



## 163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting

### Grace Episcopal Church

Sunday, January 30, 2022

# *Faith, Hope & Love*



### **The Five Marks of Mission**

**To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom**

**To baptize, teach and nurture new believers**

**To respond to human need through loving service**

**To seek to transform unjust structures of society,  
to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation**

**To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation  
and sustain and renew the life of the earth**

*The 5 Marks of Mission give a clear mandate for how we should be living as members of The Way of Love and as vital members of the Body of Christ living out God's Mission for the world!*

# Grace Vestry Members:

## Executive Committee

Rector – The Rev. Todd McDowell

Senior Warden – Chris Ludbrook (2023)

Junior Warden – Rebecca Harrison (2023)

Treasurer – Tim Engelbrecht

Personnel – Dick Entenmann

## Vestry

*(terms expire at the annual meeting)*

### Class of 2022 *(Retiring)*

- Mike Casey
- Pat O'Brien
- Susie Reis

### Class of 2024

- John Adams
- Kelly Eschenroeder
- Ann VanConia

### Class of 2023

- Lynette Ballard
- Rebecca Harrison
- Chris Ludbrook

### Class of 2025 *(Nominees)*

- Mike Casey
- Susie Reis
- James Wethington

## Convention Delegates

*(terms expire at the annual meeting)*

### Class of 2022

- Betty Bowersox *(Retiring)*

### Class of 2024

- Pat O'Brien

### Class of 2023

- Michele Nicosia
- Vince Nicosia

### Class of 2025

- Betty Bowersox *(Nominee)*

## Endowment Trustees

*(Elected by the vestry. Terms expire at January Vestry Meeting)*

### Class of 2022 *(Retiring)*

- Michael R. Gibbons
- Ron Ryan

### Class of 2023

- Julie Sward
- Brent VanConia

### Class of 2024

- Mike Heyer
- Pat O'Brien

### Class of 2025

- Michael R. Gibbons
- Lesley Hoffarth

# 163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

**Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m.**

**Rector's Annual Report**

**Annual Meeting at 9 a.m. live and via Zoom**

To Join: <https://zoom.us/j.3148211806>

Password: WithGrace@

Establishment of Quorum

Call to order and opening prayer

Appointment of Clerk and Chancellor

Approval of 2021 minutes and 2022 agenda

The Rev. Todd McDowell+

Report of the Nominating Committee

Pat O'Brian

Reception of nominations from the floor

The Rev. Todd McDowell+

Polls Open

Transition

The Rev. Todd McDowell+

Senior Warden's Report

Chris Ludbrook

Junior Warden's Report

Rebecca Harrison

Treasurer's Report

Tim Engelbrecht

2021 Actuals

2022 Approved Budget

Polls close

Floor open for questions

Other Business

**Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.**

**The Rector's Annual Report**

**Blessing and Dismissal**

**Adjournment**

**Grace Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes of the 162nd Annual Meeting**  
**Sunday, January 24, 2021**

**Special Note:** Due to the continuing worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 coronavirus, this year's annual meeting took place with clergy and a limited number of parishioners present, in-person, at church. Additional parishioners attended the annual meeting via Zoom, from the safety of their homes by way of computer connection.

After establishing that a quorum was present, the 162<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting was called to order at 11:11 and opened with a prayer given by Father Todd McDowell.

Father Todd appointed Sue Nixon as clerk, Shari Bonham as assisting clerk, and Steve Jianakoplos as parliamentarian.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the 161<sup>st</sup> annual meeting, held on January 26, 2020, be approved as written. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda for the 162<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting be approved as written. Motion carried.

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** Senior Warden Mike Heyer informed the parish that Mike Heyer, John Dotson and Kelly Eschenroeder are due to cycle off the Vestry. Kelly Eschenroeder is eligible to serve one more three year term. It was moved and seconded that the slate of Vestry candidates include the following three people to serve terms of three years each: John Adams, Kelly Eschenroeder and Ann VanConia. Pat O'Brien was nominated to serve an additional three year term as Convention Delegate. At 11:17, the floor was opened to further nominations for Vestry members or Convention Delegates. The polls remain open for 30 minutes.

**By-Laws Clarification:** In light of the in-person attendance constraints resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, Father Todd introduced wording for clarification of what the term "present" entails. Currently, Article II Section 1 of the by-laws states: "To constitute a quorum at any Parish meeting, the presence in person of qualified electors of this parish, as determined by the Canons, shall be at least 20% of our Average Sunday Attendance as reported in the most recently filed parochial report." Dick Entenmann moved, and Susie Reis seconded, that the wording of Article II Section 1 of the by-laws add the phrase "Physically or electronically", resulting in the following sentence: "To constitute a quorum at any Parish meeting, the presence in person (physically or electronically) of qualified electors of this parish, as determined by the Canons, shall be at least 20% of our Average Sunday Attendance as reported in the most recently filed parochial report." With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Commissary Kitchen:** Father Todd informed the parish that the kitchen has been used over the past six months by Mike and Meredith (Gibbons) Shadwick and one other user as a commissary kitchen to prepare food for their small businesses. Mike and Meredith worked to bring the kitchen up to St Louis County Department of Health codes. During this time, some of the ins and outs of renting space for commissary kitchen use have been gleaned.

Treasurer Tim Engelbrecht spoke to the parish about the impact that leasing kitchen space would have on the budget. Due to the pandemic, the number of people leasing space in 2021 would be limited, and it is estimated that about \$23,000.00 could be earned. In a non-COVID year, it is estimated that between \$40,000.00 and \$50,000.00 could be earned. Such an increase in revenue would allow Grace to greatly increase our mission.

Junior Warden Rebecca Harrison spoke to the parish about the preparations involved in having a commissary kitchen. She noted that several rooms downstairs will be cleaned out and electrical work will be done to facilitate storage space and the running of refrigerators and freezers. She noted that those who use the commissary kitchen will enter through the lower level doors and use the elevator to reach the second floor. Contact with the Lab School and Grace staff will be minimal.

Father Todd explained that the Vestry consulted with Ron Gaus, a member of Christ Church United Church of Christ in Maplewood. Ron was instrumental in converting his church's kitchen into a commissary kitchen, as well as implementing the business practices associated with running the kitchen. He has since helped other churches do the same. He provided Grace with a template of the lease Christ Church UCC uses, and Grace has altered the lease to suit our situation. Parishioners interested in seeing the lease can contact Father Todd. Father Todd noted that there will

be blocks of time set aside for the exclusive use of Grace church members. Examples include coffee hour, Trinity Hot Lunch, the annual cookie sale, Hands on Kirkwood and the Elegant Italian Dinner.

**Junior Warden's Report:** Rebecca Harrison's report can be found in the 162nd Annual Meeting packet. Highlights for 2020 included the completion of the copper work on the St. Matthews spire and the installation of a state of the art streaming system. Rebecca thanked parish members for their work as volunteer gardeners. They accomplished more than was expected, and saved the church money in the process. An unforeseen aspect of the job of Junior Warden has been keeping up with CDC guidelines on maintaining safe spaces in regards to COVID 19. Rebecca invited parishioners with questions about any changes to that end that have been made to contact her.

Rebecca noted two changes coming in 2021. The first is the installation of a bi-polar ionization system for the Nave and the Lab School. The second is the Commissary Kitchen.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Mike Heyer's report can be found in the 162<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report packet. Mike noted that one of the main accomplishments of 2020 was the development and implementation of guidelines that allowed the church to re-open safely during the pandemic. Mike thanked church staff, Vestry members and other volunteers for their service to Grace.

**Rector's Comments:** Father Todd noted that his official report was the sermon given at the 10:00 service. Father Todd extended thanks to Mike Heyer, who served as Senior Warden, and to Chris Ludbrook, who accepted Father Todd's appointment to serve as Senior Warden in 2021. Thanks were extended to outgoing Vestry member John Dotson for his work on the Vestry and in the area of pastoral care. Father Todd thanked Kelly Eschenroeder for her willingness to serve another three year term on the Vestry. Father Todd thanked John Adams and Ann Van Conia for their willingness to serve on the Vestry, and Pat O'Brien for her willingness to serve another term as Convention Delegate. Father Todd thanked outgoing Endowment Fund Trustee Bill Cadwallader for serving as chair of the committee, as well as his many hours spent taking care of the needs of the building. Outgoing Endowment Fund Trustee Janet Mika was thanked for her service. Katie Compton was thanked for serving on the Vestry, and Lyn Ballard was thanked for filling Katie's unexpired term in the fall. Ushers Bill Cadwallader and Chard Russell were thanked for their service, and Rebecca Harrison was thanked for single handedly taking on the altar guild duties during the pandemic.

Father Todd extended thanks to all who participate in the Perpetual Grace program, in which parishioners name Grace Church as a beneficiary in their will or estate plan. Todd noted that 26% of Grace's budget comes from Endowment Fund income. Father Todd thanked those who are contributing to the Our Journey Continues capital campaign. 70% of the capital campaign funds go to the Legacy Fund Building and Grounds fund, helping to ensure that the costs associated with our building and property will be met now and in the future. Father Todd noted that a substantial bequest has been made to the Grace Legacy Fund from the estate of John and Dorothy Herweg. Their thoughtful bequest will add \$5,000.00 to the budget in perpetuity. A bequest from the estate of Dr. Carl Luyties was received, the proceeds of which were deposited in the Endowment Fund account.

**Polls Close:** Hearing no further nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that the polls close. Motion carried. The polls were closed at 11:51.

All those in favor of electing the slate of Vestry nominees and nominee for Convention Delegate put forth by the nominating committee were asked to answer "aye", those opposed "nay". Motion passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that all reports for the 2021 annual meeting in print and electronic form be received by title. Motion carried unanimously .

**Treasurer's Report:** Tim Engelbrecht's financial reports can be found in the annual meeting packet. Tim highlighted the capital campaign financial update. \$462,475.09, or 78% pf the total pledged to the three year campaign have been received as of December 31. Tim also drew the parish's attention to charts innustrating the percentage of the budget made up by endowed funds in 2009 (8%) versus the amount in 2021 (26%).

Tim extended thanks to the Finance Committee, which includes Father Todd McDowell, Rebecca Harrison, Brent VanConia, Bob Roth, Mike Heyer, Shari Bonham and Dick Entenmann.

Tim extended thanks to stewardship chair Betty Bowersox, who had the unique experience of running a stewardship campaign during a pandemic.

Tim thanked Mike Fitzgerald for performing the annual review of accounts and of the endowed funds free of charge.

Tim noted that the Executive Committee normally meets 24 times a year. In 2020, due to the changes brought about by COVID, the committee met 64 times.

Tim reviewed the 2020 financials, noting that both revenues and expenses came in under budget. Grace received a Paycheck Protection Plan loan, which is not reflected in the 2020 budget statement. Loan forgiveness was granted in 2021, so the amount will be shown as revenue in 2021. 2020 ended with a deficit of (\$10,434), which was better than expected during the time of COVID. Tim thanked all parishioners for their time, talent and treasure.

Tim reviewed the 2021 budget, noting that the budget process will be challenging without knowing when things will open up with regards to COVID. Tim noted a budget surplus carryover of \$15,977, which is a result of the Paycheck Protection Plan loan. Tim pointed out projected revenue of \$23,000.00 from Commissary and Chapel/Church Revenue, but noted that the projection is not set in stone, particularly in regard to COVID.

Father Todd asked parishioners with any questions to come forward.

**Q: Do we know what other churches in the area have commissary kitchens?**

A: Holy Communion in University City has upgraded their kitchen, but it is not known if it is being leased due to COVID. Christ Church UCC in Maplewood leases their commissary kitchen. Father Todd explained that Ron Gaus, who consulted with Grace regarding the commissary kitchen idea, will oversee the program at Grace. Ron will be paid a percentage of the lease income. All estimates of potential commissary kitchen income are net of fees.

**Q: What impact does running a commissary kitchen have on insurance for the church?**

A: Those leasing commissary kitchen space will need to adhere to the requirements put forth by our insurance carrier including signing a hold harmless agreement, providing a certificate of general liability and undergoing a background check.

**Q: How do we avoid having COVID positive people using the kitchen.**

A: The full potential of the commissary kitchen will not be realized until COVID is a smaller issue. The program will start with a small number of people leasing space. All current COVID protocols that are currently in place will be in force for those leasing space, including wearing of masks and maintaining a six foot distance.

**Q: Do we have people leasing space now, or any potential lessees?**

A: Part of Ron Gaus's job will be to connect us with potential lessees. Maximum capacity will not be met until COVID is no longer an issue.

**Q: A potential income of \$50,000.00 has been mentioned. How many people would be involved to reach that goal?**

A: Christ Church UCC in Maplewood has a maximum of eight groups, but COVID will dictate that we work under capacity for the time being.

**Q: Can we talk about the commissary concept as it develops over the upcoming year?**

A: Leases are for one year, and will not be renewed if the lessee is not working out.

**Q: What will happen if there is a funeral reception?**

A: Lessees are aware that there may be times that church members will need kitchen access that had not been previously scheduled.

There was a call for any new or old business. There being none, it was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:42.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Nixon  
Secretary of the Vestry

### **Motions from the 162nd Annual Meeting**

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## The Vestry is the lay leadership of our parish, who act under the bylaws of our parish:

*The duties of the Vestry shall be to take charge of the physical properties of the Parish; to attend to and regulate its temporal concerns; to provide for the support of the Rector, and for the staff persons whose employment has been authorized; to act as helpers to the Rector in whatever is appropriate to laypeople for the furtherance of the Gospel.*

Vestry members serve three-year terms, with three members elected each year.

## Vestry Nominees

### Mike Casey

Mike has been a member of Grace since 2010, and this is his second term on the vestry. He grew up in the Catholic Church attending St. Stephens Parish in South St. Louis. During his time at Grace, Mike is also an usher, and he is always available to help when asked. Mike is married to Dianne Casey, and they have five children.

Mike works in a research lab at Washington University and as a Staff Scientist in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. Mike is also active in Scouting and enjoys running.



### Susie Reis



Susie is a lifelong St. Louisian and a lifelong Episcopalian. She grew up at St. Michael and St. George in Clayton, where her parents were very active. She attended Mary Institute and Wheaton College in Norton, MA. Susie is running for a second term on the vestry. Susie is married to Joe Reis and is the mother of two grown sons and three beautiful granddaughters.

She has lived in Glendale for 40 years and has worked as a teacher for most of her adult life, except for a couple of forays into retail, owning Simply Shaker in Kirkwood for nine years, and Gelato di Riso in three locations for six years. Susie serves on the Altar Guild, is the kitchen pantry supply person, and is an editor and proofreader for the parish office.

### James Wethington

James is a lifelong resident of St. Louis. He and his family have been members of the church since 2017. James is married to his lovely wife Jennifer, and they have three children: Jacob age 15, Felicity age 9, and Salome age 6.

James has been a police officer in the St. Louis area since 1998. He is currently employed by the City of Maryland Heights, where he is a Sergeant in charge of technology. Prior to law enforcement, James served in the U.S. Army as a Combat Engineer. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Safety Administration and Leadership from Arizona State University. Finally, James has executive board experience serving as Vice President for Lodge 15 of the Fraternal Order of Police, State Trustee for the Missouri Chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, and President of the Maryland Heights Police Officers Association.



## Diocesan Convention Candidate

Diocesan Convention Delegates meet throughout the year to discuss issues to be presented at our annual Diocesan Convention. They attend the annual Convention in November and cast votes on behalf of our parish. This year's nominee is **Betty Bowersox**.

## Rector's Sermon/Address

### Grace Episcopal Church 163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting – January 30, 2022

In 1st Corinthians 13, Paul gives us his amazing analysis of love. He suggests that it is a progression. It is preceded by faith and hope. Without these two essential ingredients, you cannot have the zenith expression of love.

There is no place that we can go and escape the love of God. No matter how deep our shortcomings, frustrating our defeats, or difficult our failures, love is capable of carrying us through. Faith, Hope and Love – it is where we turn in difficult times and in joyous times, it is who we are and who we are to be here at Grace Church.

I will be reaching a milestone in my life on April 10<sup>th</sup> as I will be celebrating my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. These milestones often bring reflection and thought to life, as it had for me. I have decided that it is time to retire from full-time ministry and move closer to my two sons, Andrew & Will. It is a decision that I have been wrestling with the last four years since Sabine and I separated. The last three years Grace and my place here has won out, but I have reached the decision that it is now time to be closer to them, and I am at peace with my decision.

Although because of sabbatical time my 'official' retirement date will be in late summer, my last day at Grace will be the great feast day of Pentecost, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We have more than four months together before we celebrate all we have accomplished together over the last 13 years, with a great celebration on Pentecost!

Together we have accomplished much these last 13 years, and I will leave Grace with a strong foundation on which you will continue to thrive and live out your discipleship through the ongoing Mission and Ministries of Grace Church. The 5 marks of ministry found on the front cover of our annual report and on every vestry agenda guide us to live fully into Christ's love.

In the last 13 years we together have lived out our discipleship in wonderful ways. Our outreach to others is as strong as ever, as we have found new ways to fund grants to those in need in our own community and around the world. And have significantly increased the use of our gifts of time and talent in volunteer hours to the outside community. I invite you to see the Outreach report included in our annual report for details of just how much we give to the outside community. Our annual budget is sound, and your vestry presents to you today a balanced budget, the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row that we have presented and kept a balanced budget. This has huge importance in the ministries that we do, as we were able to support 100% all ministry expenses in the coming year. Think of that – we were able to fund all of our ministry requests, give the staff a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment of 4%, meet ever increasing utility and general inflation expenses. It is due to you and your generosity in our annual stewardship campaign. In fact, this year you pledged to the church \$20,000+ more than was our goal. What a pledge of confidence in the mission & ministry of Grace, through Faith, Hope, and Love.

This last year, 2021, was also a time with great gains in our endowed funds with the Endowment and Legacy Funds ending the year with a value of \$4,153,000 an increase of nearly half-a-million dollars (\$477,192). Why is this important? You will see in our annual report how we rely more and more each year of those endowed funds to keep our ministries strong. We have had two major capital campaigns in the last 13 years. The first to fund new highly efficient HVAC systems and new thermal low-e glass windows and doors we will live out the 5<sup>th</sup> mark of mission to safeguard creation. We were recognized by the White House as a house of worship that significantly lowered our carbon- footprint while improving the comfort and control throughout our large facility. Imagine our utility costs today if we hadn't greatly reduced our energy consumption in 2010. Our second campaign called 'Our Journey Continues' will come to a close in May of

this year. Through it we have significantly improved our endowed funds' balance with the goal one day of having those funds take care of the entire annual expense of our building & grounds, approximately \$120,000/year. Think of what a relief to our budget it would be, if we didn't have to worry about the costs to maintain our building and were able to use all of our annual stewardship to fund the ministries of Grace! In our current capital campaign, we also tithed 10% to the outreach fund, another 10% towards debt reduction, and the last 10% to the new lighting in our nave. Thank you for your generosity and if everyone gets their last part of the pledge in by the close in May, we will come out ahead of where we projected, we would be.

With Faith, Hope, and Love we have not only endured this horrible pandemic over the last two years but have thrived in ways old and new. In faith, your vestry invested in the camera/audio system that enables us to live stream worship each Sunday. It has enabled our community to stay connected in this time of COVID-19, in illness, bad weather, out-of-town travel, homebound parishioners, and so many others that we have reached.

Let me share a story; just a few months ago I received a call from someone that their aunt was dying, We had never meet but they asked if I would come to St. Clare Hospital for the ministrations at time of death. I'll let you in on a little secret, in my 22 years of ordained ministry I have always gone to anyone asking for a priest's presence and have also presided at or find another priest for every funeral when asked, whether I knew that person/family or not. It is part of my calling as a priest. So immediately I went and found a loving family gathered around a beloved aunt in her last stage of this life. In talking with the family and the few words from the aunt they shared with me how important their relationship with Grace has been. For more than a year they have watched every Sunday and felt connected to us through worship, scripture, and prayer. The Aunt was housebound, but our live stream was their connection to us. Image my surprise when they told me how disappointed they were for me and the pilgrims that we had to postpone our pilgrimage, or how Mother Ginny and my sermons meant so much to them. They gave details of their participation through prayer of those that needed them. It must be how a politician or celebrity feels when others know so much (maybe too much) about their lives, although never having met them.

Image a 21<sup>st</sup> century camera and audio device able to help us live into our 1<sup>st</sup> mark of mission, the umbrella over all the others marks of mission - 'To Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom'. So, in this awful pandemic which we pray will be over soon, we find new ways to share our Faith, Hope, and Love.

Although some of our ministries have had to be curtailed during various waves in the pandemic, we found ways for others to thrive. Trinity Hot Lunch has managed to adapt and thrive during this pandemic, even increasing meals served when the need was greatest.

Since 2009 we have together journeyed on this path of discipleship and lived out the mission and ministry of Grace Church, now in its 164<sup>th</sup> year. Many saints' have gone before us to bring us to the present and many more still unborn will guild us into a future of Faith, Hope, and Love.

My sisters and brothers I leave you with this: how often do we concentrate on the pedantic rather than the profound. If we do not go forth from worship to love people, to extend a helping hand, to show mercy, to offer compassion for those who are hurting, then what are we about? If we take away love, all we have left is just a big building. So, during the coming transition, remember to be who you are - people of Faith, of Hope, and of Love. That is the formula for Grace the thrive now and for the next 164 years as well.

It has been my greatest joy to serve as your rector these last 13 years. I look forward to our next four months together and praying for you for the rest of my life. Thank you, for the kindness and love you have given to me and my family. I will certainly miss you!

Amen.

## Report of the Senior Warden

As we begin 2022, I would like to take a moment to extend my thanks to Pat O'Brien, Susie Reis, and Mike Casey for their dedication to Grace as they wrap up a three-year term on Vestry. Susie and Mike have graciously agreed to serve a second term and Pat O'Brien, who is finishing her second term, is moving on to serve the Diocese of Missouri on Standing Committee. Many thanks to the three of you for your gifts of time and talent serving Grace as members of our Vestry.

I would also like to extend thanks to several who have given of their time and talent to allow us, as a congregation, to continue to worship in the face of pandemic challenges and have allowed us to carry the message of God's love beyond the walls of Grace. Tom Petrie has given so much of his time and talent over the past two years designing, engineering, and implementing our lights and streaming technologies that not only allow us to reach the people of Grace, but to expand that reach to a broader community through the streaming of our services. Likewise, Michelle and Vince Nicosia have led this congregation in Outreach for the past nine years. Their efforts have ensured that we, as a Church, seek and serve Christ in all persons, through our words and our works, as we are called to do. Thank you, Michelle and Vince, and thanks to John Adams for continuing this most important work.

Philip Brunswick and Ella Heigham have continued their work that enriches our worship through music. Their efforts to reimagine and rearrange the various choirs through countless iterations of protocols has provided a steady source of familiar comfort to our worship. Tim Englebrecht, as Treasurer, and Dick Entenmann heading the Personnel Committee have masterfully navigated the complexities of finance and personnel through the pandemic and put us in a very strong financial position to serve our parish and the less fortunate in our broader community. Shari Bonham's continues to be the glue that holds all of us together while, at the same time, welcoming so many into our fold. And of course, thanks to Mother Ginny and Father Todd for their continued steady leadership and guidance of the parish. And it is important to recognize each of you for all you do for Grace, of which some is visible, but most remains unseen. Pandemic or not, it is the collective efforts of all of us that makes Grace a truly wonderful home.

And Grace is just that, a spiritual home for so many. Over the past 13 years Father Todd has shaped that home with a steady, calm hand. His business acumen has put Grace in a sound financial position not only for 2022, but for decades to come through the fortification of the endowments. His gift for finding just the right words at just the right time has soothed countless worried hearts. And his smile and laugh have helped us all celebrate.

For some, the news of Father Todd's retirement will be surprising. For others, the news may even be unsettling. For all, there is an impending sense of loss. And there are countless questions to be answered in time. The Executive Committee has been discussing Father Todd's retirement with Bishop Deon for the past six months and the Vestry met with Bishop Deon in early January to begin the early stages of transition planning. Bishop Deon has assured us that he will "walk this journey together" with Grace. Lyn Ballard has graciously accepted the Vestry's request to chair the Transition Committee. Lyn's experience, patience, demeanor, and love will guide our congregation into the next chapter of its life. We are truly in good hands.

When the time is right, you will learn about opportunities to join or support the Transition Committee. You will learn about the transition process and timelines of events and regular updates will be provided throughout the process. But, for the time being, I encourage each of us to celebrate Father Todd's leadership, ministry, and his transition into the next chapter of his life. I can think of no better way to thank Father Todd for all his contributions to our spiritual home than a celebration of those works.

I am fortunate to call Grace Church home and I look forward to walking the next part of our journey with each of you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Ludbrook  
Senior Warden

## Report of the Junior Warden

Being Junior Warden for buildings and grounds as large as we have can be challenging. Add to that task the age of this building, and life is exciting! Never a dull moment! This past year has been challenging for all of us due to the Covid risks, but our congregation helped us get through the year and come out on a good note. You did that by being careful, patient, and fiscally supportive. Due to the generosity of the congregation, we were able to add a special filter to our HVAC system that filters out 99% of the virus. You all were patient with the Covid guidelines that made our worship different, but we still had it! You helped by not complaining when we had to close off portions of our building to keep us all well and our costs down. Our goal has been to be open as much as safely possible.

Thanks to the helping hands of many of our Parishioners, our grounds show the loving care that has been bestowed upon the flower beds. That care allowed us to also add some new trees, prune some of the old ones, and make some long needed adjustments to our landscaping. By donating their time and energy, those helping hands have freed up resources we can use to make those needed upgrades to our grounds. Our grounds are a reflection of the dedicated congregation within. Our church and its grounds show everyone that we are a vital and active church.

As you all know, our building is 62 years old. In addition to upgrades needed because we are using it for new and different things, there are always going to be surprises as the systems are old and they wear out. I have been working hard to bring our building into the 21st century as things need repair, and in some cases, before they break. We all know there are new and better ways to do some things that make for cost effective results. Your generosity makes those upgrades possible-no patches, just complete repairs. The result of your gifts to God can be seen all around us!

I have been a member of Grace for one year longer than this building has been here, and my goal is to make certain that we both age GRACEFULLY! Thank you, all of you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Harrison, Junior Warden

## Stewardship Ministry

In the book *A Spirituality of Fundraising*, Henri J. M. Nouwen writes

*“From the perspective of the gospel, fundraising is not a response to a crisis. Fundraising is, first and foremost, a form of ministry. It is a way of announcing our vision in inviting other people into our mission. Vision and mission are so central to the life of God’s people that without vision we perish and without mission we lose our way (Prov. 29:18; 2 Kings 21:1-9). Vision brings together needs and resources to meet those needs (ACTS 9:1-9)...”*

The stewardship theme used was **Every Perfect Gift**, which comes from James 1:17; “Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above.” We heard from some of you about your personal relationship between receiving and generosity – that the more we practice generosity, the more abundance we recognize around us. In that same letter, James says “Blessed is the person who keeps on going when times are hard.”, which makes me think of these past 23 months and how all our lives have been changed and continue to be affected by the Covid-19 virus and its mutations. Through closed church doors, pre-recorded services to live-streaming, attendance by reservation, and now back to full social distancing and the continuation of face masks for all - the members of Grace, Kirkwood have responded with love and graciousness!!

Our staff and vestry continued their careful oversight of the budget and spending, while some savings was also realized through not yet being able to fully restart all our past ministry and outreach activities. With the ongoing pandemic, many stewardship experts expected that campaigns for 2022 would be the most problematic year with respect to stewardship, pledging, and budgets. Thanks to all of you, those fears have been proved wrong at Grace! In fact, we’ve experienced our highest pledging year since 2019. The 2022 Annual Budget for Pledges is \$380,000, with the exciting statistics that:

- just over 95% of the pledges for 2022 either increased or stayed the same as last year, and over 60% of us increased our pledges since the last time we pledged, plus
- there were 6 NEW pledges - welcome to the new families at Grace!

This was my last year chairing the Stewardship Ministry efforts. I want to express my thanks and gratitude to all of you, as does your vestry, for the many outreach activities impacting the lives of people near and far that will be continuing, growing, or just beginning in 2022. This is accomplished through the ministries enabled by your support and ongoing generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Many thanks also for those who have joined me in this ministry over the years, and especially to Shari for all her help. If this is a ministry that interests or calls to you, please contact Father Todd and volunteer for the 2023 campaign – it’s already beginning!

With gratefulness for the opportunity to have served this wonderful church family,  
Betty Bowersox, Stewardship Ministry Chair (retired 😊)

# Outreach Annual Report 2021

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Mark of Mission: to respond to human need by loving service

**AFEDJ/Princess Basma Children's Center** (Fr Todd McDowell) \$ 2572 / 1 hr

Parishioner Easter donations provided funds for the *American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem* to support the children's medical center and other resources.

**Fisher House StL (Veterans) Giving Tree:** (Vince & Michele Nicosia) \$ 500 / 5 hrs

Parishioner donations and Outreach provided \$500 in gift cards to brighten the holidays for twenty Vets and families while they are here in St Louis receiving medical treatments.

**Food Pantries: Deaconess Anne House Little Free Pantry** \$ 200 / 1 hr

**KirkCare** (Sue Nixon, Mike Fitzgerald) \$ 2375 / 420 hrs

**Trinity CWE** (Becky Coulter & the Nicosias) \$ 2350 / 6 hrs

Covid-19 restrictions on Grace facilities meant parishioners only filled the Hunger Barrel 3½ times in 2021 (@\$150 ea= value \$525). Outreach again authorized \$200 to provide food items for the DAH roadside *Little Free Pantry*; both major pantries received \$20000 in Outreach grants, plus other parishioner donations. Four Grace volunteers helped KirkCare stock shelves, pantry shop and deliver food to 70 households per month. KirkCare assisted 1181 diverse clients during 2021 and always needs more volunteers.

**Trinity Pantry Winter Ministry:** Parishioners donated toiletries, winter hats, gloves & warm socks (~\$200).

**Grace Hill & GH Giving Tree** (Paula Russell) \$ 2580 / 100 hrs

Grace Youth donations of \$330 in toys & games from their cookie sale proceeds, added to our parishioners' generous wish-gifts provided two Grace Hill families an estimated \$1475 in gifts plus \$605 in gift cards to make their Christmas brighter.

Outreach provided a \$500 Spring financial grant to support 2021 Grace Hill educational programs.

**Hands on Kirkwood-15/ Celebration Event** (Vince & Michele Nicosia) \$ 273 / 50 hrs

This celebration event was reimagined due to Covid restrictions, becoming a *Grab 'n Go* event serving a total of 108 Volunteer meals and sending 42 meals to Trinity Church. Grace parishioners & youth volunteers worked HOK-15; others generously donated items for the community, seniors and *Nurses for Newborns*. Although restricted by Covid, many volunteers worked on various outdoor community projects, recycling a record 31,000 pounds of electronics and ingathering 17,000+ donated food items plus 14,000+ diapers and other infant care items for *Nurses for Newborns*.

**Kirkwood School District KSD NOW Food Drive:** (Kelly Eschenroeder) \$ 700 / 3 hr

The parish donated 4½ barrels of canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, snacks, etc (value ~\$700) to help KSD food-insecure families feed their children. The program currently provides food to 110+ students a week throughout the year. including summerbreak when school lunches are not available for these families.

**Meacham Park Giving Tree** (Vince & Michele Nicosia) \$ 465 / 10 hrs

Parishioners and Outreach donated \$465 in gift cards to give families a bright & happy holiday through the *MP Grab'n'Go Event*.

**Person-to-Person Street Ministry** (Rebecca Entenmann & Ruth Owler) \$ 1000 / 300 hrs

Parishioners donated toiletries, hats, socks and 35 backpacks for unhoused men to carry personal items (~\$500 total). Outreach allocated \$500 to support this 501c3 organization, initiated in 2017 by Correne Murphy of *Community of Hope*, which gives out food and personal care items to unhoused St Louisans each week. They always need volunteers.

**Shepherd's Center** (Dick Entenmann) \$ 500 / 312 hrs

*Shepherd's Center* enables older adults to remain vital and independent through programs and services to promote positive aging. Grace's four terrific volunteers and a \$500 grant helped the center provide assistance to 1300 Kirkwood seniors through: *Handy Hands, Shepherd's Travelers, Adventures in Learning, Chores Galore, Transportation Ministry* and the *Resource Center*. They always need volunteers and drivers! Anyone desiring information on specific volunteer programs should contact Dick.

**Trinity Hot Lunch, CWE** (Sandi Adams) \$ 2200 / 440 hrs

Grace's two dynamite cooking teams (*Meatball Mamas* and *K&S Express*) plus 15 other monthly volunteers (228 people annually) bought, prepared and served 1100 delicious meals for CWE folks this year, enjoyed by 700 on Sundays and 400 during the week. In December Grace youth made holiday cards and assembled 100 Goodie Bags for THL folk!

**United Thank Offering** (Shirley Browne) \$ 447 / 12 hr

Even in this difficult Covid year, Grace parishioners still gave *Thank Offerings* that supported mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church, as well as provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world. We extend thanks to Shirley for her years of service as she steps down from her job as UTO coordinator.

3<sup>rd</sup> Mark total \$10,460 / 1660 hrs=> \$47,377

**4<sup>th</sup> Mark of Mission: to seek to transform unjust structures of society**

**Episcopal City Mission Chaplaincy** (Betty Bowersox) \$ 1400 / 1 hr  
**ECM Birthday Party** (Becky Coulter) \$ 169 / 5 hrs

Grace provided \$1400 in ECM chaplaincy funds for programs of support, hope and healing to youths in detention. Despite COVID-19 isolation, \$169 in funds created a fun June 4<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration with pizza, soda, ice cream & party décor for 13 youths. Sadly, the annual *ECM Summer Celebration Event* had to be cancelled, but *A Moment in Time* was held virtually.

**Episcopal Relief and Development Fund** (Marty O’Leary) \$ 1605 / 1 hr

ERD funds child survival programs, health initiatives, and U.S. and global crises responses. Parishioners generously donated \$1105 for disaster relief, added to Outreach’s \$500 for Haiti relief after the double whammy of earthquake and hurricane.

**Horizons StL in Kirkwood (SPROG)** (Andy Miller) \$ 2000+ / 2 hrs Grace

Church continues to donate valuable year-round office space to them. COVID-19 has changed their KHS Summer Camp experience the past two summers to keep kids safe. Our \$2000 Outreach grant sponsored one child’s summer program.

**Task Force for the Hungry** \$ 525 / 1 hr

A \$25 parishioner donation and a \$500 Outreach grant supported diocesan efforts to assist the food-insecure year-round.

**+CoChair and Committee Meeting Hours= 100 hrs= \$2854** **4<sup>th</sup> Mark total~ \$1,440 / 10hrs=> \$286**

**Percentages of 2021 Outreach resources for various ministry categories are broken down below:**

<b>Within our Community: 28.6%</b>	<b>Within our Diocese: 50.4%</b>	<b>Beyond our Diocese: 21%</b>
Hands on Kirkwood Event Horizons St Louis in Kirkwood KirkCare Food Pantry Kirkwood School District Food Meacham Park Christmas Shepherd’s Center	Deaconess Anne House Little Free Pantry ECM Birthday Party / Chaplaincy Fisher House St Louials for Veterans Grace Hill/ Giving Tree Person-to-Person Street Ministry Task Force for Hungry Trinity Food Pantry/ Winter Ministry/ Hot Lunch	AFEDJ / Princess Basma Children’s Ctr Episcopal Relief & Development United Thank Offering  <b>TOTALS 100%</b>

<b>HUNGER: 42.4%</b>	<b>QUALITY OF LIFE for CHILDREN:41.6%</b>	<b>QUALITY OF LIFE for ADULTS &amp; FAMILIES: 16%</b>
Deaconess Anne House <i>Little Free Pantry</i> KirkCare Food Pantry Kirkwood School District Food Person-to-Person Street Ministry Task Force for the Hungry Trinity Food Pantry Trinity Hot Lunch	AFEDJ / Princess Basma Children’s Center ECM: Birthday Party / Chaplaincy Grace Hill/ Giving Tree Horizons St Louia in Kirkwood Meacham Park Christmas	Episcopal Relief & Development Fisher House St Louis for Veterans Hands on Kirkwood Event Shepherd’s Center Trinity Pantry Winter Ministry United Thank Offering  <b>TOTALS 100%</b>

**2021 Outreach gifts totaled ~\$22,061** provided by individual donations, gifts, Easter & Christmas collections, Vestry allocation, plus fundraiser events. Despite dealing with ongoing pandemic restrictions, parishioners donated over 1770 **volunteer hours (@\$28.54 valued at \$50,516)**, generously giving a measure of treasure and a wealth of time & talent. We want to acknowledge and thank **everyone** who has participated in Outreach programs for their unstinting financial and volunteer support while facing the recent challenges to fulfilling Grace’s various Missions.

Realizing that it is now time for new leadership, we resigned our positions effective Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, after nine years as Outreach Co-Chairs, turning the job over to the capable leadership of John Adams. We will continue to coordinate a few individual Outreach ministries that are particularly meaningful to us. We pray all members of Grace will continue to support this important and vital element of our church, and that Outreach remains a vibrant Grace program in the future. We give heartfelt thanks and blessings to everyone who worked with us over the years to accomplish God’s work.

Respectfully submitted,

*Vince & Michele Nicosia*

Grace Outreach Co-chairs

## Our Journey Continues...

### Capital Campaign Financial Update



Total Number of Pledges:	104
Total Number of Pledges Paid in Full	60 (58%)
Number of Pledges Paid in Excess of Pledge	13

**Campaign total pledges received** (less 5% reserve and expenses) \$594,232.44

**Excess Pledges Received** \$ 25,152.91

**Total Pledge** **\$619,385.35**

<b>Distribution Summary:</b>	<b>Allocation Percentage</b>	<b>Total \$ Distributions</b>
Lighting	10%	\$ 59,518.24
Legacy Outreach	10%	\$ 50,127.08
Debt Repayment (Held in MMA)	10%	\$ 50,127.08
Legacy Building & Grounds	<u>70%</u>	<u>\$350,889.54</u>
	<u><b>100%</b></u>	<u><b>\$510,661.94</b></u>

## Grace Endowed Funds

### Legacy Fund

#### Legacy Fund 2021

Our Journey Continues Income	\$ 162,692
Contributions from Estates	\$ 644
Other Contributions	<u>\$ 4,195</u>
Total 2021 Contributions	<u><b>\$ 167,531</b></u>

**Fund Balance** (as of December 31, 2021) **\$ 1,852,339**

### Endowment Fund

#### Endowment Fund 2021 Contributions

Contributions from Estates	<u><b>\$ 0.00</b></u>
Total 2021 Contributions	<u><b>\$ 0.00</b></u>

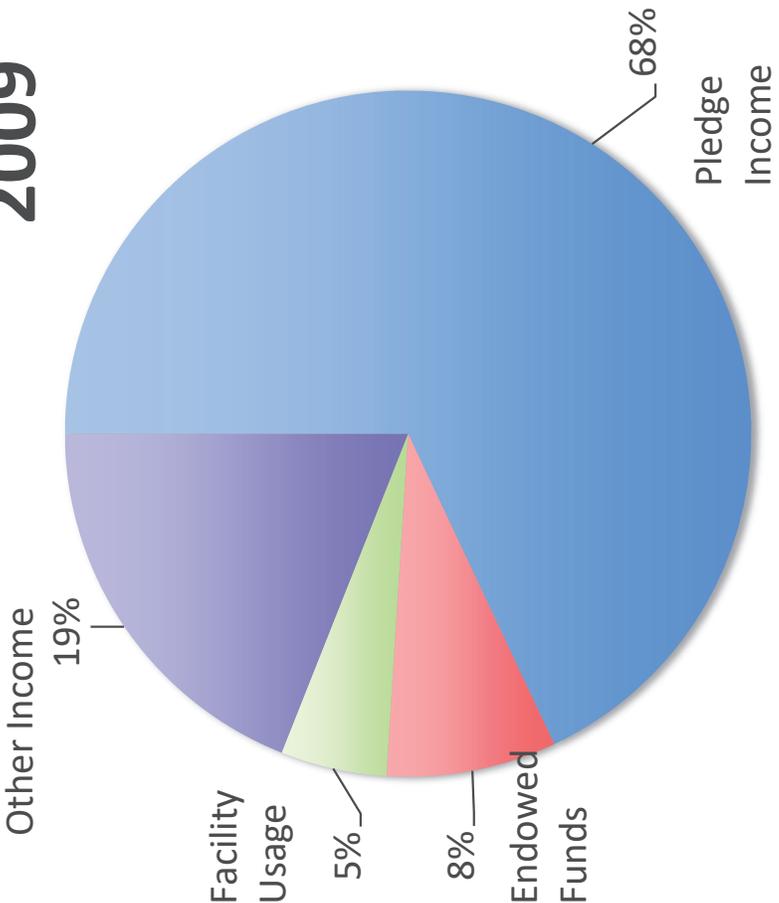
**Fund Balance** (as of December 31, 2021) **\$ 2,300,659**

**Total Endowed Funds 2021 Contributions** **\$ 167,531**

**Total Endowed Funds** (as of December 31, 2021) **\$ 4,152,998**

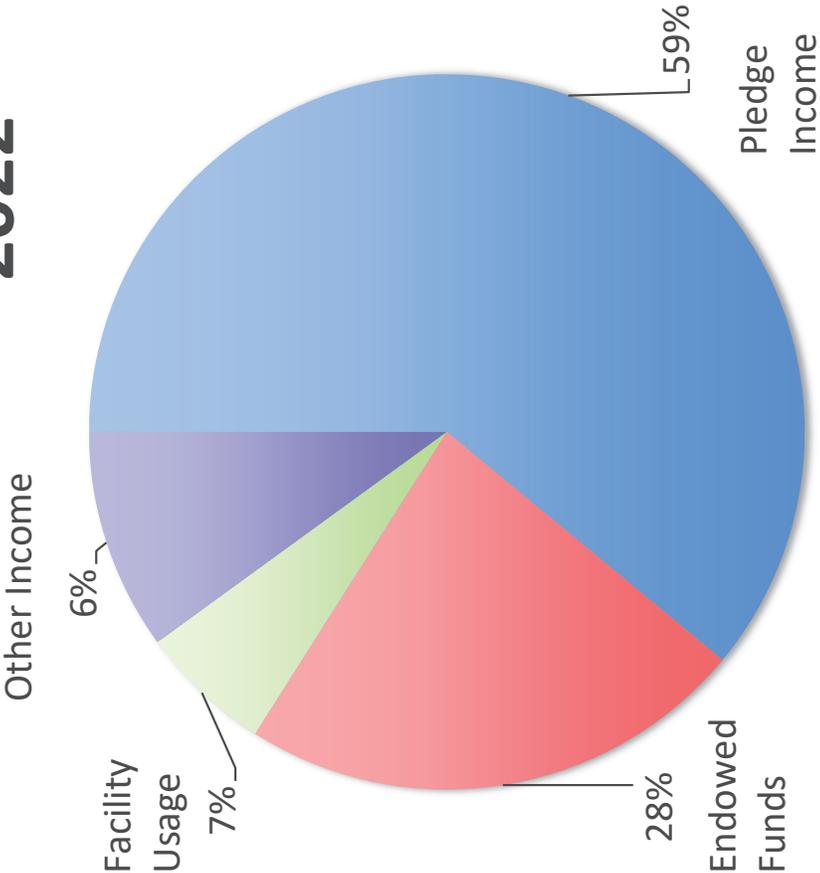
# Grace Episcopal Church Revenues 2022 & 2009

**2009**



Total Revenue: \$546,547

**2022**



Total Revenue: \$647,531

## Report of the Treasurer

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	% of Total	2022 Budget	% of Total
<b>Funds Received</b>					
From the Congregation					
Current Year Pledges	\$360,000	\$351,043	56.87%	\$380,000	58.68%
Excess Pledge Income	\$7,500	\$32,753	5.31%	\$25,000	3.86%
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$25,000	\$31,982	5.18%	\$7,500	1.16%
Plate Offering	\$3,000	\$3,000	1.96%	\$5,000	0.77%
Prior Year (Paid this Year)	\$5,000	\$2,427	0.39%	\$6,000	0.93%
Total From the Congregation	\$400,500	\$421,206	68.24%	\$423,500	65.40%
Total From Endowments Investments	\$152,885	\$152,797	24.75%	\$179,973	27.79%
Total From Fundraising	\$330	\$179	0.03%	\$235	0.04%
Total From Facility Use	\$53,623	\$26,233	4.25%	\$43,623	6.74%
Total From Other Income	\$16,077	\$16,851	2.73%	\$200	0.03%
<b>Total Funds Received</b>	<b>\$623,415</b>	<b>\$617,265</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$647,531</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Spending</b>					
Ministries & Outreach	\$77,325	\$73,480	11.90%	\$90,664	14.07%
Diocesan Support	\$63,281	\$63,281	10.25%	\$58,828	9.13%
Facilities	\$116,809	\$127,685	20.69%	\$120,369	18.68%
Personnel & Benefits	\$359,506	\$352,796	57.16%	\$319,671	49.60%
Transition Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$55,000	8.53%
<b>Total Spending</b>	<b>\$616,921</b>	<b>\$617,242</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$644,532</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$6,494.00</b>	<b>\$23</b>		<b>\$2,999</b>	

## **The Five Marks of Mission**

**To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom**

**To baptize, teach and nurture new believers**

**To respond to human need through loving service**

**To seek to transform unjust structures of society,  
to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation**

**To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation  
and sustain and renew the life of the earth**

Each Sunday, we reaffirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed, and four times a year we renew our Baptismal vows and recommit to live our lives as Baptized Christians. Combined, they remind us of our faith and the promises we made to live our lives as followers of Jesus. When we combine our Baptismal Covenant and the Creed with the 5 Marks of Mission, we have a clear mandate for how we should be living as members of The Way of Love and as vital members of the Body of Christ living out God's Mission for the world!

Former Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori wrote:

*“God seeks to reconcile the world, so we speak of God’s mission, in which the Church and its members are partners and participants. God’s Mission has several aspects, and the complexity and expansiveness of the marks, mean that no one person, no single congregation or diocese, nor indeed any single part of the Church can completely or fully engage all the marks – it takes the Body of Christ to be God’s mission partner...”*  
(from *“5 Marks of Mission”* by Katharine Jefferts Schori, published by Forward Movement).

We use the 5 Marks of Mission to reflect the way we live out our baptismal ministry as the household of God at Grace Church. Grace mirrors these marks in our ministries, outreach, finances, communications, and parish life. They are a practical and memorable checklist for our mission and vision as Grace. They strengthen our commitment to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.



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[www.GraceKirkwood.org](http://www.GraceKirkwood.org)

### **The Episcopal Church**

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop  
[www.EpiscopalChurch.org](http://www.EpiscopalChurch.org)

### **Episcopal Diocese of Missouri**

The Right Reverend Deon K. Johnson, Bishop  
[www.DioceseMo.org](http://www.DioceseMo.org)

### **Grace Church Staff**

The Reverend Todd S. McDowell, Rector  
([Todd.Mcdowell@GraceKirkwood.org](mailto:Todd.Mcdowell@GraceKirkwood.org)) ext. 14

The Reverend Virginia L. Bennett, Priest Associate  
([Virginia.Cennett@GraceKirkwood.org](mailto:Virginia.Cennett@GraceKirkwood.org)) ext. 12

Phillip Brunswick, Organist & Choir Master  
([Phillip.Brunswick@GraceKirkwood.org](mailto:Phillip.Brunswick@GraceKirkwood.org)) ext. 21

Shari Bonham, Director of Development & Ministries Coordinator  
([Shari.Bonham@GraceKirkwood.org](mailto:Shari.Bonham@GraceKirkwood.org)) ext. 10

Ella Heigham, Director of Handbells  
([Ella.Heigham@GraceKirkwood.org](mailto:Ella.Heigham@GraceKirkwood.org)) ext. 36

### **Rector Emeritus**

The Reverend David K. Fly