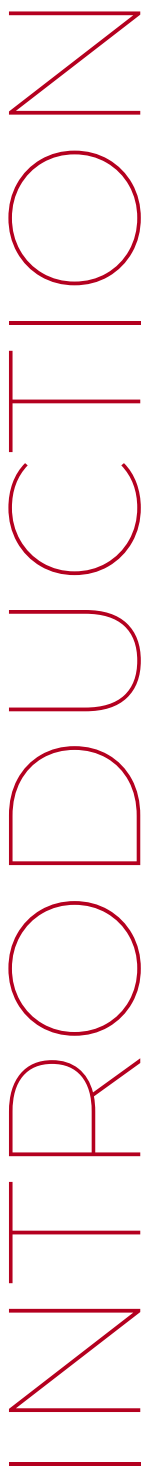




ST. RICHARD'S
Episcopal Church

Annual Report

2023



The Annual Report tells the story of our parish community.

Contained within this report you will find information about St. Richard's parish ministries in 2023.

Included are reports from ministry leaders, as well as facts and figures and financial information regarding our budget and cash position at the beginning and end of the year.

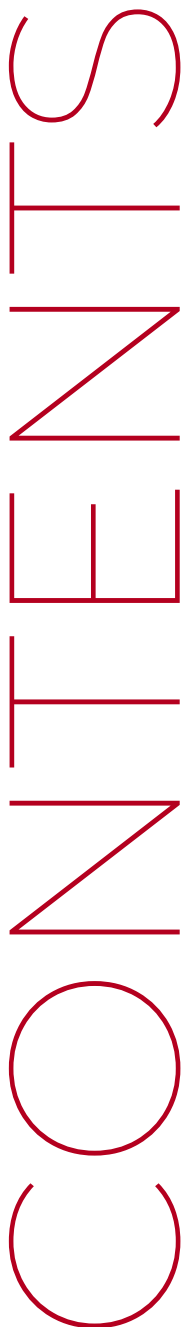
Though at times challenging, this year has also been full of grace, hope, and love. All of these reports tell of our desire to live out the Gospel in the world as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We hope that you take the time to read the full report.

Despite this report's length, not every ministry, initiative, or parish program is included here, which should give the reader some sense of the scope of just how much happens in our church. For a midsize congregation, we do many things and accomplish much!

Ultimately, this report is an offering of gratitude. We give thanks to God for all of the many blessings that we enjoy and which are given for us to steward. We pray that we would continue to direct our resources, energies, and gifts to the glory of God and the continued growth of his kingdom, that we would more fully realize our mission to know Jesus more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly **day by day**.

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RECTOR'S REPORT

Things don't always go according to plan. God always shows up, anyway.

The Rev. Cameron Nations

This past year was one of contrasts. On the one hand, 2023 was a year of continued vitality and growth as we emerged into our new post-Covid reality; on the other hand, the weight of our debt finally caught up with us and required us to make some incredibly tough decisions about how to move forward.

At last year's Annual Meeting, I declared 2023 "The Year of the Strategic Plan." (More on that can be found further into my report.) What a year to be reminded that things don't always go according to plan-- no matter how strategic! We ended 2022 having had one of our best financial years ever. We had budgeted for a significant deficit in 2022, but, blessedly, had ended the year barely in the red at all. After enduring the worst and most challenging days of the pandemic, things felt like they had finally turned around. It was time to turn our focus to the future. Our forecasts looked promising and pledges to the Walk In Love Parish Hall Campaign looked to carry us through to 2024, giving us time to pray and discern about how we would approach our debt moving forward and balance it against other priorities and parish needs.



Two things can be true: things can ultimately be headed in the right direction even amidst temporary setbacks.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Cont'd

Yet things didn't pan out quite as we had hoped, and circumstances forced us to make some decisions regarding our debt service earlier than previously planned.

Though our operating revenue was fairly strong, commitments to the end of the Walk In Love campaign fell well below our estimates. Regular giving plateaued from the year before. Without the support of supplemental income sources (like PPP funds and diocesan Covid relief grants) that had sustained us through the leaner years of 2020 and 2021, we found ourselves having to draw down on cash reserves to meet our debt obligations. As we headed into the summer months, it became clear that we were not on a sustainable path. If our trajectory had continued, we would have literally run out of money in Q1 of 2024 and found ourselves in crisis. It certainly wasn't where I, nor our parish leadership, wanted us to be, but we hoped we could close the gap and avoid having to make significant changes to our staff or programs. In the end, however, we had to make the heartwrenching decision to say goodbye to two beloved staff members in order to get us on a path of financial sustainability.

But this tells only part of the story, and to end there would be to sell short many of the wondrous things that God has accomplished in our parish over the past year. While our finances certainly got a lot of airtime in 2023, they are merely one part of a much larger whole, and there is so much more to tell and to celebrate. As I repeated throughout the fall, two things can both be true at the same time: things can ultimately be headed in the right direction even amidst temporary setbacks. I believe that's where we find ourselves as we head into 2024. So let's talk about all of the good that we experienced this past year. There was a lot of it! (And this summary won't even scratch the surface.)

Increased Engagement and Attendance

First, we did see some pretty significant growth and engagement, especially in Sunday service attendance and various spiritual formation opportunities. Our overall average Sunday attendance increased by 18%, from 149 in 2022 to 176 in 2023. Our 8am Rite I saw a 31% in average attendance, from 26 in 2022 to 34 in 2023. Our 10:30am Rite II increased by 15.5%, going from 123 in 2022 to 142 in 2023. We had about 70 people each Wednesday evening during Lent join us for our Lenten Soup Supper series, *In the Wilderness: An Exploration of Where We Meet God and Where God Meets Us*. We have also seen increasing Sunday school attendance across the board, with an average of about 60 individuals (across all age groups) participating in spiritual formation throughout the fall of 2023, up significantly over the year before.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Cont'd

As you will read later in this report, our youth program in particular has thrived, with Spencer's work leading to lives transformed and the Gospel lived out in our community and beyond.

We also saw some big increases in attendance at our major holiday services. We saw greater participation in Holy Week liturgies, most notably at Good Friday (up a whopping 64.5% over 2022, from 76 to 125) and Easter Sunday (up 17% over 2022, from 389 to 454). Christmas, too, saw a big increase over the previous year. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day saw a 33% increase over 2022 (from 471 people in 2022 to 628 in 2023), and that is not counting the attendance at our Advent IV service Christmas Eve morning. There were 291 at our 4pm pageant service alone in 2023!

Some of these increases were driven by the hard work and innovation of our choirmaster, Sara Burden-McClure, who introduced some new services and worship opportunities (such as our Good Friday cantata service) into our usual rotation. These new worship opportunities clearly bore fruit! While growth is not the only indicator of vitality, nor is growth always synonymous with health (plenty of unhealthy churches can experience growth), I do believe growth to be an important indicator, and one that points to a work of the Spirit amongst us at St. Richard's.

Parish Retreat

Speaking of the Holy Spirit, in May we gathered for our first parish retreat in many years. The theme, One in the Spirit, had us focus on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, individually and corporately. We had over 60 join us for the weekend, and it too ended up bearing much fruit, going on to inspire our 2024 stewardship campaign, Many Members; One Body.



Visioning Workshop

In June, we hosted a visioning workshop facilitated by our Treasurer, David Todd. It was a Spirit-filled time of conversation, dreaming, and discerning about where God is leading our church. The information gathered at that workshop will play a vital part in shaping the various aspects of our strategic plan. (I did mention a strategic plan, remember? More on that in just a minute.)

RECTOR'S REPORT

Cont'd

Pumpkin Patch

God was also at work as some of our longest-running ministries brought on new leadership. Our Pumpkin Patch is a great example, with Chris and Alyssa Norton stepping up to coordinate this year and Colin Hardman helping manage our pumpkin unloads. Their participation alongside longtime Patch veterans like Ted West, Warren Gillespie, Robin Mueller, and Brent Saxon (and our Scout Troop!) helped to make this year's Patch a success, impacting our community in mighty ways. I highly encourage you to read the Patch report found later on in this document to read more about the Patch's impact and the community relationships it continues to foster.

St. Richard's School

Our school continues to grow and thrive, limited only by space constraints and the ability to recruit new teachers. The revitalization of the School Board over the past few years has been phenomenal, helping to drive new fundraising initiatives that are positioning St. Richard's School for a very promising future. As we remain mindful of our community's population growth, driven in no small part by a over-representation of young families in Round Rock, Hutto, and Georgetown, the School is clearly a vital asset to our parish as well as an opportunity for mission, outreach, and community engagement. For this reason, it will play a significant part in our strategic plan.

Strategic Plan

Which, at last, brings me back to the strategic plan. Over the course of 2023, our staff, ministry leaders, and others have been in prayerful discernment about God's plan for our church. We've been gathering data, praying, and listening. In December, two Area Missioners for the Diocese of Texas, the Rev. Andrew Terry and Kelly McRae, came to St. Richard's to facilitate a strategic planning retreat for our vestry. At that retreat, we did important work that helped us distill all the data we had collected into something coherent and purposeful. It still needs a bit of fine-tuning, but what emerged is an exciting plan that will guide us over the next two years, getting us to 2026: our 50th anniversary. I look forward to sharing that plan with you in Q1 of 2024.

In the meantime, I want to say a huge **thank you** to our outgoing vestry members who played such a big part in shepherding us to this point: Pauline Hoehn, Dokie Walker, Brian Chase, and Jeff Krech. I truly cannot express how grateful I am for each of you and your leadership these past three years. We are all better for your service to the church.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Cont'd

Personally, this year was a rough one for me. In the span of just three months from May to July, I lost both of my grandmothers and one of my aunts. On top of that, one of our dogs, Sophie, was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

But through all of that, I felt surrounded by your prayers. You were understanding when I had to be gone to be with my family, and you sent cards and left kind messages that were a comfort in my grief. I can't tell you how much I appreciated your care and concern, and it too served as a reminder of what ultimately matters about our life together.

Ultimately, everything we do here at St. Richard's-- from our worship to our opportunities for formation, fellowship, and service-- is about two things: fostering communion with God, and fostering communion with one another. That's it.

The true measure of success for me as your rector is not reflected so much in the numbers (though those are encouraging), but in the stories behind them. Stories of lives transformed, of disciples made, of connections deepened, and of spirits renewed. I believe with all my being that the world needs the hope of the Gospel. The world needs the kind of community that the church, at its best, provides.

As mentioned above, this Annual Report (like all Annual Reports) tells a story. It's our story. It's God's story. And it's a privilege to be even a small part of it with you.

Faithfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron Nations", with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Rev. Cameron Nations
Fifth Rector of St. Richard's

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Pauline Hoehn

Ministry Highlights in 2023:

The vestry welcomed new members for 2023: Kyle Thomas, Bobby Schmidt, Warren Gillespie, Jonathan Wickline and Stephen Mueller. The Junior Warden provided information about buildings and other related duties.

Working closely with the finance committee, the vestry approved the 2024 budget.

Vestry member Don Parker helped coordinate Safety Saturday, providing information on how to respond to emergencies on the church campus along with a CPR training and refresher. Several vestry members helped audit Emergency Response actions.

Vestry member Bobby Schmidt attended the School Board Meetings and updated the vestry on school activities. The vestry provided a basket for the annual school fundraiser.

The vestry decided on and publicized Pumpkin Patch recipients early in the year and made disbursements from Pumpkin Patch proceeds in a timely manner.

Brian Chase completed the website conversion, redesign, and update.

The vestry collaborated with David Todd on a Visioning workshop to help clarify issues for the Fall Strategic Planning Session.

Vestry members reached out and invited parishioners to the 8/20 kickoff of fall programming, and helped to update the parish database.

The Stewardship Committee, comprised of Warren Gillespie, Stephen Mueller and Dokie Walker, delivered monthly messaging about Stewardship all year, helping to increase pledges. The Vestry also participated in the Strategic planning workshop designed to develop a 5-year plan for St. Richard's growth.

Goals for 2024: To guide the parish to attain and maintain fiscal stability by increasing pledging units and determining ways to pay down the Parish Hall mortgage.

Faithfully submitted, Pauline Hoehn, Sr. Warden

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT



Jeff Krech

THANK YOU TO:

- Fr Cameron, staff and vestry for their support!
- Nancy Krech, Ted West, Alice McDow and Julie/Mason Nagel for gardening and mowing work! Because of them, the annual savings to the parish continues to be \$20k to \$30k or more!
- Those folks that donated to the Gardening Ministry Restricted Funds account. You know who you are! You allowed us hire out the backbreaking work of doing the annual clean-up, trim and mulch!
- The City of Round Rock for donating over \$800 worth of mulch!
- Junior Warden Emeritus Ted West for covering while I went gallivanting about the country!
- Nancy for understanding of the time I needed to do this mission...
- Jonathon for volunteering to take over starting in about 15 minutes!
- Anybody I forgot to thank!

EXCLUDING CLEANING ACCOUNT, WE FINISHED 2023 AT \$91 OVER BUDGET. (NOT A TYPO!)

- Cleaning account was \$2.5K over budget for the year (need to adjust budget for 2024).
- Data above includes the value of the December cleaning invoice that was not paid in December.
- The budget for 2024 and beyond will need to cover more outsourcing of lawn/landscaping care as our primary volunteers will be curtailing their efforts in 2024.
- The Gardening Team Restricted Funds account has a balance of about \$5.5K which will be used to outsource certain annual tasks that are not being covered by volunteers.

KEY PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2023:

- Replaced the original issue sanctuary HVAC units; thanks to all that contributed to the HVAC replacement fund!
- Worked out issues with "spotty internet" and replaced broken WiFi access points (again).
- Replaced Admin Bldg HVAC Unit #5 (funded out of "special projects" account).
- Began program to replace tube fluorescent bulbs with more efficient LED tubes (thanks Rickey!)
- Created "Campus Facilities Overview" document and presented same to staff and vestry
- Finished/published the Emergency Management Procedures and Guidelines (thanks Don Parker!)

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Cont'd

KEY PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2023 (Cont'd):

- Held first annual "Safety Saturday" for staff, school and interested parishioners.
- Posted Evacuation Assembly Area Signs/Maps and Severe Weather Assembly Area Signs.
- Conducted audits of several Emergency Response Team events.
- Negotiated new electricity purchase contract; discovered that prior provider had charged sales tax for the past 4 years so we made a claim to the State for a refund of over \$7K.
- Campus experienced a hail storm in September; our insurance provided about \$25K for needed repairs.
- Repaired 3 sidewalk trip hazards near building entries.
- Worked with School to complete their playground expansion project and to add a classroom space.
- Completed EDOT funded "Church Inspection and Repair Recommendation Program Audit;" awaiting analysis and report.
- Fixed all the other broken stuff! If it wasn't broken, we couldn't fix it!

KEY PROJECTS FOR 2024

- Install new HVAC unit serving hallway between School and Narthex and School restrooms.
- Pressure wash Sanctuary exterior, clean/polish Parish Hall floor.
- Transition to outsourced landscaping maintenance by year end.
- Finish updates to systems documentation for all building systems.
- Finish uploading all "Junior Warden Documentation" to new Parish database repository.
- Develop new five-year plan for the site.
- Onboard new Junior Warden.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Krech, Jr. Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Todd

2023 was indeed a challenging year. While revenues remain improved over pre-Covid numbers, our operating revenue remained virtually flat. Additionally, pledged parish hall debt fell 79% short of budget, and overall we collected only 72% of what was pledged for the 5-year capital campaign that ended in 2023. Going forward, paying the parish hall loans will come from general operating revenues to ensure we can meet our annual debt obligations. We are pleased to announce that some 23 generous families and souls have committed enough to cover the parish hall debt through 2024. This releases general operating funds for additional mission and ministry. We thank the 106 families and individuals who have pledged (at the submission of this report) \$447,588 for 2024 general operations. However, at the time of this report we remain short in pledging for 2024 by \$177,412 of the \$625,000 target to fully fund 2024 anticipated mission and ministry needs.

In 2023, we continued to manage our expenses well and had to make the decision to adjust staffing levels. Overall, we experienced a \$67,000 shortfall versus a planned \$25,000 budget surplus.

While continuing to face same challenges we all have faced (inflation and other difficulties), revenue shows a diminished picture from 2022 but improved from Covid year levels. Capital campaign giving continued to lag the amounts needed to pay off the debt at the end of the Walk in Love Capital Campaign in 2023. We can continue to make the minimum loan payments, but this will result the payoff being at the full 20-year term of the loans and mean increased interest expenses over an early payoff.

And while we did experience challenges and had to make tough decisions in 2023, there is much to celebrate about the year as well: 1.) St. Richard's continued to maintain our in-person and digital mission, ministry and programs, which all experienced double-digit growth and help us as life continues. 2.) We still have an amazing staff, along with our Vestry and ministry leaders who are vital to managing our resources and finding new ways for our parish family to connect. 3.) St. Richard's has set up permanent endowments for general operations and a specific endowment to send youth on scholarship to Camp Allen.

We want to celebrate everyone who faithfully supported St. Richard's in 2023 and into 2024. Each of you is so vital to our mission and ministry. Thank you!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

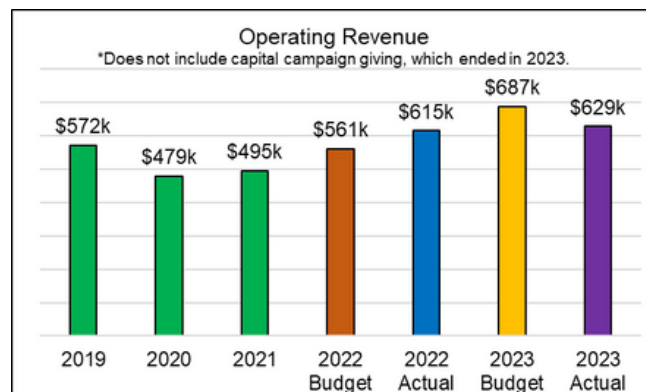
In the following pages, the finance team presents both the St. Richard's 2023 financial review and the proposed 2024 Annual Budget, which was reviewed and approved by the vestry in the fall and presented to the congregation as part of our stewardship campaign.

Like last year, the budget required a lot of prayer, collaboration, and a more adaptive way of budgeting to prepare. We really believe that our investments in our 2024 Annual Budget will lead to a great year, building a platform for whatever the future and our Lord gives us to share in love and hope!

Again, thank you to all who support St. Richard's each year. Your support continues to move us forward. Come Jesus Come!

Faithfully submitted,

David Todd, Treasurer



St. Richard's Balance Sheet

Accounts	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Report Date	12/31/23	12/31/22	12/31/21	12/31/20	12/31/19
Assets					
Total Current (Cash and Other)	\$165,544	\$328,336	367,875	401,110	462,480
Buildings & Land	6,236,682	6,236,682	6,236,682	6,236,682	6,236,682
Equipment & Other Assets	201,236	201,236	201,236	201,236	196,261
Total Assets	\$6,603,462	\$6,766,254	6,805,793	6,839,028	6,895,424
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities	\$17,823	\$15,130	\$8,693	\$7,705	\$7,643
Long-term Liabilities	\$1,249,222	\$1,338,478	\$1,458,562	\$1,628,859	\$1,799,131
Other Liabilities	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000		
Total Liabilities	\$1,292,045	\$1,383,608	\$1,497,255	\$1,636,563	\$1,806,773
Total Fund Principal	\$5,108,591	\$5,139,379	5,035,568	4,927,502	4,927,805
Total Restricted Funds	\$202,826	\$243,266	272,969	274,962	160,845
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds	\$6,603,462	\$6,766,254	6,805,793	6,839,028	6,895,424

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

Saint Richard's 2023 Cash Flow

Item	Budget	Actual	% Difference
Beginning Cash Balance (1)	\$320,544	\$320,544	
Less: Initial Restricted Funds Balance (1)	(\$243,266)	(\$243,266)	
Available Cash for Operations & Debt Service	\$77,277	\$77,277	
Cash Inflow & Outflows			
Add:			
Operating Revenue (2)	\$687,081	\$628,550	-9.31%
Capital Campaign Giving (2,3)	\$138,856	\$77,250	-79.75%
Grants Received from Diocese (4)		\$25,000	
Less:			
Operating Expenses (2)	(\$800,676)	(\$772,794)	-3.61%
Debt Service Principal (1,3)	(\$89,256)	(\$89,256)	0.00%
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow)	(\$63,995)	(\$131,250)	51.24%
Ending Cash For Operations & Debt Service	\$13,282	(\$53,973)	124.61%
Add: Year End Restricted Funds Balance (1)	\$202,826	\$202,826	
Ending Cash Balance	\$216,108	\$148,853	-45.18%

Audit:

Actual Ending Cash Balance (1)	\$153,716
Difference from Calculated Ending Cash Balance	\$4,863
% Difference	3.16%

General 2023 Cash Flow Notes

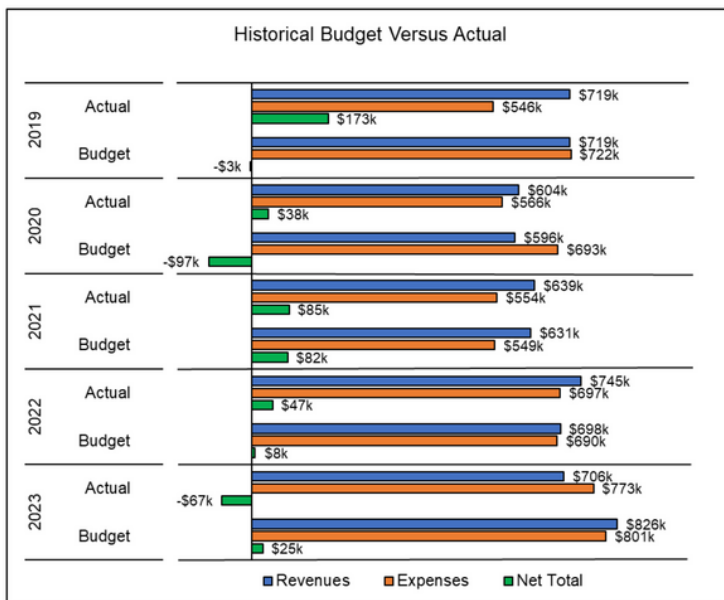
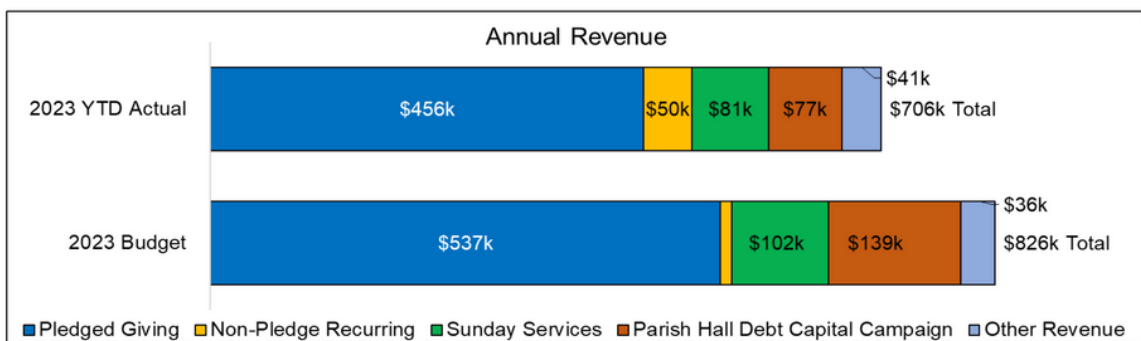
- 1) See Balance Sheet
- 2) See Revenues and Expenses
- 3) See Parish Hall Debt Status
- 4) Cash received from a diocesan matching grant to be used in FY 2024/

Additionally, note that actual cash flow was not as planned, especially with committed pledges for operating and capital campaign revenue. Expenses were well managed to the degree that operations would not be affected. Staffing changes did not affect the 2023 financial status due to severance and remaining PTO granted.

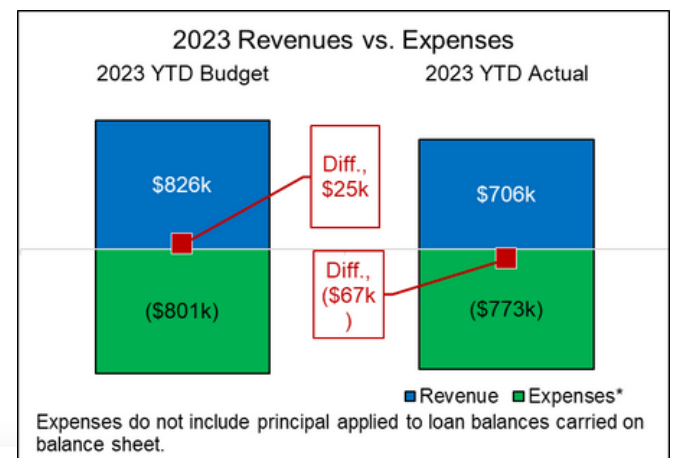
TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

Note 2 - Revenues & Expenses



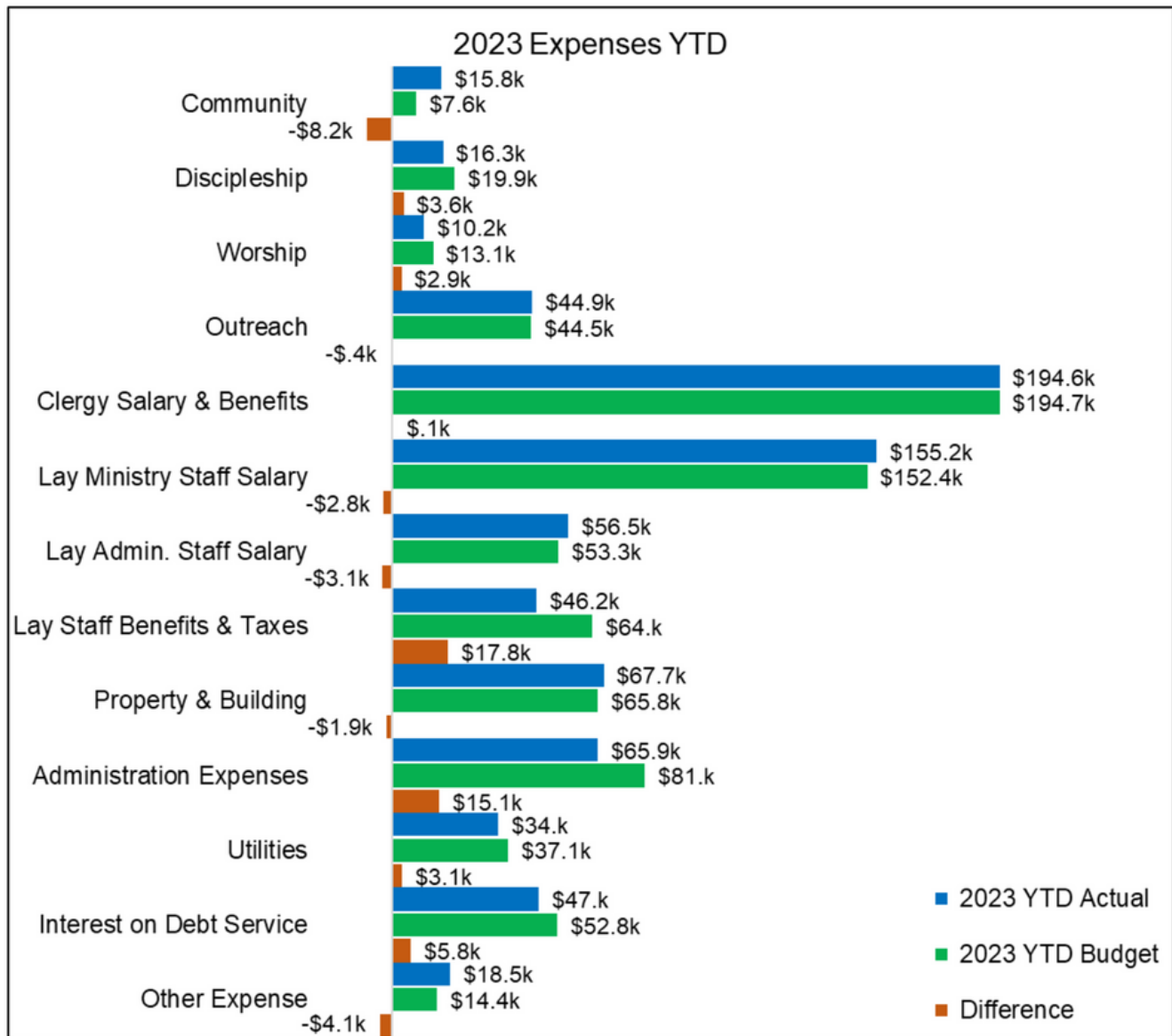
Other Revenue	2023 Budget	2023 Actual YTD
Preschool Cost Sharing	\$20,230	\$20,230
Other Revenue	\$0	\$2,769
Parish Hall Rental	\$16,013	\$17,901



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

Note 2 - Revenues & Expenses (Cont'd)



Note: Again, please note that savings from personnel changes were not realized in 2023 due to severance packages. Changes in staff expense will be reflected in 2024.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

Note 3 - Parish Hall Debt Status

The Capital Campaign to Retire Debt ended in 2023. General Operating Revenue will be utilized to service debt beginning in 2024.

Capital Campaign Giving Through Dec 2023 (Completed)

Item	Prior Giving	Growing with Grace	In Between	Walk In Love (To Date)	Total
Dates		11/14 - 12/17		01/19 - 12/23	
Total Pledge		\$1,135,077	\$11,640	\$718,184	\$1,864,901
Pledge To Date				\$718,184	\$718,184
Pledge Gifts Received*		\$1,505,773	\$9,020	\$519,398	\$2,034,191
Pledge Balance Remaining		(\$370,696)	\$2,620	\$198,786	(\$169,290)
% Gifts to Pledge vs Pledge to Date		132.66%	77.49%	72.32%	
Other Gifts	\$251,340	\$130,621	\$41,565	\$82,026	\$505,553
Total Gifts Received	\$251,340	\$1,636,394	\$50,585	\$601,424	\$2,539,744

*Includes a \$750,000 from proceeds from a land sale gift.

Comparison of Our Capital Campaigns

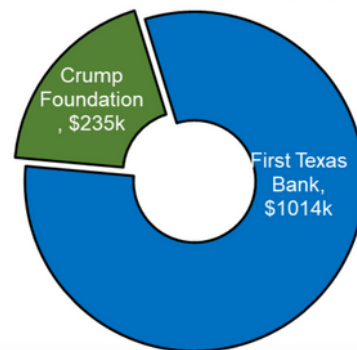
Item	Growing with Grace	Walk in Love Updated 07/22
Period	11/14 - 12/17	01/19 - 12/23
Duration	3 Years	5 Years
Purpose	Construction	Retire Debt
Goal	\$1,500,000	\$1,770,293
Original Amount Committed	\$1,234,142	\$723,984
Percent of Goal	82%	41%
No. Pledges	110	68
Average Pledge Amount	\$11,219	\$10,647

Parish Hall Loan Status (Dec 2023)

Item	Orig. Balance	Rate	Maturity Date	Current Bal.	% of Orig Bal.
FTB Loan	\$2,725,332	4.50%	May 2037	\$1,013,927	37.20%
Crump Loan	\$500,000	2.00%	Dec 2033	\$235,295	47.06%
Average Cost of Debt		4.11%			
Total loans	\$3,225,332			\$1,249,222	38.73%

% of Debt Paid Since 2017 61.27%

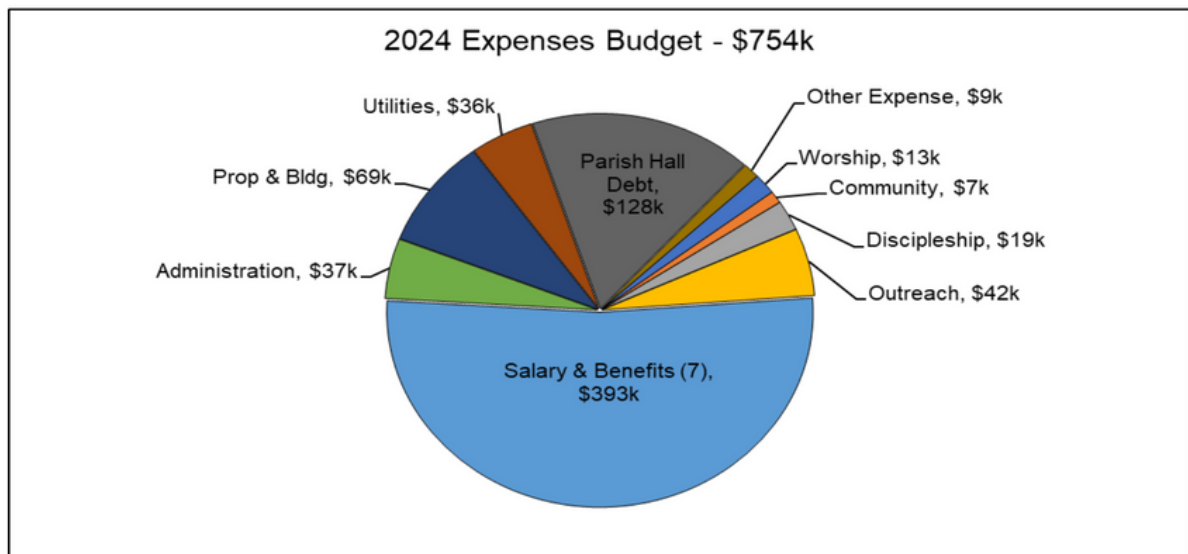
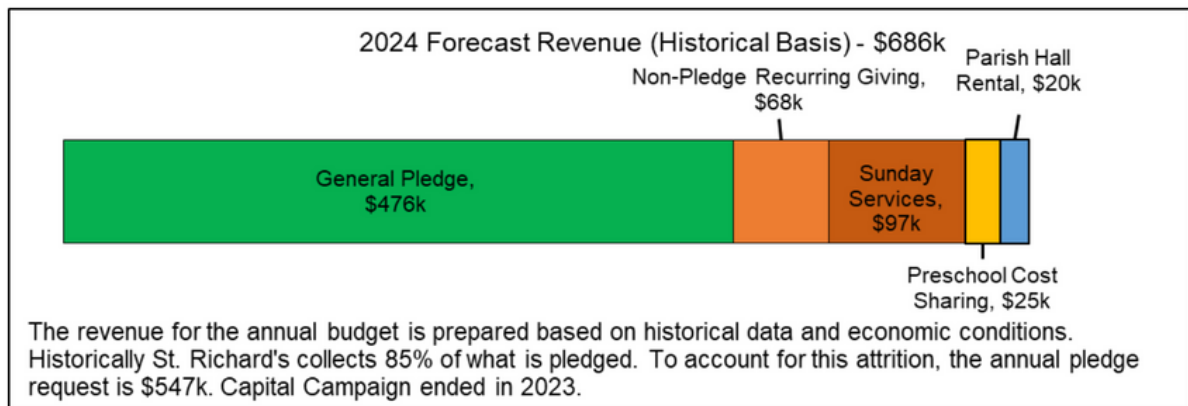
Dec 2023 Debt Balance- \$1,249,222
38.73% Remains of Original \$3,225,332



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

2024 Approved Budget Revenues Vs. Expenses - (\$68.2k) or 9.8%



Notes:

- 1) General mission and ministry operations
- 2) Administrative costs for supporting mission and ministry
- 3) Includes loan principal and interest no longer supported by the capital campaign that ended in 2023.
- 4) Utilities, property/facility maintenance and repair
- 5) Funds used for area and regional outreach. Does not include Pumpkin Patch Proceeds estimated to be \$62.5k for 2023.
- 6) Reserve and capital expense set asides
- 7) Includes all clergy and lay employee compensation, clergy pension, lay staff retirement contributions, employer payroll taxes and insurance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cont'd

2024 Pledge Campaign Status

Summary

Item	Actual to Date	Target	Actual % of Target	Minimum Need	Actual % of Need
General Fund Pledge Amount	\$447,588	\$625,000	71.6%	\$548,000	81.7%
Number of General Fund Pledges	106	134	79.1%	108	98.1%
New pledges for \$25k matching grant (1)	\$47,140			\$25,000	188.6%
Parish Hall Mortgage Pledge Amount (2)	\$130,972	\$255,572	51.2%	\$127,786	102.5%
Number of Parish Hall Mortgage Pledges	23	34	67.6%	17	135.3%

1) Included in General Fund Pledge Amounts.

2) The parish hall mortgage is included in the 2024 general budget. Any additional specific commitments for the mortgage will free up general funds for additional mission, ministry and programming.

General Fund Individual Gift Trends

Item	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (To Date)
Total Pledge	\$427,979	\$379,882	\$359,764	\$425,243	\$442,603	\$447,588
Total Pledging Units	109	110	96	98	101	106
Average Pledge	\$3,926	\$3,453	\$3,748	\$4,339	\$4,610	\$4,223
Median Pledge	\$3,000	\$2,400	\$2,600	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000

Please note that all figures in this report regarding our 2024 budget and pledge campaign are reflective of their status at the time of compiling the report (1/15/2024).

ST. RICHARD'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Shauna Kennerly

Our preschool and Kindergarten is a fully-accredited, part-time program that serves children ages 2 years through kindergarten. We nurture our children's spiritual, intellectual, physical, social, and emotional growth. We promote Christ-centered values in all areas of our curriculum.



Playground Expansion

This year has been very exciting for our school. With our Texas workforce grant monies we were able to add to our playground by building a covered turf area for gross motor games. We also increased our picnic area and put a cover over it to enjoy snack time, lunch and outside events. This year at our meet the teacher event we had a ribbon cutting to officially open the new playground area. We also dedicated a picnic table in memory of Wayne Sanderson whose family has been a wonderful support of the church and preschool.

Fundraising and Events

Fundraising continues to be important to our program. This year we held two fundraising events. In May we hosted the second annual fundraiser dinner and auction – this was a great event where church and school came together to raise money. In October we held our annual raffle where each classroom created an amazing, themed basket.

As a tuition funded school these two events made a huge difference in our budget. This year we have raised **\$21,000**. Because we rely solely on tuition to fund our operations, we are constantly trying to balance teacher wages with tuition costs. Our goal is to provide each student with the best education possible and give our teachers the compensation they deserve. As we grow in our fundraising efforts, we will be able to accomplish this goal.

We held our 2nd annual Christmas event where school and church can come together and make Christmas cards, decorate cookies, see Santa and get to know each other better. In the next couple of years, we hope to grow this event and open it up to the community.

ST. RICHARD'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Cont'd

Activities throughout the year:

- Rodeo Day
- Blessing of the stuffed animals
- Dress Up Parade
- Fall Raffle
- St. Nicholas Day
- Christmas Family Event
- Christmas music/Nativity play
- Spring and Art Show Fundraiser
- End of year Fun Day
- Kindergarten Graduation



Goal(s) for 2024:

Continue work on strengthening the school board. Grow our fundraising efforts and continue to enroll families into our program.

Ministry Leadership for 2022/2023

Head of school – Shauna Kennerly

2023 Preschool Board Members – Alice McDow, Leah Clark, Emily Flores, Bonnie Nichols, Trisha Brubaker, Candice Rogers, Angie Richardson, Carly Nations, Cat Herring, Marry Ellen Looger, Justin Nordhausen.
Vestry Rep – Bobby Schmidt

Contact Information:

Preschool Office 512-248-1789
preschool@saintrichards.org

Faithfully submitted,
Shauna Kennerly, Head of School



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (3-12 YRS)

The Rev. Cameron Nations

Our children's ministry seeks to provide spiritual instruction and nourishment for those in our parish aged 3-12 years to help them grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord. We have two main areas of focus: Sunday morning formation and our summertime Vacation Bible School (VBS).

Sunday Morning Formation

We have three classes or "Levels":

Level 1 (3-6 years)

Level 2 (6-9 years)

Level 3 (9-12 years)

We began 2023 by offering a curriculum called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which we had used since before the pandemic. Catechesis is a Montessori-based approach to childhood Christian education that comes out of the Roman Catholic Church. But over the summer Mother Kelly began to re-envision part of our children's formation program, and we entered the fall with a new game plan that included a Bible- and discussion-based offering for our Level 3 kids.

After Mother Kelly's departure in October, we continued to adapt our program to our current needs. **Level 1** is still heavily Catechesis-inspired. **Level 2** is a Bible story-driven class that incorporates elements of Godly Play (itself inspired initially by Catechesis.) **Level 3** follows various studies and curricula that are aimed at helping teach children how to engage with scripture and other elements of their faith as they prepare to enter youth group. All three levels are intended to help nurture curiosity and spiritual growth in a loving, fun, and joyful environment.

Our volunteers and leaders have carried us through the year. A special thanks to Diane DuTeil, Nancy Krech, Becky Parker, Wendy Stocker, and Nadine Genece for helping to keep things running in the midst of a period of transition. Diane in particular has been a huge help as a temporary children's ministry coordinator as we transition into this next chapter of our children's ministry at St. Richard's.

We continue to see more children involved in Sunday morning formation, and would love to see still more in 2024!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (3-12 YRS)

Cont'd

VBS

Our VBS in June was a huge success. We welcomed over 70 kids who spent the week learning about the story of Moses.

The week could not have happened without the work of dozens of adult and youth volunteers who gave of their time and talents to bring everything to life!

Continued Need

We are always in need of greater participation to enable our children's ministry to thrive. Though we did see increased participation in the fall of 2023, we pray that this trend would continue and increase in the year ahead.

We need more leaders and volunteers who can rotate through each classroom on Sundays to provide coverage and support. Many hands truly do make light work.

We also encourage more families to bring their children regularly to Sunday school. Your presence is the most powerful tool we have for the transformation of our children's ministry. It really does make a difference!

The Future

Children's ministry is a high priority for us, and is one of our core focus areas in our strategic plan. Our future vision for children's ministry is guided by these 4 principles:

1. Children's ministry should nurture curiosity and wonder while also remaining joyful, hopeful, and fun.
2. We want our kids to know that God loves them unconditionally.
3. We want our kids to come away each week with some new insight or knowledge of and appreciation for their faith and tradition.
4. Understanding that parents, relatives, and mentors are the true "chief formation officers" in our kids lives, we want equip, encourage, and support parents in the discipleship of their children.

YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Spencer Stocker

Saint Richard's Youth Ministry works to build up middle-, junior-, and high school students. We help prepare them to navigate the chances and challenges of life, reminding them that God loves them through all stages of faith and life. We dive deeper into the Bible and often discuss how it applies our lives. We encourage students to see God at work within them and through them at Youth Group, Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, Community Outreach, Mission Trips, Acolyting, Summer Camps, Retreats and even more as you'll see in this report. Sunday School runs from 9:15-10:15AM in the Youth Room and Youth Group from 5-7:00PM in the Parish Hall. Stay on top of the latest by texting "Join" to 512-812-7442 or checking us out on Facebook and Instagram @strichyouth.

Reflecting on 2023, I want start by saying thank you for supporting our students with your prayers, donations, and all the love you've shown! Thank you also to our faithful veteran team of Sunday School Leaders Becky Anderson and Greg Miller. Thank you also to Hayley, Belicia and Mildred for your leadership.

Our Lord was definitely at work in 2023. Along with Youth Group and Sunday School, Bishop Ryan confirmed four students: Dalyla, Robbie, Quin and Colton!

In early February, we collected canned goods and other nonperishable items for the Round Rock Area Serving Center during the Soup-er Bowl of Caring Sunday. With your help, we collected over 600 food items to help local families! We also ran the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and added in a fun BINGO Night!

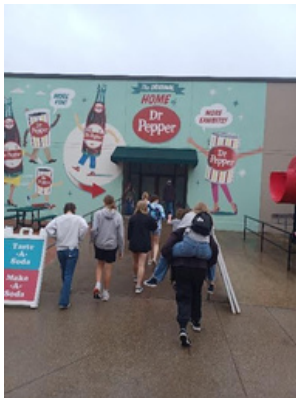


YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Cont'd

We also held our Discipleship Now (DNow) Retreat themed “Living in Community” with more than a hundred students from other Round Rock and Georgetown churches. This powerful weekend included group games, contemporary worship music and a mission project building 50 beds for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Our Spring Break Road Trip was a blast! We visited Buc-ee's, the Dr. Pepper Museum and Cameron Park Zoo in Waco!



During Lent, we gathered on Wednesday Nights for to watch The Prince of Egypt and stuffed more 1113 Easter eggs for the families at Texas Baptist Children's Home. We also hid eggs for Saint Richard's Easter Day celebration!



YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Cont'd

Spencer attended student's performances and games throughout 2023, including the theater show put on by Josie and Claire's Dance performance. We're so proud of all the hard work that our students put in at school, sports and in the community!



In April, Spencer and a team planned the Diocese of Texas' Jr. High Retreat themed "You are God's Masterpiece!" at Camp Allen. We also had three students Dominic, Giuseppe and Grace attend the Happening Retreat the same weekend!

In May, we held our Annual Garage Sale Fundraiser that raised over \$1500 to support our Summer Mission Trip. All the remaining items filled up a truck for the Serving Center! What a Win, Win!

Then, after practice and preparation, our Youth & Senior Celebration Sunday took place. Youth stepping up to lead the music, readings, prayers, ushering/greeting, and acolyting. Danie Youngl gave a powerful sermon. We then wrapped up the school year with a Water Park Party at Kalahari!



YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Cont'd

We kicked off our Summer Schedule with a Taco Tuesday at Torchy's! We then went on a Mission Trip to Muskogee, Oklahoma to Murrow Indian Children's Home. Each day we landscaped, painted signage and completed a variety of other helpful tasks. We also met some of the children that were removed from dangerous situations and spent a day together at a local water park. While there, we learned more about Native American Tribes at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum and drove the hour to Tulsa where we visited the Woody Guthrie Museum and Gathering Place Park.

This Summer we also helped at Vacation Bible School and held a Local Outreach Week where we served at Angel House Soup Kitchen, Saint Richard's and at the Round Rock Area Serving Center. We also took fun outings each afternoon to Typhoon Texas, Bowling at Mel's and Paddleboarding in Austin!

In August, we held a "Back to School Supply Collection" for WILCO Juvenile Services where we gathered more than 40 backs and numerous supplies for children in need. Thank you everyone! We also held our Night at the RR Express, a Back to School Coffee for Parents and helped with Fall Family Kickoff BBQ.



YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Cont'd

We were blessed to see an increase in weekly attendance as we kicked off September with a fun Labor Day Movie Night and Youth Group where we watched the "Jesus Revolution Movie." We also helped set up the Pumpkin Patch!

In October we kicked off Confirmation Classes, attended Fields of Faith at Stoney Point, unloaded and ran the Pumpkin Patch, cooked dinner for volunteers and held a fun Dress Up Party.

In November we gathered for fun Youth Group activities, to set up New Youth Christmas Tree and we sold wreathes in partnership with our Boy Scout Troop 154 for our upcoming Mission Trip to Puerto Rico.



Our 2023 year culminated with our Christmas Family Adoption Program to help teens and their families through WILCO Juvenile Services. Caseworkers nominated families they thought would appreciate the help. Then, with your help, we were able to lift the spirits for five families that so badly needed and appreciated it! THANK YOU! We also held our Youth Christmas Party that included a trip to Burnet and Liberty Hill and our youth helped put on Saint Richard's Christmas Pageant. Thank you for a great 2023!

YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Cont'd

Goal(s) for 2024:

Moving into 2024, our BIG new goal is our International Mission Trip to Puerto Rico scheduled for June 8-15, 2024.

Known for its tourism and beauty, Puerto Rico has also experienced numerous disasters, major hurricanes and damaging earthquakes in recent years. Working directly with Episcopal Diocese of PR, we hope to be the hands and feet of Christ in the community together and create new relationships that will bear fruit for years to come.

We have flights scheduled to San Juan the morning of June 8 and will be returning on June 15. We're renting rooms at the Diocese Retreat Center near San Juan and working on a plan meet, worship, serve and explore together with their youth.

The estimated cost per person before fundraising is \$1600, including airfare, meals, van rentals, and fun outings. Saint Richard's wants to make this Mission Trip accessible and affordable to everyone that wants to attend. So we hope you will partner with us to send our youth on this life changing trip.

Ministry Leadership for 2023:

Spencer Stocker, Youth Minister Hayley Brown, Ministry Assistant
Mildred Anaele and Belicia Hernandez, Sponsors
Becky Anderson & Greg Miller, Sunday School

Contact Information:

Spencer Stocker, Youth Minister. sstocker@saintrichards.org Text us at 512.812.7442 and follow us on Instagram and Facebook @strichyouth.



YOUTH MINISTRY (6TH-12TH GRADE)

By the Numbers

We are in communication with **90 youth and parents each week**, including **51** parents and **39** youth.

This includes fielding questions, prayer requests, check-in's and follow ups, and in-person attendance at Youth Group, Sunday School and special events.

Youth Group:

23 students attending **at least twice a month** with an average of **15 weekly**.

Sunday School:

18 students attending **at least once a month** with an average of **10 weekly**.

Additional Notes:

- Youth have brought friends that are not members of our church, averaging about **2 a month**.
- Sunday School has a big fluctuation in attendance week to week, while Youth Group has been more consistent.
- We have **99 followers on Instagram** and **76 followers on Facebook**.

25TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH

Chris and Alyssa Norton

This year, St. Richard's celebrated the 25th year of our annual pumpkin patch! The patch is the single largest community-facing event that we do each year, and it helps generate thousands of dollars for our outreach partners as we seek to impact our community each year. Beyond the money that it raises, our patch also facilitates deeper relationships both within our parish and across our community.



The patch is a big undertaking. It requires hundreds of volunteers (and just as many volunteer hours!) to pull off. We want to begin by thanking **everyone** who came together to make this year's patch a success

The following report highlights what we all accomplished through this year's patch and includes some of our goals for next year.

Overview

Despite increased competition from the City of Round Rock (who has started their own month-long event at Old Settlers Park), and despite our tent being destroyed by an early October hailstorm, we managed to increase our revenue over the previous year, from \$92,411 in 2022 to \$95,827 in 2023. After expenses, this meant that we were able to distribute almost \$33,000 in community outreach funds!

This year, we had greater school participation, a higher number of new volunteers, welcomed more vendors to the tent, and also invested in some social media marketing.

On the following pages, you can see a specific breakdown of our patch finances, as well as detailed metrics from our digital advertising efforts.

Future Goals

Next year, we hope to increase revenue through more advertising and greater partnership with our community organizations, increase volunteer participation, and have more activities for visitors-- especially kids and families-- to enjoy.

25TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH

Facts and Figures

Total Sales = \$95,827.28

St. Richard's Revenue = \$40,726.11

Total Expenses = \$8,058.17

Total Outreach = \$32,667.94

Outreach Breakdown:

Assistance with Patch

Stony Point Navy JROTC (For their help with unloads) = \$2,000

BSA Troop 154 (For their help with setup and teardown) = \$1,000

Youth Missions (Assisting with unloads and staffing shifts) = \$1,000

Community Outreach Partners

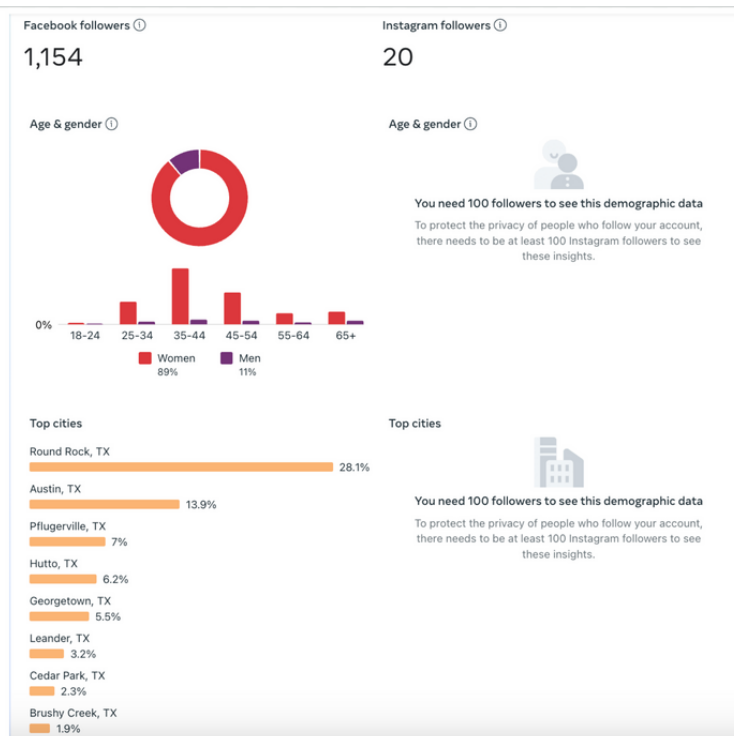
Round Rock Area Serving Center = \$15,000 (part of 3-yr capital campaign commitment)

Hutto Resource Center = \$4,555.98

Hope Alliance = \$4,555.98

KAIROS Prison Ministry = \$4,555.98

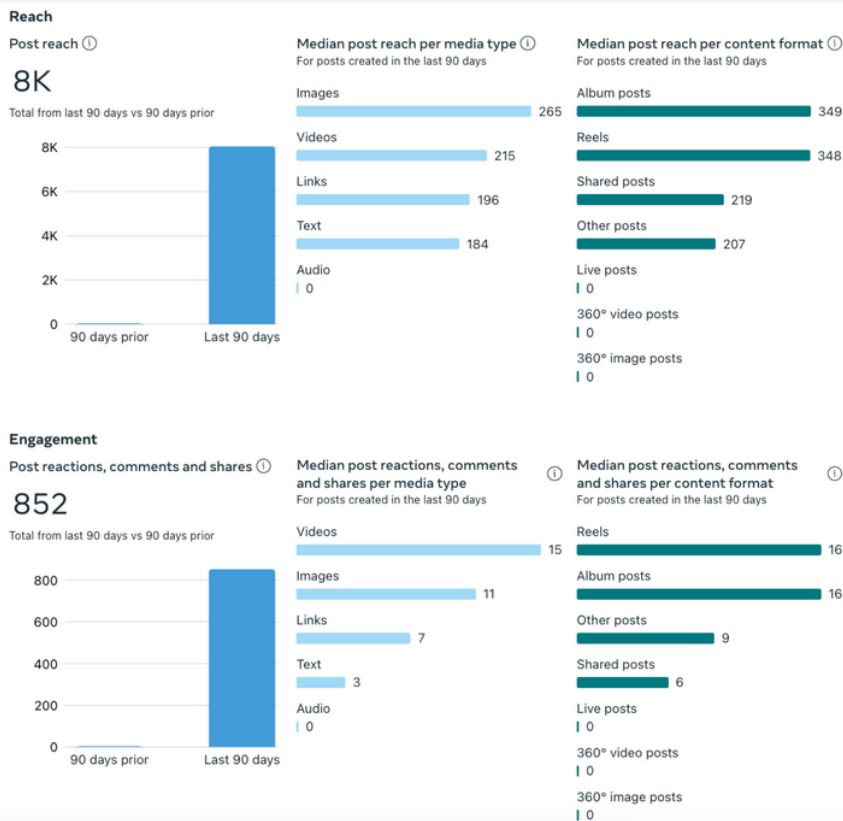
Advertising - Social media audience



25TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH

Facts and Figures

Social Media Reach



Performance

\$91.47 spent over 34 days.

Reach ⓘ

25,890

Reach ⓘ

25,890

Cost per 1,000 People Reached \$3.53

Activity

Post engagements

39

Link clicks

38

Post reactions

1

Audience

This ad reached 25,890 people in your audience.

Ad rating

Are you satisfied with this ad?

No

Yes

Details

Status

Completed

Goal

Reach a large audience

Daily budget

\$4.00

Duration

34 days

See all

25TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH



Pictured (clockwise from top): Fr. Cameron and Spencer presenting JROTC w/ check and service award; Fr. Cameron addressing the JROTC cadets who came out to volunteer and unload all our pumpkins each week; Fr. Cameron and Warren Gillespie presenting check to Hope Alliance; Fr. Cameron and Warren Gillespie presenting check to Hutto Resource Center.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 154



Brent Saxon

Ministry Description:

Troop 154 was established over 35 years ago and has grown into a very successful and close-knit group of families. The Scouting experience is divided into five programs according to age and activities. These five programs include Cub Scouts (K-5th Grade), Scouts BSA (Ages 10-17), Venturing (Ages 14-20), Sea Scouts (Ages 14-20) and Exploring (Ages 10-20). Currently, we only charter/offer the Scouts BSA/Boy Scout program at St. Richards.

Our troop is a Scout-led troop that utilizes the BSA patrol method to teach our Scouts leadership, character development, citizenship, reverence (Duty to God), physical fitness, and outdoor skills. It is through these skills, partnered with the Scout Oath & Law, that we aim for our youth to "Be Prepared for Life." We meet most Monday evenings @ 7:00pm in the St. Richard's Parish Hall.

As per our 2023 recharter, we had 17 active youth and 10 adult leaders that comprised Troop 154.

Ministry Highlights in 2023:

2023 was an active year for Troop 154. The Scouts participated in various outdoor activities that included community service, fishing, hikes/orienteering, merit badge fairs and semi-monthly campouts.

Thanks to generous donations and fundraising events, we were able to attend summer camp away from the Texas heat this July, as we escaped to the mountains of New Mexico.

While on campus, the Scouts assisted the St. Richards Day School with a handful of projects and took the lead on activities related to the Pumpkin Patch Set up and teardown, along with assisting in pumpkin unloads.

We also hailed a new milestone in 2023 as we celebrated a new Eagle Scout! This represents our 1st Eagle since the reactivation in 2019 and is the Troop's 26th Eagle in its 35+ year history.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 154

Cont'd

Ministry Goals for 2024:

Goals for 2024 include working with parishioners and pumpkin patch leaders to further streamline and optimize Pumpkin Patch set up, tear down and storage.

Troop leadership anticipates 2 to 4 of our Scouts will achieve the rank of Eagle Scout during 2024.

We will continue to place an emphasis on our growth, outdoors, leadership, and community service programs.

This year we hope to raise additional funds to aid in the repair (or replacement) of our troop trailer and purchase two Eagle Scout plaques to display on campus. The plaques would commemorate the accomplishments of past and future Eagle Scouts from Troop 154.

Our stretch goal as a program is to work within the parish and day school families to determine interest in launching both a Cub Scout Pack (for the elementary aged youth) and a Venturing crew (for the teens).

Ministry Leadership for 2024:

Brent Saxon – Chartered Org Representative
brent@bsatroop154.com

Issac Espinoza – Scout Master
issac@bsatroop154.com



ROUND ROCK AREA SERVING CENTER



Kate Monteiro

The Round Rock Area Serving Center (RRASC), started by local churches to meet the needs of the less fortunate in our community, is the non-profit social service and food pantry for Round Rock and northern Williamson County. Services at the Serving Center are primarily provided by volunteers as the Serving Center has only five paid staff members.

This has been a record-breaking year of need for RRASC. They now support over 1,100 families each month with varying services and over 1.5 million pounds of food runs through their food bank annually to members of our community. This has been a strong year for the St. Richard's relationship with RRASC. This year, our parish donated **39 hours** of volunteer time at RRASC, the majority of which took place during our four quarterly parish workdays.

We also were very engaged in RRASC's largest annual fundraiser, Karamu, in which we donated two baskets to their silent auction, purchased many tickets to the event, and many parish members who attended the event made further in-person donations, part of which was directed toward RRASC's Legacy of Compassion Capital Campaign.

The Legacy of Compassion Capital Campaign to build an additional building on the property next door to the Round Rock Area Serving Center is going very well. The total campaign goal is \$7,000,000 and as of January 1st they have raised \$6,162,180.

They must raise \$674,428 by April 11, 2024 to receive the Mabee Foundation Challenge Matching Grant of \$ 1.3 million. Thank you to all who have pledged or made a one-time donations! There is still time if you haven't yet contributed or would like to make an additional contribution to this community wide effort to give. Please consider a donation to the Legacy of Compassion Campaign by April 11! Contributions can be made online at www.rrasc.org and be sure to note Capital Campaign or checks can be mail to the Round Rock Area Serving Center designated Capital Campaign. Any amount will help us reach our goal so please consider making an investment in our community today!

In 2023 we also deepened our relationship with RRASC through Father Cameron's nomination to the RRASC Board. Father Cameron will serve a three-year term which starts in 2024.

Contact Information: Kate Monteiro, katharine.lukas@gmail.com

Faithfully submitted, Kate Monteiro

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY

Duke and Diane DuTeil

Ministry Description:

Kairos is a lay lead interdenominational prison ministry following the Cursillo model of a 3 day retreat inside stable population prisons. Following the 3 days weekends, Kairos volunteers participate in the weekly prayer and share meetings and monthly reunions that hold Kairos graduates accountable to themselves and their peers for their walk with Christ. Kairos Prison Ministry International is active in 37 states and 9 foreign countries.

Ministry Highlights in 2023:

During the year, St. Richard's has supported the Men's Kairos program at the Alfred D. Hughes TDCJ Unit in Gatesville and the Women's Kairos program at the Coleman TDCJ Unit in Lockhart.

It takes about \$20,000 to put on a Kairos Weekend and a ton of cookies. The St. Richard's community has been very generous in their support of this program with prayer, baking cookies, and financial support. Kairos would not happen without you.

I ask for your prayers for the success of this ministry. I also ask you to pray about discerning if you might be called to serve on a Kairos weekend.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at dukeduteil@gmail.com or Diane at dianeduteil77@gmail.com.

Faithfully submitted, Duke DuTeil

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sara Burden-McClure

In 2023, we continued the rebuilding effort begun in the spring of 2022, and engaged in opportunities to learn and share some new experiences in music and the arts!

Heartfelt thanks must be expressed to the members of the choir, who rehearse weekly to support congregational singing and present anthems for our 10:30 Sunday service and other special services! Their ministry and commitment have been truly integral to our worship. While there has been turnover this year as some members moved from the area or suffered health issues, we have been delighted to have new members join us, and our choir is averaging about 18 singers for festival services and 11 singers for regular Sundays. This has allowed us to undertake some exciting new repertoire throughout the year (including the Holy Week cantata presented on Good Friday evening, and some special concert selections for Senior Access's Mistletoe Magic community choir concert in December) and to lay the foundation for a few breakout ensembles in 2024. Including the Good Friday cantata, the choir sang 42 new anthems, plus introduced 10 new-to-us hymns, Anglican chant settings of two psalms, and new-to-us settings of the Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei (one each). Ten choir anthems learned in 2022 were repeated in 2023.

Likewise, we are quite grateful for the commitment of our bell choir's four members, and very much appreciate the assistance of a few substitute ringers, whose participation not only covers the occasional illness or absence of regulars, but also allows us to present some more complex musical selections. The bell players are eager to grow the ensemble to 8 regulars so that they can play more frequently in services and learn some three-octave selections. Despite much turnover, the bell choir was active and involved in services throughout the year. They learned and presented 6 new pieces, recycled 3 from the previous year, and learned and played four pieces in conjunction with choir and congregational singing.

In January of 2023, I made a personal commission of Austin composer P. Kellach Waddle to write a collection of organ works based on hymns for the season of Epiphany; each selection was tied to a hymn of the day and played as either a prelude or postlude, and I wrote articles about each hymn and related work that were included in the Order of Service. The composer himself presented a talk on the last Sunday of Epiphany about his musings and process in composing the collection, giving us a unique perspective. This has led to another commission of the same composer, this time by the church, to produce a Sanctus and an Agnus Dei for us to use as our own service music.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Cont'd

We were able to include more guest instrumentalists in 2023's services – we again enjoyed the Austin Brassworks quintet at Easter and were wowed by saxophonist Paul Baker in August – plus we've had wonderful in-house contributions by Lesley Grandstaff on flute, Duke DuTeil and Fr. Cameron on guitar, and pianists Emma Carlson, Sharon Tankersley and Brian Chase.

St. Richard's children and youth had fun presenting a new version of the Christmas pageant in December. This one used the same readings as in the last few years, but allowed characters to tell the story as well. Our actors ranged in age from 5 weeks to 18 years, and we were thrilled to have lots of angels, shepherds and animals join in on Christmas Eve! (Many thanks to our wonderful support team and audio tech!)

A Musical Feast Concert Series continues to provide excellent listening and outreach opportunities on the second Sunday of each month – although we did veer off schedule a few times to accommodate such high holy days as the Superbowl and Easter Sunday! We heard Austin Brassworks (twice!), Nacho Average Jazz Band's big band sound, and eclectic programs featuring classical guitar, oboe, instrumental trios, vocal duets and solos, pianists and black composers. Promotions go out to churches and organizations in Round Rock, Pflugerville and Austin, to music teachers in three school districts, and to various media arts calendars – and we are gradually seeing our reach grow. The programs are free, with an opportunity to donate to the artists if you are able. Please be sure to come enjoy these concerts, and bring a friend for a fun and easy introduction to our church community!

2023's projects did much to strengthen the foundation of our music and arts ministry, and great plans are afoot for 2024 – including a children's choir! Whether your thing is music, art, drama, or even logistics, we welcome your participation in this growing ministry!

Faithfully submitted,

Sara Burden-McClure
Director of Music



ALTAR GUILD

Joanne Davey

The 2023 year was a great year for our Team. We are back to business as usual after getting re-familiarized with everything in 2022.

One of our Team members – Nancy Flanders-- retired after dedicating many tireless years to serving on Altar Guild. Nancy is missed and her contribution to our Team has been priceless. Thank you, Nancy!

We added 2 new members in 2023 and we are excited to have them with us. Our team remains strong and getting stronger with 13 members and 1 substitute.

We participated in the pre-school fund raiser in May by creating and donating a lovely gift card basket for the silent auction. We have a great team of dedicated people that work well together and come together at all the right times to provide support for each other and serve our Lord.

I am truly grateful for our Team, and we are ready for another great year ahead. I absolutely enjoyed serving as Director for the past 2 years and I am eternally grateful for the love and support of a great Team. 2023 was especially challenging as I was recovering from surgery, but we never skipped a beat thanks to everyone on the Team who rallied to make things happen when they were supposed to.

Mary Ann Conkel will be serving as our new Director for the next couple years. We will all gain a lot from Mary Ann's experience and passion for Altar Guild, and I am excited and honored to continue to serve under her leadership.

Faithfully submitted, Joanne Davey

LEMS, LECTORS, VERGERS, AND A/V

Duke DuTeil

Ministry Description:

The Lay individuals that assist in worship, enhancing the worship experience of the congregation.

Eucharistic Ministers assist with the administration communion. Lectors read the lessons during worship. Vergers assist the clergy with the planning and orderly execution of worship. AV Techs provide Audio and Video support for in-person and livestreamed worship services and events.

Ministry Highlights in 2023:

Our outstanding group of Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors, Vergers, and AV Techs have been awesome and flexible in adapting to the changing worship environment throughout the year.

We have expanded our Eucharistic Minister and Lector corps to 30 serving the 8:00am and 10:30 services, along with 4 Vergers and 4 AV Techs. We did have 1 verger that moved and are in the process of training a new verger.

We began livestreaming our worship services during the Covid-19 pandemic. With the return to full in-person worship we have continued to serve the needs of those who are not able to attend in-person worship. Several new families at St. Richard's have said they found us through our online presence.

If you feel called to serve as a Eucharistic Minister or Lector please check with Fr. Cameron or me, dukeduteil@gmail.com or (512) 567-7848.

Faithfully submitted, Duke DuTeil, Head Verger

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Helen Paulsen

I am but one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do!

We began the year 2023 with five ladies wanting to begin the discernment study for becoming Daughters of the King. We installed four of the five on September 10th with our Diocesan President, Tory Arnold and our Chaplain, Mother Kelly officiating. We are very saddened to lose Mother Kelly as our Chaplain. We welcomed Teresa Shields, Jenessa Mays, Christina Prikryl and Mary Pihlak to the Order at that ceremony.

On March 24-25th we were blessed to have our own Fr. Cameron as a keynote speaker at our Providence VII meeting in Richardson, TX.

We continue with our service project of helping Foster Children with “care bags” of clothing, diapers etc. We are so grateful to Alice McDow for chairing this service project.

We continue to meet every 2nd Sunday in the Ridley Room after church and welcome any woman to join us to learn what we are about. We will have our Spring Assembly coming up on March 1-2nd at St. Martins Episcopal Church in Houston, TX. We also have our Triennial coming up on June 26 – 30th in Louisville, KY at the Gault Hotel. You do not have to be a Daughter to attend either of these events. We welcome any woman to come learn about what being a Daughter is about.

We continue to pray daily for our congregation and especially Fr. Cameron. We are always ready to serve! If you are interested in Daughters, please contact Helen Paulsen at 512-569-1066 or email paulsenh779@gmail.com or talk to any of us wearing the Greek Flury Cross. Come pray, get close to Christ with us!

FHS, Helen Paulsen

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

Curt Young

Overall, it's been a good year for the Brotherhood of St Andrew, except membership has languished since Covid.

To highlight a few of the activities that the Brotherhood participated in one way or another. In no particular order:

- Manpower and Financial support of the Kitchen
- Brotherhood soup supper for Lenten Dinners
- Manpower for packaging product for Honduras Good Works
- Assisting with Vacation Bible School
- **\$400** contributed to the Youth Mission Trip
- **\$400** contributed to the Youth General Fund
- **\$200** contributed to Honduras Good Works
- Man power for the Pumpkin Patch in multiple areas, including the link to the Stony Point ROTC
- Financial support to the Scouts
- Active Prayer Team
- Participation in Verger group
- Support for and participation in Kyros
- Support for and participation in Round Rock Serving Center
- Support for and participation in Lay Ministries
- Participation in Bell Choir
- Participation in the Audio Visual Crew
- Participation in the Grounds Crew

Our officers for 2023 were:

Curtis Young, Director
Glen Kercher, Assistant Director
Richard Messer, Treasurer
Richard Griffin, Secretary
Bob Moody, Chaplain
Duke DuTeil, Director of Studies

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Alice McDow

Our group meets on Zoom most Monday evenings for an hour long discussion. During the spring, we completed a study based on Shannon Bream's book about Women in the Bible. This study was followed by Squire Rushnell book *When God Winks* and personal discussions about the God Incidents that had occurred in our lives when there were no other logical explanations.

The episodes of *The Chosen* Season 2 were the basis of discussion during the summer meetings.

The book discussion of *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel was started in August and will wrap up this month.

Our discussions for 2024 will be based on:

- Father Nations videos on Prayer
- *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis
- *The Chosen* Season 3

We welcome other women to join us. They do not have to be members of St. Richards, nor do they need to live close by. Our geographical distance currently spans from Idaho to Costa Rica.

For more information, contact Alice McDow 512-689-8547 or alice.mcdow@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted by Alice McDow

COMMUNITY OF CARE

Aline Murphy

The mission of St. Richard's COC Lay Pastoral Ministry is to serve our incapacitated parish members unable to attend church services.

The COC Caregivers visit and serve Care Receivers and their families with the love of Christ in the Blessed Elements of the Holy Eucharist and healing prayers. We make dozens of pastoral visits per year, playing a vital role in ensuring that everyone who calls St. Richard's "home" maintains a connection to the church community no matter their situation.

2023 Ministry Highlights:

This year we changed our name from Community of Hope International to Community of Care to reflect our ministry at St. Richard's. We are presently working on a new training material for future classes.

Goals for 2024:

The goals are to always share the love of God and the Good News of Jesus Christ with our Care Receivers and their families. We are always interested in training others who are interested in this loving and caring ministry.

Please contact our Clergy, Aline Murphy or office to schedule COH visits.

Faithfully submitted - Aline Murphy – Team Leader

PARISH LIFE

Kathy Stites

Parish Life Ministry's focus is fellowship.

It is a ministry that provides everyone in the Parish an opportunity to gather in sponsored events to meet with each other to promote camaraderie and to socialize. Parishioners have an opportunity to meet with potential new members to promote growth of our congregation.

Parish Life has been a very important part of St. Richard's for many years. With the building of the Parish Hall the opportunities have expanded greatly. We have found that events centered around food have exceeded in promoting Parish Life Events.

We have a commercial grade kitchen that has allowed us to produce professional quality cuisine for events with a CIA Chef and a fabulous Kitchen Team of 15 to 17 dedicated volunteers able to produce restaurant quality brunches, receptions and other church functions.

The 2023 year has been a very busy year. We scheduled a full calendar of events, including: First Sunday Brunches, Receptions, Lenten Soup Suppers, Fund Raisers and Special Events, such as the Expanded Easter Continental Breakfast, It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown, Parish Thanksgiving Meal, Christmas Cookies, and Christmas Tamale Dinner.

We are looking forward to a wonderful 2024.



FILM CLUB

Amy Nordhausen and Aaron Kirk

The Film Group meets for an hour and a half one evening each month for an informal discussion of a selected film. Each year, group members take turns selecting films that they'd like to present to the group, ultimately hosting the group discussion of their selected film. We discuss many topics related to the film, from the pure entertainment aspects to the craftsmanship of making the film and putting it into the world. We have lively discussions related to the film's meaning as we attempt to dissect the story telling process. Attendees will sometimes come dressed in character or bring food inspired by the film to share.

While the movies selected don't always have an obvious religious or theological theme, it's not uncommon for our talks to touch on these topics. Our discussion groups have fostered great relationships with parishioners and have been a great learning experience for all. It's a great opportunity to spend time with other parishioners that we may not otherwise get to cross paths with.

Ministry Highlights in 2023:

In 2023, we discussed the following films:

Everything Everywhere All at Once, The Bicycle Thieves, The Banshees of Inisherin, The Straight Story, Fish Story, American Graffiti, The Way, and The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford.

We ended the year with a holiday party in the Parish Hall where we screened Bill Murray's *Scrooged*, snacked on some great food and enjoyed a small white elephant gift exchange of DVDs.

Goal(s) for 2024:

We will continue to meet each month with new film selections from different genres and time periods. We hope to see attendance continue to grow!

Ministry Leadership for 2024:

Amy Nordhausen
ameliaclaire@hotmail.com

Aaron Kirk
yo_yojimbo@icloud.com

PARISH HALL RENTAL/EVENTS

At a Glance

Though primarily for our own parish's use, our parish hall is also an asset to our wider community. This year, we wanted to provide a snapshot of how the parish hall is utilized by organizations and groups to host various events.

In 2023...

The parish hall brought in about **\$18,000 in revenue**, which was above what we had budgeted.

We hosted **16 events**, averaging about one special event per month.

These events included craft shows, quinceañeras, Disney pin trade gatherings, a Court of Honor ceremony, training classes for after school classes held by the Wilco YMCA, and five banquets hosted by various groups connected to RRISD.

If you or a group with which you are affiliated would like rental use of the parish hall, please contact Jen Winborn, our Director of Operations.



VESTRY SLATE 2024

Chris Elfring

Chris Elfring was born and raised in Florida. He grew up in the Episcopal church, including being baptized and confirmed in the church. He served on the altar throughout his teenage years. Much to his mother's dislike he attended Florida State University, rival to her favorite school. He then began a career working in the event industry. This would take him around the country and eventually lead to meeting his wife Shawndell.

Chris came to Round Rock in the summer of 2021 from Seattle. He and his wife found Saint Richard's when looking for a church with families. The first service they watched virtually was the Children's Christmas service, so they knew they had made a good choice. You may have seen him chasing around his daughter Elizabeth in the lobby during some Sunday services.

These days Chris works as a senior inventory analyst for an online retailer. When he is not working Chris likes to play golf, though free time is a rarity these days with a baby. He also enjoys playing board games and sharing his love of movies and sports trivia.



Ernest Mueller

Ernest Mueller grew up in Lake Jackson, Texas in the United Methodist church. During his college years at Rice University in Houston, he actively embraced his faith and the local Episcopal student center, Autry House, became a favorite place for he and his friends to worship.

He has worked in the tech industry for 30 years, from enterprises to startups, doing DevOps, cloud engineering, and technical leadership. He is currently an Associate Director in the Cloud First organization at Accenture.



Ernest is also the author of a line of DevOps courses on LinkedIn Learning and is active in organizing conferences and user groups for the technical community in the Austin area.

In 2002 he moved to Austin to settle down after the birth of his son Chase and has been in the area ever since. He found St. Richards when Chase started school, prompting a move to Round Rock. Father Stu's quoting of Chris Rock during his sermon convinced the two to stay for the long haul.

In his spare time Ernest is an avid role-playing gamer (Dungeons & Dragons and many more), a film buff, and computer gamer.

VESTRY SLATE 2024

Ifeatu Obiorah

Ifeatu hails originally from the Church of Nigeria, which is one of the sibling Churches in the Anglican Communion. His family moved to Austin about 3 years ago, and they have been members of St. Richard's for two of those years. He has one child, Amara, with his lovely wife Juliet. Ifeatu is a self-described soccer fanatic, and his favorite team is Arsenal FC of the English Premier League. He looks forward to serving on the vestry and helping in whatever capacity he can!



Margaret Smajstrla

Margaret & her family have been members of St. Richard's since 2002. She was born in Concord, California but got to Texas as fast as she could when her family moved to Dallas when she was 3 months old. Margaret grew up in Dallas and Denton and is currently trying to cope with the pain of being a life-long Dallas Cowboys fan.

She met her husband Jim at Texas A&M University and they married in 1986. They have 3 children: Ann, Thomas and Lauren. Ann and Thomas live in Austin and Lauren is currently teaching English in South Korea. All 3 kids were active in Sunday school and EYC at St. Richard's.

She graduated from Texas Woman's University with a bachelor's degree in Nursing. Mainly working in pediatrics and newborn nursery, in her 38 rewarding years she has worked at Parkland Hospital and Children's Medical Center in Dallas, St. David's Round Rock Medical Center, and is currently working at the Dell Children's Medical Group Pediatric Gastroenterology Clinic.

Margaret grew up in the Disciples of Christ church and Jim in the Catholic church. They were introduced to St. Richard's and the Episcopal church when Lauren was a student at the preschool. Jim and Margaret were drawn in by the warmth of the congregation and staff as well as Holy Communion being central to the worship service. Over the years she has helped with VBS, Sunday School and in the Pumpkin Patch. Serving on Altar Guild has been a deeply meaningful ministry for her for over 15 years. Becoming a vestry member would be an honor and another opportunity for service, spiritual growth and to grow in fellowship with the community of St. Richard's.



COUNCIL DELEGATES

Our delegates to the 175th Diocesan Council held in Waco, TX
Feb 9th-10th, 2024

Enrique Castro



Brian Christian



Kate Monteiro



Meg Vancil



Alternate: Duke DuTeil (Not Pictured)

2023 BY THE NUMBERS



16 BAPTISMS

9 CONFIRMATIONS

3 RECEPTIONS

1 REAFFIRMATION

106 SUNDAY SERVICES

53 RITE I

53 RITE II

**AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE
INCREASED 18% OVER 2022**

(31% INCREASE AT 8AM)

(15.5% INCREASE AT 10:30AM)

454 ATTENDED EASTER SUNDAY
(UP 17% FROM 2022)

628 ATTENDED CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY
(UP 33% FROM 2022)

42 NUMBER OF NEW ANTHEMS SUNG BY
THE CHOIR

WHERE TO FIND US



ST. RICHARD'S
Episcopal Church



www.saintrichards.org



512-255-5436



daybyday@saintrichards.org



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