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From the Presiding Bishop

Missions matter! I know from personal experience. When I was installed as Presiding Bishop early in the liturgy I was asked, “Who are you?” I answered with my baptismal name and identified myself as being a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, baptized in May of 1953 in St. Simon the Cyrenian Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Chicago. St. Simon’s was a mission of the Diocese. Missions matter! They matter because as Jesus said, “Wherever two or three gather together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.” They matter because through them lives and communities are touched and changed by the Good News of Jesus. They matter because they are part of the Jesus movement whose goal is to change the world.

Missions matter!
Dear People of the Diocese of New Jersey,

For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance.  (2 Corinthians 8:12-14)

Among the fascinating aspects of St. Paul's letters one must include his awareness that the churches he founded were connected with one another and shared some degree of mutual responsibility for their common call and mission. This included financial interdependence. Some things don't change.

On many occasions, I have observed that “we are in this together.” Being part of The Episcopal Church, being part of the community that comprises The Diocese of New Jersey joins us in a common endeavor to carry out Christ’s mission and ministry across a geographical area that comprises the lower two-thirds of the State of New Jersey. We have 146 congregations with “gifts that differ” (Romans 12:6). Some congregations have incredible spiritual gifts to share with other congregations in the diocese. Our Latino congregations know how to effectively evangelize. Others of our congregations know how to do Christian formation, social justice, or outreach.

The Board of Missions is an important means by which the entire diocesan community joins in supporting the work of congregations that exhibit vibrant life and health, but who require additional financial assistance for a time. Members of the Board of Missions work diligently to build relationships with our mission congregations. They strive to understand their ministry contexts; to discern with them how God is at work in the communities they serve. A part of the work the Board of Missions does concerns accountability to the wider diocesan community, assuring us all that responsible stewardship is exercised with the finite financial resources we have available.

I am grateful for the faithful partnership and work that is exemplified by the collaboration of our Board of Missions and the congregations they serve on behalf of all of us. I pray everyone will read this booklet and celebrate the work God is doing in our midst. It’s a celebration of our common life and the common good to which we’re called. I believe it’s the work of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings and peace,

The Right Reverend William H. Stokes, D.D.

XII Bishop
Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
Mission Churches by Average Sunday Attendance (2014 Annual Numbers)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Town</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Postal Code</th>
<th>Board Liaison</th>
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<tr>
<td>Barnegat Light</td>
<td>St. Peter’s-at-the-Light</td>
<td>7th &amp; Central Avenues</td>
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<td>08006</td>
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<td>Camden</td>
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<td>Camden</td>
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<td>Broadway &amp; Royden St</td>
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<td>Edison</td>
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<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>San Jose</td>
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<td>Galloway</td>
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<td>Gibbsboro</td>
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<td>Keansburg</td>
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<td>Keyport</td>
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<td>Lakewood</td>
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<td>Magnolia</td>
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<td>St. Alban’s</td>
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<td>Palmyra</td>
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<td>Perth Amboy</td>
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<td>Trenton</td>
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<td>Harry Mazujian</td>
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<td>Trenton (Hamilton)</td>
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<td>Hamilton Twp.</td>
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<td>Frank Hubbard</td>
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<td>Tuckerton</td>
<td>Holy Spirit</td>
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<td>Union</td>
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<td>Villas</td>
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<td>Vincentown</td>
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<td>Williamstown</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Every mission church does not request funding from the diocese. The total grant funding presented in the 2017 budget is $450,000. However, Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Pleasantville is receiving $30,000 carried over from 2016, increasing the total to $480,000 in 2017.
## Board of Missions Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convocation Member</th>
<th>Year Term Ends</th>
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<tr>
<td>Corbin Cogswell</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Atlantic</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rev. Martha McKee</td>
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<td>Bob McGonigle</td>
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<td>Burlington</td>
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<td>Priest (VACANT)</td>
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<td>The. Rev. Arthur Knight, Dcn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Sroka</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Monmouth</td>
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<td>Trenton</td>
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<td>The Rev. Canon Francisco Pozo</td>
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<td>Wendy Blackman</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Watchung</td>
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<td>Lisa Redfield</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rev. Ellen Rutherford</td>
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<td>Woodbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rev. Frank Hubbard</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rev. Deborah Piggins</td>
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<td>Bishop’s Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rev. Bruce Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chair</td>
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Our History
St. Peter’s-at-the-Light is nestled on the northern tip of Long Beach Island, under the sweeping beam of the “Old Barney” Lighthouse. Originally constructed as a chapel for visitors to the Oceanic Hotel, the building was sold to the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey in 1937 and designated a summer chapel. Though St. Peter’s closed in 1946, it was reopened in 1955 by Bishop Banyard. By the late 1980’s services at St. Peter’s were conducted year round, and the church achieved mission status in 1992. As the ministry at St. Peter’s evolved, the community constructed a Parish House in 1992 and a vicarage when it called its first resident priest in 2004. St. Peter’s continues to grow and serve the Lord in outreach to the community and to the world.

Our Story
The community of St. Peter’s is deeply committed to common worship in our Episcopal tradition, to strong fellowship in the name of the Lord, and to gospel service of our community. Children of both members and visitors participate in our “Stories from the Bible” program, and we present Lenten and Advent reflection and study programs for adults. During the summer season, the community at worship doubles in size and we work hard to make certain all visitors are welcomed and invited to participate fully in worship and in fellowship. We serve the larger community, through such activities as collecting food and monetary donations weekly for the local food banks, giving grants to persons in need, charitable giving, and engaging with the summer camping program of the Choristers of Trinity Episcopal Church in Asbury Park.
Church of the Holy Spirit
Bellmawr

Our History

Sep 19, 1920 First evening Prayer Service, at the home of E. D. Schreiner
Sep 26, 1920 Sunday School organized at the home of Mrs. John Price
Jan, 1921 Regular Services began.
Jan 9, 1921 Bishop’s approval for organization of mission
Dec, 1921 Final payment made on church grounds
Jul 27, 1925 Ground is broken, contracts were signed for erection of a combined Chapel and Parish House
Sep 12, 1925 Cornerstone laid
Nov 1, 1925 Mission dedicated at Morning Prayer Service by Archdeacon Shepherd
1954 Church enlarged, with new sanctuary and chancel, pews and carpet. Church rededicated with 170 members and 86 Church School children.
From 1974 to 1979 the congregation enjoyed the status of an independent Mission. In 1979 it became an Incorporated Mission which it remains today.
Original member, Mrs. Eleanor Mutchler was born in May 1920 and was four months old when the church was started, remains a member.

Our Story

Since our humble start, we have continued to be a beacon of support to the community. We open our doors four times a week to NA and AA groups for meetings. We support the Ronald McDonald House and the local food bank. We support St. Paul’s Church in Camden with donations and coat drive. This year we supported the Heifer Project as our Christmas Outreach. We purchased a llama, a sheep, goat, 3 sets of ducks, 2 sets of chickens, and 3 sets of bees for the needy around the world.

“Though we are little, we are FIERCE.”
Elizabeth Olson, vestry member
St. Andrew’s Church
Camden

Our History
We began as a mission in 1909 with the support of St. Wilfrid’s, Camden. The first service in Spanish was on March 2, 1980 with the Rev. Michael DeVine. When the English speaking congregants began relocating from 1994-1998, church attendance declined.

Rev. Pedro Guzman began his ministry in 1998, when the small church consisted of five Hispanic families. We have accomplished much since then, including building a new parish office, remodeling our parish hall, building a food pantry. We have also joined in ministry with St. Paul’s in Camden, St. John’s in Chews Landing, and Grace Church in Haddonfield. Today we have 81 families, a Sunday school program with 28 children. We are a part of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and have been blessed with our own Deacon.

Our Story
The church engages in mission and discipleship in joining ministry with other churches to praise the Lord. We go out into the neighborhood to invite members of the community to join us. We go to different homes to share the Gospel and visit hospitals to pray with the sick and for their families. We are active in our Diocese, participating in programs including: The Way of St. Paul, ECW, Loan and Grant Committee, Translation, Liturgy Commission, the Committee on Ministry with Older Adults, and others. We serve 140 families through the food pantry, and we join in ministry with St. Paul’s Church, Camden through the homeless program. Two years ago we started the Camden Christmas service which serves more than 100 kids.

“Comfort for those in need!”
Leila Mello, Sunday School Program
Our History
St. Augustine’s was established as an outgrowth of the Guild of the Iron Cross of St. John’s Episcopal Church, Camden, in 1888. The first confirmation class of four members was presented on November 25, 1888. By July 1889, there were 40 communicants with multiple services held weekly.

In March, 1927 the Rev. William S. McKay began a remarkable forty year tenure. The mission congregation was raised to the status of Parish in May, 1945. A new church and parish hall were built thereafter. The church came to be known in the community as “the little Church that cares.”

During the leadership of the Rev. Fergus M. Fulford, St. Augustine’s property was taken over by the State of New Jersey in order to construct Highway 676, which led to the church’s merger with the dwindling congregation of St. John’s Church on Royden Street in Camden. The merger was completed in November, 1969. The title of St. Augustine’s was given to the merged congregation, and the Lady Chapel (40 seats) was renamed the Chapel of St. John.

Our Story
Our church engages in its mission and discipleship by nurturing those committed to our care in the best of times and when hardships arise because of grief, sickness or death, etc. Currently, we are engaged in a program with a local agency in promoting healthy eating and movement for better family health. We have an active Christian education program for adults and reach out to our neighborhood school to support various efforts in the community. In many ways, we express our mission and discipleship in advocacy and issues of justice affecting our community.

The current Priest-In-Charge is the Rev. Dr. E. Roland Clemons who along with vestry leaders is moving forward toward revitalizing of housing in its community and walking into the vision of providing services to families and individuals struggling with mental health issues.
Our History
We were formed as an offspring of St. John in-the-Wilderness Church in Gibbsboro in 1889. The first building was dedicated in 1891. Following a fire in 1953, a new church was built and the parish hall was restored. Later, an addition was added to the parish hall which includes a handicapped accessible entrance and bathrooms. A new organ was purchased in 2015.

Our Story
We have an active Girls Friendly Society with about 20 girls participating. The Sunday School continues to flourish, and the Senior and Youth Choirs contribute to the worship services. A number of community organizations, as well as the Ministerio El Alfarno Church, regularly use the parish hall. The congregation ministers to the local community through outreach programs such as Vacation Bible School and by collecting backpacks, blankets, clothing, etc. for those in need.

“Our church’s ministries have spread God’s love for over 125 years.”
Debbie Buck, Lay Leader, GFS Leader, VBS volunteer
Our History
We have been a Christian presence in Edison since 1704. The original building was built in 1724 but destroyed by a tornado in 1835. It was rebuilt using much of the original material. Both the church and the adjoining graveyard played roles during the Revolutionary War.

Both the building and the people are rooted in our Episcopal identity and we have always sought to proclaim and embody the Gospel. We are proud of our heritage and eager to embrace our future.

Our Story
The faithful people of Saint James Episcopal Church eagerly engage the community in ministry. We are especially proud of the Kids’ Community Garden which had its initial planting in 2016. This special ministry welcomed three children from the church and five children from the wider Edison community. Also, we are getting ready to celebrate 25 years of serving Middlesex County through Hands of Hope, our feeding ministry.

“With spiritual and financial support from the Diocese of New Jersey, the faithful people of Saint James, Edison, are equipped and empowered to share with the world the good news of God’s love in Jesus Christ.”

The Reverend Kristen C. Foley
Vicar-in-charge
Our History
Work among the Hispanic community of Elizabeth started in 1968 as a ministry of St. Paul’s, Westfield. Worship continued through the 1970s, with current location first used in 1976. With the purpose to incorporate the Hispanic Community and all those with vision of faith, the congregation has hosted a bilingual day care center welcome center for immigrants. Throughout the years San Jose Church has grown spiritually, thanks to the great support of the community’s cooperation which has led it to great faith.

Our Story
As one Church and one Community we engage in mission and discipleship, by having everyone involved in all programs - led by the word of God, no matter the program, the word of God is not left behind. During our food pantry, every attendee is informed of how important it is to thank God for the food that he gives no matter the amount or what it might be, always be thankful, because God always provides.

“Working together we will build a strong & beautiful community in Christ”
The Rev. Toribio Rodriguez
Church of St. Mark and All Saints
Galloway

Our History
The Church of St. Mark & All Saints (SMAS), Galloway is the unification of two previous faith communities: St. Mark’s Church, Pleasantville and All Saints’ Church, Atlantic City. The two communities became one in the early 1980s and have been a spiritual presence at our current location in Galloway, New Jersey ever since! SMAS became a mission parish in 2016, and we continue our various pertinent ministries and outreach. We are a Church with “a mission” that is filled with the Spirit, making the love of God and neighbor known to our community!

Our Story
Our mission and discipleship is known by our solid presence in the Galloway community and Atlantic County. The congregation continues to meet for two Masses on Sundays, mid-week services with prayers for healing, and various other services throughout the year. Some of our many outreach and discipleship opportunities include: Family Promise, Peggy’s (Food) Pantry, Vacation Bible School (VBS), Daughters of the King, An Advent Angel Tree for Children in Need, Adult & Children’s Choirs, and a homework help/tutoring ministry in partnership with St. Mary’s Church, Pleasantville. Our parish also extends hospitality to many social service community groups that are important and most helpful to the larger community. We participate in ecumenical services and gatherings with other local churches and denominations. Christian formation and education are key at SMAS as we have many studies and groups throughout the year. These are just a sampling of the many opportunities for discipleship at SMAS!

This place has a positive and loving energy. It is full of life!"
Parishioner
Our History
Founded in 1883, the church was first located in the center of town on land donated by John and Harriet Lucas, adjacent to their factory, the Paint Works. In 1904, St. John’s began a mission congregation in Laurel Springs which became the Church of the Atonement. In 1969, the congregation built the current building on a wooded lot on Hilliards Road, incorporating many of the furnishings from the original building. A Memorial Garden was set aside in 1974 for ashes of the deceased and a quiet area for reflection.

At the present time, St. John-in-the-Wilderness is actively working to merge with the congregation of Church of the Atonement in hopes of revitalizing the energy of both congregations and strengthening ministry to their local communities.

Our Story
We minister to our community by providing a free lunch on Wednesdays, collecting hats, scarves and mittens, etc. for those in need locally and in nearby Camden, and with periodic distribution of toiletries and paper products to local families.

A unique ministry of Christian formation, “Messy Church” is held on several Saturdays during the year. This provides an opportunity for worship, a Biblical story which sets the theme for the day, as well as creative projects and games. “Messy Church” concludes with a shared meal.
Our History

Formed in 1926, when Keansburg was known as a summer community, Saint Mark’s has had a strong commitment to its faith journey since the beginning. We saw growth in the church through the 1960s but during the early 1990’s, a difficult split occurred in the church and the church was tested. Its commitment to the neediest among the community never wavered. That commitment has sustained and nourished Saint Mark’s and the Keansburg community through the years.

In the early 1980’s, Saint Mark’s began a breakfast program for senior citizens and in the mid-1990’s began a soup kitchen. When Superstorm Sandy devastated the region in 2012, Saint Mark’s was at the ready to step forward as a Disaster Mission site. We celebrated our 90th anniversary in 2016.

Our Story

We are a mission and mission-centered congregation in a small town in the Bayshore community. We meet one of Christ’s most basic commandments: “feed my sheep” (John 21:17). We host a Jubilee ministry providing daily meals—5,000 meals monthly. Our food pantry serves 650 individuals.

In addition to the Sunday service, a Wednesday Eucharist is offered. It provides an informal setting that is about relationship building and a time for Kairos moments.

We respond to human needs with loving service, “seeking and serving Christ in all people” as part of our Baptismal Covenant. Roughly 18 interfaith and civic organizations provide meal teams for our daily lunch service and Family Nights. We average 10 volunteers daily and are joined by outside volunteers. We have served with over 2500 youth and young adult volunteers from across the nation since 2012. The church continues to provide spiritual sustenance to the surrounding community, and is one of only 25% of Episcopal churches that have experienced growth in the last five years.
Our History
Beginning 1865, with just a few families, we have been and still are a family church where all are welcome, as Jesus welcomed all who came to Him. With the gifts God has bestowed upon us, we work sharing and building up the community. Recently the Vestry, as part of their discernment decided to be more expressively open towards the Hispanic community of Lakewood, beginning with a 12:30 Spanish Sunday Service with an average attendance of 60. About seven years ago, we began operating a Thrift Store and later began a food pantry which serves an average of 80 people weekly and later a transitional shelter.

Our Story
We share our gifts and serve at All Saints as Eucharistic Visitors, Hospitality, Episcopal Church Women (ECW), Order of St. Luke and through St. Andrew’s Guild. As Christians, we strive to live out our Baptismal covenant promise “to seek and serve Christ in all persons” in many ways. We have a Soup Kitchen, held every Sunday at 1 p.m. in the Lockwood Hall, serving an average of 75 people; a Food Pantry, open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon serving an average of 80 people; our Thrift Shop is located on the first floor of the Montgomery House, and Samaritan House, is a transitional housing and comprehensive support for nine adults where they can live for up to three months in a supportive structured environment. We have a vibrant Children and Youth Ministry. In 2016 we held a Vacation Bible Camp on a Farm which had over 40 children and youth participating and some working as volunteers.

“The importance of our Ministry in this community is that it serves those in need, having compassion towards others.”
Irene Slamka, Vestry member and Food Pantry and Thrift Store Volunteer
“I love Saint James!
On Sunday morning I am able to worship with all kinds of people. Old people and toddlers, rich and poor, black, white and Hispanic, ‘long-time parishioners and new comers,’ gay and straight, wealthy and poor - a small sample of all the people that God loves and who live on the Jersey Shore. I am able to sing the Lord’s Prayer together with all kinds of voices: children and old people, sopranos and basses, some on key and some not. I love Saint James!”

Kevin Bates, Warden

Our History
Worship in Long Branch began in local homes in 1850. Meetings in 1854, and the missionary work of the Reverend Harry Finch of Christ Church, Shrewsbury led to the formation of the parish and the adoption of the name St. James’. A wooden structure was built and consecrated in 1855. On May 2nd, 1910, land was purchased for a stone church in the present location and ground was broken later that year. Services were initially held in the parish hall, the first services in the church building were held in 1913. President and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson attended church in this building on October 9, 1916. The mortgage was paid off in 1939.

The structure, the product of architect Clarence W. Brazer of New York, is an example of Perpendicular Gothic, having a vaulted ceiling, pointed arches and a long nave. In 1962, an educational wing was added to the Parish Hall to support the growing congregation. In 1980 a thrift shop was opened on the property, joined in 2002 by the St. Brigid’s Pantry, and Sarah’s Feast, a hot meal served Monday and Wednesday.

Presently the community is engaged in a well structured stewardship campaign, based on gratitude and generosity. St. Brigid’s Pantry and Sarah’s Feast feed over 2,000 people each month. The Thrift Shop, newly restored, continues its ministry to the community providing good things at cheap prices.

Because of our alliance with the Long Branch Concordance, our outreach to the community of families who live in the neighborhood is deepened and made relevant.
Our History
Once two small separate churches, Christ Church, Magnolia, and Christ Church, West Collingswood, both grew out of “house churches”. In each of the two locations, priests served for various lengths of time. Sometimes there weren’t any priests, but the congregations remained steadfast with continued worship and keeping their doors open. The Collingswood property was sold to another Christian congregation and the Magnolia vicarage and the old church building, both of which were in poor condition, demolished.

The two churches were led by the Spirit to merge and become one. This resulted in the transformation of both congregations. A new worship site was consecrated by Bishop Councell in December, 2011.

Our Story
We have a very active adult Christian Formation program studying scripture and spirituality. Our mission outreach includes our Food Pantry which serves the local community and beyond, and our partnership with UrbanPromise, the Unforgotten Haven, and New Visions. We collect backpacks and clothing for the needy, as well as coats, sleeping bags, tarps, and socks for the homeless. This work goes on year round to supply these organizations with needed items.

“The question is not why I came to Christ Church, but why I stay”
Ginger Lopez, Vestry Member
Our History
Over the 129 years since 1888, when a gathering of families from Grace Church, Merchantville, sought to form a parish mission in Maple Shade where they resided, the history of St. John’s has risen and fallen with the tides of national and local events, as well as quirks, such as fires and other untimely events. In the past few decades several members of the congregation have responded to the call of the Gospel to serve those in need.

Our Story
In our lives, we know that we are overcoming life’s adversity with the Lord Jesus as our savior and with his gift of the Holy Spirit, not only to continue outreach to the community, but striving to exceed our previous goals, showing forth the love of God, expressing the selfless living of Jesus and humbly giving to others where we can. As we gain strength from our time in worship and fellowship, from word and sacrament, we go to serve out the doors of the church or welcome others as they arrive at the Thrift Shop or the pancake breakfast.
Our History
Episcopalians have been worshiping in Mullica Hill since 1790. What originally began as simple worship services in the town’s grist mill, soon turned into a group big enough to support its own building, and in 1811 a small structure was erected. As the church continued to grow, a new cornerstone was placed on a new lot in 1852, and the current building of St. Stephen’s was built. St. Stephen’s has remained a small church and through the efforts of dedicated members has been able to keep the doors open for more than 200 years. As the area around St. Stephen’s grows, so too does the membership of the church.

Our Story
Although small in size, St. Stephen’s gives back to the community in many ways. Several times a year the church participates in community events, such as Harrison Township Day, and the church opens its doors during the annual ghost tour and the holiday house tour. For outreach, members monthly support a local food pantry as well as assist a soup kitchen at St. Paul’s Church in Camden on the first Sunday of the month. The St. Paul’s food ministry is in cooperation with Trinity Church Old Swedes, and all of the food and preparation is provided by volunteers from both churches.

St. Stephen’s is an open and welcoming church. We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in our thoughts, words and deeds. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek to do God’s will in a needy world and we would love to have you come worship with us.

Sharon Patterson, Parishioner & Candidate for Holy Orders
Our History

Jun 14, 1921 Formally recognized as mission in the parish hall of Christ Church, New Brunswick

Jun 20, 1921 First service held on the Feast of St. Alban the Martyr

Nov 6, 1921 Services held at St. John the Evangelist

Apr 30, 1922 Congregation moves to the recreation room of the Rickett Building (a bluing factory) where they remain for 4 ½ years

Jan 11, 1963 Current building is completed and dedicated by Bishop Banyard.

March 27, 1963 First service, a Quiet Day, held in the new building

May 19, 1963 Furnishings and pews, including memorials dedicated by Archdeacon Sheinmetz.

2016 St. Alban’s celebrates its 95th anniversary.

“The strength of St. Alban’s is not in how many people sit in its pews Sunday after Sunday. Its strength is in how many lives are changed within and outside its walls.”

The Rev. Ricardo W. Sheppard, Vicar

Our Story

We engage in mission and discipleship in many ways. Our Food Pantry and Thrift Store operate as two of our main sources of outreach. Both of these ministries have been growing as the need for assistance within the community also grows. The church continues to operate under the model of the five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation. Under this model we have hosted many events such as CPR\AED training and we have partnered with students from Rutgers University Black Lives Matter Organization to gather clothing and other needed supplies to be shipped to families recovering from the flooding in Louisiana. We not only supplied goods but have been a staging area where the goods have been brought and prepared for mailing. Our music ministry is an invigorating part of our service, incorporating Praise and Worship into the liturgy. Our weekly Bible Study led by Father Sheppard allows an opportunity to have questions answered, learn more about the Word of God and what we believe as Episcopalians.
Our History
We began as a home church in 1927 with the guidance of The Rev John D Hardwood of St. John's, Philadelphia. The congregation worshiped in one room as of 1928 until the growing congregation led it to relocate in the 1930s. Outstanding significance in our history is how lay readers played a vital role in our growth, who were later ordained. In 1962 a tract of land was bought for a vicarage and a new church building under the direction of Herbert Edmondson, who went on to be Bishop of Mandeville and later Bishop of Jamaica. It has been eight years since we had a Priest in Charge. We step out in faith and know God will order our steps. The need to serve those in a community hard hit by economic decline are numerous. With God’s help we will continue our rich history of being a light within this community.

Our Story
In partnership with St. Mark’s and All Saints’ we provide a Homework Help/After School program and partner with Stockton State University to provide English Learner classes which run simultaneously with Homework Help. This year will be the 5th year for our community organic tend and take garden. We received a grant from the USDA for a high tunnel, to be erected in the spring. This will extend our growing season. They have also provided funds for a pollinator garden. We visit our sick and shut in and engage with them and those within their walls spreading God’s love and fellowship. We serve a very diverse community. Presently there is a sincere and understood fear in the community because of the documentation status of some. We are working on presentations to educate the community on knowing their rights. We hold health fairs and in the summer assist Epiphany Lutheran Church with their Crossroads Summer Program. We seek to reflect God’s Love and light and be true to our calling.

“Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace.”  May Sarton
Our History
Built in 1892, as a memorial church, St. Thomas served as a daughter church to Trinity, Red Bank until 1907, when its primary use became that of a traditionally African-American congregation. A diverse group of 30 attended the first service after the reorganization led by the Rev. A. E. Jensen of Asbury Park, with whom the congregation shared clergy for many years. A growing congregation led the congregation to move to its present location in 1963, and soon its recognition as a parish. We began a soup kitchen in 1983, and sponsored the first Red Bank Carnival & Fun Festival from 1998-2002, beginning in 2002 hosting the Latino AAs, and a borough pre-school from 2008–2015.

Our Story
Our mission, “to know God’s love and make it known through worship, outreach and pastoral care,” is evident through our programs and through our ongoing engagement with our Spanish speaking communities as members of St. Thomas. Additionally, we host music lessons, our youth are starting a clothing drive and we continue our monthly visits to a local nursing home. The Great Commission tells us “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” which we embody through engagement with our joint efforts with the Spanish speaking congregants in our congregation.

As a diverse congregation that draws its members from a 30 mile radius, we are joint members of La Familia de Jesuchristo, whose mission is to work with the diverse Spanish speaking and English speaking communities to rejoice and celebrate together both in Spanish & English as we take on the Body of Christ. Our members, some who have worshiped at St. Thomas their whole lives, range in age from infants to 90+ years of age. They are faithful, talented and committed and have a long history of community service.

We are a small church with a big heart.
The Rev. Joseluis Memba
Our History
Organized in November 1865, the church was built on donated land in the borough of Rocky Hill. Built from plans ordered by mail, and is often referred to as a “mail-order church”. For the first eighty years, services were conducted by priests and lay readers from Trinity Church, Princeton, or by chaplains of the St. Paul’s Society at Princeton University. In 1945, the congregation hired its own part-time vicar, and with the growth of the congregation, in 2006 the first full-time vicar was hired. Over the years a church hall with meeting rooms, a large kitchen, and several offices were built to accommodate meetings, Sunday School classes, and many shared meals. A memorial garden was established in early 2000, and serves as a place of contemplation and quiet, to which all are invited. Stained glass windows were added to the sanctuary, but it retains its antique, charming, and cozy interior. We celebrated our 150th anniversary in November 2015 with an open house for both parishioners and the community.

Our Story
We engage in mission and discipleship by practicing warm inclusivity. Our parishioners are drawn to this welcoming environment. At a time when churches seem to be struggling with retaining and attracting members, we have purposefully supported our music and Sunday school programs seeing value in providing youth education even at times when there may be less than five attendees. Six voices lifted in song can be as lovely as a one hundred-member choir. A small congregation allows everyone to pitch in - prepare the altar, bring snack for Coffee Hour, serve on the Vestry, sing in the choir, count the collection, bake for bake sales, serve as lector or acolyte, help clean up after a potluck dinner. Our small congregation means that when you are blessed on your birthday, everyone knows you and applauds, and when your toddler walks up the aisle during the sermon everyone smiles. When you are ill or bereaved or struggling, your fellow parishioners know and care. We mourn together and celebrate together, with warm inclusivity.

“Because of our warm inclusivity, people have called Trinity the “Little Church with the Big Heart;” I’d characterize our ‘heart’ as big, warm and fun-loving.”
Kris Hadinger, Warden
Our History
Our history dates to 1703 when a log cabin church was built to accommodate Swedish/Finnish inhabitants who had settled both sides of the Delaware River. Originally a Swedish Lutheran Parish from 1703 to 1786, during the Revolutionary War, General Anthony Wayne took quarters in the rector’s house and Continental soldiers occupied the church as a barracks for several weeks. In 1783 construction was begun on the present church to replace the original log cabin church. With the new building, came the change to Episcopalian and Reverend John Croes, who had served as a private in the Continental Army, became the first Episcopal minister. He would later become the first bishop of this diocese.

The diocese records that Trinity “Old Swedes” is the only parish that has seen continuous service for over 300 years. Circumstances sometimes prevented worship in the church building, but a pastor and a congregation have been consistent. The church is a National Historical Landmark, and underwent a million and half dollar architectural and structural restoration approximately twenty years ago. From its founding years, to its active present, Trinity has continued to reflect and magnify God’s light and love into the broader community.

Our Story
We strive to reflect and magnify God’s light and love in the community. The examples of how include: King’s Things: a small private social service agency, we host a series of concerts as part of the annual Swedesboro Jazz Fest. We also hold annual local history workshops and tours of the church and adjoining cemetery for local 4th grade school children, (approved by the NJ Department of Education) and schedule tours for groups of senior citizens, historians, the Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission and others. The Annual Swedish St. Lucia and The Festival of Lights service held in early December brings the community together in a Swedish Christmas tradition. Sunday School children play the roles with help from the adults. We prepare and serve dinner the first Sunday of each month in support of St. Paul’s (Camden) Sunday community supper. This is done in partnership with St. Stephen’s, Mullica Hill. We also “orchestrate” and host a multi-denominational Christmas/holiday community concert in early December.

“Trinity ‘Old Swedes’ Church, the building, is a historical and figurative cornerstone of the Swedesboro community. Our ambition, however, is to enhance Trinity’s stature as a cornerstone and beacon of God’s love through the outward expression of charity, compassion, and inclusion, as exemplified by Jesus.” Craig Lewis, Senior Warden
Our History
We were founded in 1880 by Catherine Elizabeth Scarborough. She started a Sunday School in her own home with 12 children, in the Chambersburg section of Trenton. In a few months she had over 30 students, needed either to make her living room bigger or to found a church. She gathered some people in the neighborhood and in 1880, she and these others founded Christ Episcopal Church.

From 1880 to 1890 the membership grew enormously and the church was transformed from a mission to a parish. From 1916 to 1930, it served as Pro-Cathedral of the Diocese of New Jersey but due to the membership declining, the church returned to mission status in 1980.

In 1985, due to changing demographics in the neighborhood, the church experienced a paradigm shift and became a Spanish-speaking congregation, adopting the name of Cristo Rey. Now Cristo Rey is among one of the five largest churches in the diocese by Sunday attendance.

Our Story
We are living, teaching, preaching and professing the Good News of Salvation-Liberation in Christ Jesus to everyone, especially the poor, the marginalized, the oppressed and the immigrants. We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus door by door, in houses (Way of Saint Paul) and on the streets (Christian Concerts). We empower people through the Gospel to satisfy and to meet all basic human needs. We take care of the spiritual and material life of every person in the community. According to Archbishop William Temple, the physical needs of the people are central in the mission of the church.

We proclaim a personal encounter with Jesus, and want others to take their faith to a personal level. Many in our community were forced to leave their home countries because of lack of food or persecution (lifestyle, politics, etc). Packing up everything and moving to a new place takes courage and risk—sometimes even their lives. New arrivals may be unwelcome because of a lack of documentation, English language skills, a job, family, etc. The only thing that many newcomers have is faith in Jesus.

Finding an Christian-Episcopal congregation which prays with them, and helps them find jobs, gain language skills, aids in getting appropriate documentation (through Episcopal Immigration Services), helps children to have a good education (Pre-school and day care), gives food (Food Pantry) and worships God every Sunday are gifts we provide to many people. This is how we are engaged in mission and discipleship at Cristo Rey.

“The Holy Spirit that I feel in this church brake all my chains”
Jocelyn Rodriguez, Vestry member
St. Michael’s Church
Trenton

Our History
Located in Mercer County since 1703, and in Trenton since 1748, we are a founding parish of the Diocese, and one of the oldest churches in the state.

The church grounds played a key role during the American Revolution and our cemetery is the final resting place of David Brearley (a framer of the Constitution) and Pauline Bonaparte (Napoleon’s niece).

In the mid 19th century, the sanctuary and façade were renovated to resemble Lambeth Palace.

In the 1960’s St. Monica’s Church closed its doors. Its members were invited to join this community. The chapel here was dedicated and named for St. Monica’s in the 1980’s. St. Michael’s is convinced that God is doing a new thing in Trenton, and we feel called to share that message.

Our Story
We are a community of prayer, compassion, and justice. We see ourselves as a beacon of hope in the Capital City and we strive to be Christ’s Body in the world. Because one facet of our mission is “to unite the whole human family in bonds of love,” we make disciples by building relationships. In addition to supporting UrbanPromise, several community groups, and an increasing number of our neighbors who are homeless, we have also begun focusing on racial injustice and gun violence. A community dialogue series has allowed us to be visible signs of God’s creative and redemptive work in a community that feels isolated and forgotten.

Our mantra comes from the prophet Isaiah: “Look! I’m doing a new thing; now it sprouts up: don’t you recognize it?” As proud members of the Jesus Movement, we show the world all the places where God is making all things new.

“This place doesn’t exist just for a group of us to come together and worship every Sunday, as important as that is. We exist as St Michael’s to be a part of the community.”
Robert Bullington, vestry member
St. Peter’s has evolved from a church of four to five families to over a hundred and twenty weekly attendees. We started as immigrants to America, bonding together under God’s will to preserve our culture to our predecessors. We have moved from a home, to a medium sized building, to our newest sanctuary in Hamilton Township.

“St. Peter’s maintains a cultural and familial aspect while never failing to put God first.”
Onyeka Umeweni, Youth Ministry Executive Secretary

Our church engages heavily in mission and discipleship. We have a dedicated Sunday School at 10 AM that we fervently encourage members to attend. Recently, children have become uninterested in long sermons so they have Children’s Service that brings excitement to the Word of God for the Young Minds of Tomorrow.
Our History

**c. 1947** Began as a home church.

**1950's** Church met for prayer in Parkertown.

**1960** Diocese purchased a home to be used for worship with various clergy.

**1960** Organized as mission under current name with 24 families.

**1976** Candidate Morris Hulsizer named “Bishop’s man-in-charge”

**1979** Growing church moved into the 123 N.Green Street building

**1987** The Rev. Morris and Libby Hulsizer leave substantial bequest made following their sudden deaths in a car accident. These funds still fill budget gaps.

**1995** Church burned the mortgage papers

**2005** Diocese and congregation purchase a larger, closed church building for growing needs on Main Street. This new building was dedicated by Bishop Councell on September 30, 2006.

**2016** Celebrated the ten-year anniversary of new building

**Beyond** We continue to respond to the movement of God’s Spirit for our church!

Our Story

We are imbedded here by our historical presence, our visible presence, and through our personal and corporate ministries.

We live faithfully among our neighbors, as they encounter times of joy and times of challenge. Our ministries with the wider population include Girl and Boy Scouts, 12 – Step Recovery Groups, leadership in the Food Pantries and Family Promise, Community Garden, and free monthly community dinners. We renewed the practice of sharing events with the local Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) church to strengthen our kingdom-building efforts through unity. Remembering our own needs in Storm Sandy, we are generous in giving beyond our local area.

We are active with Diocesan events and governance, serve on many councils and committees and our Way of St. Paul participation has tied the Diocesan mission through our events with the Tuckerton/Little Egg community.

“Holy Spirit Church embodies its name: its congregation breathes life into the community through strong outreach programs, open and inclusive worship and education, active and extensive parishioner involvement in civic, social and philanthropic organizations, and heartfelt Christian fellowship. I love our church!”

Penelope Hughes
**Our History**

**St. Luke’s, Union** was formed as the chapel of St. Luke’s, Roselle. Its first service was held in 1873 in a one room schoolhouse built on the existing property in the 1830’s. Several adjacent properties were purchased and the Rectory was built. In 1951 the old building was demolished and the present church was built. St. Luke’s is believed to be the second oldest congregation in Union.

**All Saints’, Elizabeth** was built in 1929 as a parish hall, which served as the church throughout its history. The building was sold when the parishes merged. The stained glass windows in the walkway and the parish hall came from All Saints.

**St. Luke and All Saints** was formed in 1977 by the merger of the two parishes. The money from the sale of All Saints’ allowed the building of the parish hall on the St. Luke’s property. This provided a beautiful facility, well suited to serve the community. The current Congregation is proud of its rich double history and seeks to use its strength in our current ministry.

**Our Story**

Some of our mission work includes: providing financial support for St. Jude’s Children, supporting those overcoming Homelessness through Family Promise, holding three AA groups plus Al Anon, donating furniture and household items provided free to those in need through Furniture Assist, Inc, helping merchant mariners through Seamen’s Church Institute, providing food baskets at Union Town Hall, and allowing Glad Tidings Church and King of Kings Church to hold their services in our building several nights a week. Our building is available for various community meetings and events.

The SLAS mission of which I am the proudest is our work with Family Promise. For more than 30 years we have joined with other churches in New Jersey to support homeless families as they move to regaining a stable home. I have been a part of that mission since its inception.

Teresa Hale, Vestry Member
Our History
The wild blackberry bushes that once grew on the corner of Bates Avenue helped establish an Episcopal mission in the late 1940’s. Blackberries were made into jams, jellies, and pies that were sold to help raise money for the church.

After World War II, gasoline shortages meant people in Villas couldn’t get to the Episcopal Church in Cape May or Wildwood. The idea of a new congregation in Villas took shape. The first service was held at the Villas Firehouse Sunday, June 16, 1946, celebrating the Feast of Saint Barnabas. Volunteers arrived at 5am to prepare for services which were conducted by lay readers. A priest celebrated the Eucharist once a month. In 1948 a tract of land, including a house, garage, and chicken coop, was purchased, and the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) sold building blocks for a dollar and along with other fundraisers raised $10,000.

The cornerstone was laid October 31, 1954. A cross, Bible, Book of Common Prayer, and articles about Saint Barnabas were placed inside. The first service in the new church was Christmas Eve by candlelight. The congregation continues to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of parishioners and the community.

Our Story
Our mission to the community and beyond is one of caring and support. One of our main focuses is to provide for the basic human needs and the restoration of dignity. We seek to serve those living in a community comprised of older adults living on fixed incomes; families living with issues related to addiction including incarceration, domestic abuse, and recovery; the chronically unemployed or under-employed; and families trying to make ends meet in an area dependent on summer tourism and seasonal employment. It has, simply, always been our goal to be a welcoming and safe, Christ-centered space for all people who find themselves in need whether it is at the front door of the church or the side door of the Parish Hall.

“I have gained so much insight into what joys the Lord can deliver in our daily lives and what inner peace can be found in His service. Just take that first step and offer what you can. The Lord always delivers!”
Sonja Anderson, Parishioner & Thrift Store Volunteer
Our History
From a handful of members who first celebrated the Eucharist together on Nov. 11, 1973, in the home of Robert and Lori King, St. Mark’s has continued to grow-moving to Winslow Township’s School # 3, then graduating to an old, rented Methodist church in Sicklerville. Finally, in 1986, The Rt. Rev. Vincent K Pettit, Suffragan Bishop of New Jersey, consecrated our new church building.

St. Mark’s has a community outreach program, serving needy families with food boxes and gifts for holidays and emergency food deliveries, and sponsoring an Overeaters Anonymous group, as well as a Boy Scouts of America Explorers group.

Jean Hamilton, Senior Warden

Our Story
St. Mark’s mission statement is “Bring people to Christ, help people grow in Christ, and prepare people for ministry in Christ.” We do this by reaching out to people with our outreach programs. Children participate in Sunday School classes, first communion classes, and worship services. Adult Bible study classes help to prepare us to understand and carry out our ministry as intended by Christ.
St. Luke’s Church
Woodstown

Our History
St. Luke’s was organized as a mission in 1951, and the church building was erected in 1954. A few years later, the parish hall was added. We were once a parish but are now a self-supporting mission.

Our Story
When we engage in mission outreach we take it on as an extra contribution by our members, in time and talent as well as money. Life-long parishoner Tom Fritz has a mission in Nicaragua at Omentepe. We had a bake sale and pony rides at Tractor Supply to finance uniforms for the students there, as they cannot attend school without uniforms. We set an example by participating in the community, i.e., Meals on Wheels, Family Promise, and Disciples Pantry food bank. We make our building available at no cost to Literacy Volunteer training, Boy & Girl Scouts, a start-up Church of God in Christ congregation, and others.

“We reach out to each other - reach out to our community - and reach out to the world. Our church feels that it is contributing in a (maybe just a small) way to advance God’s plan by our words and deeds.”

Janice Sims, Parishioner
Other Mission Churches
In the Diocese

Camden, St. Wilfrid’s Church
www.stwilfridscamden.org

Keyport, St. Mary the Virgin

Millville, Christ Church

Palmyra, Christ Church
www.christchurchpalmyra.com

Paulsboro, St. James’ Church
www.stjameschurchpaulsboro.com

Perth Amboy, Church of the Holy Cross

Vincentown, Trinity Church
www.trinityvincentown.org