



THE FALLS  
CHURCH  
ANGLICAN



2022  
ANNUAL REPORT



*But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.*

November 2022

To the Family of The Falls Church Anglican,

The Lord has blessed us richly, and we are deeply thankful.

It has long been a tradition at The Falls Church Anglican to celebrate the season of Thanksgiving with an acknowledgment of the Lord's provision in our lives. As we reflect upon our blessings, many of us are compelled to give back to the Lord of our time, talent, and treasure.

One practical way of expressing our gratitude to the Lord is by participating in Commitment Sunday, which will be held on November 13. Commitment Sunday is an opportunity for each of us to declare that "we are His," and that in Him we "belong to one another," by supporting the mission and work of our church.

What are some of those many blessings for which we are especially grateful?

First, as you have likely seen firsthand, God is bringing to us new leaders stepping into new roles, adding to our already strong team: Isaiah Brooms as our Pastor for Community Life, John Frederick as our Pastor for Discipleship, and Brian Gurney as our Director for Contemporary Worship and Production. It's exciting to see these younger men

all in for Christ, and all in for our church. And it's so encouraging to add people of their caliber.

Already as a result of their leadership, we are seeing new things God is doing in our midst.

Having so many small groups is a special blessing—over 700 parishioners now count themselves as a part of a small group. That is important for a big church that longs to feel small. Isaiah and John have successfully launched small-group leaders training, and small groups from our church are continuing to spread out all over the Capital region.

For a long time, we've known we wanted to lean into discipleship, that relational and intellectual work of helping one another grow up to be like Christ. John Frederick is working with other wonderfully gifted teachers from our church to think through how we do adult formation beyond Sunday mornings, including through a Wednesday night course on Jesus and the Gospels.

Another blessing is in terms of our mission to get to know our neighbors. Covid slowed that down, but in the last year, we have really re-engaged, especially at Falls Church High School and the Willston Center. We long to see our neighbors come to know the love of Christ.

And it's certainly wonderful to be back worshipping at full capacity. A special highlight for me was on September 11 when we had our ministry fair. If you were there that Sunday, you were probably just as encouraged as me to see our many, many ministries, where people were excited to sign up and become more engaged. That continued into the evening at our vision session.

Of course, we still have so much more we'd like to do.

Forming mature Christians in today's world is a particular challenge but also an opportunity for us. We want to help our church family know who they are in Christ, know how to follow Christ in the highs and lows, and how to be like Christ in a post-Christian world. This is so much harder today, harder even than 20-30 years ago.

And we want to redouble our efforts in evangelism. We long to spread the Good News of the Gospel, helping people to know the peace of being forgiven for their sins, and knowing what it is to be reconciled with God the Father – and through His Church, the "household of God" (Ephesians 2:19), reconciled to one another.

We have many exciting opportunities—and challenges—before us. As a church family, we are truly blessed. I know that I am blessed to be a part of this special place.

On November 13, we will hold our traditional Commitment Sunday of worship. On that day, we will ask that you present your pledge to the Lord of your financial support for the coming year.

Your gifts fund our operating budget, which will be \$7.45 million this coming year, a modest but steady growth over the last several years. This helps ensure all of the church's ministries work effectively to advance our mission.

You might also choose to direct an additional gift for debt reduction on our church property. We received a generous outpouring from parishioners to fund the completion of our new worship space, but we still have a \$23,440,000 debt on the property overall. The opportunity to reduce that debt has the effect of reducing future interest payments, and savings from that ultimately can go to our important ministries.

Please prayerfully consider what is best for you and your family. You may choose to return the enclosed card or go online to [www.tfcanglican.org](http://www.tfcanglican.org) to make your pledge. Or, please plan to present your pledge as part of our November 13 Commitment Sunday service.

As always, I hope that you won't hesitate to reach out to me or our dedicated staff about how we might help you or your loved ones. The Lord has richly blessed this special church, and what a joy it is to be "alive together with Christ."

Gratefully,

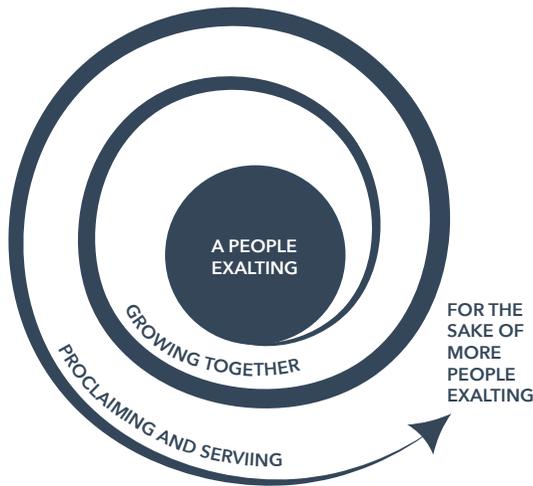


Sam Ferguson

A follower of Christ at TFCA is **growing** in faith, **alongside** brothers and sisters, who together are being sent on **mission**.



### CENTRIFUGAL FORCE OF THE CHURCH



## Our Vision

A vision for The Falls Church Anglican is coalescing, rooted in God's ancient call on His Church, centered around three things:

**DISCIPLESHIP, COMMUNITY, & MISSION**

# Ministry Reports

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people,  
the sheep of his pasture. - **PSALM 100:3**

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY**

*"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."* - **III JOHN 4**

This has been a year of change and growth for Children and Family Ministry (CFM). We have grown as a team with new leadership and the arrival of a ministry operations coordinator, bringing organization and efficiency. We continue to partner with existing leaders for Sunday morning and equip new ministry partners to serve. We welcome new and visiting families, serving more than 150 children in total on Sundays.

A highlight of the year was our mission focus in Sunday School. Last fall, the Rev. Mary Amendolia Gardner shared about her work with Afghan refugees. She taught about Afghan culture and how OneVoiceDC supports incoming families in our community. Pre-school children participated in "Connected Christmas" to collect and deliver gifts on behalf of Anglicans for Life and The Lambs Center. CFM partnered with Anglicans for Life to host a month of pro-life events and Sanctity of Life focus for the children in Sunday school. Finally, during the Ash Wednesday service, children engaged in a meditative experience to learn about repentance and the reflective nature of Lent.

When we share God's Word with children, it blesses us all! We look forward to seeing the ways the Lord continues His good work in our midst.

## **COMMUNITY/SMALL GROUPS**

*"...with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* - **EPHESIANS 4: 2-3**

With over 700 people now committed to small groups, we are a church who wants to connect with each other. We now live in a world where community can be hard to find. Our response has been to create a space and opportunity for people to gather through the formation of small groups. By meeting informally in each other's homes, we are able to study God's Word and do life together. Parishioners have said that these small group relationships have helped them become more spiritually mature and start a journey of deep spiritual growth.

Small groups have helped us make a big church feel small. They also help us remember that we are just like the early churches, in both our desire to grow together, as well as to serve one another and know God better. As we look to the year ahead, we are excited to continue providing sermon series small

group study guides and will be offering additional small group leader training meant to equip, empower, and support our leaders.

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

*"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." - ACTS 20:28*

Our church family continues to be blessed by those who love and serve this community. While our church family experienced great loss, we are thankful for clergy and trained volunteers who stepped into roles and responsibilities that addressed the needs of our parishioners in varying seasons of life. As a result, we are building new teams for the year ahead—teams that continue to care for the conditions that came from the past year. This year God has given us many opportunities for

us to continue to build on the ways we care for one another in ministry. These have included presiding over weddings and funerals, providing pastoral care to parishioners, and overseeing the formation and growth of small groups. As a result, our church has grown stronger and more united in response to challenges. We have been grateful for the opportunity to serve our community and for those who have stepped up in leadership roles as together we serve Christ's Body, The Falls Church Anglican.

## **DISCIPLESHIP AND OUTREACH**

*"...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."*

**- EPHESIANS 4:12**

**Discipleship** – As part of our adult education enhancements, we successfully relaunched our Membership and Confirmation Course in the Spring. By God's grace, our Men's, Women's,

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SPOTLIGHT**

*A series of Family Worship nights at a local park brought children and parents together to learn about Paul's conversion and journey. Children sang with Paul while he sat in "prison" and recreated an earthquake that set him free. Students were castaways in a playground shipwreck to reenact one of Paul's experiences. We also learned from modern-day missionaries about life in Mongolia and a missionary family's legacy. Children delighted in "Coach Paul's" interactive teaching to demonstrate the transforming power of the Gospel. We saw new friendships form and connections deepen.*

*On hot summer mornings, we gathered with our littlest parishioners for "Stories and Songs". (Come for the snacks, stay for the stories...) We read and sang about God's creative power and His creatures, and we were reminded that even little people can do big things with God's help. This simple event fostered community among moms, grandparents, and kids. One participant shared this: "As I began reading Psalm 148 this afternoon, it really struck me how it connected to the songs we sang this morning."*

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

*In addition to our weekly Bible study offerings, seasonal events, and special programs, the Women's Ministry returned to its tradition of hosting an annual retreat. The "Overflowing Grace" conference, attended by 200 women in Annapolis, featured guest speaker, Melissa Maimone. TFCA women led worship and hosted 7 breakout seminars on a variety of topics, as well as offered healing prayer and ongoing opportunities to connect with one another. The name of Jesus was magnified, women received healing prayer, and friendships were forged and strengthened. Here's a testimony from the conference:*

*"God met me in significant ways ... I found I was able to receive the good gift of being with a number of women I've known for many years, not expecting anyone to be a 'whole-package perfect mentor' - but each one having graces and gifts that I could learn from and receive. I deeply felt the goodness of that and received from the Lord through many ladies ... It was a joy to get to know a number of people a bit more and get glimpses of what He was doing in their lives in this season."*

and Young Adults Ministries thrived and grew. Over 50 men from around the world met online weekly for "Get Real," and approximately 150 men attended "Enough," our first post-Covid Men's Retreat at White Sulphur Springs. Over 220 women of varying ages and life seasons met weekly in 5 different Bible studies, and small groups gathered throughout the week. Another 196 women attended the "Overflowing Grace Retreat" in Annapolis in March. The Young Adults Ministry hosted 10 "Fourth Friday" events and one end-of-the-year cookout. Over 50 young adults in our community joined small groups.

**Community** - We invited those new to our church to Connect Classes throughout the year, attended by 152 people, and a "Meet the Rector Luncheon" attended by 75 people.

Many of those who attended these events, both adults and high school students, registered for a relaunched Membership and Confirmation Course in the spring. Of those who attended the Course, 62 were confirmed or received.

**Mission** - Last Christmas we were able to distribute Christmas presents to gift to English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) teachers at Falls Church High School and organized and facilitated an evening ESOL Christmas Celebration where the Gospel Message was shared. Attendees included over 80 English language learners and their families, many from our own neighborhood. Due to the generosity of parishioners displayed in the Spring Giving Tree, we were able to collect clothing items and gift cards to donate to Homestretch, a local non-

## OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

*TFCA's ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) program serves a full complement of students. These full and thriving evening classes hosted about 60 adult students representing 16 different countries. The majority were from Spanish-speaking countries in Central and South America—the largest group being from Bolivia, followed by El Salvador and Honduras. Students from Peru, Guatemala, Argentina, Nicaragua, Iran, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Morocco, China, Vietnam, and Japan also participated. Most live in our immediate neighborhood, and for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, they had the option to meet in one of four in-person classes at TFCA. The program provides an opportunity for non-English speakers to build relationships with other students and their teachers as they learn about the God who loves them. Students are given the opportunity to submit prayer requests each week and volunteers pray specifically for these requests throughout the week.*

profit seeking to empower homeless families with small children. Furthering our work in the newly launched Refugee Care Ministry, we provided 100+ meals per month to Afghan refugees being processed at the Fairfax LSS offices. Additional outreach highlights of the year included gifting Assist Pregnancy Center funds to train a new sonographer, covering expenses for high school students to attend a Christian Spanish language Young Life camp, and supporting the Women's Retreat outreach project by gifting Falls Church High School ESOL graduating seniors with personalized gifts. About 25 TFCA volunteers offer their time each week, and each week they are given the opportunity to make an impact on the lives of their students that goes beyond English learning in a classroom. As the program coordinator puts it, "These students are the neighbors God has given us to love and share the Good News of the Gospel with. It's a privilege to

get to know them, invite them into Christian community, and be the instruments that God uses to touch their lives and draw them to Him."

### **OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

*"Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands."*

- **PSALM 90:17**

The Operations Team supports the church in a variety of ways that serve to undergird the overall work of ministry. In a full year of gatherings, our team has stewarded our beautiful facilities and state-of-the-art technologies to promote the operations of Sunday worship and ministry events throughout the week. Thanks to our dedicated staff and volunteers, our work extends from the parking lot to the sanctuary, maintaining everything from the direction of traffic to the logistical functioning of our buildings and services. As members continue to give sacrificially,

we manage the generous financial gifts by providing support in finance and accounting. God continues to expand our team at TFCA. Furthering our Rector's vision, we recruit and onboard new staff members and leaders for various ministries. Additionally, our work in database management allows us to oversee our growing list of new members, baptisms, and confirmations in our church family. By responding to hundreds of calls, emails, and visits to church office every month, we connect the parish to the ministries of the church.

Two particular Operations highlights from the year were hosting 250 guests for the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) Provincial Council 2022, as well as organizing and developing our first Fall Ministry Fair and the

creation of our "Serving Together" guide. Our pursuit of excellence in financial, administrative, and operational support of TFCA seeks to glorify God, as we grow up together in Christ.

## **PRAYER**

*"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." - ROMANS 12:12*

As the challenges of our times increase, we are not only seeing more persons coming forward to receive prayer after church services and at other opportunities, but also more persons coming forward to join in interceding for the needs of our church, our ministries, our nation, and others. We began the year by instituting our first-ever "Prayer Week," a tradition that

## **PRAYER SPOTLIGHT**

*Through the ministry of prayer, we are privileged to witness people's lives being transformed by God's active love in almost every prayer encounter we have. People have experienced spiritual renewal and miraculous physical healing. Healings of heart, mind, and relationships are more personal, and less simple to describe, but are an "everyday occurrence" in prayer ministry. We are always encouraged to hear stories of God's redemptive and healing work in body and spirit through our ministry, so please continue to share them with us. Glory to God!*

*A parishioner shared with us: "I am deeply grateful to the prayer ministry's teachings about God and about prayer. You took a fledgling, and God used you to quickly grow me so deeper in The Trinity. Doing what you've taught, I have been blessed and privileged to pray for many who needed it. I would not be who I am in Christ without your help. God has used The Falls Church Anglican to teach me so much more about The Trinity through Scripture and worship. The first time I attended our church in 2007 I felt The Holy Spirit's presence for the first time in my life. I am definitely a new person and I'm so deeply grateful! God bless you all!"*

we expect to continue in the years ahead. The healing prayer ministry continues to offer a wide variety of prayer opportunities both in person and on zoom, individually and in groups. Over this past year, our monthly healing services have been well attended by persons inside and outside of our TFCA community. Attendance has also increased at our "Rest and Receive" evenings, where the presence of God is felt as prayer ministers silently pray for those attending. Often in unexpected ways God heals and transforms persons during these times.

Responding to the call for more persons to be equipped to pray for others, 35 persons attended our basic level healing prayer training on a Saturday morning in June – people even received healing during our practice session! During this past program year, new intercessory prayer groups formed at the initiative of parishioners themselves. Examples of these include the Local/Global Missions/Missionary Intercession Team, Adoption and Foster Care Intercession Team, Refugee Care Intercession Team, Prayer Empowered

Parents at TFCA, Prayer Empowered Teachers and Educators, Confidential Intercession for Youth in Crisis, and Intercession for Revival in the Church.

## **WORSHIP**

*"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!"*  
- **PSALM 150:6**

We are so grateful to God for the opportunity to corporately gather for worship each Sunday both in person and through Livestream. We couldn't do this without the support of an incredible and faithful team of volunteers who help in every area of worship: readers, acolytes, ushers, altar and flower guild, singing, playing instruments, and helping with audiovisual needs to name a few areas. We've welcomed several new folks to our Worship and Music department. The adult, children, and youth choirs have continued to grow with over 100 people now actively involved with attending rehearsals and helping lead our worship services. We are also building instrumental ensembles from within our gifted congregation with opportunities to play on Sundays and in other ministry settings.

## **WORSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

*One of the highlights from 2022 was offering our first TFCA "Saturday Singalong Messiah" where the congregation joined the choir and instrumentalists singing this magnificent God-inspired piece of worship. We plan to offer it again this year as it was a great outreach opportunity with a large percentage of visitors joining us for the very first time. Many then returned to attend our Advent and Christmas services. To God be the glory!*

## YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

*A particular highlight from the year included our annual Breakaway Retreat at Rockbridge Young Life Camp in Goshen, VA following a two-year hiatus. Eight other churches were able to join us over two weekends. We focused our study on Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus' call for us to cast our burdens and cares on him. Students met in small groups, enjoyed worship, and explored rock climbing and a ropes course. A particular highlight came at the end of the retreat when students shared stories with one another of God's work in their lives during the week!*

*In June, twenty-four of our students and seven of our youth leaders traveled to Anchorage, Alaska, to spend a week serving the physical and spiritual needs of several communities there. In partnership with a local church there, our youth worked on projects with several non-profits in and around Anchorage. It was our first youth mission trip in over two years, and it was a significant blessing to all who served and were served!*

In addition to our Sunday services, our team has continued to support the other ministries at TFCA such as Women's and Men's ministry events, Bible studies, adult classes, Sunday evening forums, young adult events, youth events, children's "back to school blessing", healing services, ordinations, the ACNA Provincial Council, confirmations, baptisms, funerals, memorial services, and weddings.

## YOUTH

*"...rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." - COLOSSIANS 2:7*

Our continued prayer and desire for the 6th-12th grade students of The Falls Church Anglican is to be rooted in God's Word, built up in Him, and bear fruit as His disciples. In pursuit of this, our youth program offered several life-giving gatherings including CORE (student leadership program), senior nights, Bible breakfasts, and our Sunday

evening youth gatherings of Crossroads and Cornerstone. During Sunday evenings, our middle school and high school students got to be in community with one another through collective worship, hearing a message, and digging deep in their respective small groups, organized by age and gender. These small groups were led by our Youth Family, which consisted of about 55 volunteer leaders. Studies focused on the spiritual disciplines, the four-part Gospel, and the Trinity.

Additionally, our ministry ran several retreats and large events. Our CORE student leaders attended a retreat in West River, Maryland, and we held a Christmas party called "The Gift". We returned to Rockbridge for our Breakaway and Work Crew Retreat and took our seniors to Florida to prepare for life beyond high school. Our middle school students attended our annual Fusion Retreat, and high schoolers ventured to Alaska for a mission trip in June.

# Looking Back

Our church has been blessed again by the generous financial support of the congregation. Through your faithful and sacrificial giving, \$8.2 million was donated to the church's Operating Fund in the last fiscal year. These gifts exceeded the church's operating expenses and enabled the vestry to provide additional funds for outreach and important hiring and staff initiatives, pay down church debt, and increase capital reserves.

Our rector's vision (Community, Discipleship, and Mission) for the church is becoming a reality. With your sacrificial gifts, we were able to hire John Frederick, Pastor of Discipleship and Isaiah Brooms, Pastor for Congregational Care & Community Life, and are actively searching for our next Youth Director.

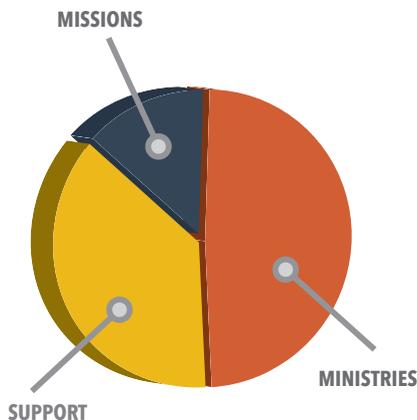
Gifts to the Building Fund were used to pay down debt and reduce the mortgage on the office building. The current outstanding debt is \$23.4 million. Reducing our mortgage balance is a continuing need. Thankfully, due to generous gifts to the Forward and Onward Funds, the Sanctuary building and garage are debt free. We want to honor God by paying our debts even as we minister to the congregation, raise disciples, and serve the community and beyond. We look to the day, when our building has no debt, freeing our priorities to impact the church and the world even more significantly! Thanks be to God!

The vestry has approved the design plans and budget for a Memorial Garden and Columbarium which will be located adjacent to the South side of the Sanctuary. Construction on this project should be completed by mid-2023. More information about the Columbarium will be available soon.

Your gifts enable Biblical-based preaching and teaching, the building up of our local community of well-formed disciples, and the support of missions and outreach locally and internationally. The Vestry is so grateful for your generosity, and takes seriously the responsibility of stewarding your gifts in ways that honor God.

As the local body of Christ called to The Falls Church Anglican, please know you are appreciated, and your support is making a difference!

## OUR OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 (\$7.45 MILLION • 4.6% GREATER THAN 2021)



### MINISTRIES = \$3,734,654 (50%)

Worship	\$1,394,180 (19%)
Discipleship	\$575,821 (8%)
Youth	\$641,884 (9%)
Children	\$430,797 (6%)
Congregational Care	\$494,239 (7%)
Prayer & Healing	\$197,733 (3%)

### SUPPORT = \$2,822,887 (38%)

Facilities	\$1,506,530 (20%)
Operations, Finance & Technology	\$1,191,821 (16%)
Communications	\$124,536 (2%)

### MISSIONS = \$892,057 (12%)

Outreach Funding	\$586,607 (8%)
Diocese, Mid-Atlantic	\$297,000 (4%)

# THE FALLS CHURCH ANGLICAN

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