



# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Annual Parish Meeting

January 29, 2023

### The Gathering

Welcome from the Rector  
Hymn 488, Be Thou My Vision  
Prayer: "For the Parish" BCP, p. 817  
Approval of 2022 Minutes

### The Vestry

#### Appreciation to the Class of 2022

We gratefully acknowledge the service of these members who are departing the vestry:  
*Bob Beckham, Tom Fischer, Greg Knudson, Jenny Myers, Alex Slawson*

#### Recognition of Current Members

We recognize these current members who will continue vestry service in 2023:  
*Jean Bonnyman '23, Allison Kratt '24, Jennifer Lober '23, Cheryl Nealy '24,  
Mike Sass '24, Joseph Torok '24, Danny Wiles '23*

#### Vestry Election

We present the slate of vestry candidates nominated to serve on the vestry:  
*Connor Fulton, Matthew Goodson, James Kennedy, Annamarie Klemm, Leslie Urban*

### The Clergy and Staff

Report from The Rev. Carmen Germino, Rector  
Report from The Rev. Kevin Lloyd, Associate Rector/Davidson College Campus Minister  
Report from The Rev. Valerie Colbert, Deacon  
Report from Courtney Fossett, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (written)  
Report from John Bailey, Organist and Choirmaster (written)  
Report from Patti Rossini, St. Alban's Weekday Preschool Director (written)

### The Task Groups

Report from Alex Slawson, Senior Warden  
Report from Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden (written)  
Report from Danny Wiles, Finance Committee Chair: Leslie Urban, Treasurer  
Report from Michael Kingsley, Outreach Committee Chair (written)  
Report from Richard Colven, Grow Gather Serve Committee Co-chair (written)

### The New Business

### The Scattering

Benediction: Fr. Kevin

**MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
ON JANUARY 30, 2022  
9:10 A.M.**

**THE GATHERING**

**Welcome from the Rector**

Reverend Carmen Germino called the Annual Parish Meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. and welcomed the Church members in attendance. She noted that no annual meeting was held during the 2020 pandemic year because the Canons of our Diocese do not allow for virtual meetings. Instead, a State of the Church update was provided via Zoom.

**Prayer**

Reverend Carmen Germino led the Church members in with prayers *For the Parish* and *For a Church Meeting* from the Book of Common Prayer.

**Approval of 2019 Minutes**

Reverend Carmen Germino directed the Church members to refer to the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in 2019 that were appended to the meeting agenda. She asked if there were any changes or corrections to these minutes. Not hearing any changes or corrections, she declared that the minutes were approved as distributed.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VESTRY MEMBERS**

First, Reverend Carmen Germino acknowledged the service of those members departing the vestry: *David Pylipow, Alf Badgett, Stephanie Amadio*. Specifically, she thanked Stephanie Amadio, a founding member of the Family Ministry support team, for giving her time and talents to our youth. Also, she thanked Alf Badgett for continuing Outreach Committee service even while offering generous service to the building and grounds and performing his role as Junior Warden. Finally, she thanked David Pylipow, Senior Warden, who filled the unexpired term of Kelly Ross with his gifted experience.

Next, Reverend Germino recognized these current members who will continue vestry service in 2022: *Bob Beckham '22, Jean Bonnyman '23, Tom Fischer '23, Greg Knudson '22, Jennifer Loher '23, Jenny Myers '22, Alex Slawson '22, Danny Wiles '23*.

**THE ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS**

Reverend Germino presented the slate of vestry candidates nominated to serve on the vestry for a three-year term by the Nominating Committee: *Allison Kratt, Cheryl Nealy, Mike Sass, Joseph Torok*. The nominee's biographies were included with the meeting agenda.

Next, Reverend Carmen Germino asked whether there were any nominations of candidates from the floor. Hearing none, she declared that nominations were closed, making this an uncontested election not requiring ballots. David Pylipow, Senior Warden, moved that the proposed slate of candidates be elected by acclamation. After a second and with no opposition, the candidates were approved by unanimous consent.

**REPORTS FROM THE CLERGY AND STAFF**

Reverend Carmen Germino provided the Rector's Annual Report for 2021, appended to the meeting agenda. Verbally, she shared examples of love in action, including patience throughout the pandemic, kindness to care about each other and welcome new parishioners, and generosity reflected in the 2022 budget and spiritual gifts. She noted flexibility in Sunday School and Preschool operations, a diversity of heartfelt views, and a willingness to seek truth through the St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team (StAART) as acts of love. She noted this love will endure through a spirit of renewal, gratitude, and growth.

Reverend Kevin Lloyd provided the Annual Report from the Associate Rector and Davidson College Campus Minister attached to the agenda. Verbally, he noted that he cannot imagine a better congregation, staff, and administration, who provided steady leadership through a challenging time.

Also attached to the agenda were additional written annual reports provided by: Courtney Fossett, the Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry; John Bailey, the Organist and Choirmaster; and Patti Rossini, the Preschool Director, for their respective ministries.

## REPORTS FROM TASK GROUPS

David Pylipow, the Senior Warden, provided a written annual report from the Vestry that was distributed with the agenda. The report highlighted a large, faithful online and in-person following, dedicated support of youth programs, faithful giving and stewardship, and resumption of Parish Hall Committee activities.

Alf Badgett, the Junior Warden, provided a written annual report that was distributed with the agenda, entitled Buildings and Grounds. The report highlighted Matt Presson's audio-visual and technical contributions, parish workdays, and Memorial Gardens improvements.

Danny Wiles, the Finance Committee Chairperson, provided a written report describing the budget process, including 2022 budget goals. Additionally, the report discussed the accounting process and provided a 2021 Revenue & Expense Statement and Variance Analysis.

Michael Kingsley, Chairperson of the Outreach Committee provided an annual report highlighting short-term events, community partnerships, and lasting projects with local and global impacts.

## NEW BUSINESS

Hearing no new business, the floor was opened for general questions. In response to parishioner's question regarding support for online services, Reverend Carmen Germino noted that online services will continue to be provided and the sustainability of technological services can be prioritized through the vestry. In response to a parishioner's question regarding parishioner support for the Episcopal Student Fellowship (ESF) at Davidson College, Reverend Kevin Lloyd discussed ways to become involved.

## THE SCATTERING

Reverend Kevin Lloyd delivered a benediction to close the annual meeting. Reverend Carmen Germino adjourned the annual meeting at 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Torok  
Clerk of the Vestry

## Meet Our Vestry Nominees

### Connor Fulton

My wife Robyn and I have been engaged with St. Alban's since 2010 when our two-year-old daughter, Finley, became a full-time student in St. Alban's Preschool. Our son, Porter, joined the preschool program two years later. Finley and Porter are now students at Pine Lake Preparatory in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades respectively. I am very proud of them and the content of their character. Finley and Porter are gifted and loving teens whose growth and development have been influenced and supported by so many at St. Alban's.

I grew up in the Episcopal Church and am a proud member of this community of Christians who boldly and proudly join together and follow the spirit of God's love. While my parents raised me in the Episcopal Church, I have chosen to remain connected because I believe in the doctrine and direction of our church. A church where we as Christians, value, honor, and benefit from celebrating and supporting a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

I am a Master of Accounting graduate from Kenan Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina. I have nearly three decades of experience in Business and IT transformation consulting. Throughout my career, I was blessed to work for some great companies including Arthur Andersen, PwC, IBM, and Ernst & Young. I am now retired from big consulting and am in the early stages of starting two separate independent consulting-oriented businesses.

I am grateful and honored to have the opportunity to serve on the vestry. I pray that I can contribute in a meaningful way to this role and support St. Alban's Church and our community in realizing our mission and goals.

## **Matthew Goodson**

I grew up on the other side of the lake in Lincolnton, NC. My family has been in these parts for a long time, so I feel very connected to this area. My wife Kimberly and I met in undergrad at Furman University in Greenville, SC, and we moved to Mooresville in 2018. We have two young children, Jacob (5) and Ellie (3).

We lived in Durham, NC while I was in grad school at Chapel Hill, and then briefly in Farmville, VA when I was a professor at Hampden-Sydney college. It was when we were in Farmville that we first attended an Episcopal church. It was a very welcoming place, especially with our infant son. Everyone encouraged us to stay in the sanctuary even when he was loud! That feeling of welcome in the Episcopal faith was what encouraged us to check out St. Albans after we moved to Mooresville, and the reason we stayed and officially joined the church in 2021. Our daughter Ellie was baptized here last November.

My professional background is in computational physics. I studied astrophysics at Chapel Hill, researching the link between supernovae and star formation. I finished my PhD in 2017 and then went up to Hampden-Sydney college to teach for a year. An industry position popped up in Mooresville doing similar(-ish) work to my PhD, so I made the jump from academia and am now leading scientific software development at Corvid Technologies. Although I loved teaching, I feel very lucky to have found a career that I enjoy so close to home.

My church background is in the Lutheran church (ELCA). I also studied religion in undergrad and lived in an interdenominational Christian community. At our previous ELCA church in Chapel Hill, I helped lead a team to develop a new long-term strategic plan. I served on the church council and as an assisting minister. I also worked with our pastor to obtain a John Templeton Foundation grant for faith and science through the STEAM project.

Our family loves to be outside, so you'll find us riding bikes in the neighborhood, hiking at Lake Norman state park, or cruising through the skatepark. I'm always up for a round of disc golf or some laps on a mountain bike, so come find me if you're interested!

## **James Kennedy**

I grew up in Goldsboro, NC, and with my family attended St. Stephens Episcopal- where I was confirmed and participated as both a Server and in "EYC". Following graduation from NC State in 1987, I began my Sales / Business Development career with P&G, and am now in the "4<sup>th</sup> quarter" of what's been a great 36 year journey- with stints in Atlanta, Birmingham, Los Angeles and Cincinnati, before returning to the Carolina's (and moving to Davidson) in 96'.

I met my wife, Mary, who grew up Catholic in southern California (and attend Loyola Marymount in LA). We were married & attended St. James Episcopal in Newport Beach, and then the Church of the Redeemer in Cincinnati. Our oldest children, Katherine & Clay, were born in Cincy, but were thrilled to be confirmed at St. Alban's by our now Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry 😊. Our youngest son Sean, 22, continues to live with us, attends Rowan Community College for Special Needs Adults, works at Harris Teeter in Davidson- and also in the Dining Center at Davidson College.

I'm excited to serve our wonderful St. Alban's community for my second stint as Vestry. On my first term, we completed construction on St. Alban's Lane, and I proudly recall being led by then Bishop Michael Curry as we marched as a committed parish from Lorimer Road Chapel to our new church home. On that special Sunday, Bishop Curry implored us to live out our mission to "Gather to Worship, and Scatter to Serve". Since then, I've enjoyed witnessing God's work in action in our church community, and eager to help lead and continue the positive impact St. Alban's makes in our local and greater community.

## **Annamarie Klemm**

Hello St. Alban's family. I am Annamarie Klemm, and my husband is Mike. We were married in Medina, OH and will celebrate 28 years this February. We have made Cornelius our home with our blended family for 20 years, with our children Michael, Amanda, and Matthew, our grandchildren Elisia, Isabella, and Jaxson. Amanda, Michael, and Mikey now live in Johannesburg, Michigan, and Matthew now lives in Raleigh, NC.

I have been retired for about 4 years as a sales person, making the most of time with my family, enjoying the ocean sun, sand, and surf with a good book, working in the garden or weeding (lol). Being outside is where I love to be. Good food, get-togethers with neighbors and friends.

Being a member of St. Alban's for 18 years, I am currently being called to serve as a LEM, Usher, Flower Guild member, MOF member, and Sunday Greeter. It is a wonderful and exciting time at St. Alban's to see how our congregation has grown and continues to grow over the years.

## **Leslie Urban**

I grew up an Episcopalian in Atlanta, GA and first arrived in Davidson as a student at Davidson College in 1985. After graduating and spending two years in graduate school at the Ohio State University and four years working in Residence Life at the University of Tennessee and four years at Case Western Reserve University, I returned to Davidson in the summer of 2000 to work at my beloved alma mater.

I have been a member at St. Alban's since 2002 and currently serve as the Parish's Treasurer, a Lector, Usher and member of the Altar Guild. I most recently fulfilled a 3-year Vestry Term as Senior Warden from 2015-2017 when we built the parking lot, hired an interim Rector and prepared for the transition of hiring new clergy. The love and support I have received from this congregation is immense and I feel blessed with the opportunity to reciprocate.

# **Annual Report from the Rector**

The Rev. Carmen Germino

In last year's Annual Report, I shared that I hoped 2022 would be a year of *renewal* and *gratitude*. I am thrilled that those words do indeed describe the year we've had—thanks to you, St. Alban's. You can feel it on Sunday mornings—the joy, the love, the thankfulness for being together—it's palpable.

Nowhere is this more evident than in our Greeter/Newcomer ministry. Thanks to the energy and passion of our amazing team of Greeters, we have seen a true renaissance of welcome at St. Alban's. There have been many new faces visiting St. Alban's this year and finding a church home here, and so many of these new folks have remarked to me about the warmth they've experienced as a newcomer. Nothing could make my heart happier than hearing this because I know how hard our Greeters have worked, and how important this ministry is. From the vases of altar flowers delivered after church, to the Newcomer receptions hosted in June and November, this has been a banner year for our parish in this department.

Another striking and significant sign of *renewal* and *gratitude* at work in our community is the amazing response to the *Grow, Gather, Serve* campaign for a Parish Hall this past spring. I offer my profound thanks to the committee for their incredible work: **Eileen Keeley, Allison Kratt, Kevin Lloyd, Rhett Mabry, Hank Patch, Dave Pylipow, Alex Slawson, Leslie Urban, Danny Wiles, and co-chairs Richard Colven and James Wally.** They laid the groundwork, shared the bold vision with the parish, and then immediately got busy on the initial phases of planning. We are beyond blessed to have James and Richard's professional expertise and wisdom guiding us, and we are in good and faithful hands as we move forward with implementation of our plans. And, of course, thank you to ALL the donors who made a pledge toward the Grow, Gather, Serve Campaign. I cannot wait to see our dream of a Parish Hall come to life.

Thank you to our Annual Giving co-chairs **Gordon & George Jacobs** and Stewardship Liaison **Allison Kratt** for their tireless and vital leadership of our *Grace in Action* annual giving campaign in the fall. It's not an easy thing to tackle an annual giving campaign in the same year as a capital campaign, but they jumped in with creativity and courage and did a marvelous job, exceeding our goal. Thank you to all who pledged to the 2023 annual campaign. Your contributions are strengthening this parish and ensuring that we can thrive together.

A further example of *renewal* and *gratitude* is the new Stations of the Cross trail completed in the springtime, thanks to the leadership of Eagle Scout and parish youth **Cole Fossett** and many volunteers who attended the workdays. Seeing the parish come together to build the trail and then walk it together for the first time on Good Friday was one of my favorite moments of the whole year. This, along with the ongoing efforts in the Memorial Garden, Caldera Garden, and SEEDS Garden, has really enriched our grounds. I give my thanks to all who dedicate themselves to the beauty of this corner of God's creation!

In the area of outreach, some highlights include the "mini ministry fairs" we offered in the fall to raise awareness and recruit volunteers for various opportunities to serve, collaborating with neighbor churches on a local Habitat for Humanity project, and St. Alban's was represented at the first-ever Coming Out Day celebration on the Davidson Town Green. We also held a successful Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday, raising over \$7,000 for ERD, half of which went to support Ukrainians. I'm thrilled to share that our efforts have been recognized by ERD. Not only was our Easter collection featured in the ERD magazine, but we have also been designated an ERD Impact Partner! This elite group includes just a handful of other parishes across the whole Episcopal Church and we should be incredibly proud of achieving this status. **Kathy Miller** is our new parish liaison to ERD—thank you to Kathy for helping us to keep this partnership flourishing! And thanks to our Outreach Team, led by **Mike Kingsley**, and all of the many generous volunteers who give of their time and talents to serve this community and the world as Jesus calls us to do.

In the area of fellowship, I want to highlight Oktoberfest, the new men's and women's fellowship groups, and the ongoing efforts of the Ministry of Fun. This year, a new team took the mantle of Oktoberfest leadership. Big thanks to **Allen Buckner, Cate Buckner, Kimberly Goodson, Matthew Goodson, Greg Hicks, and Sarah Hicks** for planning and putting on such a fun event that welcomed church members, neighbors, preschool families, and many new friends. The Ministry of Fun had a busy year as well, planning an outdoor Shrove Tuesday celebration, a picnic to kick-off the capital campaign, an ordination reception, and much more. **Diane Hamilton**, along with **Sharon Kingsley**, has skillfully shepherded this group for several years, and now the torch is passed to **Jenny Armour**. Thank you to all of them!

So many wonderful folks ensure that the areas of worship and faith formation remain strong: Sunday School teachers, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Choir, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Acolytes, Stream Team, Ushers, and more. All of these ministries welcomed new faces in the past year, and even more new faces would be very helpful! A particular highlight in 2022 was the return of our Children's Choir, directed by **Matt Presson**. For adults, the ongoing work of StAART has provided opportunities for deep learning and reflection. This year, StAART, led by **Laurie Harrison**, hosted a session on the history of race and racism in the town of Davidson with Jan Blodgett and Marvin Brandon, went on a Civil Rights pilgrimage to sites of historical and spiritual significance in Greensboro, Raleigh, and Durham, and launched a lending library of reading material for adults and kids who want to go deeper into the work of anti-racism.

*Renewal* and *gratitude* happened on a personal level as well in the areas of pastoral development, continuing education, and service to the wider church. This year I completed the Thriving in Ministry program for women clergy (sponsored by Millsaps College and funded by the Lilly Endowment). This program allowed me to participate in two weeklong retreats with other clergywomen leading congregations across the South. These retreats provided me the opportunity to catch my breath and deepen connections with my peers. In 2022, I also participated in the Civics 101 course through the Town of Davidson, because I believe all clergy should be knowledgeable about and active in the local community. In 2022, I joined the Board of Directors for Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte. Ever since moving to the area, I've been looking for more opportunities to serve the greater Charlotte community. My time with Galilee, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, has been such a blessing. In 2022, I also continued as a chaplain for Kanuga's Summer Guest Period and continued as a Diocesan Trustee of my alma mater, the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. All of these opportunities allow me to deepen connections across our Diocese and the Episcopal Church. In addition to all these meaningful ministries, I was also able to resume leading Chapel time at La Escuelita Bilingual Preschool this year and oh, what a joy that is! Adding this to Wiggle Worship at our Preschool and occasional Holy Eucharists at the Pines means I get to go worship with delightful people all over town.

So much of the *renewal* we've seen this year has been shepherded by our stalwart vestry. We held our vestry retreat in March, and then they immediately got to work on implementing the ideas and goals generated at the retreat. Please see the Senior Warden's report for a thorough description of all the things these leaders have accomplished this year. My heartfelt thanks goes to all of our continuing vestry members: **Jean Bonnyman (Junior Warden), Allison Kratt, Jennifer Loher, Cheryl Nealy, Mike Sass, Joseph Torok (Clerk), Leslie Urban (Treasurer), and Danny Wiles.**

I thank **Tom Fischer** for his two years of service on the vestry. Tom has been a steady and faithful presence these past couple of years and I am grateful that he will continue to be an important part of this parish family as he steps down from the vestry. I also offer my deep appreciation to those who are completing 3-year terms. They have served with grace and joy despite all the trials of the past several years. **Bob Beckham** has lovingly served in many areas, including worship, fellowship, spiritual formation, and our efforts toward dismantling racism. Along the way, his unfailing good humor has been a source of support

for me and many others. **Greg Knudson** is a catalyst for action. He has been instrumental in reviving our Greeter ministry and initiating our new Men's Group. Greg's drive and enthusiasm for building relationships with people has been such a blessing. **Jenny Myers** has been so helpful in supporting our Preschool and helping them to navigate the challenges they've faced in recent years. Her commitment to St. Alban's and the Preschool inspires me so much! And finally, **Alex Slawson** bravely guided us all through another year of crossing uncharted seas. He and I have laughed and cried together, and his calm demeanor never fails to provide me with a sense of peace and well-being, no matter the challenge facing us. He is always willing to dive in to help with anything, and his wisdom and positivity have proven to be just the thing we've needed this year. I will miss having all of these good folks on our vestry, but I know they will all continue to serve our parish in many other ways.

The foundation for all the vitality of the past year is our excellent staff. In March, **Lisa Givens** accepted a full-time position and departed as our communications director. We are so thankful for her ministry here and she left very big shoes to fill. Fortunately, it turned out that we had another communications expert already on staff! **Jessica Ewell**, our parish administrator, capably took over the parish communications and is a total pro. You may not see her on Sundays, but Jessica is the heartbeat of this place. She keeps us all organized, informed, and she does it all with warmth, faith, and love. **Erin Garrett**, our finance director, is such a blessing to us. She is instrumental in helping our parish maintain healthy finances so that we can serve our community. We owe her tremendous thanks. **Courtney Fossett**, our director for children, youth, and family ministries, continues to build up our programs for young people with her signature creativity and joy. Her ministry is invaluable and through her hard work, she is helping to shape our church's most precious treasure: its children and youth. In addition to his incredible talent as a musician, **John Bailey**, our organist and choirmaster, blesses us with his deep faithfulness and selfless commitment to our community. As director of our Preschool, **Patti Rossini** has had to navigate enormous challenges in recent years, but through it all, she has ensured that our beloved school maintains its standards of excellence. She is a consummate leader and her passion for early childhood education shines through everything she does. And in addition to our dream team of lay staff, I am also blessed with the very best clergy colleagues imaginable. **The Rev. Kevin Lloyd**, associate rector, continues to be a steadfast friend and partner in ministry, and he is doing marvelous work with the Episcopal Student Fellowship at Davidson College. His wisdom and calm presence are a constant source of support. And what a joy that in 2022, we welcomed **The Rev. Valerie Davis Colbert** as our deacon! Deacon Valerie has jumped in to her new role with enthusiasm and earnestness, and it is such a delight to have the diaconate represented at St. Alban's again. Our staff members are our greatest asset and God has blessed us richly with the people we have working here.

I give thanks for the five baptisms, eighteen confirmations, and seven candidates received into the Episcopal Church in 2022. Each of these numbers represents someone who is taking the next step on their journey with Christ. While this report cannot possibly include everything, what is included provides an overview of the Holy Spirit's movement in our parish. In 2023, we will continue to build on the momentum of the past year, always to the glory of God.

Yours in Christ,  
Carmen Germino

## Annual Report from the Associate Rector / Davidson College Campus Minister

The Rev. Kevin Lloyd

Dear Saint Alban's Family,

Well into my fifth year here at Saint Alban's (how can that be?!), I remain truly grateful to be where I am. My two-fold ministry here and at the college continues to be incredibly fulfilling, offering a plethora of opportunities to experience God's loving, challenging, and sustaining presence, in and through these communities that I serve. When the Spirit nudged me in this direction back in 2018, it was an unexpected opportunity. Now, four-and-a-half years in, I cannot imagine a better place to be and to serve, alongside Carmen, our amazing staff, the devoted members of our Vestry, and ALL of you who so generously offer your time, talent, and treasure to support our life and ministry together.

Looking back on 2022, there is much for which to be grateful. For the most part, we were able to return to a sense of normalcy following two plus years of pandemic-related disruptions. As you may recall (or not!), we started the year with an unplanned three-week pause on in-person worship due to the winter COVID surge. After that brief pause, however, 2022 was mostly a year of regular in-person worship, with a number of folks continuing to join us on-line for much of the year. By the end of the year, in-person attendance was again approaching pre-pandemic levels, including many new faces!

Here are some highlights from 2022 that are worth noting:

- We had an incredibly successful capital campaign for a new parish hall. Despite a significant level of economic uncertainty related to the pandemic, members and friends of Saint Alban's stepped up in a big way, showing enthusiastic support and generously pledging what was needed to move forward with this much-needed expansion of our space to "Grow, Gather, & Serve".
- Members of Saint Alban's continued to support the Episcopal Student Fellowship at the college, providing wonderful home-cooked meals for the group on a weekly basis during the academic year. I am incredibly grateful to Elaine Carmann who coordinates this process and to all those who have provided meals. This is an essential part of our ministry to these young adults, and it is deeply appreciated by them and by me.
- After a lengthy hiatus because of the pandemic, I had the joy and privilege of meeting in-person for six weeks with twelve of our youth to prepare them for Confirmation. They were confirmed by Bishop Sam during his annual visitation in October.
- Our Ministry of Fun team continued to do its tremendous creative work of providing fun-filled opportunities for us to gather as a community, including a joyous outdoor Mardi Gras event.
- We had another hugely successful Oktoberfest.
- The newly established Saint Alban's Men's Group provided some great opportunities for some of the men of our parish to come together for fellowship, relationship-building, and formation.
- Episcopal Student Fellowship had a wonderful and productive Fall retreat at Lake Logan Episcopal Center in November, helping set the tone for what has been a very positive 2022-23 academic year for this group.
- Rob Spach (College Chaplain), Caitlyn Hathaway (Presbyterian Campus Minister), and I began planning for our next pilgrimage to the Taize Community in France in over Spring Break. We began meeting with the eighteen Davidson students whom we will be taking to this remarkable and transformative place in early March.
- Cole Fossett brought together a large group of volunteers, including many parishioners, to create the Station of the Cross trail in the woods beyond the parking lot. It was a joy to part of this project.

These are just some of the highlights of another remarkable year in the life of Saint Alban's. I am full of gratitude to be part of this wonderful community of faith, and I am excited about what 2023 has in store for us.

Yours in Christ,  
Kevin+

## **Annual Report from the Deacon**

### The Rev. Valerie Colbert

#### 2022 year in review

- Assigned the deacon at St. Alban's on (5/21/22).
- Deaconate Ordination at St. Alban's on (5/22/22) by Bishop Sam Rodman and Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple.
- I have deliver 2 Homilies at St. Alban's since being ordained.
- Gethsemane Baptist Church Back-to-School Backpack Blast; collecting items and funding and participation with the logistics team on the date of the event, directing traffic for backpack pick-up.
- Attended the NC Diaconate retreat in Haw River, NC.
- Attended the NC Diocese Clergy Conference in Greensboro, NC.
- Attended the 207th NC Diocese Annual Convention.
  - Elected to the Diocesan Council
- Bishop Sam Rodman invited me to join by the NC Diocese Mission Strategy Committee
  - Participating in the selection of the Mission Strategy Coordinator - currently 3 remaining candidates selected for the final round of interviews.
- Attended Clergy Luncheon at Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte
- Attended Clergy Luncheon at The Pines
  - Visited several St. Alban's parishioners
- Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte
  - Member of Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte Personnel Committee
  - Participated in the Executive Director search - final selection The Deacon Reverend Emily Parker
  - Attended the NC Poor People's Campaign - MLK Celebration & Event
- St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team (StAART)



- Participated in book discussion "The Color of Compromise" by Jemar Tisby
- Presented and introduced a Black Saint in the Episcopal Church - Anna Julia Cooper
- Assisted with the planning of and attended the pilot for the St. Alban's Racial, Social Justice Pilgrimage (Greensboro, Durham & Raleigh, NC)
- Co-facilitated 2 virtual sessions for the NC Diocese course - Dismantling Racism.

This is my brief summary for the last 7 months. Looking forward to 2023 activities!

## **Annual Report from Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**

### Courtney Fossett, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

I have been serving as Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry for 3 ½ years and there are so many moments of joy that continue to give back to me in ways I could never imagine. In 2022, we were back in full swing in person, occasionally with masks, and I dare say life started to feel normal again. The children and youth engaged in Sunday School and our age 4 - 4<sup>th</sup> grade class grew to a consistent 12 – 14 each Sunday. Our curriculum from the Episcopal Church (Lesson Plans That Work) worked well for all ages. In the Fall, we transitioned to (Teen Text) youth curriculum and Illustrated Ministries (Mini Revolutions) children's curriculum. All are engaging and interactive, although all our Sunday School teachers are also encouraged to be creative and teach to their passions like Godly Play. Summer meant VBS, again creatively held outside under tents in August, with smiles and amazing participation. By December, our children's Sunday School class became so big that we made the decision to split it into two classes. We also had a wonderful children's Christmas pageant in person again.

The Youth Group got a running start to 2022 with service projects including making tie-knot blankets for children without homes, Valentine's Day treat bags for Pines residents, and hosting a Valentine Spaghetti Dinner for their parents including a hilarious take on the Newlywed Game or rather in our case, the Oldlywed game. Spring Youth outings to Ninja Nation, to play Putt Putt, and play fun outdoor games at church with dinner and fellowship created a wonderful, inclusive atmosphere to build a church youth community. The summer included swimming at the Carrigan Quarry and bringing back the Youth favorite Water Fun Day with homemade giant slip and slide, water balloons, and cookout. We kicked off again in September, with a long-awaited Luau at the Lake at the Davidson Lake Campus. The remainder of the Fall included painting the church shed, pumpkin carving, stuffing Turkey boxes, distributing Greenery flyers, Christmas party, and our annual collection of Teddy Bears to name a few.

We continued our productive work that Ministry Architects helped us lay the groundwork for in 2021, which created our Family Ministry Support Team comprised of parishioners and parents with a passion for youth and without which all these events would not happen. Although we have lived through many curveballs and continue to perfect the art of the pivot, we have proven we have the tenacity to keep moving forward in faith. The plan is to keep making connections, developing friendships, and having fun and fellowship. There is so much to be thankful for and celebrate as you can see below. Thank you so much for this opportunity to work with an amazing staff and wonderful church family who continue to help, support, and grow this program!

### **Accomplishments & Upcoming:**

- Hosted a very successful Spaghetti Dinner for youth and their parents including the Oldlywed Game.
- Held an Easter Trail with several stations including bringing back an in-person Easter Egg Hunt for our families and their children's enjoyment.
- Continued the work of a dedicated group of volunteers known as the Family Ministry Support Team, born out of our extremely beneficial work with Ministry Architects, to help plan, track, and execute Youth and Family events.
- In-person VBS held outside in August under tents with a total of 30 children, with at least 12 volunteers, who cheerfully made it happen.
- A total of 40 registered children for Fall 2022 Sunday School, averaging per week about 14 for PreK-5<sup>th</sup> and 8 for Middle/High.
- With the start of the new Sunday School Year in September, Age 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade met inside in middle room and Middle/High met inside in the Youth room.
- Youth held their third annual drive for Teddy Bears for Bright Blessings.
- In November, our Youth packed over 25 Thanksgiving Dinner boxes for Ada Jenkins.

- Monthly planned and executed High School/Middle School Youth Event Highlights include:
  - January – tie-knot blankets made for Bright Blessings
  - February – Spaghetti Dinner
  - March – Games, Dinner, and Fellowship
  - April – Ninja Nation
  - May – Putt Putt
  - July – Carrigan Quarry
  - August – Water Fun Day and Cookout
  - September – Luau at the Lake kickoff, Paint the Shed
  - October – Pumpkin Carving, distribute Greenery flyers
  - November – Thanksgiving Box service project
  - December – Christmas Party, Teddy Bear drive
- First Family Palm Cross making event held with at least 12 families in attendance.
- Family Advent Wreath event held in person with over 10 families in attendance.
- Our Christmas pageant finally took place again in person with about 15 children participating.

### Goals:

- Sunday School continues to meet in person, masks optional, and outside when possible, striving to maintain and increase children and youth attendance and registrations.
- Successfully split younger Sunday School into 2 classes, Age 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> due to large attendance.
- Continue valuable work with Family Ministry Support Team to support initiatives from our beneficial work with Ministry Architects.
- Execute a full Winter/Spring Youth Group schedule with continued increase in attendance and scope of events.
- Encourage and promote interest and participation in Episcopal summer camps, retreats, and Diocesan Youth events.
- Incorporate youth into more volunteer opportunities within the church.
- Recruit more adult volunteers to help with Sunday School and Youth Group.
- Youth group continue to thrive and grow, having fun, and giving back.
- Provide opportunities for children, youth, and families to connect and form meaningful friendships and relationships within our church family.
- Expand options for more fun, interactive, intergenerational family activities.

## Annual Report from the Music Ministry

John Bailey, Organist & Choirmaster

Last October I celebrated my fourth anniversary here at St. Alban's. It is a privilege to serve with our wonderful clergy and staff. We all have continued to serve this parish to the best of our abilities, with God's help. We continue to give thanks for Matt Presson and those he has trained to help with the live-streaming of our worship services. Their gifts, and their willingness to share those gifts, has been invaluable in allowing us to minister to those in our parish who are unable to come to in-person worship. And, as well, to share worship with those outside our parish who may not have a church home, or simply desire to worship with us online. We are grateful to Matt for his leadership of the children's choir. He does a wonderful job with them, and their singing in worship has ministered to us all. We look forward to hearing them again this Spring.

The Parish Choir continues to serve this parish faithfully, and I am ever-grateful to serve with them. The time they dedicate to Wednesday and Sunday morning rehearsals, as well as their leadership in our worship services, enhances the people's worship of our God. We have been blessed to have a couple of new members join the choir this past year, but still are in need of more singers willing to join us. This congregation's singing and willingness to learn new music is both a blessing and an encouragement to me personally. You have continued to learn more of our main musical resource, *The Hymnal 1982*, while keeping treasured, favorite hymns in our repertoire. In addition, you have learned other hymns from our other hymnal resources: *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, *Wonder, Love and Praise* and *Voices Found* (a collection in which all of the texts and/or music are by women).

It is the fervent hope of all sincere church musicians that our efforts encourage God's people to offer their praises to him more freely. I pray that, together, we continue to be a parish willing to learn and grow in service and understanding.

Respectfully submitted on January 23, 2023.  
John Bailey, Organist & Choirmaster

## **Annual Report from the St. Alban's Weekday Preschool Ministry**

Patti Rossini, Preschool Director

The Preschool continues to grow and get back to normal operations as we recover from the effects of the pandemic. We are so grateful that we were able to begin the 21/22 school year with five classes and the 22/23 school year with six! With the assistance of the church, we are currently open to 59 beautiful children and their families. Here are some highlights from 2022:

- Registration for the 22/23 school year began in January 2022. We hosted several small group sessions and tours for families unfamiliar with St. Alban's.
- The preschool was gifted an additional SEEDS garden plot where the children had the most wonderful experience planting, exploring, and harvesting a variety of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers during the Spring of 2022.
- We hosted our first "Parents Night Out" with the help of the Youth to benefit Preschool scholarship needs!
- 13 students graduated from the "Fantastic Fireflies" class in May.
- In June we offered 3 weeks of summer camp that included some of our friends from La Escuelita. Our weekly themes included bugs, science, and summer fun.
- We welcomed 12 staff members in August.
- We invited families to Popsicles on the Playground in August so that families could begin to get acquainted with their new classmates, teachers, and program.
- We had individual visits with families and an Open House to continue with the "getting acquainted" process.
- We welcomed Mike Sass as our new Preschool Board Chair and added additional members from the church and preschool in August. The Board formed several active committees that are assisting with everything from programming, to facilities, to marketing, to the wellness of our staff and families.
- Our enrichment providers began in September. The children participated in Stretch-n-Grow, Math and Science Nucleus, and Children's Theater. We were again able to take advantage of the beautiful weather and hold these classes outdoors during this 1<sup>st</sup> half of the school year.
- Wiggle Worship started in October. We gathered outside with Rev. Carmen and Father Kevin and enjoyed sharing Bible stories with our preschoolers. We learned new songs, danced, and prayed together.
- We enjoyed wonderful outdoor holiday celebrations with our preschool families for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- As we started the new year we began registering for the 23/24 school year. We had a well attended Open House in January and will have another in February. We are so thankful for the church's support during this past year and can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2023!

## **Annual Report from the Vestry**

Alex Slawson, Senior Warden

If I had to choose one word to summarize 2022 at St. Alban's, that word would be "dynamic." This past year saw our parish return to normal as much as we have been since before the pandemic. There was much growth in many different respects and overall, a sense of optimism and stability seems to be returning. It truly is an exciting time to be at St. Alban's!

As in previous years, your vestry continued working hard to support our clergy, staff, and parishioners during this dynamic time in which we find ourselves. Over the past year, we realigned our efforts in the following four focus areas:

- **Creation Care:** *Providing maintenance, enhancements, and sustainability to our parish home.*
- **Formation:** *Growing the various spiritual ministries that support our parish.*

- **Congregational Vitality:** *Invigorating the social life and ministry of our parish.*
- **Collaboration:** *Enhancing our parish's connections within the larger community.*

In addition, we also worked on the overarching diocesan goal of Racial Reckoning, Justice, and Healing. We made great progress on all these goals in 2022, and this progress will undoubtedly continue in 2023. Below are a few highlights.

The year began with the continuance of a hybrid approach to worship, with our 10:30 a.m. services offered both in-person and live-streamed online. For in-person worship, we started the year with masks being required for all attendees ages 2 and up. In March, we adjusted our masking protocol using weekly community COVID guidance from the CDC while maintaining alignment with Diocesan requirements. In September, the vestry revised our masking policy to reflect the loosened restrictions granted by the diocese, and masks were made optional. This growing sense of normalcy allowed for steadily increasing numbers of parishioners attending our in-person services and resulted in tremendous growth in the number of newcomers to our parish. By the end of the year, our attendance levels approached those seen before the pandemic.

Our clergy worked tirelessly throughout the year to provide meaningful and inclusive services for our parishioners, as well as for visitors. Holy Week saw a return to pre-pandemic form with seven lovely services between Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday, as well as an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. During the Christmas season, there was the heartwarming Children's Christmas Pageant, three beautiful services on Christmas Eve, and a Christmas Day service. All of these services had great attendance which approached pre-pandemic levels.

With the growth seen in our in-person services, we were able to provide a greater focus on becoming a more welcoming place for newcomers with the creation of our Newcomer/Greeter ministry. This ministry gained momentum over the year and the feedback from our ever-increasing number of newcomers has been very positive, to say the least.

There was also growth in our Youth Sunday School program, especially since many of our newcomers have children. As our Youth Sunday School activities grew, more adult volunteers stepped up to assist including an active Davidson College student.

This past year also saw an increase in the number of social events as well. In February, the Ministry of Fun hosted a wonderful outdoor Shrove Tuesday celebration complete with a Mardi Gras parade around the grounds of St. Alban's. In June, they also hosted the Feast of St. Alban's Celebration and Parish Picnic. In August, we had the Back to School Blast. The biggest event of the year, however, was our Oktoberfest celebration in October. This event provided fun and games for the entire family and was a resounding success as evidenced by high attendance from our parishioners and residents in the St. Alban's Neighborhood. There were also newcomer dinners, supper clubs, happy hours in the Caldera Gardens, and the formation of social groups for both women and men.

The St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team (or StAART) continued its work of increasing racial awareness by hosting meetings, book discussions, and events throughout the year. Some highlights of their important efforts include the creation of the St. Alban's Anti-Racism Library, a lunchtime conversation with longtime residents Marvin Brandon and Jan Blodgett to provide context on the racial history of Davidson, and a daylong pilgrimage to sites of historical significance in the ongoing struggle for racial justice in Greensboro, Raleigh, and Durham.

In terms of environmental sustainment, our SEEDS Garden continued its efforts of only using organic gardening procedures. St. Alban's also conducted an energy audit in conjunction with Duke Energy and through a subsidy that they provided, we were able to replace most of the fluorescent lighting fixtures throughout the church with more energy-efficient options. Many of the social events noted above also used recyclable water bottles and compostable eating utensils when possible to further our efforts in being true environmental stewards of God's creation.

Speaking of stewardship, our Stewardship Campaign was a success due to the financial generosity of our parishioners. Like last year, we ended 2022 in good financial stead and have a strong budget with which to work in 2023. We can continue to serve our parish and the greater community through the work of our various ministries and meet the day-to-day expenses of a growing parish. Thank you to everyone for your continued generosity and support!

The Parish Hall Committee also continued its work by successfully executing a parish-wide capital fundraising campaign in 2022. Through the great generosity of our parishioners, fundraising goals were exceeded, and planning for our Parish Hall continues to gain momentum. The children's playground will be moved in the coming months, and we are hopeful to break ground on building our Parish Hall later in 2023. More information is to come on this, so stay tuned.

Your vestry was indeed very busy in 2022, and it was truly an honor and a blessing to serve our beloved parish. Please join me in giving special thanks to those who are completing their vestry service – Bob Beckham, Tom Fischer, Greg Knudson, and

Jenny Myers. They have been very faithful servants over the last few years, providing integrity and leadership in all that they do. We also look forward to the election of five new vestry members – Connor Fulton, Matthew Goodson, James Kennedy, Annamarie Klemm, and Leslie Urban. They will undoubtedly offer their many gifts for the betterment of St. Alban's in the years to come.

Finally, please join me in providing a special thank you to our outstanding clergy and amazing staff. Their selfless efforts are truly inspirational and instrumental in making St. Alban's the special place that we all know and love. They have faithfully risen to many unprecedented challenges over the last few years, providing a steady course rooted in love and service. As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the coming year, the possibilities are tremendously exciting as St. Alban's is poised to grow even more and continue to be a beacon of God's love in the greater community.

## **Annual Report from the Vestry: Buildings and Grounds**

Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden

2022 was a busy year of projects and planning for buildings and grounds. There was quite a bit of catching up to do after the Covid latent period.

The Memorial Gardens committee, led by Mike and Pat Stenhouse, conducted research, met with contractors, and analyzed the choices for what could be done this year. The following decisions were made to add memorial plates to the existing central structure, not the side of the building. The cherry trees were fed, the dying bushes were pulled up, and a nearly identical fence will be installed in their place shortly. Recently, new spotlights were replaced at the front of the church, so we are truly a shining light in the darkness.

The entire front of the church had not been mulched in quite a while, so that was accomplished, complete with animal statues in the traffic circle. Thanks to Jane Shoemaker we have a beautiful sculpture of children nearby. The outdoor picnic tables under the trees made for a shaded outdoor meeting area. Cole Fossett's Eagle project led parishioners to the completion of the Stations of the Cross Trail. The development of Caldera Gardens was a major project that became a ministry in the fall! Visitors find peace and beauty in this beautiful space. The neighboring SEEDS Community Gardens serves as a similar ministry for anyone wishing to garden organically. The shed at the end of the parking lot was painted by our youth group! St. Alban's also conducted an energy audit in conjunction with Duke Energy and through a subsidy that they provided, we were able to replace most of the fluorescent lighting fixtures throughout the church with more energy-efficient options.

Three American sycamore trees were donated and planted recently in the back to provide more shade near the new playground. As always, there was always a steady progression of maintenance and repair needs to the inside of the building and these were taken care of thanks to your generosity through the annual fund and our amazing Jessica-always-on-the-job parish administrator. Did you know that Kevin even has plumbing skills? Everyone pitches in at Saint Albans, whether it is during our spring and fall workdays or just any time for a good time together.

## **Annual Report from the Finance Committee**

Danny Wiles, Finance Committee Chair

### The Budget Process:

Priorities are set jointly by the Vestry and the Rector.

The budget for 2023 was approved by the vestry at its meeting earlier this month.

2023 Budget Goals include:

1. Continue to preserve St. Alban's financial position in light of the ongoing economic uncertainties. Specifically, we need to ensure that our budgeted expenses and other cash outflows are appropriate based on expected cash inflows, and that we maintain sufficient cash reserves to allow us to deal with any surprises that may arise. For 2023, we have a balanced budget.
2. Increase annual pledge offerings – for Stewardship 2023, we have received 178 pledges totaling \$716,715, which exceeded our goal and is a 7% increase over 2022. If you haven't yet pledged, but would like to, please contact Erin Garrett (erin@saintalbansdavidson.org).

3. Maintain the amount of the Outreach budget. The needs of our community and others for our support continue. The Outreach Committee, with Vestry's approval, determines and schedules outreach events. Our desire is for the outreach budget to be greater or equal to 10% of the total church operating budget, as this is analogous to a tithe to our greater community, and our goal is to get there over time. Excluding the St. Alban's preschool, which is discussed below, the Outreach budget for 2023 is \$44,500 which is consistent with the amount for 2022.
4. Continue to support St. Alban's preschool as it navigates a "post-pandemic" environment. The preschool has an independent budget that, prior to the pandemic, was self-balancing. However, the pandemic had negative impacts on preschool enrollment, and the preschool was not able to have sufficient revenues to cover all of its expenses. While the preschool diligently cut costs, it was not able to remain self-funding. In addition, the needs and desires for preschool and childcare services for many families are now different than before the pandemic. For the 2022/2023 preschool year, the vestry has approved funding of up to \$23,000. For the 2021/2022 school year, the funding provided was approximately \$18,000. The preschool board continues to work towards reducing the level of support that might be needed going forward..

#### The Accounting Process:

Income and expenses, along with variances, are reported monthly by Erin Garrett, our Finance Director, to the Vestry and Finance Committee.

- Once a balanced budget is set, it is not modified during the year.
- Any changes approved by the Vestry are reported as variances to the Revenue and Expense report.
- Both the change and the source of funds are accounted for.
- Independent accounting verification occur annually (the results for 2021 were excellent).

#### 2022 Financial Results:

Of note:

- For 2022 overall, our financial position remains solid. Despite the continuing economic uncertainties, our revenues exceeded budgeted amounts while our expenses remained in check.
- For 2022, Saint Alban's fully collected the budgeted pledges, and non-pledge offerings were strong.
- The church's cash and liquidity position remains strong.

For a detailed comparison of the church revenue and expense operating fund, contact the church office.

Thank you for your ongoing support!!

Respectfully submitted by:

Danny Wiles,

Finance Committee Chairperson

## **Annual Report from the Outreach Team**

Michael Kingsley, Outreach Chair

As the chairperson of the Outreach committee, I am so blessed to be working alongside such compassionate and giving teammates who inspire everyone to help where they can to support those in need. Your Outreach Team is dedicated to serving others and carrying on with the mission of St. Alban's church. Again, this year Outreach has still had some challenges during the year with the limitations imposed by Covid. Yet, amazingly again, with the faithfulness of the rest of the entire Outreach Team, all projects, ministries and events continued, and we even took on a few more. Our Team is very appreciative to the congregation, the Finance Committee and Vestry for your constant support.

A summary of St. Alban's Outreach activities for 2022:

**"Kindness"** (or gap-filling) projects:

St. Alban's Outreach Ministry

- 1) Feed NC – St. Alban's provides cooking and serving volunteers monthly as well as budgeted funds. Mary Emerich faithfully keeps our parishioners informed and involved. We began participating again as we came out of Covid and we expect increased participation next year, especially with the expansion of Feed NC facilities.

- 2) Red Wagon Sunday –Gathering on the first Sunday of each month by the congregation to provide food, hygiene, cleaning and pet supplies to the Loaves and Fishes pantry at Ada Jenkins. Mary Emerich has also been keeping the parish informed on this effort. This year the need was very high as families were stressed from the economic situation. St. Alban’s answered the call and donated over 2500 pounds of food and supplies.
- 3) Superbowl Food drive – This year Allison Kratt and her son organized a food drive to support Ada Jenkins during the NFL playoff season. St. Alban’s was able to donate over 300 pounds of food.
- 4) Turkey and Angel Tree drives to provide children and their families with the joy of the holiday season. This year Cheryl Nealy, again, headed the Turkey drive effort for St. Alban’s that provided 25 Thanksgiving boxes, decorated and filled by the youth, to Ada Jenkins. Also, this year Outreach worked with La Escuelita to provide unwrapped toys for their families during the Angel tree event. Both events were a complete success.
- 5) Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now)—packing of 10,000 meals during a multi-generational event during Lent had to be canceled again this year due to COVID. We still contributed the budgeted funds. Our plan is to start this up again in 2024 when the new Parish Hall should be completed.

#### Community partnerships:

- 1) Back2School Blast – St. Alban’s joins other congregations as we provide new shoes and socks for approximating 250 students. Event is held at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Davidson. Jenny Langford, Allison Taylor, and Ashley Romero worked with Gethsemane to adapt for the safety of all involved. This year St. Alban’s distributed over 675 backpacks along with \$2,500 worth of gift cards for shoes.
- 2) Blanket, coat, hat, gloves, socks in-gatherings with Gethsemane Baptist during the fall and winter.
- 3) Room In The Inn partnership with DCPC to meet emergency housing needs was started again this year with smaller numbers to account for the lingering COVID risk. The program will continue through March of next year.
- 4) Emerald School in Charlotte has 12 students meeting in person. We contribute to the schools’ general fund.
- 5) Davidson Cornelius Day Care center continues to be supported with budgeted funds.
- 6) La Posada – This traditional event of serving meals to the families of La Escuelita preschool was headed up by Ginger Knudson and it was a complete success. We had over 200 people enjoying the event.

#### “Justice” (or more permanent solutions) projects that Outreach supports:

- 1) Our Town Habitat for Humanity – permanent housing for client-families. This year St. Alban’s provided budgeted funds and organized one build day with St. Alban’s volunteers for a house in Mooresville. We have several more build days scheduled and the house is projected to be complete in March 2023.
- 2) La Escuelita San Alban –St. Alban’s established this preschool for non-English speaking 3 and 4-year-olds to prepare them with language skills for kindergarten. We are so grateful to the dedicated staff and board who serve these wonderful children.
- 3) In-person meetings of the Homeless Task Force with the Davidson Housing Coalition has been halted again this year due to Covid. We still contribute budgeted funds to this cause.
- 4) Domestic Violence Coalition – St. Alban’s was actively involved with the Safe Alliance Coalition of Lake Norman helping those in danger because of domestic violence. This year Outreach budgeted funds for this cause.

#### International Involvement:

- 1) Galilee Ministries—Volunteers from St. Alban’s participated to help refugees to assimilate in our country.
- 2) Hogar Escuela in Costa Rica
- 3) Malawi – building of shallow wells
- 4) Placement of Homeless Jesus sculptures on all Continents

#### Potential New Ministries for Outreach:

- 1) Safe Families – The Safe Families organization provides aid to vulnerable families and help them tap into community resources. The Outreach committee is maintaining contact with the organization as it grows in the area and will plan to support as necessary in the future.
- 2) Ukraine Refugee Support – Amanda Ewington has set up a driving pool to support a local Ukrainian family and their transition to life in the US. Outreach will monitor this refuge crisis from the war in Ukraine and seek to help wherever necessary

Our team is extremely appreciative of the time and effort provided by volunteers at St. Alban's. This has especially been important during the hardships of the economic crisis and of the lingering effects of Covid. We are continuing to evolve and adapt so we can continue to serve.

May God continue to bless our efforts as we "scatter to serve" in His name.

## **Annual Report from the Grow, Gather, Serve Campaign**

Richard Colven, Parish Hall Committee Co-chair

Our Parish Hall committee was originally launched in 2019 with a lot of energy, but efforts were soon put on hold due to the pandemic in 2020. We renewed our efforts again in 2021, and things really began to move forward in 2022! Our budget was set at \$2.4 million for the project, and we determined that we needed to raise \$1.2 million from our parish through a capital campaign. After several phases of fundraising from the Fall of 2021 through last summer, we blew through that target with over \$1.6 million in pledges in our most recent tally. Thanks be to God for the generosity of our congregation!

The Vestry approved moving forward into the design phase in the second half of 2022, with preliminary construction efforts – primarily the relocation of the playground and upgrade of the equipment – slated to begin in February 2023. In addition, the architecture and design phase moved into high gear, and we hope to get final Vestry approval and begin construction of the Parish Hall proper in late 2023.

The redesigned Parish Hall plans calls for over 4700 ft<sup>2</sup> of space to gather, including a kitchen. While we have had to cut back on some of the features we wanted due to cost constraints, we are excited that we have been able to make the new hall accessible through the existing building without going outside! Stay tuned for more updates as the committee and vestry complete design and move into realizing our dream!