

ANNUAL REPORT

for 2025

**Presented to the parish at the Annual Meeting
on January 25, 2026**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**679 Farmington Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06119**

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 25, 2026

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St. John's Episcopal Church Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 25, 2026
9 a.m. in Hubbard Hall

Agenda

Opening Prayer & Call to Order

Acceptance of 2025 Annual Meeting minutes

Vestry elections

Wardens (one-year term)

Susan Fay

Tom Oberholtzer

Treasurers (one-year term)

Jeff Kinney

John Wilcox

Vestry members (three-year term)

Betsy Chicares, Matt Ciscel, Young Hee Derby, Don Polk

Delegates to ECCT Annual Convention

Dave Derby

Sharon Henes

Resolutions

- 1) Motion to authorize the treasurers or either warden to borrow up to \$10,000 annually without calling for a vestry vote.
- 2) Motion to authorize the vestry to fill a vacancy to serve until the next parish meeting.
- 3) Motion to allow the co-treasurers or either warden to sell any securities received in payment of pledges or other donations.

Reports

Rector's Report – Todd FitzGerald

Wardens' Report – Eleanor Barnes & Stewart Murchie

Associate Rector's Report – Margie Baker

Music Report – Nick Capozzoli

Capital Campaign Report – Eleanor Barnes & Virginia Van Dyk

Financial Report – John Wilcox

Recognitions

Eleanor Barnes & Stewart Murchie – outgoing wardens

Tim Goetz – outgoing treasurer

Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer – outgoing vestry members

Sharon Henes – led the youth group and Christmas pageant during Margie's sabbatical

Patrick Reardon – served as choirmaster during Nick's paternity leave

Elijah Morris – served as principal organist during Nick's paternity leave

New Business

Adjournment

St. John's Episcopal Church Annual Meeting

January 26, 2025

9 a.m. in Hubbard Hall

Todd FitzGerald, rector, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and opened with prayer. He noted that a quorum for the annual meeting, per our bylaws, is at least 10% of our active membership as stated on the most recent parochial report. Our active membership on the parochial report for 2023 was 366, for a quorum of 37 people, which was exceeded.

A motion to approve the 2024 Annual Meeting minutes as written was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

A. Elections

The following slate of nominees was presented. There were no nominees from the floor.

Wardens (one-year term)

Eleanor Barnes

Stewart Murchie

Treasurers (one-year term)

David McCary

John Wilcox

Vestry members (three-year term)

Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Susan Fay, Jeff Verney

Vestry member (two-year term to complete an unexpired vacated term)

Stacey Samuel Bannon

Delegates to Convention

Eleanor Barnes, Sharon Henes, Alternate – Robert Eikel

A motion to elect all of the above-named people to their respective positions was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. Todd thanked those who were elected for accepting their nominations and being willing to serve.

B. Thanks to outgoing vestry members

1. Todd thanked Anne Harney, who has completed her third consecutive one-year term as co-treasurer. When Todd asked Peggy, the financial administrator, how she would describe Anne in her role as treasurer, Peggy described Anne as incredibly responsive, thorough, very supportive, and bringing many valuable skills into the treasurer role from her professional life as a CPA. Anne was not at the Annual Meeting because of a family emergency, but will receive a gift as a token of our collective thanks.
2. Stewart Murchie, warden, thanked and gave small gifts to Marcos Donnelly and Rosa Guzzo, who are rotating off the vestry after a three-year term. He also mentioned and thanked Linda Schatz, who was elected to a three-year term in January 2024, and stepped down mid-year due to family obligations.
3. Eleanor Barnes, warden, thanked and gave small gifts to Lissie Brooks and Mary Honyotski, who have also completed their terms on the vestry.

C. **Annual Resolutions** – The three annual resolutions related to parish management during the coming year were presented:

1. Motion to authorize the treasurers or either warden to borrow up to \$10,000 annually without calling for a vestry vote.
2. Motion to authorize the vestry to fill a vacancy to serve until the next parish meeting.
3. Motion to allow the treasurer or either warden to sell any securities received in payment of pledges or other donations.

A motion to approve all three annual resolutions was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

D. **Rector's Report** – Todd FitzGerald

St. John's is a growing church. For example, in 2017, we had 125 pledging households, while in 2025, we have 170 pledging households. The total dollar amount of annual pledging has also increased significantly. Our newly elected treasurer John Wilcox will offer a more nuanced analysis of the positive aspects of this trend and some important cautionary notes in his financial report later in the Annual Meeting.

Todd raised two questions that relate to the church's growth:

1. How will growth affect our relationship with our endowment?
2. How will growth influence how we are experiencing the incarnation of the living Christ in our midst?

Question 1: Our increasing number of pledging households is a sign that current parishioners are taking more and more responsibility for our operating budget, which is a vital part of parish life. As current parishioners take on more responsibility, they empower the vestry to manage a prudent endowment draw, so our endowment will continue to grow and be available to support the parish. It's exciting to imagine what it will mean if this growth continues. What if we can get to 200 pledging households? With this kind of growth, current parishioners take more responsibility for our current operations, expand the impact of our ministries, and help St. John's equip more disciples and servants of Christ in our community.

Question 2: While it is very exciting that we are growing in pledges, it is equally important that growth be measured in terms of quality as well as quantity. Are we growing in reverence, joy, and depth in worship? Is the Good News being proclaimed faithfully? Do our sacramental celebrations tell the story of God's saving grace? Are we forming disciples of all ages and supporting them? Are we building a culture that allows us to admit that we are all imperfect and sinful, and are all saved by the loving grace of God in Christ? Are we maturing as disciples so we may be both comforted and challenged to grow? As we respond to God in gratitude, are we motivated to extend charity and work for justice? Thanks be to God that we are growing in numbers, but the quality of our growth is vitally important. Can we recognize the ways that Christ is manifest in our worship, formation, and service? Our guide in all things should be Jesus and especially Jesus' commandment, "that you love one another just as I have loved you."

We give thanks to God for faithful leaders who are facing transitions this year. The Reverend Walter McKenney, who has faithfully served St. John's for many years as our deacon, has decided it is time for him to step down from that ministry, although he will continue to worship with us. Later this year, we will have a special celebration in thanksgiving for his service.

In the year ahead, we will also welcome four clergy as volunteers. St. John's former rector, Joe Pace, will occasionally preach, and three clergy who have recently become members of St. John's (Rebecca Bourret, Mary Lynn Dell, and Nancy Wright) will share their gifts for ministry in a variety of capacities, such as adult education, preaching, and presiding.

Todd concluded by saying it is a privilege and honor to continue to walk alongside this community as rector. We had a wonderful night of worship and celebration in September 2024 when we officially welcomed Todd as St. John's rector. May God continue to direct our growth with the presence of the Holy Spirit, and may Christ continue to transform our lives so we may grow in love for God, one another, and our neighbors.

E. Wardens' Report – Stewart Murchie & Eleanor Barnes

Stewart highlighted four particularly important accomplishments during 2024: 1) A healthy discernment process led to the vestry's calling of Todd as rector in May, and Todd's acceptance of that call. 2) After Scott Lamlein, former director of music, left in April for another position, the parish moved from strength to strength as the staff, lay leaders, and search committee managed the transition and the search for Scott's replacement. In the fall, we welcomed a wonderful interim, Walden Moore, and we ultimately hired Nick Capozzoli as the new director of music after receiving a lot of input from many people in the parish. 3) Our new HVAC system is now in the final stages of installation. To get to this point, we spent an enormous amount of time discerning this project, with the House Committee led by Steve Crocker thoroughly diagnosing problems with the old system and making solid recommendations for a new one. We can now look forward to greater efficiencies, a lower environmental footprint, and lower costs. 4) Early in 2024, we resurrected the finance committee, one of four committees required by our bylaws. By the time we were creating the 2025 budget in the fall, we wondered how we had managed this and other financial processes without the finance committee's help. Their role is to bring together financial information and insights so they can offer informed advice and support to the vestry when financial decisions need to be made.

Eleanor Barnes continued the wardens' report by mentioning several other accomplishments and ongoing projects. The cost of the new HVAC system led us to initiate a capital campaign, which will ultimately raise money not only for the HVAC system, but also for other projects that will further St. John's mission and ministries. Eleanor is the capital campaign co-chair, along with Virginia Van Dyk. The campaign started last fall with "cottage meetings" – small groups of parishioners meeting to talk about St. John's and where God may be calling us in the future. After reviewing cottage meeting notes to identify common themes, a small committee was assembled (Eleanor and Virginia along with Todd FitzGerald, Ellen Painter Dollar, Rosa Guzzo, Julia O'Brien, and Jeff Verney) to identify specific projects related to those themes, along with their estimated costs. This information will be compiled into a "tentative case statement" and shared with the parish with an invitation to give feedback. This is not a "top down" process, but rather a conversation that the whole parish is invited to participate in. Eleanor also highlighted a successful stewardship campaign led by Laura Roche and Robert Eikel, and the new Kitchen Guild organized by Kate Eikel and Angela Allen-Peck. Just as Kate and Angela stepped up to organize a new volunteer group to make the kitchen more usable, please know that if you see a need in the parish, we welcome your participation and leadership in meeting it.

Question: Will you be considering accessibility and handicapped parking in potential capital campaign projects? *Answer:* Anytime you notice a property issue that could be addressed, please mention it to the staff and/or a member of the House Committee. While not everything can be included in the capital

campaign, we always have resources available to improve the building, and want to be made aware if the property is not meeting parish and community needs.

Stewart concluded the wardens' report by thanking the parish staff. So much of what we're talking about that's positive and joyful arose from the hard work that takes place in the office all year, and the staff took on a huge amount of extra work in 2024.

F. **Associate Rector's Report** – Margie Baker

Children and youth formation is going very well. Of all the numbers mentioned in her written report, the one Margie wanted to highlight was 23—the number of adults who volunteered to help with the Christmas pageant. That level of volunteering is amazing, and it's more than just volunteering—it's ministry. We also have a wonderful team of Sunday School teachers but can always use more. It's fun and you don't have to prepare anything ahead of time. Margie provides lesson plans, and you just need to show up on Sunday ready to have fun with our curious children.

We've been steadily increasing the number of intergenerational events open to all ages, including an all-ages Vacation Bible Study on four weekday evenings in June, two trivia nights, and the monthly making of sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes.

For adults, the Bible study and book club discussions offer regular opportunities to connect online to talk about stories and ideas. Book club is the first Thursday evening of the month (September through November, February through April) at 7 p.m., while Bible study is most Monday evenings at 7 p.m., with an occasional hiatus in the summer or between study topics. Both the book club and Bible study meet virtually in Zoom. There is also an annual Bible study in-person retreat at Camp Washington. This spring, it will be April 11 and 12.

Margie will be taking a sabbatical in the fall of 2025. She will be at St. John's for the first three Sundays of September, then away until Monday, December 21. That means she will not be here for the Christmas pageant on December 20, but we have plenty of dedicated volunteers who will ensure that it happens. We have everything we need in this parish to successfully minister alongside one another.

G. **Interim Music Director's Report** – Walden Moore

Today is Walden's last day as interim, so a great day to sum up what he's seen and done over the last five months, which is detailed in his written annual report. Walden started his church career at St. James's in West Hartford from 1980 to 1984, which is when he first got to know St. John's down the street. One of the families attending St. James's at the time was that of the Reverend Borden Painter, whose daughter Ellen is now the director of operations here at St. John's. She is an example of how being part of a church community can help form people for the rest of their lives. The music program at St. John's is not just about music; it is also educational and helps those who participate to grow as people. Ted Babbitt, a former St. John's chorister and organ scholar who is now studying to become a professional organist and church musician, is another example of the power of churches and our music programs to form people.

Walden chose hymns this morning that are especially appropriate for Annual Meeting Sunday. Raise your voices this morning, because the sound of the congregation singing is the heart of any church music program. Walden invited everyone to support the incoming director of music, Nick Capozzoli, as we have supported Walden, Scott, and the music program. Walden thanked the clergy, staff, wardens, choirs, choir parents, and parishioners for the many happy memories he will carry with him from this time at St. John's. Walden will step back to give Nick an opportunity to grow into his new

role, though will be back to play the Sunday service on March 9, because of a commitment that Nick planned prior to his hire.

Todd invited everyone to stay after the 10:30 service today for a special coffee hour to honor Walden, and reiterated what a gift he has been to all of us. Being an interim leader is a selfless role, as it requires you to be: 1) mindful of the leader who left and the expectations/culture/practices they left behind, 2) mindful of what's going on right now, so we can all keep showing up and moving the program forward, and 3) mindful of making space for and equipping the new person who will come into the job. It's all selfless work and requires a servant's heart. Walden has done that work so remarkably, and has been a tremendous gift to the staff, choirs, and community.

H. **Financial Report** – John Wilcox

Overall we're in very good financial shape. In 2024, revenue was up across all categories, we outperformed budget, our expenses were lower than in 2023, and the operating deficit was the smallest it has been in several years. We also saw strong endowment performance, and the endowment draw to support the operating budget was lower than it has been for several years.

We still face some challenges, however, including significant capital expenditures for the new HVAC system and a higher budgeted operating deficit in 2025, which reflects several things: higher staff expenses as we return to having a full-time music director; the loss of income that we've received for many years from the daycare center at Congregation Beth Israel, which has paid us to rent parking spaces for their staff but no longer needs those spaces; and the need to pay interest on the loan we took out to partially cover the cost of the new HVAC system. The draw rate on the endowment that is required to support a larger operating budget is higher than it should be, particularly when we consider capital expenditures and inflation. The situation is not dire, and we are trending in a good direction, but we have work to do to ensure that our budget and endowment remain healthy.

Our growth in pledge numbers is very strong relative to the national average. We're consistently performing better than national church trends.

The budgeted operating deficit for 2025 is \$366,000, which is about the same amount of the budgeted deficit for 2024, although the actual 2024 deficit ended up much lower, around \$240,000. John is hopeful that in 2025, we will also end up with a smaller deficit than we've budgeted for. For example, we've just learned that while the parking lot rental income is most likely going away in the long term, the daycare center sent us a partial payment to meet their obligations toward the current contract, which ends on June 30, 2025.

John has done some analysis of the endowment draw rate, setting aside expenses related to capital improvements, which are not included in the budget because they are capitalized and depreciated over time. For example, the \$800,000+ we've spent on the new HVAC system is not included in the budget, as it has been capitalized to depreciate over 20 years.

Since 2022, our endowment draw rate has been 4.3% to 5.9%. How does that compare to endowment growth? During that time, the endowment has averaged 5.5% growth. Looked at that way, we have seen modest growth in the endowment. But when we incorporate our capital expenditures over the last 10 years (which are not in the budget but are paid for via the endowment) in the endowment draw rate, we see a break-even dynamic, rather than endowment growth.

Why is it important for endowment to grow? From 2018 to 2025, our operating expenses went up 40%, while the endowment only went up 8%. In 2018, a 4% endowment draw covered 30% of operating

expenses, while in the 2025 budget, a 4% draw only covers 23% of expenses. If this trend continues, our endowment will be less able to support the operating budget.

There are two ways to address this trend:

- Grow revenue faster than expenses to reduce the burden on our endowment.
- Increase the value of the endowment to strengthen its ability to support operations.

The upcoming capital campaign is an important tool for restoring balance between our operating expenses and endowment growth.

In summary:

- We have strong momentum with growth and increased pledge income.
- The endowment has performed well and is holding steady, but is not keeping pace with expense growth.
- The capital campaign is essential to a more sustainable long-term position.

Question: Can you tell us more about the loan that was taken out to fund the HVAC project? *Answer:* We took out a bank loan to cover half of the total HVAC project cost of about \$830,000. The other half of the money came from our endowment. We intend for funds raised through the capital campaign to repay both the loan and our endowment.

Question: Are our endowment returns comparable with other churches? Could investing with more risk increase our return? *Answer:* We don't have data on how our endowment has performed vs. other churches. We have a diversified portfolio, with about 30% invested in fixed income. Our asset allocation is in line with standard allocation advice for non-profits. Fixed-income returns in the past few years have not been great, but it's normal for markets to go up and down. The Investment Committee has taken a hard look at asset allocation, and feels that we've made the right choices relative to benchmarks.

Todd mentioned that in the capital campaign, we will raise awareness of the importance of legacy gifts. There are three main ways that parishioners can support the church and we need all three: annual pledges, capital campaign pledges, and legacy gifts through estate planning. We will make a committed effort during the capital campaign to raise awareness of how legacy gifts can help the endowment.

New Business

There were no requests for new business. Kim Byrd thanked the clergy and staff for all they do and led a round of applause.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Painter Dollar
Director of Operations & Communications

Rector's Report

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I frequently pray this collect for guidance in the early mornings with you all on my mind. I am comforted by the promise that in God we live and move and have our being as individuals and as a church community. If we are open and receptive, the Holy Spirit will guide us and govern our lives.

As I think back on 2025, I believe that the Holy Spirit was with us and among us as we showed up to one another and our life together in Christ, and as we strived to join God's mission in and through this church.

One big example of how we showed up for our church community was in our commitment to upgrade our facilities. During the year, we replaced our 30-year-old heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system—a major project that required extraordinary cooperation among the house committee, the finance committee, the staff, and the vestry. Steve Crocker, chair of the house committee; John Wilcox, chair of the finance committee; and Dwight Latif, sexton, led the effort alongside the vestry and with the participation of many dedicated parishioners.

Though the HVAC was the largest project and was completed in 2025, we also plan to upgrade the education wing by adding one classroom and updating the space for current needs, and upgrade the outdated door locking system throughout the campus. These upgrades will enhance our ministry in numerous ways, including improving our ability to deliver excellent Christian formation, host outside groups in our buildings, and balance hospitality and security.

None of these upgrades would have been possible without the generosity of everyone who pledged to our capital campaign, *Deep Roots, New Life*. These pledges were another concrete expression of our care for this community, and our desire to sustain the programs and ministries that support our efforts to grow in discipleship and mission. The campaign was led by co-chairs Eleanor Barnes and Virginia Van Dyk, with invaluable support from director of operations and communications, Ellen Painter Dollar.

Care for our physical plant and financial assets is a tangible expression of our love for St. John's Church and our desire to be good stewards of all that has been entrusted to us. It is also an expression of our gratitude to God, who is the source of all that we have. In addition to these physical and financial enhancements, in 2025 we took good care of our people in numerous ways.

As a church, we are blessed with an extraordinary staff who are experts in their specific areas and collaborative as a team. Their support for ministries and programs is vital to the quality of everything that we do as a church. Each staff member holds themselves to high professional standards, partners well with parishioners and outside groups, and maintains a commitment to the mission of this church. In November of 2026, Dwight Latif (sexton) will have served St. John's for 17 years; in September of 2026, Ellen Painter Dollar (director of operations and communications) will have served St. John's for 10 years; in June of 2026, upon her retirement, Peggy O'Toole (financial administrator) will have served St. John's for nine years; in June of 2026, Margie Baker (associate rector) will have served St. John's for seven years; and in two days, Nick Capozzoli (director of music) will have served St. John's for one year. We are very fortunate to have such a remarkable staff, and we will continue to prioritize generous compensation and benefits as an expression of the church's appreciation for each of them.

In 2025, associate rector, Margie Baker, was on sabbatical in the fall, and director of music, Nick Capozzoli, was on paternity leave. In these two situations, we honored contractual agreements as a tangible sign of the

church's support for these two people whom we love and admire as they navigated work/life balance. Thankfully, they both came back! What a blessing that parishioners and staff stepped up when Nick and Margie were away, and, when I was out for several weeks in May on medical leave. Thank you especially to Ellen Painter Dollar who stepped up (as she often does) and took on more responsibilities so that ministries and programs would continue smoothly.

We continued to benefit from the gifts for ministry shared so faithfully by our priest associates and our seminarian. The reverends Rebecca Bourret, Mary Lynn Dell, Joe Pace, and Nancy Wright offered priestly ministry in support of our efforts to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Their ministries included preaching, teaching, leading worship, spiritual direction, and more. Our seminarian, Katherine Leary, joined us as a part of her seminary training. As she pursues her learning objectives among us, her presence invites us to learn alongside her. Katherine is already a gifted preacher, sensitive pastor, and insightful teacher, and her time with us has been a blessing.

Another example of how took care of our people was through our church's effort to incorporate new parishioners. Statistics show that if new people are not incorporated into a ministry within six months, they tend to leave a church. Caring for our people, especially our new people, means inviting them into ministries and programs, and introducing them to as many people as possible.

At the end of 2024, we had 25 new pledges from new households; at the end of 2025, we had 30 new pledges from new households. Each of these 55 new pledges represents new people who have chosen to make St. John's their church home. Hopefully, each of them can tell a story of how they felt welcomed here. And many of them can tell stories of how they have started to get involved in the life of the parish by joining a ministry. It is a wonderful sign to see new people serving as ushers, layreaders, Sunday school teachers, choir members, and healing prayer ministers; serving on altar guild, cloister garden guild, community service committee, and parish life committee. And speaking of the reconvened parish life committee, this group will help facilitate more opportunities for parishioners to connect with one another, and they will join the clergy and Ellen to help incorporate new people into the church.

As you can see, in 2025 we spent a significant amount of energy caring for our community in large and small ways. This attitude of care within our church is summed up best when Jesus told his followers: "...everyone will know you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35) Our love for one another enabled us to come together for worship, support, formation, fellowship, and inspiration. Let's give thanks to God for the blessing of a loving church family.

Let us also remember that the pattern of Christian life is both a coming together with other believers and a going out to join God's mission to the world. Jesus taught that pattern to the first disciples and to us: Come together to pray, give thanks, and share mutual support, and then go out to proclaim the kingdom of God, to work for mercy and justice, and to care for the neighbor, especially the most vulnerable. As followers of Jesus Christ, we go out into our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and communities to join God's mission to build a kingdom of peace, justice, and love. In the popular image from St. Teresa of Avila, we are to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

As Episcopalians, we have specific guidelines in our baptismal covenant about how we are to come together as a church and how we are to go out into the world as followers of Jesus Christ. In our baptismal covenant, we promise to come together in worship, prayer, and fellowship. We acknowledge that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. We promise to tell others about what we have found—to share the good news of God's love in Christ. And we commit to seeking and serving Christ in all people, to striving for justice and peace, and to respecting the dignity of every person we meet. These are challenging guidelines, but they give us

benchmarks to strive for. And they remind us that we need God's help if we are going to make any progress in living a faithful and active Christian life.

Last year, there were so many examples of people in this church community striving to meet the expectations set out in the baptismal covenant:

- Worship attendance was up, including at the 8:00am Sunday service, the Wednesday 5:30 Eucharist, and Christmas and Easter services. Twelve teenagers and 8 adults were confirmed or received, and for the first time in years, St. John's held an Easter vigil.
- I know that many of you have grown spiritually by participating in centering prayer, Bible study, Christian formation, spiritual direction, and retreats such as the Bible study and vestry retreats. Spiritual growth requires intentional practices, and recognizing that we all break relationship with ourselves, with each other, with creation, and with God; this recognition is the first step to repenting and returning to right relationship, receiving the new identity in Christ that God is always giving us.
- To proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ can be intimidating, but I have witnessed you all do this when you invite someone to church! Telling your friends about your church can seem insignificant, but a simple invite can literally be life changing.
- I have witnessed you all seeking and serving Christ, striving for justice and peace, and respecting the dignity of every human being through Journey Home, Loaves and Fishes, and Habitat for Humanity, but also in the ways that you care for one another, an aging parent, an isolated neighbor, or a friend who is struggling.
- Many of you are doing what you can to walk alongside others who are vulnerable because you believe that Jesus calls you to be there. And as we enter the new year, many of you are asking: How are we called to go out in new ways to advocate for justice and peace for the most vulnerable in the Hartford area in the name of Jesus Christ.

2025 was full of blessings! Thanks be to God who has given us the Holy Spirit to guide and govern our lives. And as we seek to be a part of God's mission in and through this church in 2026, let us give thanks for the living God who sustains us for the journey.

Faithfully submitted,
Todd FitzGerald, rector

Wardens' Report

As wardens, we feel immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve a parish so filled with passion, faith, talent, and hard work. It has been a privilege to work alongside incredible clergy, staff, and fellow parishioners. We are confident in the next wardens, the incoming vestry, and the broad population of lay leaders to continue the great progress we have seen in 2025, and indeed across our tenures as leaders at St. John's the last three years.

We look back with pride at some of the many things that the parish accomplished in 2025:

- First, we are proud and thrilled with the results of the capital campaign. The \$2M fundraising goal was chosen to accomplish three important strategic and fiscal outcomes: (1) Pay for our new heating and cooling system (including paying back the bank loan and the endowment funds that we used to cover the \$800,000+ expense of the new system). (2) Raise sufficient capital to rebuild the education wing, to provide appropriate infrastructure to sustain Christian education and nursery care, and make an important part of our campus comfortable for year-round use. (3) Provide additional endowment capital to promote fiscal stability and sustenance for our beloved church. That we surpassed our goal is a tribute to the goodwill, faith, and generosity of our parishioners. We could not be more grateful to everyone who participated. We are also especially grateful to Virginia Van Dyk, who co-led the campaign with Eleanor,

and the many people who served as “askers,” served as committee members, or who otherwise assisted with this significant undertaking.

- We are thankful for our finance committee, and chair John Wilcox, for incorporating renewed discipline in how we plan and budget for long-term capital projects. Our campus is large, and our historic building needs to be maintained for generations to come. Our leaders are working diligently to safeguard these assets through proactive planning and enhanced discipline in how we manage our capital funds.
- We applaud our lay leaders for two events that continue to evolve and help fund our parish budget. Matteo Donnelly and his band of volunteers made changes to the Christmas Festival, with great success, and offered ideas to build on for future festivals—a treasured holiday tradition at St. John’s that has been refreshed! Lauren Mascola and Liana Guzman rallied many volunteers for the Spring Fling—an evolving favorite annual event for fellowship and fundraising.
- Leaders across the parish gathered over the summer to think about new ways we can bring our community together and welcome newcomers in partnership with clergy and staff. This led to a renewed parish life committee. We will look forward to what the committee will build in 2026, as we continue to recognize the need and appetite for fellowship, connections, and welcoming as bedrocks of our community and Christian culture.
- We are grateful for Nick’s first year with us as music director, and how skillfully he led our choirs and delivered on another sterling program year. We look forward to welcoming baby Luca into our midst and happy for Nick and Caroline for a healthy little one (and future chorister).
- We were inspired by Todd’s courage in his fight with cancer, his incredible energy upon his return, and his ability to carry us through a remarkably busy fall with his usual grace and leadership. We welcome Margie back from her sabbatical and look forward to future opportunities to learn about her time of rest and exploration.

In sum, we thank all those who are leading, participating, and exploring the opportunity to live out their faith through involvement at St. John’s. The energy, enthusiasm, and momentum are palpable. Let us continue to do God’s work, care for one another (inside and outside our parish), and welcome all who come through our doors.

Faithfully submitted,
Eleanor Barnes & Stewart Murchie, wardens

Associate Rector’s Report

Sabbatical

As many of you know, I had a sabbatical this fall. In the diocese of Connecticut, clergy who have served for at least five years in a parish are encouraged to take a three-month sabbatical. Sabbatical comes from the same word as sabbath; it’s a time to remember *who* we are and *whose* we are, to rest in God’s love and mercy, and to be renewed for continued service in the parish.

My sabbatical involved plenty of reading, prayer, and exercise. It also involved extra family time and college visits with Jamie, who is a junior in high school. I was also able to take a few trips. I began with a four-day silent retreat at the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) in Cambridge, MA, an Episcopal monastery and guest house. In October, I went to Spain with my parents. We walked, ate, visited churches and historical sites, and spent time in art museums and gardens. In November, Jenn and I went to Costa Rica, which has been on both of our lists for years. We did all things outdoorsy, learned about coffee cooperatives and how to make tortillas, and enjoyed time away.

During sabbatical I prayed for St. John’s. I gave thanks for the opportunity to rest and recharge, and for all the parishioners whose ministries made it possible for me to leave. I never worried about Sunday School, or

nursery, or EYC, or Bible study, or the Christmas pageant, or sandwich making, or any of it. We take care of one another, and while I adore being with you and am *so glad* to be back, it can all happen without me. What a blessing.

Sunday School and Nursery

The Sunday school and nursery programs continue to thrive. We have weekly Sunday school for children ages 3–17 and weekly nursery care for children six and under.

- The biggest news from the education wing is that this year we began offering Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our 3-6 year olds. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori-based approach to the religious formation of children, rooted in sacred scripture, liturgy, and respect for the child's rich relationship with God. The atrium (the room where the children gather to pray and work) is a sacred space in which children come to know Jesus through hands-on work with developmentally appropriate, specialized materials. The atrium is a place of prayer. Simply put: the children's work is their prayer. You can learn more about CGS at cgsusa.org. The class meets from 9:00 to 10:15 every week. Robert Eikel and Enid Oberholtzer are our trained catechists (teachers) and are assisted by Beth Kauczka, Tim Watt, Jo-Ann Sadosky, and Erica Weinstock.
- Our elementary, middle, and high school classes meet in their own classrooms on Choir School weeks and in a "one-room schoolhouse" setting on non-Choir School weeks. This rhythm allows our teachers to have flexibility and lets our children work across age groups in fun and appropriate ways. This year the one-room schoolhouse is led by Jeff Verney and Donielle Joslyn, and the focus is on *Holy Troublemakers* (saints and others who live out God's call in sometimes surprising ways).
- On Choir School weeks, the elementary class focuses on deepening and expanding students' faith foundation. This year we have been focusing on the same story or topic for three to four sessions, which allows all children to dig deeper into a story even if they miss a week. This fall, for instance, they spent three sessions on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-10). The first week, they read and wondered. The second week, they completed a puzzle activity. And the third week, they did an escape room! They are led by Akilah Williams and Jeff Verney.
- This year, the middle school class is working their way through the Book of Acts. Each week they have background information, scripture, and then questions that tie scripture to their own lives and experience. Our middle school teachers are Matt Ciscel and Leah Lorenzo.
- The high school class, led by Angela Allen-Peck and Buffy Ineson, has been working through *God, Gospel, and Gender: A Queer Bible Study for Teens*. They ask big questions and study scripture through a lens of the diversity of God's creation and love of God and neighbor.
- Our nursery program has continued to flourish this year under the care of two professional nursery workers and several youth and young adult workers. We have three workers each week caring for anywhere from one to 12 children, depending on the week. If you have a high school or college-aged child who might be interested in serving in the nursery (they receive a small stipend), please contact me for more information.

If you feel called to the ministry of Sunday School, please let me know! There's always room for more teachers, and teaching Sunday School is a profound way to shape the future and deepen your own faith.

EYC

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) is a weekly gathering for youth in grades 6 to 12 (or equivalent). We meet on Sunday evenings from 5 to 7pm. In 2025, EYC was a space for fellowship, service, formation, and fun. Some 2025 highlights were the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, the Dignity Grows packing party, spring lock-in, and a video scavenger hunt in Elizabeth Park. We are blessed with several adults who support our teens and tweens: Kate Eikel and Matt Ciscel, who lead the GPL (service-oriented) programs; Sharon Henes, our youth

advisor; and Katherine Leary, our seminarian intern. You can support the EYC by feeding them dinner: sjparish.net/eycdinner.

Christmas Pageant: Sabbatical Edition

Thank you to all of the parents and kids who made the Christmas pageant happen this year while I was on sabbatical! It takes a village. A special thank you to Sharon Henes for directing and to Patrick Reardon for leading the Choir School.

Monday Night Bible Study

Monday night Bible study continues weekly, online in Zoom. This fall while I was on sabbatical, the group continued to meet and focused on the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. We are now studying the Book of James, and will begin a new series for Lent on Monday, February 23. I am also working on securing a date for an in-person retreat at Camp Washington. This will be our fourth year, and details will come soon.

Church by the Pond

This year, St. John's began a new ministry with Church by the Pond, a weekly Eucharist and feeding ministry coordinated by Christ Church Cathedral. We met at St. John's at noon on a Saturday to pack bag lunches for those who may attend, and then we caravanned over to Bushnell Park to lead a simple Eucharist service by the pond. In 2026, we will serve at Church by the Pond three times: May 23, August 1, And October 17. This is a simple, tangible, and meaningful outreach ministry appropriate for all ages and stages. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for details.

Faithfully submitted,
Margie Baker, associate rector

Treasurers' Report

2025 Financial Results

St. John's ended 2025 in a strong financial position, with a favorable operating budget result and a stronger endowment, due to growing pledge income, expense discipline, a successful capital campaign, and a favorable investment market.

- *Revenue:* Revenue increased over last year by 7.6% and outperformed our budget by 9.3%, driven by a 15.4% year-over-year increase in pledge income.
- *Operating expenses:* Operating expenses (which exclude capital expenditures and depreciation) increased by 2.6% vs. last year, while we budgeted an increase of 7.7%. This expense outperformance was due primarily to lower-than-expected staff expense and the early repayment of the HVAC loan, made possible by early proceeds from the capital campaign.
- *Net operating result:* The combination of higher revenue and lower operating expenses resulted in a meaningful improvement in our operating deficit to \$244,445, down from last year's \$275,401 and significantly lower than our budgeted operating deficit of \$366,003.
- *Capital expenditures:* Capital expenditure charges represent the "set aside" for our long-term capital maintenance fund. Since capital expenditures are highly variable year-to-year (and are capitalized from an accounting standpoint), this charge is a budgeted estimate of our average annual capital expenditure. For 2025, this allowance was increased to \$100,000 to reflect the increasing costs of maintaining our physical plant.

	2024	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	Act % Chg
Operating Income	\$748,846	\$737,000	\$805,874	+7.6%
Operating Expense	\$1,023,926	\$1,103,003	\$1,050,319	+2.6%
Net Operating result	-\$275,080	-\$366,003	-\$244,445	
Capital expenditure charges*	\$64,801	\$100,000	\$100,000	
Total result	-\$339,881	-\$466,003	-\$344,445	

*Non-cash expense for long-term capital maintenance

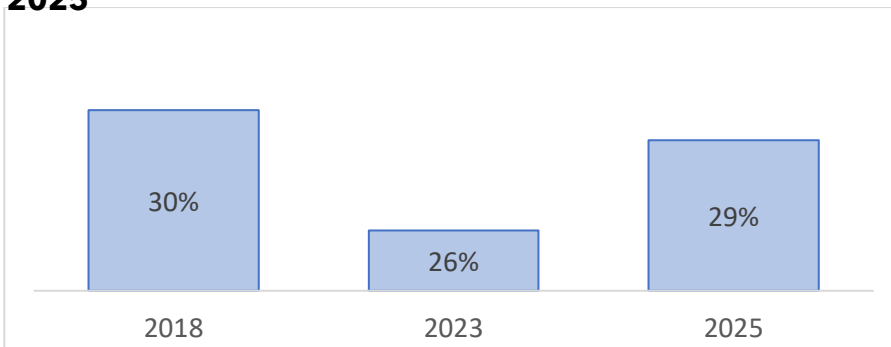
Endowment Assets and Draw

St. John’s is blessed to have an endowment that helps support its operations. In addition, it maintains a smaller fund for long-term capital maintenance expenditures. Income from the endowment is used to cover our annual financial deficit (see above), and the maintenance fund is used to fund investments in our building and grounds.

Over the past decade or so, our endowment balance remained relatively flat. Despite generally favorable market conditions, past operating deficits and capital expenditures largely offset the investment returns realized by the endowment. While the endowment did not experience a significant draw-down during this time, rising expenses meant that the endowment was able to support a decreasing proportion of St. John’s operating expenses.

In 2025, we began to reverse this unsustainable trend. Capital contributions to our endowment (from bequests and our capital campaign) and strong investment returns resulted in a 22% net increase in St. John’s investment assets versus year-end 2024. In addition, strong pledge growth has meant that we as parishioners are taking on greater responsibility for the cost of maintaining our ministries.

Budget Expense covered by 4% Draw, 2018-2025



Our total endowment draw, calculated as our total result (operating deficit + capital expenditure allowance) divided by the average of our three-year endowment balance, was 4.7%. This is within our 5% target for the first time in many years and is a very positive outcome.

2026 Budget

For 2026, our budget continues to fully support our robust programming and talented clergy and staff, and maintain our physical plant. However, our 2026 budget is less favorable than our 2025 result:

- *Revenue:* Pledge receipts are budgeted at \$625k, in line with our actual 2025 result, as pledge commitments did not meaningfully increase vs. 2025 actuals. In addition, other sources of income (e.g., parking lot income) is budgeted to decrease.

- *Operating Expenses:* Total operating expenses are budgeted to grow by 2.6% vs. last year’s budget but by 7.7% vs. last year’s actual, despite few discretionary expense increases. Non-discretionary increases and non-recurrence of several favorable offsets drive the higher costs.
- *Net result:* Taken together, the budget projects a cash-based operating deficit of \$343k. This is ~\$100k less favorable than our 2025 actuals, and ~\$22k more favorable than our budgeted 2025 outcome.
- *Capital expenditures:* Contributions to the long-term capital maintenance fund are holding steady at \$100k.

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Operating Income	\$737,000	\$805,874	\$787,400
Operating Expense	\$1,103,000	\$1,050,319	\$1,131,319
Operating result	-\$366,003	-\$244,445	-\$343,919
Capital expenditure allowance	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Total result	-\$466,003	-\$344,445	-\$443,919

The 2026 budget translates into an endowment draw rate of 6.0% (4.7% for operations, 1.3% for long-term capital maintenance). While this puts us back above our target rate of 5%, it still represents progress relative to the historical draw rate.

Looking Forward

In summary, St. John’s finished 2025 in a stronger financial position after a very positive year. Pledge income grew substantially, expenses were manageable while maintaining robust and growing ministries, and our endowment balance grew meaningfully.

There is still work to do. Our budgeted deficit for 2026 is in line with past budgeted deficits but remains above our target draw rate. Future revenue growth will be needed to outpace inevitable expense increases, and further endowment growth will be needed to ensure long-term sustainability.

But with the momentum of very positive 2025 and an outstanding capital campaign, we have every reason to look forward with confidence and excitement.

Faithfully submitted,
 Tim Goetz & John A. Wilcox, co-treasurers

Music Director’s Report

I can’t believe it’s already been one year since I began the position of director of music! From the start, I have been impressed by the warmth and welcome from the St. John’s community. Music in worship is clearly a treasured asset here, and I strive to build upon the impressive legacy of my predecessors.

Since my start in February, I have experimented with a balance of your status quo alongside new initiatives. One of my first liturgical changes has been singing the psalms in worship, whether chanted by the choir or sung by everyone. An Easter vigil was a new addition to our Holy Week schedule, and it was met with strong attendance and enthusiasm. Choral Evensongs, officially under the umbrella of Music at the Red Door, were offered in March, September, October, and November. One prominent change to our repertoire—congregational and choral—is a more deliberate promotion of living artists, particularly women and people of color. One example was Red Door’s commission of an anthem by local composer Michelle Horsley using poetry of Maya Angelou.

I have enjoyed getting to know both our Choir School and Adult Choir members more deeply. Most of our youth spent the last week of July at Camp Incarnation, an annual tradition full of singing, swimming, and summer shenanigans. As this was my first camp, I was grateful for the help of Ted Babbit, Christiana Montalbano, Sierra McElroy, and Marcos Donnelly. Choir School children continually impress me with their maturity and dedication. Every Wednesday rehearsal is a chance to practice manners, time management, self-discipline, and of course music. Thanks to our youth leadership, Jx Eikel, Dana Crocker, Jamie Baker, Eden Baker, and Blythe Peck, our kids work to look, sound, and act their very best.

In August, we experimented with Summer Singers, a pickup choir designed as a low-pressure opportunity for everyone. This was a wonderful outreach for potential choir members as well as a chance to feature instrumentalists from among our congregation.

By the time our choirs resumed in September, we had some personnel changes. Several adult members decided to pursue other opportunities, and we replaced two of our four choral scholars (paid section leaders). Elijah Morris accepted the position of organ scholar, an opportunity discussed by the parish well before my arrival. Alongside his studies at Trinity College, Elijah works with me on service playing, choral accompaniment, and conducting. His presence every Sunday during the academic year allows me to focus on conducting the choir. It is typical for programs of our caliber to have two musicians.

With the gracious support of the clergy and staff, I took a paternity leave starting on November 11. Thanks to Elijah and Patrick Reardon, our planned offerings during the Advent and Christmas seasons went uninterrupted. Patrick is a music teacher at Miss Porter's School, and I am grateful for his help, time, and expertise.

Plenty of helping hands ensure a smooth liturgical and concert experience at St. John's. Betty Knorr is our faithful librarian who distributes and files hundreds of scores during the season. My Red Door colleagues are all amazing in their respective roles, and they contribute to the polish and success of our concerts: Ray Giolitto (operations), Anne Guernsey (grants), Ashley Fedigan (social media), and Jessica Loy (graphics). Our board, headed by Jeff Verney, is also a valuable network of support. It is a joy to serve alongside so many loving and passionate colleagues.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Capozzoli, director of music

Music at the Red Door

Music at the Red Door, whose goal each season is to provide compelling music to fill the souls of the community and celebrate the power of music to bring people together, is incorporated as a nonprofit and keeps its finances separate from those of the church, although it is a ministry of St. John's. Calendar year 2025 featured the second half of the 2024 – 2025 season (January through June) and the first half of the 2025 – 2026 season (September through December). Regular season concerts included Pipes Alive! half-hour organ recitals on the first Sundays of the month, Choral Evensong services during the first half of the year, and performances by the ensemble-in-residence New World Trio. 2025 also included major events such as a concert by the amazing Claremont Trio and yet another spectacular Jazz at the Red Door concert with Nat Reeves and Friends. A well-attended and very successful Kids Community Music Camp was held for one week in August, where 30 children were invited to explore the joys of music at St. John's by learning to sing, play violin, dance, and drum.

The concert series and summer music camp are sustained by generous individual donors, donations from community businesses, grants, and volunteers. Total income for the calendar year came in at \$80,569, which was an increase over 2024 income but below our 2025 budget, with event income and grants coming in over budget but donations coming in below budget. Expenses in most categories came in above budget which, combined with the revenues below budget, resulted in a loss of \$17,857 for the year. The good news is that we have a very strong and liquid balance sheet which enabled us to absorb this loss and still position us well for the future. We have planned for a balanced budget in 2026, which will require us to focus on increasing revenues and mindfully managing expenses as we proceed through the year.

Gratitude abounds once again to Ray Giolitto, the operations director for Music at the Red Door, for his extraordinary work supporting this year's programming and summer camp as well as helping Nick Capozzoli assume overall responsibility for the Music at the Red Door series. Ray is the lifeblood of all things Music at the Red Door, and I cannot express deeply enough my appreciation for all that he does week in and week out to make this program such a success! I also want to express my deep gratitude to our incredible board, which during 2025 comprised Rebecca Bourret, Betsy Chicares, Stephan Christiansen (our wonderful treasurer), Susan Fay, Karan Emerick, Steve Metcalf, and Nat Reeves, as well as the Rev. Todd Fitzgerald who serves as an ex-officio voting board member. This amazing team continues to do fabulous work to bring this ministry to life, enriching the lives of the 2,000+ in-person and online patrons who attend the various concerts during the year.

I'd like to close by recognizing Karan Emerick, who has ended her board tenure, for everything that she has done for the Music of the Red Door ministry since its inception. In addition to serving as president of the board for several years, Karan has brought her insights, passion, and guidance to this ministry, and we will be forever grateful for her service.

Faithfully submitted,
Jeff Verney, board president

Stewardship Committee

The St. John's stewardship campaign runs annually every fall, to solicit pledges of financial support for the next calendar year. This year we were on relative hiatus, as the stewardship campaign was combined with the capital campaign. Our committee served as volunteers and provided logistical support to this very successful campaign.

In parallel with the capital campaign, parishioners continued their generous support of the stewardship campaign for 2026: 177 households pledged \$654,601 toward God's work in and through St. John's parish in the year to come, an increase of just under 1% from last year. Of pledging households, 89 (40%) were new or increased their pledges since last year, a wonderful sign of congregational vitality. The median pledge was \$2,000 and the average pledge was \$3,636, both unchanged from last year. These pledges are tangible signs of our gratitude for God's generous gifts and enable the parish to continue its ministries of worship, formation, and service.

We look forward to returning next fall, sharing our gratitude and our many blessings in service to the mission of St. John's. If you are interested in learning more or joining our committee, contact Robert Eikel or Laura Roche, Co-chairs.

Faithfully submitted,
Robert Eikel and Laura Roche, co-chairs

Stewardship Committee Members: Eleanor Barnes, Matt Ciscel, Robert Eikel, David McCary, Stewart Murchie, Caleb Peck, Laura Roche, Susie Sarkisian

Capital Campaign

The *Deep Roots, New Life* capital campaign at St. John's has been a great success! Thanks to a generous and enthusiastic response from parishioners, we have not only met, but have exceeded our financial goal. In the process, we have also come together in the most wonderful way to share what St. John's means to each one of us, contemplate where God is calling us, and invest in our future together.

To date, St. John's has received gifts and pledges from 136 households, totaling \$2,294,396. Some parishioners elected to pay their pledges immediately. This gave the campaign a foundation of more than \$800,000, which enabled us to act quickly to recover the costs of installing our new energy-efficient HVAC system, repaying both our bank loan and the loan that we took from our endowment.

Now we turn to the additional projects covered, which will enhance our property and equip us to support our children's programs and host parish and community activities seven days a week. Upgrading security, renovating the education wing, and adding to St. John's endowment are the remaining campaign priorities. All of these will help us extend hospitality, comfort, efficiency, and safety as we focus on our mission to share God's love for all people.

The house committee, working with the vestry, treasurers, and finance committee, will discern the timing and fulfillment of the campaign projects. The majority of pledges will pay out over the next one to three years, as indicated by parishioners on their pledge cards. We, your co-chairs, will continue to share updates, and we welcome questions or feedback along the way.

Hopefully, everyone feels the joy of the success of this campaign. It seems a long time ago that we had Celebration Sunday, which launched the public phase of our campaign. Even harder to remember was the start of our process, with cottage meetings to discern our priorities. We had many conversations along the way, some led by our consultant and some led by the more than 40 volunteers who reached out, seeking conversations with fellow parishioners. We hope that it connected people in a new and meaningful way, as we all shared and learned how God's love is comforting and inspiring us at St. John's.

In closing, it seems fitting to share the prayer which has guided our campaign:

Almighty and most gracious God, we thank you for the blessings of our parish family, St. John's Church—its rich history, vibrant present, and faithful people. We entrust to you our future and capital campaign. Grant us wisdom, courage, and the guidance of your Spirit to use our resources well and meet the challenges ahead. May our work renew this church, sustain its vitality, and glorify the holy Name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. AMEN.

Faithfully submitted,
Eleanor Barnes & Virginia Van Dyk

Investment Committee

Market Overview and Endowment Performance

This year was marked by significant events that reshaped both the markets and the global economy. This began with rapid policy changes, notably the tariff announcements on April 2, which triggered the sharpest one-week decline in U.S. stocks since the pandemic. Despite this volatility, global equities proved resilient, ultimately closing the year with robust double-digit gains for the third consecutive year. Notably, international

stocks outperformed their U.S. counterparts in 2025. Bonds also delivered strong results, benefiting from the U.S. Federal Reserve’s move to reduce short-term interest rates.

The endowment remains strategically diversified, a position that helps mitigate risk and supports long-term stability. At year-end, total assets reached nearly \$8.5 million. Investments for 2025 achieved a return of 16.4%, generating over \$1.15 million in gains. Since March 2020, the endowment has produced an impressive average annual return of 9.7% and generated nearly \$3.8 million of cumulative investment gains, reflecting prudent management and a disciplined investment approach.

Investment Oversight & Stewardship

The investment committee, acting under the authority of the vestry, is committed to its mission of selecting an independent investment advisor to manage the endowment’s funds. We continue to maintain a strong and collaborative relationship with our advisors, Fiducient Advisors. Fiducient plays an essential role in helping us navigate the challenges presented by volatile markets since our partnership began in 2020. Their expertise has been vital in guiding our investment decisions and spending targets to help ensure that our portfolio remains resilient in fluctuating economic conditions.

As part of our governance process, Fiducient provides the committee with regular investment performance reports, annual asset allocation analysis, comprehensive spending analysis, and ongoing guidance and support. This partnership is instrumental in guiding us toward sustainable support for St. John’s Episcopal Church’s operations.

We recognize that volatility and uncertainty are inherent aspects of the investment environment. With this understanding, we remain unwavering in our dedication to the careful stewardship of the endowment. As we look ahead to 2026, our primary objective will be to strengthen the portfolio’s resilience, ensuring it is well-positioned to withstand market fluctuations. In pursuit of this goal, we will continue our close collaboration with our advisors, working together to manage the endowed assets responsibly and prudently.

Congregational Support

While prudent investment management ensures the long-term stability of our endowment, achieving our mission ultimately depends on the generosity and commitment of our congregation. By supporting capital campaigns, including the one just completed, you play a crucial role in ensuring that the church’s essential ministries—including caring for those in need, fostering spiritual growth, and nurturing a welcoming community—will continue to thrive for generations to come.

Together, through your generosity and engagement, we can continue to uphold St. John’s enduring legacy of faith and service, ensuring that our ministries remain a source of hope and inspiration for our community now and in the future. It is my privilege to provide this report on behalf of the full investment committee.

Faithfully submitted,
Jack Barnes, chair

The 1841 Legacy Society (Planned Giving)

The mission of our planned giving program, the 1841 Legacy Society, is to help our parishioners, as they are able, to leave a lasting legacy to St. John’s Church by remembering the church in their estate planning. These gifts go a long way in helping the church reach its many missions serving both our members and the community at large. Anyone who informs the church that they have included St. John’s in their estate planning becomes a member of the 1841 Legacy Society.

In 2025, we received two generous bequests from former parishioners who died in 2024: Nancy Miller and Audrey Walker.

To those of you who have already made provisions in your estate planning, we thank you. If you are thinking about it, we have prepared a brochure to help you get started. Brochures are available from the information cart in Hubbard Hall, or you may also call the office and we will be glad to mail the information to you. The clergy, staff, and volunteers are available to speak to you if you have any questions. We can also provide your financial advisors with the information they need to complete your documents. We would love to add you to the 1841 Legacy Society. The only requirement is that you inform us of your intention to include St. John's in your estate planning.

Listed below are the current members of the 1841 Legacy Society, to whom we are very grateful for their generosity to St. John's. **Please contact the office to let us know if you have included St. John's in your estate plans so we can add you to the membership!**

The 1841 Legacy Society

Beverly Baker	Bill & Hope Eakins	Dan Minster
Eleanor Barnes	Susan Fay	Julia & Jim O'Brien
David Booth Beers	Rich Flinchbaugh	Joe Pace
Jenefer Berall	Ellen & Ben Flynn	Ginny & Mark Proft
Shirley Blean	Beth & Joel Grieco	Laura & John Roche
Rachel Boccio	Carrie & Jonathan Hammond	Jim Sharp
Lissie & Lynn Brooks	Bette-Jane Hardersen	Pat & Alex Vance
Kim & Chris Byrd	Susie & Ross Hatch	Virginia Van Dyk & John
Buffy Cech	Priscilla Hexter	Wilcox
Susan & Brian Clemow	Buffy & John Ineson	Audrey Walker
Helen Cooke	Dianne Jones	Lyn Walker
Carol Davis	Lisa & Mike Mahoney	Wes Winterbottom
Christine Doty	Nancy Miller	

Operations & Communications

An operational focus of 2025 was keeping our programs going even when one or more staff members took extended leave—a situation we faced more often this past year than usual! St. John's ministries are always a team effort, and never more so than when staff and volunteers step up to ensure that ministries continue at their usual high-quality level. That we had a successful, active year (including a capital campaign) during a time when several staff members took medical leave, parental leave, and a sabbatical, says a lot about the high level of commitment that parishioners and staff bring to this community.

In a community centered on weekly worship, certain tasks must be done week after week, even during quieter seasons (such as the summer). These tasks include creating and printing bulletins, sending out e-newsletters, and financial record keeping. One behind-the-scenes volunteer task vital to our financial processes involves managing the weekly offerings collected at worship. The ushers do the first step in this work, by removing the cash, checks, and envelopes left in the offering plates, sorting everything, and locking it away for me to retrieve on Monday morning. Then, we are fortunate to have three volunteers who take turns coming into the office each week to count the cash and checks, prepare a cash deposit, and take the deposit to the bank. (I deposit checks from the office using a scanner.) Having volunteers do this work, instead of a staff member, is

one way that we have established financial controls to ensure accurate and transparent accounting. A huge thanks to our current offering count volunteers: Beth Kauczka, Tom Oberholtzer, and Erica Weinstock.

One significant operational change coming in 2026 (and funded in the 2026 budget) is upgrading our IT support. For many years, we've worked with an individual who helps us troubleshoot IT problems; however, his large client base means that we cannot always get help as quickly as we need it. In addition, there are significant IT needs that we've put off addressing because we need more help than he can provide. Therefore, we've hired a new IT company that will provide us with technical support, help us manage users and licenses, troubleshoot problems, and assist with projects, such as setting up videoconferencing capabilities for hybrid meetings.

As far as communications, a lot of time and effort this year went into creating a brochure and other materials to promote the successful *Deep Roots, New Life* capital campaign. Otherwise, the major ways that we communicate with the parish and our community continued: the Sunday bulletin (think of it as a weekly printed newsletter), our weekly e-newsletters sent on Thursdays and Sundays, social media, outdoor signage, our web site, and occasional paid ads for holiday services. By engaging with as many of these communication tools as possible, you'll always know what's happening at St. John's! Please help us spread the word by sharing our social media posts or inviting a friend to a special event.

A wonderful tool for internal communication with other parishioners is our membership database, Realm. It includes an online directory where you can look up contact information for other parishioners. In addition to accessing the directory, setting up login credentials in Realm enables you to update your own membership profile with accurate information and a current photo (photos are particularly useful for connecting parishioners with one another!), make a pledge, set up one-time or recurring pledge payments or gifts, see a complete record of your giving, register and pay for events, and communicate with your ministry groups. All of this can be done on a computer or with the Realm Connect smartphone app. Try it out, and contact me if you have questions about setting up your login or using the software. Realm is most useful to everyone when more people learn to use it and keep their information current.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Painter Dollar, director of operations and communications

Layreaders

Layreading continues to be a key ministry at St. John's. It is a great way for parishioners to become involved at St. John's with very little time commitment. On Sundays, the layreaders perform scripture readings, lead the Prayers of the People, and act as chalice bearer during Holy Eucharist. At the 8:00 service, the layreaders have the additional responsibility of lighting candles prior to the service and extinguishing them afterwards. We participate in special services during Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, and Easter. We are occasionally asked to serve at a funeral or wedding held at St. John's.

In 2025, the number of layreaders has stayed consistent at a total of nineteen. We lost one and added one. The layreader training documents created by Jyothsna Diaz in 2023 continue to be a valuable resource for onboarding any new layreaders. I look forward to another great year at St. John's with a very dedicated team. We are all blessed by their service to St. John's every Sunday.

Faithfully submitted,
John Kauczka, chair

Altar Guild

This year, as always, has been a busy and joyful year, celebrating in our beautiful church and in the Cloister Garden.

The altar guild is a group of men and women of St. John's who are called to serve God by preparing the altar for worship and tending to the decoration of the church for each season of the church calendar. We perform our duties with great care and pride, making the church a beautiful place to worship. We look after the linens, silver, brass, and flowers, and make sure the clergy have all they need for each service.

Membership is open to all parishioners and new members are welcome and encouraged. Our membership as of January 2026 is nine members.

We welcome John Dustin as our newest member, and hope to add some additional new members this year to our lively group.

This year, thanks to a generous donation from a parishioner, we worked with the clergy to purchase some new altar hangings and vestments.

Services

The altar guild sets up and takes down (altar hangings, candles, communion supplies, etc.) for all Holy Eucharist services on Sundays and holidays. They also help with all baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

Other Duties

- Clean and polish all silver and brass used for the services.
- Wash and iron all linens used for services. Many thanks to Bette-Jane Hardersen for her service.
- Keeping track of supplies needed for services, such as wine, wafers, and candles. Many thanks to Ellen for coordinating and ordering those supplies.

A special thank you to Bill Lockery for his dedication to setting up for the Wednesday evening services and his attention polishing the brass.

Respectfully submitted,

Buffy Ineson, chair

Members: June Aziz, Eti Akpan, Matteo Donnelly, John Dustin, Kate Eikel, Bill Lockery, Jo-Ann Sadosky, Brenda Zanta

Acolytes

Acolytes serve at all 10:30 Sunday services as well as special services (Christmas Eve, Holy Week, Lessons & Carols). They process with the cross and torches, help with the Gospel reading and setting the table for communion, and light and extinguish candles. Acolyting is open to children and youth age 7+ and above, and a training is held in late August/early September each year. Some of our acolytes also sing with the Choir School; when choristers are scheduled to acolyte on a Sunday when they are also singing, we modify their acolyte duties as needed. Please let Margie or Ellen know if you/your child are interested.

Crucifers: Jamie Baker, Danielle Branco, Dorian Ciscel, Mason Donnelly, Atticus Finkell, Alvin Mani, Selma Waddington

Acolytes: Eden Baker, Jayden Donnelly, Virginia Eikel, Bobby Eikel, Ezekiel Latif, Malcolm Latif, Allison Mani, Brielle Worrell, Alice Yelland, Luke Yelland

Ushers

As the first impression (and often the first smile) that both newcomers and regular parishioners see on a Sunday, the St. John's usher ministry is a welcoming ministry. We embrace the significance in opening our doors and being hospitable to all who enter for worship.

The duties of ushers fall into two categories: those that are highly visible by the congregation during a service, and those that happen behind the scenes. In some ways, we act as the eyes and ears of the clergy during a service, alerting them to any newcomers or issues we may encounter. As a point of contact for visitors, we may give directions to other parts of the church, offer children's activity kits, or answer general questions about the worship service. The ushers are responsible for reporting an accurate head count of all participating in the 10:30 service and communicating that with clergy. In addition to the offertory and communion roles, ushers are also responsible for securing and documenting offertory funds, in compliance with Safe Church standards, and general church clean-up after the service has ended. The ushers are encouraged to attend coffee hour when available, to continue welcoming people into our church. In late 2025, a new addition to the usher ministry is that one usher each Sunday is designated as a "greeter" who has an explicit role welcoming newcomers at coffee hour. The rector introduces the greeter at announcement time, so parishioners know that they can approach that person with questions.

The usher group is made up of four teams of six to seven individuals. Each team is scheduled once every four weeks on a rotating basis (roughly once a month). Ideally, there are four ushers scheduled for any given Sunday, so with teams of six to seven, this allows for scheduling conflicts if an usher is not available.

The usher group is happy to welcome any new volunteers who would like to join us. No experience necessary, and we are happy to show you how it all works!

Faithfully Submitted,
Susie Sarkisian and Don Polk, head ushers

Team 1: Matt Ciscel (Team Leader), Geoffrey Emerick, Ellen Flynn, Wes Winterbottom, Erica Weinstock, Virginia Van Dyk

Team 2: Susie Sarkisian (Team Leader), Eleanor Barnes, Annabel Clapp, Dan Minster, Molly Cooper, Mark Sarkisian, Austin Longendyke

Team 3: Julia O'Brien (Team Leader), Robert Eikel, Stewart Murchie, Jo Anne Burgh, David Vandermeulen, Audrey Baker, Susan Fiegel-Rapp

Team 4: Laura Roche (Team Leader), Don Polk, John Roche, Enid Oberholtzer, Mary Honyotski, Ryan Honyotski, Caleb Peck

Healing Prayers Ministry

"There are only four kinds of people in the world: those who have been caregivers, those who are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers." - Rosalyn Carter

This simple quotation by former First Lady Rosalyn Carter provides a good insight into the heart of what St. John's healing prayers ministry is all about: caregiving. Serving as a St. John's healing minister provides an opportunity to connect with people through prayer as they face the challenges and joys of life that we all experience. God takes care of us with his grace, love, and kindness, frequently in ways quite unexpected. Praying confidentially with someone helps that person to feel that God is listening and already knows what the person is asking prayers for. Since God already knows, it is not necessary to share details when praying with a healing prayer minister. It is okay to say simply, "Pray for me."

Plans for St. John's healing prayer ministry during 2026 include continuing to offer healing prayers after communion at the 10:30 service, providing training for members of our faith community who may be interested in joining the ministry, and providing spiritual development and support for St. John's healing prayer ministry team members.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a healing prayers minister, please contact any of the members of the team, Todd, or Margie.

Respectfully submitted,

Wes Winterbottom, chair

Healing prayer team members: Chris Byrd, Annabel Clapp, Tim Goetz, David Grimaldi, Sharon Henes, Sarah Kieffer, Karen Licht, Enid Oberholtzer, Jo-Ann Sadosky, Tim Watt

Community Service: Helping our neighbors through action

The Community Service Committee is committed to living out Christ's love through outreach and service to our local community. In 2025, we deepened our connections with local organizations and individuals in need, offering support through a variety of programs that foster hope and assistance.

Community Partners: We continue to strengthen our partnerships with local organizations, and our parishioners actively contributed to these initiatives:

- **Loaves & Fishes** — preparing and serving hot meals/sandwiches for those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity
- **Journey Home/A Hand Up** — helping families transitioning out of homelessness by offering both material and emotional support
- **Habitat for Humanity** — building affordable housing in Greater Hartford
- **Dignity Grows** (led by the youth group) — fundraising to support a nonprofit organization that provides hygiene products to help end period poverty
- **Hartford Health Care's Stronger Families/Stronger Futures (SF2)** — donating gift cards and children's books to enable 72 children (50 families) to more fully enjoy the holidays
- **Local independent schools: Trinity Academy, Covenant Prep, Grace Academy** — providing resources and mentoring to Hartford students and their families
- **West Hartford Adult Education (ESOL)** — providing classroom space for a town program that assists immigrants and refugees by helping them improve their language skills, enabling them to integrate more fully into the community

Volunteer Engagement included multi-generational service:

- **Grace Episcopal Church** (non-perishable food collection)
- **St. John's Blessing Box** ("little free food pantry" on church grounds for food and toiletries)
- **Blessing Bags** (toiletries, winter accessories, and snacks for those who come to the church in need of help)
- **Neighborhood trash clean-up days**

As we look ahead to 2026, we will continue to financially support some partner programs (Loaves & Fishes, Trinity Academy, and Covenant Prep) while concentrating on hands-on volunteering with programs that have more established funding sources. We will also explore advocacy opportunities.

Our parish continues to demonstrate the true spirit of Christian service through these vital community service partnerships and programs. We are incredibly grateful for the support of St. John's parishioners who generously give of their time, talents, and resources.

Our committee is open to ALL! Please join us in serving our community with compassion and faith.

Respectfully submitted by the 2025 Community Service Committee: Angela Allen-Peck, Mary Jo Andrews, Eleanor Barnes, Rachel Boccio, Lissie Brooks, Molly Cooper, Kate Eikel, Robert Eikel, Mary Honyotski, Martha Hartle, Beth Kauczka, Jeff Kinney, Austin Longendyke, Lisa Mahoney, Lauren Mascola, Laura Roche, Stacey Samuel Bannon, John Swift, and Tim Wilson

Spring Fling

The Spring Fling was held on Friday, May 30. This cherished annual tradition—featuring live and silent auctions, a wine pull, and delicious bites donated by parishioners—was a joyful, welcoming evening where new and longtime members mixed easily and many left feeling even more connected to our parish community. This year’s event raised \$14,816, making it our most successful Spring Fling to date.

We couldn’t have done it without our incredible auctioneer, Tim Watt, who brought energy, humor, and serious style to the evening, along with the many volunteers who made everything run so smoothly. Special thanks to our Spring Fling committee: Virginia Van Dyk, Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Pia Santomauro, Brenda Zanta, Susie and Mark Sarkisian, Jack and Eleanor Barnes, Susan Fay, and Nicole Douillet. And thank you to everyone who donated food, contributed auction items, and attended so generously—your support is what makes the Spring Fling such a special success year after year.

Respectfully submitted,
Liana Guzmán & Lauren Mascola, co-chairs

Christmas Festival

The St. John’s Christmas Festival was held on Friday November 21, through Sunday, November 23, and was a resounding success, showcasing the community’s spirit and bringing joy to attendees. Hubbard Hall was decked out with whimsy and cheer to celebrate the festivities for the holiday season. The festival opened with our first-ever Christmas Gala on Friday night, which was a social gathering to share food, festivities and fun, with Tom Oberholtzer playing the piano. We also had the entire festival set-up for gala attendees to preview, browse and shop.

We continued to celebrate through the weekend with our festival favorites including the Chic Boutique, baked goods, Christmas crafts, Christmas collectibles, hand-knit items, homemade soups, a photo booth, and the 2025 St. John’s ornament (featuring the statue of Mary that welcomes you in the Cloister Garden). We added some new and popular holiday features to add spirit and cheer, such as the gift pull, book signings with parish authors, and a silent auction. Our Christmas café served delicious sandwiches, soups, snacks, and sodas. We also displayed and raffled the coveted baskets filled with goodies to satisfy everyone’s liking.

The church halls were adorned once again with beautifully curated wreaths to fit anyone’s décor; for the first time we did pre-sales on the wreaths and St. John’s ornament, which positioned us well to sell our entire stock of both. We held our wreath decoration party on Thursday, November 20, and indeed it was a party. With food, drinks, bows, ribbons, hot glue, flowers, and cute trinkets on hand, we gathered to make beautiful wreaths and have fun with fellow parishioners at the same time. The evening was filled with laughter, stories, Christmas carols, and gratitude for the community that brings us together.

Under the direction of Patrick Reardon, some of our Choir School and Adult Choir singers entertained us with their angelic voices and off-the-chart-talents. We had volunteers aplenty to help staff the shopping stations.

This year we continued with the holiday shopping tracker, which aided in more accurate tracking of purchases, maintained organization, and added a bonus for anyone who filled out all the baubles on the tracker , who earned a prize.

I would like to thank ALL the volunteers who helped make the event such a success. While I can't name everyone, it would be in remiss to not mention a few who filled key roles. Brenda Zanta and Lauren Mascola, with their spouses, ran the Christmas Café and soup sales. Annabel Clapp managed and displayed the Christmas collectibles. Mary Honyotski and Angela Allen-Peck organized the Chic Boutique. Heidi Gostyla who made, donated, and sold her beautiful handmade knits. Marcos Donnelly created and crafted Christmas décor and the photo booth. Beth Kauczka ran the baked goods table. Jeff Verney hosted a signing of his wonderful children's books, and Ginny Kemp donated several copies of her book featuring West Hartford citizens. Ellen Dollar handled behind-the-scenes tasks and is an excellent partner, and finally, Dwight Latif sets up for the festival, puts things away after, and helps everywhere in between. In addition, we were grateful to have some new including Mary Jo Andrews, Ruth Crespi, Caleb Peck, John Dustin, Rosa Guzzo, and Jayden and Mason, my two teenage sons, who helped throughout.

Once again, thank you to all who contributed both behind the scenes and on the front lines by making generous and thoughtful donations of time, money, energy, food, Christmas décor, and other items to make our festival a resounding success. This year we net profited more than \$9,500. I am thankful to the parishioners, community, family, and friends of St. John's. The feedback that was received was overwhelmingly positive. While this year the festival was a huge success, we came away with some learnings, growing pains, and decisions to be made to make future events more successful. I look forward to the festival evolving and generating newness, energy, a sense of community, and success for years to come. I can't wait for the 2026 Christmas Festival, which will be November 20 to 22!

Respectfully submitted,
Matteo Donnelly, Christmas Festival chair 2025

House Committee

This past year the house committee was focused on the installation of the new HVAC systems. Throughout the winter and into the early spring, the installation, the fine-tuning of their calibration, and minor repairs to the ceilings and walls continued. By the end of April, final installation of all components of the new system was completed and inspection allowed for certification that initiated rebates from state and federal programs. Our ongoing analysis of the efficiency of this new system determined that over the summer 2025, the church used 35.3% less energy from June through August than we had in years past. The committee is continuing to evaluate and address nuances of the new system (e.g. fan noise and temperature control). The committee will continue to monitor the system performance in terms of energy use and costs, including the current winter season compared with years past.

In response to a parishioner suggestion, we added more accessible parking to the campus by adding occasional-use handicapped parking at the front and back of the building (for use on Sundays and other service times only). New signage, purchased, and installed by the sexton, was added to clearly mark all of the accessible parking for our congregation. This enhancement added three additional parking spaces for people attending services, so we now have a total of seven accessible spots to address our congregation's needs.

The house committee was also active in planning for future projects. This included the pending education wing renovations. Spearheaded by Buffy Ineson, renderings of the expected changes and improvements to the

education wing were drafted and shared, which allowed a better visualization and valuation of the plans for this space.

During late fall, a leaking oil tank was discovered in the sexton's house, which was quickly remedied with a tank replacement, thus avoiding a costly cleanup. Other deferred maintenance to the sexton house included replacing deck boards, repairs to the slate roof, and replacement of failing and leaking windows. Whenever possible, the materials are purchased by the sexton and the repairs are completed by the sexton, thereby reducing the overall cost of each project.

There is also a pressing need to replace some of the basement windows in the administrative wing, which the committee became aware of after hearing from the music director and choir members about negative experiences in that space. The committee identified several areas of concern where the original iron-framed windows are frozen open and some have cracked panes of glass. In one case, the window is rusted open to a degree where one can pass a pencil through the space. These issues make temperature and humidity control, along with pest and insect control in the choir rehearsal space and sheet music library, difficult to impossible. Temporary plastic sheeting has been installed to provide a degree of control. The house committee has been meeting with window companies that have experience working with the unique features of windows that are framed into stone and mortar. We hope to replace some of these windows in the coming year.

Projects planned for 2026 include moving ahead on renovations to the education wing, and installing a new security system, both funded by the recently completed capital campaign.

Lastly, we would like to recognize and thank the long-standing dedication, effort, and contributions of Mark Proft, who after 20+ years has decided to step down from the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Crocker, chair and Dwight Latif, sexton

Members: Dwight Latif (sexton), Stephen Crocker (chair), Jenn Baker, Buffy Ineson, Tom Oberholtzer (vestry liaison), Mark Proft, John Roche, Todd FitzGerald (rector)

Cloister Garden Guild

2025 in the Cloister Garden was a time of great growth. It was a season of abundance and activity.

During the spring and summer we began by "waking" the gardens up and preparing them for Easter Sunday. As the plants began to grow, our team of four began caring for them: pruning the bushes and roses and later encouraging the roses amazing blooming well into the fall. Two new trees were planted in front of the church, which we kept watered and fed to help them along. The summer weather brought some challenges to a few plants, from which we seemed to successfully help them recover.

As the fall came, the plants began going to sleep. Our team tended them in the various ways needed. It also was time to separate some of the bulbs to help them grow more easily. Final clean-up was around Thanksgiving.

There is a family who likes to green the garden in Advent. They have a beloved son buried there and love to remember him in this way. It is a gift to us all.

So now we wait expectantly for spring and plan for our time caring for all in the Cloister Garden.

Respectfully submitted,
Enid Oberholtzer, chair

2025 Donors

The following people generously supported St. John's mission and ministries by making gifts or pledge payments between 1/1/2025 and 12/31/2025.

Eti Akpan	Jeffrey & Karen Cohan	Kevin Gabriel
Jason & Kelly Anstead	Kate Coley	Colin & Ginger Gillespie
June Aziz	Edith Connolly	Mark & Margaret Goad
Brad & Janet Babbitt	Molly Cooper	Jerry & Emma Goetz
Bob & Mary Bainbridge	Ruth Crespi	Tim Goetz
John & Mary Baker	Stephen Crocker & Rosa Guzzo	Yvonne Gomez-Carrion
Margie & Jenn Baker	Jeff & Kristi Curran	Jeffrey & Heidi Gostyla
Jack & Eleanor Barnes	David Dangremond	Craig & Anne Grant
Marshall Barnes	Carol Davis	Cynthia Grantz
Richard & Wendy Bartlett	Ashley De Las Casas	Kevin Graver & Donald Giustiniani
David & Marian Beers	Dave & Young Hee Derby	Joel & Beth Grieco
Jim & Joan Betts	Francesco DeThomasis	David Grimaldi
Robert & Nancy Bezzone	Jeffrey & Linda Dienno	Liana Guzman & Nicole Douillet
Mike Biondi & Ginny Kemp	Pam Dimock	Ann Hanlon
Eloise Biscoe	Martin Dodd	Bette-Jane Hardersen
Shirley Blean	Susan Donaldson	John Hardy
Joseph Bleicher	Jayden Donnelly	Mary Hardy
Rachel Boccio	Mason Donnelly	Anne Harney
Paula Bokros	Matteo & Marcos Donnelly	Jane Harris
Sarah & Kyle Boucher	Christine Doty	Susan Harrison
Steven & Patricia Bourret	Linda Dunakin	Matthew & Kara Hart
James Bracey	John Dustin	Andrea Hartigan
James Bradley	William & Hope Eakins	Martha Hartle
Carlos Branco & Allison Tichy	Nancy Eaton	Ross & Susie Hatch
Lynn & Lissie Brooks	Bobby Eikel	Conrad Hauk
Robin Brown	Jx Eikel	Randall & Anne Hayes
Jill Browne	Robert & Kate Eikel	Sharon & Mike Henes
Sheri Buger & Eric Swan	Virginia Eikel	Patricia & Ronald Hensley
Jo Anne Burgh	Geoffrey & Karan Emerick	Ryan & Jenn Hill
Chris & Kim Byrd	Jennifer Evans	Bob Hoffman
Keitha & Kevin Campo	Linda Evans	Amy & Edward Hohl
Stuart & Lindsey Carlisle	Janet Faude	Mary & Ryan Honyotski
Steve Chambers	Susan Fay & Craig Ahmer	Michael Horrigan
Betsy & Greg Chicares	Susan Fiegel-Rapp	Christopher Houlihan
Stephan & Francine Christiansen	Martha Fine	Frisha Hugessen
John & Martha Church	Todd & Amy FitzGerald	Ann Hutchinson
Matthew & Alina Ciscel	Rich Flinchbaugh	Douglas & Tita Hyland
Elijah Clapp & Annabel Trickett-Clapp	Ben & Ellen Flynn	John & Buffy Ineson
Brian & Susan Clemow	Danielle Foint	Richard Jacques
	Nancy Forte	
	Douglas Fowler	

Douglas Johnson
Stephanie Johnson
Dianne Jones
Donielle & Rick Joslyn
Iacovos Katsipis & Carla Abdo
Katsipis
John & Beth Kauczka
Martha Kayser
Bert & Mary Jo Keating
Sarah Kieffer
Jeffrey Kinney & Rebecca
Bourret
Sam Kinney & Morgan Hilliard
Betty Knorr
Ann Krissinger
Ernestine Lawrence
Judith Lee
Barbara Lennox
Merrilee Leonhardt
Karen Licht
Tom & Wendy Lincoln
Bill Lockery
Joel & Teresa Lohr
Austin Longendyke
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Michael & Lisa Mahoney
Andy & Liz Marchion
Bonnie Matthews
Bill McBride
David & Tina McCary
James & Jo Anne McConaughy
Andrew McDonald
Keanan McGonigle
Linda McGovern
Colleen McKenna
Walter McKenney
Patrick Miller
Dan Minster
Kate & Miguel Miranda
Jean Mitchell
Douglas Montas
Eric Montas
Stewart & Leah Murchie

Anthony & Sarah Nanni
Ann Newbury
John Nowacki & Don Polk
Tom & Enid Oberholtzer
Jim & Julia O'Brien
Gary Ottmann & C. R. Williams
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Caleb Peck & Angela
Allen-Peck
William & Agnes Peelle
Patrice & David Peterson
Janet Poisson
David & Rennie Polk
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Abi Reilly
Carla & Jonathan Richardson
Hal Rives & Marki Ware
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Marilyn Rockwell
Pieter & Barbara Roos
Betsy Rose
Lynn & Peter Russell
Jo-Ann Sadosky
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Stacey & Kelsey Samuel
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Anne Scherer
Michele Scherz & Jason Carl
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Tema Silk
Nancy Skeelee
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Carol Sonne
Linda Spiers
Mark & Keely Stater
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John Swift & Lauren Mascola
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Jeff & Pamela Verney
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Janet Ward
Tim Watt & Amity Gaige
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Patrick & Sara Wigmore
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Sherwood & Maggie Willard
Tim Wilson & Laurie Douglass-
Wilson
Dennis & Jeanne Winkleblack
Wes Winterbottom
Nancy Wright
Matthew Yelland & Danielle
Pieratti
Brenda Zanta

Capital Campaign Participants

The following people pledged to support the 2025 *Deep Roots, New Life* capital campaign.

Mary Jo Andrews	John Dustin	Martha Kayser
Jason & Kelly Anstead	William & Hope Eakins	Bert & Mary Jo Keating
Brad & Janet Babbitt	Nancy Eaton	Sarah Kieffer
Bob & Mary Bainbridge	Robert & Kate Eikel	Jeffrey Kinney & Rebecca Bourret
Beverly Baker	Geoffrey & Karan Emerick	Betty Knorr
Margie & Jenn Baker	Janet Faude	Dwight & Stephanie Latif
Jack & Eleanor Barnes	Susan Fay & Craig Ahmer	Tom & Wendy Lincoln
Marshall Barnes	Susan Fay	Bill Lockery
Rich Barstow	Susan Fiegel-Rapp	Austin Longendyke
Richard & Wendy Bartlett	Martha Fine	Michael & Lisa Mahoney
David & Marian Beers	Todd & Amy FitzGerald	Andy & Liz Marchion
David Beisler	Ben & Ellen Flynn	Bill McBride
Mike Biondi & Ginny Kemp	Colin & Ginger Gillespie	Patrick Miller
Shirley Blean	Mark & Margaret Goad	Roger Minor & Rick DuVerger
Rachel Boccio	Jerry & Emma Goetz	Dan Minster
Paula Bokros	Tim Goetz	Jean Mitchell
James Bradley	Yvonne Gomez-Carrion	Stewart & Leah Murchie
Carlos Branco & Allison Tichy	Jeffrey & Heidi Gostyla	Ann Newbury
Mariah Brennan & Anthony Nanni	Craig & Anne Grant	John Nowacki & Don Polk
Lynn & Lissie Brooks	David Grimaldi	Tom & Enid Oberholtzer
Jo Anne Burgh	Liana Guzman & Nicole Douillet	Jim & Julia O'Brien
Chris & Kim Byrd	Ann Hanlon	Joe Pace
Nick Capozzoli & Caroline Deschamps	Bette-Jane Hardersen	Charnley Parr
Stuart & Lindsey Carlisle	Mary Hardy	Caleb Peck & Angela Allen-Peck
Betsy & Greg Chicares	Anne Harney	William & Agnes Peelle
Stephan & Francine Christiansen	Jane Harris	Patrice & David Peterson
John & Martha Church	Susan Harrison	David & Rennie Polk
Matthew & Alina Ciscel	Ross & Susie Hatch	Mark & Ginny Proft
Elijah Clapp & Annabel Trickett-Clapp	Randall & Anne Hayes	Christa Rakich & Janis Milroy
Brian & Susan Clemow	Sharon & Mike Henes	Hal Rives & Marki Ware
Edith Connolly	Priscilla Hexter	Stephen & Nancy Roberts
Molly Cooper	Ryan & Jenn Hill	John & Laura Roche
Ruth Crespi	Mary & Ryan Honyotski	Pieter & Barbara Roos
Stephen Crocker & Rosa Guzzo	Frisha Hugessen	Betsy Rose
David Dangremond	Ann Hutchinson	Lynn & Peter Russell
Dave & Young Hee Derby	John & Buffy Ineson	Jo-Ann Sadosky
Pam Dimock	Richard Jacques	Stacey & Kelsey Samuel Bannon
Martin Dodd	Douglas Johnson	Susie & Mark Sarkisian
Matteo & Marcos Donnelly	Donielle & Rick Joslyn	Linda Schatz
	Iacovos Katsipis & Carla Abdo Katsipis	Nancy Skeelee
	John & Beth Kauczka	

Spencer & Mary Sloan
William & Margaret Smith
Carol Sonne
John Swift & Lauren Mascola
Mr. Calvert Bowie Thomas
Alex & Pat Vance
David Vandermeulen & Mary
Lynn Dell

Jeff & Pamela Verney
Lyn Walker & Tyler Smith
Janet Ward
Tim Watt & Amity Gaige
Judy Wawro
Erica Weinstock
Ted Whittemore
Daphne H. Wilcox

John Wilcox & Virginia Van
Dyk
Sherwood & Maggie Willard
Dennis & Jeanne Winkleblack
Wes Winterbottom
Jana & Justin Wolfman
Nancy Wright
Brenda Zanta



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8 a.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Choral Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)	Rector
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	Associate Rector
Katherine Leary	Seminarian Intern*
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Director of Operations & Communications
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Financial Administrator
Elijah Morris	Organ Scholar
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence*
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus*
The Rev. Rebecca Bourret	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Mary Lynn Dell	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Joseph Pace	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Nancy Wright	Priest Associate*

*These positions are non-stipendiary.

VESTRY

Eleanor Barnes	Warden
Stewart Murchie	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Wilcox	Treasurers

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer

2024–26: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–27: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Susan Fay, Jeff Verney