

The Annual Meeting  
*of*  
Saint Bernard's  
Episcopal Church



BERNARDSVILLE, NEW JERSEY

Sunday, January 30, 2022, via Zoom

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Agenda for 2022 Annual Meeting of St. Bernard's Episcopal Church

- **11:15 am Call to Order – Opening Prayer >**

Reports, part 1

- **11:17 am (3 min.) Rector's Report**  
*The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino*
- **11:20 am (4 min.) Wardens' Report,**  
*Julia Somers and Chris Thomas, Wardens*
- **11:25 am (1 min.) 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes for Approval**  
(see p. 4)

Yes, Jesus, we want to be  
on your right or your left side.  
We want to be there in love and  
in justice and in truth and  
in commitment to others,  
so we can make of this old world  
a new world. Amen.  
- adapted from Dr. King's prayer, see p. 5

Opening of Polls (Zoom poll)

- **11:26 am (3 min.) Nominations**  
a. Warden and Vestry

**For Warden – vote for two**

Chris Thomas (*2<sup>nd</sup> term, for 2 years*)

Paul Edwards (*1<sup>st</sup> term, for 1 year*)

**For Vestry Members – vote for four**

Linda Engleby (*2<sup>nd</sup> 3 year term*)

Anne Fritts (*1<sup>st</sup> 3 year term*)

Taylor Hwong (*2<sup>nd</sup> 3 year term*)

Zach Conway (*1<sup>st</sup> 3 year term*)

**For the Office of Deputy to Convention – vote for three**

Michael Myers

Carmen Paul

Chris Thomas

- b. Deputies to 2022 Diocesan Convention
- c. Delegates to 2022 Watchung Convocation

**For the Office of Delegate to the Watchung Convocation – vote for four**

Greg Canose

Mary Jane Canose

Beth Gustafson

Jane Rauen

Reports, part 2

- **11:29 am (5 min.) Finance Presentation, Michael Myers, Treasurer**
- **11:34 am (2 min.) Stewardship Report, Julia Somers, Stewardship Chair**
- **11:36 am (5 min.) General Question and Answer opportunity**
- **11:41 am Breakout groups** (*Take turns sharing briefly for 16 minutes. We'll reconvene together at 11:57 am.*)

Imagine you are speaking to a friend and they ask about St. Bernard's.

**What story from the past two years would you share to tell the story of St. Bernard's?**

*Each person takes a turn to briefly share a story from the past two years that encapsulates St. Bernard's.*

- **11:57 am (10 min.) Opportunity to share an insight you learned from listening in your breakout group.**
- **12:08 pm (2 min.) Declaration of Election and Introductions**  
a. Vestry and Warden elected  
b. Continuing Vestry and Warden
- **12:10 pm (4 min.) New Business**
- **12:14 pm Closing Prayer > & Adjournment**

Jesus, you are the light of the world:

**May your light open our eyes to see those in need.**

Jesus, you are the light of the world:

**May the works of our lives demonstrate your love.**

Jesus, you are the light of the world:

**May your wisdom enlighten our mission and ministry.**

As you enlighten our lives,

**May we be light for others. Amen.**

*DPAS p. 45*

**ST. BERNARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 31, 2021**

1. Call to Order - Opening Prayer said together
2. Rector's Report
3. Warden's Report
4. Approval of last year's minutes
5. Nominations
  - a. Warden and Vestry members  
Wardens: Chris Thomas (*1<sup>st</sup> 1 year term*)  
Vestry members: Jenny Moss (*1<sup>st</sup> term*); *2<sup>nd</sup> term*: Beth Gustafson; Sue Smith; Mary Kempen
  - b. Deputies to 2021 Convention  
Linda Engleby; Julia Somers; Chris Thomas
  - c. Delegates to 2021 Watchung Convocation  
Gregory Canose; Mary Jane Canose; Al Hudgins
6. Reports
  - a. Finance Presentation
  - b. Stewardship Report
  - c. General Question and Answer session
7. Breakout groups with discussion questions
8. Pastor Dan Fenco, Camino de Fe Lutheran Church and Pop-up Food Pantry partner
9. Declaration of Election Results and Introductions
  - a. Vestry and Warden elections: Warden – Chris Thomas (*1<sup>st</sup> 1 year term*); New vestry members: Jenny Moss (*1<sup>st</sup> year of 1<sup>st</sup> term*), Beth Gustafson (*1<sup>st</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term*), Sue Smith and Mary Kempen (*1<sup>st</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term*)
  - b. Continuing Warden: Julia Somers; Continuing Vestry: Thomas Brooks, Paul Edwards, Libby Galpin, Taylor Hwong, Valerie McEntee, Michael Myers
10. New Business
11. Closing Prayer led by Danielle Baker and Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Engleby



# ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH

## Annual Meeting Election Ballot – January 30, 2022

*(We will vote on Zoom poll)*

### **For Warden – vote for two**

- Chris Thomas (2 year term, did a 1 year term in 2021)
- Paul Edwards (1<sup>st</sup> 1 year term)

### **For Vestry Members – vote for four**

- Linda Engleby (2<sup>nd</sup> 3 year term)
- Anne Fritts (1<sup>st</sup> 3 year term)
- Taylor Hwong (2<sup>nd</sup> 3 year term)
- Zach Conway (1<sup>st</sup> 3 year term)

### **For the Office of Deputy to Convention – vote for three**

- Michael Myers
- Chris Thomas
- Carmen Paul

### **For the Office of Delegate to the Watchung Convocation – vote for four**

- Gregory Canose
- Beth Gustafson
- Mary Jane Canose
- Jane Rauen

Vestry members can serve two consecutive three-year terms.

*Rotating off: Libby Galpin and Valerie McEntee from Vestry, and Julia Somers as Warden.*

Vestry members who are continuing in their terms:

3<sup>rd</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term: Tom Brooks, Michael Myers  
2<sup>nd</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term: Mary Kempen, Sue Smith, Beth Gustafson  
2<sup>nd</sup> year of 1<sup>st</sup> term: Jenny Moss

# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## RECTOR'S REPORT – *The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino*

Kierkegaard's and King's prayers at right invite us to take stock of our relationship with Jesus, God's open arms of grace. Like Kierkegaard, we can ask ourselves, are we *followers* of Jesus (people who learn God's ways from Jesus)? Are we starting to *resemble* Jesus (so others glimpse God's ways in us)? Do we live alongside Jesus "*in love and in justice and in truth and in commitment to others*" as Dr. King longs? Through our actions and choices are we working with God to *make a new world*, a world that reflects God's love for all? The Source of Life and Love is always extending this invitation to St. Bernard's – to build the Beloved Community.

This past year, we have continued to find ways to support to our neighbors. By distributing diapers and ShopRite gift cards, assisting with rent in the winter, and supporting eight students for a week of soccer day camp, our Community Fund revealed God's love locally. Mindy and Ned Kirby donated family meals to local families from their golf club membership during the months they were in Florida. A delicious way to share resources! Thank you for Cathy Ferrara for her leadership in God's Giving Garden.

Whether we worshipped on Zoom or in person, we kept up the habit of gathering, affirming our trust in God's strength, blessings, and care for our world during a second year of the pandemic. We returned to Holy Eucharist and the opportunity for in person worship each Sunday in September.

We expressed our gratitude and said goodbye to longtime Music Director, David Dockery, in August and seminarian Danielle Baker in October (*now Deacon Danielle!*). St. Bernard's is very blessed to have welcomed Dr. Martin Sedek as our new Director of Music in September. In November and December, the choir sang joyfully together on Sunday mornings. Abiding thanks to our section leaders, Debi, Samantha, Brett, and Devin, for their service as soloists in worship, connecting us all with God.

One way that St. Bernard's Wardens and Vestry have helped us resemble Jesus is by taking the leap of faith to become a founding congregation of Episcopal Community Services of the Diocese of NJ. Through combining a portion of our budgeted financial outreach resources with other individual and congregational ECS-NJ donations, we fund new and ongoing congregational efforts to alleviate human need and work for justice. Throughout New Jersey, we help build the new world of which Dr. King dreamed. St. Bernard's is already over a third of the way toward our three-year commitment of \$10,000. We welcome your additional support, as you are able. Even if you are not able to give an additional donation, your generosity helps us reach our commitment through your annual pledge. As we anticipate St. Bernard's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023, we celebrate that our small parish can contribute to the amazing outreach ministries of our fellow parishes and missions in the Diocese of NJ. With God's help, as always! Please see page 12 for a list of the fall 2021 ECS-NJ grants.

My diocesan service this past year on the Board of Missions, Coaching Network, and Reparations Taskforce has given me

Mark 10:45

*Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."*

Luke 22:26-27

*Jesus said, "The greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves."*

**O Lord Jesus Christ,  
You did not come  
to the world to be served,  
but also surely not to be admired  
or in that sense to be worshipped.  
You are the way and the truth –  
and it is followers only  
You did demand.**

**Arouse us therefore if we have  
dozed away into this delusion,  
save us from the error of  
wishing to admire You instead of  
being willing to follow You  
and to resemble You. Amen.**

–Soren Kierkegaard (1813–1855), *The Prayers of Kierkegaard*, p. 81

**Yes, Jesus, I want to be  
on your right or your left side,  
not for any selfish reason.  
I want to be on your right side or  
your left side, not in terms of some  
political kingdom or ambition.  
But I just want to be there  
in love and in justice and in truth  
and in commitment to others,  
so we can make of this old world  
a new world. Amen.**

–The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968), in Feb. 4, 1968 sermon, "*Thou, Dear God*": *Prayers that open hearts and spirits*, p. 167

a greater appreciation for our interconnectedness as Episcopalians in NJ, not only with each other but with the range of New Jersey communities we serve. I am grateful for our willingness to share resources and to face difficult NJ history. Episcopal congregations actively take on ministries and form partnerships to serve to the communities in which they are situated and beyond. While this is time of transition for the diocese, anticipating a bishop's election in 2023, these commitments will endure. St. Bernard's has done the same, including housing the Pop-Up Food Pantry in 2020, which transitioned into the Bernardsville Community Resource Center in 2021. We also collaborate with the Somerset Hills School District to support students as needs arise and Bernardsville's Office of Emergency Management.

Our partnership continues with Pastor Dan Fenco of Camino de Fe Lutheran Church, which worships twice a month at St. Bernard's. Pastor Dan and I were appointed as Bernardsville Police Chaplains at the beginning of 2021, with a focus on assisting the broader community. We received Civilian Service Awards for our work with the Food Pantry from the Police Department. With the Bernards Health Department, Pastor Dan organized two vaccine clinics in the Parish Hall in 2021. Pastor Dan's home in Somerville was made uninhabitable during Storm Ida when the house next door exploded. Parishioners, school staff, and community members donated to support the Fenco family through the Community Fund. We provided a home office printer and office space in the Parish House, because Pastor Dan lost his basement office.

I am so thankful for the investment, wisdom, and good humor of our Wardens, Vestry, and Staff. Deep thanks go to our outgoing Warden Julia Somers, and outgoing Vestry members Libby Galpin and Valerie McEntee. Thank you to Alison Davidson, Parish Administrator, for keeping the parish running despite the oddities of pandemic life. It has been wonderful to welcome Marty Sedek and his musical talents and joy on Sunday mornings. I am so grateful for the many years David Dockery continued to generously give to St. Bernard's after becoming a lawyer!

The parish counts ourselves blessed to have had the Reverend Deacon Danielle Baker with us for her two-year seminarian internship, during which she shared her gifts, talents, and enthusiasm for God. We know the broader church is fortunate Deacon Danielle has responded so affirmatively to God's invitation to ordination. It was to joy to represent St. Bernard's at Deacon Danielle's ordination to the transitional diaconate on Dec. 4, 2021, at Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral in Newark. Many watched from home! Thank you to the Teaching Committee and all who were a part of Danielle's journey at St. Bernard's. We anticipate Deacon Danielle's ordination to the priesthood later this year.

I continue to be in awe of John Smith's mastery of the details of St. Bernard's Cemetery, and his hard work to transition them to electronic format. I am grateful Michael Myers has agreed to be his back up. Every time I am in the Cemetery, I am reminded that we are honored to offer this beautiful holy ground for families and friends of those buried within, as well as neighbors who take walks through God's creation in the Cemetery. At burials, families often express their appreciation for St. Bernard's Cemetery. Thank you very much to Michael Myers for taking on the Treasurer role and for Mindy Kirby's service in this critical role and her great assistance with transition. Similarly, I appreciate the willingness of Taylor Hwong and Tom Brooks to take over the leadership of Buildings and Grounds, following in Steve Galpin's incredibly helpful and handy footsteps. Thanks so much to Denise Thomas for organizing the reception and Marty Sedek for writing a new tune for one of my favorite Scriptures, Isaiah 58. Thank you for celebrating a decade of my priesthood in December, including six years at St. Bernard's.

I am encouraged by the relationships we have built with one another and with the altruistic people of Bernardsville and the Somerset Hills. When I was interviewing for the position of Priest-in-charge in 2015, lay leaders shared their commitment to helping our neighbors in Bernardsville, desire to build relationships, and hopes for my role in this mission work. Sometimes it is unclear how to go about this relationship development (*hint: emergencies help!*). Yet, it is so worth joining God in relationship building. Once established as a faith community that cares for all in need, known for saying "Yes" to creatively partnering for solutions and support, we start to see God at work ahead of us and in our partners. Each new need or injustice becomes the chance to *make a new world* alongside our Living God. Thanks be to God!

In Christ's love,



The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino, Rector

## WARDENS' REPORT – *Julia Somers, Christopher Thomas*

For St. Bernard's Church, 2021 was another extraordinary year. We started the year with expectations that our church and its activities would be back to "normal" in the fall, but by year end, it is still dealing with the disruption of the pandemic. Though it all, the St Bernard's family continued to support our community and each other.

Despite the challenges, outreach has continued as a top priority for parishioners who gave much of their time and talent to serving the needs of our community. Cathy Ferrara's enthusiasm and guidance are a beautiful thing, and God's Giving Garden's produced over 2374 pounds of food for the Food Bank. Unfortunately, the tutoring lab could not start up this year, although we hope to in 2022. Under Mindy Kirby's leadership, we continued to support the Food Bank Network of Somerset County with semi-annual ham and turkey collection. Fellowship also returned, with Indoor / Outdoor coffee hours after service to celebrate Danielle's ministry and Beth's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination, as well as in June.

Please take the time to read each outreach group's report to see how much good is still being done by St. Bernard's Church. If you don't already participate, as they become available, we hope you will take advantage of opportunities to be of service to the community.

We continue to struggle with a financial deficit – our 2022 budget will be no different – but, thanks to the strong management of our investments by Regent Atlantic, we ended the year about where we began, despite withdrawals from our accounts to support the parish's work. In 2022 we will continue to pledge 10% of our budget to the Diocese of New Jersey. We are most grateful to Michael Myers for taking over the Treasurer's role for the parish and for the excellent job he has done, ably supported by a Finance Committee. A Cemetery Cottage Team, headed by Chris, is working with the Feasibility Study the Vestry commissioned from Dan Lincoln, a local historic architect who has helped us before.

2021 was also a time of transition for our committed and talented staff members. In May, David Dockery announced he was resigning as Music Director to focus more on his law career and family. We will miss him and greatly appreciate his 11 years of service to the parish. A search committee, headed by Michele Esposito-Edwards, worked throughout the summer to find a new Music Director and, in September Dr. Martin Sedek joined us in that position. Marty jumped into the role and was able to coordinate the return of our choir in person. In their absence, throughout 2021, our choral section leaders provided wonderful musical leadership and offerings. Alison Davidson continued to serve and help the congregation continue to worship together virtually by Zoom in spiritually rewarding and meaningful ways, at times also from the church. In October, we also bid a sad (for us) but excited (for her!) farewell to Danielle Baker, as she completed her seminarian role, and was ordained to the diaconate in December. We are again extremely grateful to John Smith, our extraordinary voluntary Cemetery Manager, who spent many 40-hour weeks cataloguing, computerizing and mapping the cemetery, and to the great team of Taylor Hwong and Tom Brooks, who took over Building and Grounds as Steve Galpin moved to Connecticut.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your wardens in 2021. It is our hope and prayer that 2022 will bring all of you, your loved ones, and the communities you serve good health, great blessings and many opportunities.

## SEMINARIAN REPORT – *The Rev'd Deacon Danielle D. Baker, M. Div*

*Thank you, Good People of Saint Bernard's.* I am genuinely grateful to have shared 2021 with you. These last 12 months have been an amazing journey, and I'm so thankful we were together. Your welcoming spirit, the many God-given gifts, and the spirit that you embrace to live out the Gospel have played a significant role not only on my journey to Ordination to the transitional diaconate but to the priesthood.

Starting with the first week of January. You remember, when I took the **GOEs** (General Ordination Exam's) in the Sky Room. Thank you to the **Wardens, Vestry**, and the countless good people of Saint Bernard's for your *snacks (yum), meals (double yum), prayers, encouraging support, laughs, and many phone calls* – there is definitely good sermon material here 😊.

I have been blessed by your energy, openness, flexibility, and enthusiasm to continue to find ways to fellowship, worship, and learn together. Special thanks to **Ms. Jane Rauen** for working with me as we explored and shared new ways to meditate and observe Lenten Practices during our four-week Lenten Series. Also, special thanks to **Al Hudgins**, who hosted our Bible 101 series. You provided an opportunity for the parish to learn and share their experiences about the bible – what an amazing gift.



And to my **Teaching Committee: Greg Canose, Linda Engleby, Valerie McEntee, and Michael Myers**, thank you for making yourselves available even after your tour officially ended in 2020. You continued to offer guidance, suggestions, and other pearls of wisdom, not only as it pertains to my preaching, but other areas of Christian Formation.



Fast forward to Graduation from Drew. My family and friends are still talking about the number of people who joined virtually from Saint Bernard's. And when I walked across the platform, you were right there with me.

**Alison**, thank you for everything. You really helped bring things together for me and the parish, and you make it look soooo easy. And to **Marty**, welcome and **thank you for saying yes** to joining Saint Bernard's. Although our time working together was brief, it has been impactful. For me, the music and hymns jump off the page. I am excited for our **gifted choir members** and wish you well.

And to the **best Rector on the planet: Pastor Beth**. There are not enough words to express my gratitude. You have been and continue to be an outstanding mentor who provides limitless teaching moments, encouragement, inspiration, support, and tons of laughs. Thank you for being a Sponsor at my Ordination, it made it feel as if all of Saint Bernard's was there.

I look forward to watching the Joy services on YouTube, and as always, welcome any opportunity to worship with you and the Saint Bernard's community. Beth, it goes without saying you are indeed a blessing and a gift, not only to Saint Bernard's and the surrounding community but to the countless people who have the pleasure of meeting and serving with you.



When I think of Saint Bernard's and my time with you, I am reminded of the famous **African Proverb: If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.**

*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!! Alleluia!!*

*Danielle*

**The Rev'd Deacon Danielle D. Baker, M. Div**

## **MUSIC MINISTRY – Dr. Martin Sedek, Music Director**

What a joy it has been to join the St. Bernard's family of worship this past September! Even within the tumult of endless changed, cancelled, and altered plans that has become our new normal, I have been welcomed so warmly and have been able to enjoy making music in various forms: working one-on-one with our section leaders, doing services on Zoom, helping celebrate a couple's wedding — but certainly the highlight was having the choir back in full (masked) force for Advent and our Christmas Eve services. While Omicron ended up making this a temporary treat, I am eager to welcome back our singers as soon as we determine it is safe to do so.

We were able to hold three distinct Christmas services: a family-friendly service led by our wonderful section leader Samantha and an evening service which featured the whole choir as well as two professional violinists engaged to add to the joy and beauty of our service. In a wonderful gesture, members of the Myers and Ferrara families provided the music for our middle service, allowing me to spend a few hours with my family, who celebrate the tradition *Wigilia* ceremony in

the Polish tradition which takes place on Christmas Eve; this is a real testament to sense of community and partnership in our music program, a true reflection of our larger St. Bernard's community.

We continue to be graced by the time and talents of our professional section leaders: Samantha, Devin, Brett, and Debi. This Christmas was a bittersweet service, as it marked the last for our tenor section leader Brett, who moves on after almost seven years of service to the church. He will be deeply missed and well-remembered. We warmly welcome Jason Robinette, a local professional with a seemingly endless list of concert and opera credits, as our new tenor section leader.

In addition to these choral leaders, I am greatly indebted to both Beth and Danielle Baker for their support of the transfer of music directorship and their assistance in helping me learn all things St. Bernard's. All members of the music program, both artistic and administrative, have been instrumental in allowing us to continue having our worship lifted even higher by music. I am so very much looking forward to continuing this journey together, as it is clear to me that music can and will be a satisfying part of our community, regardless of the form it is taking in any given week. Psalm 96 tells us: "Sing to the Lord a *new* song" - we may still remain ever-changing for a while, but the newness of life we celebrate each Sunday is well-reflected in a not just surviving but *still-thriving* music department.

### **COACHING – *The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino***

In May and June of 2021, I completed Coach Approach Skill Training (CAST) over Zoom, to strengthen coaching skills initially learned through the diocese, which covered half of the cost for this training. This 60-hour training is the first step toward becoming a certified coach by the International Coaching Federation. The CAST trainers train lay and ordained coaches for the Church, including plenty of Episcopalians. Coaching is a great resource for pastoral care; working with individuals, groups, or teams; and encouraging a person to articulate the next best step. I am currently a tenth of the way toward the 100 required hours of coaching. (The diocese paid for my training in an online facilitation method too.)

Coaching is available to parishioners (for free!) as well as community members and can be on any topic. Coaching can be done by phone, Zoom, or in person for a 30- or 50-minute session. Coaching trusts that people are "naturally creative, resourceful, and whole." A coach comes alongside and ask open-ended questions, trusting your wisdom and the work of the Holy Spirit. Insight and action steps come from the person being coached. Coaching is beneficial for all, whether you are an external or internal processor. Let me know if you would like to set up a one-time coaching session or try it out for a few months.

### **REOPENING TEAM – *Christopher Thomas***

Chris Thomas continued to lead St. Bernard's Reopening Team in 2021. The Reopening Team re-surveyed the parish regarding parishioners' ability, interest, and willingness to return to in-person worship in the summer, and we decided to change in-person worship to every Sunday, while still keeping the Zoom sessions for those parishioners who preferred that model. Throughout most of the year, an average of 10 parishioners attended in person, along with two officiants and two musicians until October, when the in-person choir returned. A majority of attendees still connected via Zoom throughout the year. We increased the capacity of the church by allowing households to be seated two pews apart, with the pew between taped off. For Christmas, we scheduled 3 In-person service to allow for additional capacity.

### **SAINT BERNARD'S CEMETERY – *John Smith***

For 2021 the cemetery had 5 lot sales, 9 foundation installations and 18 burials. The average number of burials for the past four years is 16.

Thanks to Mary Jane Canose for organizing St. Bernard's Cemetery's participation in Wreaths Across America, an organization that remembers and honors our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. On Dec. 18, over 2,500 cemeteries across the country took part in this solemn ceremony. People

sponsored wreaths and volunteers came from throughout Somerset Hills, including local scout troops, to help to lay wreaths on the graves of veterans and clear them away afterwards. Thanks to John Smith for his support!

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – *Tom Brooks, Taylor Hwong***

The past year continued with dramatic changes to the use of our buildings as the COVID crisis continued to ebb and flow; while some services were held in-person in the sanctuary, the Parish House essentially was unused throughout the year.

Church services during the year were mixed, between zoom only and in-person/zoom; services conducted in-person were performed with strict adherence to safe protocols and distancing. These were also followed by cleaning/disinfecting.

Overall, maintenance and repair costs were well contained during the year. NGC Development, which built our Parish House and nearby Heritage condominiums, continued to provide grounds maintenance and snow removal, thus saving us significant costs. We continued with our annual HVAC contract with A.J. Celiano, as well as Keltom Gutter Services for our annual cleaning service.

Several significant accomplishments by the “Buildings and Grounds” included:

- Relocating the Church’s archives from the Bernardsville Library to the Parish House attic. Cleaning the attic, installing donated shelving, and repositioning the boxes will be completed this year.
- Restoring fire code certification. The Bernardsville fire inspector determined that the Church was deficient in several areas. To address these concerns and restore certification, the B&G team replaced batteries/ballasts in fire escape signs, updated signage to mechanical rooms in both the church and Parish House, and installed emergency “crash bars” to the side doors in the Narthex (thanks to the donor for the materials to accomplish this).
- Fixing the sidewalk light next to the Parish House entrance that had come loose from the concrete footings.

Work anticipated for this year include: working with the Office of Emergency Management to determine generator hook-up requirement to the Parish House should the need arise; re-adjustment of lighting options in the Sanctuary to provide more options; performing annual inspection of emergency exit lighting and repair if necessary; fixing the exterior door near the choir loft.

## **STEWARDSHIP – *Julia Somers***

As I conclude my service as warden (and Stewardship Chair) at St. Bernard’s Church, I cannot help but reflect how lucky I have been to have this opportunity to work with you and what a wonderful congregation we are part of. Together, we are surrounded by generous, kind, caring people who hear God’s call to share our time, treasure and talents. Thanks to you, despite the ongoing uncertainties of our world, our combined stewardship again has continued to reach many people in multiple ways.

Pastor Beth has continued her marvelous leadership of our church and guided our outreach during 2021 to serve the Bernardsville community in different ways. Our beautiful new Parish House has actually begun to see some honorable “wear and tear”, while people use the building and, as best they can, still observe social distancing obligations. It has served useful purposes in creative and unexpected ways (Pastor Dan Fenco, temporarily has an office here due to being flooded out of his home, his congregation continues to share our space, and AA’s weekly meetings in the Parish House which returned in May, are examples), as well as serving other valuable community programs.

Thank you so much to those who participated in this year’s stewardship program. In particular, to those witnesses who, during Stewardship Month, who shared their own stories about what St. Bernard’s Church means to them, thank you! You are stars! I think this sharing is very much appreciated by parishioners who identify with your stories but may not be inclined to share their own experience. Your stories both inspire and reflect our larger community, letting us find valuable fellowship.

Again, this year, I am truly gratified that, despite challenging times, parishioners' generosity to St. Bernard's Church has continued. It is exciting that *actual* donations in 2021 outpaced pledges. Thank you so much! And further, in this year's 2022 stewardship campaign, although we lost several longtime and beloved St. Bernard's parishioners, we held steady in pledged support and are down only one family in pledging numbers for 2022. We have welcomed new parishioners and have also wished *God Speed* to others to new congregations and other parts of the country.

Please know how glad we are to be in this partnership of ministry together with you through your pledge. Again, thank you.

|                    | 2022      | 2021    | 2020    | 2019    | 2018    |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| # of Pledges       | 49        | 50      | 49      | 44      | 42      |
| Amt. Pledged       | 157,403   | 157,141 | 145,485 | 132,780 | 117,354 |
| Total Pledge/plate | 160,000*  | 171,820 | 152,441 | 144,000 | 143,312 |
|                    | *Estimate |         |         |         |         |

If you haven't yet pledged for 2022, you know it is never too late! Can we rise above 50 pledges? Please help us and join as we strive to serve God and our neighbors in Bernardsville and the Somerset Hills. We are deeply grateful for your support and thank you for everything we are do together for this community we love.

**EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY**  
(ECS-NJ) - *The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino*

In 2020, the Diocese of New Jersey launched ECS-NJ to support congregational efforts to alleviate human need throughout NJ and share information and tools for advocacy and justice. Monthly topical briefings are held on Zoom (and recorded) as well as two summits a year. Learn more: <https://dioceseofnj.org/ecs/>. Recordings available on the diocesan YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/EpiscopalDioceseofNewJersey/videos>. Prayers and donations are welcome from individuals and congregations. A co-chair of the ECS-NJ Advisory Council presented to the May Vestry meeting.

St. Bernard's is honored to be one of approximately ten founding congregations of ECS-NJ. Your individual donations also go toward our \$10,000 three-year commitment, which is supported with budgeted funds. By supporting ECS-NJ with budgeted funds, our Outreach budget line has a much greater impact. We will hold a fun, fellowship-based fundraiser for ECS in 2022. According to the diocese, "ECS-NJ is committed to expanding our capacity to meet critical human needs in the cities, towns, and villages our congregations serve, while advocating for meaningful systemic change." Through ECS-NJ, the diocese will improve the lives of New Jerseyans and increase the reach of God's love. Below you will find the first round of ECS-NJ grants, awarded in the fall of 2021 as the endowment is still be built. The grants went to ongoing and new outreach efforts around the diocese, which covers the lower two thirds of the state.

| #  | Congregation                                   | Project receiving ECS grant  | County     | Category                                    |
|----|--|--|------------|---|
| 1  | Christ Church, Middletown                      | Christ Church Community Garden   | Monmouth   | Food Insecurity (Community Garden)          |
| 2  | Christ Church, New Brunswick                   | New Brunswick Choice   | Middlesex  | Food Insecurity                             |
| 3  | Christ Church, Palmyra                         | A Ministry Initiative of Faith with Tolerance, Acceptance and Understanding          | Burlington | Worship/Fellowship Autistic Community       |
| 4  | Good Shepherd, Berlin                          | Building Lives Together  | Camden     | Domestic abuse, alcohol, and drug addiction |
| 5  | St. John, Elizabeth and San Jose, Elizabeth    | Immigrant Assistance and Orientation Center  | Union      | Immigration                                 |
| 6  | St. Augustine, Asbury Park                     | St. Augustine Sunday Feeding Program   | Monmouth   | Food Insecurity                             |
| 7  | St. Mary's, Clementon                          | Food Security for the Marginalized and Minority Local Community Affected by COVID-19 | Camden     | Food Insecurity                             |
| 8  | St. Mary's, Stone Harbor                       | The Branches Community Food Bank   | Cape May   | Food Insecurity                             |
| 9  | St. Michael's, Trenton, and Trinity, Princeton | We Will Prevail  | Mercer     | Prayer Wall and Street Ministry             |
| 10 | Trinity, Asbury Park                           | Trinity Radical Well-being Program   | Monmouth   | Housing                                     |

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION – *The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino*

In 2021, two four-week adult formation series were held over Zoom on Sundays. In the winter, Al Hudgins led **Bible 101** with Danielle Baker's assistance. And then during Lent, Danielle and Jane Rauen led a **Lenten Practices series** allowing attendees to try on various spiritual practices. Thank you to those who led and those who participated! Keep an eye out for Al's monthly Bible 101 that will begin on Feb. 13.

**Lenten faith resource packets** were distributed in advance of the season to parishioners, including those designed for families with children. **Advent resources** were also distributed later in the year, including Advent activities and felt boards and felt nativity characters for families with children. Faith at home is the best way for people of all ages to reinforce our attachment to God, and our faith in Jesus. We hope these resources have helped you grow and stretch during these special seasons. Linda Engleby and Jessica Koster organized and hosted **Advent Wreath-making** in the Parish Hall in early December. We continued to use **A Sanctified Art collective's** formation and worship resources for Lent and Advent/Christmas in 2021. Learn more about them online at [www.sanctifiedart.org](http://www.sanctifiedart.org).

From January to June, Danielle and Pastor Beth continued recording a brief version of the **JOY! service** for families with children on a monthly basis which can be found online if you want a laugh: [www.stbernardsnj.org/joy-services](http://www.stbernardsnj.org/joy-services). We have now found appreciation for YouTubers. It turns out it does require skills but we are content with the first try and showing kids that sometimes we all make mistakes, and that's okay! In September and October, we are able to hold JOY! services for family with children outside and in masks on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. In November and December, we moved into the Parish Hall with windows open.

During the 2020-2021 program year we partner with Cross Roads Camp in **Bold Transformational Faith** Sunday School on Zoom for elementary and middle school students. Five to seven of our children participated. Pastor Beth leads one of the small groups, for the youngest kids, made up of pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. For each congregation, at least one faith leader helps lead a 30-minute small group during the 50-minute session, which begins at 11:15 am on Sunday mornings. The curriculum is provided by Cross Roads and Luther Crest. In the fall of 2021, curriculum materials were made available for congregations to use locally.

**Evening Prayer** continued over Zoom, weekly on Wednesdays during Lent and Advent, and every other week the rest of the program year, with the summer off. During Evening Prayer, we have a chance to pray, connect, and learn about a saint or two. A person who lived out God's love for the world in their own unique way throughout the centuries. All are welcome to join, including as you take a walk or walk the dog!

On Sunday, **July 4**, we gathered for **outdoor Sunday worship and lunch** at Moorland Farms in Far Hills with local Episcopal parishes, St. Mark's, St. John on the Mountain, and St. Luke's. Thanks so much to the people of St. John on the Mountain for organizing this celebration, and to our choir members who joined the combined choir. Combined worship on July 4 weekend was a prior tradition of the Conover parishes. If you are in town this coming year, please join us!

St. Bernard's hosted a **Blue Christmas service** (in person and on Zoom), with St. John on the Mountain and St. Mark's, during December. Marty Sedek and Debi Kurisko provided beautiful music for this service. Blue Christmas services provide space to acknowledge the griefs, losses, sorrow, and/or challenges we carry amid an otherwise festive season. This was tradition of my prior parish, and we held our first combined Blue Christmas service in 2020 over Zoom. Please join us this coming year.

## CROSS ROADS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER, PORT MURRAY, NJ *The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino*

In 2021, Cross Roads successfully held 4 weeks of Youth Camp and 2 weeks of Family Camp, with strict COVID protocols, testing, and 50% occupancy. Staff, campers, and families were thrilled to be back at Camp after two years away. Pastor Beth served as the chaplain for a week of Family Camp with her children, Patton and David in attendance.

Youth and Family Camp continued to be subsidized for all campers, even though Cross Roads experienced reduced income from retreats and other contracts. In 2020, Cross Roads and Luther Crest begin offering Bold Transformational Faith, an online church school curriculum to support congregations. During 2020-2021, this took the format of weekly Zoom church school with students and adult teachers from churches in NJ and MN. Six of St. Bernard's elementary and middle schoolers participated and Pastor Beth taught the PreK and Kindergarten group over Zoom.

On May 9, St. Bernard's participated in Camp Sunday with Episcopal and Lutheran congregations throughout NJ, praying for Cross Roads as well as Camp Arcadia, a girls' camp in ME owned by Anne Fritts' family for four generations. In September, Valerie McEntee participated in an in-person Women's Retreat. In October, parishioners were key to helping Pastor Beth raise \$1,217.54 in the Rally for Cross Roads 5K Walk/Run. Beth also attended the first retreat for the Shape of Leadership 2 leadership program at Cross Roads in October. Cross Roads continues to be a wonderful place to connect with nature, God, and build community. As well as to get away for rest, renewal, disconnection from our electronic life. It's a wonderful environment for immersion in our Christian faith, lived out over meals, singing, and outdoor fun. Contributions to Cross Roads Annual Fund for annual recurring needs are welcome at any time, [www.crossroadsretreat.com](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com). Thank you for supporting Cross Roads, our Episcopal/Lutheran camp and retreat center.

## Outreach Reports

### OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Sue Smith

St. Bernard's was busy this past year providing help to the community in the form of the Bernardsville Pop-Up Food Pantry. If you have a new idea or want to participate in this Outreach Program, please speak to Pastor Beth, 908-766-0602.

| <b>Month</b>  | <b>Outreach</b>  |
|---|--|
| Sept  | Mindy will contact Somerset Food Bank and see if families are in need of food and/or toys for Thanksgiving or Christmas. |
| Oct and Nov   | ***Coat Drive for Grace's Kitchen  |
| Nov and Dec   | Announce when ShopRite advertises Free Turkeys.<br>Thanksgiving and Christmas - Turkeys and Hams to Food Bank – Mindy    |
| Dec   | ***Food Collection at ShopRite - Greg  |
| Feb   | Sock It to Me Sunday - new socks, hats and gloves for Grace's Kitchen  |
| April   | Easter - Turkeys and Hams to Food Bank - Mindy   |
| Sept – June   | ***YMCA/St. Bernard's Homework Help Program  |
| Sept – June   | ***Collect items for Food Bank and Feeding America Backpack Program  |
| Mar – Oct   | Conover Outreach Task Force – God's Giving Garden – Cathy  |
| <b>All Year:</b>  |  |
| Last Saturday of the month  | ***Grace's Kitchen   |
| Last Thursday of the month  | ***Prayer Shaw & Hat meeting – Jeri  |
| *** These programs and others have been negatively affected by the Coronavirus and will recommence later in 2022. |  |

### GRACE'S KITCHEN – John Smith

Grace's Kitchen has fed over 200,000 meals to the homeless and hungry in Plainfield since 1994. From the very beginning, volunteers from St. Bernard's church have helped prepare and serve those meals. Unfortunately, the pandemic has caused a temporary suspension in our participation. Since March 2020 it has been determined that no volunteers should participate. A limited kitchen staff prepares bag lunches and distributes them outside of Grace Church. We look

forward to the time when those in need will once again be welcome to come inside the Parish Hall, sit down and enjoy a warm, nourishing noon meal prepared and served by volunteers, including many of us from St. Bernard's. St. Bernard's Church, led by Jeri Minter, is currently having our annual "sock drive" for those that come to the kitchen for a free meal. Many of them are homeless and dry, warm socks can make a huge impact on their quality of life. There is a collection bin in front of St. Bernard's church, please help if you can.

**GOD'S GIVING GARDEN – Cathy Ferrara**

God's Giving Garden continued to provide fresh herbs and vegetables to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County, The Vets at Community Hope at Lyon's VA, and The Bernardsville Food Pantry. A steady group of volunteers from the churches and the community assisted myself and the other garden leaders in growing, harvesting and delivering 2374.5 lbs. this season. This is a little under last year, but for some reason cucumbers just did not want to grow in the summer of 2021! Many improvements were made to the soil with that addition of mushroom loam and manure-based compost spread throughout the beds. We have finished one new bed and have planted 17 lbs. of garlic and 6 lbs. of shallots in this, which will free up all of our current beds for spring planting. We will finish construction of a second new bed in the spring. The continued funds from the member churches, along with the help of the Ross Farm Apiary/Honey sale has financed the new beds and improvements. We are hoping for an even larger harvest in 2022.

I believe feeding the hungry to be an important mission of St. Bernard's, and I hope that some of you will join me in the Garden in the spring! Any time that you can give is appreciated. Volunteers are needed to plant, weed and harvest, as well as to transport the harvest to the various agencies. Please note there is always help loading and unloading when delivering. I believe that getting your hands in the dirt is good for the soul, and even the immune system!

**THE COMMUNITY FUND – Sue Smith**

In 2021, the Community Fund continued to help in response to the pandemic, even as local needs moved away from weekly food distribution because many people returned to work in the fall of 2020. Recognizing the cost of diapers, we continued to provide diapers and wipes for 30 local families twice a month from November 2020-July 2021. ShopRite gift cards were also periodically distributed. In 2021, 15 families received rental assistance, two received utility assistance, and one family was help with the cost of essential dental care. In June, the Community Fund helped eight students attend a week of soccer camp. In August, the Fund sponsored the food and the Boy Scouts provided grills, for a barbecue connecting school staff and parents to aid in signing up students for free lunches and busing. After Storm Ida, formula and wipes were purchased for the Bernardsville Office of Emergency Management shelter which assisted people from towns hard hit by the storm. Additionally, \$10,000 of ShopRite gift cards was donated to help displaced Somerville School District families. The Community Fund also helped a community member with initial graduate school expenses, before financial aid became available. In 2020 and 2021, St. Bernard's Community Fund raised \$142,673 to feed and help the community impacted by the pandemic.

| <b>Donor category</b>   | <b>\$ Amount</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Grants  | 62,000           | 43.5%             |
| Individual community members  | 39,416           | 27.6%             |
| St. Bernard's parishioners & St. Bernard's Church   | 15,990           | 11.2%             |
| Somerset Hills Lutheran Church  | 12,105           | 8.5%              |
| NJ District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod<br>(includes online donations via Camino de Fe's website) | 6,027            | 4.2%              |
| Community clubs & businesses  | 2,845            | 2.0%              |
| Other churches & houses of worship  | 2,600            | 1.8%              |
| Cash donations  | 1,690            | 1.2%              |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$142,673</b> | <b>100%</b>       |

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – *Jeri Minter*

Because of COVID-19, the knitting group did not meet in 2021. Unfortunately, the Faith and Practice trip to Guatemala in February 2021 was cancelled so no hats were needed. The group plans to resume in person meetings as soon as that becomes feasible.

## HOMEWORK HELP AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT – *Cindy McWilliams*

Our Homework Help and Academic Support Program has been closed since March of 2020 because of the pandemic. Prior to closing, we were helping 30 students in grades one through six. We hope to restart the program soon. We really look forward to seeing the children and working with them again. We will need many volunteers when we get started so that we can provide one on one tutoring.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



This year we were able to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis during a combined worship service, with three dogs and a good crowd of people in person, and plenty of people and pets on Zoom. Parishioners submitted photos of pets for the slide show creatively put together by Alison Davidson (and preferred by some pets). Blessings for each pet were enjoyed during the service. Here we highlight Valerie McEntee's cats, Bubble and Toast, as they were inadvertently left out!



## ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE BOARD GRANT

John Smith and Pastor Beth serve as St. Bernard's representatives to the St. Martin's House Board, joined by lay and clergy representatives from the other Conover parishes (St. Mark's, Basking Ridge; St. John on the Mountain, Bernardsville; St. Luke's, Gladstone; and All Saints', Millington) and the rectors of the Morristown parishes, (St. Peter's and Redeemer). Twice a year the board meets to review and approve grants that help fund congregational retreats. Since the pandemic began there has been little application. In the fall of 2021, the board approved one-time grants of \$7,500 to each of the parishes mentioned above, as well as the Convent of St. John Baptist in Mendham, for the purpose of supporting reopening and regathering. Like a number of the parishes, we are in need of upgrading our sound equipment in the church, to better serve worshippers in the church and on Zoom. In the fall, Deacon Danielle Baker kindly connected us with an expert who was busy assisting churches. We will use around \$4,200 of the grant for new wireless microphones in the church, including at the lectern, and related AV equipment, including installation and training. The rest of the grant can be used creatively as we find ways to gather again in 2022. Feel free to make some suggestions!

## NORTHERN SOMERSET TOGETHER LISTENING CAMPAIGN

After meeting regularly with congregational leaders in the Somerset Hills and Frank McMillan of NJ Together ([www.njtogether.org](http://www.njtogether.org)), we formed Northern Somerset Together. Check out the NJ Together website for what other regions around NJ have accomplished through community organizing. St. Bernard's help launch a local Listening Campaign in the fall of 2021. Listening is a first step of collaboratively working for the common good. The primary focus was: *What is one thing you would change in northern Somerset County or in your local community that would make life better for you and your family? Put another way, what is one issue / concern that keeps you up at night?* In many cases, there are concrete solutions to these concerns that can be addressed when we work together. Thank you to our Listening Team members: Douglas Irvin, Michele Esposito-Edwards, Carol Anne Pagana, Sue Smith, and Julia Somers. St. Bernard's Listening Team held listening sessions in group formats (in person and on Zoom) in November as well as individually by

phone. If you haven't had a chance to participate, please contact Pastor Beth. We'd love to listen to you! Currently, the other local congregations involved are: St. Mark's, Basking Ridge; St. John on the Mountain, Bernardsville; Islamic Society of Basking Ridge; and Congregation B'Nai Israel, Basking Ridge. Representatives from other congregations and nonprofits have been a part of the process as well. We look forward to discovering all we can do together.

## **Guilds' Reports**

### **ALTAR GUILD – *Sue Smith***

The Altar Guild at St. Bernard's is responsible for preparing the altar for services every Sunday and for all ceremonies performed in the church. The members are also responsible for the care and cleaning of the sacred articles used during the services. We are actively seeking additional members, developing a five-year budget to maintain and add to the churches' linens and sacred articles. We will celebrate with all members of the Guild as soon as we can resume normal life.

Our meetings and luncheon were cancelled this past year because of COVID. Life will get back to somewhat normal later in 2022.

Members of the guild meet two or three times during the year. We invite all parishioners to consider assisting once a month in this vital service to the Parish. Membership is open to all, male, female, and any age. The current guild members are Mary Kempen, Betsy Klausing, Valerie McEntee, Carmen Paul, and Sue Smith. If interested, call Mary Kempen at 908-766-3632 or Sue Smith at 908-953-0301 for additional information.

### **FLOWER GUILD**

The Flower Guild at St. Bernard's arranges for flowers to be on the altar at Christmas, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Flowers are usually purchased for the altar from September through June for all in-person services and greens adorn the altar during Lent and the summer months. The church was "greened" for Christmas with beautiful poinsettias and wreaths. If a parishioner wishes to donate flowers in honor of their family or friends or in memory of a deceased loved one, please contact our Parish Administrator. A dedication will be included in the service bulletin for the chosen Sunday of your dedication. The suggested donation for flowers is \$75. Carmen Paul kindly delivers the flowers to the VA hospital to be enjoyed by patients and staff.

Flower Guild members who assisted with the arrangements at Easter, outside Christmas décor, and greening of the church are: Tom Brooks, Anne Fritts, Beth Gustafson, Darrell Gustafson, Mary Kempen, Betsy Klausing, Valerie McEntee, Cindy McWilliams, Carol Anne Pagana, Russell Pagana, Sue Smith, John Smith, and Julia Somers. If interested in helping or being on the guild, call the Parish Office at 908-766-0602 for additional information.

### **CHALICIST GUILD – *Mary Kempen***

The Chalicist Guild consists of five women – Mary Kempen, Leslie Curialle, Mary Jane Canose, Jeri Minter, and Denise Thomas. In addition to the Chalicist duties of servings as a Lay Eucharistic Minister during Communion by sharing the chalice and assisting with the setting of the altar at the Eucharist, the Chalicist in our church also serves as an Acolyte. The duties of the Acolyte include lightening the candles on the alter before church services, carrying the cross into the church at the beginning and of the service. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19, when Holy Eucharist began again in September it was best to limit the number of people at the altar.

Chalicists can serve at Baptisms, Weddings, Memorial Services and Funerals. We welcome men, women, and teenagers to be a Chalicist. If you are interested please feel free to see me either after church service or you may call my home at 908-766-3632.

## TREASURER'S REPORT/BUDGETS – *Michael Myers*

### Summary of 2021 results vs. 2021 budget

**Church:** We entered 2021 expecting to spend about \$90K more than our expected income. Our strategy for covering those expenses was to pull cash from “savings”. The church held expenses near budget and benefited from about \$45K better than expected income as follows:

- Giving from the parish exceeded pledged amounts (\$12,800). Hallelujah!
- PPP Loan forgiveness from the federal government (\$24,300)
- A restricted gift from St. Martin’s House Board (\$7,500) to help with reopening and back to in-person services

Major financial activity in 2021 included support of an audit of fiscal year 2020.

- The audit was carried out by an accredited independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party accounting firm with experience auditing non-profit organizations including some other Episcopal churches here in NJ.
- The purpose of the audit was to ensure compliance with applicable government requirements, ensure compliance with the canons of the Episcopal Church, and confirm that adequate bookkeeping and internal controls are being used.
- The final audit report will be provided to the diocese of NJ. There were 9 items noted—none of them were major, but they will give us some work to do in 2022!

**Cemetery:** The cemetery budget tries to balance income from lot sales, burial fees, and cottage rental with burial costs, and property upkeep. The number of lot sales and burials any given year tend to fluctuate. We ended with a \$8K operating surplus this year.

- Revenue was favorable by \$23K due primarily to burials.
- Repairs to the cemetery cottage included asbestos removal, roof repair, and gutter repairs.

### Looking Forward for 2022

**Church:** We look to continue support for our ministry and those who depend on us.

- Pledge income for 2022 is promised at \$157K vs \$155K pledged in 2021. Every dollar counts both big and small, thank you all!! If you haven’t yet pledged, please see Julia Somers.
- Total spending is \$288K, up 5% on prior year, but still below 2019 actual.
- To balance the budget, we again lean on “Investment funds to be returned to Operating” (cash pulled from our parish savings account). This year we estimate that at \$84K or 12% of the value of the account on 12/31/21.

**Cemetery:** We anticipate a balanced operating budget in 2022

- We projected revenues closer to 2019 than 2021.
- We anticipate total expenses to be about the same as 2021, a little higher on some lines, and a little lower on others.

## CHURCH BUDGET

### Annual Report - St. Bernard's Episcopal Church 2014 Actual - 2022 Budget: Annual Operating Plan - Summary

| CATEGORY DESCRIPTION                   | 2014<br>Actual    | 2015<br>Actual    | 2016<br>Actual    | 2017<br>Actual    | 2018<br>Actual    | 2019<br>Actual    | 2020<br>Actual    | 2021<br>Actual   | 2022<br>Budget    |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                  |                   |
| PLEDGES/PLATE OFF.                     | \$138,961         | \$143,707         | \$132,227         | \$137,767         | \$143,312         | \$148,337         | \$152,441         | \$171,820        | \$164,228         |
| INVESTMENT INCOME                      | \$1,854           | \$1,580           | \$1,256           | \$910             | \$273             | \$0               | \$6               | \$0              | \$0               |
| GIFTS AND DONATIONS                    | \$800             | \$0               | \$3,440           | \$14,928          | \$16,291          | \$3,995           | \$4,523           | \$9,898          | \$2,750           |
| OTHER INCOME                           | \$71,563          | \$70,661          | \$59,999          | \$58,035          | \$41,406          | \$37,679          | \$13,566          | \$37,979         | \$13,500          |
| <b>Total Income from Operations</b>    | <b>\$213,177</b>  | <b>\$215,948</b>  | <b>\$196,922</b>  | <b>\$211,640</b>  | <b>\$201,282</b>  | <b>\$190,011</b>  | <b>\$170,536</b>  | <b>\$219,697</b> | <b>\$180,478</b>  |
| <b>EXPENSE</b>                         |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                  |                   |
| CLERGY                                 | \$43,934          | \$50,828          | \$80,628          | \$81,064          | \$88,541          | \$83,352          | \$95,977          | \$91,930         | \$100,418         |
| INSURANCE                              | \$40,564          | \$44,356          | \$33,349          | \$31,791          | \$27,598          | \$24,600          | \$25,736          | \$27,144         | \$27,200          |
| CHRISTIAN EDUCATE                      | \$4,659           | \$151             | \$1,437           | \$578             | \$1,528           | \$168             | \$1,766           | \$1,707          | \$2,600           |
| MUSIC PROGRAM COST                     | \$37,898          | \$37,991          | \$38,523          | \$38,741          | \$38,898          | \$40,175          | \$36,732          | \$36,457         | \$41,522          |
| Less: Music Restricted Gifts           | (\$9,169)         | (\$9,534)         | (\$10,225)        | (\$10,930)        | (\$12,635)        | (\$14,005)        | (\$10,630)        | (\$9,780)        | (\$12,450)        |
| <b>MUSIC EXPENSE TO OPERATING PLAN</b> | <b>\$28,729</b>   | <b>\$28,457</b>   | <b>\$28,298</b>   | <b>\$27,811</b>   | <b>\$26,263</b>   | <b>\$26,170</b>   | <b>\$26,102</b>   | <b>\$26,677</b>  | <b>\$29,072</b>   |
| ALTAR SUPPLIES                         | \$209             | \$3,038           | \$2,942           | \$1,707           | \$4,093           | \$5,526           | \$1,920           | \$2,873          | \$3,000           |
| PARISH LIFE & MISSION                  | \$11,576          | \$10,600          | \$13,397          | \$12,728          | \$16,006          | \$19,864          | \$23,492          | \$26,313         | \$26,556          |
| ADMINISTRATION                         | \$66,339          | \$81,749          | \$45,207          | \$35,639          | \$48,633          | \$59,129          | \$47,967          | \$59,053         | \$55,082          |
| PROPERTY UPKEEP                        | \$114,977         | \$91,080          | \$63,786          | \$69,756          | \$53,077          | \$62,285          | \$30,774          | \$28,940         | \$32,100          |
| <b>Total Church Operating Expense</b>  | <b>\$310,988</b>  | <b>\$310,259</b>  | <b>\$269,044</b>  | <b>\$261,073</b>  | <b>\$265,739</b>  | <b>\$281,094</b>  | <b>\$253,734</b>  | <b>\$264,637</b> | <b>\$276,028</b>  |
| <b>Investment Return to Operating</b>  |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   | <b>\$ 76,000</b>  | <b>\$ 30,000</b>  | <b>\$65,000</b>  | <b>\$84,000</b>   |
| <b>NET INCOME-(LOSS) Church</b>        | <b>(\$97,810)</b> | <b>(\$94,311)</b> | <b>(\$72,122)</b> | <b>(\$49,434)</b> | <b>(\$64,457)</b> | <b>(\$15,083)</b> | <b>(\$53,198)</b> | <b>\$20,060</b>  | <b>(\$11,550)</b> |

## CEMETERY BUDGET

### Annual Report - St. Bernard's Episcopal Cemetery 2013 Act-2022 Budget: Annual Operating Plan - Summary

| CATEGORY DESCRIPTION                | 2014<br>Actual    | 2015<br>Actual    | 2016<br>Actual  | 2017<br>Actual  | 2018<br>Actual  | 2019<br>Actual  | 2020<br>Actual  | 2021<br>Actual  | 2022<br>Budget  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                      |                   |                   |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| INVESTMENT INCOME                   | \$13,234          | \$1,608           | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             |
| COTTAGE RENTAL                      | \$18,350          | \$18,300          | \$18,300        | \$16,775        | \$18,050        | \$16,000        | \$19,200        | \$19,200        | \$19,200        |
| MISC DONATIONS                      | \$0               | \$0               | \$292           | \$300           | \$1,905         | \$80            | \$10,900        | \$0             | \$0             |
| LOT SALES & SERVICES                | \$13,672          | \$25,976          | \$40,222        | \$36,070        | \$37,078        | \$50,796        | \$51,894        | \$58,808        | \$49,100        |
| <b>Total Income from Operations</b> | <b>\$45,256</b>   | <b>\$45,884</b>   | <b>\$58,814</b> | <b>\$53,145</b> | <b>\$57,033</b> | <b>\$66,876</b> | <b>\$81,994</b> | <b>\$78,008</b> | <b>\$68,300</b> |
| <b>EXPENSE</b>                      |                   |                   |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| MAINTENANCE & PRESERVATION          | \$1,152           | \$1,800           | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             |
| ADMINISTRATION                      | \$51,819          | \$54,550          | \$8,189         | \$12,173        | \$12,275        | \$12,100        | \$12,599        | \$18,949        | \$15,400        |
| PROPERTY UPKEEP                     | \$36,823          | \$33,537          | \$24,421        | \$29,802        | \$37,578        | \$34,910        | \$40,894        | \$38,090        | \$42,360        |
| CEMETERY SALE EXPENSES              | \$0               | \$13,850          | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             | \$0             |
| CEMETERY SERVICES EXPENSE           | \$4,725           | \$4,397           | \$15,259        | \$3,351         | \$4,552         | \$7,361         | \$8,575         | \$8,887         | \$7,500         |
| <b>Total Cemetery Operating Exp</b> | <b>\$94,519</b>   | <b>\$108,134</b>  | <b>\$47,869</b> | <b>\$45,326</b> | <b>\$54,405</b> | <b>\$54,371</b> | <b>\$62,068</b> | <b>\$65,926</b> | <b>\$65,260</b> |
| <b>NET OPERATING INC/LOSS</b>       | <b>(\$49,263)</b> | <b>(\$62,250)</b> | <b>\$10,945</b> | <b>\$7,819</b>  | <b>\$2,628</b>  | <b>\$12,505</b> | <b>\$19,926</b> | <b>\$12,082</b> | <b>\$3,040</b>  |

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

The Parish Register of St. Bernard's Episcopal Church indicates 88 active households, as compared with 84 in the previous year. If you became a member of St. Bernard's Church and have not requested a letter of transfer from your previous congregation, please speak to our Parish Administrator, Alison Davidson, who can assist in officially transferring your membership to St. Bernard's. If you would like to be Received into the Episcopal Church, or Confirmed, please speak with Pastor Beth.

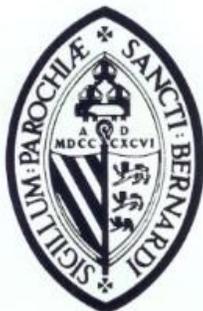
### ✦ 2021 Official Acts

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Baptisms                    | 5 |
| Confirmed                   | 0 |
| Received                    | 0 |
| Marriages                   | 0 |
| Funerals/Committal Services | 5 |

### ✦ 2021 Worship Services

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total Number of Services | 109 |
| Eucharistic Services     | 16  |
| Daily Office:            |     |
| Sunday Morning Prayer    | 42  |
| Midday Prayer            | 2   |
| Evening Prayer           | 28  |
| Private/Home Communion   | 0   |
| Other                    | 21  |

*Included in the Other category this year are the Good Friday liturgy, Blue Christmas service, JOY! services (recorded or in person) and Pastoral services (Funerals or Baptisms) that were not a Eucharistic service or Daily Office.*



| <b>Clergy and Staff</b>  | <b>Wardens and Vestry</b>  |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino, <i>Rector</i><br/>                     Dr. Martin Sedek, <i>Music Director</i><br/>                     Alison Davidson, <i>Parish Administrator</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Julia Somers, Christopher Thomas <i>Wardens</i><br/>                     Michael Myers, <i>Treasurer</i>; Linda Engleby, <i>Clerk</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thomas Brooks, Paul Edwards, Linda Engleby, Libby Galpin,<br/>                     Beth Gustafson, Taylor Hwong, Mary Kempen, Mindy Kirby,<br/>                     Valerie McEntee, Jennifer Moss, Michael Myers, Sue Smith</p> |

## ST. BERNARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

88 Claremont Road, Bernardsville, New Jersey 07924

908-766-0602

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