

ANNUAL PARISH REPORT 2022

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
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St. Thomas Episcopal Church

BEREA, OHIO



Officers

Peggy Zambounis, Senior Warden; William Kerbush, Junior Warden;
Bruce McLaughlin, Treasurer; Sue Griffith, Clerk;

Vestry

Heather Flowers, Anita Cooper, Barb Pertz, Mary Canonicoo, Sue Griffith, Laura
Gaba, Carl Scheu.

2022 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

January 22, 2023

1. Call to Order/Prayer/Quorum
2. Approval of 2021 meeting minutes
 Appointments
3. Presentation of Candidates for Vestry

4. Election Results
5. Senior Warden's Report Peggy Zambounis
6. Junior Warden's Report Bill Kerbusch
7. Treasurer's Report Bruce McLaughlin
8. Presentation of the Budget
9. Final Questions
10. Adjournment & Blessing

MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING FOR
ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BEREA
JANUARY 23, 2022

Father David called the meeting to order at 11:50am. The meeting was opened with a reading from John 24:15 with prayer following.

There were 25 members of the parish signed in for the meeting, declaring a quorum was present. The list of participants is attached to these minutes.

MOTION: Peggy Zambounis moved that Sue Griffith be appointed Clerk for this meeting. Bill Kerbusch seconded the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Tim Gilles moved to accept the minutes. Motion was seconded by Mary Lee Stowell. Motion approved.

VESTRY ELECTIONS

There were no open nominations from the floor. The slate for 2022-2025 is as follows: Mary Canonico, Sue Griffith, and Bill Kerbusch.

MOTION: Jan Smith moved to close elections and that the slate be accepted by acclamation. Nancy Braford seconded the motion. Elections were closed. Motion passed.

Father Dave thanked Bill Kerbusch, Trish Carmichael, and Jane Boomer for their service on the Vestry.

REPORTS:

MOTION: Peggy Zambounis moved that we abstain from presenting the Committee

Reports. Sue Griffith seconded the motion. Motion approved. All reports are included in the Annual Report packet.

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Peggy started out her report by saying that Bill had too many projects that he was working on so he had to continue on the Vestry to complete them. She then shared her report as published in the Annual Report.

She emphasized the success of the Duffel Bag ministry under Jan Bell's direction. Along with the success of the Soup, Cookie and Craft Saturday offered by the ECW. The STAR program and VETS luncheon continue to draw people into our parish home with devoted success.

She thanked those that have been working in the office assisting Father Dave and with answering the phones. Thank-you Julie Kalbrunner, Carol Flowers, Barb Pertz, and including herself.

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Bill reported that demolition of the chapel door has already received one bid, while another one is needed.

He thanked Jan Smith for his assistance with replacing the lights in the chapel/sanctuary with LED replacements.

The boiler in the chapel has been replaced with the AC working well this year.

There is an upcoming project of repairing the stain glass windows in the chapel and sanctuary. This will involve taking out the window and reinstalling it. There is one bid already. A project being considered is "Adopt A Stain Glass Window".

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bruce McLaughlin, Treasurer, reported that we had a gain in 2021 of \$11,515.00, with meeting a budget of \$199,565.00 versus expenses of \$188,050. The operational checkbook balance was \$43,929.00. Pledges to date are \$77,582.00.

There will be a distribution of \$25,923 from the Harkess fund in 2021 as a Capital Distribution.

There is an expected loss of \$14,840 this year.

MOTION: Peggy Zambounis moved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Heather Flowers seconded the motion. Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Peggy Zambounis commented on the duffel bag and card ministry. It was decided that Bev Smith and Linda Kinsey will handle the card ministry, remembering birth-

days, anniversaries, and get well wishes. It will be necessary to find someone to take over the duffel bag ministry.

Mary Lee Stowell commented on how nice it was to be back together having the Annual Meeting in person.

Elaine Willis was wondering about the virtual services. Is the bulletin still on-line or will that be dropped by the wayside? The services are still being virtual for those unable to attend, with the bulletins published on-line.

Father Dave mentioned that he is looking for someone to handle the website and the filming during the services.

The website is transitioning to a new system , on the order of a blog website. Laura Gaba is assisting with this project.

Carl Scheu mentioned how good it was to see everyone. He asked everyone to remember friends that are not coming to church.

Father Dave also asked that we keep Dave Miller in our prayers, especially dealing with the diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease.

Dave Frazier mentioned that Father Dave was voted on to the Diocesan Council and Executive Board Task Force for Racial Audit of the parishes. This second position is assigned by the Bishop.

Father Dave asked that we keep the Bishop Search in our prayers.

Bill Kerbusch asked that we keep the military in our prayers due to the situation in the eastern front. Father Dave offered prayers.

MOTION: Tim Gilles moved to adjourn the Annual Meeting. Mary Lee Stowell seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Griffith, Clerk

NOMINEES FOR VESTRY

(See handout for bios)

Lorrie Beatty

David Frazier

Barbara Pertz

ANNUAL PARISH REPORT 2022

RECTOR'S REPORT

This past year, St. Thomas Episcopal Church continued to be challenged by the lingering effects of the COVID-10 Pandemic and its aftermath, as well as the rapidly changing religious landscape within the United States at large. We are smaller church numerically than we were at the beginning of 2020 and several of our prominent ministries have not returned. I, for one, have continued to grieve the loss of what was at St. Thomas as I am certain that all of you have too.

However, despite these losses and challenges, the Holy Spirit is not done with St. Thomas as we continue to show signs of new life and creativity. This past month, for instance, our parish was able to provide fifty duffle bags filled with an array of personal hygiene items, blankets, scarves, blankets, and hats despite having a reduced volunteer force. I am grateful for the dedication, love, and devotion of our parish's communicants.

Likewise, our monthly ministry events, S.T.A.R (St. Thomas Adult Recreation) and our Veterans' Meet-and-Greet luncheon continue to draw numerous individuals from our surrounding community who find love, fellowship, and support within these vibrant missional communities. Special thanks to Bev Smith, Kathy Heaney, Julie Kalbrunner, and many others who helped lead our Veterans' program in 2022 as well as Julie Kalbrunner, Barbara Pertz, and many others who made S.T.A.R. possible this year. Their efforts in these ministries demonstrated the love of Jesus in extraordinary and tangible ways. This past year, we also began The Red Door Cafe, which I believe

is a significant start to a renewed college-age ministry presence on the Baldwin-Wallace University Campus. By serving free coffee, teas, cocoa and other treats as well as providing accompaniment and fellowship to our neighbors, we demonstrated the power of Christ's love to our community.

As in 2021, many of the tasks associated with that position have been taken up by enthusiastic volunteers. Julie Kalbrunner, Barbara Pertz, Carol Flowers, and Peggy Zambounis have very generously given their time in assisting in the office during the week. Likewise, Lorrie Beatty, Ed McTernon, David Frazier, and Kira Seaton are now assisting with the creation of the weekly bulletins. The willingness of these individuals to help with the day-to-day functions of our parish church is a testament to their love for our community and the continued mission of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Our public worship with the assistance of Deacon Barbara Telfer, Kira Seaton, our music director, choir members, acolytes, readers, ushers, and our supportive and engaged parish community was robust and meaningful over the past year. Highlights from this year include our observance of Veterans' Day where we distributed blessed St. Michael lapel pins to a number of our veterans, as well as our first in-person celebration of Easter and Holy Week following the COVID-19 pandemic. I am extraordinarily grateful for every opportunity to worship with all of you. There is an old expression that a priest should celebrate the Mass as if it were their first Mass, their last Mass, and their only Mass. I certainly have tried to savor every moment with all of you and am grateful for my six years of service alongside you all. I will admit that on Christmas Eve, I wept a bit as we sang *Silent Night* by the radiance of candlelight. That moment brought to life the words of the John's Gospel that the "light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." (John 1:4) We are a people who believe that light triumphs over darkness and that resurrection triumphs over death. We at St. Thomas are beacons of that gospel light and the work we do today is a testimony of the faith that is within us.

I want to thank our staff, Kira Seaton, our Music Minister, and Tim Cooper, our accountant. I also want to thank our lay leadership, including Peggy Zambounis (Senior Warden), Bill Kerbusch (Junior Warden), Sue Griffith (Clerk of Vestry/Vestry member), Bruce Mcglauglin (Treasurer) as well as our dedicated Vestry members: Carl Scheu, Barbara Pertz, Heather Flowers, Anita Cooper, and Mary Canonico. Your leadership has been indispensable to this parish community.

Over the next year, I hope we continue building new ministries for the new era in which we find ourselves. We have a wonderful history going all the way back to 1864, yes, but I believe our eyes need to be focused on the challenges of the present mo-

ment. Strengthened by our faith and the knowledge that we represent the lovingkindness of Christ, our God, I believe that we will meet those challenges and continue our ministry for many years to come. I am also hoping that our parish will continue to grow both numerically and inwardly as we seek to bear witness to Jesus in our community. Let us pray that our parish continues the hard work of ministry and that Jesus' love for us is known through our continued presence.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. David R. Radzik, Rector

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Good morning and Happy New Year,

As I sit and reflect on my 5 years as Senior Warden, I look back and all I can say is whew. It's been a crazy run. A Pandemic, Fr. Dave having 2 babies and losing many great people in this parish.

I know there were things I could have done better but I hope that most things were good! As always, our ministries are going strong. STAR, VETS, DUFFLE BAGS and RED DOOR CAFÉ HAVE BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS!!

I hope and pray we just keep getting stronger and I hope we see new faces come through our doors and say yes this is where I want to be. Having Deacon Barb has been great addition for us.

Our JW Bill keeps this place running and I want to thank him for all his hard work! So, thank you Bill!

I may be leaving Vestry and my position of SW but I will always be here. Making sure my people are making bread and carrying the cross. So, if any of you are interested in either do let me know....

A big thank you to Tim and Bruce for always keeping our finances going. Please make sure your pledges are up to date so we are able to keep St. Thomas running.

So, as I end this, I can't say I am sad to be done, defiantly looking forward to the break. I hope whoever is my successor cares for St. Thomas as much as I do.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Zambounis, Senior Warden

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Repaired roof leak in safe room.
2. Fixed no heat problem in Main Sanctuary.
3. Removed the Native Garden and cleaned up the east side of church.
4. Removed existing playground materials on the west side and planted grass.
5. Corrected drain problem in the parking lot.
6. Seal coated the parking lot.
7. Dealt with power outage for 8 days until Electric Co. finally figured out what the problem was and fixed it.
8. Corrected noise issue with organ heating system.
9. Replaced all the light bulbs in the Chapel with LED bulbs.
10. Repaired the Fire Suppression System for the kitchen stove.
11. Received quotes for the following:
 - A. Demo of Chapel Berea St. entrance.
 - B. Removing and replacing sidewalks coming into church, including adding handicap ramp.
 - C. Repairing Stain Glass Windows in both the Chapel and the Main Sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,

William Kerbusch, Junior Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurers Report: 2022 Operations

St. Thomas concluded the year with an operational checkbook and paypal balance of \$14,054. The revenue for 2022 was \$159,518 versus expenses of \$190,687 for a loss of \$31,170. The revenues in 2021 were \$199,565 and expenses were \$188,050. The gain was \$11,515. The Harkess fund contributed \$39,947 including \$10,695 in capital distributions during 2022 versus \$25,923 in 2021.

Tim Cooper has handled all financial and accounting tasks for the past few years and is the major reason we have a clear understanding of our financial condition.

Treasurers Report: 2023

Operating Budget

The vestry has yet to approve a budget for 2023 with expected revenues of \$173,980 and expenses of \$191,226 for a loss of about \$17,246. Offerings in 2022 were \$104,307 versus \$133,787 in 2021. Current pledges are \$97,000 versus actual pledges of \$97,485 for 2022. The Harkess trust proceeds are estimated to be \$57,640 including \$29,340 in capital distribution in 2023. The full 5 year total of \$80,000 will be available after October. The Diocese has granted us \$10,000 to support the change of our part time priest to full time. I propose to the church body that some events be charged for church utilities and operation based on agreements between the Vestry and each event.

St. Thomas has the same opportunities and problems that our families have. We need to bring in dollars to pay our bills and save enough for a rainy day. Each of us need to look at St. Thomas as our family in faith. We can save dollars by doing less as any family does when in financial straits or we can find ways to increase revenue. In any event we must decide how we want to continue meeting our worship and outreach goals.

I hope to keep you informed about our financial condition during the year and trust in god and in you to help keep St. Thomas Solvent.

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministry of St. Thomas has been fairly busy this year with a variety of activities as we return to in-person worship after a two-year slowing down due to the COVID Pandemic.

We have not returned to Saturday night worship, after the Pandemic brought all in-person services to a halt in March of 2020. Just trying to get the Sunday services back up and running seemed enough for now, and copyright issues as we keep our on-line presence going has made for the Contemporary music we were using Saturdays fairly impossible to use in the on-line formats. The decision was made to try to incorporate some of the Contemporary music of the Saturday night services in Sunday mornings, and we have walked a fine line between steering towards music that would touch everyone who came to worship, and being careful about copyright rules for the music for the on-line broadcasts. I have composed a lot of contemporary arrangements of public domain hymns as anthems for the past year to get beyond this problem.

We have continued our regularly scheduled activities with the choir this year, providing music for traditional Rite II 10:30 Sunday service with choir, and piano or organ. We have had a couple people subbing for the Music Minister at various times, including David Coxe and Bernadette Hisey. The choir also continues to serve at Holy Day services, (Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, this year's All Saints service), and we have continued to add singers and musicians for those services, giving some particular attention to bringing in college students and returning friends. We were also able to join our friend Rev. Jim Kulma for a Holy Week service this year as an added treat.

The choir continued to meet for rehearsals on Thursdays throughout the beginning of the year, but because of choir peoples' schedules, we switched to just Sunday morning rehearsals this fall. So far this has worked out, but choices in music that needed a little less rehearsal time has so far helped to make this work.

In Spring, right after Easter, and again this Fall, St. Thomas hosted rehearsals of the Parma Symphony Orchestra. It was a pleasure to have them, and to have some of their soloists join us for worship.

We still invite area musicians in for concerts and studio functions. Pianist teachers Megan Denman and Joshua Fadenholz, and Trumpeter Theresa May used the Sanctuary for studio concerts in May and June. The *Tri-C Chorale* came back to perform at the December STAR concert, continuing an annual tradition of long standing. All of the STAR Concerts have been great, and well-attended by post-COVID standards.

I finish by extending a hearty thank you to our St. Thomas choir members, friends, and guest musicians: Jan Smith, Sue Griffith, Jane Boomer, Mary Lee Stowell, Nancy Braford, Amanda Bosley, Sue Zimdars, Mary Vazquez, Will Stocker, Kate Stocker Holly, Michael Holly, Tom Malone, Kimberly Coxe, Jackie Wood, Valerie Mathis, Stephen Stavnicky, and David Coxe. My great thanks to all our many musicians, and to Rector David Radzik for the great support, help, and faithfulness.

~ Respectfully submitted, Kira Seaton, Minister of Music

Respectfully submitted,

Kira Seaton, Minister of Music

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild allows our parish to beautify the altar and columbarium whilst following the Church Calendar for color and form. The current Guild members are: Barb Emigh, Julie Kalbrunner, Linda Kinsey, and Alice Kelades. We also thank Anita Coleman for her lead role when decorating with Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies. Some of our flowers are still purchased from a wholesaler; but due to rising prices, we find ourselves buying from more economical sources.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Emigh

S.T.A.R. (St. Thomas Adult Recreation)

The S.T.A.R. Program is in its 15th year at St. Thomas and continues to provide live entertainment, free lunch, socialization and camaraderie to parishioners, community members, and assisted living/nursing home residents in our community through cooperation with Baldwin-Wallace University, CCC, and individual entertainers. The musical program, followed by lunch is held at 12:15 pm the second Thursday of each month, September - May. We are funded by Grant from the Cleveland Episcopal Diocese and served 606 guests in 2022. This number is lower than the years prior due to Covid. We limited the attendees to 70 guests last spring and 90 guests this fall.

The program is run by about 10 volunteers who plan, shop, cook, set-up, welcome and introduce guests, and clean up each month. New volunteers are *welcome!* We can always use help!

Our mission is to provide fellowship, good food and enriching entertainment to adults in our community, many of whom look forward to this program each month as the highlight of their month!

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kalbrunner

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is responsible for "Setting the Table" (Altar), for all church services including Sunday Services, Feast Days, Baptisms, Weddings, and Funerals/Memorials. Altar Guild members usually set up on Saturdays for the 8 am Sunday service and re-set between services for the 10:30 am Sunday service, cleaning up after. Other set-ups are dictated by when the service is held.

Additionally, the Altar Guild cares for the altar linens, candles, wine and vessels; and cares for the priest's vestments and altar hangings if needed. We had a grand time this

year prior to Advent when we got together for a “Brass Cleaning and Mimosa Event” to polish the altar brass before Christmas. Currently we have seven dedicated members serving on the Altar Guild. We would welcome new members for anyone interested in serving!

Respectfully submitted, Julie Kalbrunner

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AND BULLETIN MINISTRY

Keeping the administrative wheels turning in the church office on a weekly basis in 2022 was no small feat given there has not been a secretary in the office for some time. We are grateful to Carol Flowers, Peggy Zambounis, Julie Kalbrunner, and Barb Pertz for volunteering their time to keeping the church office running smoothly.

New for 2022 was the 10:30 Eucharist bulletin team. With information, announcements, and music selections, supplied by Father David, Kira Seaton, and other members of the St. Thomas family, the bulletin team prepares and readies for printing the bulletin you hold in your hands on Sunday morning. We graciously acknowledge Ed McTernan, David Frazier, and Lorrie Beatty for their contributions to this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Beatty

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Our Daughters of the King chapter is down to one member, who attended both the Spring and Fall Diocesan assemblies in 2022. Due to low membership our chapter will likely have to be decommissioned per National DOK bylaws unless we add two members. I hope to have some of our Diocesan DOK officers come to St. Thomas on a Sunday to talk to our members about Daughters of the King in hopes of finding interested St. Thomas members.

The Order of the Daughters of the King are a group of women and girls ages 7 to 107 who desire a closer walk with the Lord. We are Christian women, both lay and ordained, who are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life (prayer, service and evangelism) and supported through the companionship of our sisters.

There is a great deal of overlap with ECW - many DOK sisters honor their vow of service through the ECW! However, unlike ECW, DOK is unable to raise funds as per national bylaws. The work of the DOK is funded at the Diocesan, Province and National levels by annual dues. Scholarships are available for those who cannot afford the dues. In addition, if you are serving St. Thomas in any way, whether it is a ministry during the services, on one of our Outreach ministries, staffing the offices, helping with funeral receptions, coffee hour or social events you will easily fulfill the DOK vow of service – so the rule of life isn't as daunting as it sounds!

The time commitment is not great after the initial training period but the fellowship and support are wonderful! If you have any questions, please feel free to call, text or email me at 440-724-6384 or ewillis1254@gmail.com. You may also find out more at the national website, doknational.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Willis

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

ECW Purpose: To empower the women of the Episcopal Church to carry out Christ's work throughout the world.

With the direction of the following officers the ECW Origination of St. Thomas is striving to seek out new adventures, along with fundraising ideas.

President	Etta Scheu
Vice President	Ellen Herron
Secretary	Elaine Willis
Treasurer	Barb Pertz

As we are in our second year of the pandemic we are working at what we can do to make our church a safe place.

We were able to have our 2nd soup and cookie sale. With a little tweaking it was a big success. I personally want to thank everyone who helped. If you baked, made soup, helped with crafts or stopped by to purchase these yummy foods or crafts thanks.

Even if you made a monetary donation every little bit helps. You truly made a difference. We were able to raise \$1,002 this year which is up from \$675.00 in 2019. This money will be able to help out other organizations.

ECW would like to get together to make 2022 an even better year. I know that we are planning to spend more time on making crafts and hopefully doing outings that include the men. We will be holding a meeting either this month or in February, so look for an email soon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Etta Scheu

USHER MINISTRY

Our usher staff needs to be implemented. We currently have six (6) who are registered but need at least 4 more to make a good schedule. Ushers need to be available to distribute morning service brochures, take collections, count participants and check pews after service and turn off lights. Pay for this job is free coffee at coffee hour and the job of helping on a small but significant job. There are always fill in personnel involved if you cannot make a certain date. Please let Bev Smith know if you would be willing to help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Smith

VETERANS' MEET AND GREET

Veteran's Meet and Greet is back on schedule after Covid lock-down. Any veteran of any service at any time and living anywhere is eligible to come for a free lunch and sometimes small program. Veterans seem to want the ability to chat with their own generation or their own service area whether at home or at hostile areas abroad. They have all worked to keep this country free from harm and we owe them this small program. Volunteers help with chores from helping to cook in the kitchen to taking attendance or setting tables. They are a fun bunch who love their coffee and friendship. We don't ask them questions they might not want to answer. As of this moment only fully vaccinated Vets and spouses are permitted in as St. Thomas does

not want our valuable Vets to be exposed to Covid in any manner. This program was originally funded by the Diocese but since then has held their own with contributions from VFW, OF Garden Club and ECW. Call Bev Smith if you wish to help or be a Vet in attendance. Meet and Greet is usually the last Friday of every month come rain or come sun. It's a happy venture.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Smith

CHURCH CENSUS 2022

Baptisms - 3

Funerals - 7

Weddings - 2

Average Weekend Attendance - 59 (41 in 2021, 86 in 2020¹ 84 in 2019, 92 in 2018)

Services Conducted

Weekend:

91 (In-person)

Weekday:

11 (In-person)

Christmas Attendance:

77

Easter Attendance:

80

CHURCH CENSUS 2021

Baptisms - 2

¹ January-March, prior to the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Funerals - 5

Weddings - 0

Average Weekend Attendance - 41 (86 in 2020² 84 in 2019, 92 in 2018)

Services Conducted

Weekend:

50 (In-person) 66 (online)

Weekday:

3 (In-person) 7 (online)

² January-March, prior to the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic