



St. LUKE'S
Episcopal Church



I KNOW
THE PLANS
I HAVE
FOR YOU
DECLARES,
THE LORD



COOK HALL
Dedicated in honor of
Maria and Ray Cook
whose generosity of time, talent,
and resources have forever
enriched this parish
November, 2024

**WAHLQUIST GARDEN
CHAPEL**
Dedicated in honor of
Elizabeth & Jack Wahlquist
for their love and support
of this parish
December, 2024

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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Senior Warden's Report



Dear Fellow Parishioners

This past year, 2024, was one of major accomplishments and significant challenges at St. Luke's. We dedicated the new Cook Hall, consecrated the Walquist Garden Chapel, and paved the street running from Jamestown in front of the Scout Hut and Plaid Door. We strengthened our sacred music program, launched new initiatives to engage parishioners, and expanded the church's outreach to the community. Our biggest challenge was and continues to be finding a Rector to lead St. Luke's spiritual and physical growth.

The highlight of the year undoubtedly was the completion (or near completion) of Cook Hall and Wahlquist Garden Chapel with their blessing by Bishop George Sumner on Sunday, December 22. We celebrated the event with a magnificent brunch. We owe an unpayable debt of gratitude to former Senior Warden Gary Ulrich who stepped in and managed the three year-plus project. Please read his report in this Annual Report.

Under the leadership of Dr. Donna Clavijo, St. Luke's music ministry was strengthened by the addition of new singers and special programming during holiday seasons, which included brass and string musicians. We initiated efforts to enhance parishioner involvement by adding Wendy Lambert to the staff as Parish Life Coordinator and launching several new events. St. Luke's Outreach ministry continues as a hallmark in the Dallas Diocese deepening the Church's commitment to serve those in need. Each of these ministries are covered in depth in this report. Additionally, the Episcopal Foundation of Dallas and the Church Music Institute, an international organization promoting the advancement and stewardship of sacred Christian music, established headquarter offices at St. Luke's, providing the church with new revenue sources.

While we have been unsuccessful in finding a new Rector for St. Luke's, we have been blessed with dedicated and capable priests who have met our spiritual and pastoral needs. We continue to work with Bishop Sumner and the Diocese to find a permanent Rector for the parish.

From a financial perspective, 2024 was a blessing. We were able to maintain \$150,000 in operating cash, even though we expected to use \$30,000 of operating cash to meet the 2024 budget. Also, as a result of good financial stewardship and the additional income from the Church Music Institute, we were able to deposit the 4th quarter distribution from St. Luke's Foundation into our Investment Account.

Moving into 2025, our financial picture is good and includes staff and clergy salary increases, additional investment in our Music Ministry and Parish Life activities, designed to serve our parishioners and engage newcomers.

As we begin 2025, St. Luke's is entering new chapter in its service to the parish, the Diocese, and the community. I look forward to working with you in 2025 to continue to grow in love with God and reap the rewards of our faithfulness.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Carol Taylor
Senior Warden

Interim Rector's Report



For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fulness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Ephesians 1:9-10

To the Parish Church of St. Luke's Dallas,

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

It has been a joy to spend some time with you all this year. As the interim rector, I have observed a parish working hard to serve others through various outreach programs, a deep desire to build community during the week, and a warm atmosphere of worship on Sunday mornings. To my eyes, I believe there is much life here, and I hope none of you grow weary in doing good works! You have been guided in recent months by a competent team of staff and vestry, and I commend them for their diligent and tireless work. I know transitions between clergy are never seamless, and I intend to do my part to work as hard as possible to encourage and support you all during this time. During this season, I hope we can spend time together worshipping, going deeper into the word, and joyfully serving our community. As we have gathered today for our annual meeting, I hope that what you take away from our time is a sense of what God is doing here at St. Luke's, and I ask that you prayerfully consider how the Lord might be calling you to be a part of the life of the Church. There are many opportunities to serve, and God has given us gifts essential to our life together. I hope this meeting allows you to engage with what God is doing here in a renewed and reinvigorated way. I hope also that Paul's words from Ephesians give us a renewed sense of our mission as the Church: to participate in Christ's work of uniting all things in him. May the abundant joy of Jesus Christ be with you all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin E. McAdam'.

Yours in His Service,
Rev. Gavin E. McAdam
Interim Rector

Junior Warden's Report



We had a successful 2024 regarding St. Luke's facilities. The completion of Cook Hall and the Wahlquist Garden Chapel was the crowning achievement. Our many thanks to Gary Ulrich for overseeing the construction of the project.

A few elements remain, the largest of which is the installation of the elevator connecting the second floor of the Education Building. Please read Gary's accompanying report which summarizes the three year-plus project which is nearing completion.

Ellen Winspear coordinated the purchase of the kitchen equipment for Cook Hall. She also coordinated the landscaping and adornment of the Wahlquist Garden Chapel. As a part of the project, the street accessing Cook Hall, the Plaid Door, and the Scout Hut was redone with concrete. The road will be opened in early February after the concrete fully cures.

Other accomplishments to the St. Luke's campus include:

- Church roof leaks repaired by recaulking entire roof
- Chapel roof leaks repaired and dry wall refinished where water leaked
- AC/Heater units in PDCS and the office copy room were repaired
- Fire alarms were replaced in the Education building and passed the Fire code inspection
- Gutters with down spouts tied into the sewer were installed in the back of the old kitchen, and a second sump pump installed to prevent rain water flooding Harman Hall and the old Kitchen.
- Old kitchen next to Harman Hall was cleared, except for the cabinets, walls repaired and painted, new flooring installed, and an AC/Heater window unit installed to allow the Church Music Institute (CMI) to use the space as part of their lease.
- CMI partially moved from Harman Hall to the upstairs of the Education building. They will complete the move after the installation of the elevator in Cook Hall.
- More than 50 plants were planted and a truck load of mulch was placed around the campus.
- Maintenance and repair on all of the buildings by Juan Chavez and Eusebio Gutierrez. Many thanks to them for their continuous hard work to keep our campus functioning.

Please give tribute to Susie Pepitone for managing the finances and making the necessary payments for everything to be accomplished in 2024.

Rich Snider
Junior Warden

November 27, 2024



Cook Hall & Wahlquist Garden Chapel – From Start to Finish

As the construction of Cook Hall and the Wahlquist Garden Chapel enters the final phase with delivery and installation of the elevator scheduled for early February, a review of how we got here is appropriate.

It started in 2020 with a capital campaign to fund the project and the retention of an architect firm to design it. Plans and drawings were submitted to the City of Dallas for a building permit in 2021. However, the drawings were incomplete and the permit process stalled.

New architects were obtained, the Wright Group of Carrollton, which did an excellent job and produced new plans and drawings, although not without hiccups. The Civil Engineering firm submitted drawings that raised the building's floor 16 inches, which required reworking the plans so that Cook Hall would connect to the Education Building. After considerable work, new drawings were resubmitted to the city and a permit was finally issued in mid-2023 and construction began in June of that year.

Unfortunately, inflation had gripped the nation and building costs soared 30-40% from initial estimates in 2020. Many adjustments had to be made to control costs, yet still maintain the integrity of the design. Despite best efforts some cost increases could not be avoided, but overall the costs came in only about 10% over initial estimates. As construction approached completion in July of this year, three problems arose. The fire suppression plan added additional exits that meant many doors had to be refitted with panic bars. Additionally a problem in another building on campus had to be corrected before the Cook Hall fire suppression plan was approved. And finally, the elevator shaft and its electrical supply required numerous reworks because the manufacturer provided 4 separate drawings during the construction phase each requiring subtle changes that took additional time. Finally all issues were addressed and in early January 2025 we were approved for the installation of the elevator, which once started should take about five weeks.

Gary L Ulrich
Gary Ulrich



Ministry & Formation

Weekday Bible Study: Deacon Rosemary's Bible Study met in person and via Zoom Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, throughout the year. Weekly an average of 12 people participated in the sessions.

STUDIES:

Epiphany: "On Purpose: Finding God's Voice in your Passion" by Magrey deVega

Lent: "The Third Day: Living the Resurrection" by Tom Berlin

May-June: "Wrestling with Doubt: Finding Faith" by Adam Hamilton

Summer: "1st & 2nd Letters of Peter: Courage in the Times of Trouble"...John MacArthur

Fall: "Receiving Jesus: The Way of Love"...Mariann Budde

Advent: "The Christmas Letters: Celebrating Advent with Those Who Told the Story First" by Magrey deVega

Sunday Christian Formation Classes: Seasonal presentations by Fr Ignacio Gama, and Celeste Gama

Meditation Moments: Twice weekly video meditations were provided by St. Luke's clergy and emailed to the parish.

Wednesday noon services: Eucharist led by priest January through August.

Morning Prayer with Distribution of Communion following led by Deacon Rosemary. Homilies on saints of the church selected from Lesser Feasts and Fasts. August through December.



Fr. Gavin McAdam delivers his first sermon, January 12, 2025

Sacred Music

St. Luke's Music Ministry in 2024 experienced significant growth in the midst of difficulties and changes. My health issues have been and continue to be challenging, but I am tremendously grateful for the support of the church staff, the Vestry, the congregation and my wonderful choir. It has made this season much easier to navigate.

Our core group of singers is complimented by several local professionals. Through careful management of the department's budget we increased the number of staff singers from 4 to 6 in the fall. In addition to being outstanding vocalists they are wonderful people as well. Their work ethic is very high, they come prepared every week, and support one another to achieve our goals of excellence.



St. Luke's choir at Lessons and Carols service

The Adult choir presented a full array of music for Lent and Holy Week, as well as St. Luke's Sunday, Thanksgiving, and the season of Advent. The addition of new staff singers allowed us to present several acapella pieces for Lessons and Carols, which was so well received that the department was blessed with a \$1,000 gift from a parishioner. We were blessed to have a brass quartet for our Easter and St. Luke's Sunday services, and a string trio for our Christmas Eve service.

My goals for this year are to review our handbell collection, have them tuned and updated and hopefully featured in worship services. Additionally, we will be updating the church's website to include more information about the music program. We hope to reach out to area college music departments offering students the opportunity to present some professional recitals at the church. On a more mundane note, I intend to begin a some major review of the music library and reorganization of the choir room and the robing room.

Dr. Donna Clavijo
Director – Sacred Music

Outreach

Our St. Luke's family is a wonderful community, willing to share the gifts that God has given us, to share our love, and to donate our time, talent and treasure to those in need. Highlights of our Outreach Ministries include:

The Plaid Door: This is a hugely successful resale shop, led by Jan Fox and a staff of St. Luke's volunteers. Donated items (mostly clothing, furniture, and household items) from parishioners and friends are sorted and priced each week. The store is open to shoppers Thursday-Saturday. Many come for prayer support as well as shopping. The Plaid Door Annual Christmas Market in November, held in the Scout Hut, was again a wonderful success. Proceeds from all sales are used to support our church outreach, and other local nonprofit programs.



The Plaid Door's Christmas Market overflowed with merchandise

Blessing Bags for the Homeless: Members of the parish donate items or funds to purchase items; volunteers met (3 times this year) to assemble the bags which are made available to parishioners to distribute to those who are in need.

Sandwiches for Austin Street Center: Michael Sanford and Rita Blessington, who led volunteers for a long time, stepped aside this fall. Wendy Lambert, our Parish Life Coordinator, now leads volunteers in preparing over 500 sandwiches each month, and delivers them with milk, fruit, and cookies to Austin Street Center residents.



Volunteers assemble Blessing Bags for the homeless.

For Thanksgiving, all parishioners join in preparing the sandwiches at home, with more than 700 being delivered this year. Over 300 scarves, made by the St. Clare's Guild, were delivered to the Center on Thanksgiving evening, and passed out on behalf of St. Luke's by Maria Steigenberger and her family.

North Dallas Shared Ministries: St. Luke's supports NDSM financially from our Ministry Fund. We also collect paper and plastic bags for its food distribution program. Each week St. Luke's volunteers deliver produce received from NDSM (apples, potatoes, etc.) to our diocesan food distribution centers. In August, we participated in the NDSM school uniform distribution (15 volunteers this year), with additional distribution to the students of Gateway of Grace, with Kathy Geist's leadership.

Gleaners' Harvest: During Lent this year, we began a new ministry based on the Old Testament practice of leaving a portion of the harvest on the edges of the field for the poor. Members each week purchased extra non-perishable items during their regular grocery shopping and brought them to St. Luke's. Items were gathered and given to NDSM for their food pantry for those in need. This is now a year-round ministry.

Kramer Elementary School: Our mission this year was to let the teachers and staff at Kramer Elementary know they are appreciated. Volunteers provided snacks during Teacher Appreciation week in May, a "Welcome Back" breakfast for the staff before the opening of school in August, and holiday snacks the week before Christmas break. Each week two staff members receive a personal appreciation note from our clergy and staff, and we pray for them by name in our worship services. Thanks to Ellen Winspear



More than 500 sandwiches are made each month for the Austin Street Center

and Mayra Kitchens for being our school liaisons.

Dallas Champions Academy: This ministry began with leadership from our Daughters of the King (DOK) chapter, as they helped provide backpacks to school children in past years, and organize a study area for students at Our Saviour Church in South Dallas. DOK members continue to support the students and activities of Dallas Champions Academy. We also pray for the students each week during our worship services.

Gateway of Grace: In May we provided admission (on two days) to the Dallas Zoo for about 100 students and their families. In December, Angel Tree gifts were provided by members of our parish for 30 children from Gateway, and members volunteered to assist at the Christmas Party for the Gateway families.

Diocese of Dallas Toy Drive for Diocesan Convention: Parishioners this year generously donated funds for the purchase of toys for Christmas gifts for the Greater Dallas Coalition in South Dallas.

Honduras Medical Mission Team: The St. Luke's medical mission team returned in March for a week in Muchilena, Honduras, providing medical and dental services for many. In January the team prepared hygiene kits for the people served in Honduras. The Scout Hut was filled with parishioners and friends, and Boy Scouts, for Pill Packing Day as we put thousands of pills in prescription-sized amounts in zip-lock bags to be distributed to the patients treated. This March we will again assemble a team to love and serve the people of Muchilena, Honduras.



Honduras Mission Trip team, 2024

Parish Life

St. Luke's has always been a church that cares for its parishioners and has enjoyed getting together to support, learn, and serve one another. Despite the interruptions caused by construction and weather, we gathered throughout the year. To continue strengthening our program, Wendy Lambert joined the St. Luke's staff as Parish Life Coordinator, which resulted in a flurry of wonderful activities in the closing months of the year. Following are some of the activities we enjoyed.

- **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** In March pancakes and bacon were prepared by the men of our parish for all to enjoy on the last day before Lent.
- **Blessing of the Animals:** On St. Francis Day in October, students and teachers from Park Cities Day School, parishioners and friends, and their animals (real and stuffed) gathered
- **Pentecost Mexican Lunch:** St. Luke's volunteers prepared and served a wonderful Mexican Lunch on Pentecost Sunday after the 10:00 a.m. service.
- **Chair Yoga:** In October, St. Luke's began Chair Yoga classes to help improve health and flexibility. Each week as many as 12 parishioners and neighbors join for 45 minutes of 'calm'.
- **Arboretum Excursion:** In December St. Luke's held a visit to the Arboretum. Parishioners and friends walked through the gardens to take in the '12 Days of Christmas' exhibits followed by a tour of the DeGoyler House, decorated in grand style for Christmas. It was a perfect day, with no crowds, making it a relaxing event.
- **Wonderful Wednesdays:** St. Luke's initiated 'Wonderful Wednesdays' in December after the Noon worship service. Activities included making Marbleized Christmas tree ornaments and decorating the beautiful tree in the Church, starting a monthly book club, afternoon Bingo parties, and specialized craft projects.
- **PCDS Family Events:** Several times throughout the year, St. Luke's sponsored a parent/child "Happy Hour" at the Park Cities Day School reaching out to the families that are on our campus daily during the week.



Pets and owners line up for Blessing of the Animals



Chair Yoga meets every Wednesday



Parish members enjoy an Arboretum excursion highlighting the Christmas season

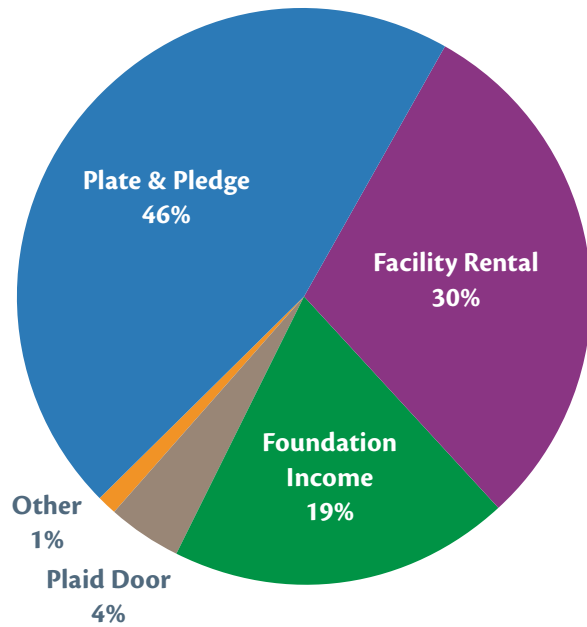


Parents of Park Cities Day School children enjoy a "Happy Hour" in the courtyard

2024 Income & Expense Report

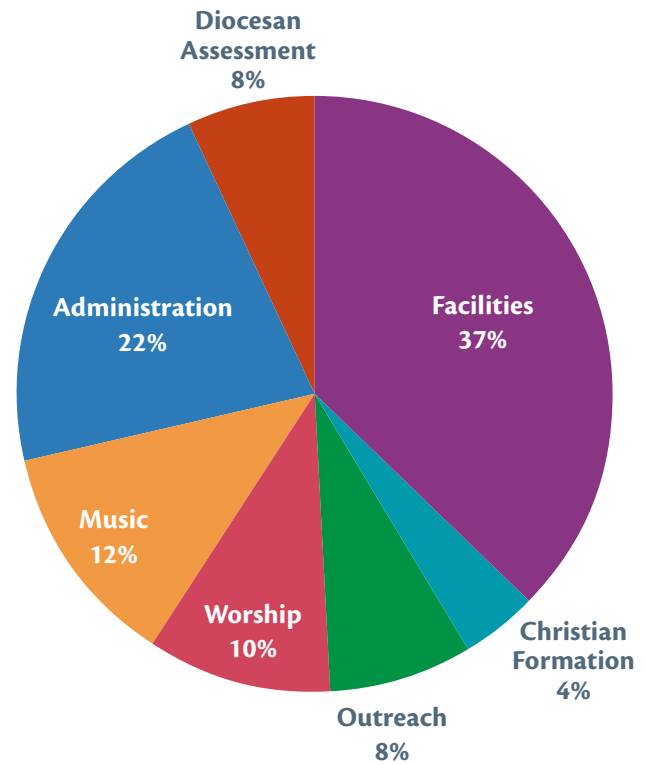
2024 Income - Actual

■ Pledge & Plate	312,697
■ Facility Rental	204,446
■ Foundation Income	131,595
■ Plaid Door	28,200
■ Other	6,901
TOTAL	683,839



2024 Expenses - Actual

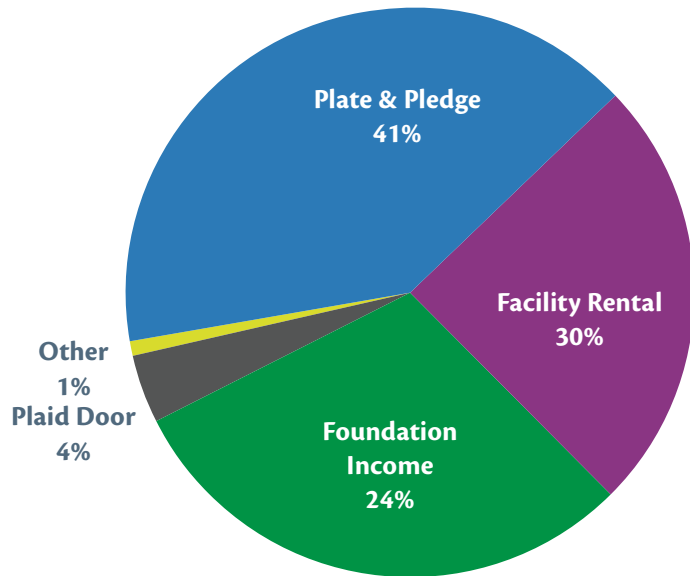
■ Facilities	\$208,130
■ Christian Formation	\$28,508
■ Outreach	\$51,731
■ Worship	\$69,500
■ Music	\$82,839
■ Administration	\$147,136
■ Diocesan Assessment	\$46,852
TOTAL	\$682,122



2025 Projected Income & Expense Report

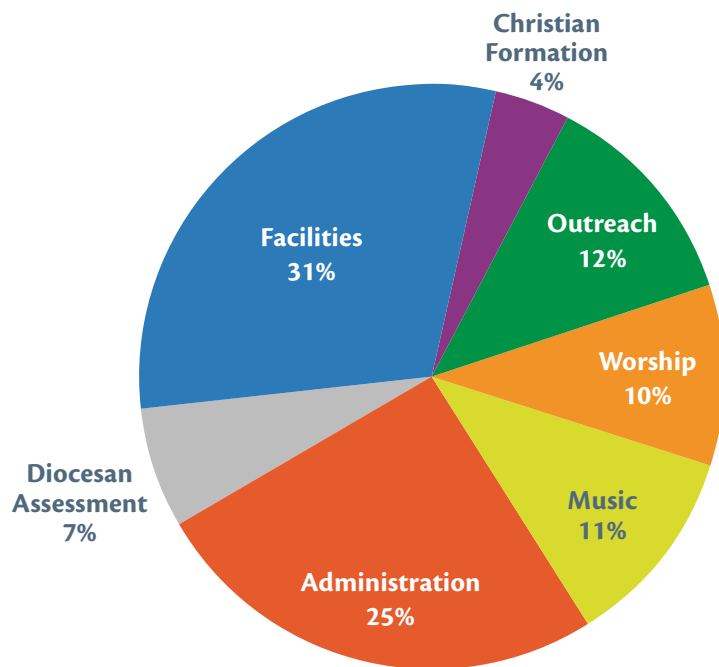
Budgeted 2025 Income

■ Pledge & Plate	\$291,500
■ Facility Rental	\$213,712
■ Foundation Income	\$175,640
■ Plaid Door	\$28,000
■ Other Income	\$5,060
TOTAL	717,912



Budgeted 2025 Expenses

■ Facilities	\$218,027
■ Christian Formation	\$29,569
■ Outreach	\$86,121
■ Worship	\$72,222
■ Music	\$79,731
■ Administration	\$181,012
■ Diocesan Assessment	\$47,230
TOTAL	\$713,912



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

Clergy



The Rev. Gavin McAdam
Interim Rector



The Venerable Rosemary Trei
Archdeacon

Staff



Dr. Donna Clavijo
Director of Sacred Music



Lowell Duncan
Communications



Susie Pepitone
Business Manager



Juan Chavez
Facilities Director

Facilities Assistant – Eusebio Gutierrez

Vestry 2023-2024

Carol Taylor, *Senior Warden*
Rich Snider, *Junior Warden*
Karen Hopkins
Mayra Kitchens
Ellen Winspear
Doug Zahniser
Nancy Moore, *Clerk*
Stan Kirsten, *Treasurer*
Pat Keane, *Chancellor*

Diocesan Convention

Delegates

Nancy Duncan
Catherine Taylor

Alternate

Kathy Wohlgelegen

Foundation Board

Steve Rossiter, *President*
Nancy Moore, *Secretary*
Nancy Schmitt
Kathy Wohlgelegen



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