

Christ Church Exeter

Reports of Ministries in 2024



TOGETHER
FOR JOY

ANNUAL MEETING

January 26, 2025

The Annual Meeting of the Parish

January 26, 2025

Agenda

1. Call to Order as close to 11:15 a.m. as possible.

God of all, may our congregation be aware of our part in your larger church. Draw us all together into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving Christ in mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love in our local and global community. Be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting
3. Recognize outgoing Vestry Members
4. Remarks by the Rector and Wardens
5. Nominations, Introduction of 2025 Nominees and Election
6. Receive Financial Reports and Vestry Approved 2025 Operating Budget
7. Concluding Prayer
8. Adjournment

**CHRIST CHURCH EXETER,
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE 159TH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, JANUARY 28, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 a.m. in Harris Hall. The Reverend Mark Pendleton presided. A quorum of fifty parishioners was present. The Rector opened the meeting with a prayer.

MOTION to approve the minutes from the 2023 annual meeting as written. Moved and seconded. Motion passed without dissent.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS

- Chris Sera
- Lauri Ayers

Mark Pendleton thanked these members for their service.

RECTOR'S REPORT

- (Included in the packet)

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

- (Included in the packet)

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION

NOMINEES TO VESTRY

- Scott Anders – three years
- Blake Carrico – three years
- Juliette Gavin – three years
- Nominee for Senior Warden – Patricia Gianotti for a second term
- Nominee for Clerk of the Vestry – John Cofer

NOMINEES FOR DELEGATES TO THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION

- Patti Buck
- Jeanette McDonald
- Paul Wainwright – alternate

MOTION to close ballot from Paul Wainwright and accepted as unified ballot. Moved and seconded. Motion passed without dissent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The treasurer reviewed his report.
- We are in a strong position on the balance sheet.
- Our liabilities are minimal.
- We took out a \$60,000.00 loan for the skylight project. The interest rate is two percent.
- Plate pledge income broke even.
- Total expenses were under budget.
- Pine Street Players had a great year with more growth in the program. PSP is now standing on its own budget-wise.
- We estimated \$340,000.00 in pledge income for the year. We have received \$362,000.00.
- Our endowment is 2.7 million – we receive a quarterly distribution.
- We granted the staff a 3% cost of living adjustment for 2024.

CLOSING PRAYER: Mark Pendleton offered a closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT – moved and seconded to conclude the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Cofer
Clerk of the Vestry

2024 Rector's Report

2024 was an extremely full and fruitful year for our mission and ministry here at Christ Church. Our worship attendance is returning close to pre-pandemic numbers, and there are many new faces in our pews.

“Together in Joy” was our stewardship formation theme this past year. We benefited from a focused and hard-working sub-committee of the Vestry that published weekly reflections beginning over the summer months. I thank all those who stood up in church and shared their spiritual journey and how it connected their desire to be generous in their financial support of the work we do.

On November 10 Cary Einhaus spoke at the 8:00 a.m. service. He said this near the end of his bold and heart-felt sharing:

“I appreciate that we are a community here that seeks to come together in worship; to grow in our faith and knowledge of God, however imperfect; to strive to live our Sermon on the Mount values to create a world of world of kindness and compassion and joy as we follow the way of Jesus. And the only way that we can reach out to those spiritual seekers who are marginalized, to those who feel unwelcomed by many who call themselves Christians, is by lifting high the Gospel message that God's mercy and love, like the communion bread we share around this altar, is exclusive to no one.”

There is a lot said these days about how divided and polarized we are as a nation. The topic resurfaces in many a sermon and is spoken of often by many of our members. And a church should be a place centered on the unity of God's message for the world. On our better days, I have seen us work towards God's dream for us as being truly One in Christ.

There was joy in the calling of Nicole Benevenia to join our staff in January, working half-time as she prepared to be ordained a deacon in June. Nicole made an immediate impact with her insightful preaching, warm presence and her organizational skills to assess and build up our formation program for children and young people. When baby Jeremiah was born in April, and after a few months of parental leave, by the early summer the now Rev. Nicole was back with us working $\frac{3}{4}$ time. Perhaps I do not mention enough that her work with us is somewhere between full and half-time, and that can be hard to navigate for any profession: Nicole is doing so with grace and dedication. I promised her that Christ Church would be a wonderful learning environment for a newly ordained priest. For me personally, Nicole's joining our staff has given me the most assisting clergy help hours-per-week that I have had since the fall of 2013. Suffice to say: I'm thrilled and thankful!

2024 saw the continued collaboration and support with our Pine Street Players youth theatre program and ministry. This program continues to impact hundreds of children and teens in our local and extended community, offering a space to learn and grow. On many afternoons and evenings during the week we can all be proud that our space is being used for art, dance and theatre.

My role in facilitating the monthly Men's Group continues to be extremely satisfying as we routinely gather from ten to fifteen men for sharing, fellowship, and learning.

I mention each year in this report my work at the Stafford County jail in Dover, serving on their Spiritual Life Committee and visiting ICE detainees, many of whom speak Spanish, who are awaiting asylum hearings and deportation. I do so because the good people of Christ Church have allowed me to extend my ministry to this population as a critical time in our nation's debate and challenge around immigration.

At the risk of failing to mention some folks, I do wish to recognize the following persons:

- ❖ **Outgoing Members of the Vestry:** Jen Murray, Morgan McCay, and John Hodsdon rotate off vestry at this Annual Meeting. Thank you for your dedication and faithfulness. Jen worked with our Faith Formation Committee and helped reboot and strengthen our hospitality ministry. Morgan worked this past year on our stewardship education and also contributed to the Red Door Forum series. John offered us his keen insight during many meetings, also supports the forums, and shared his global travels with us. What a contribution they have all made.
- ❖ **Richard Ingram** served as both Treasurer and Bookkeeper throughout 2024, helping streamline our financial record keeping. He also continued to be an invaluable liaison and supporter of our Pine Street Players.
- ❖ **Susan Dixon** spent many hours over the summer organizing our parish records and piles of vestry files in the Archive Room off the Community Room. It was and continues to be a labor of love and much needed for the preservation of our history. Assisted by **Dale Cavanaugh**, we hope to open the room soon for exhibits and displays.
- ❖ **Our Streaming Tech volunteers:** We could not offer this ministry without the dedication of Joe DiPalermo, Leslie Pendleton, and Will Sera. And yes, we are always looking for new folks who would like to train and rotate in a few Sundays a month.
- ❖ **Members of the Altar Guild** are the hardest working folks one never sees do their work! Thank you, Sue Ingram, for your shepherding of this group.
- ❖ **Joe DiPalermo.** What can I say? He is the indispensable non-staff person who helps us offer what we do, especially to the many outside groups that use our space.
- ❖ **At the close of 2024: Members of the core church staff: Nicole Benevenia, Darla Watt, Bruce Adami, Suzanne Jones, George Malgeri, Richard Ingram and Lexi Meunier.** The staff of any church is fundamental in carrying out the work we have been given by the elected leadership. We have been fortunate to have the people we have making so much of what we do possible.

From the Parish Register in 2024

Baptisms:

Connor Michael Gibson
Silas Alexander Woodworth
Ryan Joseph Schrempf

Burials from Christ Church:

Elizabeth D. Wescott
Barbara M. Colburn
Allan Richard Parker
Dwight Baldwin McMahon
Katharine Ingram
Barbara Corbett
Sally Barber
John Anderson Bacon Jr.
Marshall Christian Moore

(Those church members who died in 2024 but were not buried from Christ Church are remembered each All Saints' Sunday in the reading of the Necrology).

Letter of Transfer received:

Kevin & Andrea Hinkamper
Dale Pinkham Cavanaugh

Letter of Transfer sent:

Lori Pocock Wells
Margaret Gaillard

In my twelfth year as your rector, I continue to be thankful for the ministry we share.

The Rev. Mark B. Pendleton, Rector

Curate's Report
Rev. Nicole Benevenia

I started as the Curate at Christ Church in January 2024. This calendar year was one of tremendous transition in my life. In April, my second child was born; in June, I was ordained a transitional deacon; and in December, I was ordained a priest. I took a much-needed parental leave in the spring and returned in the summer to begin planning for my first full program year here in Exeter.

In any new ministry role, the first few months to year are focused on learning the rhythms, dynamics, and traditions in the community. In 2024, I had two areas of focus: first, our children's and youth ministries, which I address in a separate report. Second, I learned the role of deacon in our liturgy and have just started learning how to be a priest: including participating in my first Holy Week, first funerals, and first Christmas season at Christ Church. As I get more experience in these areas and they start to settle into more known patterns, I'll gradually be able to shift my attention to more areas of our communal life.

This past year has also been about building relationships: getting to know people and becoming known. I've been honored by this community's reception of my preaching - and as we grow together, I hope I will continue to hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people here in our corner of the church. I've been tremendously honored by those of you who have begun entrusting me with your questions, struggles, losses, griefs, and joys. These are the vulnerable corners of our work together, but no real growth can happen without vulnerability or risk.

As we move into a new year, I want to thank my colleagues and all of the lay leaders (of which there are many!) for teaching, welcoming, and mentoring me in this new role. I'm looking forward to what we will do next together.

Children's and Youth Formation
Rev. Nicole Benevenia

We continued to offer two Sunday school classrooms for ages 5-12 in 2024, using the Feasting on the Word curriculum. From January 2024-May 2024, we offered Sunday School for all ages during the 10 a.m. service. When the new program year began in September, we decided to shift. We continued to hold Sunday School for ages 5-8 at 9:45 a.m., with children returning to the later service at the time of the peace. We moved the older classroom (ages 9-12) to between the services, starting at 9 a.m. This decision was made primarily because we have a limited number of Sunday School teachers and having one class meet in between the services means that Mark is available to act as the lead teacher. This also has the added benefit of older children being able to attend either full service with the rest of the congregation if they choose. Our younger classroom saw anywhere from 1-6 children each week, and the older classroom, 1-4 children. We know that arriving at 9 a.m. can be a challenge for some families (and we recognize that we might have lost some

participation as a result). We are continuing to welcome new Sunday School teachers for those who are interested.

In September, we revived the Children's Chapel program at Christ Church! Held in the side chapel once per month, this is a brief worship service centering on children's participation and experience, including readings, a kids' sermon, prayers, and songs. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend with children ages 5-12 but are not required to attend. Children under the age of 5 are also welcome in chapel, but we ask that caregivers attend with them. We return to the sanctuary for the sign of peace to join the rest of the congregation for communion. Whereas our Sunday School program emphasizes learning the stories of our faith held in scripture, in Chapel, we practice the rhythms, patterns, and actions of liturgy, and our traditions in worship together. Chapel services have seen anywhere from 6-10 participating children, with a number of adult caregivers joining us each week. Chapel has been a bright light and a real place of joy for me in this first year at Christ Church.

Our Youth Confirmation and Inquirers' class began in November (with the Bishop's visit planned for May 2025). A group of 3-4 youth are exploring the foundations of our Episcopal, Christian tradition as they discern whether the sacrament of Confirmation is the right next step.

We continue to have Philips Exeter Academy students join us for worship on Sundays, which certainly adds to our community, as they no longer have access to Protestant services held on campus. As I round the corner of my first year at Christ Church, I'm asking how we might engage these youth more.

Finally, the year ended with our traditional Christmas Pageant at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service. 17 children and youth and 3 grownups participated this year! We especially recognize the Steere and Gibson families for providing 25% of this year's cast, and Russell Weatherspoon, who graced us with one final performance as one of the three kings.

As I review our ministries and formation this past year, there are many people for me to recognize:

- Katherine Steere Gibson and John Cofer, lead teachers for the Ages 5-8 Sunday School classroom
- Rev. Mark Pendleton, for acting as lead teacher for the Ages 9-12 Sunday School classroom
- Dale Cavanaugh and Suzanne Jalbert Jones, for planning and leading Children's Chapel alongside me
- Lexi Munier, for rehearsing our pageant cast through three rehearsals, as well as the parents and grandparents who made the pageant a success, especially Danielle Larson Clark, this year's costume coordinator.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, or if you feel called to give your time or energy to our children's or youth programs.

Senior & Junior Wardens
Patricia Gianotti & Judy Blaisdell

Reflections on the Year:

2024 was a very full year at Christ Church. We have been blessed as we continue to rebound as a parish in the aftermath of Covid. The Vestry's priority has continued to focus on strengthening our community as we regather, reconnect, and affirm our connection with one another. This year we have expanded our efforts to stabilize and grow through continued outreach, with a specific focus on the reformation of our Stewardship Team. There were many events to celebrate this year. Among them was the Christ Church trip to Cuba in April with Mark Pendleton, Leslie Pendleton, and Dale Cavanaugh who brought supplies to our sister Church in Cardenas, Cuba. Christ Church was also proud to host the Diocesan Convention on October 26th. Thanks to the help of numerous volunteers from our parish, the event went off smoothly and seamlessly. In addition, we joyously celebrated the ordination of our Curate, Nicole Benevenia, as Deacon on June 8th at St. Paul's Church, and we celebrated her ordination into the priesthood at Christ Church on December 7th. To our knowledge this was the first ordination in combination with the baptism of Jeremiah Bourne at the same service celebration. Finally, our year was brought to a joyful conclusion during our Advent and Christmas season with wonderful music at the 8:00 service and stellar performances at the 4:00 service, with a special guest appearance by Russell Weatherspoon as one of the Magi. It was truly "The Best Pageant Ever". A very special thanks to Suzanne Jones, Bruce Adami, and the Christmas Choir who made the Christmas Eve and Christmas services absolutely magical.

A special thanks also goes out to our Hospitality Team whose dedication and culinary talents have made every celebration, every holiday gathering, every Red Door Forum event, and every Sunday Coffee Hour so welcoming. Thank you to committee members, Jen Murray and Kim Billings, co-chairs, Adrienne Spear, Linzee Coleman-Bagge, Cynn timer Irwin, Ann Junkins, Ann Malconian, and Mary Webber.

In this year's Senior and Junior Warden combined Annual Report, we have focused in more detail on two Vestry and Committee initiatives that took place this year – our Adult Formation Series and our Stewardship Initiatives. The content of other ministry/committee reports will be covered in separate documents.

Adult Formation:

The Red Door Series continued to grow and thrive during this past year as we consistently gained new attendees. During this year's "Red Door Series", the attendance at each forum has averaged between 35-58 people. This represents approximately a 20% increase each year in the past three years. Just as we had done in previous years, the committee chose a theme for this year's forum focus, which was entitled "Let Your Light Shine". Building upon

our focus from the past two years, where the 2021-2022 forum focus invited us to “Expand Our Understanding of God and Our Faith” with a kick-off with Steve Portalupi’s excellent presentation on the Webb Telescope, followed by the theme for the 2023-24 Red Door Series, entitled “Moving Inward to Discover and Deepen Our Personal Faith Journey”, with our wonderful kick-off presentation by Stephen Gianotti speaking on What the African Elephants Can Teach Us About Community. In this year’s series, we took a slightly different slant, and we invited people to think about how God’s light shines within each of us as well as how we can spread that light into the world.

A special thanks goes to the efforts of this year’s Faith Formation Committee, consisting of members, Patricia Gianotti, Ali Watt, Blake Carrico, Jen Murray, Kim Billings, John Hodson, John Woodard, Elaine Portalupi, Athens Pullias, and Kathryn Ringrose. As we prepared for this year’s presentations, we began by reviewing our purpose statement with the intention of using this as a guiding principle for all potential Adult Forum speakers, in order to ground them in the committee’s intention for the Sunday Forum Series. In this way we hope to offer a thread of continuity around the theme for this year’s Red Door Series and years to follow.

The Purpose Statement is as follows: *“Community lies at the heart of our formation and worship together, which we build by offering a variety of groups and activities. Through these activities, we seek to grow our faith, supported by one another, creating a sanctuary space between and amongst us, so that we can carry the light of Christ and our faith into the world.”*

There have been a total of eight Adult Forum Presentations as of the date of this Annual Report.

- September 22 – With the Time You Have Left - Stephen & Patricia Gianotti – 34 attendees
- September 29 – The Global Meaning of Joy Through the Eyes of Ghanaian Children - John Hodson – 58 attendees
- October 6 – A Guided Meditation to Let Your Light Shine - Bill Redfield – 40 attendees
- October 20 – Dick Ingram – Stewardship: Pre-pledge Campaign and Financial Update – 24 attendees
- November 10 – Alana Van Antwerpen – Spirit Bound Outreach and Spirit Chats – 32 attendees
- December 1 – The History of Chants Through Advent Music – John Stromgren – 58 attendees
- December 8- Sacred Music as A Mystical Conduit to God - Brandon Newbould – 48 attendees
- January 19 - In Celebration of Martin Luther King Day – Mark Pendleton and Elaine Portalupi – 34 attendees

There will be an additional seven forum presentations scheduled for the remainder of the 2024-2025 season. The committee is grateful for the interest and participation in this year’s Red Door Forum series.

Stewardship:

During the March Vestry planning day, several of us volunteered for the adventure of forming the first Stewardship Team since well before the pandemic lockdown. Susan Dixon, Morgan McCay and Judy Blaisdell launched the effort by first consulting the expertise of Leslie Pendleton, then exploring the writings of Henri Nouwen, specifically "The Spirituality of Fundraising." This led us to create a presentation on Joy and Generosity as the final Red Door topic of the 2023-2024 season. We opened that topic with a brief video from the Bible Project, entitled "This Lie can Keep you from Living Generously."

Our purpose was to initiate a new approach to growing our understanding of how we are called to be good stewards of all the gifts our gracious God has bestowed upon us. The hope was to engage in exploring, over several months, where there is room for us to grow our giving hearts; how best we can do that; and what inspires us, sets us free to give of ourselves and our resources. Our question: **how do Joy and Generosity relate to each other as we strive to be God's stewards?**

Over the summer months, the team invited parish members to prayerful introspection through weekly messages that we wrote for the E-news and Sunday bulletins. We hope you have found these meaningful for personal reflection and growth. Our efforts culminated in the Fall Campaign of several parishioners speaking during Sunday worship of their personal commitment to pledging and, of course, the parish letters inviting your pledges for 2025.

We offer our gratitude to all of you who contribute in so many ways to helping our community thrive!

Music and Liturgy

Suzanne Jones

2024 marked a great musical year for Christ Church. In March, Christ Church parish choir joined forces with local professional and recreational singers and instrumentalists in the area to perform Gounod's *Requiem* during our Good Friday service. Four professional vocalists sang the very difficult, yet beautiful, solo sections of this piece. Our very own, Christina DeMaio and Cathy Hammon were soprano and mezzo soloists, respectively. Boston singer, Mark Sciapucci sang the tenor solos and Richard Benefield sang the baritone solos. We were particularly excited to have Richard on the project, as the title of his dissertation for his doctorate of music was "The Organ-Accompanied Solo Motets of Franck, **Gounod**, and Saint-Saëns." The choir boasted nearly fifty singers, represented by our Parish choir, students from PSP and local singers. The small chamber ensemble of six included two violinists, a violist, a cellist, a bassist and a harpist.

Throughout the year, many new anthems were added to our collection. Specifically, the parish choir sang many anthems from the gospel tradition, which were very well received by the congregation. Laura Wyskiel, a parishioner, was a featured flute soloist on several

anthems. Many choristers performed solos during the summer Sundays, as did other instrumentalists from the parish.

Informally dubbed, the “Christmas Choir”, the 8pm prelude and service on Christmas Eve featured a choir of nearly 40 singers, performing carols and anthems from the classical, gospel and modern musical genres. Similarly to the choir for Good Friday, this choir was composed of regular choristers, singers from the parish, the Exeter community, PSP population and friends of friends! The gospel number, “How Great Our Joy!” featured Christina DeMaio as a vocal soloist and Andrew Strout, a local jazz pianist, on piano. Both the participants and those in the pews were blessed by this musical offering.

The musical programming has continued to be richly spirited. We are proud of the dedication of our parish choir and their contributions to all musical offerings at Christ Church. We are also excited to see how our group of auxiliary singers has taken form. There is a group of over 50 singers who choose at least one of our “extra” services (Good Friday or Christmas Eve) to participate in. Many have formed family traditions around singing with us on Christmas Eve. In this way, our choir is blessing the greater Exeter and Seacoast communities.

THE PINE STREET PLAYERS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Lexi Meunier

Winter Play, 2024: Junior Cast (Grades 1-6)

A Whole Latte Love

A Whole Latte Love is a coffee shop with a catchy slogan: “Where There’s Magic in Every Cup” - but it’s more than just a tagline. Each one of Isla’s six special blends really has a magical power, if only for the duration of the cup. With perks like that, it’s no wonder the coffee shop has such a colorful cast of loyal customers! But Isla finds herself in hot water with her landlord, who demands rent. Isla hires Shelly to watch the shop while she handles her financial woes, but when an overzealous health inspector flusters Shelly on her first day, she mixes up the magical coffee blends, leading to a hilarious brouhaha (or is it a brew-haha?) as customers are served the wrong orders.

A Whole Latte Love gave three performances - February 9, 10 & 11 - at Exeter Town Hall.

Cast Size: 13 Performers

Winter Play, 2024: Senior Cast (Grades 7-12)

Almost, Maine

Welcome to Almost, Maine. Its residents never got around to getting organized, so it’s just ... Almost. One clear, cold Friday night in the middle of winter, while the Northern Lights hover in the sky above, Almost’s residents find themselves falling in and out of love in the

strangest, surrealist ways. Hearts are broken and healed, relationships are lost, found, and confounded, and the people of Almost, Maine will never be the same. It's almost love - but not quite.

Almost, Maine gave three performances - February 16, 17 & 18 - at Exeter Town Hall.

Cast Size: 19 Performers

Spring Musical, 2024
The Wedding Singer

It's 1985. The hair is big, greed was good, and the wedding singer might just be a rockstar. Based on the hit Adam Sandler movie, *The Wedding Singer* follows Robbie Hart, New Jersey's favorite wedding singer. He's the life of every reception, until his own fiancée leaves him at that altar. Shot through the heart, Robbie's new cynicism makes every wedding as disastrous as his own - until a winsome waitress named Julia catches his attention. When Julia becomes engaged to a Wall Street shark, it's up to Robbie to pull off the performance of a decade, or risk losing the girl of his dreams forever.

The Wedding Singer gave three performances - June 14, 15 & 16 - at Phillip Exeter Academy's Goel Center.

Cast Size: 26 Performers

Shakespeare, 2024
As You Like It

This time, we're running away *from* the circus. When Rosalind is banished by her usurping uncle, she disguises herself as a man and flees to the forest with her cousin Celia. Amidst other exiled nobles, lovesick shepherds, and mistaken identities, Rosalind orchestrates a delightful tangle of romance, including one of her own with the charming but gullible Orlando. Filled with humor, heart, and some of Shakespeare's most iconic dialogue, *As You Like It* celebrates the power of finding one's true self.

As You Like It gave three performances - July 26, 27 & 28 - on the outdoor stage at Christ Church.

Cast Size: 16 Performers

Summer Session, 2024

Our summer theatre workshops are crafted for young performers interested in a fast-paced, supportive, and creative environment led by experienced theatre professionals and

educators. Providing an opportunity to build upon the skills and confidence necessary for success in mainstage productions, our leveled curriculum offers performers training appropriate to their age and ability. In addition to rehearsing a musical to be presented at the culmination of their session, performers take classes intended to expand their skills. Participants leave Summer Session with improved skills in acting, singing, and dancing, a better understanding of the audition and rehearsal process, and the kind of confidence that comes from socializing with like-minded friends while working together to create something to be proud of.

Workshops are held for two-week sessions: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Showcase performances take place at 3:00 PM on the final Friday of each session.

Session	Demographic	Performers
1 - <i>Backyard Broadway</i>	Rising 1st - 3rd Graders	30
2 - <i>Finding Nemo: Kids</i>	Rising 4th - 6th Graders	40
3 - <i>Descendants</i>	Rising 7th - 9th Graders	30
4 - <i>Grease: School Edition</i>	Rising 10th Graders - 2024 Graduates	20

Fall Musical, 2024:
Junior Cast (Grades 1-6) - *Cinderella: Youth Edition*
Senior Cast (Grades 7-12) - *Cinderella*

The timeless enchantment of a magical fairytale is reborn with the Rodgers & Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. The Pine Street Players at Christ Church proudly presented *Cinderella* in celebration of their tenth-anniversary season of programming, having debuted PSP (at the time known as The CC Players) with the same production.

Cinderella: Youth Edition gave three performances - November 8, 9 & 10 - at Christ Church.

Cast Size: 60 Performers

Cinderella: Enchanted Edition gave three performances - November 15, 16 & 17 - at Christ Church.

Cast Size: 40 Performers

Building & Grounds Committee (B & G)

Kevin Clark

Introduction and Overview:

Each year the Building & Grounds Committee focuses on annual maintenance activities, building upgrades, future project planning, and long-term building maintenance planning working with the Senior Sexton and reporting to the Vestry. In 2024 the Building & Grounds Committee held three (3) meetings.

The Skylight was completed in the Fall of 2024 and the B & G Committee finalized plans on the courtyard project, which includes new walkways and platforms in front of the three entrances (Narthex, Harris Hall, and Vestibule Entrances) with two automatic door openers for the Narthex and Vestibule door entrances making the Church and Harris Hall more accessible for ALL.

2024 -2025 Projects:

- M & M Skylight installed a new skylight in the Fall 2024. This includes all new flashing and structure as needed and new asphalt shingles and hips nearest to the skylight on four sides of the skylight.
- Courtyard Project - Drawings were submitted to Vestry (with estimate by the General Contractor) and approved. This project is scheduled for construction and completion this Spring 2025.

Long term finance planning to replace MEP equipment and building maintenance projects continues by the Vestry for future and maintenance projects.

Forward Planning Projects

- Church Ceiling Plaster and Painting (Maintenance)
- Cleaning and Painting Church Eaves (Maintenance)
- Church Roof (Maintenance - Asphalt Shingles)
- Boilers (Maintenance)

This year the Building and Grounds committee will meet four times. Meeting dates:

- January 28, 2025
- April 29, 2025
- July 29, 2025
- October 28, 2025



Barbara Cutting

Along with our partner parish, First Unitarian Universalist Church, Christ Church hosted meals for Seacoast Family Promise during five different weeks in 2024.

We are grateful to parishioners Wendy Gladstone, Patty Lundgren, Jeanette McDonald, Janet Marshall, Christine Hodsdon, Dale Cavanaugh, Ann Malconian, Gene Stillwell, Jane Pindell, Richard Condon, Ann Junkin, Shannon Hays, and Carol Allard, all of whom provided home-cooked meals to hungry families throughout the year. Menus included such comfort foods as shepherd's pie, macaroni and cheese, lasagna, and roast chicken with all the fixings!

2025 Meal Rotation includes the following weeks:

January 12 - 18

March 16 - 22

May 18 - 24

July 13 - 19

October 19 - 25

Mark your calendars!

The expansion of Joshua House (which is located at 480 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland) is nearing completion for occupancy. The completed project will provide more needed bedrooms for families with children experiencing homelessness along with laundry facilities, common space, and a large eat-in kitchen. The final phase of the construction will upgrade the 100 plus year-old existing space.

In addition to an ever-present need for gas cards and store gift cards (in amounts no more than \$25.00,) Seacoast Family Promise maintains an ongoing and regularly updated Amazon Wish List. You'll find a SFP donation box in the church lobby for contributions.

2024 saw the resignation of long-time Seacoast Family Promise director, Pati Frew-Waters. Pati's nearly 20 years of leadership, compassion, and vision will be greatly missed.

I stepped down as Christ Church SFP coordinator at the end of 2024. Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation for all the Christ Church support offered to the resident families of Seacoast Family Promise. Your provision of warm meals for families to gather around at day's end warmed my heart as well. It was an honor to work with Seacoast Family Promise on your behalf.

Shannon Hays takes over the role of coordinator beginning this January.

Altar Guild
Sue Ingram

The Altar Guild ministry is dedicated to assisting the clergy with preparing the sanctuary and chapel for worship services. We are responsible for the set up and clean-up of Sunday services as well as for baptisms, weddings, and funerals. In December, we had the privilege of setting up for Nicole's ordination. Other duties include preparing the palms for Palm Sunday and the handheld candles for Christmas Eve.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my fellow members for their dedication and commitment to our ministry: Judy Blaisdell, Patti Buck, Diane DiPalermo, Cindy Eaton, Jeannette McDonald, Barbara McGrath, Carla Ranks, Priscilla Santiago, Robin Sirois and Shannon Tosatti. I'd also like to thank Susan Wakefield for helping us care for the altar linens.

New members are always welcome. Our ministry is open to men, women, and teens. The time commitment is not a great one. We work in teams of two or three and serve roughly one weekend per month. The teams change often so that we're working with different people each time.

Altar Guild is the perfect ministry for fellowship and building new friendships. If you have an interest in joining but are unsure about commitment, join us for a weekend to see what is involved. Please contact any member or Diane DiPalermo (incoming Director) dipalermo@comcast.net



**Report of The Endowment Board 2024
and the Anchor Legacy Society**

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses. (Page 445 in the Book of Common Prayer)

In December 2014, the Vestry of Christ Church created a new Endowment Fund and set proper gift acceptance and spending policies. In 2015, we received a generous \$100,000 from a faithful member that seeded this new fund. The income from this new Endowment Fund is limited to capital improvements, developing new ministries, outreach ministries and special projects.

As of December 2024, the balance of the fund was **\$255,163**.

Laura Tetrault, a member of Christ Church and our Endowment Board, is also a member of the Trusts, Estates & Guardianships practice group at Shaheen & Gordon. She concentrates her practice in estate planning as well as trust and estate administration.

On All Saints' Day each year, we recognize those who joined the Anchor Legacy Society by remembering Christ Church in their wills or making provision for the church through other planned gifts. In 2024 we recognized **Nancy Fleming**, and **Donna and Morgan McCay** as new members.

If you are making a will or updating financial or estate plans and you would like to support God's work in Exeter and the wider church and community, please reach out to us for more information so that we can answer any inquiries you may have. In addition, we take this opportunity to remind parishioners that the Endowment Fund welcomes gifts for any occasion; it is not exclusively for bequests. Gifts in memory of a family member or friend are very appropriate; likewise, gifts in honor or in celebration of a person or event are equally desired. There are any number of occasions when a gift can be made, (birthdays, baptisms, graduations, anniversaries, good fortune, and others) recognizing the moment and helping to grow the Fund.

Laura Tetrault (Term ends Jan. 2024)
William Stafford (Term ends Jan. 2024)
The Rev. Mark Pendleton, Ex-Officio
Richard Ingram, Ex-Officio

Report of Higgins Fund 2024

The Higgins Fund was established by Christ Church members John F. Higgins and Jeanne G. Higgins in 1978 to minister to the spiritual, mental, and physical needs of the elderly and infirm; to supply clergy, aides, teachers, social workers, or others to assist in their well-being; and to aid the indigent who may need monetary assistance at home or in health care institutions on the Seacoast.

As currently directed by the Trustees of the Fund, an individual may receive no more than \$1000 during one calendar year from the Fund.

During 2024 \$1840 was distributed to eligible applicants.

As of December 31, 2024, \$863 was held in cash reserves. \$29,011 remains invested with the Diocese.

If you are interested in applying for assistance, please contact the Rector.

Trustees:

The Rev. Mark Pendleton, Rector *Ex-officio*

Dr. Frank "Burt" Dibble

Ms. Carolyn Ross

Our Companion Parish Relationship with *San Francisco de Asís* in Cardenas, Cuba

Due to the declining conditions on the ground in Cuba, we were only able to send a small delegation to Cuba in April, 2024. Leslie Pendleton and Dale Cavanaugh joined me for a visit to Cardenas. Christ Church has sent eight delegations to Cuba in ten years. On this trip, we carry down needed medicines and spare parts and filters for various water systems throughout the diocese.

Cuba continues to be a country near economic collapse. Rolling blackouts are now daily occurrences. The same conditions in past reports are growing worse each day: food shortages, lack of basic medical care and medicines, widespread dengue fever, and simmering civil unrest. Crime is also on the rise.

In March of 2025 the Cuban Episcopal Church will hold an election for their next bishop. The Rev. Aurelio de la Paz, rector in Cardenas, is a candidate.

God willing, I hope to lead a larger group to Cuba in March or April 2026.

The Rev. Mark Pendleton

Lay Healing Ministry Judy Blaisdell

For many years, Christ Church has been committed to a ministry of Christian healing, in the understanding that laying on of hands for healing of the body, mind and spirit is a sacrament, an outward and visible sign of an inward grace. In the belief that healing is the inner work of the Holy Spirit, our lay ministry team offers prayer through the laying on of hands during our Sunday worship service.

Scripture tells us of the many times that Jesus healed and that he also sent his disciples out to heal those who were suffering [Luke 9:1-6]. Believing that Jesus still heals today, we strive to serve his continuing desire to heal and restore us to wholeness. As a lay healing

ministry team, we are passionate about people personally experiencing and awakening to God's boundless love, healing and blessing in every part of their lives. In reaching out to those who seek healing prayer, we find God's grace, peace and restoration filling us as well. We understand that we are *not* the healers, rather we seek to receive and channel the power of the Holy Spirit to heal. We invite all who desire healing of the body, mind or spirit for themselves, or as intercessors for another, to join us at the healing station either before or after receiving communion.

The team meets twice a month to continue studying, praying and growing in this ministry. Over recent years, members have attended healing conferences and services in other venues. Team members who you may find at the healing station are Judy Blaisdell, Robin Sirois, Patti Buck, Wendy MacArthur Keith, Dale Cavanaugh, Beth Banker and Lauri Ayers.

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please speak to Rev. Mark Pendleton.

Thanksgiving & Christmas Basket Program

Carla Ranks

Christ Church parishioners generously donated 30 Thanksgiving baskets, 18 Christmas baskets and clothing and gifts for 11 families with children ages 5-18.

Our Christ Church elves work tirelessly behind the scenes to make this happen. Special thanks to Darla Watt, Kim Billings, Jenn Murray, Marran and Kurt Lipscomb for organizing the smooth drop off and delivery process.

Thank you to Jason Mignone for making food basket deliveries and for all the Thanksgiving and Christmas balloons which were added to each food basket. Thank you to Kate, Carlisle and Keagan Mignone for volunteering.

We are truly overwhelmed with the ongoing support of Christ Church parishioners. Many tears of happiness were shed by the recipients.

We welcome new Christ Church elves to join us next year. If you are interested, please contact Darla in the church office or Carla at cmranks@comcast.net.

Treasurer's Report

Richard Ingram

It has been a privilege to serve as your treasurer for the last three years. I am uplifted every day by the faithful support that comes in many ways from all of you.

I begin this report with a note of thanks to Patti Andrews. Some of you may recall that at last years' annual meeting I was complaining about what a tortuous experience using QuickBooks to keep our financial records was. Soon after Patti suggested I look at a software platform called Aplos. Mirabile Dictu! (I still recall a bit of high school Latin).

Salvation from the choir! We switched to this software on July 1, and it has transformed the financial recordkeeping. This was a necessary step after we had lost two bookkeepers in a twelve-month span. My goal was to better prepare us for future changes in personnel and to make our records more efficient. Mission accomplished thanks to Patti's suggestion. I am currently working with Jason Mignone to transition the bookkeeper role to him. It is worth noting that while Aplos is a bit more expensive than other software it is more than paid for by savings in bookkeeping expense and offers enhanced features that we will be exploring in the future.

We end 2024 in a strong fiscal position. That is thanks to the extraordinary generosity of both new and longtime parishioners and the positive results in our endowment funds.

Some points of note would include:

- Our endowment balances rose to over \$3,000,000 as of September 30 and will be even higher once the December balances are available. Distributions from the endowment will increase by 3% in 2025.
- Working together with the Diocese we have made progress in getting more information from the manager of the Leacock Trust. We will meet with them again in March and anticipate the distributions from that fund will increase a bit as well in April or May.
- Pledges continued to come in after the 2024 budget was approved so that our pledge collections were well above the budgeted amount. Of note for the 2025 budget is a continued growth in our pledge income.
- Unpledged donations were once again very strong as we had several new members join during the year and begin to give generously. That included a special \$80,000 contribution that will pay for improvements to the sidewalks and doorways into the church and Harris House later this spring. Improved and easier access has been a need for some time and the hard work that Kevin Clark and the building committee have put in over several years will finally bear fruit.
- Several members prepay their annual pledge in advance. We improved the accounting for this in 2024. Rather than leave these monies in the operating checking account and lull us into a false sense of plenty early in the year, we deposited all prepaid funds into our brokerage account at Edward Jones. This allowed us to earn about \$2,000 of interest income. We then recognized the income monthly during the year and transferred the monies into our checking account ratably each month. We will do this once again in 2025.
- These positive events allowed us to make the budgeted deposits into our building improvement reserve and clergy sabbatical reserve. This had not happened in recent years.
- Christ Church contributes over \$80,000 to the Diocese as our Fair Share of support. That contribution is calculated as 15% of certain income the parish receives. We can expect that to go up in 2025 when it is reset in April. Fair Share contributions from parishes throughout New Hampshire support roughly two thirds of the Diocesan budget. In addition to staff costs for the bishop and staff, the Diocesan budget supports the national church with a similar fair share type contribution, grant programs for children and youth, clergy support and development, lay leadership development, grants and loans to congregations and miscellaneous other support.
- We have not made financial grants of outreach funds for many years and much of our outreach is performed in kind by the support we offer to the families at Seacoast Family Promise, the holiday food and gift giving, and the subsidized use of the building for a myriad of support groups and agencies. Much of our financial outreach comes through the Rectors discretionary fund and include gifts to:

- Our companion parish in Cardenas Cuba
 - St. Vincent DePaul Society
 - Episcopal Relief & Development
 - Ascentia
 - Seacoast Family Promise
 - Waypoint
 - Individuals in need
- We had no surprises on the expense side of the ledger and tried to be good stewards of your pledge dollars.
 - Pine Street Players ended the year with a deficit slightly over \$12,000. Despite this they end the year with some \$27,000 in cash at their disposal. Much of the deficit can be attributed to several things that will not recur. They purchased a sound board for \$3500 that will save significant rental costs in future shows and pay for itself in roughly 12-18 months. They also purchased clothing and other items for \$4500 that will be sold for fundraisers in 2025 and that will more than recoup their cost. A ten-year anniversary gala incurred a \$3500 cost that was a one-time event. Program revenues were strong, but the collapse of the adult advisory group hurt fundraising. Plans to recover from that are in process.

You have heard me say more than once that a church budget is an act of faith and that it will always work out in the end. The year 2024 is a prime example of that here at Christ Church. People want to be part of something good and successful. When they are they will support it. You all are part of something good at Christ Church and your support is both inspiring and humbling.

Richard Ingram
Treasurer

Christ Church Profit & Loss Fiscal 2024

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Account Number	Account Name	Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
<u>Operating Income</u>				
<u>Endowment Income</u>				
4000	Endowment Income - Diocese	111,347.12	111,348.00	-0.88
4010	Leacock Trust Income - BNY Mellon	28,935.60	28,944.00	-8.40
Total Endowment Income		140,282.72	140,292.00	-9.28
<u>Pledge Income</u>				
4100	Operating Pledge - Current Year	359,722.88	342,000.00	17,722.88
4100.1	Contribution to cover Fees	36.44	0.00	36.44
Total 4100 - Operating Pledge - Current Year		359,759.32	342,000.00	17,759.32
4110	Operating Pledge - Prior Year Catch Up	9,124.67	6,000.00	3,124.67
Total Pledge Income		368,883.99	348,000.00	20,883.99
<u>Plate Income</u>				
4200	Unpledged Donations	145,154.83	39,600.00	105,554.83
4210	Weekly Loose Plate	12,184.19	7,200.00	4,984.19
4230	Support from Diocese	12,000.00	10,000.00	2,000.00
Total Plate Income		169,339.02	56,800.00	112,539.02
<u>Misc Operating Income</u>				
4300	Altar Flower Donations	1,730.00	2,400.00	-670.00
4310	Memorial Donations	3,159.29	0.00	3,159.29
4320	Easter & Palm Sunday Collection	1,431.00	750.00	681.00
4340	Fellowship-Parish Life	58.03	0.00	58.03
4700	Interest Income - Citizens	34.81	0.00	34.81
4710	Interest Income - Edw Jones	1,913.81	420.00	1,493.81
Total Misc Operating Income		8,326.94	3,570.00	4,756.94
<u>Other Non-Operating Income</u>				
4420	Building Use	9,551.67	6,000.00	3,551.67
4430	Music & Special Events	100.00	500.00	-400.00
4440	Memorial Garden Burial Fund	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Other Non-Operating Income		11,651.67	7,500.00	4,151.67
<u>Outreach Income</u>				
4510	Rector Discretionary Funds-General	5,814.00	12,500.00	-6,686.00
4510.01	Contributions for Cuba Missions	6,717.00	0.00	6,717.00
Total 4510 - Rector Discretionary Funds-General		12,531.00	12,500.00	31.00
4520	Curate Discretionary Funds	938.00	0.00	938.00
Total Outreach Income		13,469.00	12,500.00	969.00
<u>Miscellaneous Income</u>				
4900	Passthrough Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00

4900.01	DFMS Good Friday Offering	707.00	0.00	707.00
	Total 4900 - Passthrough Donations	707.00	0.00	707.00
	Total Miscellaneous Income	707.00	0.00	707.00
Total Operating Income		712,660.34	568,662.00	143,998.34
<u>Operating Expense</u>				
<u>Buildings & Grounds</u>				
5000	Contribution to Building Reserve	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
5005	Salary - Senior Sexton	11,680.08	11,040.00	640.08
5010	Cleaning Service	19,500.00	18,000.00	1,500.00
5015	Heat	5,898.92	7,600.00	-1,701.08
5020	Furnace Maintenance	0.00	3,400.00	-3,400.00
5025	Electricity	7,265.02	9,100.00	-1,834.98
5030	Water & Sewer	1,436.26	1,290.00	146.26
5035	Plowing and Sanding	10,575.00	10,500.00	75.00
5040	Building Maint & Supplies	4,414.47	3,300.00	1,114.47
5045	Life Safety Inspections	3,255.00	4,000.00	-745.00
5050	Housekeeping Maint & Supplies	1,653.41	1,200.00	453.41
5055	Outside Maint & Supplies	8,946.55	7,500.00	1,446.55
5060	Building/Grounds Insurance	10,866.00	9,600.00	1,266.00
	Total Buildings & Grounds	95,490.71	96,530.00	-1,039.29
<u>Christian Formation</u>				
5100	Salary-Event Coordinator	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
5105	Salary-Child Care	2,350.00	1,750.00	600.00
5110	Adult Formation/Retreats	25.70	500.00	-474.30
5115	Misc Expense Christian Formation	1,089.35	225.00	864.35
5120	Confirmation	272.61	0.00	272.61
5125	Supplies & Expense-Youth	551.91	1,200.00	-648.09
5130	Youth Activities	33.18	1,200.00	-1,166.82
	Total Christian Formation	5,522.75	6,075.00	-552.25
<u>Clergy / Worship</u>				
5200	Salary-Rector	56,151.84	56,151.80	0.04
5205	Housing-Rector	50,000.04	50,000.00	0.04
5210	SET Allowance - Rector	8,120.64	8,120.61	0.03
5215	Pension-Rector	20,569.08	20,568.96	0.12
5220	Health & Dental Ins - Rector	27,713.90	27,540.00	173.90
5225	Life Insurance - Rector	207.90	227.00	-19.10
5230	Salary - Curate	37,749.96	29,749.98	7,999.98
5235	Housing - Curate	1,000.02	9,000.00	-7,999.98
5240	SET Allowance - Curate	1,702.14	1,778.64	-76.50
5245	Pension - Curate	3,892.80	4,505.16	-612.36
5246	Life Insurance Curate	132.30	0.00	132.30
5250	Health Care Subsidy - St George	17,355.93	18,219.96	-864.03

5255	Professional Expenses-Clergy	1,989.27	1,800.00	189.27
5260	Supply Clergy	2,300.00	3,000.00	-700.00
5265	Continuing Education-Clergy	1,000.00	900.00	100.00
5270	Auto Expense Clergy	1,519.93	1,200.00	319.93
5275	Contribution to Reserve for Clergy Sabbatical	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Total Clergy / Worship		233,405.75	234,762.11	-1,356.36
<u>Fellowship</u>				
5400	Parish Life	5,488.30	6,000.00	-511.70
5405	Stewardship	1,434.69	600.00	834.69
5410	New Member Ministry	758.84	600.00	158.84
5415	Parishioner Book Purchases	401.17	500.00	-98.83
Total Fellowship		8,083.00	7,700.00	383.00
<u>Music</u>				
5500	Salary - Organist	30,616.80	30,616.75	0.05
5505	Director of Music	33,990.00	33,990.00	0.00
5510	Instrumentalists - Special	300.00	1,000.00	-700.00
5515	Vocalists - Special	635.00	700.00	-65.00
5520	Good Friday Requiem	4,740.00	3,000.00	1,740.00
5530	Substitute Organist	1,600.00	900.00	700.00
5535	Music and Supplies	905.84	900.00	5.84
5540	Copyright Fees	471.77	1,200.00	-728.23
5545	Instrument Repair & Maintenance	3,851.76	4,800.00	-948.24
Total Music		77,111.17	77,106.75	4.42
<u>Office & Administration</u>				
5600	Interest Expense - DAF	1,223.72	1,223.72	0.00
5605	Salary-Bookkeeper	17,648.53	21,600.00	-3,951.47
5610	Salary - Administrative Assistant	18,921.10	18,960.00	-38.90
5615	Postage	762.21	800.00	-37.79
5620	Pledge & Donation Envelopes	1,445.00	1,800.00	-355.00
5625	Supplies & Expense-Office	6,896.94	6,000.00	896.94
5630	Equipment Rental-Office	6,127.57	6,520.00	-392.43
5635	Computer Supplies & Expense	1,326.85	1,800.00	-473.15
5640	Telephone	2,687.82	3,600.00	-912.18
5645	Audit Services	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
5650	Accounting Services	4,357.40	500.00	3,857.40
5660	Bank Service Charges	20.00	0.00	20.00
5665	Communications	3,312.47	3,000.00	312.47
5670	WC Insurance	2,661.00	2,300.00	361.00
5675	Miscellaneous - Office	1,524.57	900.00	624.57
5680	Payroll Processing Fees	660.57	660.00	0.57
5700	Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA)	11,862.60	10,301.23	1,561.37
5710	Contribution Processing Fees	217.44	480.00	-262.56

	Total Office & Administration	81,655.79	85,444.95	-3,789.16
<u>Support for Diocese</u>				
5305	Diocese Fair Share	82,236.00	80,680.00	1,556.00
5310	Diocesan Convention	320.95	0.00	320.95
	Total Support for Diocese	82,556.95	80,680.00	1,876.95
<u>Worship Support</u>				
5800	Altar Guild - Liturgical Supplies	5,374.82	6,000.00	-625.18
	Total Worship Support	5,374.82	6,000.00	-625.18
<u>Outreach Ministry Expenses</u>				
6100	Discretionary Funds-General	5,687.68	5,000.00	687.68
6115	Granite State Organizing Project	500.00	500.00	0.00
	Total 6100 - Discretionary Funds-General	6,187.68	5,500.00	687.68
6105	Cuba Mission Trip Expenses	15,482.10	7,500.00	7,982.10
6120	Episcopal R&D (DFMS)	1,207.00	0.00	1,207.00
	Total Outreach Ministry Expenses	22,876.78	13,000.00	9,876.78
<u>Other Expenses</u>				
9010	Memorial Garden Expenses	699.85	0.00	699.85
9020	Expenses-Paid by Higgins Fund	2,408.58	0.00	2,408.58
	Total Other Expenses	3,108.43	0.00	3,108.43
	Total Operating Expense	615,186.15	607,298.81	7,887.34
	Net Operating Income (Loss)	97,474.19	-38,636.81	136,111.00
<u>Pine Street Players Income</u>				
4415	Youth Theater Income-PSP	0.00	0.00	0.00
4415.01	Production Income-PSP	177,575.42	161,760.00	15,815.42
4415.02	Fundraising Income-PSP	20,886.36	17,700.00	3,186.36
4415.03	Donation Income-PSP	4,728.29	17,175.00	-12,446.71
4415.04	Grants Received-PSP	2,000.00	2,800.00	-800.00
4415.05	Class Fees	5,734.59	0.00	5,734.59
	Total 4415 - Youth Theater Income-PSP	210,924.66	199,435.00	11,489.66
4418	PSP/CCE Net Revenue Share	0.00	2,350.00	-2,350.00
	Total Pine Street Players Income	210,924.66	201,785.00	9,139.66
<u>Pine Street Players Expenses</u>				
6000	Independent Contractors-PSP	38,032.10	37,007.00	1,025.10
6000.1	Class Instruction	6,420.00	0.00	6,420.00
	Total 6000 - Independent Contractors-PSP	44,452.10	37,007.00	7,445.10
6005	Production Expenses-PSP	48,965.07	30,828.00	18,137.07
6010	Fundraising Expenses-PSP	8,027.29	6,872.00	1,155.29
6015	Other Expenses - PSP	6,404.54	4,512.96	1,891.58
6025	Artistic Director of PSP	51,500.04	51,500.00	0.04
6030	Retirement Contrib - AD	4,635.00	4,635.00	0.00

6035	Music Director of PSP	22,278.96	22,278.96	0.00
6040	Choreographer of PSP	29,220.00	29,220.00	0.00
6045	ER Payroll Taxes - PSP Staff	7,880.42	7,879.44	0.98
6050	PSP/CCE Net Revenue Share	0.00	2,350.00	-2,350.00
	Total Pine Street Players Expenses	223,363.42	197,083.36	26,280.06
	Net PSP Income (Loss)	-12,438.76	4,701.64	-17,140.40
	Combined Net Income (Loss)	85,035.43	-33,935.17	118,970.60

Christ Church
Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2024

Account Number	Account Name	Amount
<u>Assets</u>		
<u>Operating Income Accounts</u>		
1000	Operating Account Citizens 9438	81,032.04
1010	Edward Jones Account 4040	121,052.60
1020	Petty Cash	50.00
Total Operating Income Accounts		202,134.64
<u>Capital Reserve Accounts</u>		
1100	Reserve Account Citizens 0444	103,350.06
Total Capital Reserve Accounts		103,350.06
<u>Restricted Income Accounts</u>		
1110	PSP Checking Citizens 9096	13,248.13
1111	PSP Cash Box	300.00
1115	PSP Pex Account	3,160.00
1116	PSP Pex Debit Card	67.88
1120	Rectors Disc Account Citizens 9535	5,054.47
1130	Curate Discretionary Account	938.00
Total Restricted Income Accounts		22,768.48
<u>Investment Assets</u>		
1400	Endowment Account	3,028,573.19
Total Investment Assets		3,028,573.19
<u>Property & Equipment</u>		
1600	Furniture & Fixtures	224,286.64
1601	Less Accumulated Depreciation-F&F	-164,349.02
1610	Organ	876,400.00
1611	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Organ	-321,830.84
1620	Office Equipment	42,589.85
1621	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Office Equipment	-32,005.31
1630	PSP-Theater/Music Equipment	40,507.99
1631	Less Accumulated Depreciation-PSP-Theater Equipment	-4,780.06
1640	Building-Church Improvements	1,736,949.59
1641	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Building Improvements	-659,353.90
1650	Building-Harris Hall Renovation	2,005,698.22
1651	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Harris Hall Renovation	-174,864.94
1660	Furnace	34,659.65
1661	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Furnace	-19,633.23
1670	Land	46,000.00

1680	Land Improvements	86,392.31
1681	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Land Improvements	-37,563.00
1690	Building	356,888.00
1691	Less Accumulated Depreciation-Building	-356,888.00
Total Property & Equipment		3,679,103.95
Total Assets		7,035,930.32

Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

2160	Prepaid Operating Pledges	39,472.00
Total Other Current Liabilities		39,472.00

Long Term Liabilities

2500	Diocesan Advance Fund Loan	54,170.12
Total Long Term Liabilities		54,170.12
Total Liabilities		93,642.12

Equity

Operating Funds

3000	Operating Fund - Fund Balance	3,827,075.47
3001	Rector's Discretionary Fund - Fund Balance	5,047.47
3308	Prepaid Pledges - Fund Balance	-39,472.00
3425	Curate Discretionary Fund - Fund Balance	938.00
Total Operating Funds		3,793,588.94

Pine Street Players Funds

3100	Pine Street Players - Youth Theatre - Fund Balance	16,776.01
Total Pine Street Players Funds		16,776.01

Reserve Funds

3300	Building Improvement Reserve - Fund Balance	36,309.56
3302	Clergy Sabbatical Reserve Fund - Fund Balance	5,000.00
3303	Cuba Mission Trips - Fund Balance	50.00
3304	Higgins Fund Interest Reserve - Fund Balance	863.32
3305	Memorial Fund - Fund Balance	16,175.00
3306	Memorial Garden Reserve - Fund Balance	6,392.23
3307	Palm Sunday Fund (\$250/Yr.) - Fund Balance	3,750.00
3309	PSP Cash Reserve - Fund Balance	11,134.15
3310	Undesignated Operating Reserve - Fund Balance	23,675.80
Total Reserve Funds		103,350.06

Endowment Funds

3400	Kirtland Endowment - Fund Balance	831.48
3401	Christ Church Outreach Flower Fund - Fund Balance	10,126.41
3402	Ford-Mixter Music Fund - Fund Balance	57,703.44
3403	Louise Towle Fund - Fund Balance	4,948.08
3404	Memorial Garden Enhancement Fund - Fund Balance	10,564.84
3405	Anne B Leacock Fund - Fund Balance	39,181.33

3406	Arthur G Leacock Fund - Fund Balance	117,375.91
3407	Baylies Fund - Fund Balance	11,398.16
3408	Belmont Fund - Fund Balance	10,594.27
3409	Caroline E Harris Fund - Fund Balance	6,084.47
3410	Catherine Seward Fund - Fund Balance	2,570.66
3411	Clarissa T. Smith - Fund Balance	391.23
3412	Cochran Fund - Fund Balance	3,883.17
3413	Ferguson Fund - Fund Balance	1,101.87
3414	Gardner Fund - Fund Balance	3,338.80
3415	George Brinley Morgan Fund - Fund Balance	14,411.75
3416	Higgins Fund - Fund Balance	29,011.78
3417	John & Barbara Cole Fund - Fund Balance	8,696.49
3418	Jon Sloan Garden Fund - Fund Balance	8,909.34
3419	Laura Nelson Fund - Fund Balance	2,165,569.91
3420	Leidtker Church School Fund - Fund Balance	23,748.01
3421	The Endowment Fund #P0005-25 - Fund Balance	255,163.73
3422	Waterman Fund - Fund Balance	2,096.55
3423	Capital Reserve Fund - Fund Balance	70,209.37
3424	Rectory Fund - Fund Balance	170,662.14
	Total Endowment Funds	3,028,573.19
	Total Equity	6,942,288.20
	Total Liabilities + Total Equity	7,035,930.32

2025 Budget Comments

Following this narrative is the budget approved by the vestry earlier this month. So that you can easily compare the numbers, it includes columns for 2024 actual results, the 2024 budget, and the 2025 budget.

The 2025 budget projects a deficit of just under \$3,000. This is significantly lower than the deficit projected in the 2024 budget, which we successfully eliminated. The small budget deficit for 2025 should be easy to successfully manage because:

- We do expect a few additional pledges to continue to trickle in building on the strong response to our stewardship campaign.
- We have once again conservatively budgeted for unpledged donations and the weekly loose plate collections.
- We will once again carefully monitor expenses during the year. The only significant change in projected expenses year over year is to reflect the fact that we will have Nicole with us for a full year as ordained clergy.

A few other comments are in order:

- Payroll costs are our single biggest expense. We have included a 2.5% increase for staff wages.
- Our endowment income will increase slightly with quarterly distributions set to rise by 3%.
- We expect an increase in the monthly distributions from the Leacock Fund. Those will increase beginning in April or May. We are scheduled to meet with the fund manager in March to discuss just how they will be determined.
- The monthly Fair Share payments to the Diocese will likely rise in April. The budgeted amount is an estimate and likely is a bit high.
- Pine Street Players projects a small surplus. They continue to attract new youth into the program and have budgeted for that. Any actual surplus will be added to their reserve funds.

In sum, this budget reflects the strong and faithful support of the congregation for the many and varied ministries we provide. Thank you for that support and for making the responsibility the vestry has in managing the parish affairs a joyful one.

Richard Ingram, treasurer
For the Vestry

Christ Church 2025 Budget

Account Number	Account Name	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
<u>Income</u>				
<u>Endowment Income</u>				
4000	Endowment Income - Diocese	111,347	111,348	114,688
4010	Leacock Trust Income - BNY Mellon	28,936	28,944	33,000
Total Endowment Income		140,283	140,292	147,688
<u>Pledge Income</u>				
4100	Operating Pledge - Current Year	359,723	342,000	390,446
4100.1	Contribution to Cover Fees	36	0	240
Total 4100 - Operating Pledge - Current Year		359	342,000	390,686
4110	Operating Pledge - Prior Year Catch Up	9,125	6,000	3,000
Total Pledge Income		368,884	348,000	393,686
<u>Plate Income</u>				
4200	Unpledged Donations	145,155	39,600	40,000
4210	Weekly Loose Plate	12,184	7,200	8,000
4230	Diocesan Support for Curate	12,000	10,000	12,000
Total Plate Income		169,339	56,800	60,000
<u>Misc Operating Income</u>				
4300	Altar Flower Donations	1,730	2,400	1,000
4310	Memorial Donations	3,159	0	0
4320	Easter & Palm Sunday Collection	1,431	750	1,400
4340	Fellowship-Parish Life	58	0	1,000
4700	Interest Income - Citizens	34	0	50
4710	Interest Income - Edw Jones	1,914	420	1,900
Total Misc Operating Income		8,326	3,570	5,350
<u>Other Non-Operating Income</u>				
4420	Building Use	9,552	6,000	7,000
4430	Music & Special Events	100	500	200
4440	Memorial Garden Burial Fund	2,000	1,000	1,000
4450	Donations & Bequests for Endowment	0	0	0
4490	Other Non-Operating Income	0	0	0
Total Other Non-Operating Income		11,651	7,500	8,200
<u>Outreach Income</u>				
4500	Bishop Discretionary Funds	0	0	1,000
4510	Rector Disc.-General Funds	5,814	12,500	5,000
4510.01	Contributions for Cuba Missions	6,717	0	2,000
Total 4510 - Rector Disc.-General Funds		12,531	12,500	8,000

4520	Curate Discretionary Funds	938	0	500
Total Outreach Income		13,469	12,500	9,000
Miscellaneous Income				
4900	Passthrough Donations	0	0	0
4900.01	DFMS Good Friday Offering	707	0	700
Total Miscellaneous Income		707	0	700
Total Income		712,659	568,662	624,624
Expense				
Buildings & Grounds				
5000	Contribution to Building Reserve	10,000	10,000	10,000
5005	Salary - Senior Sexton	11,680	11,040	11,316
5010	Cleaning Service	19,500	18,000	18,000
5015	Heat	5,899	7,600	7,000
5020	Furnace Maintenance	0	3,400	3,000
5025	Electricity	7,265	9,100	8,000
5030	Water & Sewer	1,436	1,290	1,500
5035	Plowing and Sanding	10,575	10,500	10,800
5040	Building Maint & Supplies	4,414	3,300	3,500
5045	Life Safety Inspections	3,255	4,000	4,000
5050	Housekeeping Maint & Supplies	1,653	1,200	1,300
5055	Outside Maint & Supplies	8,947	7,500	7,500
5060	Building/Grounds Insurance	10,866	9,600	10,000
5065	Memorial Garden / Landscaping	0	0	
Total Buildings & Grounds		95,490	96,530	95,916
Christian Formation				
5100	Salary-Event Coordinator	1,200	1,200	1,230
5105	Salary-Child Care	2,350	1,750	2,700
5110	Adult Formation/Retreats	26	500	500
5115	Misc Expense Christian Formation	1,089	225	500
5120	Confirmation	273	0	300
5125	Supplies & Expense-Youth	552	1,200	1,200
5130	Youth Activities	33	1,200	500
Total Christian Formation		5,523	6,075	6,930
Clergy / Worship				
5200	Salary-Rector	56,152	56,152	58,806
5205	Housing-Rector	50,000	50,000	50,000
5210	SET Allowance - Rector	8,121	8,121	8,324
5215	Pension-Rector	20,569	20,569	21,083
5220	Health & Dental Ins - Rector	27,714	27,540	27,540
5225	Life Insurance - Rector	208	227	227
5230	Salary - Curate	37,750	29,750	46,663
5235	Housing - Curate	1,000	9,000	1,000

5240	SET Allowance - Curate	1,702	1,779	3,646
5245	Pension - Curate	3,893	4,505	9,236
5246	Life Insurance Curate	133	0	227
5250	Health Care Subsidy - St George	17,356	18,220	17,707
5255	Professional Expenses-Clergy	1,989	1,800	2,500
5260	Supply Clergy	2,300	3,000	1,000
5265	Continuing Education-Clergy	1,000	900	2,000
5270	Auto Expense Clergy	1,520	1,200	2,000
5275	Reserve for Clergy Sabbatical	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Clergy / Worship		233,406	234,762	253,958
<u>Fellowship</u>				
5400	Parish Life	5,488	6,000	6,000
5405	Stewardship	435	600	1,000
5410	New Member Ministry	759	600	1,000
5415	Parishioner Book Purchases	401	500	200
Total Fellowship		8,083	7,700	8,200
<u>Music</u>				
5500	Salary - Organist	30,617	30,617	31,382
5505	Director of Music	33,990	33,990	34,840
5510	Instrumentalists - Special	300	1,000	400
5515	Vocalists - Special	635	700	800
5520	Good Friday Requiem	4,740	3,000	4,500
5525	Continuing Education	0	0	0
5530	Substitute Organist	1,600	900	1,200
5535	Music and Supplies	906	900	1,200
5540	Copyright Fees	472	1,200	500
5545	Instrument Repair & Maintenance	3,852	4,800	4,000
Total Music		77,111	77,107	78,822
<u>Office & Administration</u>				
5600	Interest Expense - DAF	1,224	1,224	1,089
5605	Salary-Bookkeeper	17,649	21,600	17,280
5610	Salary - Administrative Assistant	18,921	18,960	19,434
5615	Postage	762	800	800
5620	Pledge & Donation Envelopes	1,445	1,800	1,500
5625	Supplies & Expense-Office	6,897	6,000	6,000
5630	Equipment Rental-Office	6,127	6,520	6,500
5635	Computer Supplies & Expense	1,327	1,800	1,500
5640	Telephone	2,688	3,600	3,000
5645	Audit Services	0	5,000	5,000
5650	Accounting Services	4,357	500	4,000
5660	Bank Service Charges	20	0	25
5665	Communications	3,312	3,000	3,200
5670	WC Insurance	2,661	2,300	2,700

5675	Miscellaneous - Office	1,525	900	1,500
5680	Payroll Processing Fees	661	660	660
5700	Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA)	11,863	10,301	9,041
5710	Contribution Processing Fees	217	480	480
Total Office & Administration		81,656	85,445	83,709
<u>Support for Diocese</u>				
5305	Diocese Fair Share	82,236	80,680	88,000
5310	Diocesan Convention	321	0	500
Total Support for Diocese		82,557	80,680	88,500
<u>Worship Support</u>				
5800	Altar Guild - Liturgical Supplies	5,375	6,000	6,000
Total Worship Support		5,375	6,000	6,000
<u>Outreach Ministry Expenses</u>				
6100	Discretionary Funds-General	5,688	5,000	5,500
6115	Granite State Organizing Project	500	500	0
Total 6100 - Discretionary Funds-General		6,188	5,500	5,500
6105	Cuba Mission Trip Expenses	15,482	7,500	2,000
6120	Episcopal R&D (DFMS)	1,207	0	700
Total Outreach Ministry Expenses		22,877	13,000	8,200
<u>Other Expenses</u>				
9010	Memorial Garden Expenses	700	0	0
9015	Expenses-Paid by Ford/Mixer	0	0	0
9020	Expenses-Paid by Higgins Fund	2,409	0	0
Total Other Expenses		3,108	0	0
Total Expense		615,186	607,299	630,234
Net Operating Income (Loss)		97,473	-38,637	-5,610
<u>Pine Street Players Income</u>				
4415	Youth Theater Income-PSP			
4415.01	Production Income-PSP	177,575	161,760	185,600
4415.02	Fundraising Income-PSP	20,886	17,700	34,850
4415.03	Donation Income-PSP	4,728	17,175	2,500
4415.04	Grants Received-PSP	2,000	2,800	2,500
4415.05	Class Fees	5,735	0	0
Total Pine Street Players Income		210,924	199,435	225,450
<u>Pine Street Players Expenses</u>				
6000	Independent Contractors-PSP	38,032	37,007	50,800
6000.1	Class Instruction	6,420	0	0
Total 6000 - Independent Contractors-PSP		44,452	37,007	50,800
6005	Production Expenses-PSP	48,965	30,828	43,590
6010	Fundraising Expenses-PSP	8,027	6,872	7,025
6015	Other Expenses - PSP	6,405	4,513	2,692
6025	Artistic Director of PSP	51,500	51,500	52,788

6030	Retirement Contrib - AD	4,635	4,635	4,751
6035	Music Director of PSP	22,279	22,279	22,836
6040	Choreographer of PSP	29,220	29,220	29,951
6045	ER Payroll Taxes - PSP Staff	7,880	7,879	8,076
Total Pine Street Players Expenses		223,363	197,083	222,508
Net Pine Street Players Income (Loss)		-12,439	2,352	2,942
Combined Net Income (Loss)		85,034	-36,285	-2,668

Parish Leadership in 2024

Vestry Officers

Patricia Gianotti, Senior Warden
Judy Blaisdell, Junior Warden
John Cofer, Clerk
Richard Ingram, Treasurer

Vestry Members

(Term ends Jan. 2025)

Jen Murray
John Hodsdon
Morgan McCay

(Term ends Jan. 2026)

Alice Bentley
Susan Dixon
John Woodward

[Term ends Jan. 2027]

Scott Anders
Blake Carrico
Juliette Gavin

Finance Committee

Lucia Savage
Richard Ingram
Gene Stillwell

Delegates to Diocesan Convention & Seacoast Convocation

Claudia McQueen (ends Jan. 2026)
Gretchen McBride (ends Jan. 2026)
Patti Buck (ends Jan. 2027)
Jeanette McDonald (ends Jan. 2027)

Alternate to Convention

(Term ends Jan. 2025)
Paul Wainwright

Nominating Committee

Carla Ranks
Jen Murray
John Hodsdon
Morgan McCay

Safe Church Minister

Darla Watt

Parish Staff

Mark B. Pendleton, Rector
The Rev. Nicole Benevenia, Curate
Suzanne Jones, Director of Music
Bruce Adami, Organist
Darla Watt, Admin. Assistant
George Malgeri, Senior Sexton
Richard Ingram, Bookkeeper
Lexi Meunier, Pine Street Players
Christina DeMaio, Event Coordinator

Vestry Nominees

Elizabeth Bauman: Elizabeth lives in Exeter with her husband Luke, daughter Abigail, three dogs, three cats, and two birds. They worshipped years ago at Christ Episcopal Church and are glad to be back.

Elizabeth was born and raised in Wilton, Connecticut and went on to get her bachelor's degree in Sociology and Anthropology at Ohio Wesleyan University.

Elizabeth met Luke in London when she was visiting in 1991 and then married in 1993, and their daughter was born there. For a variety of reasons, they decided to come to the states in 2006, where they have raised Abi and have contributed to the community.

Elizabeth is involved in the nonprofit world where she has served on several boards in the Seacoast area. Her passion is helping the needy, the elderly, children, families, mental health, medical institutions, and continuing education to employees. She is excited about the opportunity to be involved and serve people at Christ Church.

In Elizabeth's spare time she enjoys acrylic painting, working out, reading, walking with her family and dogs, and needle point when she can.

Athens Pullias, Jr.: Athens has been a member of Christ Church Exeter since 2022. At Christ Church, Athens serves as a lector and member of the Faith Formation Group and Regional Discernment Committee. He regularly attends Bible Study and the Men's Group. Prior to 2022, Athens was for 18 years a member of Calvary Episcopal Church in Rochester, Minnesota. At Calvary Episcopal, he served as an usher, lector, leader of Morning Prayer, and lay delegate to the Diocesan Convention in Minneapolis. Via Zoom, he continues to act as a leader of Morning Prayer at Calvary Episcopal each Wednesday morning. Prior to his retirement in 2021, Athens was a financial analyst at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester with a focus on costing and reporting requirements for Federally sponsored research. He has held similar positions at Tulane University, Dartmouth College, and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Athens currently lives in Newmarket.

Cindy Eaton: Cindy and family have been members of Christ Church for 26 years and were thankful to raise their son Tim in this blessed community. During this time, she has had the good fortune to teach Sunday School, participate as a member of the Altar Guild, act as lector and serve on the Vestry during the search for our present rector.

Cindy works at Berwick Academy in South Berwick ME, and when not busy herding teenagers, she enjoys hiking, biking and spending time with her new granddaughter Hayden. Cindy lives in Kensington with her dog Layla and cat Liza Jane.

Christ Church Official Ballot
2025 Annual Meeting
26-Jan

Office	Term	Number to elect	Nominee	Number you are to vote for
Treasurer	Three years	1 (one)	Richard Ingram	vote for 1 (one)
Vestry	Three years	3 (Three)		vote for 3 (Three)
			Elizabeth Bauman	
			Cindy Eaton	
			Athens Pullias, Jr.	
Alternate to Convention	One year	1 (One)		vote for 1 (One)
			Paul Wainwright	

Father Kenneth Untener, a priest from Saginaw Michigan, wrote the prayer "Prophets of a Future Not Our Own" in 1979. Later, then Bishop Untener included it in a book as a reflection on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Oscar Romero. Romero was the Archbishop of San Salvador when he was assassinated in 1980. Even though he never spoke it, the prayer is sometimes attributed to Romero, and it is often called "Romero's Prayer."

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.
The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.
No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.
No program accomplishes the church's mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.
This is what we are about.
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.
We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.
We lay foundations that will need further development.
We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.
We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do something and to do it well.
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.



Anchor Legacy Society Enrollment Form

To the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the mission and ministry of God's church, I/we have made a gift for the future ministry of Christ Church of Exeter.

My/our planned gift is: (*check one or more that may apply*)

- A bequest in my/our will
- Annuity, life insurance or retirement plan
- Direct gifts of cash, securities, real estate and other items
- Charitable gift annuities with lifetime payments
- Personal trust account
- Other: _____

I/we accept the invitation to join the Anchor Legacy Society.

I/we consent for my/our name/s to appear with others on the public roster of the Legacy Society.

On the roster of the Anchor Legacy Society, I/we wish my/our name/s to appear as:

Or I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Signature(s)

Date

Name/s _____

Address, City, State, Zip _____

Phone, Email _____

*Please send this form to: Office Administrator, Christ Church 43 Pine Street
Exeter NH 03833*