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My gratitude begins with my very special staff team. They are an incredible bunch, who see their work as more than a job, and who give their best day in and day out. Many of them share their reflections in this Annual Report, but their importance to our church is far greater than the accomplishments they can list, for they are people of kindness, generosity, faithfulness, dedication, and humor. We are blessed to have such wonderful people guiding and serving us.

The year was not without a fair amount of staff transition. After Anne Schmidt moved to New Mexico in late spring, we recruited Gabby Guion to become our new Minister for Congregational Life. Not long after Anne's departure, Parish Administrator Sophie Lowrance and Bookkeeper Mary Hall both announced their departures. After careful searches, during which we received excellent interim leadership from Fred Ellis, we hired Cathleen Dolt as the new Parish Administrator and Darla Rupert as Bookkeeper. Around that same time, we hired Al Blackwell, another standout parishioner, to support our digital communications efforts. Meanwhile, in August we proudly sent Michael Sturdy, our Director of Youth Ministries, to Sewanee to begin seminary, and for the third time in 2022 God led us to an outstanding successor from within our congregation, Delynda Moravec. Finally, our wonderful Sexton Joseph Gerrick left last spring, and we have happily welcomed Erik Welch to that role.

Not all the staff news last year had to do with transitions. Last year, Director of Music Joel Martinson enjoyed a sabbatical from late April to July, and Director of Operations Bracken Reece enjoyed his own restful leave from late November to early January. Such times off are essential to the wellbeing of our staff, and I am deeply grateful that our parish supports them. In the summer, I named Mother Rebecca Tankerslev as Senior Associate Rector, in recognition of her outstanding leadership and importance to our church. I owe her a special debt of thanks for carrying much of the load while I was away on sabbatical in the fall. And in December, we celebrated my predecessor JD Godwin's 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest.

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition

One of the great highlights of 2022 is the acquisition of a Heritage Edition of The Saint John's Bible. This is the seven volume fine-art reproduction of the original, which is the first illuminated Bible in English in nearly 500 years. Two families made this remarkable acquisition possible. First, Bob and Frances Martin made an initial generous gift, beginning our relationship with St. John's and resulting in a visit by a small group of Fig folk to the college and abbey last May. Then, Bruce and Elaine Culver made a second significant gift that enabled us to permanently acquire our own Heritage Edition. We are now in the company of the Vatican, the Morgan Library, and the University of Notre Dame as owners of one of these incredible sets.

Later gifts by Gene and Cassie Bledsoe, Paul and Luann Welch, Scott and Rebecca Tankersley, Bob Drotman, and the Endowment of Transfiguration, along with additional gifts by the Culvers and Martins, funded the creation of the seven stunning cases that house the volumes in our Gathering Space. This allows us to permanently display our Heritage Edition, so anyone visiting Transfiguration can encounter the Word of God in magnificent beauty. I look forward to a service of dedication on May 7, and to countless future opportunities to spark the spiritual imaginations of members and visitors through these volumes.

Transfiguring Our Foundations... Including the Roof!

2022 was definitely a year in which we made great strides in our capital improvement efforts. After raising over \$7 million in commitments through the Transfiguring Our Foundations Campaign to perform a long list of much needed capital maintenance, this last year we continued to carefully perform that list project-by-project. You can read more about them in the report of our Buildings, Grounds, and Technology Committee. That group and its chair for the past two years, Jodi Dalton, deserve special commendation for their diligence and dedication. The goal of the TOF Campaign has always been to "leave it better than we found it,"

and thanks to many faithful servants, we are in the process of doing just that in every nook and cranny of our campus.

Among all the important projects happening, I want to highlight one in particular: the church roof. Thanks to some far-sighted BGT members, and our excellent Director of Operations, we seized the opportunity to replace the 50 year-old church roof with solar tiles. This means our church roof now produces energy every day to help power our operation. In the future, we plan to install power walls to store the solar-generated energy and serve as backup emergency power. This is a big step toward our goal of eventually becoming a "zero emissions" campus.

Setting Goals for Setting Goals

In my address at Annual Meeting last year, I announced the Vestry's intention to begin another process of long-range goal setting. A strategic plan launched in 2016 had resulted in nearly three-dozen remarkable accomplishments over the span of five years, and by 2022 it was time to start afresh. Well, easier said than done. What I failed to take into consideration was the pervasive fatigue that has overshadowed our society during the emergence from the pandemic. The effort of just enduring for the past few years left most people exhausted in body and soul, and there was little energy remaining for efforts like long-range, imaginative visioning.

So, instead of trying to create new five-year goals, the Vestry and I embraced a shorter-range focus. It took our full attention to manage the capital campaign work, as many of the projects are complicated and multi-faceted (e.g. the kitchen remodel and the renovations to the Nave and Sacristy). The Vestry also focused energy on our safety and security needs, which involves updates to technology and also processes. All that, added to "ordinary" work of running the church, meant we had our hands plenty full. However, we are continuing to pray about where God is asking us to go as a church in the longer-term, for this kind of bigger picture thinking is essential to accomplishing bigger picture goals.

The day will come, sooner than we think, when we'll be finished with the largest and most immediate tasks on our capital campaign, and we will need to be ready to embark on new adventures for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

Sabbatical

After 16 years in the priesthood and eight years as Rector, last fall I enjoyed my first sabbatical. It is impossible for me to describe my gratitude for the gift of that much time off – time to rest, time to breath, time to travel, time to be. In advance of my sabbatical, a team of lay leaders on the Sabbatical Committee partnered with me to dream up ways to experience true refreshment and renewal, and the product of those conversations became a successful grant request to the Lilly Foundation. The Lilly Foundation each year gives significant grants to congregations and clergy to fund times of renewal, and Transfiguration was a happy recipient of one such gift.

This resulted in my ability to travel quite a bit during my time away – three extraordinary trips designed around the theme of pilgrim journeys. The first trip was to Scotland with my wife in order to walk the West Highland Way, a path through the majesty of the Scottish Highlands from Glasgow to Fort William. After our walk, we also visited the isles of Skye and Iona. The second trip was to Italy to ride my bike around Assisi and its surrounding countryside, and to walk the Via di Francesco, which is a path from Assisi to Rome. I conducted this nearly four week trip alone. The final trip was to Costa Rica with my family during the week of Thanksgiving. We saw volcanos, cloud forests, and hatching nests of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles. In between all that magnificent travel, I enjoyed lots of hours in my garden, long bike rides, and time with my family. On Sundays I was able to visit other churches, which gave me some excellent experience of what it feels like to be a newcomer.

I returned to my work the first weekend of Advent very much refreshed. My mind was clear, my body was rested, and my soul was renewed.



My gratitude for this extravagant gift of support defies words. You did not simply allow me to have a sabbatical, but you celebrated with me and sent me off with joy and love. I felt your prayers throughout my time away, and as a result I thought about you often. Never, though, did I worry about how things were going, because I had absolute trust in the Vestry and Staff to lead in my absence. The only thing I regret is that I missed the camel at the Advent Festival!

Losing Saints

In the last few years, we have buried a great many of our saints. There was a time not so long ago when we might perform seven or eight funerals a year. In 2022, we performed 30. And that number doesn't begin to capture the quantity of contributions made by those folks, as many of them have been leaders at Transfiguration for decades. Some were among our founding

members, which means we are losing firsthand witnesses to our church's earliest years. There is an African proverb that says that when an elder dies, a library burns to the ground, which captures the grief we feel at their deaths – the grief we feel to lose all their wisdom, love, and stories.

Of course we do not grieve as ones without hope, for we know that to God's faithful people life is changed, not ended. We are an Easter people, who put our trust in the mercy and love of Jesus to lead us through the grave to a greater light on a distant shore. And yet, there is an understandable tenderness in our community these days. We are barely able to catch our breath from one funeral before we are on to another. So, if you feel this weight of grief, please know you are not alone. Our church is bound together and, by our love for one another, we will exchange the holy consolation of the Spirit.

Looking Ahead

I will conclude with a word of gladness, and a word of caution. We are as well-led as ever, and I have never felt more confidence in the staff as I do now. After years of always being a couple people short of a full team, we finally have the clergy, program staff, administrators, and operations personnel to lead our thriving, busy congregation. We finally have the people to provide the programs, classes, music, pastoral care, administration, and maintenance you desire and deserve.

However, we will not be able to sustain our staff at our current giving level. The bottom line is that we will not be able to keep up our operation the way it is now if we don't see an increase in financial support. Our budget for 2023 has a significant deficit, nearly \$100,000. That is after we cut every single thing that wasn't staff or a required operational expenditure.

Last fall, the Stewardship Committee set as a goal to raise \$2 million in pledges. They didn't pull that number out of thin air. It is what we need to run this church. Yet our fundraising continues to fall short of that necessary goal. So far, we are \$200,000 short for 2023, and in that \$200,000 delta is the \$100,000 deficit we're projecting, plus all those program budgets and also compensation adjustments for staff in recognition that, when adjusted for inflation, some of us make as much as 25% less now than when we were hired.

Thanks to a lot of hard work, everything looks so good here – buildings, worship, publications, staff roster, even a brand new illuminated Bible. It all looks so good that it may seem like someone else must be paying for everything. Well, there is no one else paying for things, just us – you and me. And unless we step up and reach deeper and grow our giving, it will not look so good here next January, and my report to you next year will include a long list of staff departures.

So let's do this. Let's embrace God's invitation to give our "first fruits." Let's strengthen our finances so we can continue our unique witness to Christ. Let's stabilize our shaky budget, so our amazing staff can do the things they are hired to do. Let's be the church God is asking us to be, bravely going wherever Christ leads.





Membership

In 2022 Transfiguration welcomed

33 New Members

16 Adult Wayfarers

284 Formation Participants

16 Newly Baptized

Confirmations, Receptions, and Reaffirmations



New Members

Laurie and Mike Alsobrook
Julia Beckel
Benjamin Bledsoe
The Chikonyora Family
Diana & Edwin Cooley
Andy Dunnells
Kathleen Fones
Jude Fones
Matthew Fones
Charles & Sue Hood
Kathleen & Leonard Law

Allen McReynolds
Allen and Neely Myers
Lilliana Myers
Madelyn Myers
Julian Garza & Barry Peterson
Charlie Peterson
Coby Sadler
Lawrence Saylor
John Seddelmeyer
Evan Smith
Lee Swift

Ginny Tanaka
Dan and Kim Typaldos
Felix Typaldos
Roman Typaldos
Kelly Wolfe
Katie and Ryder Wood

Faithful Departed

JoAnn Asher
Nicholas Christian Braun
Robin Lee Byford
Margaret McGraw Cottingham
Joseph Doyle Crawley
Ellen Schueddig Dingwall
Judith Stewart Drotman
William Truman Duke
Mary Jane Groene

Kenneth Hart
Maurice Edwin Hole
Kathryn Green Hudiburgh
Trevor Allen Latson
David Michael Luck
Emory Eugene Mason
Dan Taylor Moody
Shirley Maddox Moseley
Jimmy Joe Murphy

AJ Randall
Kimberly Darcy Raschke
Susan Michelle Hourigan Raschke
George Leith Robb
Elizabeth Jean Robb
Robert Christopher Rodgers
Charles Brooks Shafer
Vera Lou Smith

Baptisms

Charlie Ruth Cook Charles Keefer Delaney Autumn Dunnells Samuel Shafer Fassett Savannah Song Huang Bodhi Shang Huang

Rosalee Elizabeth Latson Charlie Peterson Katherine Peterson Coby Lee Jones Sadler Felix William Typaldos Roman Michael Typaldos Ace Axel Wiseman Georgia Claerwen Williams Youngblood Xin-Min Zhang

Marriages

Laura Blowey & Juan Cabrera Roy Enriquez & Joseph Palacios Brett Vanderbrook & Lucas Roeschley Elizabeth Mayfield & Connor McCormick Natalia Johnson & Alisenne Turner



Staff Reports

Senior Associate Rector's Report

by the Rev. Rebecca Tankersley



This past summer, Fr. Casey asked that I shepherd our Pastoral Care and Outreach ministries. Two weeks later, he began a well-earned sabbatical, during which time I lived deeply into the former. The latter will provide rich opportunities for each of you in the coming year.

Pastoral Care

Transfiguration nurtures those needing pastoral care in a variety of ways including Eucharistic Visitors, Stephen Ministers, and offering special liturgies throughout the year. Our clergy meet weekly to review concerns from and pray for our members, most especially those who are sick or living alone.

In 2022, our team of Eucharistic Visitors took Holy Eucharist to more than 35 different individuals who were unable to get to church. Currently we have 9 active licensed Eucharistic Visitors, who are sent out at least once a month. I am grateful to collaborate with Pastor Nancy DeStefano, Martha Cordell, and Peggy Kwoka in this ministry.

Stephen Ministers are lay members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing spiritual challenges, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Currently we have six active Stephen Ministers, who provided care to 9 individuals during 2022. I am grateful for Pastor Nancy DeStefano's leadership of this group.

During 2022, we held funeral services for 30 people. During Fr. Casey's sabbatical alone, we conducted 10 funeral services and interred 6 additional souls in our Memorial Garden. I am grateful to our active and retired clergy, as well as to our Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and Funeral Reception Committee, for their compassionate care of families and friends who lost loved ones this year. In response to so much loss, this December we once again held "A Service of the Longest Night", in which we made space for those experiencing a less-than-joyful Advent and Christmas to worship together on the night in which we experienced the longest period of darkness in the year.

Outreach

Transfiguration lives into our mission to seek and serve Christ in all persons through a variety of Outreach ministries. In the pages that follow, you will find a full report of the activities of our Outreach Committee from Lindsey Murphy. Your clergy are deeply grateful to all who support our Ministry Fund, which allows us to render assistance to an ever-increasing number of individuals who come to us alone, in need, and without access to help. Our assistance may be as simple as providing a small sack of food or gift card to the local Walmart or gas station. Other times, we help pay a family's utility bill, make a car payment, or help keep a family in their apartment through a job transition. This form of outreach would not be possible without your generosity, for which we are grateful.

In the coming year, I look forward to collaborating with our Outreach Committee to deepen our relationships with area agencies and to provide meaningful, embodied ministry with and for our neighbors.





The office of administration exists within Transfiguration to enable and support the many ministries of the church. We take our cue from our mission statement, "To seek and serve Jesus Christ in all persons" which informs all that we do. As such, our goal is to provide a high level of excellence and transparency in the areas of accounting and financial reporting, human resources, legal and tax issues, risk assessment and management, and other administrative functions.

2022 was a year marked by several noteworthy transitions within the staff of Transfiguration. We said goodbye to:

- Jill Carpenter, Administrative Assistant
- Mary Hall, Bookkeeper
- Sophie Lowrance, Parish Administrator
- Anne Schmidt, Minister for Congregational Life
- Michael Sturdy, Interim Director of Youth Ministry

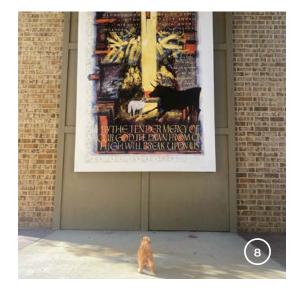
We welcomed 5 new employees and celebrated 2 promotions, which bring a wealth of talent and skill in their respective ministry areas:

- Al Blackwell, Digital Communications Specialist
- Cathleen Dolt, Parish Administrator
- Fred Ellis, promoted to Administrative Assistant
- Gabby Guion, Minister for Congregational Life
- Delynda Moravec, Director of Youth Ministries
- Darla Rupert, Bookkeeper
- The Rev. Rebecca Tankersley, promoted to Senior Associate Rector

Our staff banded together to support the 2022 sabbaticals for Joel Martinson, Director of Music and Organist, Bracken Reece, Director of Operations, and the Rev. R. Casey Shobe, Rector. During the year, we upgraded our internet and phone systems. We were

fortunate to receive gifts which enabled us to purchase *The Saint John's Bible* and display cases to house all seven volumes.

It has been an honor for all of us in the office of administration to serve this community of faith over the past year, and we look forward to an exciting and fruitful 2023!



Adult Formation by the Rev. Ted Clarkson



The goal of any Christian formation program is to help God's people along their journeys of discipleship. It is a life-long endeavor which seeks to "equip the saints for ministry,", and help them "grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 4:12 and 2 Peter 3:18) At Transfiguration, Christian formation happens in all sorts of ways: in small groups and classes, on Sundays and every other day of the week, here at church and virtually over Zoom

Throughout 2022 the clergy and various lay leaders offered a wide variety of classes on Sunday mornings. During the season of Epiphany, Fr. Casey led a book study on Fr. James Martin's book *Learning to Pray*, while Mtr. Rebecca met with members of the Figs with Kids ministry to discern how they might grow and support one

another in a world that was forever changed by the pandemic. During Lent, Pastor Nancy and Mtr. Rebecca led a discussion on Dr. James Cone's seminal work, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*; I led a five-week class on the church's teachings about death and dying, and Fr. Casey explored the spiritual practice of pilgrimage. The program year ended with a short unit of classes during Eastertide during which Fr. Paul Bradshaw discussed baptism, confirmation, and communion in his class, "The Making of a Christian," Fr. Casey taught a class on St. Francis of Assisi, and Mason McCamey and Mthr. Rebecca presented "Fundamentals of Trust: Claiming the Resurrection in Our Relationships," which used Brené Brown's principles of "braving" to help us reconnect with one another after two years of sickness and separation.

During the summer, I accompanied Michael Sturdy, Suzy Rickard, and eight current and former members of the youth group on a pilgrimage to Ireland where we learned about the early Celtic traditions of the church and how Christ was present in the lives of the Irish people (throughout their occupation by the English) to the present day. At almost the same time Fr. Casey led a group of parishioners to Germany on a pilgrimage, the highlight of which was a performance of the famed passion play at Oberammergau.

The summer was also a time of transition for our Christian formation team. We bid Michael Sturdy farewell as he moved to Sewanee, TN with his family to attend seminary (a different sort



of Christian formation) and welcomed Delynda Moravec to her new role as Director of Youth Ministries. Also, in a shuffle of clergy duties, I took over responsibility for Christian formation activities in the parish while Mthr. Rebecca took on oversight for other parish ministries.

The 2022-2023 program year began with the arrival of our Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible* which has brought new and wonderful opportunities for Christian formation for all ages. During the Fall, I led a class on the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, while Pastor Nancy, assisted by Mthr. Rebecca and Fr. Michael Merriman, taught a class on reading scripture through a lens of non-violence, and Jacqui Neylon coordinated a class for Figs with Kids. And during Advent, the clergy were joined by Dr. Roy Heller and Dr. Bob Patten as we explored the rich story of the wise men's journey to Bethlehem in our series, Tales of Magi.

On days other than Sunday, the parish provided additional, rich opportunities for growth. On Wednesday nights during Lent, we explored Richard Foster's book, *A Celebration of Discipline*, by hearing from five guest speakers: Sister Hannah, C.S.M., The Rev. Oliver Lee, The Rev. Amy Heller, The Rev. Danielle Shroyer, and Shane Claiborne. The Disciple Bible study class completed year two and began year three. In the spring, The Way completed another year of catechesis: one participant of the class was baptized at the Easter Vigil and seventeen were either confirmed, received, or reaffirmed their baptismal vows five weeks later. Another year of The Way began in the fall with seventeen wayfarers.

Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who help make this possible: teachers, discussion group leaders, and presenters. I am particularly grateful to Fr. Casey for entrusting me with this important ministry, and to Mthr. Rebecca, and those who held this position before her, for establishing a program of faithful excellence and excellent faithfulness.



Children's Ministries by Allison Blalock



It has been a joy and pleasure to enter my second year with the children and families of Transfiguration. Children's Ministries' focus age group is six weeks old through fifth grade and works to grow and encourage a spiritual life in children in partnership with their parents. Children are introduced to God's love through faith formation classes, worship, prayer, story, play, service, and outreach. We begin Sunday mornings by offering an interactive age-appropriate chapel service for children ages four through second grade to help them experience Scripture, prayer, and worship in ways they understand and enjoy. We offer a Montessori curriculum, Godly Play, during our faith formation hour and just opened our fourth classroom in part with a grant from St. Hilda's Guild. Children experience a nurturing play-

based environment in which they learn, grow, and belong. Childcare is provided during our Sunday worship services and the faith formation hour. In addition to our Sunday offerings, our children are ministered to through: the blessing of the backpacks, third grade Bibles, sacramental preparation classes, the Advent Festival, our Christmas pageant, a Lenten series, Passion Experience for families and children's Stations of the Cross, age-appropriate worship services during Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter, a weeklong Vacation Bible School, opportunities to serve in a variety of ministries within our parish as lectors, acolytes, and choir members, and outreach opportunities, especially, but not exclusively, with our Impact Kids (4th & 5th graders). Children's Ministries offers a professional nursery staff and adult volunteers in their ministry to children. All are dedicated and passionate in their love for God and about God's purposes for children. In 2022, Children's Ministries outreach projects were in service to Our Friends Place and Austin Street Center. We at Transfiguration celebrate the spiritual interest and desire we see in our children and their love for God. We are blessed by and thank the many parents who take their role seriously in nurturing a spiritual life in their children. I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to watch their children learn and grow in their faith.





Congregational Life by Gabby Guion



We said goodbye to my predecessor and good friend Anne Schmidt in May of 2022. When I joined the staff at the end of June, the last line of the hymn *Amazing Grace* echoed in my head "was blind, but now I see." As a member on the volunteer side, I was happily busy "doing my thing," blissfully unaware of how busy and active this church is!

My first month on the job began with a "Goodbye/Welcome Back" sabbatical celebration. Then it was non-stop from there. The Big Fig Ministry Fair through Fig Fest, with a dozen new people visiting each month. There were weddings and funerals and baptisms and more celebrations! There were workshops, receptions, and Advent festival (an event that was, as the kids

like to say, "so extra"). Then Christmas and Epiphany. I look around, and hundreds of members are eagerly waiting in the pews repeating Mary's response to the Angel, "Here I am!". I have neglected our greatest gift at this church which is our people. Well, look out world. 2023 will be the year of exploring our ministries, learning new skills, and utilizing our unique gifts. The Fig needs you!

I have tremendous optimism on the state of membership at Transfiguration. I am grateful for our Saturday and Sunday greeters who enthusiastically welcome guests at the front doors. They greet every last person, ask smart questions, and make each visitor feel like they belong here. It's a critical ministry. Each guest's impression begins with our greeters.

The Usher teams are the next important step in making our visitors feel welcome. They are one of the reasons people are coming back to worship. People feel welcome in this wonderful place.

Lastly, I am so proud of our parishioners, who model our mission statement, which is "to seek and serve Christ in all persons."

We hope to exceed expectations in 2023! Our Mission, Ministry, and Connections Committee is starting the new year with some fresh ideas that will motivate visitors and our own longtime parishioners looking to get back in action after a very long sleepy

season. We are ready to get busy and I hope that you are too! If you are wondering about what you can do or where you might make a difference, please contact me at gguion@transfiguration.net



Communications by TJ McCoy



I am grateful to have experienced a stirring up of the fabled spirit of the Fig this past year. Every event held in 2022 had the energy of a homecoming: seeing ministry leaders and their booths arrayed under Big Tex for the ministry fair; the collective anticipation as Father Casey "flipped the switch" on the solar roof; watching folks line up for pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, and for pictures with Milo (the camel) at Advent Festival; witnessing people console one another at the Requiem for All Soul's Day – all encouraging signs of God at work in our midst.

In June, we welcomed parishioner and seasoned communications professional Al Blackwell on staff to bring renewed focus to our digital communication channels. He has taken up the mantle

of livestreaming worship services, making formation classes accessible online, producing our weekly email newsletter, and managing Transfiguration's website. Under Al's direction, we've made some improvements that allow us to better support things like the ministry fair, the stewardship campaign, and special events in person and online. Al has also been a great advocate and trainer for Realm – a tool that enables groups to connect, collaborate, and communicate with members more efficiently.

Last year we published 2 issues of Illumine, facilitated over 40 virtual formation classes, emailed 69 weekly newsletters, livestreamed over 75 worship services, and printed over 25,000 service bulletins in-house.

We worked with MM&C to build a new web portal that allows parishioners to contact ministry leaders across the parish. In addition, we created a stewardship microsite and mailed over 1,500 supporting materials promoting our "First Fruits" campaign theme.

Special thanks to the Stewardship Committee for leading this year's campaign, to Father Ted for his efforts in making the weekly service bulletins, to Lana Mederos for gathering info on the many calendared events, and to Robert Hacker and John Makowski for their help capturing photos of happenings here at the Fig!





Music Ministries by Joel Martinson



Introduction

During 2022 the music staff continued the work of the previous year in rebuilding our younger choirs in the aftermath of the pandemic and rescheduled choral offerings by the Transfiguration Choir cancelled in the spring of 2020. Personally, my life was greatly enriched by a three-month sabbatical during which I spent six weeks in the Nordic countries. I am so grateful to Fr. Casey, the sabbatical committee, and the vestry for approving the trip, and to the entire parish for underwriting a substantial portion of the expense. Special thanks to Chris Ahrens for directing the choir and Stefan Engels for playing the organ at services in my absence.

Legacy Fund Grant Enables Pay Raise for Section Leaders in 2023

The post-pandemic environment for singers in the DFW area has brought to light that our current call rate for choir section leaders was well-below market rate. We were granted funding from the Legacy Fund to increase our call rate substantially in 2023 and to help finance an additional (baritone) section leader for the coming year.

Music Fund of the Church of the Transfiguration Endowment

The 2022 Music Fund disbursement from the Endowment Trustees enabled the purchase of the scores and parts for organ concertos by G. F. Handel. It also funded additional black stands and musician chairs and will provide a portion of the cost of the baritone section leader.



Youth Ministries by Delynda Moravec



The Fig Youth are thriving and growing!

2022 was a year of transition for this ministry. We said goodbye to Michael Sturdy and in his honor, created a new event and trophy called "The Sturdy." I am grateful to Michael for his stewardship of the program, and I look forward to building on his firm foundation.

I am humbled and honored to be the new steward of the Fig Youth. I am blessed with a vibrant Youth Council committed to providing leadership and balance to this ministry. We look for ways to combine faith and fun, prayer and play, and service and sabbath.

I am also blessed with loving and dedicated volunteers who provide stability and safety to our group. They give generously of their time and

talents and are an integral part of this ministry.

Starting in the fall, our theme was "Connecting the Dots." We focused on connecting with each other, our parish, and our community. And each member of the Youth program and all guests to the Youth Center have signed a Safe Community Pledge.

The Fig Youth started the new school year with a Fall Lock-In that had 41 youth in attendance. It was a joyous and chaotic night! We have had fun celebrating throughout the year with various parties and events. And we have balanced the fun with working in our community including working at Our Savior Community Garden in South Dallas. This has become a core part of our service.

For formation, we have been using a curriculum called *Can I Ask That?* This exciting program allows our youth to talk about challenging subjects in a safe and open environment. The conversations generated by these questions have been deep and thoughtful and we look forward to continuing to ask the tough questions in the spring.

And we end each event with Good and Get Betters. This is a time to share our joys and concerns and feel heard and loved.

Other highlights from 2022 include the Youth Pilgrims to Ireland led by Father Ted and Michael.



They were able to explore and experience the country's glories as well as celebrate its ancient traditions and influences on our faith and worship.

Finally, to thank Father Ted Clarkson and Allison Blalock for being incredible mentors and partners. I look forward to growing in faith and fun with you.



Vestry Reports

Senior Warden's Report by Mark Ramsay

2022 began our first full year of in-person services since 2019. Church life began to return to normal as many ministries roared back to life, while others continue to find their way in this world still affected by a global health pandemic. As always, Transfiguration continues to strengthen the ways in which our vibrant parish seeks and serves Christ in ALL persons!

2022 also began with the wonderful news that Transfiguration would receive a generous gift of *The Saint John's Bible*. This news was accompanied by a trip to St. John's University for clergy and Vestry leadership. Upon our return from this trip, plans were made to design and manufacture the handsome, sturdy, and secure cases that grace our Gathering Space as a permanent home for these volumes, making these true works of art available, for our parish and the broader community, to enjoy and treasure! We also instituted a docent program for volunteers who have been instructed how to care for and share *The Saint John's Bible*.

As with any organization, staff changes occur from time to time and Transfiguration is no exception. After years of loving and dutiful service, our former Parish Administrator and Parish Bookkeeper announced plans to retire from their positions. The senior Clergy and appropriate Vestry leadership sprung into action to secure replacements that would continue the valuable and vital work that these administrative positions provide. Within a relatively quick period of time, a new Parish Administrator and Parish Bookkeeper were hired. They began to provide the services required for the health and financial vitality of Transfiguration.

Further to the goal of a healthy and robust church, the Rector and Vestry reinstated the Stewardship Committee, a lay committee comprised of parishioners with extensive experience in fundraising and project management.

A Stewardship goal was set, deadlines for communication were made, and the committee successfully procured pledges in a more timely manner than seen in recent years. The committee's goal of pledges of \$2 million was not met, but the groundwork has been laid to allow our parish to fully support the ministry and programs of Transfiguration in years to come.

2022 included a unique experience for your Senior Warden in that, while our Rector took a much-deserved and spiritually fulfilling three-month sabbatical, I acted as the ecclesiastical leader for Transfiguration in his absence. I led three months of Vestry meetings, and oversaw various contact negotiations and staffing decisions. As with my preceding two years of Vestry service, it was an honor to serve the church in any capacity required.

The previous year in Vestry life saw two important initiatives. The first initiative was a review of Vestry sub-committee functions and overall Vestry workflow, with a goal of becoming more effective while being efficient with time. This review was successful, with future Vestries having a game plan for how sub-committees function and provide support to the Vestry and entire parish. The second initiative was a comprehensive review of safety and security in and through our church activities. This initiative began the process of reviewing 19 security suggestions, and this work will continue into the next and subsequent Vestries.

I am in awe of the devotion and dedication of our Clergy, Staff, and countless volunteers in our varied and numerous ministries. I count it a privilege to be a member of this parish, a parish that welcomed me with open arms and – through your involvement and sacrificial giving – continues to welcome all those who seek fulfilling relationships with each other and God! Thank YOU for being a part of this family!

Budget, Finance & Administration by Lacey Garcia

The Vestry's Budget, Finance & Administration Committee (BFA) supports the church's mission by monitoring and advising on all financial and administrative matters relating to church business. BFA develops the annual parish budget for approval by the Vestry and reports monthly on the church's financial position relative to the budget as well as activity in restricted ministry and investment accounts. In addition, BFA provides a liaison to the Transfiguration Endowment trustees, facilitating communications and cooperation between the Endowment and the Vestry. This year, Kristin Cutts served as the liaison. This year's committee was chaired by Lacey Garcia who extends many thanks to this year's committee: Paul Brown, Kristin Cutts, Cathleen Dolt, Louis Guion, Cesar Hernandez, Keri Holt, Beth Hotchko, Allison Murphy, and Mark Ramsay.

BFA reviewed and updated the Parish Policies & Procedures Manual, completed a clean-up of all restricted accounts, and reintroduced the use of giving through Amazon Smile.

BFA also exercises oversight of the Nominating Committee for open Vestry positions and our Diocesan Convention delegation. The 2022 Nominating Committee was well-chaired by Kristin Cutts who led the committee, as well as both the online and in-person voting. The following recommended slate for Vestry was approved: Mike Mignardi, Lindsey Murphy, Alyson Thompson, and Brett Vanderbrook. Also elected by the parish was our 2023 Diocesan Convention delegation: Barbara DeLizza, Alan Dunlop, Sergio Garcia, Louise Harms, Barbara Geiter, and Mark Ramsay. Many thanks to the Nominating Committee for their hard work: Travis Adamek, John Bhadelia, Oliver Cone, Barbara DeLizza, Michael Durance, Barbara Geiter, Keri Holt, Bill Keslar, Rosemary Luquire, and David Reece.



Building, Grounds & Technology by Jodi Dalton

The Building, Grounds and Technology Committee of the Vestry is charged with monitoring and supervising the use, conditions, repair, improvement, and sustainability of all buildings and grounds on Church's property, as well as the technology utilized by Transfiguration to carry out its ministry in a method and manner consistent with its core mission to seek and serve Christ in all persons.

Improvements pursuant to the Transfiguring Our Foundations Capital Campaign were our focus in 2022. Through calendar 2022, we expended \$995,462 to address items outlined in the maintenance survey that gave rise to our campaign. The maintenance survey included current needs and repairs that would be required through 2034. To date, 48% of the items on the original list are complete or well underway.

The improvements to Roper Hall, the Memorial Garden, and the new solar roof are apparent, but so much more has been completed. Perhaps you have noticed that everything seems brighter as you enter the church. That is because new energy-efficient lighting has been installed in Roper and the Gathering Space and all of the skylights have been replaced. Multiple heating and air conditioning units have been repaired or replaced throughout the campus, one that required a helicopter to lift to the roof! The entire electrical system has been scanned and inspected for any problems that might have caused future damage if left unaddressed.

Safety and Security continued to be a focus, as we balance keeping our church open and welcoming, while ensuring that it is safe for everyone. New AEDs and First Aid kits have been installed throughout the church buildings and the Youth Center. In early 2022 we hosted representatives from the Dallas Police Department for a program dealing with active shooters, and later a First Aid/CPR training program with the American Red Cross. New door-locking mechanisms have been installed throughout the building, and protocols have

been established to monitor door locks and regularly track who has card keys for the church. Further improvements will continue to be made.

On the technology side, the Church's entire phone system has been replaced and upgraded, the internet service has been upgraded, and additional security cameras have been added throughout the building, allowing the receptionist, the office, and the operations staff to have "eyes" almost everywhere.

And so much more is yet to come. The renovation of the Roper Kitchen is finally underway and will be completed later this spring. Improvements to the parking lot lighting will be completed soon, making it more energy efficient and brighter.

A preliminary design for an expanded and enhanced Sacristy was completed and has been thoroughly reviewed by the Vestry, the Clergy, and, perhaps most importantly, the Altar Guild. Working from that, we have retained the services of an architect and contractor to provide working drawings and final cost estimates for the project. Included in that process will be designs for improvements to the Sanctuary: enhanced and improved lighting, a small, chapel space in the South Transept, and perhaps even new pews. Understanding the cost of all of those things will allow us to move forward with implementing these important future improvements to our worship space.

A generous memorial gift at the end of 2022 will allow us to improve the area around the Bell Tower, adding seating areas, new walkways, a water feature, enhanced landscaping and new pollinator gardens. That work will commence later this Spring.

Special thanks to Director of Operations Bracken Reece and his staff for their dedication and hard work in keeping this operation running so smoothly, and managing all of these projects. We could not do it without them.

Transfiguring Our Foundations

by Robbi Rice Dietrich

When Transfiguration's Capital Campaign was launched in 2020, a priority was placed on continuous transparency with the parish on funds raised, their use in improving and maintaining our campus, and the amount of funds invested for future infrastructure needs. The Capital Campaign Continuation Committee (QUAD C) is a group of parishioners focused on updating the parish on the status of Capital Campaign projects. We can be found each quarter at weekend services at the *Transfiguring Our Foundations* booth in the Gathering Space, where we answer questions about the status of projects underway and those in planning stages.

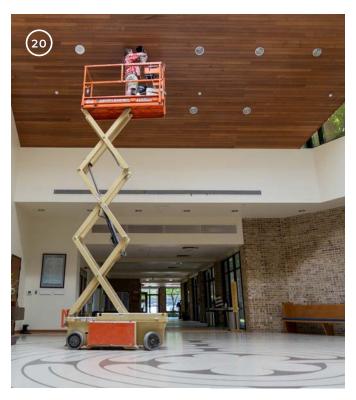
As of December 31, 2022 we have received pledges/contributions totaling \$7,045,635 for the Capital Campaign from 302 donors. Of that amount, \$3,996,500 has been remitted to the parish. In keeping with the commitment to invest a portion of contributed funds for future infrastructure needs, \$922,799 has been transferred to the Endowment Committee for investment.

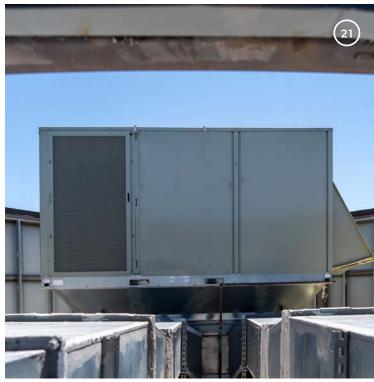
Major projects completed include the renovation of Roper Hall, replacement and repair of roofing throughout the campus, including the installment of solar tiles on the church roof, replacement or repair of all HVAC units and controls throughout the campus, installation of new lighting in the Entry Hall and Gathering Space, upgrade of audio-visual equipment in Roper Hall and Vestry Room, installation of additional security cameras and security door locking systems, replacement of skylights in the Church and Gathering Space, new gutters, downspouts, perimeter fencing, retaining wall and the dumpster corral. In the Memorial Garden, drainage has been corrected, and a new area for the internment of remains into the ground has been completed with a new memorial plaque. In the parking lot, repairs have been made to the paving and to the landscaping.

Upgrades to the lighting in the Church are underway. In addition to the completed projects, remodeling is finally underway in the Roper Hall Kitchen. The project should be completed in Spring 2023.

A preliminary design for an expanded and enhanced Sacristy was completed and reviewed. Working from that design, an architect and contractor have been hired to to provide working drawings and cost estimates for the project. Understanding the costs will allow us to plan when this important work can be started.

For more information contact: Father Casey, Robbi Rice Dietrich, Jim and Tammy Kirkman, Susan Fisk, ET and Sally Manning, or Jeremy and Jordan Teeple

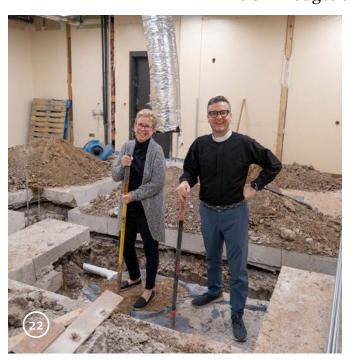






\$7.05 million in Capital Campaign Pledges!

302 Pledges | \$7,045,635 Total | \$3,996,500 Collected





Mission, Ministry, and Connections Committee by Linda Horton

The goal of the Mission, Ministry, and Connections Committee is to interact with the various ministries and organizations of the church and help them connect with members and visitors. This became especially important as we emerged from the restrictions presented by the Covid pandemic.

Many people were feeling disconnected from their usual supports, including the church. It was important to help them reconnect. We completed a name-badge initiative early in the year, signing people up for permanent name badges to help members and visitors to become more familiar with each other as they returned to in-person church services.

We held a training on the Realm system at Parish Council and then set up a table in the Gathering Space to familiarize people with the Realm system. This enabled them to receive news and register for events happening at the church.

In the spring, our staff liaison, Anne Schmidt, departed the church to move to New Mexico. She had been a wonderful help to our committee and many others. We prepared a farewell table for Anne at the annual Recognition Sunday held each year to recognize staff and volunteers who provide various services to the church. After Anne left, Gabby Guion was appointed to replace her and moved from our committee to the position vacated by Anne.

We worked with Gabby to put on the Ministry Fair, which was a huge success. We were able to facilitate the signing up of many individuals who expressed interest the church's various ministries.

In the fall we provided support for Gabby as she spearheaded FigFest. Throughout the year, we helped ministries identify potential volunteers and participants for their organizations. We also placed phone calls to welcome newcomers to the church.

We helped with the successful relaunch of St. Elizabeth's Guild, a group that organizes a monthly potluck dinner for members and newcomers to the church. We hope that, under the leadership of our new Chair, Chip Brownlee, the committee will be able to do much more during the coming year to connect people with the many events and ministry opportunities here at Transfiguration.









Financial Reports

Endowment Fund by Alan Dunlop

The Transfiguration Endowment Fund receives and manages gifts and legacies for the longterm benefit of the church and its ministries. It is managed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Vestry. The Endowment is divided into six sub-funds: Outreach; Youth; Music; the Rodgers Seminarian Fund, supporting Transfiguration members at seminary; the Infrastructure Capital Fund, investing capital campaign receipts for long-term infrastructure needs; and the Legacy Fund, supporting diverse Church projects and ministries. Donations and bequests may be made to any of the sub-funds, and if you are considering or reviewing your estate planning, please consider a legacy to one of the Endowment funds. Parishioners who let us know that they have provided for the Endowment Fund in their estate plan become members of the Legacy Society.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the total assets of the Endowment Fund increased from \$2,569,559 on December 31, 2021, to \$2,758,460. This net increase is made up of a year of very significant market depreciation offset by contributions, especially to the Infrastructure Capital Fund. During the year, the Endowment Fund received contributions of \$709,836 including bequests and other gifts. Of that amount, \$622,411 was earmarked for the

Infrastructure Capital Fund. Disbursements of \$60,825 were made in response to various grant requests. Grants included \$ 47,636 from the Legacy sub-fund for Church projects including support of The Table and the music ministry, \$4,000 from the Outreach sub-fund, \$2,040 from the Seminarian sub-fund to support Transfiguration's two sponsored seminarians, \$4,503 from the Music sub-fund and \$2,411 from the Youth subfund.

Spending in 2022 was limited to 4% of each sub-fund's assets, except for the Youth sub-fund, which is limited by other restrictions. The spend limit for 2023 will also be 4% of each sub-fund's assets.

The Endowment Fund retains the Episcopal Church Foundation, which advises many endowed parishes and schools, as its investment advisor. Investments through ECF are managed by State Street Global Advisors, investing primarily in mutual funds and ETFs and following an agreed balanced asset allocation strategy. The target asset allocation is 60% equity and 40% fixed income.

Officers of the board of trustees for 2023 are Alan Dunlop, chair; Bill Keslar, vice chair; George Banitch, secretary; and Renee Thomas, treasurer. New trustees joining the Board are Tony DeBruyn, Elizabeth Jenkins, Chuck Hodge, Keri Holt and Kurt Meisenbach. Continuing trustees are Linda Ayres, Dana Bartholomew, and John Caldwell. Special thanks to retiring trustees Sergio Garcia, Carolyn Lewis, John Mottram, and Michael Widmer for their service to the Endowment Fund over many years.



Stewardship

\$1.75 million 2023 Stewardship Pledges (88% of \$2M goal)

First Fruits by Julia Trizzino

In 2022, we re-formed the Stewardship Committee, led by members of the congregation. The purpose of the Stewardship committee is to plan and shepherd the annual Stewardship campaign in support of the church's operating budget.

After months of meeting together and prayerfully considering options, the committee selected the theme of "First Fruits" for the 2023 campaign. All creation belongs to God, and we are God's stewards. By giving to God first and offering our first fruits in support of the church, we demonstrate our faithfulness to God's covenant, gratitude to God, and trust in God's continued provision. We invited members to consider how we give and what it would look like in our lives to give our first fruits to God. We included a 4-week sermon series that explored the theme, creative representations of the theme in the Gathering Space, and some strawberry jam giveaways to have a little fun with it and remind everyone of the theme.

This giving of our first fruits has not only a spiritual benefit, but helps us keep the church operating each year. Our budget is set based on the pledges we receive during the campaign. The Vestry helped us to establish a goal of \$2M in pledges for 2023. This represents an increase of 9% over the 2022 budget and is necessary to fully fund our 2023 budget and offset inflation.

As of late January, we have heard from 403 households for a total pledged amount of \$1.75 million. The committee has followed up with those we have yet to hear from and are hopeful that we can.

Committee members included Julia Trizzino (chair), Courtney Barrow, Robin Caldwell, Cathleen Dolt, Peggy Kwoka, E.T. and Sally Manning, Mark Ramsay, Rev. Rebecca Tankersley, and Nancy Torrell, with additional support from Fred Ellis, T.J. McCoy, and Lana Mederos.



Ministry Reports

Altar Guild

by Olga Ruff

The Altar Guild is a behind-the-scenes ministry that serves the clergy and congregation by preparing everything necessary for each worship service. Altar Guild volunteers (the "stagehands" for the clergy, so to speak) prepare the Altar and Sanctuary for the five weekly Eucharistic services and all funerals and weddings. Altar Guild also maintains the Altar, Holy Eucharistic Vessels, wafers and wine, altar linens, candles, Holy Water Font, children's chapel, traveling Eucharistic kits, and clergy vestments. We strive to create a well-prepared and reverent worship space for our congregation.

2022 was our first year back "in-person" full-time post-pandemic, and the Altar Guild accomplished many updates and goals. In the Sacristy, AG members removed clutter and reorganized cabinets. We converted old paper files and checklists to a digital database that allows future AG team members and leaders immediate and editable access to all Altar Guild material. We created new AG Notebooks with "howto" photos and checklists for weekly services, special services (Epiphany, Advent, etc.), and Lent and Holy Week. An an in-depth training took place in September, from which a manual was developed and posted in Realm. Our Ministry added five new teammates, and we continue welcome new members.

Goals for 2023 include plans for 1) a corporate Altar Guild Eucharist followed by a social gettogether, 2) reorganizing the Altar Guild attic space, 3) developing short AG training videos, and 4) posting all digital Altar Guild checklists and information in Realm. We also plan to 5) purchase new Altar linens (through a grant request) and 6) give attention to refreshing and mending the Priest Vestments. Finally, with the assistance of Laurel Brewster, the Altar Guild will establish protocols and means for the safekeeping of relevant historical records and information.

The Altar Guild volunteers are wonderfully dedicated, hard-working, and a joy to work with each week. The Director of the Altar Guild is Olga Ruff; the Sub-Director is Diana Rawlins.

Altar Ministries

by Liz Kerner-Wyse

Transfiguration Altar Ministries assist clergy with the ceremonial requirements of each kind of church service, ensuring the smooth operation thereof, and facilitating a meaningful worship experience for parishioners.

Eucharistic Ministers (EM) assist with administration of the chalice during Communion. This ministry is open to all adults. This past year was significant for refilling our roster, that had been depleted from loss of participants during the pandemic to normal fluctuations due to life changes. Anyone interested should please contact Elizabeth Kerner via Realm for more information and training.

Minister of Ceremony (MC) The MC assists the clergy in set up for each service, as well as during the liturgy. Participation in this ministry is at the invitation of the Rector. We now have an older youth MC and have filled several vacancies due to life changes. Anyone interested in serving in this way should have experience as both an adult acolyte and an EM. Please contact either Elizabeth Kerner or Fr. Shobe for more information.

The *Thurifer* carries and swings the thurible in which incense is burned during the Eucharist and other liturgies. Mat Thekkil oversees this ministry, where 3 adults were active.

Adult Acolytes carry the cross, torches, and banner at services, as well as assist throughout the services. 4 new adult acolytes were trained this year, bringing the total number to 26 that serve during the 11:15 Sunday services. Please contact Robin Caldwell or Mike Rawlins for more information and training.

Austin Street Ministry

by Judy Loveday-Corbett

Many situations cause financial ruin and result in people living on the streets of Dallas, homeless and hungry. Thanks to our ASC Ministry, in coordination with ASC, we keep many of them from being hungry. Three Team Captains lead approximately 55 serving volunteers (20 per month), 16 cookie-baking volunteers, three food purchasers, and two onion choppers to feed ASC clients a meal of "chili-dogs-with-all-the-fixings" once each month from January through October.

During Covid, we provided monthly meals, but were not permitted to serve meals inperson until April. With ASC's move into their beautiful & huge, new facility in late June, their number of clients has increased to 431.

In November, 35 of us served a traditional Thanksgiving meal, complete with 75 pies prepared by *Figs with Kids*. We served a fried chicken/mashed potatoes pre-Christmas meal in December, complete with many Christmas cookies.

Matt Harms is stepping into the Coordinator's role now that Judy Loveday-Corbett is stepping down from that position. With your continued help through both funds and volunteering, we can continue to follow Christ's teachings and help care for "the least of these."

Centering Prayer

by Susan Witten

Centering Prayer is a daily practice of sitting in silence in God's presence while letting go of all business of mind and body. This silence deepens our relationship with God by making us more open to the Beloved Trinity and the Divine love that flows between us. This experience helps us become more aware of God's presence in our lives and to live out of a place of love and compassion.

Many passages in the Bible emphasize that God is present in stillness and silence. For example, Isaiah 30:15, "In quietness and in trust shall be your strength." According to Father Thomas Keating, Centering Prayer becomes the foundation of a much more fruitful apostolate and of relationships and actions that are truly unselfish with ourselves, others, God and our church. Centering Prayer provides the experience of the Trinity living the divine life within and through us.

Centering Prayer meets Thursdays at 11:00am in the Parlor and online, and at 4:00pm online.





Daughters of the King

by Barbara DeLizza

The Mary and Martha Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King had a successful year as we work to live our mission of prayer, service, and evangelism.

The Daughters meet monthly, now in-person and via zoom. Our current membership is 54 women.

It was a great pleasure to commission nine new Daughters to our Chapter in August of 2022.

We have served the parish and the community. We participated in the Lent Soup Supper, supplying toiletries for the Food Pantry Shelf, Ministry Fair Table, and reception for the Kirking of the Tartans. The Daughters hosted a Rosary Workshop and participated in a Baby Shower for clients of Gateway of Grace.

We look forward to another year where we will serve clergy and the parish and the wider community. Special thanks to our officers for their tireless work;

Barbara Geiter-Vice President, Kathey Roberts-Secretary, and Olga Ruff-Treasurer.

Episcopal Men's Fellowship

by Alan Dunlop

The EMF's usual activities continued to be disrupted by COVID restrictions at the beginning of 2022, leading to a decision that once again it would be impractical to hold the annual silent auction to raise funds. Activities did pick up in the second part of the year with a golf tournament and the resumption of monthly meetings, and this will continue in 2023 despite the disruption of the Roper Hall kitchen renovations. There will be an auction in June 2023!

The EMF Board meets monthly and is always looking out for new volunteers who are interested in getting more involved with the EMF to help develop its activities and fellowship.

Financially, the EMF had another year of very much reduced income in the absence of the auction, and therefore reduced grant-awarding ability:

Available funds at January 1, 2022	\$13,590
Income from activities and donations:	\$5,829
Expenditure on grants:	(\$5,150)
Expenditure on activities:	(\$5,195)
Available funds at December 31, 2022	\$9,074



Episcopal Peace Fellowship

by Ron Damholt

As Shane Claiborne has noted, "The peace, according to the prophets, doesn't begin with the politicians. It begins with the people, who lead the politicians towards that peace."

Building on that conviction, every month (on the first or second Sunday) parishioners gather for "Peace Post", during which we write notes to both elected and appointed officials. Our goal is to influence their positions on issues related to justice and peace. While we generally suggest three topics for consideration, writers are encouraged to address any issues of public justice which lie close to their heart as persons of faith. We try to write briefly, and to the point.

As Christians we need politicians to hear our voices, and we understand this work as helping us to fulfill our baptismal covenant to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being."

Questions? Please email rdamholt@att.net

Eucharistic Visitors

by Nancy DeSetfano

2022 saw the Eucharistic Visitors continuing to share our table with those who are unable to be with us in person. We currently have 11 active EVs, two of whom are new this year. They each serve an average of one time a month and visit around 4-5 members each week. Usually sent from our 9 am service, this vital ministry connects us as a community and reminds us that "we who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup." If you ask one of our EVs they will tell you that they receive so many blessings from this ministry, as they bring th and our church's love to people who might otherwise feel forgotten or no longer part of our fellowship. We are so blessed to have these 11 dedicated members who serve in this ministry.



Figs with Kids

by Jacqui Neylon

The mission of the Figs with Kids ministry is to help connect a community of parents of children living at home as we model seeking and serving Christ for our kids in today's information age through, worship, education, evangelism, outreach, pastoral care and fellowship.

Throughout 2022, with the help of the clergy, we have been able to have an adult formation class focused on parenting issues. We were able to schedule regular activities designed to help us get to know each other better, strengthen our connections to Transfiguration, and enhance our spiritual growth as parents. Our events included summer gatherings such as pool party, movie night, game night and gettogether at the lake. Figs with Kids families baked Thanksgiving Pies for the residents at Austin Street Shelter and supported Holy Week, VBS, Fig Fest, and the Advent festival through volunteers. Our private Facebook group continued to be a place to share frustrations about parenting as well as a haven for online support and fellowship.

In 2023 we look forward to welcoming families who are new to Transfiguration and are excited to continue to offer events focusing on family gatherings.



Flower Guild

by Carolyn Lewis

In 2022 the Flower Guild was pleased to welcome new members of a variety of ages and experience levels brining our total membership to fourteen. The group is divided into teams so that each week every person has the opportunity to produce their own arrangement.

We created fresh designs for over 40 events from receptions and funeral services to weekly arrangements for the altar, font, and children's chapel. In addition, we are delighted to continue providing nosegays for home bound parishioners as part of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors ministry.

Although supply chain issues continue to a challenge, we are all excited about the new year and the prospect of sharing God's creation of beautiful flowers with our church community.

Food Pantry

by Alan Justice

The Fig Food Pantry continues in its seventh year. We now feed 38 families, nine more than last year, including 169 people, 93 of whom are children.

Every month we provide about one week's worth of food for each family – some form of protein plus vegetables, fruit, pasta, and flour The Daughters of the King provide items like toothpaste, toilet paper, and shampoo. The Clothes Horse makes free clothing available for our clients.

John Makowski headed up the Food Pantry Angel Tree this year, ensuring that there were Christmas gifts for all our kids. Robert Hacker cooks lunch for our volunteers every month. A single donor provided a cash gift for each family.

Foyer Groups

by Sheila Runnels

Foyer began meeting in August 2022, after not meeting during the Pandemic. I have never seen so many excited people gather in the Parlor for our Kick-Off! Our numbers were back up to over 100 members with 13 groups of 8-10 people each! Everyone was eager to meet their groups and plan their gatherings for the months ahead. Throughout the fall we had 20-25 people who heard about Foyer and who contacted me (or Gabby Guion) to join. We made room for everyone who was interested to be included in an existing group.

People had a renewed interest in joining the fellowship at The Fig. They wanted to belong to a Foyer group! Several groups met additional times because they enjoyed the fellowship so much.

Foyer meets the needs of so many people. We are an enthusiastic Fig group!

Funeral Reception Ministry and Wedding Guild

by Elizabeth Jenkins

Unlike most ministries we don't have regular meetings or activities outside of when we are called on. In 2022, we gladly welcomed two new members to each group. Despite challenges due to the rennovation of Roper Hall Kitchen, and with great support from Gabby Guion, Tish Maedche, Susan Casone, and our custodial staff, everything ran smoothly.

This year we set up 17 funeral receptions, with beautiful flowers from the Flower Guild, under the direction of Carolyn Lewis. We hosted four weddings and have two more schedule in 2023.

The Funeral Reception Ministry and Wedding Guild is chaired by Elizabeth Jenkins and cochaired by Gabby Guion and Tish Maedche.

MacMaster Library

by Nancy Banitch

The MacMaster Library contains over 2600 books for both adults and children. The focus is on spiritually enriching material that explores the meaning of scripture, tradition, reason and faith in our lives as Episcopalians and, more broadly, as Christians and as citizens of the world.

Among the topics included in the collection are: The Bible and its history, theology, and interpretation; Church History; devotional literature and worship; prayer and meditation; biographies of Saints and other religious figures; dealing with major life issues of loss including illness, divorce, and death; contemporary social and ethical issues; parenting books; fiction and memoirs, and many others. The catalog is accessible online through the church's website under connect/read.

The Library is centrally located next to the Sanctuary and is open during church hours. Books are available for loan on the honor system for three weeks. To check out an item, please fill out the enclosed card inside the book's cover with the date, your full name and phone number, and leave the card in the designated box next to the desk.



Nurturing Faith through Fiction by Ron Damholt

We're a group of parishioners and friends who gather monthly either to discuss a noteworthy novel or to screen and discuss a high-quality movie - enjoying conversation (and refreshment) along the way. Our goals include helping us reflect on our faith and deepen our faithfulness to Christ, in the light given us through authors, directors and actors.

As a taste of our various explorations, during the past year we've screened and discussed (among others) the films *Ikiru* (Akira Kurosawa, 1952), *Amistad* (Steven Spielberg, 1997) and *Grand Illusion* (Jean Renoir, 1937). We've also read and discussed Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925), Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse Five* (1959) and Elizabeth Strout's *Abide with Me* (2006).

We generally meet in Transfiguration's parlor at 7:00 pm on the fourth Thursday evening of each month. Please email *rdamholt@att.net* for more information.

Open Door

by Chip Brownlee

The mission of Open Door is to seek and serve Christ in all persons, embracing the LGBTIA+ community, their families and friends through opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and service.

Beginning last summer, we organized monthly social events. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, Open Door hosted Transfiguration's presence at Dallas Pride with a festival booth and parade entry. We also hosted the Maundy Thursday Soup Supper – donating the funds raised to Youth First, the under-18 outreach of Dallas Resource Center fot the LGBT community.

Our goals in 2023 are to add more fellowship opportunities focused on diversity and inclusion, transition to new leadership, and increase communications to welcome new members.



Outreach Committee

by Lindsey Murphy

We are a covenant church with North Dallas Shared Ministry so we are required to hold a yearly food drive. Our children made 340 soup kits during the Annual Meeting to fulfill that commitment. We also held a winter coat drive for them in the fall where we gathered 147 coats. I hope the coats feel like a hug coming for the Fig family to everyone that receives one!

Our twice yearly FigWorks days were held in February and August building on this hands-on tradition which was started in 2020. In February we created hand-made cards for those who our Eucharistic visitors see each week. We also made toiletry kits for our Food Pantry families and sponsored a visit by the Carter Bloodmobile. We held the first Annual FigWorks Bakeoff in August, which raised \$1000 for Aunt Bettie's Community Pantry and allowed parishioners to sample all sorts of tasty treats.

Helping children in our community continued to be a priority for us. Refugee children were treated to one of our sweetest traditions with 42 Easter Baskets and 300 eggs stuffed with candy for Gateway of Grace's annual Easter Party and Egg Hunt. The St. Philip's Mother's Day store provided pure happiness to more than 80 children who picked out gifts and made cards for the mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures in their lives. We also held a swimsuit and swim shoe drive for the kids at Vogel Alcove after they sent out a plea for help. Our partnership with Spring Valley Elementary remains strong. Snacks were provided during STAAR testing for staff and students. Christmas and Teacher appreciation meals were catered for 80 staff members. In the fall we "adopted" 7 new staff members who will receive monthly small gifts and notes of encouragement through the 2022-23 school year.

Do you ever wonder how the holiday loose plate give aways recipients are determined? The Outreach Steering Committee selects the recipients and sends them to the Vestry for approval. We were pleased that this year's Christmas Loose Plate Offering was shared between Vogel Alcove, Happy Homes of South Africa and Genesis Women's Shelter. The Easter Loose Plate Offering went to Gateway of Grace and World Central Kitchen.

We supported other Transfiguration groups by having a toiletry drive for our Food Pantry families as well as helping with the Annual Angel tree efforts for the Food Pantry and the Salvation Army. We gave \$1000 to the Austin Street Homeless Center inclement weather fund as a helping hand to that ministry.

I would like to thank the Outreach Steering Committee members: Staff Liaisons Father Ted Clarkson and Mother Rebecca Tankersley, Melissa Cates, Martha Cordell, Michael Durrance, Brooke Grona-Robb, Matt Harms, Darla Hodge, Alan Justice, Ron Kerker, Judy Loveday-Corbett, Karen O'Rear, Marian Weix, Michelle Williams, and Janet Wilson.

Thank you for being willing to share your time, talent and treasure with your community! We couldn't have Outreach without "u"!

Outreach Grant Recipients

In 2022, the Outreach Committee disbursed \$15,000 in grants to the following local organizations in need.







\$2,000

\$2,500

\$1,500







\$2,000

\$1,000

\$2,000





\$2,000

\$2,000

Good Friday and Easter Offerings			
Loose Plate Offerings	Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East	\$1,700.00	
	Gateway of Grace	\$6,000.00	
	World Central Kitchen	\$6,000.00	
		\$13,700.00	
	Christmas Offerings		
Loose Plate Offerings	Genesis Women's Shelter	\$2,750.00	
	Vogel Alcove	\$2,750.00	
	Happy Homes Pre-school	\$2,750.00	
		\$8,250.00	

Parish Nurses

by Tish Maedche

The Church of the Transfiguration embraced the concept of a Parish Nurses' Ministry in 1997 and recruited a dozen or so nurses on rotation to perform blood pressure screenings for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning worship services. The nurses at Transfiguration are also health counselors and advocates who assist with minor health emergencies during worship hours and special events.

The Parish Nurse ministry added three new members: Brian Corkins, Greta Pardue and Marian Weix. Bringing our total membership to 11.

The blood pressure clinic was on "Covid hiatus" the first quarter of 2022, but we were back in full swing March through December, serving a total of 93 parishioners.

As Health Care Professionals, our primary concern is for the health and safety of our fellow parishioners and our Ministry volunteers. We look forward to again serving our faith community in the spring. Look for us the first weekend of every month in the Library, we'll be happy to take your blood pressure and visit with you about your health questions or concerns.



Prayer Chain Ministry

by Bridget de Bruyn

Every day, nearly 100 of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are experiencing particular life challenges are lifted up in prayer by a team of loving members of the parish community.

The Prayer Chain Ministry is a group of 42 parishioners and 3 members of the clergy who have committed to daily intercessory prayers of comfort, healing, strength, guidance, and the specific needs of parishioners, their family members or dear friends, who have been added to the prayer list at their own or their loved ones' request. The ministry is virtual via email sent to members of the prayer chain.

Anyone wishing to request a Prayer, or join this wonderful group of devoted members of the parish, may email the church at prayers@transfiguration.net, contact Mother Rebecca rtankersley@transfiguration.net or email Bridget de Bruyn at bridget@capitalplaninc.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

by Sally Manning

Coming out of the Pandemic, the Prayer Shawl ministry has seen a huge growth of new faces joining the Ministry and new ideas for developing the distribution of shawls.

The Prayer Shawl ministry now has a prominent location in a large cabinet in the Gathering Space, allowing several completed shawls to be displayed on top of the cabinet and a large notebook of pictures of the various recipients of shawls, many dating back to the beginning of the ministry in 2014.

There are over 50 knitters and crocheters who periodically contribute a lovely rainbow of colorful shawls, made from washable yarns, for gifting. The ministry distributes shawls all over the country – and the world – and benefits from the broad range of parishioners in the Dallas area who are able to select a shawl for a loved one, a neighbor, a work colleague ... anyone who needs the love and compassion of a shawl.

Racial Justice Ministry

by Alyson Thompson

In 2022 the Racial Justice Ministry provided educational opportunities for our parish and service to the wider community. We participated in clean-up efforts at White Rock Garden of Memories, an African-American cemetery in North Dallas. We supported a Lenten discussion on The Cross and the Lynching Tree and hosted a Juneteenth celebration which raised \$2,000 for St. Philip's School. A small group completed the Sacred Ground curriculum, a series on race and faith, in preparation our parish to join in this study in 2023. We were a distribution site for The Accommodation, The Politics of Race in an American City for Big D Reads - handing out over 35 books to individuals not affiliated with Transfiguration. We hosted a discussion on injustice experienced by Native Americans with Joshua Arce of Partnership with Native Americans and Scott Langston of TCU and donated Christmas gifts to 40 senior citizens.

All are welcome to join us on the fourth Monday of each month, at 6:30pm!



Second Half

by Nancy DeStefano

At Transfiguration, our Second Half ministry seeks to bring people together and support the journey through life's second half. We form deep friendships and share our faith and our lives together. Second Half is focused on making connections and helping our members live fully in the present moment. All are welcome and encouraged to join us as we seek to grow in love and find new ways to be the church with each other and for the world.

Transitioning to retirement, making decisions about downsizing or moving, facing new aches and pains, not being able to do what you used to do – these are some of the challenges that face people as they move through the Second Half of life.

Growing in wisdom, seeing the world from a new perspective, widening vistas and opening minds, appreciating the moment and embracing with gratitude every day you are given – these are some of the blessings people experience as they move through the Second Half of life.

Our Second Half ministry in 2022, engaged in ministry through our Seniors Tea Time on Wednesday afternoons via Zoom. An average of 20 members gathered virtually to share our lives with one another and consider some of the challenges and opportunities of the second half of life. In addition we went to lunch once a month, beginning in July with an average of 14 people joining each time.

Look for lots more to come in 2023!

Stephen Ministry

by Jack Skelton

In 2022 the Stephen Ministers returned to a more normal relationship with our care receivers as the pandemic rules relaxed. Stephen Ministers devoted approximately 120 hours of personal time to care receivers in 2022.

We currently have 6 active ministers and a few parishoners expressed interest in joining us once we have a training class. Our biggest challenge is creating a better understanding as to how we can be of service to the congregation. We plan to step up our efforts to make the congregation aware of our ministry and it's purpose.

Our clergy liason, Pastor Nancy, continues to be an inspiration and our current ministers remain dedicated to helping those in need.

St. Hilda's Guild

by Cassie Bledsoe

St. Hilda's Guild is Kay Andrews Bookstore and the Clothes Horse, a resale shop by the Youth Center.

St Hilda's Guild mission is supporting projects for children and women. St Hilda's funded a Godly Play classroom and approved a grant from Altar Guild to provide new Eucharistic linens for weekly congregants and Parish Day children.

St Hilda's has been led incredibly well by Pat Kriska for seven years. St Hilda's is grateful for Pat and all the work that she has done, and the immense amount of time in service. We had a tea in November honoring Pat in which twenty-five St Hilda's volunteers and many Transfiguration clergy and staff attended. (See photo of Pat at tea)

St Hilda's has not had a net gain of volunteers. We need new volunteers at the Clothes Horse. If you would like to help, call or text Cassie Bledsoe at 214-536-2416.



Saint Hilda's Guild Year-End Financial Report

	Bookstore	Clothes Horse	Totals
Income			
Clothes Horse	-	\$15866.77	\$15,866.77
Book Store - Books	\$7,396.29	-	\$7,396.29
Book Store - Gifts	\$9,150.97	-	\$9,150.97
Total (Gross) Income	\$16,547.26	\$15,866.77	\$32,414.03
Expenses			
Book Store Purchases			
Books Purchased	\$4,835.31	-	\$4,835.31
Gifts Purchased	\$1,638.89	-	\$1,638.89
KAB Operating Expenses-Shipping	\$203.44	-	\$203.44
Credit Card Fees	\$360.70	-	\$360.70
CH Operating Expenses	-	\$2113.54	\$2113.54
State Sales Taxes paid in 2022			\$2,243.59
Total Expenses	\$12455.83	\$2899.12	\$11,395.47
Net Profit	\$6,334.36	\$3,799.91	\$23,262.15
Giving			
Tithes in 2022			\$2,478.04
Grants	Grant - Vogel Alcove		\$3,000.00
	KidsU		\$3,000.00
Total Grants in 2022			\$6,000.00
Gifts	Bonuses to CH Cleaner		\$200.00
	Anne Schmidt		\$1,000.00
Total Gifts in 2022			\$1,200.00
Endowment Fund Donations	In memory of Vera Smith		\$250.00
Total Endowments in 2022			\$250.00
Total monetary gifts in 2022			\$9,928.04

Transfigured Nights

by Joel Martinson

2022 was the first year since 2019 that all Transfigured Nights and Art Music offerings were presented live, and we were truly thankful that none of the events were cancelled due to the Covid19 virus or inclement weather. Only one event – our Evensong for The Feast of the Presentation planned for February 6 – was postponed for three weeks and was changed to a commemoration of George Herbert. In addition, all services – Evensongs, All Souls' Requiem, and Advent Lessons & Carols – were livestreamed and reached a substantial number of parishioners and friends of the parish who were not able to attend in-person.

Total and average attendance figures for Transfigured Nights (1,119/160) and Art Music Monday (301/75) offerings have returned to pre-pandemic levels, and the number of patrons and their level of giving is at an all-time high. We are so thankful for the support of all those who make these services and concerts possible by financial gifts and by giving generously of their time and talent to make music as part of the Transfiguration Choir, the backbone of Transfigured Nights.



SPRING 2022 (2021-2022 Season Events)

Transfigured Nights

Evensong – George Herbert

- February 27 (moved from 2/6) Attendance: 137

Concert - Lenten Baroque

- March 27 Attendance: 205

Concert - Clive Driskill-Smith, organist

- May 1 Attendance: 72

Art Music Mondays

The Poetry of Music – January 25 Attendance: 38

The Beauty of Strings – June 6 Attendance: 54

FALL 2022 (2022-2023 Season Events)

Transfigured Nights

Evensong for Holy Cross Day

- September 18 Attendance: 172

Concert - Texas Camerata & Friends

- October 16 Attendance: 97

Requiem for All Souls' Day (Duruflé Requiem)

- November 2 Attendance: 200

Advent Lessons and Carols

- December 4 Attendance: 236

Art Music Mondays

Art in the Autumn

- October 3 (in Church) Attendance: 115 - a record!!

Strings & Pipes

- December 12 Attendance: 94

Transfigured Nights Financial Statement 2022

Beginning Cash Balance	\$72,351.973	
Income		
Patronage & Donations	\$54,541.18 Up 30.8% from 2021	
Total Cash & Income	\$126,893.15	
Expenses		
Performer Fees	\$30,790.39	
Art Music Mondays	\$7,750.00	
Printing & Postage	\$3,244.00	
Printed Sheet Music	\$1,131,45	
Instrument Maintenance, Moving & Tuning	\$1,012.50	
Reception Expenses	\$861.19	
Audio/Visual Equipment & Subscriptions	\$648.42	
Child Care	\$316.67	
Misc. Expenses	\$153.17	
Honorariums	\$0.00	
Total Expenses	\$45,907.79	
Total Transfers Out	\$0.00	
2022 Ending Cash Balance	\$80,985.36	
Less budgeted encumbrance for second half of 2022-2023 season*	\$15,033.99	
Unencumbered Cash	\$65,951.37	

Tuesday Women's Book Group by Nancy DeStefano

This group began 2022 still on zoom but transitioned half way through the year to a hybrid in-person and zoom gathering. It was wonderful to see each other face-to-face again!

We read and discuss a variety of non-fiction books. The books we read are usually recommended by members of the group. This year we read several great books including *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr and *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis. Through reading these books and sharing with one another, we have continued to grow in love for God and one another. We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 to 2:30. We open our meetings with prayer, fellowship and sharing prayer concerns for the first 30 minutes and then we discuss what we have read. We pray, laugh, and share. We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Women's Evening Book Group by Betsy Warren

This informal group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. to discuss books—both fiction and non-fiction—chosen by the members at the group's annual book selection meeting.

A typical meeting has about 12 women, sometimes more, sometimes less. Betsy Warren and Julie Evans are the facilitators. All women are welcome.

Youth Acolytes

by Brooke Robb

The mission of the acolytes is to serve and support the rich worship life of Transfiguration. Roles in this ministry include crucifer, torchbearer, first and second server, and wardens.

There was one graduating senior this year, Ria Marsh, who had served since 2012.

On September 24, about 20 acolytes gathered with the acolyte wardens to train for new positions and for refreshers. Youth acolytes are an important way for youth to learn the church service, and they work hard to perform their roles, generally without being seen by most of the congregation.

Thank you to wardens Dana Bartholomew, Jim Cates, Jessica Good, Louise Harms, Judy Loveday-Corbett, Erin Melendez, Adam Wilson, and Heather Zrubek-Forteith.

Acolyte Warden Bill Keslar retired this year after 26 years of service. Many young people at Transfig were impacted by Bill's kind guidance and support.



Staff

Clergy

The Rev. R. Casey Shobe, D.Min. - Rector | cshobe@transfiguration.net

The Rev. Rebecca Tankersley - Senior Associate Rector | rtankersley@transfiguration.net

The Rev. Terry Roper – Rector Emeritus | troper@transfiguration.net

The Rev. Ted Clarkson- Curate | tclarkson@transfiguration.net

The Rev. Nancy DeStefano – Pastoral Assistant | ndestefano@transfiguration.net

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Bracken Reece – Director of Operations | breece@transfiguration.net Alex Alvarado - Sexton Francisco Negrete - Sexton Erik Welch - Sexton

Vestry

Mark Ramsay,	Scott Daniels	Jay Madrid	Vestry-elect
Sr. Warden	Robbi Dietrich	Parish Chancellor	Mike Mignardi
Peggy Kwoka,	Lacey Garcia	Allison Murphy	Lindsey Murphy
Jr. Warden	Linda Horton	Treasurer	Alyson Thompson
Chip Brownlee	Mason McCamey	Libby Nicodemus	Brett Vanderbrook
Kristin Cutts	Jeremy Teeple	Clerk	
Jodi Dalton	Peter Young		

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 Birth of Christ, Donald Jackson, Copyright 2002, The Saint John's Bible, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
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Seeking and Serving Christ in All Persons

