

CHRIST CHURCH

EASTON



PARISH PROFILE 2025

CHRIST CHURCH EASTON

A Brief History

The history of St. Peter's Parish goes back to the early days of the Eastern Shore and is an interesting tale of growth and service; of buildings and missions. It is a story that at its essence is a case study of form following function.

While officially organized and founded in 1692, St. Peter's Parish actually brought the Kingdom of God to the Eastern Shore of Maryland nearly 30 years earlier with the construction of Old Whitmarsh Church, halfway between towns of Oxford and Dover. The primary focus of The Rev. Daniel Maynadier (1711-1745) was to ensure the church's continued existence. During his tenure, the Whitmarsh church was re-built.



The Rev. Thomas Bacon, who followed the Rev. Maynadier, must have been a man of vision and great courage. During his time as Rector of St. Peter's Parish, Rev. Bacon enlarged both the church (1751) and the congregation.

As the center of industry in Talbot County shifted towards Easton, so did the center of St. Peter's Parish. By 1795, services were alternating between Whitmarsh and Easton.

With the construction of Christ Church in Easton in the early 1840s, more and more services were being conducted at this location. By 1847, the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Henry Michael Mason, was residing in Easton and planning the construction of a Rectory at the site of Christ Church. It was designed by the noted architect of the day Richard Upjohn and built in 1854.

The footprint of the current campus began to take form when the "first phase" of the Parish House began in 1898 with subscriptions from the parish and a gift from the children of Isaac Adkins. Its architect was T. H. Chequier of Baltimore. In 1951, a fire occasioned an addition to the Parish House of thirty-six feet to the west.

The Parish Hall was most recently updated in 1995-96. A new updated kitchen was added and the Day School was brought down to the first floor. The Parish Offices were then moved to the Rectory.

The most recent structural renovation was the church in 2015. Under the guidance of Kerns Group Architects, the entire church was renovated inside and out. A new digital organ was purchased and installed, as was a new digital bell. A facilities review conducted by the Architectural Support Group from Olney, MD, concluded in 2025 that both the church and the rectory are in fine shape.

The new mission window that was installed in 2015 has become a beacon of light for the citizenry of Easton, one of the most iconic images in town. From this campus, Christ Church, St. Peter's Parish, has faithfully served the community and wherever the light of Christ is needed.

Overview of Our Congregation

Due diligence for our new rector involved a great deal of time on the discernment process, learning who we are, who we were, and who we want to become. We conducted a survey of the entire congregation, using questions developed by Holy Cow, an organization that has compiled surveys and results for thousands of parishes over the years. Here is what we learned.

We are an energetic, engaged congregation. While half of us attend church services at the same rate as three years ago, one-third of us are attending services more. Given the opportunity to fill out this survey, 189 parishioners chose to do so, a participation rate approaching 90 percent of our average weekly attendance of 211 souls. In addition, two-thirds of us believe participation in church activities beyond attending services is very meaningful.

Two of our top three priorities moving are centered on growth. Our number one priority is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the church. Our second priority is to make the necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church. The third priority focuses on developing ministries that work toward healing those challenged by life's circumstances.

Many of our ministries over the years have originated in assisting people in need: The Talbot Interfaith Shelter was started by Christ Church along with several other parishes. Stephen Ministry started about twenty years ago to offer trained parishioners to help deal with temporary trauma brought on by illness or job loss or sudden death. Our Outreach Program dates back over forty years to around the time the Waterfowl Festival originated. Our Healing Service every Wednesday is a quiet, contemplative service that attracts a loyal cadre. We started our Alive at 5 Saturday evening services in part to reach out to the recovery community. Helping those navigating life circumstances is who we are and who we have always been.

According to Holy Cow, what sets our congregation apart is how diverse we are in our approach to worship, ranging from conservative to progressive, yet how deeply we still care for one another. Overall, Holy Cow found us to be a transformational parish, with both high energy and high satisfaction. We want to be here, and we plan to remain.



The modern stained-glass window known as the Mission window was created in 2015 as part of the church's renovation. It is now a landmark in Easton.

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Worship Services

One of the most important attributes of Christ Church is the diverse worship styles and services. We are a welcoming church to those who prefer a quiet reflective service, be it mid-week or early Sunday. Those who prefer a louder, more praise-style setting flock to our Alive at 5 Saturday evening services. Traditional choir lovers get their fix most Sundays at 11 am, whereas contemporary music fans have their own service at 9:15. We also provide childcare services and a children's chapel offering weekly lessons focusing on key Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

According to results from Holy Cow, members highly agreed that the worship services at our church are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content. Unsurprisingly, we rank the capacity to inspire and connect people to God as our number one attribute in our next rector. We were fortunate to have Rev. Bill Ortt, an exceptional preacher, lead our services for 24 years. Similarly, we highly ranked the critical ability to deepen understanding, form character, and equip members with new skills in our next rector.

Mentioned repeatedly by the flock is the ability of our parish to offer a variety of different services. As the largest church in the Diocese of Easton, Christ Church was called up to host two major services in 2024. In June, the Iona Eastern Shore graduation ceremony for eight students, featuring a host of clergy, was held here. Similarly, the ordination of two of Christ Church's very own—Michael Valliant and Kelsey Spiker—as deacons took place in our church in September 2024. We hold numerous weddings and funerals for parishioners as well as community members who just seek a place to worship God while they make their eternal vows or transition into the next life.

We are the iconic church in Easton, so it is no surprise that we welcomed almost 500 worshipers for both Christmas and Easter services. Our Maundy Thursday service, when First Communion typically occurs, evokes deep spiritual reflection from worshipers.

In addition to live services, we have built in cameras, video screens and a studio so we can livestream major holy services, such as Christmas and Easter. We offer a Zoom service throughout the year on most Sundays, where parishioners can engage in a discussion of the Bible readings. Our lighted mission window has become a beacon of hope for all who see it and a favorite photo of Easton's visitors.



Our parish remains open to innovation and change: last Advent, Rev. Michael Valliant (left) led Blue Wednesday deacon masses for those who find the season emotionally difficult.

Ministries

Here at Christ Church, we enjoy a robust number of unique ministries. But we have also been known to spinoff ministries from our parish to serve the entire community. For example, the Talbot Interfaith Shelter originally started here at our parish in 2008 along with a few other faith communities. Today, the Talbot Interfaith Shelter operates independently, owning two town houses here in Easton; we continue to support the shelter with our time and our treasure.

Our Youth and Family Ministry attracts young people from throughout the area. This multi-faceted program holds weekly meetings in our parish hall; goes to local schools to join in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes meetings; and sponsors multiple, annual community outreach activities both locally and globally. Last year, 92 students and 6 adult leaders developed their faith through teaching, participating in activities, and by meeting in small groups.

Our Adult Education and Small Groups Ministry is perhaps the most joyful group on campus. Our Adult Education Minister as well as some parishioners lead discussions on a variety of texts, obviously the Bible but also contemporary works by the likes of Gregory Boyle and N.T. Wright. Some small groups focus on topics such as spiritual discernment or newcomer orientation.

Prayer Shawls is a long-standing caring ministry. The prayer shawls are individually knitted by parishioners, then blessed during our weekly healing service before being handed out to congregants in need of extra support.

Speaking of extra support, Stephen Ministry is a group of dedicated, trained parishioners who provide weekly, one-to-one support to those in times of need, such as after the passing of a loved one, enduring a medical condition, or during a time of transition. This national Christ-centered ministry allows those in need to know they have comforting, compassionate support along their journey.

Every parish needs a Women's Fellowship Group, and ours is no exception. Once a month, dozens of women gather in our parish hall to share stories of faith, friendship, and blessings. Guest speakers occasionally attend to offer insight into needs in our local community.



The youth ministry, led by Rev. Kelsey Spiker (fourth from left), provides local, regional, and international opportunities to spread the word of God, such as this trip to Peru.

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Many parishioners have been served by our Food Ministry. A dedicated group of volunteers gather monthly to prepare full-course dinners, newcomer bread, and desserts. Once a week, meals are dropped off to whomever needs one, whether it be recovering from an illness or incapacitated in any way. Last year, over 400 meals were delivered.

Funded primarily by our Waterfowl Festival weekend selling crab cake sandwiches, oysters, crabbie fries, and deep-fried Snickers candy bars, our Outreach Ministry distributes thousands of dollars annually to local individuals and organizations in need. In 2024, our parish supported 45 community members' needs, distributing \$14,950 to help individuals keep their electricity on, provide shelter for the homeless so they could sleep in a bed and take a shower, support members of the community in need of disability assistance, and contributed rent for others. Some of the organizations we supported with major financial donations include the Talbot Humane Society, BAAM, Habitat for Humanity Choptank, and Global Vision 2020.

Of course, no parish would be complete without its church service ministries. We have a dedicated team for the Altar Guild, who also help with the beautiful flower arrangements each week. The Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors are featured prominently in all our services.

The pride and joy of our service ministries has to be our music ministries. We offer services that feature both a traditional choir and a contemporary band. Each group has a special place in the hearts of our parishioners.

The Traditional Choir Ministry performs most Sundays at our 11 am service. Under the direction of our choir director with more than 20 years of experience, they focus on classic Episcopal songs, sometimes with bells joining in. In addition to spectacular Christmas and Easter services, they have presented Lessons and Carols recently.

The Contemporary Music Ministry grew out of a desire several years ago to reach out to non-church goers, including those in recovery. Offering the only Saturday service at 5 pm in the entire Diocese, the Alive at 5 band offers a joyful sound that can be heard up and down the main street here in historic Easton. Coupled with the light shining brightly through our stained-glass Mission window, Christ Church is often featured in tourists' photos as well as paintings produced during art festivals in town. The contemporary band also performs most Sundays at 9:15 am, using modern Christian music.

One important aspect of our ministries program is they are all parishioner-driven groups. If a parishioner has an idea and wants to start a new one, the opportunity is welcomed here.



Parishioners aplenty volunteer to cook crab cakes, oyster fritters, and cream of crab soup during the annual Waterfowl Festival that Easton is famous for. All the funds raised in this weekend are returned to the local community via grants and direct assistance to individuals.

The Church and Campus

*This short history was written by Elizabeth Wright in 1986;
then updated and edited by Louis Wright in 2024.*

THE CHURCH

Easton came into existence around 1786, and Christ Church soon moved there as well. By 1803, a new brick Christ Church, just south of Dover Street on Harrison Street (now a parking lot across from the town offices), was consecrated. Services were held on alternate Sundays at White Marsh and Easton. In 1827 the brick church in Easton was in need of extensive repair and would soon be too small to accommodate the growing congregation. Thus in July 1837, when Dr. Henry M. Mason became the rector of Christ Church, St. Peter's Parish, plans for a new church were paramount in the minds of the vestrymen as well as in that of Dr. Mason.

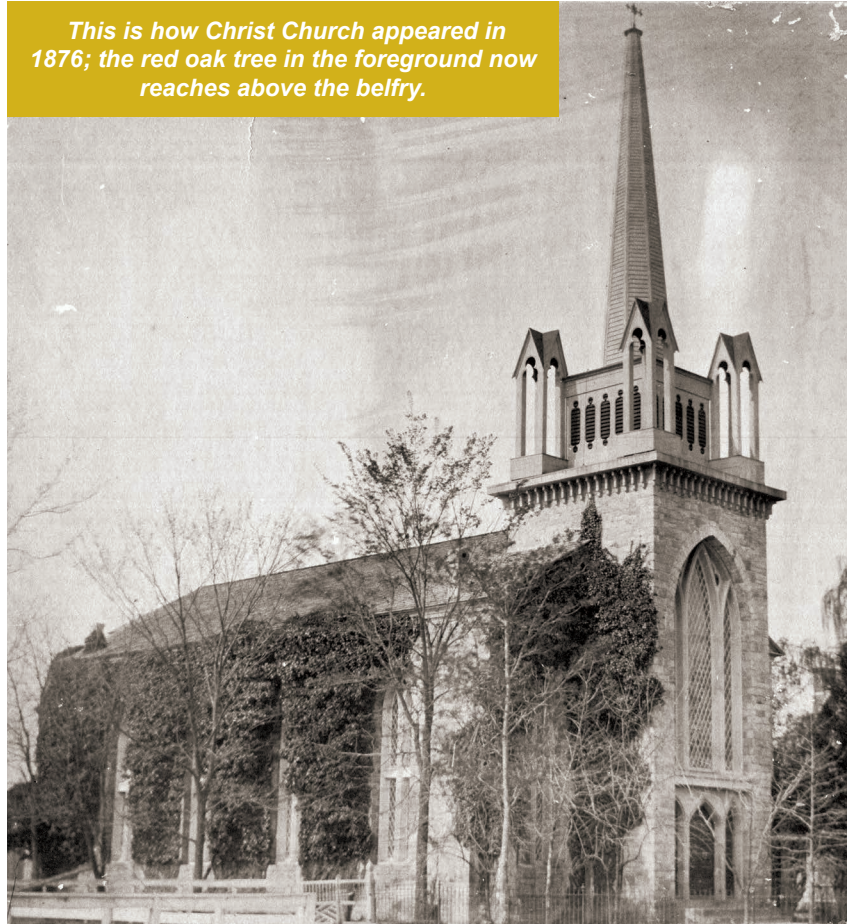
Dr. Mason came to Easton from Salem, New Jersey where he had built St. John's Church, designed by William Strickland, the prominent Philadelphia architect. Strickland's work bridged the neo-classical style of the early

nineteenth century and the newly popular gothic revival style for English and American liturgically-oriented churches. His plans for St. John's were used for the new church in Easton, our present building. The church is built of stone brought by boat from Port Deposit, on the Susquehanna River. The original building was a rectangle with a twelve foot square vestry room added at the southwest corner with a door into the nave. No plans or pictures of the original interior are extant.

In 1874-76 under the Rev. Dr. Wilson the church was enlarged by the addition of a recessed chancel and organ chamber as a memorial to Dr. Mason. The altar window, "Feed My Lambs," was installed at this time, as well as the marble altar and the eagle lectern. A walnut pulpit (removed in the renovation of 2015) was provided on the side near the vestry room (now sacristy). In the late 1970's the altar was moved away from the wall below the Mason window and in 1984 stained glass memorial windows to Barclay and Martha Trippe were installed in the sacristy.

During remodeling of the nave in 2015 the large three bay diamond paned window on the north side of the tower was removed and replaced with new stained glass, with exterior and interior mounted wood crosses. All of the remaining diamond paned windows were removed and replaced with clear Lexan panels. A new Rogers electronic organ was installed and storage was created for musical instruments and accessories in the space formerly taken up by organ pipes.

This is how Christ Church appeared in 1876; the red oak tree in the foreground now reaches above the belfry.



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THE PARISH HOUSE

On March 23, 1898 the rector, the Rev. L. B. Baldwin, presented the vestry with “a magnificent offer from the children of the late Isaac L. Adkins to furnish stone enough and transportation of the same to finish the parish building in memory of their parents.” The cornerstone of the new parish house was laid on St. Peter’s Day, June 29, 1898.

In 1945 a small chapel was created at the west end of the parish house, but it was not until 1952 that an enlargement of 36 feet in a westward direction provided additional space. In 1962, under the Rev. Conrad H. Goodwin a further building program made possible the addition of offices, a library, and classrooms on the south side of the old building.

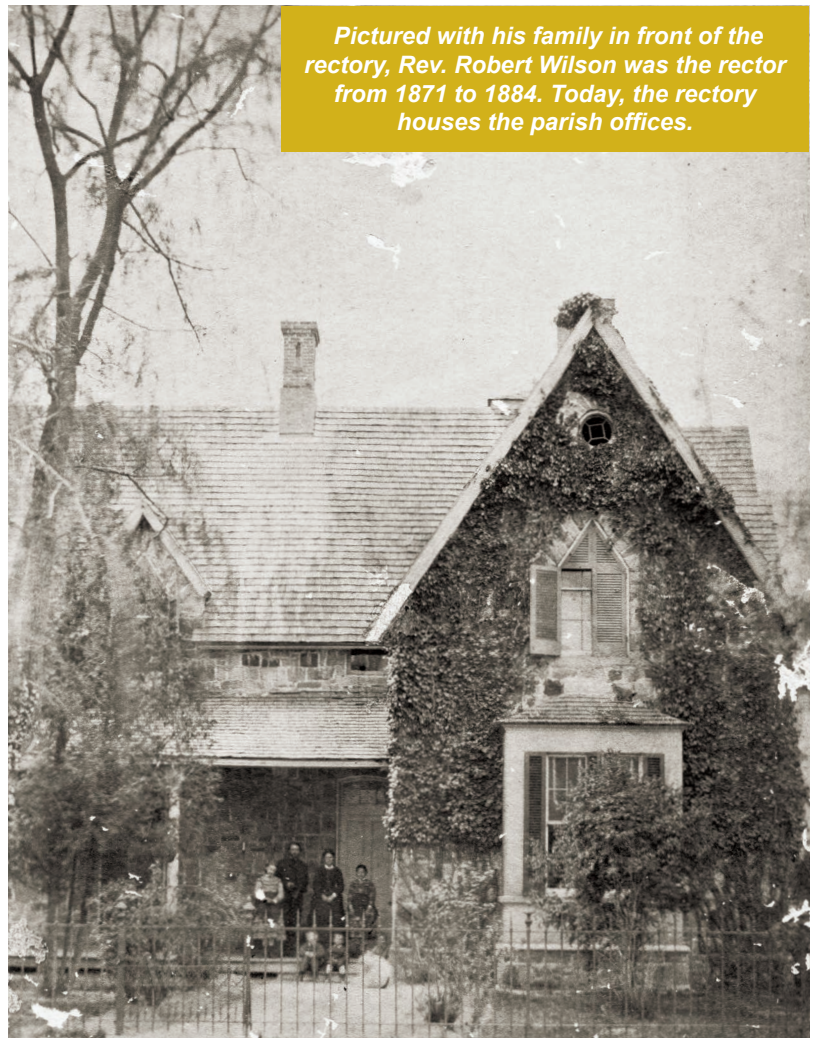
In 1995 and 1996 the parish house was again extended farther west to add an upstairs choir room, a larger kitchen on the first floor and additional storage space in the basement. The Parish Day School which had been housed on the second floor since its creation in 1956 was then moved to the first floor in remodeled space in the 1962 addition, and the church offices were moved to the Rectory House. During 2020 the COVID shutdown forced the closure of the Parish Day School. The space utilized by that program was taken over by the church school and to create new video production facilities for broadcasting services.

THE RECTORY

The building of the new stone church preoccupied the vestry until 1852. At that time the Rev. Dr. Mason made his own arrangements with architect Richard Upjohn (of early gothic revival fame and the architect of Trinity Church at the head of Wall Street in New York City) to plan a rectory.

The Rectory served as housing space for the various incumbent Rectors and their families, as well as office space for the Rectors until the construction of the Parish House in 1898. In the 1910’s and 1920’s, electricity, water and sewer were added, cobbled to fit the existing spaces available.

In 1995 the Rector, Rev. Harry Bainbridge, and his family decided to move out of the building in favor of purchasing their own personal residence. At that time the building began to be used as church office space, with the existing rooms being repurposed as offices.



Parish Priorities

In many ways, we are a truly fortunate parish. We have been located in the same place for nearly 200 years, and generations of families have worshipped here. We had the leadership and knowledge of our last rector, Rev. Bill Ortt, for 24 years. During this period of time, we were able to build up a sizeable endowment. In addition, the entire church was renovated only 10 years ago. We recently had an architectural assessment firm do a reserve analysis; they told us that our church and parish office are in remarkable condition and will not need any serious repairs for 20 years. We have a strong base of annual giving, with over 100 parish families pledging over half-a-million dollars. There is not any great conflict within our big-tent parish. So, our priorities moving forward can be broader based than perhaps the typical church.

Christ Church has always been known as a community of helpers looking to do good: Habitat for Humanity Choptank is just one of several local organizations we support with our time, our talent, and our treasure.



To truly discern our parish priorities, we once again relied on Holy Cow's church assessment tool. We asked Holy Cow to break out each service order's answers so that we could see if different service attendees have different priorities. Interestingly, our Alive at 5 and 9:15 am attendees only had two areas of high change priority, whereas the 8 am and 11 am attendees had five and six high areas of need respectively. One wonders if these attendees, who skew older, have seen the way the church once was and want to return to that; or perhaps they are more invested in how the church can be and are willing to do what it takes to effect change.

The number one priority as an aggregate was to strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people in times of need, which dovetails with our church's proud history of helping others. As mentioned earlier, many of our ministries were started by parishioners. Many of us are here to serve our community.

The second most mentioned priority is to deepen our sense of connection to God and one another through stronger worship services, this being a priority even though the majority of parishioners find our services are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content. There is a real thirst for dynamic speaking, deep dives into scripture, and strong faith analysis among our parishioners.

The third priority is to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners. As a parish, we are ideally situated in the center of Easton to connect with a large number of non-profit organizations as well as local businesses. We also draw from a diverse community representing all walks of life and types of industry.

Our fourth priority is to strengthen the management and support of persons in various ministries. Because of COVID, we lost a substantial number of volunteers in all facets of parish life, including church service volunteers such as ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and so on. A generation of volunteers retired and our numbers in all facets need to be replenished for us to be a thriving, vibrant parish.

The fifth priority is to develop and expand ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances. We want to expand outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society. Again, this complements with the Food Ministry, the Stephen Ministry, the Pastoral Care Ministry, Outreach, and so many others that are already here and thriving.

There is an energy, a hunger within this parish to develop more fully our relationship with God and all his people here on earth. As Holy Cow discovered, we are a parish on the cusp of transformation.



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Future Rector

We have been blessed over our history to have had many strong leaders. Our last rector, Rev. Bill Ortt, served us faithfully for 24 years; he will be a hard act to follow. He not only grew the membership of the church until COVID hit; he also greatly secured the church's financial footing by accumulating an endowment in excess of \$5 million—while also overseeing a magnificent renovation of the church in 2015. Fr. Bill helped move us into the modern age by overseeing the construction of a studio to allow church services to be livestreamed. He also introduced a contemporary band and a 5 pm Saturday service to appeal to non-churchgoers, especially those in recovery.

We are looking for a leader who can build upon this impressive edifice, who can reach out even deeper into the community, who can revitalize the Christian spirit that lives inside all of us, and can continue to make Christ Church the beacon of light, hope, and faith for Easton and all of the Eastern Shore.

As mentioned earlier, we used Holy Cow to discern the needs and views of our parish. From them, we learned that our next rector will:

- Be able to speak on the theologically progressive and conservative side, helping people remain open to different views and healthy conversation in our diversity of thought.
- Can help determine what the congregation needs from worship, building on the foundation of what is beloved and creatively fostering needed changes.
- Be able to use sermons, liturgy, and education to develop the capacity for members to be emotionally available and build pastoral care within the congregation.
- Will help us continue to articulate a clear path for spiritual development, how the Christian journey begins, what disciplines are important, and what mileposts of growth can be used to gauge progress.



Throughout the seasons, Christ Church shines as a beacon of light and hope for all. The shoes of the fisherman are large, but the opportunity to do something special is here.

Our next rector will be a dynamic preacher, have a growth mindset, be an expert in administrative affairs, and be able to effectively engage the community.

As the largest parish in the Diocese of Easton, we require a leader with experience running a good-sized parish with a proven record of raising contributions and managing expenses. All churches face challenging times to attract young families and grow the faith of their parishioners, so our next rector will have demonstrated these abilities. With 123 pledging units committing over \$515,000 in 2025, we promise a powerful base upon which to build.

We know it is a challenging time to recruit a new rector, with more openings available than highly qualified applicants, which is why our Vestry has established a starting compensation package of \$110,000 to \$125,000 based on experience, with full benefits including health insurance for the rector and their family, dental insurance, four weeks' vacation with five Sundays' off as well, and a pension. Send all serious inquiries to Chris Rigaux at manager@christchurcheaston.org.

Parish Financials

ASSETS

Current Assets		Prior Year
Cash/Operating Accounts		
001007 - Church Operating Account	58,616.46	78,776.44
001020 - Payroll Checking Account	40,000.00	3,672.43
Total Cash/Operating Accounts	98,616.46	82,448.87
Cash/Other		
001022 - Altar Guild Checking	1,107.78	2,009.64
001025 - Rector's Discretionary Fund	15,779.97	15,822.82
Total Total Cash	115,504.21	100,281.33
Investments		
001449 - Brown Adv. - EIS	385,717.80	332,584.93
001451 - Brown Adv. - Treasurer	334,400.51	259,649.25
001452 - Brown Adv. - Diversified	3,986,050.23	4,094,360.22
001453 - Brown Adv. - Flexible Equity Act.	1,186,875.49	1,006,399.16
Total Investments	5,893,044.03	5,692,993.56
Security Deposits	2,500.00	-
Total Current Assets	6,011,048.24	5,793,274.89
Fixed Assets		
001810 - Land and Improvements	1,137,600.00	1,137,600.00
001811 - Garage	30,000.00	30,000.00
001820 - Church Building and Contents	3,397,259.00	3,397,259.00
001830 - Parish House and Contents	2,180,107.00	2,180,107.00
001840 - Rectory and Contents	918,450.00	918,450.00
Total Fixed Assets	7,663,416.00	7,663,416.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 13,674,464.24	\$ 13,456,690.89



CHRIST CHURCH EASTON

Parish Financials

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities		Prior Year
Current Liabilities		
002265 - Accrued Payroll	3,307.42	
002273 - ER 403(b) Match	0.06	0.05
002274- Pension	7,708.53	-
Total Current Liabilities	11,016.01	0.05
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,016.01	0.05
NET ASSETS		
Invested in Capital Assets	7,663,416.30	7,663,416.30
Net assets without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	-	27,287.01
Special Purpose accounts	992,881.29	904,010.57
Honored Donor accounts	3,115,159.00	2,922,643.05
Designated for Operating Fund	355,750.89	511,095.69
Total net assets without donor restrictions	4,463,791.18	4,365,036.32
Net assets with donor restrictions	1,536,240.75	1,428,238.22
Total net assets	13,663,448.23	13,456,690.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 13,674,464.24	\$ 13,456,690.89



Holy Cow revealed that many parishioners are drawn closer to God and each other by participating in meaningful activities sponsored by the parish: here Rev. Bill Ort commissions a new leader for the Stephen Ministry.

Diocese of Easton

The Episcopal Diocese of Easton is a diocese of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America that comprises the nine counties that make up the Eastern Shore of Maryland. It is in Province III (the Middle Atlantic region) and was created as a split from the Diocese of Maryland in 1868.

The diocese consists of the Eastern Shore of Maryland (the nine counties of Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester). There are 39 parishes and missions in the diocese. Its largest cities are Salisbury, Ocean City, and Easton, the centrally located city from which the diocese takes its name and where Trinity Cathedral, the bishop's seat, is located. Camp Wright, the diocesan camp, is located in Stevensville. Christ Episcopal Church of Kent Island, the oldest Christian congregation in Maryland, is a part of the diocese, and is also located in Stevensville.

As reported in *The Living Church* (12/20/24 issue), "With 6,858 baptized members, according to 2023 Parochial Report data, the Diocese of Easton is in the smallest third of domestic Episcopal dioceses, but only just so. It is the church's 30th smallest domestic diocese of 95, with more than twice as many Episcopalians as Western dioceses that cover a much larger geographical area, like Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota. It fares slightly less well in average Sunday attendance, ranking as the 25th smallest diocese.

"Easton's membership has declined in the last decade, but only by 14 percent (compared to an overall rate of decline of 20.9% during the same period across the Episcopal Church). It was among just a handful of dioceses that grew in membership in 2022-23.

"The reason may be that Maryland's Eastern Shore is particularly Episcopalian, especially Kent and Talbot Counties. An analysis in 2020 by the Association of Religion Data Archives found that 0.97 percent of Marylanders said they were Episcopalians, but the percentage in Talbot County, where Easton is the county seat, was more than six times higher, at 6.4 percent. In nearby Kent County, the number was only slightly lower at 5.8 percent."

The Diocese is currently undergoing a period of discernment, as Bishop Santosh Murray has announced his resignation as of fall 2025.



Trinity Cathedral, located about one mile from Christ Church, is the seat of the Diocese of Easton.

CHRIST CHURCH EASTON

Easton and the Eastern Shore

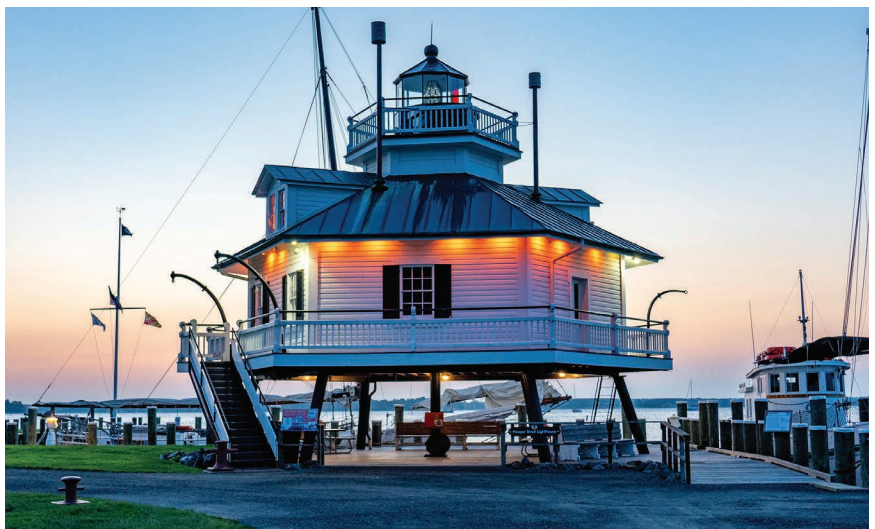
Easton, Maryland, named “the 8th Best Small Town in America,” is an arts and cultural center with a population just over 17,000 who love living in a small town that offers the best of many worlds: access to large metropolitan areas like Baltimore, Annapolis, Washington, Philadelphia, and Wilmington; good health care from a strong local hospital and medical community; casual and gourmet dining; shopping for all budgets from collectibles to fine antiques; eclectic art galleries; several public golf courses; the splendid Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries in their backyard for sailing, canoeing, kayaking, and crabbing; an historic Town Center with Colonial and Victorian architecture; and an active local community that enthusiastically new ideas.

Easton is the perfect location to relax and recharge. Take a lazy stroll down our tree-lined streets or expanded Rails to Trails, stop in our unique shops, art galleries and dine in our visitor friendly coffee shops and renowned restaurants. Our evening diversions include theatrical performances; music venues; Easton’s Cinema, bowling, and pub crawling, and a wide variety of restaurants to please any palate and fit any price range. Indulge in a cozy stay in one of our gracious Victorian bed and breakfasts or historic inns.

Discover a patchwork landscape of eclectic small towns draped across the pristine beauty of Maryland’s gorgeous Eastern Shore. Experience the shore’s centuries-old tradition of hospitality served with a heaping side of unparalleled Maryland seafood (crabs, oysters, rockfish—no need to choose—try them all!) and the remarkable waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Reach the beach in Assateague and Ocean City and never tire of endless fun for anyone and any age.

With its lush, wide farm vistas laced with meandering rivers dotted with warm, welcoming waterfront towns, the Eastern Shore is one utterly unique American destination. Touch the water, taste the flavors, meet the people and experience a life and a place like no other.

In the heart of Talbot County, Easton is a well-known destination for shopping, dining, and enjoying the arts. Photo courtesy of Talbot Visitors' Bureau; all rights reserved.



The Eastern Shore is known best for its proximity to the Chesapeake Bay, renown for its seafood, recreation, and scenery. Photo courtesy of Tour Talbot; all rights reserved.

Mission and Vision Statements

MISSION STATEMENT

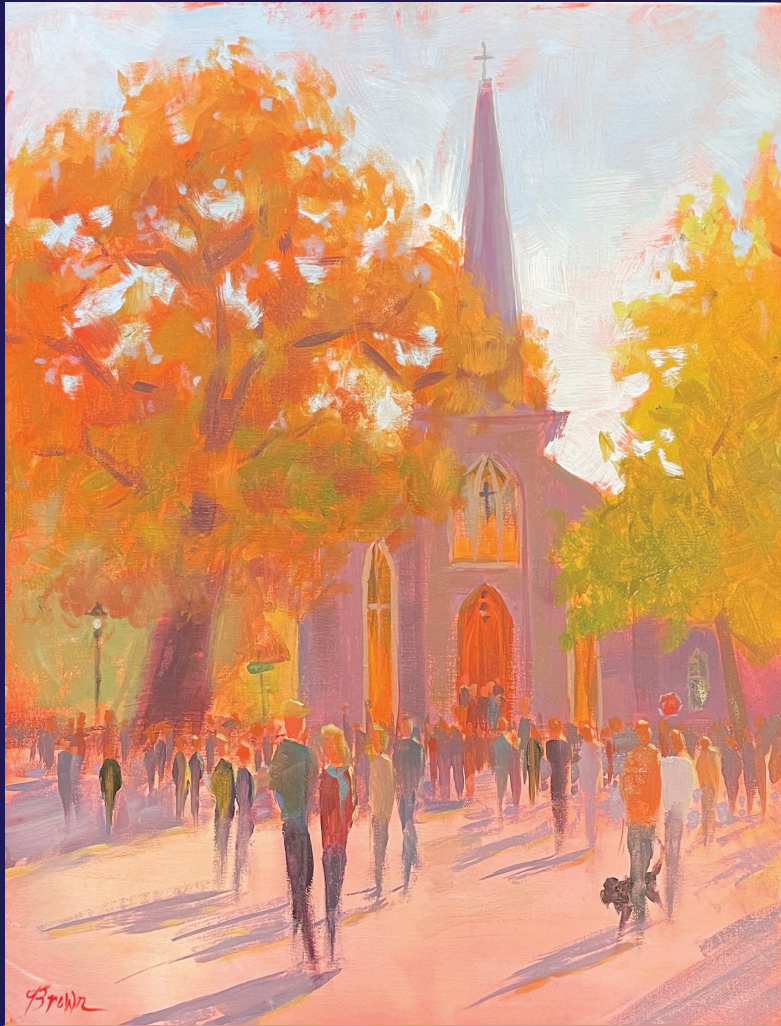
“We believe the Holy Spirit is real and inspires us to be the light of Christ in our community as a reflection of God’s love.”



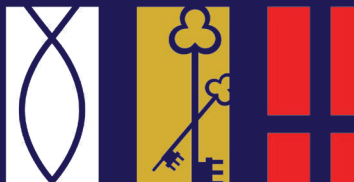
VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a Parish that:

- Joyfully proclaims the Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit in companionship with Christ and each other.
- Makes disciples of Christ through lifelong Christian education.
- Is a loving family in Christ.
- Has a call driven ministry that transforms people’s lives, and
- Has passionate servant-leaders effectively supporting all we do.



Inspiration for generations of artists who flock to Easton for its annual Plein Air Festival, Waterfowl Festival, and Working Artist Forum shows, Christ Church was painted by Caroline Brown in 2024.



CHRIST CHURCH EASTON

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