter God in deep and meaningful ways as we seek to better know God's nature and action in the world.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

It is so true that when two or three (or more) are gathered God is with us! I can't imagine telling only a single story: each time our groups gather to engage with scripture, to talk about our lives, or to reflect on our relationship with God, we encounter God in the texts we read, in our relationships with each other, and in the prayers offered.

## **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

Our class facilitators for their dedication to adult education in our parish: Beth Nabors, Harriett Pyburn, Althea Dillard, Ruth Hepler, Barb Selby, Bill Selby, Mother Sarah, Shannon Darke, Deacon Jess, Tom Snead, Katja Michael, Jan Potter, Chris Potter, and Terri Gabrielson

# NEWCOMER CONNECTION REPORT

PAT PEPPER

volunteer@stcatherines.org

## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

Our purpose is to welcome newcomers to St Catherines, and tell the story of who we are. We share the many ways we minister and serve in the neighborhood and within the walls of the church and invite participation in any way they choose to connect.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

Two Newcomer Coffees this past year which were well attended by newcomers, Vestry Members and Ministry Team Leaders. Connecting new comers to ministry groups, the choir, a Pilgrimage and small groups.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

We will continue to formalize the vital role clergy and lay leaders play when we welcome and connect newcomers into this community by creating systems, and procedures that strengthen this ministry.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

I saw God's presence in the testimony and the joy on the faces, of a couple that came to St. Cats looking for a welcoming and affirming community. They shared with me, that at St Cats, they found the extended family they needed. They shared they felt accepted for who they were and where they were on their journey, The support and connection of our community also embraced them. They found the faces, hands, and hearts of the loving God in our community and felt they found home



# ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

LISA SPESSARD

Lnspeppard@yahoo.com

## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

To engage the St. Catherine's community in the Episcopal Church's work of racial healing and reconciliation, diversity and inclusion and economic and social justice to ensure that we are catalysts for change at St. Catherine's and beyond.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

We've read, studied, lamented, prayed, discussed, pondered and pilgrimaged since 2020. We're proud that this is the year that we've taken more action toward the goal of creating beloved community. Dr. Terence Lester's book, "All God's Children" is the resource we've used, and it has served as an excellent guidebook for us as we collectively and individually model Christ's active and justice-seeking love in our community and the world.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

We have more and more parishioners joining AGC which gives us different perspectives, experiences and strengths. Our conversations are rich and meaningful and we feel in our bones that God is with us. We will be going on our 3rd pilgrimage to Charleston in October 2024 to visit the new International African American Museum to honor the untold stories of the African American journey which will bond us even more. We have applied for grants to bring speakers to St. Catherine's so we can share more about MLK's vision for Beloved Community with a wider audience.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

God led us to Selma for our 2nd pilgrimage and God was with us in Selma as we heard from the foot soldiers who risked their young lives for their parents' right to vote, as we immersed ourselves in an experience at By the River Center for Humanity where kidnapped humans were sold on the Alabama River and as we walked in the footsteps of John Lewis and other Civil Rights leaders while crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge. The people we met and the interactions we had in Selma were all intentional and led by the Holy Spirit.

## **Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.**

Everyone on our planning team has played a role in leading, organizing or planning one of our events or experiences. It's a unique model but it's successful because we all have different strengths, we are all committed to this work and we are purposefully collaborating in love and respect for one another.



# CARITAS CONNECTION REPORT

TOM HUNTER

thunter41@bellsouth.net

## What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?

Last Fall, at the Clergy's suggestion, we assembled a group of volunteers to contact families and individuals on our Sunday Prayer List and on our Parish Cycle of Prayer to let them know that St. Catherine's is praying for them and to see if they have any needs that the parish can help with.

## What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?

So far we have made over one hundred phone calls and we have connected with a number of parishioners who have found our calls meaningful and helpful.

## What are you optimistic about for 2024?

That our ministry will grow as we contact more people. By the end of 2024 we will have reached out to every member of St. Catherine's family.

## Can you share a story of a time when you have seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?

On a call from one of our volunteers, we discovered that the parishioner was not only dealing with medical challenges but was also struggling with feelings of loneliness and helplessness. That conversation has led to several others and to the building of a new supportive relationship.

## Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks?

All of our volunteers, many from The Daughters of the King, deserve special thanks as does Joe Hegedus, who coordinates our efforts.



## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

BILL SELBY

bill.selby@att.net

**What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

To be a Christian Community striving to learn as much about the Bible as we can.

**What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

Everyone's participation and enthusiasm in class.

**What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

Continue to better understand the Old and New Testaments and to nurture and support each other.

**Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

We feel God's presence when two or more of us are gathered together.

## WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK/BIBLE STUDY

KATJA MARTIN/JAN POTTER

katja.michael@gmail.com

**What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

To study faith and religion with a group of interesting and dynamic women

**What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

We have maintained an online presence to widen the participation group of our ministry

**What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

Increased participation

**Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

When people share and discuss their ideas and impressions of the work we are studying



# FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

ELIZABETH LOPEZ

Atlopezelizabeth@gmail.com



## **What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?**

Our main goal is to scripture to better understand God and God's action in the world. We also offer support, fellowship, and prayers to one another.

## **What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?**

Studied the books of Luke and Acts together.

## **What are you optimistic about for 2024?**

Our group growing closer to God and each other through our study, discussions and fellowship. We meet at church weekly, but twice a year gather in someone's home to fellowship. Our group continues to bond as we study and share meaningful events in our lives.

## **Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?**

We always take turns reading our scripture selections aloud when we meet and listen for God's message to us in that moment. No matter the passage we are reading, each time we meet the discussion of scripture leads us to some insight about God and we strive to carry that message of good news back out into the world.

# DAUGHTERS OF THE KING REPORT

CARLA VON HOFFMAN

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What is the mission/general purpose of your ministry?

Prayer, Evangelize and be of Service to the Church, Rector

What is one thing you're really proud that your ministry has accomplished this year?

Adding new members and participating more in St. Catherine's opportunities for Service

What are you optimistic about for 2024?

Adding more new members and continuing to be of Service to the Church and continue our prayers for Clergy, parish and special prayers requested.

Can you share a story of a time when you have you seen God at work or experienced God's presence in your ministry?

At each meeting or event, I see the Holy Spirit weaving through all of us. The relationships becoming stronger, ideas shared, and authenticity of these ladies, is God at work. They are dedicated to the mission of our Order and their hearts are full the Spirit.

Is there anyone in your ministry who deserves special thanks.

All Active Daughters

## THE ST. CATHERINE'S CROSS

The St. Catherine's Cross is given in recognition of outstanding leadership and contribution to our life as a community. The cross was designed by Dean Motter, son of Roger and Eileen Motter. It is given by the Rector with the consent and advice of the Executive Committee of the Vestry.

The following persons have received the Cross over these many years. We list them in our Annual Report because we want to celebrant the contribution to this body of Christ each of these names represents. When you see these people thank them for their commitment to and love of this congregation.

We are very much aware that we may have missed some names because a master list wasn't kept in the early years. If we have missed a name or your name please forgive us and let us know so that we can add it to the list and celebrate the outstanding leadership and contribution to our community this achievement represents.

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Ministry Area</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Ministry Area</u>
Bobbie Greene	1985	Christian Ed Director	Margaret Caudle	2005	Choir – 20+ years
Bette Hamilton	1985	Volunteer Treasurer	Greg Caudle	2005	Choir – 20+ years
Liz Rea	1985	Sr. Warden	Jim Greene	2005	Sr. Warden
Eileen Motter	1988	Christian Ed Director	Joan Nixon	2006	Fellowship/ Receptions
Bill Drew	1989	Woodworking	Hale Sanders	2006	Mentoring
Pat Drew	1989	Altar Guild	Nelson Gale	2007	Chair, Faithful Mission
Ron Cook	1990	Sr. Warden	Jennifer Massey	2007	Chair, Faithful Mission
Roger Motter	1991	Building & Grounds	Mikel Parker	2007	Finance Chair, 6+ years
Gene Wood	1991	Stewardship Chair	Meg Ramsay	2008	Grounds/Faithful Mission
Dick Kareken	1993	Business Manager	Ron Bergeron	2008	Webmaster
Frank Brent	1994	Parish Life Council	Tom Hunter	2009	Finance /Stephen Leader
Verla Hale	1994	Jr. Warden/Outreach	Ron Brannock	2010	Grounds
Rosemary Wolfe	1994	Volunteer Bookkeeper	Gail McGill	2010	Grounds & Gardens
Roger Wagner	1994	Grounds/Mem. Garden	Joyce Hendricks	2011	Audit & Finance
Connie Bergeron	1994	Outreach & Jr. Warden	Ellis Kilgore	2012	Youth Ministry
Vera Bibbings	1995	Assimilation	Keith Dumke	2012	Youth Ministry
John Rea	1996	Pastoral Care	Emily Gale	2013	Flower Guild
Meg Boyd	1996	Sonshine Committee	Al Jones	2013	Building Maintenance
Martha Bowden	1996	Youth Choir	Marilyn Hunter	2013	Stephen Ministry
Marion Cook	1997	Prayer Chain	Bill Ivey	2014	Sound/Communications
Ginney Linstrom	1997	Parish Secretary	Karen Maxwell	2015	CGS (awarded June 2015)
Bob Crowe	1997	Stewardship	Ana Martin	2015	CGS (awarded June 2015)
Melissa Packard	1997	Receptions	Tom Blackstock	2016	Sr. Warden, Leading thru Interim/Master Planning
Laura Mawhinney	1998	Youth - Volunteering			
Mark Ranney	1998	Capital Campaign	Dani Dickson	2017	Congregational Nurses
Judy Padgett	1998	Acting Verger	Daniel Mikkelsen	2017	Sr. Warden, Interim Time
Bill Krupp	1999	Sr. Warden	Paul Manno	2017	IT Management – 12 yrs
Joyce Reinkemyer	1999	Preschool Director	Bill Lee	2017	Chair, Rector Search
Anne Burlas	2000	<i>Wheel</i> Coordinator	Pat Pepper	2017	Volunteer Coordinator
Brad Crandell	2000	Sr. Warden	MaryLou Shannonhouse	2018	Children's Chapel
Bob Bibbings	2000	Volunteer Auditor	David Moore	2018	Stephen Ministry
Stan Dickson	2000	Building Maintenance	Elizabeth Lopez	2018	Adult Education
Bill Linstrom	2001	40 yrs of volunteering!	Stephanie Yucius	2019	Senior Warden
Pam Phillips	2001	Altar Guild	Karolyn Olliffe	2019	Preschool Director
Sharon Parisi	2001	Emmaus Project – Chair	Frances Bowden	2020	Website
Fred Massey	2002	Outreach	Tami Mace	2020	Bldg/Grounds Convener
Susan Greger	2002	MPST	Tom Snead	2020	Bible Study/Stewardship
Bill Bowden	2003	Sr. Warden	Maureen Donoghue	2021	Sr. Warden amid pandemic
David Craig	2003	Co-Chair, Faith Builds!	Bill & Barbara Selby	2022	Studies/Family Promise
Allen Jablonski	2004	Building Chair	Harriett Pyburn	2023	Senior Warden Work
The Rev. Jim Nixon	2004	Leadership-Building/Fire (presented by the Vestry)	Chuck Zimmerman	2023	Outstanding Treasurer



Many thanks to our photographers, report writers and many others!

And most of all to the people who work, lead and worship here!

*Cover image, photo of St. Catherine of Alexandria Greek Orthodox Byzantine Icon on wood. Photo by Sarah Fisher.*