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ALL SAINTS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



All Saints' Episcopal Church

2025 Annual Report

Annual Meeting Agenda

10:30

Call to Order & Opening Prayer
Green Team Announcement

10:35

Meeting Logistics & Appointing the Clerk
Annual Most Seconds Prize
Rules of Order
Approve the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes

10:40

Voting for members of the Vestry and Candidates
for Delegate to Diocesan Convention

10:50

Atrium / Youth Group
Polly Tangora, Andrea Garland, Liz Bartels

11:00

EQUALITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE
Courtney Reid, Kate Davis, Barbara
Manley, Lori Gee

11:10

BUILDINGS & GROUND
Mark Ortlieb

11:15

Finance Review
Finance Review - John Williams

11:30

Community Share
2025 Video

11:40

Rector Address
Suzanne Wille

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Outgoing Vestry/Warden Gratitude
Suzanne Wille

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Election Results &
Most Seconds Prizes

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2025 Meeting Minutes | 142nd Annual Meeting of All Saints - Wicked

Call to Order and Welcome

Our meeting is called to order at 10:30 AM by the chair, Rev. Suzanne Wille, who opens with a prayer.

Green Team: Environmental Moment

Allison begins with a message about composting and recycling, helping understand how and where to dispose of compostable materials.

Appointing Clerk and Reviewing Business Procedures

The chair appoints June Coyne as Clerk for the meeting. The chair then calls up assistant parliamentarian Doug Renkenberger, and he explains the rules of order and how voting will work in this, our third annual hybrid meeting. Next, Ann McKenzie explains our Seconds prize.

The chair requests a motion to approve the minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Motion made by Ken Jones, and seconded by Nancy Lischer.

This motion passes.

Candidate Elections

Two candidates are introduced to stand for co-warden: John DuFour and Prince Fiyero.

Katrina Kasten objects to the nomination of Prince Fiyero due to no records of him having contributed to All Saints in the past six months (and also is shallow, vain, and hasn't been seen in church... ever). Prince Fiyero subsequently removed from consideration for this position.

Three candidates are introduced for vestry for a three-year term, with three in total to be chosen: Chet Kelly, Tobias Lohse, Jose Sanchez-Perry. One candidate is introduced for vestry for a one-year term: Jane Schaefer. Three candidates are introduced for delegates to the diocesan convention for a one-year term, with three to be chosen: Lelia Fry, Annie Logue, Jennifer Reft. One candidate is introduced for alternate for delegate to the diocesan convention: Skip Yates.

Suzanne explains in full the qualifications for nominations if made from the floor. She opens the floor for nominations. None are made.

The chair requests a motion to close nominations from the floor. Several people speak up to make this motion, and Nick Hatzis seconds.

This motion passes.

There being no additional nominations for vestry, warden, or diocesan representative, the chair proceeds to accept each slate by acclamation.

All motions pass.

Friendship and Belonging - Atrium

After a few flying monkeys get launched, Jack Garland comes to the stage to introduce John DuFour and Halley Hoffman. John and Halley report live from Atriumland on everything going on with our nursery and church school. As they do, flying monkeys arrive and circulate to help sign people up for the annual bake auction, coming up soon!

Equality and Justice pt 1 - United Power

Barbara Manley talks about the persistent and patient work done in 2024 with United Power to reclaim Chicago by building new homes and transforming neighborhoods. At the end of 2024, over 80 families have moved into new homes built by United Power. In the fall, All Saints launched a campaign to build relationships with alderpeople on the north side, and are continuing to do so now. In 2025, we will continue to do the work of fighting injustice and building a community where all can thrive.

Equality and Justice pt 2 - Ravenswood Community Services

We watch a video that recaps the work that RCS has done in 2024 to feed our neighbors and community. 2024 saw over 20,000 visits, and 375 meals every week.

There's No Place Like Home - Buildings and Grounds Report

Mark Ortlieb gives our report on our buildings and grounds. We have 5 beautiful buildings on our campus, which also require a lot of maintenance and attention. In 2024, we restored and repainted the east wall of the church. We also inspected and upgraded our sprinkler system. We redid the back porches at the rectory and 3-flat. In 2025, we plan to rehabilitate the bell in the bell tower. We also plan on redoing the basement windows, fixing the sign on the corner, and working on the HVAC in the church school. The 3-flat has paid out \$30,000 last year and paid down the mortgage by \$5,000.

Truth and Knowledge - Treasurer's Report

We begin with a video watching John Williams and others, depicting the joy and life at All Saints as they dance through church. Then John comes to the stage to dance through some numbers with our finances. He discusses the financial report, where our financial position remains strong. We had a very slight deficit of \$367, but this is an extremely slight percentage of our entire budget. We're continuing to learn to better plan for our financial needs from year to year. In 2024, we grew the Phoenix Fund even after making a significant withdrawal for tuckpointing the Parish Hall, and it now sits at just over \$500,000. The property at 4546 Hermitage has gone from a cost center to a revenue stream. Our new accountant has brought a fresh, objective, and clarifying perspective to our accounts. We also made a strategic decision to not fully fulfill our Diocesan Gift this year, but we plan on doing so in the next. This is now the fourth year in a row that we have not needed to use the Phoenix Fund for any operating expenses. Our pledges in 2024 are slightly under our expectations but still very good compared to church averages. Despite some big expenses, the overall numbers were \$18,096 under budget. This was also the first year for us to do a mid-year budget analysis and adjustment, which was critical practice that we will continue to do. John Williams makes a motion to receive the 2024 financials as approved by the Vestry. Nick Hatzis seconds. The chair allows a few minutes for discussion, and then we vote.

This motion passes.

John Williams returns to talk through the 2025 budget, which projects for a surplus of \$484. We continue to align our budget with our activities and program goals, and hope to accurately capture the costs that we will see. The increase in administrative expenses comes from how we show payroll taxes and online payment and credit card fees. We've also increased our buildings and grounds budget substantially. Finally, education is up a lot as we plan on investing more in that area, because it's something we value highly. We have come a long way in the past few years with our financial situation, due to the work of many people at All Saints, and John recognizes our Finance Committee for their tireless efforts.

John Williams makes a motion that the 2025 budget, as approved by the Vestry, be received. Nancy Lischer seconds. A brief period is opened for discussion, and then the chair calls for a vote.

This motion passes.

The chair thanks the finance committee, vestry, and our treasurer John Williams for their hard work.

Popular and Belonging pt 1: Year-End Video

Jack Garland introduces our year end video, and we roll it and enjoy all the feels that it brings.

Rector's Address

Suzanne speaks with us about defying gravity, particularly in a difficult time in our nation and world. We at All Saints know how to hope, to celebrate, and how to reach out to the suffering and the lost. We have been preparing for this moment and growing our refugia, our place of safety and support, through many events and programs. We know how to build community, and to foster hope and joy. This was not an accident; we've been planning for where we are right now. In a world where

being popular is paramount, we know that popularity has nothing on community. She encourages all of us to take a moment to turn to our neighbor and share what belonging means to us here and in our lives.

Belonging matters. Community matters. However, it's not just something we keep to ourselves. We've reached out to our neighborhood and become a place for them as well. We are going to do more. First, we are going to have as strong a community as possible. Second, we will focus on one or two important efforts to dedicate ourselves to, rather than spreading ourselves too thin. Third, we will react swiftly and strongly when people are targeted or vulnerable. Finally, we will be a beacon of hope for ourselves and those around us. In this coming year, we have got to be all-in for All Saints. We must rely on God and know that we are not alone. Suzanne encourages us to show up here, to get involved and find our ministry. If we are going to defy gravity, we will not be able to do so alone.

Suzanne finishes by recognizing and giving our thanks to everyone who has made this annual meeting possible. She also thanks our Vestry, who help lead our church. Finally, she calls outgoing Vestry member Chad Eric Bergman and co-warden Katrina Kasten to the stage, speaking about their character and service to All Saints, before presenting them each with a gift reflecting those things.

Seconds Prize

Ann returns to announce the winner of the Seconds Prize: Nick Hatzis and Nancy Lischer. They receive a flying monkey as their reward (or possibly punishment, given the screaming sounds the monkeys make).

Closing

We've done everything else, but something seems to be missing... a musical number! Colin leads us all in singing Defying Gravity.

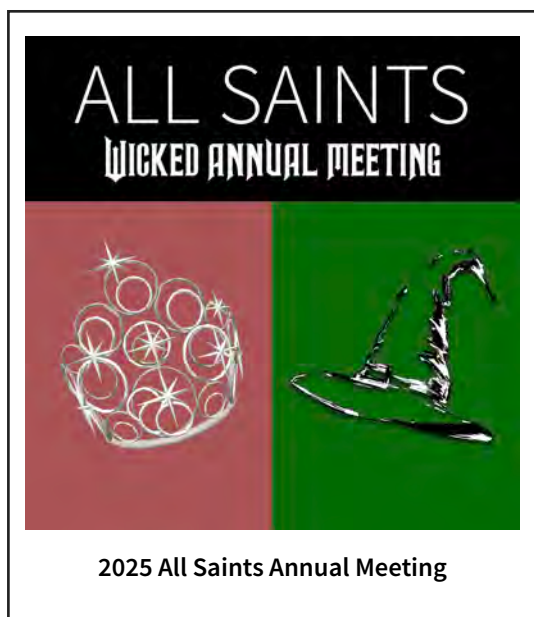
Finally, Suzanne asks for any other business. Seeing none, the chair calls for a motion to adjourn. Several people offer the motion and second.

This motion carries, and we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

June Coyne, Clerk

Note: We had 15 people attending online.



VICAR'S REPORT

The Rev. Courtney Reid

It remains my joy and privilege to serve as Vicar at All Saints and this past year has been full of things both familiar and new. The Spirit is alive and at work at All Saints. The joy is contagious – a deep, heartfelt, and authentic joy – that enlivens and nurtures us all. Much of my ministry is supporting the work of many of our leaders whose reports can be found in this booklet. These leaders are amazing and gifted people who make All Saints what it is. I also share with Suzanne and Colin, extraordinary partners in ministry, the work of preaching, teaching, and pastoral care. I am so humbled to work with them, learn from them, and share with them the gifts we each bring to our ministry.

The two areas where I especially focus my ministry are welcome and connection and social justice and outreach.



Welcome and Connection

A churchy podcaster I listen to regularly said a few months ago, “It’s always someone’s first Sunday.” And that is certainly true at All Saints where we continue to grow by 15-18% each year. In 2025:

- 128 people identified as newcomers via signing guest book
- 39% of newcomers have returned more than once
- 47% of newcomers learn about us from the internet, 27% from a friend (most often a current member), and 26% from walking around or living in the neighborhood
- We held 9 newcomer conversations with attendance ranging from 2-19 each time
- We held 4 newcomer lunches with 12-15 people attending each luncheon.
- We celebrated 2 Newcomer Welcomes in February (28 people) and May (35 people)

Church growth researchers tell us that newcomers need to connect in some way with at least 7 people in 6 months to feel like they are part of the community. Beginning in the late summer, I began meeting with a group of members to expand our welcoming and connecting initiatives. The team is focusing its efforts in several areas:

- **Improved wayfinding:** Thanks to Tracey Lemon we are beta testing new signage around the campus. We are beginning to work on a short video to add to our web page, “what can I expect when I visit All Saints.” And thanks to Lori Sweeney, our ushers now have badges that identify them as ushers.
- **Quadrant Buddies:** In November, we tried with good success, having two people in each quadrant make a special effort to greet those who appeared to be new and to be available for conversation or answering questions. We plan to roll this out for a longer period in February when we tend to have a lot of newcomers and a higher number of people in church. (If you ever want to geek out with me on All Saints data, let me know!)
- **Growing connections:** The team is also exploring ways to help newer people to better connect to ministries and other opportunities. Be on the lookout for some of these ideas to come to fruition in 2026.

VICAR'S REPORT *continued*

Justice and Outreach

While I continue to support Barbara Manley in her outstanding work leading our Justice team, I spent much time this past year beginning in January focusing on the increase in ICE/CBP detentions and deportations both in our nation and then in our own city. Many All Saints parishioners and RCS volunteers participated in Know-Your-Rights trainings offered throughout Chicago early in the new year. We developed a plan to help our pantry guests feel safe and protocols for responding should federal agents arrive. Other trainings hosted by Episcopal Migrant Ministries, the Lutheran Church, and the 40th Ward provided many of us with essential information and tools for achieving this. After our Palm Sunday procession remembering those deported and detained without due process, including those illegally imprisoned at CECOT in El Salvador, All Saints joined with other Chicago Episcopal parishes for weekly prayer in Federal Plaza. We joined together from late June through mid-December, and the consistent, steady act of showing up to pray was a powerful witness, people showing up to pray for our nation, for people being unjustly detained, and for the needs of our world.

When ICE and Customs & Border Patrol dramatically increased its presence in Chicago this past fall, All Saints responded by showing up in many powerful and impactful ways. Over 30 All Saints members and Ravenswood neighbors signed up to assist with our Tuesday night ICE patrol where 12 volunteers each night (6 on each shift) showed up to patrol corners and walk Wilson Avenue so that our guests might feel some sense of safety. We have suspended our patrol for now but stand ready to re-engage when the need arises.

All Saints parishioners joined school patrol teams and ICE response teams in their neighborhoods. We deepened our relationship with both McPherson and Ravenswood elementary schools by both supporting their school patrol efforts and mutual aid organizations. We used funds from our anti-racism budget to provide gift cards for immigrant families facing job loss, deportation of family members, and food insecurity.

I continue to serve on Alderman Martin's immigration response team, and Suzanne and I emceed a community rally in November after the abduction of a teacher at Rayito del Sol day care. Many All Saints members attended the moving and powerful rally at North Center town square that brought together hundreds of neighbors. My deep prayer and hope is that we will maintain these new strong bonds in our community so that we might be better neighbors with one another and all those living in our city.

While ICE remains present in our city and surrounding suburbs, we know that they will likely increase their presence sometime this Spring. We will be ready to organize, to pray, and to respond in solidarity with our vulnerable neighbors and pantry guests.

2025 was a full, rewarding, and challenging year. I am eager to see what the Spirit has in store for our community this year. I feel confident that we will continue to respond faithfully, authentically, and purposefully to God's call to us.



WORSHIP TOGETHER

ACOLYTES

Rachel Jacobs (Youth) and Jenni Masterson (Adults)

In 2025, our 19 acolytes, youth and adults, continued to provide wonderful service during our worship. For all Sundays, we have two acolytes scheduled for each service and some days we even have three! It's especially delightful on the days we have an inter-generational team. Our acolytes serve an important role in our liturgy as they lead the processions, assist the clergy in setting the table, and our adult acolytes also serve as chalcers. Plus they get to wear fun outfits (youth acolytes are getting new outfits in January!), and sometimes scare the clergy by popping out of hidden places to startle us! I am so grateful to our nineteen acolytes. We can certainly add to our team and any youth who is at least 9 years old or an adult can contact Courtney Reid to learn more.

ALTAR GUILD

Liz Morris and Eric Swiecki

Altar Guild is essential to our worship at All Saints, ensuring that all is ready for each of our three services on Sunday morning. Altar Guild members prepare the bread and wine; set out the linens, chalices, and patens; ensure other liturgical ministers are present; and then clean up after each service. Our church services are served, ideally, by teams of two. Our Altar Guild grew a little stronger this year, as we have 17 members, with most members serving one weekend each month. We would love to welcome others to this prayerful and central role to our life at All Saints, as we are short a few members. Believe it or not, Altar Guild is surprisingly fun!

A subset of Altar Guild is our Linen Guild, made up of two faithful members. The Linen Guild takes the linens used at services each week, washes and irons them so that they are correctly folded for worship. This ministry is prayerful and very satisfying. Is there anything more wonderful than ironing perfect creases into beautiful squares of Irish linen? If you are looking for a way to participate in worship, but prefer a prayerful, behind-the-scenes role, the Altar or Linen Guild might be for you! Questions? Contact Eric Swiecki at eric.swiecki@gmail.com or Liz Morris at lizzymo@hotmail.com

BREAD BAKING

Courtney Reid

Our community of sixteen volunteer Bread Bakers ensure that the Body of Christ tastes delicious. These volunteers bake fresh bread at home and bring it in for us to enjoy each Sunday. Our recipe is simple, and kids love to help and taste-test. We are always welcoming new bakers. Contact Courtney Reid to be added to the list of volunteers.

CHALICE BEARERS

Suzanne Wille

Chalice Bearers administer the chalice during the Eucharist. We now need four chalice bearers at the 9 am and the 11 am services. We could use more chalices at the 9 am service especially, but would love to have more trained chalices for all services. Serving as a liturgical minister is a great joy and privilege; would you like to join us? Let Courtney or me know!



CENTERING PRAYER

Caroline Moore and Liz Morris

The Centering Prayer group began meeting over a year ago on Wednesdays from 7-8pm. Each week 4-12 people gather in the Reading Room, no matter the weather. A few people have shown up just once, others come as they are able, and the “regulars” (6-8 people) are there weekly, for the most part. Each week gives the gift of stillness and companionship.

We spend 20 minutes practicing Centering Prayer, a wordless, receptive prayer form, and afterwards offer an optional 30 minutes for dialogue and reflection on a reading and/or one’s experience in prayer and life. We have an email group to share spiritual resources, such as poems, quotes, and book titles. We had two meals together this year, which were lovely!

This weekly prayer group is open to all, with no ongoing commitment required. You are warmly invited to pray in this delightful, supportive community, if you feel drawn to silent prayer or are just curious. No experience needed! We are available weekly at 6:45pm in the Reading Room to answer questions about centering prayer and the group. Contact Caroline Moore at cmoore273@att.net or Liz Morris at lizzymo@hotmail.com with any questions.



LECTORS & INTERCESSORS

Therese DeLisio and Caroline Moore

This past year, several new parishioners were added to the roster of volunteers willing to serve as proclaimers of scripture (Lectors) and leaders of the Prayers of the People (Intercessors) at our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist, other feast days, and various other services. At the training day for liturgical ministers held in August 2025, a group of All Saints parishioners, both experienced and those fairly new to these “speaking ministries,” gathered for a full morning and afternoon to reflect on what it means to them to be both speakers and hearers of the scriptures and prayers, to practice their skills in the sanctuary at the pulpit, and to share constructive feedback with one another. An updated practical Guide for Lectors and Intercessors plus other preparation resources were provided. Lectors and Intercessors have become adept this year at using the online Breeze calendar to conveniently self-select the dates and service times when they would like to serve, and at finding substitutes when needed. We are most grateful to those who participate in these ministries and invite new volunteers to contact the leaders at any time. The roster is open to new participants all year round. One-on-one training will continue to be provided upon request, at mutually convenient times.

LIVESTREAM MINISTRY

Eileen Krause

Every Sunday, a faithful group of folks from far and near join us at the 11:00 service via the livestream video on Facebook. Visitors to our Facebook page can check us out by watching these videos. This is only possible because of the dedication of our team members that monitor the camera and audio feed each Sunday. Their work allows us to share the Word to those who watch. These videos also really show the beauty of our church- yes, yes- the stained glass, the architectural details—but, more importantly, you see us all, gathered in the round — gathered together, sharing our prayers, our hopes, our faith. The high quality of our livestream is the result of hard work and willingness to serve. I am grateful for the team: Kuo-Lun Tye, Megan Turnquist, Jake Farmer, Dylan Masterson, June Coyne, Mark Piroch, Lelia Frye and Josephine Koo.

MORNING PRAYER

Dan Hornung

When does the word “daily” not have to be daily? When you are part of the Morning Prayer community at All Saints. We use the Daily Office, from the Book of Common Prayer, as the foundation of our worship together. And in 2025 we gathered every weekday at 8:30 am on Zoom. But folks are welcome to attend whenever they’re able and that can mean daily, weekly, or any day! (And it’s ok to arrive late!)

We use the All Saints Morning Prayer booklet (link via the All Saints webpage > Worship Resources), the Book of Common Prayer, and various translations of the Bible. We share the role of officiant (worship leader) and others volunteer to read the responses, and the Old and New Testament readings. As a part of our service we always include the All Saints community prayer list, and add our own prayers (either out loud or in the Zoom chat) at every service. The service lasts half-an-hour and we welcome all inquirers. The Zoom link is found on the All Saints webpage, and note that a free Zoom account is required for access.

In 2025 between 3 or 4 and up to 8 or 10 friends joined to worship “daily” – spanning “each continent and island” from Scotland to Hazel Crest to California. Please contact Anne Schuette schuette57@hotmail.com with any questions and join us in 2026.

MUSIC

The Rev. J. Colin Collette, Associate Rector and Director of Music

Clicking our heels and believing there is no place like All Saints (home), we were off to a rousing start in 2025 with an early Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Triduum. For Good Friday 2025, the choir learned a new and very difficult arrangement of Agnus Dei, set to Barber’s Adagio for Strings. Some thirty singers rehearsed throughout Lent to pull this off, and I think everyone in attendance that Good Friday, as they participated in the Veneration of the Cross, accompanied by the Agnus Dei, was certainly “changed for good!”

That proverbial yellow brick road was fast and furious through Easter and Pentecost, only to find us not at the Emerald City but at Summer Schola rehearsals. What is Summer Schola, you might eagerly ask? Well, some twenty choristers gathered for a series of rehearsals over the summer to learn repertoire that we do not have time to learn during the year as we prepare for Sunday and Holy Day worship. I was joined by Sam Shull, our organist, and Loraine Langer, a choir member and a member of the Bach Choral. Each of us selected an anthem to teach and conduct; these anthems included a new and challenging setting of the Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis, and the responses for Choral Evensong.

With the Summer Schola under our belt, we went full on into fall, with music for the ALL IN Weekend, our very first, in my time, Choral Evensong. The Choral Evensong was a beautiful and prayerful service with over thirty singers. We

hope to offer another Choral Evensong in the Season of Lent; mark your calendars.

As much as we may have wanted to stay in the bubble of Evensong, Advent Lessons and Carols was fast approaching, not to mention an ordination or two.

Lessons and Carols 2025, I think, saw the largest choir in the history of All Saints Music Ministry, with close to fifty singers and musicians. The program for Lessons and Carols was not only beautiful but also encompassed a wide range of choral repertoire, from classical to contemporary, spiritual, and traditional.

I was both gratified and humbled when over twenty of our singers who joined the Cathedral singers to sing for my ordination. The music was not only glorious but incredibly meaningful to me, knowing so many of our own were there to help me enter the Sacred Order of Priests.

As if all of this were not enough, we, as usual, were there for every Sunday and Holy Day service, and this year we also provided music for the new 3rd Sunday Taizé services.

Indeed, there is no place like All Saints (home), and once again, I am so grateful to be able to say that, being Director of Music, having the amazing opportunity to make music with this amazing group has most definitely changed me “for good.”

TAIZE

Luke Abdow

The monthly Taizé service at All Saints began in August 2025 and has quickly become a fixture of our corporate prayer cycle. Averaging 25-45 participants, the Taizé service blends repetitive, melodic chants from the Taizé community, Psalms and scripture readings of various translations and prayer litanies. The service is centered around a period of ten minutes of silence. The intentional pacing of the service and its focus on silence brings another opportunity for contemplative worship to the All Saints community.

Many musicians joined Colin in contributing to the musical and prayerful texture of the Taizé services. We are grateful to everyone who participated. In 2026, we look forward to continuing the service on the third Sunday of every month at 6pm. All are welcome. You do not need prior experience with Taizé worship to participate. We also look forward to exploring ways we might intentionally grow the service, through outreach in the Diocese of Chicago and the Ravenswood area clergy association.

USHERS REPORT

Amy Jacobson, Michael Mattson, and Lori Sweeney

Ushers volunteer to share their gifts of hospitality and organization: they greet parishioners and guests, collect the offering, guide the people during the Holy Eucharist, count the number of worshipers, and signal the beginning and end of the service by ringing our historic church bell. Most importantly, they do all this with a welcoming presence. While ushers' duties do occupy them throughout the service, it is a way for them to participate differently and very deeply in the service.

If you love welcoming people to our wonderful community and are willing to help make the worship service more meaningful for them, you might enjoy being an usher. We will provide training and you will "shadow" the ushers before you actually become one. We will even provide you with comprehensive instructions on what to do when.

We are looking to increase the number of people volunteering to be ushers. We need two for each of the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services and we need four when we have particularly large gatherings, such as All Saints' day and the Christmas Eve services. The more volunteers we have, the fewer Sundays each usher will need to volunteer. If we had a total of sixteen ushers, for example, each person would only need to volunteer for one Sunday each month.

Thank you to all who have graciously accepted this ministry and to all of you considering doing so. Please contact Courtney by email or any of us if you would like to be part of this group.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Susie Griffith

The purpose of the Worship Committee is to bring the liturgical calendar to life within the prayer life of the community. Working with the staff, this committee seeks ways to worship God through creativity and a sense of fun that is resonant for the assembly. We focus on seasonal prayer and music, arts and environment, and the spoken word. We stay attentive to how All Saints might respond to what is happening in the world around us and how our programming might reflect our community's positive actions.

Comprised of theologians, artists, and pragmatists across many interests and ministry areas, we gather to discuss what goals and tasks are before us for each liturgical season, and then make use of smaller sub-groups to effect specific plans for specific services. This past year we planned and executed liturgies throughout Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints ALL IN fall programming launch, the traditional Pet Blessing for the Feast of St. Francis, our All Saints' Day celebration, and Advent and Christmas services, including the ever-expanding and beautiful Lessons and Carols.

Our aim is to shape creative and meaningful worship at All Saints through intentionality, connection, access, and inclusivity. Those wishing to become more involved in the way we worship and how we creatively explore our connection to the liturgy are welcome!

LEARN & GATHER

ADULT FORMATION

The Rev. E. Suzanne Wille

One of the things I regularly say about All Saints is that this is a parish that knows God best by seeking and serving God in one another, which I think is exemplified by our sanctuary where we worship in the round, seeing the Body of Christ not only in the bread and wine but in the faces of those around us. So, it's no surprise that adult formation is often about gathering together not to learn from an "expert," but to grow deeper in relationship. In 2025 we continued that focus: connecting more deeply to God and one another, so that we might be a place of refreshment, renewal, and refuge. All of that was done not so that we might each rest contentedly but so that we might be strengthened to do the work God is giving us to do, especially in these times. If I had to identify two major strands of our formation this year, I would say it was Small Groups and Contemplation.

We continued our **Catechumenate** program, which prepares adults for baptism, but this year we expanded it to include those who are preparing to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. All of these are essentially adult proclamations of faith, and we prepare people during Lent as we meet weekly and for a Saturday retreat to reflect on scripture and our own faith experiences, learn about the history and practices of Christianity, and pray together. At the Easter Vigil, we baptized three adults!

As usual, Lent was a time of many offerings. The decades-long tradition of **"Not the Last Supper" Lenten Suppers** continued with over 100 adults and children signed up to join small groups that meet weekly for dinner and conversation in one another's homes (or restaurants). We also offered online **Bible Study**, an evening reflection **"Lenten Journey: Formed in the Crucible"** that used clay as a metaphor for our spiritual lives (and produced many pinch pots!), and a **Lenten Quiet Day** focused on resilience and contemplative spiritual practices.

We prepared for Easter with storytelling as parishioners gathered for **"The Embodied Word: Exploring Scripture Through Storytelling,"** working together and a professional storyteller to bring scripture to life and to proclaim it at the Easter Vigil.

Small Groups were at the heart of formation this year as they allow us in a growing congregation to form deep relationships with one another and with God, so that we might be strengthened for the work of justice and mercy God calls us to.

We continued with **God Sightings groups** in the Spring and Fall, offering 14 groups, some focused on affiliations (young adults, LGBTQ+, educators, etc.), some focused on topics (social justice, a particular book), and some just for everyone. Not all groups filled up, and we are still experimenting with how small groups fit into All Saints

We also hosted **"pop up" small group conversations** as needed, whether gathering trans folks or federal workers to share the experience of and some strategies for living in our nation now.

The spirit of Small Groups spread as many parishioners gathered folks informally for their own small groups. Not all were "official" small groups at all saints, some are ongoing, others met once just to get connected (looking at you "Newly Married" picnic group), but this spirit is encouraged at All Saints.

Many of our formation experiences were connected to prayer and worship since formation is not a "head" thing but for the whole person, so during the Fall we offered **lectio divina** (fancy words for "sacred reading") twice a month with the day's scripture at 10 am on Sunday and tried some new worship styles, such as **Evensong** in the fall and **Taizé** every third Sunday at 6 pm. We continued weekly **Centering Prayer** on Wednesdays at 7 pm, a group that meets to sit in silent prayer, share their experiences, and learn more about this way of prayer.

ADULT FORMATION continued

Along with intentional “formation” events, we had lots of opportunities just to be together, share a meal, and have a conversation, whether at coffee hours, newcomer lunches, our All Saints | ALL IN kick off in September, Hymns in the Courtyard, Beer and Carols, or the reception after Lessons and Carols. Many of our parishioners organize their own formation, whether through book clubs or groups focused on shared professions or life experience.

God is always luring us into deeper, more loving relationships with one another, God, and the world. If you are interested in learning about or teaching something or have an idea for a small group or other activity, please let a Vestry or Staff member know!



BOOK GROUP

Mike Burke

The mission of the All Saints Book Club is to build a community of diverse people in and outside the church who like to read. We explore the ideas in a variety of books including some banned books in our discussions.

The book club meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month (unless it conflicts with an observed holy day). We typically average around a dozen participants. During our December meeting we select books to read over the next 12 months following January. Since 2022, we have supported the book sanctuary initiative and include at least one banned book a year. We also try to select books that are readily available in the Chicago Public Library. We are meeting on Zoom.

During 2025, we read 12 books: *Lark, the Herald Angels Sing* by Donna Andrews, *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond, *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson, *No Cure for Being Human* by Kate Bowler, *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende, *Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Malcolm X, *Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld, *The Ride of Her Life* by Elizabeth Letts, *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman, *A Day in the Life of Abed Salama*, *Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy* by Nathan Thrall, *We have Always Lived in the Castle* by Shirley Jackson, and *The Overstory* by Richard Powers.

The book club is open to all. For more information, contact Mike via email at mebcat@gmail.com.

LENTEN SUPPERS

Nancy Lischer

For many years, All Saints parishioners have shared food, wine, and conversation at weekly “Not the Last Supper” Lenten suppers. In 2025, over 110 parishioners gathered in small groups for pot luck suppers or at restaurants to discuss all sorts of subjects in an intimate setting. “Eight-o’clockers, Nine-o’clockers, and Eleven-o’clockers” get to know one another. These get-togethers were and are a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and always lead to new friendships in the All Saints community.

NURSERY PARENTS GROUP

Hannah Cushman Garland & Phillip Garland

The Nursery Parents Group is intended to provide parents of children aged three and under an opportunity to connect as caregivers and, of course, to provide a chance for the kids to play. In 2025, we met roughly once a month for Saturday morning playdates at various local playgrounds (or in cold weather in the nursery itself).

We tend to have between three and six families in attendance at any given playdate, and families come and go as needed/desired. Nursery-aged children (0-3) and often their older siblings play together, while parents catch up and connect (sometimes over coffee). These meet-ups also gave families opportunities to ask for and offer help. We welcome expecting parents as well and are always hoping for new folks to join us.

For more information on the nursery parents group, contact Phillip Garland at phillipdgarland@gmail.com.

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S FORMATION 2025-26

Andrea Garland and Polly Tangora

We have seen tremendous growth in our youth and children's program over this last year. We continue to be blessed with a committed and talented paid nursery staff and volunteer church school & youth group leaders who contribute to our thriving youth and children's formation programming.

SUNDAYS

Nursery (children 6 months to 3 years old)

Our nursery is open every Sunday, providing free childcare from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 pm for children 6 months to 3 years of age. This year, we have 24 nursery children registered with new families consistently being added. We have three paid nursery staff of pre-school and elementary school educators.

Church School (children 3 to 12 years old)

Our church school offers classes divided into 3 multi-age groups using the Montessori-inspired formation program Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

- Level I Atrium (children ages 3 to 6) meets during the 9 am service and the 10 am coffee hour. The children have a strong interest in the most essential elements of our faith which is supported by learning about infancy narratives, geography, and the Kingdom parables and the core parts of our liturgy as they work on developing practical life skills (ie. pouring, polishing, and drawing).
- Level II Atrium (children ages 6 to 9) meets from 10 am to 11 am. As these children grow in their social skills and expand their understanding of the history of God's work in the world focus remains on the individual needs of each child and helping them connect as well as exploring new aspects of their faith.
- Level III Atrium (children ages 9 to 12) meets from 10 am to 11 am. As the children grow older, they find new depth and new connections in both scripture and liturgy. There is a lot of group discussion and collaboration with work on becoming familiar with the Old Testament, how it connects to the New Testament, and how that informs our liturgy.

Youth Group (grades 7 - 12) 2025 Annual Report

This year in Youth Group at All Saints, we have much to celebrate and share! On average, we had eight students participate each week, and our group enjoyed a variety of fun and memorable events together. Highlights included our pumpkin carving night, a creative and adventurous cemetery scavenger hunt, movie days filled with popcorn and laughter, and plenty of spirited 9 Square games. These activities not only brought us joy but also helped to deepen friendships and foster a sense of belonging among our youth.

Our three main focus areas for 2025 were:

1. **Developing a Curious Attitude Toward God and the Bible:** We encouraged students to ask questions and explore their faith deeply, cultivating curiosity and wonder about God's story.
2. **Equipping Students to Recognize Safe Faith Communities & Desire Lifelong Participation:** We helped teens build the skills needed to discern healthy, supportive faith spaces and aimed to spark a desire for them to engage with faith communities in the next stages of their lives.
3. **Instilling Knowledge of Love and Belonging at All Saints:** We made it a priority for every student to know they are loved by All Saints and that our church is a place where lifelong relationships can be formed.

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S FORMATION 2025-26 continued

In response to our growing group and their hunger for deeper faith conversations, we extended our regular meeting times this year to include a 30-minute Christian formation period. During this time, students read passages of scripture in three different translations and engaged with thoughtful discussion questions. This formation time quickly became a favorite part of youth group for many teens. We are continually amazed by the depth and complexity of the questions and insights our students bring—they are truly hungry to know and understand God more intimately. Youth Group provides a safe space for them to explore and express their faith.

We also hosted a highly successful parent meeting this year, which was well attended by both parents of regular youth group participants and those whose teens haven't yet joined us. The feedback we received was encouraging and insightful, and we are using it to shape our plans and schedules for 2026.

Our Youth Group stands on the precipice of tremendous growth, thanks to a dedicated team of adult leaders and a large group of teens who are already connected with All Saints. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce big plans for 2026, including a ski trip, a camping retreat, and a day of fun at Six Flags!

Thank you, All Saints congregation, for your ongoing support of our vision to make All Saints a fun, engaging, exciting, and inclusive space for teens. If you have a teenager in your life, please encourage them to join us—we would love to welcome them into our Youth Group family!

SPECIAL EVENTS and OUTREACH PROJECTS

Christmas Pageant

This year's Christmas Pageant theme was *Les Misérables* and the pageant was magnificent. Lesley Chapman, director and Polly Tangora, production assistant, skillfully worked with a talented and enthusiastic group of 56 children and youth performers. Each year we joyfully watch our children grow as actors, singers, and dancers to put on a most remarkable pageant - truly a highlight of the season! And we could not put on the pageant without the help of our dedicated church school leaders and parents.

Children's Garden

This last summer and fall the Children's Garden provided bountiful tomatoes, peppers, celery, kale, radishes, and herbs to support the Ravenswood Community Services Tuesday night food pantry.

The All Saints Bake Auction

Our Atrium 3 students once again lead a successful auction of elaborate and delicious baked goods raising \$30,211. Each year after the auction is held the Atrium 3 students meet as a board of directors to identify projects they wish to support. This part of the project is approached with great seriousness and deep thoughtful discussions by the students. Most often the projects chosen support health, education, and clean water projects in eastern Africa. Working on this project each year helps all our children understand more about the interconnectedness of our world and how they can make a difference in it.

See info and graph on next page for more detail on how the funds were allocated in 2025.

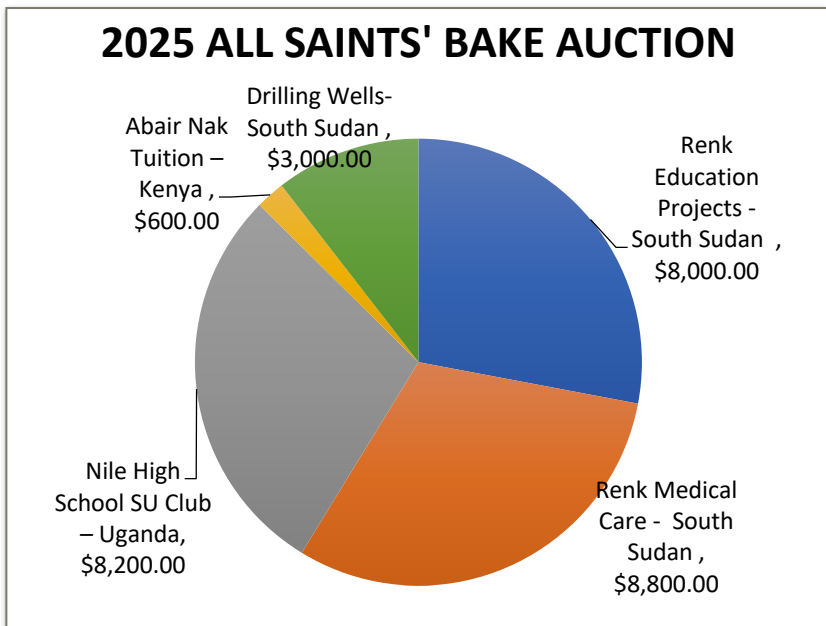


2025 Report for All Saints Bake Auction

2024 Funds raised = \$34,856.47 (including Breeze fees)

2025 Funds raised = \$ 30,211.95

PROJECTS:	GRANTED
Education Projects – Renk, South Sudan	\$8,000
Support for students and faculty at the Renk Basic School in South Sudan, providing support for school fees, housing and lunch in Renk. \$300 is the estimated amount of one scholarship that provides tuition, uniform, and school lunch for one student for one year.	
	2022
Medical Care - Renk, South Sudan -	\$8,800
Support for the salaries of a doctor and a midwife for the clinic in Renk town to ensure residents have access to basic healthcare. With additional funding to purchase medical supplies.	
Abiar Nak Elementary School Tuition – Kenya -	\$600
Abiar is a 16 year-old South Sudanese orphan and refugee. In February 2023 Abiar began attending a government run boarding high school where tuition is \$329.99 for one year, with additional granted to help with uniforms and school supplies.	
Water for South Sudan - \$3,000	\$3,000
Water for South Sudan was founded and is operated by Salva Dute and other South Sudanese Lost Boys who returned to their home country to drill and repair wells in rural villages that otherwise would not have access to clean water without walking long distances. Wells and pumping equipment are donated to the communities. The organization also provides education on sanitation to expand the impact of clean water and reduce disease. The money sent in 2024 was combined with several other donors to drill a well at Mayonga Primary School in Raja County WBGS.	
Nile High School Scripture Union Club – Uganda -	\$8,200
This grant would help students pay tuition and examination fees at Niles High School in Arua, Uganda just below the border of South Sudan. Many of their students are refugees and orphans from South Sudan. The tuition for each student for each of 3 terms is \$150 U.S. (full year is \$450) In 2024 funds granted provided tuition payments for one school term (of 3) for 66 students or full year's tuition for the equivalent of 22 students.	
TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED:	\$ 28,600
Expenses:	\$190 (32auctions site) \$ 893 (Breeze fees) \$ 83 (postage) \$ 333 (transfer fees) Total \$1,499
Remaining funds held in reserve:	\$112



YOUTH & CHILDREN'S FORMATION 2025-26 continued

Saturday Camp

Saturday Camp is offered occasionally to extend our Sunday morning program. This year we offered Palm Saturday and Epiphany Camp.

Palm Saturday Camp is a day-long reflection on the events of Holy Week helps the younger members of our congregation better understand why Easter is such a joyous celebration for the Christian community.

Epiphany Camp is a quiet afternoon set aside after Epiphany to reflect on what Christmastide means: the prophecies of the coming Messiah, the Gospel readings telling of the birth of Christ, and the journey of the Magi to Bethlehem and celebrate one more time by walking a candlelit spiral path of greenery representing the journey of the Magi to the manger scene as we all sing lots of Atrium songs.

Solemn Communion



In 2025 seven youth participated in Solemn Communion. Solemn Communion offers children who have reached at least their third year of Atrium II a time to consider more seriously what it means to receive the Eucharist. To do this a special time and place is set aside, apart from regular Sunday classes. Children meet as a group for five two-hour Saturday morning sessions, which culminate with a retreat weekend. This retreat ends with a celebratory Eucharist planned by the children for their families and friends. Also, the congregation is always invited to attend.

- And, a **BIG THANK YOU** to all of our leaders for the work you do with our children:
- Nursery staff: Matthew Arenas, Cheyanne Hansen, and Morgan Kinglsey
- Nursery staff subs: Liz Arenas, Peggy Cushing, and Margot Tucker
- Atrium I: Paula Mauro, Jennifer Boyle-Tucker, Kevin Dekkinga, and Andrea Garland, and Polly Tangora
- Atrium II: Andrea Garland and Katrina Kasten,
- Atrium III: Polly Tangora, Julie McCauley, and Rachel Jacobs
- Youth Group Leaders: Liz Bartels, Scottie Caldwell, Nora Lumsden, Jesse Marinelli, Kit Emery, Cynthia Gu, and Mark Piroch
- Pageant Director: Lesley Chapman-Rivers

Want to know more?

If you are a teen who would like to join youth group or an adult who would like to volunteer as a leader, please email: youthgroup@allsaintschicago.org.

If you are interested in knowing more about all other youth and children's formation programs please contact Co- Coordinators Polly Tangora (polly@allsaintschicago.org) or Andrea Garland (agarland42@gmail.com).

All adults who work with our children have attended the "Safe Church, Safe Community" training offered online through the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

SERVE TOGETHER

ALL SAINTS GREEN TEAM

Allison Loecke

All Saints continues to use exclusively compostable dishware —please remember that all of our cups, plates, napkins, utensils and food all go in the compost bin and not in the trash (and please do NOT bring or use anything that is not compostable-use only what we purchase)! This past year we collaborated with the Liturgy Team to celebrate Rogation Day in May (outdoor processional with special blessing on our grounds-including our native plants), Earth Week and Season of Creation (table prayers, hazardous waste collection and participation in various community activities) and the feast of Saint Francis in October (special sermon and treats). In collaboration with Buildings and Grounds, we received a grant from Episcopal Charities to do a Level II energy audit and will be working on follow-up to do's this year to make our building more energy efficient. All are welcome to join our small and mighty team-bring what you're excited about and passionate about regarding creation care and lets make it happen!

ECO DioChicago



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mark Ortlieb

The Buildings & Grounds ministry watches over the physical plant of the five-building campus, i.e., the Church, Rectory, Parish Hall, Church School, and 3-Flat. This includes care of the roofs, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, masonry, and landscaping. We assess the condition of these systems and develop plans for maintenance and improvement. All are welcome to join in on this interesting and dynamic ministry. For information please contact Mark Ortlieb at MRO25@aol.com

The care and maintenance of our rental property at 4546 Hermitage is a separate ministry. The building has three very nice apartments, with an attractive side lawn and garden. The financial picture remains bright. In 2025, the building paid ASEC a total of \$21,700: \$11,700 for shared costs (maintenance and insurance) and \$10,000 in loan repayments. It also funded a special \$5,000 prepayment (payment made in 2026) on the Northbrook Bank mortgage – which is now down to \$206,000. We need additional help in this ministry. Contact Mark at MRO25@aol.com for information.

CARE MINISTRIES

Kelly McNees & Abby Wentworth Joseph

The Pastoral Care Committee is dedicated to creating connections in our church community that help us support each other through life's joyous, intense, and difficult experiences. In 2025, we focused our work on two main ministries:

Love on a Plate is a longtime ministry that provides short-term meal delivery for parishioners experiencing a life transition such as a health or mobility challenge, new baby, or recent loss of a loved one. When clergy identifies someone who could use this support, we connect with the meal recipient to learn about the need and then create a meal schedule that ensures delivery of home-cooked (and sometimes favorite take-out) meals for two to three weeks until the recipient is able to resume some of their routines. Getting dinner on the table can feel like a tall order when you are going through a hard time, and meal recipients have told us about the comfort and relief they experience in being able to rely on a little help from their church friends. In 2025, our volunteers provided about 50 meals! Many Love on a Plate meal recipients have become volunteers. There is no commitment — only a willingness to receive an occasional email asking for available volunteers to sign up, prepare, and deliver a meal. We welcome new volunteers anytime.

Caregiver Connections is a support group for caregivers that gathers on the third Monday of each month to share experiences, listen, vent, get a break, and compare notes. This year we welcomed guest speakers including death doula Erica Gerdes, who shared her experience providing end-of-life support for the dying and their families and friends. Our group members are caregivers of all ages in all situations — long-distance, live-in, and lots of spaces in between — from beginners to those who have been caring for relatives for decades. In addition to support while caregiving is ongoing, we aim to help each other through loss when caregiving comes to an end. All are welcome to join this group.

Beyond these two specific ministries, clergy are available for pastoral conversations, hospital visits, crisis intervention, and to hear individual confession. They can also provide referrals for counseling and other resources as needed.

Please get in touch with Kelly McNees (kellymcnees@gmail.com) or Abby Wentworth Joseph (abby.wentworth.joseph@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining this work!



COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND UNITED POWER MINISTRY

Barbara Manley

All Saints Troublemakers! This community earned that nickname in 2020 when we showed up in the middle of a pandemic, without a permanent rector and raised over \$250,000 toward building two homes in North Lawndale. With our neighbors in North Lawndale, we had the audacity to dream that those two homes could become 1000 affordable single-family homes. As we wrap up 2025, we are pleased to report on the **completion of 76 homes**, creating new homeowners and opportunities for generational wealth building. And United Power developer members have **begun construction on the next phase of 90 homes**, replacing more vacant lots and continuing to rebuild communities.

In April, we asked the All Saints community to write letters to our IL State legislators expressing your support for an **additional \$10 million in State funding** for home buyer subsidies. All Saints Troublemakers showed up and wrote over 70 letters that were hand delivered. When the State budget passed in May, it included a new \$10 million commitment in Reclaiming Chicago homeowners to help make the homes more affordable.

In July, All Saints Troublemakers showed up for a United Power Action in the Back of the Yards neighborhood on the south side. We were **part of a group of almost 500 people who celebrated** the Reclaiming Chicago success to date and the construction that was about to commence. A number of federal, state and City of Chicago elected officials were present. We celebrated two key state legislators who worked with us to secure the \$10 million commitment in the state budget, Senator Lakesia Collins and State Representative Yolonda Morris.

In December, Reclaiming Chicago was the **recipient of the \$10 million 2025 Chicago Prize** awarded by the Pritzker Traubert Foundation. This award will expand Reclaiming Chicago's effort to incorporate a large lot strategy, greatly expanding the number of homes we can create in each neighborhood. The award will support the construction of 125 new homes on a lot at 74th and Talman at the south end of the Chicago Lawn neighborhood.

Right before Christmas, members of the All Saints community accepted an invitation and showed up in the cold to gather with our brothers and sisters from SWOP (Southwest Organizing Project), from St. Rita of Cascia Catholic Church for **an evening of Light, Love and Solidarity. Based on the Tradition of the POSADA**, we processed through the community, re-enacting the holy family's search for safety and shelter in the Christmas season. The homes that we visited were "Reclaiming Homes" – formerly vacant buildings rehabbed by SWOP with the support of United Power and now owned by hard-working families.

When we have faith to dream audaciously,
and faith to show up again and again, miracles happen.



DIOCESAN CONVENTION REPORT

Lelia Fry, Jennifer Reft, and Skip Yates

The 188th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago was held virtually on Tuesday, November 18 and concluded with an in-person gathering on Saturday, November 22, 2025 in Rockford, IL. Elections were held for the Standing Committee, Bishop and Trustees, and for the Cathedral Chapter. A budget was reviewed and received.

The convention considered and passed three resolutions relating to priest compensation; the ECO DioChicago Task Force; and Migration with Dignity. You can read the resolutions, as approved, in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

In-person convention on Saturday opened with a wonderful Eucharist planned by our own Colin Collette. Additionally, the Convention heard a presentation from the Diocesan strategic planning consultants about their findings from surveys, focus groups, and individual interviews.

HOSPITALITY (Coffee Squad)

Julie Jungle, Rebecca Jungle, & Christia Kapteyn

This past year a new Coffee Squad for God was formed to oversee coffee hour and coordinate volunteer signup. Each week, faithful parishioners volunteer to make coffee and provide an assortment of snacks to ensure that those who linger after the 9 am service or arrive early for the 11 am service find a welcoming space for fellowship in the Parish Hall or out on the lawn when the weather permits. With our growing Sunday attendance, Coffee Hour is an essential way to make newcomers and long-timers feel welcome and connected. If snacks and cookies are your love language, consider signing up to host, and the Coffee Squad will walk you through the very simple directions.



MEXICO OUTREACH

Jim Hanna

Since October of 2013, All Saints has supported the efforts of a gifted church leader, Padre Bayron Chanchavac, and his ministries in Xalapa and, most recently, Cuernavaca, Mexico. We include funds in the annual budget you are voting to approve today to meet some of the needs of his parishes, and we hold an annual fundraiser in May to supplement the small stipend Bayron receives from his Diocese to support his family. Thanks to all who have supported our

“Companeros en Cristo” in the past; we are sure those of you who may meet him this year will quickly recognize his tenacity of faith, skillful use of limited resources and commitment to the presence of the youthful members of his congregations.

Parishioner Steve Pike named our campaign “El Efecto Mariposa”, or the Butterfly Effect. This reflects the significance of the Monarch Butterfly in the Mexican culture and the idea that a small event in one location, such as the beating of an insect’s wings or an individual’s kindness, can have a far greater result elsewhere.

This year, we will be planning a trip to visit Bayron, his family and his congregations in Cuernavaca. Past trips always feature new friendships, impressive food offerings, and the recognition that our similarities far outway our differences.

Bayron has told our congregation:

“Thank you for your generosity and your trust, which are more than a donation: they are hope. Thanks to your support, we continue with our projects and with a life dedicated to God and to the service of others.”

MIDWEST VETERANS CLOSET

Katie Nolan and Therese Stasik

THANK YOU !!! THANK YOU !!!! THANK YOU !!! THANK YOU !!!!!

The 6th annual 2025 Midwest Veteran's Closet Collection for Kitchen goods and other items was successful. We made a total of 8 trips throughout the year. This included two trips with full loads during the scheduled collection in January and February. We also made six more trips throughout the year as people downsized to move, de-clutter, or cleared out loved one's houses. Items included kitchen goods, clothing, a fishing pole, a complete set of tools, electronics, air conditioners, and various other items.

Because the need is ever greater the Midwest Veteran's Closet moved to a larger location in the same area to serve more people more effectively. The Midwest Veteran's Closet staff and the Veterans we encountered continue to be very grateful for the number and variety of items donated and still always make the observation: "You always bring such nice things". It continues to be humbling in shelving donations when a Veteran says, "May I have that? It is exactly what I need!" or a staff member says, "Oh, we had a Veteran asking for exactly that, I will let them know it is here! Thank you!" .

With God's help and your generous donations, the Midwest Veteran's Closet Ministry continues in 2026 with the collection box in the back of the Church, car to car drop-offs for larger loads and arranged pick-ups as needed.

Midwest Veteran's Closet thanks All Saints for its continued support of this ministry.

Usable items find new purpose, a second home, and, prevent unnecessary waste. For that, Mother Earth and the next generation thanks you!

RAVENSWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Nancy Kipnis and Courtney Reid



In 2025, All Saints continued its renewed connection with our local neighborhood school, Ravenswood Elementary School. In late August, we held a back-to-school drive to much success. We worked with the principal and the staff to put together a list of needed supplies and parishioners delivered on all their requests! We provided over 20 backpacks, countless school supplies such as notebooks, markers, and crayons, and pencils, and over 100,000 sheets of copy paper, enough to rise to 40 feet! These contributions helped get the school year off to a great start! Additionally, when ICE and CBP were active on Chicago's Northside, All Saints parishioners and clergy showed up to provide patrol support during school dismissal. We look forward to our ongoing relationship with Ravenswood Elementary in the coming year.



RAVENSWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES (RCS)

Parker Callahan, Operations Director and Lori Gee, Executive Director

* 18,800 sandwiches * * 19,600 meals* * 20,500 pantry visits *

33 years ago, on Ash Wednesday 1993, the people of All Saints decided to hand out groceries from the front doors of the church to anyone who showed up and needed them. At that first “distribution,” three people took them up on the offer. That spark of service grew into Ravenswood Community Services (RCS), now a 501c3 organization housed inside of All Saints, which focuses on nourishing our neighbors by hosting grocery and hot meal distributions. Through the years, All Saints and its parishioners have provided space and support that have allowed RCS to thrive, and from that initial spark, RCS programs have grown considerably. Here is what 2025 at RCS looked like:

- Tuesday Food Pantry

RCS’ Tuesday Night pantry hosted over 16,500 visits in 2025, thanks to almost 7,000 hours of volunteer energy. The Tuesday Pantry offers fresh produce, eggs, bread, milk, canned goods, frozen meat, and more to neighbors in need of emergency food. Operating without boundary restrictions, the pantry serves all who come to our doors. Tuesday operations use the All Saints sanctuary as a waiting area and the Parish Hall as the distribution site for all pantry items, providing a welcoming experience for our neighbors.

2025 brought some new challenges to the pantry, first with sustained high demand driven by the high cost of important basics like groceries and rent, and then in the form of new threats to the ability of many of our neighbors to navigate the City safely. This included concerns about being able to visit the pantry as needed without fear of detention. As usual, All Saints and other community members showed up. Providing a regular crew of “watchers” during pantry operations provided crucial support - both logistically and emotionally.

- Tuesday Community Kitchen

Offering ready-to-eat meals to neighbors visiting the food pantry, the Community Kitchen is staffed by volunteer cooking teams who thoughtfully prepare nutritious meals each week. 19,600 meals were distributed in 2025. In addition, a Saturday Sandwich Crew prepares 450 sandwiches for distribution each week as a supplemental ready-to-eat option, providing 18,500 sandwiches this year.

- Saturday Pantry Farewell

From 2009 through January of 2025, RCS operated a pantry on the second Saturday of each month in the north courtyard of Ravenswood School. This program was a 3-way partnership in which the Greater Chicago Food Depository provided the food, Ravenswood School provided the space, and RCS brought the volunteers! Though this pantry filled an important role over the years, as the population of the Ravenswood area and funding priorities for GCFD have evolved, GCFD made the decision to discontinue the Mobile Pantry program that provided the food to support the Saturday Pantry. Many thanks to GCFD, Ravenswood School, and the many RCS volunteers who supported this program!

- After School Pantries (at Goudy, McCutcheon, Brennemann, and McPherson Schools)

RCS’ off-site After School Pantry program continued to be very popular with students and families in 2025, growing to add McPherson School in December. This program brings nutritious, kid-friendly pantry staples and produce to the grounds of partner schools for parents to pick up at dismissal time, limiting the barriers between families and access to emergency food by bringing the food to where they already are. The After School Pantry supported 4,000 visits in 2025.

RAVENSWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES (RCS) continued

RCS: Ways to Get Involved

Volunteers - many of whom hail from the ranks of All Saints - make all of RCS' programming happen! Braving rain, snow, ice, extreme heat, and continually evolving conditions in our City, the dedication of our volunteer corps hasn't wavered. If you volunteered in any way in 2025, know that your contribution made a real difference in people's lives.

Want to get involved? We'd love to have you! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the volunteer page of our website and follow the instructions on that page. Any questions regarding volunteering can be directed to info@ravenswoodcommunityservices.org. Additionally, if you're interested in donating goods to the pantry, visit the Ways to Help page to see what items we are in need of.

How RCS is Funded

RCS' funding comes mostly from the community - individual donations and fundraising events. =

- Individual donations make up more than a third of RCS' financial support. Many thanks to everyone who contributes to the costs of running RCS programs! Whether you give once a year or monthly, online, by check, or through your employer, by donating food and supplies, or by encouraging others to give, your generous gifts say that you care that our neighbors have the food that they need to feed themselves and their families. We cannot thank you enough.
- Two fundraising events - the Ravenswood Run (April) and the Spirits of Ravenswood (October) - support RCS' current programming, allow us to expand our reach with new programming, and help us respond to evolving needs in the community. Thanks for supporting these events!

Note: Get ready to run, walk, volunteer, or cheer at the 30th Annual Ravenswood Run, Sunday, April 26, 2026!

2024 RCS Board of Directors

Suzanne Wille*, President

Brian Lynch, Chair

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Kelly Hewitt

Margaret McCamant*

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Erin Ruffolo*

Jennifer Boyle Tucker*

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REVIVE CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Katy Kelsey Morgan

In 2025, over 30 families from All Saints supported 31 family units on the west side of Chicago ranging from individual adults to a family of eight. We bought gift cards for groceries, wrapped presents for under the tree, and the church school children filled stockings with little treats for the children. The church school filled 65 stockings for children up to age 18, thanks to the generosity of Polly Tangora. 111 people were directly supported in the Christmas season, up from 96 in 2024, an increase of 15 people. We had 65 boxes gathered in the reading room before they were picked up. Good job to all of the generous donors and helpers for getting everything packed and labeled.

This year we had ten tied fleece blankets from a service project that were donated and then distributed to families that seemed like a good match. This was a fun thing to add on, if anyone is looking for a service project before the fall, though inexpensive fleece may be much harder to source with the changing craft store landscape.

All Saints has been increasing the number of families and the total number of people supported over the last few years, and this feels like we have hit our limit in a good way. Every family was well cared for and everyone who volunteered to support a family received a good match. I will be requesting a similar number of families for 2026 when ReVive sends out the call in the summer.

We also had people from All Saints go help with registering families at ReVive during the summer, and someone else mentioned helping with distribution in December. Opportunities for this voluntarism will continue to be posted in the All Saints Newsletter. Revive would also like us to send a group to help with their family registration events in June and July. Families to support will be assigned in October 2026, with completed boxes due right after Thanksgiving. Watch the newsletter for more information or talk to Courtney Reid to be in touch with Katy Kelsey-Morgan.

Thank you to all who serve our neighbors.
We are all showing up!



VESTRY REPORT

Ann McKenzie & John Dufour

All Saints Vestry is comprised of 11 parishioners (9 vestry members and 2 co-wardens) who along with the Rector, Treasurer, and Clerk serve as the governing board of the church. Vestry meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (with the occasional exception) to come together to pray and discuss the major business of the church. Vestry's two major areas of focus are church finances and the spiritual well-being of our church community.

Finances: This last year Vestry collaborated extensively with our church's skilled Finance Committee who advised around budget adjustments and financial decision making including new clergy roles and expanding ministries. Vestry also worked closely with our devout and hard-working Buildings & Grounds Committee to facilitate a Green Energy Audit of our facility, as well as taking the Vestry on a tour of our physical plant and the various areas that are in need of future capital projects. Vestry is humbled and grateful by the generosity of our congregation who exceeded pledge goals during our last Pledge Campaign, setting our church in a very strong financial position going into 2026.

Spiritual Well-Being: At our 2025 Vestry Retreat we set goals for ourselves to expand neighborhood relationships, provide further support for ministries, and support increased connections between parishioners. The vestry was excited to see significantly increased involvement with Ravenswood Run, RNA Light-Up Nights, the RCS food pantry, as well as connections with local officials and community members particularly to support our most vulnerable neighbors. The Vestry is planning to hold a ministry leadership meeting in 2026 to offer support and connections for ministry leaders. Vestry members have been involved with monthly newcomer welcome meetings and brainstorming ways to facilitate connections for people to engage within our community (including a website update and intentional conversations).

Vestry meetings are open to the parish, and we always enjoy having people come!

As always reach out to discuss more with us!

2025 Vestry

Halley Hoffman
Chet Kelly
Josephine Koo
Tobias Lohse
Craig Maki
José Sanchez-Perry
Jane Schaefer
Gretchen Schlabach
Skip Yates
John Dufour, Co-Warden
Ann McKenzie, Co-Warden
June Coyne, Clerk
John Williams, Treasurer
Suzanne Wille, Rector



Candidates for Vestry Co-Warden



Halley Hoffman

Since joining All Saints in 2016, my husband and I have had the pleasure of growing our family in All Saints, watching our young daughter build relationships with her friends in the nursery then Atrium, and the privilege of continually getting to know more and more people in the All Saints community. The past three years I have had the opportunity to deepen my relationship with the church, serving on the pledge campaign committee, and most recently I have had the immense pleasure of serving on the Vestry for the past two years.

All Saints is such a warm, welcoming, and unique faith community, and I feel so lucky that we found this community in which to joyfully plant our roots and grow as people and a family.



ScareCrow / Prince Fiyero Tigelaar

Some may say I am handsome like Ryan Reynolds even though I am a human transfigured by Elphaba's magic. I am still dancing through life albeit in a sparse landscape, I pretend to need a brain while being a bit of a double agent. I take life very seriously now and look forward to a clandestine existence with you all. If you vote for me to become your next co-warden, I promise to use my cunning to fight the good fight and find joy in love and hope.

Candidates for Vestry for Three-Year Team



Terry DeLisio

For 17 years, I have been an active member of All Saints' Episcopal Church and I worship at the 11 am Eucharist. As a vestry member, I would like to expand my service to All Saints in ways that bring more of my personal and professional experience and skills to bear on helping to cultivate the spiritual, financial, and missional life of the community. I believe that service on the vestry could be such an opportunity, as well as a grace-filled privilege.

I have long served on the Liturgy Committee, as a liturgical minister, and now as a co-leader responsible for training lectors and intercessors. I am a member of All Saints Green Team and also of Eco DioChicago, a diocesan-level committee that focuses on helping parishes further The Episcopal Church's mission to care for creation.

My wife, Eileen Crowley, and I live in Evanston with our little dog Nina.



Matthew Sanders

Joining vestry is an opportunity to play a role to strengthen the community I'm in now and for years to come. My wife and I have been a part of the church community primarily as a childless couple, adults who are between age groups like children and youth, and on the other end, families with young children enmeshed in Atrium, childcare, and Sunday School. Being able to advocate and encourage formation and fellowship among young couples is an area of focus for me. Meanwhile as my wife and I eagerly anticipate our first child in the new year, this feels like the right time to evolve my connections within the church. I would like to leverage my professional experiences in constituent services and program management to help grow the All Saints congregation into a new era, one in which our own connection and investment here further supports the next generation of Christians in our neighborhood and city. If elected, I look forward to a deepening connection with our found faith family at All Saints, not just for the next three years, but with our children into an exciting future.



Jane Schaefer

The first All Saints service I attended was the Children's Christmas Service in 2003. The joy, beauty, and faith of this little church combined with its quirkiness (and chaos) was striking. My husband Ken Jones and I quickly became regulars at the 9 am service. We were welcomed without judgment, and being part of this community has made me a better mother, partner, and person. I've been involved in many ways—Vestry, Mexico Outreach, cake auctions, Ravenswood Runs, Open House Chicago, and countless coffee hours. I also currently serve on the board of Ravenswood Community Services.

Ken and I live in Lincoln Square and have two adult daughters, Linnea and Iris. Professionally, I work with museums and cultural institutions to better understand visitors, reach new audiences, and design relevant and engaging experiences.

Appointed for a One-Year Term on Vestry



Skip Yates

An critical foundation is a strong, knowledgeable, and spiritual vestry. Having served these previous three years, I am quite humbled to be appointed to serve the remaining year of an outgoing vestry member. I have witnessed the successful, progressive work that this vestry is capable of and I hope to be an intrinsic asset to this year's vestry. I look forward to helping the All Saints community continue to be a vital, viable, and stable yet growing congregation. My past committee activity includes Rector Search, Buildings & Grounds, Worship, and Liturgical Ministry. My Services: Christmas Greening, Easter and Christmas Plant Caretaker, and semi-annual Coffee Hour co-host.

Diocesan Delegate Candidates



Lelia Fry

Hi, I'm Lelia! I've been worshipping at All Saints for about six years. You might see me reading one of the lessons or the Prayers of the People during the 11 am service, but I'm often back in the corner maneuvering the cameras with the livestream team. I work from home as the Dean of Student and Community Engagement at Bexley Seabury Seminary, and I'm a serious Bible nerd. I love listening to audiobooks, being around plants and flowers, and crafting. I was honored to represent All Saints as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention last year, where I also learned more about how to support our congregation and the wider diocese. My spouse Kuo and I live in Lindenhurst with Honey and Callie, two of the cutest cats in the world. We're grateful to be a part of the All Saints community!



Annie Logue

I am a nerd who loves reading budgets and getting into the weeds of agendas. Also, I serve on the board of trustees of the Diocesan Foundation so I have a broad perspective on the work of the diocese.

I'm a writer specializing in business and finance, and am the author of five books on investing including *Day Trading for Dummies* (Wiley 2007; 5e 2024). I have also been an active community volunteer and, among other things, am a past president of the League of Women Voters of Chicago. I live in Lake View with my husband, Rik Lantz.



Jennifer Reft

I have been a member of All Saints since 2006. I am a mother to three children, Eric, Eleanor, and Mothra, and a home health physical therapist. I believe the All Saints community is special and want to share the needs and goals of this community in a larger institutional context and I am interested to increase my knowledge of and participation in the larger Episcopal church and community.

Diocesan Delegate, Alternate Candidate



Skip Yates

I have served as a delegate to two diocesan conventions and am happy to stand in the wings this year, ready to serve if needed. Originally from Pittsburgh via New York, I am a cradle Episcopalian, encompassing a 12-year stint as a boy chorister and acolyte. I hold a life-long belief and devotion to our liturgy and a profound love for our music. I believe that Love and Faith are the cornerstone and the foundation of a strong church.

Thank you all for running this year and your willingness to serve All Saints.



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Susie Griffith for her unbelievable planning skills, ability to herd cats in the nicest way possible, and transforming Annual Meetings into something approaching professional while keeping all the fun!

Susie Griffith thanks the **WICKED** Planning Committee: Colin Collette, John Dufour, Lelia Fry, Jack Garland, Lorraine Langer, Allison Loecke, Tobias Lohse, Courtney Reid, Gretchen Schlabach, Kuo Tye, David Wernette-Harnden, and Suzanne Wille

Jack Garland for being emcee, **WIZARD**, script writer, and generally joyful gadfly and for being ready to say “yes” to another annual meeting!

David and Joe Wernette-Harnden and Lorraine Langer for making sure we had delicious food and a perfect set up from church to parish hall.

Allison Loecke and Colin Collette for ensuring that our environment was festive and **WICKED**.

Charlie Simokaitis and so many of you for taking and sharing photos, some of which appear in this report, the presentation slide deck, and the end-of-the-year video.

Courtney Reid and Gretchen Schlabach for gathering reports from ministry leaders.

Tracey Lemon for compiling, designing, and producing a beautiful annual report, presentation deck, and year-end video and for never being mad when we missed deadlines.

Eileen Krause, Kuo Tye, Lelia Fry, and all of the livestream team for making sure sound, video, and zoom work seamlessly.

Courtney Reid for sharing her knowledge of church governance and zoom intricacies and Doug Renkenberger sharing his expertise in Roberts Rules of Order to help us have a successful hybrid annual meeting.

The vestry, staff, and so many of YOU at All Saints for hard work, creativity, joy, and a playful spirit that guarantees we’ll get the business of the church done AND have a **WICKED** Time at the Annual Meeting!



ALL SAINTS

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