

Kingston Parish Annual Meeting

MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of the (Episcopal) Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.” As members of Kingston Parish, we will involve ourselves in sharing God’s gift through worship, serving, giving, evangelism, education, and pastoral care, reaching out to all people.

AGENDA

January 27, 2019

CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

VESTRY ELECTION

- Presentation of the Candidates
- Nominations from the Floor
- Balloting

READING OF 2018 MINUTES – Carol Swartz, Recorder

PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 BUDGET – Tom Reed

STATE OF THE PARISH – Senior Warden, Valerie Lewis

CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN REPORTS AS SUBMITTED

REPORT FROM THE RECTOR – Fr. Gary Barker

RECOGNITION OF SERVICES RENDERED

RECTOR’S COMMENTS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

LIGHT LUNCHEON

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda	Cover
Table of Contents	2
Minutes	
January 21, 2018	3
Treasurer's Report	
2018 Report and Proposed Budget for 2019	4
Endowment Committee.....	7
Parochial Report.....	9
Vestry Reports	
Rector's Report	9
Senior Warden.....	10
Junior Warden	11
Christian Formation	12
Communications	12
Fellowship.....	12
Outreach Committee's Distribution of Fall Fair Funds	12
Worship Support	13
Other Parish Reports	
Lay Visitors/Lay Eucharistic Visitors.....	13
Memorial Scatter Garden	13
Report on Diocesan Convention	14
Trinity and Christ Church Cemeteries	14
Upper Tidewater Region	14
Vestry Candidates	
Marti Bowen	15
Jan Mohr	15
Ray Stubblebine	15

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Gary Barker in Kingston Chapel immediately following the 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist service. Fr. Gary opened the meeting with prayer.

PRESENT: Fr. Gary declared that a quorum was met.

ELECTION OF INCOMING VESTRY MEMBERS

Mary Kathryn Diggs, Shannon Kirschbaum and Valerie Lewis have been nominated by the vestry to run for the three vestry openings (short bios are included at the end of this Annual Report). A motion was made, seconded and approved to close nominations. A motion was made and seconded to approve the three candidates. The slate was affirmed by acclamation.

READING OF THE MINUTES FROM 2017 MEETING

A motion was made, seconded and approved that a reading of the February 5, 2017 minutes as presented in the Annual Report be waived. The minutes were then accepted without change.

PRESENTATION OF 2017 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET

The financial status of Kingston Parish for 2017 and the 2018 budget approved by the vestry on December 19, 2017 were presented by Mac Butler (published in the Annual Report). We ended the year with a \$21,000 surplus. The budget was, however, smaller by \$38,000 from the 2016 budget. We need help to increase our pledges for 2018.

REPORT FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Mary Chapman expressed her joy at the excellent shape of the parish because of each member's contribution. She thanked everyone for allowing her to be their Senior Warden. She made a slide show and a book of all the things we had done over the past two years and gave the book to Fr. Gary.

REPORT FROM THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE: Jay Black encouraged the parish to save as much of the interest made off endowment funds as possible—although it can be placed in the General Fund, it can also remain in the accounts to grow the funds available. He thanked the committee members.

REPORT FROM THE RECTOR: Fr. Gary

Fr. Gary wanted us to celebrate the ministry of each parishioner. The vestry is one of the greatest lessons of spirituality we have—we all live out our faith in God. He drew our attention to the new ministries: the Celtic service, and our growing relationship with Ware and Abingdon. Fr. Gary will soon celebrate five years with us and looks forward to the new places we will go.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS

Fr. Gary recognized Mac Butler for serving as our Treasurer and the outgoing vestry: Mary Chapman, Amy Christopher and Michael Hobert and presented them each with a gift.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed with thanks to all those who prepared the meal and thanks to God for his many blessings.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Kathryn Diggs for Carol Swartz, Register

Treasurer's Report

	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET
Income		
0109 · GENERAL OPERATING INCOME		
0100 · PLATE OFFERINGS (Unidentified)	2,543	2,600
0102 · ID OFFERINGS (Check Writers)	7,515	8,000
0103 · PLEDGE OFFERINGS	252,736	250,000
0103 · ANTICIPATED PLEDGES	11,055	15,000
0104 · CHECKING ACCOUNT INTEREST	719	700
0106 · MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (copier,rentals,Lobster Dinner)	17,812	17,000
0105 · ENDOWMENT INCOME (Corr & Goldsborough) (pro-rated)	6,803	6,800
0105 · ENDOWMENT INCOME	37,868	37,800
Total 0109 · TOTAL GENERAL OPERATING INCOME	337,051	337,900
Expense		
2190 · STAFF		
2001 · RECTOR'S SALARY	60,937	62,765
RECTOR'S HOUSING	18,469	21,340
2030 · RECTOR'S CONTINUING EDUCATION		
2035 · RECTOR'S RESOURCE FUND (Books, other teaching aids)		
2040 · RECTOR'S PENSION	16,686	17,172
2050 · RECTOR'S SECA	6,075	6,276
2060 · RECTOR'S MEDICAL	17,220	17,220
2080 · HOUSEKEEPING	16,686	16,646
2090 · SECRETARY SALARY	26,256	27,045
2101 · SECRETARY PENSION	2,251	2,704
2120 · STAFF FICA (Fica-6.2%--Medicare-1.45%)	5,301	4,900
2121 · STAFF GROUP LIFE	198	200
2130 · SUPPLY PRIEST	795	900
2140 · SUPPLY ORGANIST	600	600
2150 · MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST	15,650	16,120
2151 · MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST IRA	1,407	1,451
2155 · ORGANIST	8,830	9,095
2180 · BOOK-KEEPER (1.5 days/week)	12,055	10,000
2188 · Staff Christmas Bonuses	325	500
Total 2190 · TOTAL STAFF	209,741	214,934
2290 · TRAVEL		
2200 · RECTOR	1,693	1,800
2201 · SUPPLY ORGANIST	35	50
2210 · SUPPLY PRIEST	89	100
Total 2290 · TOTAL TRAVEL	1,817	1,950
2390 · OFFICE		
2300 · OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,771	1,500
2320 · COPY MACHINE	3,199	3,200
2330 · EQUIPMENT		
2340 · POSTAGE	985	1,000
2350 · TELEPHONE	5,076	4,000
2360 · COMPUTER SOFTWARE	210	110
Total 2390 · TOTAL OFFICE	11,241	9,810
2490 · INSURANCE		
2400 · COMMERCIAL PROPERTY & LIABILITY	15,847	16,000

2410 · WORKERS COMPREHENSIVE	1,502	1,640
2460 · EXCESS VOLUNTEER AUTO	498	500
Total 2490 · TOTAL INSURANCE	17,847	18,140
3090 · PARISH HOUSE		
2920 · REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	4,405	3,000
2923 · FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE	279	300
2950 · GROUNDS	4,945	5,000
2960 · PEST CONTROL	885	900
2980 · TRASH REMOVAL	843	860
3010 · WASTE WATER TREATMENT	755	750
3020 · ELECTRICITY	6,962	7,000
Total 3090 · TOTAL PARISH HOUSE	19,074	17,810
3250 TRINITY		
3260 GROUNDS	6,900	8,000
3261 REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE		10,000
Total 3250 · TOTAL TRINITY	6,900	18,000
3290 · CHRIST CHURCH		
3120 · REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	1,976	2,000
3121 · TERMITE INSPECTION	60	100
3150 GROUNDS	18,380	10,000
3180 · ALARM	1,517	1,500
3181 · TELEPHONE	680	700
3200 · ELECTRICITY	3,485	3,500
3210 · PROPERTY TAX ON FIELD	230	230
Total 3290 · TOTAL CHRIST CHURCH	26,328	18,030
3490 · RECTORY		
3350 · WASTE WATER TREATMENT		
3400 · ELECTRICITY	188	188
Total 3490 · TOTAL RECTORY	188	188
3590 · WORSHIP - KINGSTON CHAPEL		
3580A · ALTAR GUILD/Miscellaneous	459	500
3580B · MUSIC MATERIALS		
3580F · MUSIC LICENSE	493	500
PIANO TUNE		150
Total 3580 · KINGSTON CHAPEL	952	1,150
3581 · CHRIST CHURCH		
3581A · ALTAR GUILD	662	300
3581B · MUSIC MATERIALS/MISC.	75	100
3581C · ORGAN TUNE/REPAIR		500
3581E · SOLOIST/GUEST MUSICIAN	200	225
Total 3581 · TOTAL CHRIST CHURCH	937	1,125
3582 · SPECIAL SERVICES		
4300 · PARISH PICNIC	436	500
6110 · SHRINEMONT RETREAT	149	150

3582.c CELTIC SERVICES	250	250
3582 · SPECIAL SERVICES/OTHER (Agape)	772	700
Total 3582 · TOTAL SPECIAL SERVICES	1,607	1,600
3790 · CHRISTIAN ED.		
3700 · SUNDAY SCHOOL	280	100
3721 NURSERY CARE	1,339	1,400
3720 · CHRISTIAN ED. OTHER	24	100
3810 · VA. EPISCOPALIAN		
3820 · FORWARD MOVEMENT	150	150
Total 3790 · TOTAL CHRISTIAN ED.	1,793	1,750
3890 · COMMUNICATIONS		
3800 · ADVERTISING	1,408	1,500
3810 · VA Episcopalian	710	720
Total 3890 · COMMUNICATIONS	2,118	2,220
4000 · HOUSEKEEPING		
4001 · HOUSEKEEPING SUPPLIES	1,243	1,500
Total 4000 · HOUSEKEEPING	1,243	1,500
4090 · STEWARDSHIP		
3901 · HARVEST DINNER	10	50
3920 · PLEDGE ENV.	210	250
STEWARDSHIP OTHER/POSTAGE	36	50
Total 4090 · STEWARDSHIP	256	350
4290 TOTAL PLEDGES		
4100 · DIOCESAN	20,704	20,705
4110 · REGION II	300	300
Total 4290 · TOTAL PLEDGES	21,004	21,005
4390 FELLOWSHIP		
4310 · BISHOP VISIT		100
4350 · MISCELLANEOUS FELLOWSHIP (ex: Lobster Dinner Exp)	3,729	3,500
Total 4390 · FELLOWSHIP	3,729	3,600
4890 CONFERENCES		
4830 · ANNUAL COUNCIL	1,210	700
4840D · VESTRY RETREAT	397	400
4840 · CONFERENCES - Other	816	500
Total 4890 · TOTAL CONFERENCES	2,423	1,600
Total 4990 · TOTAL EXPENSES	329,198	334,762
NET	7,853	3,138

Kingston Parish Endowment Fund Committee

In accordance with the Kingston Parish Endowment Fund Committee Plan of Organization (dated April 20, 2006), Section A. 10. – Organization, Operation and Authority of the Endowment Fund Committee: Annual Reports to the Parish, the Committee reports as follows:

The Committee is charged with the oversight of eight endowment funds: (1) General Endowment, (2) Christ Church Cemetery Fund, (3) Corr Fund, (4) Goldsborough Trust, (5) Scholarship Fund (6) Trinity Church Cemetery Fund, (7) Pamela B. Machen Memorial Fund and (8) The William Garland and Virginia Leary Youth Christian Education Fund. Complete summaries of these funds are available from the Parish office and the Chairman of the committee.

Members may serve two consecutive three-year terms. We are pleased that Justin Powell has agreed to join our committee, taking the seat of outgoing member and current chairman Jay Black. We are similarly pleased that Richard Jones has agreed to fill the remaining year of Morris Busby's term, as the Busby's have relocated from Mathews; Richard will be eligible for reappointment to two three-year terms. Lastly, Vicki Carter begins her first full three-year term, having taken Mike Reed's seat last year, with one-year of his term remaining. We are grateful for the service of these dedicated individuals.

The committee spent a great deal of time this year discussing how to better educate and inform the Parish about the critical role our endowments play in the life of Kingston; and how we might, as a committee, better promote support for our endowments. Regrettably, this is an area in which we have made little progress thus far. The committee will continue to have conversations on this issue, with the aim of developing meaningful and successful programming that is focused on cultivating awareness of, education about, and financial support for endowment.

Recommendation(s)

This committee encourages and supports the limited distribution of monies from the endowment funds. Amounts distributable should be drawn for specific purposes as approved by the Vestry. Any available monies remaining should not, as a matter of practice, be transferred to the Parish for use as general operating funds. That any particular fund might allow for distributable amounts to be used in this manner, does not necessarily validate the practice of doing so. Monies which are not expended in any one year would, thereby, revert to the corpus of each endowment, and accrue towards the perpetual growth of those funds.

In accordance with TOTF policy, and authority derived from Kingston Parish Endowment Fund Committee Plan of Organization (dated April 20, 2006) – Organization, Operation and Authority of the Endowment Fund Committee: Section A. 6. Authority and Discretion, and Section A. 7. Distribution Policy, the Kingston Parish Endowment Fund Committee recommends a distribution policy of 4.5%.

As regards the endowment funds specifically –

General Endowment Proceeds of this fund are to be used to support “Parish programs, properties and outreach ministries” with the understanding that these monies should not be used for routine expenses incurred in the normal day-to-day operations of the Parish. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$27,671.33. The spendable amount is \$1,247.76, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Christ Church Cemetery Fund Proceeds of this fund are to be used principally for the upkeep of Christ Church Cemetery. If the Vestry deems all needs of the Cemetery to have been addressed, remaining funds from the annual spendable amount may be used to maintain Christ Church. Any remaining monies may be used to maintain the Parish House and grounds. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$531,666.52. The spendable amount is \$23,974.00, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Corr Fund Established by the will of William E. Corr in 1969, proceeds are designated for “the long term and perpetual viability of Kingston Parish” and may be deposited in the Parish general fund. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$117,672.80. The spendable amount is \$5,306.12, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Goldsborough Trust Created in 1934 by Ellen Goldsborough for the benefit of Trinity Church and its Sunday School, funds now are used to support Kingston Parish Sunday School specifically or Christian education programs in general. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$52,147.87. The spendable amount is \$2,351.45, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Scholarship Fund Established by the Vestry in 1996, and amended in 2015. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$136,336.70. The spendable amount available is \$6,147.71, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Trinity Church Cemetery Fund Established to provide perpetual care of Trinity Church cemetery and grounds, “once all current and projected expenses are met of Trinity Church on an annual basis, the balance of the fund income may be used for the benefit of the greater Kingston Parish...” As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$ 434,655.81. The spendable amount is \$19,599.58, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Pamela B. Machen Fund Established in 2008 in memory of Pam Machen, proceeds are devoted to insuring the continuation of outreach programs of Kingston Parish. Therefore, monies available from this fund are to be transferred annually to the Outreach Committee of the Parish. As of September 30th 2018, the market value this fund is \$28,497.78. The spendable amount is \$1,285.02, which is available to be transferred to the Outreach Committee.

The William Garland and Virginia Leary Youth Christian Education Fund Established in 2013 by William G. “Bill” Leary, Jr. in memory of his father and mother, to support Christian Education for the youth. Proceeds are to be used to support the Kingston Parish Preschool. If there is no pre-school, then the distributable funds are to go to the Kingston Parish Outreach Committee and are to be used for the education of Episcopal youth. As of September 30th 2018, the market value of this fund is \$26,683.06. The spendable amount is \$1,203.20, which is available to be used for the specified purposes in the current year.

Spendable Income Summary: This represents a total of \$61,114.85 in total *distributable* income.

Investment Summary (Mike Kerr, CEO, Trustee of the Funds, October 22, 2018)

“We closed September at \$132,425,510 of market value and at month end the portfolio was weighted right on target at 79.45% stocks, 20.31% in bonds and 0.24% in cash. The portfolio liquidity was well within policy as fully liquid and semi-liquid (three years and under) assets comprise 96.35% of the portfolio. The remaining 3.65% of assets have laddered liquidity over a 3-14 year schedule (weighted very heavily to the 3-5 year period). As of 9/30/18, the portfolio standard deviation (risk) was 5.9 for the trailing 5-year period, while a basic global portfolio of 75% global stocks and 25% global bonds was 7.6. Likewise, the respective 5-year beta was 0.6 for TOTF and 0.7 for the global portfolio. A lower standard deviation and/or a lower beta value indicate less portfolio volatility. This translates to TOTF operating at 75% of the risk of that global portfolio over the trailing five-year period. This is a model the Trustees best addresses the risk/reward characteristics of those we serve.”

In summary, performance results as of September 30, 2018:

Year-to-date	+ 1.2%
12 months	+ 4.7%
36 months	+ 8.3% (annualized)
60 months	+ 5.1% (annualized)

The opportunity to provide further information on any of these subjects is invited, and welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Black (2019) Chairman
Morris Busby (2020)
Ron Lambert (2021)

Vicki Carter (2019) Secretary
Valerie Lewis (2020) Vice-Chair
Mac Butler (2021)

PAROCHIAL REPORT	2017	2018
Active Baptized Members	228	214
Others (attend but not members)	5	33
Children (active baptized under 16)	20	20
Average Sunday Attendance	104	92
Celebrations of Holy Eucharist (Sunday, weekday and private)	161	182
Number Baptized	0	1
Number Added by Transfer or Statement	9	7
Number Confirmed	5	0
Transferred Out	0	7
*Burials	8	5
Marriages	0	2

*Burials are actually Burial services conducted by Fr. Gary during the year, which may or may not include an actual burial. This number will not match the Burial numbers given by the Cemetery Report, which will count not the services but actual burials in Christ Church and Trinity cemeteries.

VESTRY REPORTS

Rector's Report (Fr. Gary Barker)

The year of our Lord, 2018, has come and gone. And as Chuck Dickens would say: "It was the best of times and the worst of times."

First, we lost a few very dear folks. We said good-bye to Frank Roy, Joe Lamport, Clement McElroy, and Tom Bullen. They were all celebrated for all that they were and all that they are even more now in God's resurrection. Many more of us have, well, just gotten older and found ourselves unable to do all that we used to do. And some of us have moved away to situations where we can better grow old.

At the other end of the human spectrum, our younger kids are all getting just old enough to really need a young child Sunday school, which is wonderful. They also have gotten to the point where they have more to say to me during the children's sermon, which makes life interesting!

Our Christian Formation programs for adults continue – especially our Sunday schools ably headed by Nina Buzby and Ron Lambert and our Monday afternoon classes (which in 2019 are expanding to Monday afternoon or Tuesday evening).

We have had a lively and strong Alcoholics Anonymous group meeting here at Kingston Parish House for 40 years as of this past fall. Hurrah and Alleluia! We are so blessed to be able to offer hospitality to this group who saves and enriches the lives so many of our neighbors and parishioners. The group meets in anonymity, so we never receive a regular report from them, but it seems important to mention that they do meet here and that we can celebrate 40 years.

Wabingston continues to grow in activities and commitment from members of the three churches (Ware, Abingdon, and Kingston) that were all begun by a decree from the Bishop of London in 1653. One of our new activities is the Baptized for Life program for which the three congregations have received a grant. We will continue to learn about ourselves and how we can more fully live into our baptisms as individuals, churches/parishes, and as Wabingston for the next four years or so! Special thanks to those people who have been working in this vein with me in our workshops which are the early work. Thanks to everyone for filling out the questionnaire about your spiritual life at Kingston. The workshop team will report to the congregation and the vestry on their discussions in the not-too-distant future. Then a group from all three of the congregations will begin work on how we can live more fully into our baptisms. Exciting stuff here ahead!

Speaking of exciting stuff ahead, 2019 will be the year for a parish pilgrimage and a sabbatical. The pilgrimage is in May and will include some of our Wabingston brothers and sisters. We will spend the pilgrimage journeying the holy ways of the Christian Celts on the Holy Islands of Iona and Lindesfarne and the ancient city of Durham. Pilgrims bring holiness with them, so we shall hope our pilgrims bring much of the holiness of the early Celtic church home to our church!

The three months of September, October, and November the people of Kingston will be on Sabbatical! What this means for you is that I will be away and you will have another priest here part-time, caring for you pastorally and offering the sacraments, including Sunday Eucharists while I am away. You will also do some activities that are related to the theme of the Sabbatical which is Christian Friendship. How this might change us and grow us as a congregation and in the relationship between rector and laity will be something to see! I am not sure where it may take us, not having ever done this before, but I am sure that with God's help we can make it a joyous journey more deeply into life as God's people.

I just want to say thank you. Thank you to the three folks going off vestry for your leadership and hard work over the last three years. I hope you will also say thank you to John Lee Machen, Mary Ann Carr, and Tom Reed. Each has gone beyond and above to be exemplary Christian leaders on your vestry (Just a note: we will lose Tom to the vestry work, but he will continue (Thanks be to God!) as our treasurer.

We also said thank you and Godspeed to Cathy Johnson, our long-time parish bookkeeper this past November. We said hello to Vicki Carter (she's sort of been around here for a long time, so it feels a little funny saying "hello") as our new bookkeeper who is already becoming a wonderful addition staff!

Finally, I just want to say thank you to each and every one of you. I am so grateful to be priest with you! In my recent prayers with God I have heard again and again that you all are making me a better priest and a better Christian. I guess I knew that before, but I am hearing it loud and clear now. I hope I will be a better priest for you and for God in the year ahead, but I know that will only be because of God's help and the good prayers, love and ministry of each of you!

God's Peace,
Gary+

Senior Warden (Valerie Lewis)

You'll read all about the accomplishments and challenges of 2018 in this report from the various vestry wardens and committee chairs so I don't want to belabor those points. What I want to do is thank each and every member of Kingston Parish for giving me the chance to form a deeper love and appreciation for our church family by selecting me as a vestry member. I've learned so much about how the daily functions of Kingston, the Diocese and the Episcopal Church help bind us together in Christ's love.

We are challenged in the coming year to keep those ties bound with love and friendship as our priest goes on sabbatical. It will be a year of discovery for him and for us. It will be a time to develop new friendships with one another and extend the hand of hospitality to our neighbors, for that is the true way to manifest God's everlasting grace.

In 2006, a parishioner invited me to join her and four other women from Kingston Parish for a girls' getaway to the beach. The five of us hadn't spent a lot of time with each other away from church so I was a bit apprehensive about how we would get along. We had a great road trip, however, and got ourselves settled before making our way down to the beach despite the day's windswept cloud cover and mischievous seas.

We were jumping waves when one of us suggested that we pray. As the waves continued to toss us about, we joined hands and began giving thanks. It seemed truly divine when rays of sunlight, "God Light," broke through the clouds and provided us with a spectacular backdrop. My worries about the weekend vanished and the experiences we shared became the basis for deep connections to one another.

I share this because being elected to the vestry reminds me of that experience. My apprehensions about serving quickly gave way to a deeper connection to God and to Kingston Parish. Thank you for deepening my spiritual life and thanks be to God for the love you share not only with me but especially with one another.

Junior Warden (John Lee Machen)

Christ Church

This year, the trees surrounding our picturesque little church needed some attention. A wind event and the death of a large tree by the front door required spending a bit more than budgeted, but the grounds look better because of it.

Parish House

This year, the restrooms of the Parish House got a make-over. A family restroom was created in the right rear of the building. It is completely handicap accessible and is large enough to accommodate an additional caregiver if required. The men's restroom got freshened up with new paint, new sinks and a new floor. The women's bathroom was renovated with new paint, wall paper, floors, sinks and additional cabinets. Many thanks to Charlie and Vicky Carter, who spent countless hours of their time to make these improvements possible. Many thanks also to Nina Busby and her committee for design input and financial support to create the beautiful space that is now there.

Trinity Church

Estimates are being gathered to improve the building so it may be able to be used by an interested congregation. The heat, water and electrical systems have been dormant for several years and need refurbishing.

As I complete my term as junior warden, I want to thank all those that have helped me express my joy serving with this great vestry for our dynamic congregation.

Christian Formation

Our Sunday Adult Bible studies continue to thrive.

The Monday class is poised to expand to become the Monday afternoon and Tuesday evening class, offering a second version of this class in the evening for those who can't come during the day. At our first meetings, there were 24 on Monday and then 9 on Tuesday.

We have not had many children to involve in education programs the last few years, but our young ones are now at an age to begin their learning! Special thanks to Vicki Carter, Rachel Morris, Nan Cross, and Carol Gregg who will be teaching a Sunday school class for the children during the 10:30 service.

Our Baptized for Life program is off to a good start with a workshop team that has been looking at and working through the materials from our questionnaire we each filled out this past Fall. We will be moving on to create a small group of 6 people with 2 from each of the three parishes that have received the grant for this program (Wabingston's Ware, Abingdon, and Kingston). That work should begin in April or May. Meanwhile, the workshop team is working on a report of some kind to offer the vestry. It will surely be shared in some format with the congregation as well. This will happen before Easter.

Communications (Rachel Morris)

The focus this year with communications has been the creation of a weekly email that keeps everyone informed of weekly and upcoming events. This email comes out on Mondays with links to the Kingston Parish website. Photos and information are always needed so if you ever have anything to share please email rcmorris1@gmail.com to submit information. This information is also used to keep our Facebook and Instagram accounts going! If you're not getting the email please visit the website and submit your email address: <https://www.kpepiscopal.org/>. If you aren't already following us on Facebook or Instagram find us by searching "Kingston Parish."

Fellowship (Shannon Kirschbaum)

We had great interest in Divine Diners when the year kicked off. Our very first get together was rained out and was rescheduled at the parish hall. Attendance was good and the fellowship was even better. We planned an International Dinner with Anita Minuth and that was also canceled due to weather. The first annual "cruise to nowhere" was super--a beautiful July evening with plenty of food to share. The evening was delightful, with the promise of this being an annual event. The sign-up sheet for after service fellowship could always use a few more signatures. This should not break the bank or compete with Martha Stewart. Just simple refreshments to be shared. We will have International Dinner close to St Patrick's Day. Thanks for a memorable year and I am always open for new suggestions.

Outreach (Mary Kathryn Diggs)

The Outreach Committee, chaired most effectively by Amanda Taylor, has once again worked diligently to determine how to best distribute the proceeds from the 2018 Fall Fair. As a leader in charitable giving, Kingston Parish continues to support the Mathews Community. Parishioners involved in this effort are Mary Kathryn Diggs, Bill French, Hank Furniss, Kippy Gilbert, Peggy Hudgins, and Trish Reed.

KP Outreach Allocation for 2019 (Distribution of the 2018 Fall Fair Income)

KP Preschool Tuition Assistance	3000.00
Hands Across Mathews	1500.00
Social Services Christmas Store	300.00
Christmas Blessing Fund	800.00
Rappahannock Comm. College Scholarship	500.00
Mathews Vol. Rescue Squad	500.00
Mathews Vol. Fire Dept.	500.00
Avalon Center (formerly Laurel Shelter)	400.00
4-H Camp Scholarship	500.00
Gloucester- Mathews Care Clinic	1000.00
Habitat for Humanity	400.00
Rector's Discretionary Fund	5000.00
Mathews Meals on Wheels	1500.00
Mathews Co TRIAD	300.00
MHS Robotics Team	500.00
Mathews Family YMCA	300.00
Episcopal Relief and Development	100.00
Mathews Boys and Girls Club	200.00
NIE (Newspapers in Education)	100.00
Unallocated Fund for unforeseen needs	3650.00
TOTAL	\$21,150.00

Worship Support (Mary Ann Carr)

Kingston Parish offers two worship services each Sunday, one at 8 AM at Christ Church, the other at 10 AM at Kingston Parish Chapel. On special occasions such as the Annual Meeting and the 5th Sunday of the month, these two services are combined and are held at KP Chapel. A midweek Eucharist is offered each Wednesday in the meditation Chapel at noon. In addition to these services, Kingston Parish offers many others throughout the year. These include special services during Holy Week, Pentecost, the Blessing of the Animals, the Hanging of the Greens, the children's Christmas Pageant and Christmas Eve Eucharist.

This year, Kingston Parish offered four Celtic Services, one on February 24 2018, the others on June 25, August 36 and November 4. All services were held at 5:30 p.m. at KP Chapel. Future Celtic Services will be held every two months. The dates for these services in 2019 have been scheduled through October and will be held on March 4, May 5, August 25 and October 27.

During the year, Kingston Parish continued its collaboration with Ware and Abingdon Episcopal churches. The "Wabingston" group held a variety of worship experiences for the parishioners of the three churches. These included the Shrine Mont Retreat in July, a Burning of the Greens Service at Kingston Parish in December. In addition, the choirs from Abingdon and Kingston Parish joined together for a special Advent Lessons and Carols service at both Christ Church and Abingdon.

Services held during Holy Week included the Liturgy of the Palms on Palm Sunday, a Seder Meal, Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday, a Good Friday Liturgy with Stations of the Cross, the Easter Vigil at Yorktown Beach on Holy Saturday, and a Festival Eucharist on Easter Day

Kingston Parish held two retreats this year at the Parish House. A Lenten Retreat was held on February 17 and an Easter Retreat, "The Way of the Light" on April 21.

The Kingston Parish Labyrinth is available throughout the year, offering a sacred space for solitary meditation and prayer or for group activities. This year, a special meditation was provided each week during Lent, offering a guide for walking the Labyrinth in honor of this Holy Season.

Lay Eucharist Ministers (LEM), Acolytes, and Lay Readers are an integral part of our worship services. Training is offered to anyone who is called to serve Kingston Parish in this way.

At Kingston Parish, we are always exploring new opportunities for meaningful worship. We welcome your input, comments, and ideas for programs or worship experiences we might offer in the future.

OTHER PARISH REPORTS

Lay Visitors/Lay Eucharistic Visitors (Kippy Gilbert)

2018 was a full and busy year visiting, sharing the Eucharist and keeping the card ministry vital and up to date. We are working on a list for volunteer drivers and those needing rides to church services and lasses held at the Parish House. There are some kinds to work out. Call Karen Jones (725-2175) or Kippy Gilbert (725-5074) if you have an interest either in driving or if you need a driver. If you have an interest in joining the Lay Visitors, we meet in the library at 9:30 a.m., February 4th. We usually have meetings every six weeks or so.

Your Lay Visitors Team: Pat Elliot, Paul Gibson, Kippy Gilbert, Peggy Hudgins, Donna Jemmison, Suzy Jones, Martha Story

Memorial Scatter Garden (Reed Lawson)

The Christ Church Memorial Scatter Garden Committee has continued its work of maintaining the garden at Christ Church on a weekly basis. Those involved are the Keiths, the Viens, the Jennettes, Becca and Johnny Brown, the Wilsons, the Websters, the Hubbards, the Lamberts, Josie Thorpe, Hunt Thompson and me. We said good-bye to the Busbys in the fall and thank them for their tireless work over the years.

John Machen and John Lee Machen are our consultants. We are always looking for additional help with weeding, mulching, snipping and general upkeep. Thank you.

Report on the Diocesan Convention (Mary Chapman)

On November 2, Mary Chapman (delegate), Reed Lawson (alternate), Josie Thorpe (president of our region), and Fr. Gary traveled to Richmond for the 224th Annual Convention. More than 330 lay and clerical delegates gathered from across the Diocese of Virginia. This year the focus on Friday was celebrating our retiring bishop, Shannon Johnston. A farewell address and many tributes brought us both sadness and joy as we said goodbye. On Saturday, our Suffragan Bishop Susan Goff was granted ecclesiastical authority as she assumed the leadership role in the Diocese. The search for a Diocesan Bishop will continue as long as necessary to fill this position. Bishop Susan and the diocese staff will conduct listening sessions around the Diocese to “hear your concerns, your frustrations, your joys and your hopes about our life as a diocese.”

The business of the convention was conducted and budgets and resolutions passed. For more information on these matters please go to the diocese website www.thediocese.net.

Interspersed with the business of the Convention, we heard from different regions and parishes about their special programs, including a wonderful presentation about Wabingston by Sven VanBaars+ (Abingdon), Grant Ambrose+ (Ware) and Gary+ (Kingston).

To be in the presence of so many lay and clergy leaders in our diocese and witness the power of the Holy Spirit working through them was amazing. If you ever get the opportunity to attend, I strongly recommend it. If you want to know more, please contact any of the four of us.

Trinity and Christ Church Cemeteries (Josie Thorpe)

	<u>Christ Church</u>	<u>Trinity Church</u>	<u>Scatter Garden</u>	<u>Columbarium</u>	<u>Total</u>
Interments	4	0	0	2	6
Endowments	2				2
Disinterment	1				1

Kingston Parish cemeteries continue in good repair. Cemetery sites are approximately 4 x 10 feet in size. Each site will accommodate one burial vault or up to four cremation urns. At this time, the price per site is \$750. Cornerstones must be purchased to define the site(s) at current market cost (approximately \$250 just now). Columbarium sites cost \$300 each. The Columbarium adjacent to Christ Church is completely sold out; however a second Columbarium was constructed in 2013, near the Scatter Garden, and it has 134 remaining sites available for purchase. There is a \$100 charge for the scattering of ashes in the Scatter Garden. Copies of the Rules for Kingston Parish Cemeteries (May 2017 revision) are available in the parish office. Parishioners are reminded that under “Grave Decoration” of these rules it stipulates that wreaths placed on individual plots may be displayed between Thanksgiving and Epiphany (January 6) and two weeks after Easter Sunday before being removed. Persons who place decorations on individual plots during the period following removal of Easter decorations until the completion of mowing operations, except in relation to a burial service, shall limit their decorations to those that will not interfere with the performance of cemeteries' maintenance activities, i.e. mowing.

Upper Tidewater Region Report (Josie Thorpe)

At the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia this past November, Bishop Susan announced the appointment of Rev. Cathy McKinney (Varina Church, Henrico) as the new Dean of the Upper Tidewater

Region, replacing Rev. Gary. Our new Region has 15 Churches. Our first "Annual" meeting will be held at Kingston Parish on Sunday, February 10 to vote on our revised By-Laws, and staggered terms of the officers on our new Board. At that meeting we will set the budget, dates of future regional meeting and hopefully a regional project. Our new region has had some growing pains but now we are on schedule.

VESTRY CANDIDATES

Marti Bowen

I am a native of Mathews County and spent my childhood in Gloucester, graduating from Gloucester High School. I obtained a degree in biology from Longwood College in 1974, which allowed me to have a variety of meaningful life and work experiences - marine microbiology, science teacher, echocardiography technician, and administrator of a grant program in a public library. Most of my career paths have led to services oriented towards children and young adults. I recently retired after 17 years of teaching biology, earth science and anatomy at Mathews High School.

My husband Tom and I, and our daughter Kathryn, moved to Mathews in 2001, after living in Tazewell Virginia. During our time in Tazewell, we were members of Tazewell Presbyterian Church, where I served on Session and was chairman of the Christian Education Committee. Tom and I have been members of Kingston Parish since 2003. During this time I have served on Altar Guild, as an usher, as a member of the Preschool Board, and have helped with Fall Fair and various receptions and Parish functions.

Since my retirement I have enjoyed being part of the Monday class group and have become more involved and connected to our Parish family. I feel honored to have been asked to serve on the Vestry and hope to help our church continue and expand its tradition of spiritual guidance, community involvement, and inclusion.

Jan Mohr

It is an honor to be considered for the Kingston Parish Vestry.

I feel very much at home with the Kingston family. I was married at Christ Church and the ashes of both of my parents are in the columbarium there.

Having lived overseas most of my life as an Air Force brat and then as an educator with the DOD overseas schools for military dependents, I did not have a "home" Episcopal Church. I was christened and confirmed in the Episcopal Church so I'm very happy to be welcomed back into the church family.

After retiring from DOD in 2001 we moved to Mobjack full time in 2005 and I became a volunteer at the Mathews Library, substitute driver for Meals on Wheels and worked part time at Maggies.

There is always a lot of work to be done in any organization and I'm ready to do my share. Being on the vestry would also help me to continue my faith journey.

I look forward to becoming a more integral part of the Kingston community.

Ray Stubblebine

Ray Stubblebine and Ula Ilnytsky bought a home in Mathews in 2016 and moved permanently from Oradell, New Jersey in September 2017, when they retired as journalists working in New York City. Ray was raised in Haddonfield and Cherry Hill and had lived in New Jersey his entire life.

He has interests in History and Music, and he and Ula have collected American Arts and Crafts Movement furniture and art for about 40 years. He has written the book "Gustav Stickley's Craftsman Homes" published in 2006. He served on the Board of Trustees of the Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms from 1990 until 2016 and as President of the New York Press Photographer's Association for three terms. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in River Edge, NJ and was their newsletter editor for 10 years. He also served as chair of their organ committee when they decided to install a pipe organ in 2006, and as webmaster of their web site. Ray currently sings in the Kingston Parish choir.